Ten years later, UMKC remembers alumnus killed in World Trade Center attacks

Men’s soccer team improves despite 0-4 record

Former U-News cartoonist is recent Pulitzer Prize winner

Tibetan monks bring art and spirituality to campus
Memorial honors alumnus killed on 9/11

Remembering John Willett

Nathan Zoschke
Production Manager/Copy Editor

Last Friday, UMKC commemorated one of its own.

A ceremony held outside Scofield Hall honored alumnus John Willett, who completed his master’s in economics in 2000.

One year later, he was one of 2,606 casualties in the World Trade Center attacks on Sept. 11.

At the time, Willett, 29, was an analyst at Cantor Fitzgerald, an investment bank, and worked on the 101st floor of the north tower, several floors above where the first plane hit at 8:46 a.m.

Willett was the only child of Ron and Lucy Willett.

Both parents, along with other family members and friends, attended the ceremony held in his honor.

The ceremony was also attended by Chancellor Leo Morton, numerous deans, faculty, staff and students, including SGA President Jay Devineni and Arts and Sciences Interim Dean Wayne Vaught, who both spoke at the event.

Morton emphasized the importance of commemorating victims, such as Willett.

"I can remember exactly where I was when John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. were assassinated," Morton said. "And I remember exactly where I was when the towers came down. The difference was the sheer number of people impacted by the tragic events of 9/11."

Dr. Karen Vorst, economics professor and former dean of Arts and Sciences, currently on leave, made a special visit to commemorate Willett.

"I can still see him sitting in my office, talking about his future and the kind of position he wanted," Vorst said. "I wish we could have done more to persuade him to continue at Notre Dame. The last time he visited his parents was on Mother's Day in 2001.

On 9/11, Ron Willett said he was home when he received news of the attacks, after which he called his wife, who was working at Branson High School, their son's alma mater.

"It wasn't until I saw the second plane that it hit me," Ron Willett said. "A couple of days later, his name showed up on a survivors list."

Ron Willett said he and his wife searched for their son in hospitals in both New York and New Jersey, but were unable to find him.

Ron Willett said his wife found a homeless man under a metal staircase who looked like their son, and checked to make sure it wasn't him.

After learning John’s name was placed on the survivors’ list by mistake, the reality began to sink in, but the Willett’s remained hopeful.

"As a parent, you don't give up that easily," Ron Willett said.

A memorial outside the Willett’s home, seven miles north of Branson, Mo., contains a miniature brass replica of the World Trade Center and a cross measuring 6’4”, the height of their son.

At the University of Missouri-Columbia, where Willett completed his undergraduate work in 1995, a John Charles Willett Memorial Scholarship was created in his memory in 2007.

For Willett, ceremonies and memorials aren’t about closure, but preserving the memory of a life cut tragically short.

"People keep using the word ‘closure,’ and I don't really believe in that word. To me, that's like closing a door and forgetting about it, and that's not something I can do."

- Ron Willett, father of 9/11 victim

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by the numbers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9/11</th>
<th>by the numbers:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of floors in each of the two World Trade Center towers.</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of nations whose citizens were killed on 9/11.</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of New York City firefighters and paramedics killed at ground zero.</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees lost by Cantor Fitzgerald, the investment bank where UMKC alumnus John Willett worked.</td>
<td>658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of families whose members were not found in the rubble from the attacks.</td>
<td>1,717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of lives lost in the 9/11 attacks, excluding terrorist hijackers.</td>
<td>2,977</td>
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Left: John Willett, a 29-year-old UMKC alumnus who worked in the north tower of the World Trade Center. Photo courtesy of Google Images

Above: Last Friday’s ceremony outside Scofield Hall commemorated the life and accomplishments of Willett. Photo by Nathan Zoschke

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"People keep using the word ‘closure,’ and I don't really believe in that word," Ron Willett said. "To me, that's like closing a door and forgetting about it, and that's not something I can do."

A bench dedicated to Willett will be placed in the center of the quad between Royall and Flarsheim halls.

"It is right in the middle of everything, exactly where John would want it to be and where it will be seen by many," Vorst said. "A plaque will help us remember him, and our hope is that that bench will become a point of reflection and calm."

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The National September 11 Memorial occupies the site of the World Trade Center complex in New York City. Two waterfalls and reflection pools are located at the base of either tower, and include bronze inscriptions of the names of nearly 3,000 victims. It opens to the public on Monday, but will only admit visitors with reserved advance passes. Those tickets are considered a way to organize the millions of visitors who will want to tour the area.

As the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks passed, cities across the east coast unveiled memorials in honor of fallen residents and tourists during the attacks.

On Saturday, the state of New Jersey dedicated two 2008-foot long walls lying sideways, designed to resemble the Twin Towers, in Jersey City.

Speaking at the ceremony, Governor Chris Christie expressed solace for families who lost loved ones. "It was clear to me that this should be done ... as a place for them to come ... and remember their loved ones," he said, referring to families of the victims. During the same time on Saturday, 300 miles away, Pennsylvania opened a Flight 93 memorial near the crash site. Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton attended, as did Vice President Joe Biden.

The Pentagon unveiled its memorial in 2008. Nevertheless, no memorial is more symbolic than the one at ground zero.

The National September 11 Memorial was dedicated on Sept. 11, 2011 to the victims' families, consisting of the names of nearly 3,000 victims. It opens to the public on Monday, but will only admit visitors with reserved advance passes. Those tickets are considered a way to organize the millions of visitors who will want to tour the area.

The 9/11 Memorial Museum, which will contain educational resources and planned exhibitions, opens in September 2012. President Barack Obama traveled for a speaking tour at each of the memorials on Sunday. "A decade after 9/11, it's clear for all the world to see the terrorists who attacked us that September morning are no match for the character of our people, the resilience of our nation, or the endurance of our values," the president said in an interview with NBC Nightly News.

Michelle Heiman       Copy Editor

Currently in its second year, the Entrepreneurship Scholars (e-scholars) Program consists of 67 aspiring entrepreneurs. These students are working with mentors to achieve success with their ventures, and will obtain a "Status of Entrepreneurship Scholar" certificate upon completion of the program.

"The Entrepreneurship Scholars Program is a UMKC campus-wide program designed to prepare brilliant and promising student entrepreneurs with the skills and knowledge needed to launch world-class ventures upon graduation," Executive Director Dr. Michael Song said.

Song cited Peter Drucker, an influential businessman of the 20th century, when asked about the implementation of the e-scholars program. "Drucker said that you get results by exploiting opportunities, not by solving problems. The E-Scholars program reflects that spirit. Our vision is that the fundamental driver of economic activity is the entrepreneur," Song said.

The e-scholars program is funded by the Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, which is funded by the university, institutional supporters, and individual contributors. The program is 12 months in length, starting in May. The students meet regularly with program mentors, and together they work to create, execute, and direct business ventures.

One such student is Derek Hoy, who started Hoyboy LLC, a company that specializes in tailgating products. Hoy was in the initial class of the e-scholars program, and graduated in April.

"I heard about the idea through Dr. Song, so I was excited from the beginning," Hoy said. "I enjoyed it immensely. The level of faculty and mentors available as a resource is absolutely unheard of."

Co-Director Dr. Mark Parry is one of those faculty members, and he provides academic direction to the students.

"Our goal is to provide students with the knowledge and tools they need to start their business, along with a roadmap that provides guidance at each step of the launch process," Parry said. "In addition, we link students with a network of mentor and investors who can potentially provide the resources needed by students to start their businesses."

The program was successful for Hoy, and recollections of his experiences convey his appreciation.

"I really enjoyed the structure of the program where you get to drink from the fire hose from some of the best in the industry," Hoy said. "Given the excellent faculty, we really had some intense Friday and Saturday sessions loaded with valuable content. Then it takes years to make the quality connections for business and for mentoring that were available through the e-scholars program."

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Police Blotter

Lindsay Adams  News Editor

Sep. 2
6:31 p.m.  Burglary
A Grant Hall faculty member found a saxophone missing from his room.

Sep. 4
12:52 a.m.  Noise Disturbance
A complaint was made about loud music coming from a house at 53rd and Harrison streets.

11:38 p.m.  Check the Welfare
Officers responded after the friend of a student at Oak Place Apartments contacted them that the student might harm herself.

Sep. 5
1:18 a.m.  Noise Disturbance
Police responded to a noise complaint that was made for 53rd Street and Rockhill Road.

Sep. 6
12:55 p.m.  Violation of University Rules and Regulations
A staff member parked outside the Performing Arts Center was using a fake parking permit.

9:26 p.m.  Larceny
Students at the Oak Place Apartments saw the suspects steal their cell phones as they were playing volleyball.

Sep. 7
1:58 p.m.  Violation of University Rules and Regulations
A fraudulent parking permit was reported to be in use in a car parked in the Rockhill parking garage.

3:10 p.m.  Violation of University Rules and Regulations
A fraudulent parking permit was reported to be in use in a car parked in the Rockhill parking garage.

4:49 p.m.  Assault
A student was attacked after asking about the well-being of the assailant.

Louis Trigg  Asst. News Editor

When developers from the University of Kansas City searched for land to expand the Volker campus in the mid-1900s, Herbert Hall had a different request for his lot.

Other surrounding landowners chipped in to the school, donating plots that weren't already owned, such as Scofield Hall, Grant Hall, the Bloch School, the Chancellor's Residence and Epperson House.

Hall, on the other hand, planned to build his estate as homage to the unbreakable bond that he shared with his wife, Linda.

With a fortune worth $6 million in 1932, he was able to build a world-class library free to the public.

Today, the library remains a private, independent institution, but the absence of students visiting the library, considering the total enrollment of more than 14,000 scholars, most of which are on the Volker campus.

“We are open to UMKC and the public in general,” Director of Public Programming and Exhibitions Eric Ward said.

However, more students ostensibly use the library for side-street parking spaces than for its massive collection.

“As someone who’s been at UMKC for six years … I think there are a significant amount of students who have left UMKC and never stepped foot in Linda Hall Library,” MPA graduate student Chiulisa John Musonda said.

It’s evidence of a diminishing outreach between the two institutions, since both opened in the first half of the 1900s.

In the early years, Herbert Hall and UKC President Clarence Decker established a relationship that blossomed beyond a mere association into a friendship.

“During the years 1938–1941, my husband frequently left his office in late afternoon to visit with Herbert F. Hall—to listen to the colorful tales of his early youth and to discuss the thing closest to his heart, the library he planned in memory of his wife,” Mary Bell Decker wrote in her chronicle, A Place of Light.

Hall died in 1941, but the friendship set a tone of agreement between the pioneers of the young institutions.

It was an alliance further enhanced by one of the “founding fathers” of UKC’s Board of Trustees, Paul D. Bartlett, who was one of seven trustees to serve from the beginning in 1930 throughout 1953.

He simultaneously served on the board of Linda Hall Library.

A body of 24 members, the board of trustees had only 50 different members between 1930 and 1953, including chairman Ernest E. Howard.

That consistency allowed early administrators to maintain familiarity among leaders.

“There may have even been a written argument between UMKC and the library that allows students to use the facility,” Senior Archive Specialist Tonya Crawford said.

The speculation is backed by a Kansas City Star article in December 1938 that published details about the will of Linda Hall, containing “a stipulation that specific provision be made for the use of the library by university students and faculty.”

Since its completion in 1946, the Linda Hall Library remains a gem, but there are no trails of the earlier alliances between leaders of the library and UMKC, nor its students.

It houses hundreds of thousands of scientific journals, exhibits, and rare books, such as a print of Isaac Newton’s book Kipia, where he presented his “laws of motion” theory.

In addition, there is a litany of public seminars regarding science and technology.

Steve Sasson, the inventor of the digital camera, is scheduled to visit on Oct. 26 among a host others.

It was the initial hope that both institutions would collaborate to provide the region with immensely talented and informed patrons.

In 1953, Mrs. Decker wrote, “The University’s students luxuriate and, we hope, grow in wisdom in this beautifully housed library set in the midst of a sixteen-acre wooded estate.”

Yet, that hope appears to have stalled.

ladams@unews.com

The Linda Hall Library, completed in 1946, is on a multi-acre plot at the center of the Volker campus.

The Linda Hall Library contains many resources for students interested in science and technology.

Photo by Manon Ibrahim

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The Linda Hall Library contains many resources for students interested in science and technology.
Dinner raises poverty awareness

Johanna Poppel  Photo Editor

On Tuesday, Sept. 6, the Activity and Program Council (APC) hosted its third annual Poverty Awareness Dinner in the Student Union.

Before students entered the dinner, they drew tickets out of a bag which assigned them as either upper, middle or lower class.

Students who drew an upper-class ticket were directed to sit at linen-covered tables, middle-class students had chairs with no tables, and lower-class students were told to sit on the floor. Each “class” was separated in the room.

The facilitators treated the “upper class” with the utmost respect and service and showed the “lower class” hardly any respect or attention.

Upper-class participants were given a full meal that included chicken, corn, mashed potatoes, bread, crackers, fruit, cheese and fruit punch. As the classes became poorer, the quantity and quality of food decreased.

Middle-class participants were given corn, bread, crackers, fruit, cheese and water, then finally the lower-class participants were given only crackers, cheese and water.

The differences in the meals symbolized the gap in social-economic classes and the food that would be accessible to people in different classes.

“The lower class lives in a different world,” said APC Social Justice Coordinator Habib A. Hassan, who led the presentation on poverty awareness.

Hassan started his presentation by showing students the website www.poverty.com, which shows the number of people dying worldwide due to poverty.

“In the past 22 minutes, 391 individuals have died of hunger,” Hassan said at the beginning of his shocking presentation.

“Throughout the presentation, Hassan focused on surprising statistics of poverty in not only the nation, but also in Kansas City.

“Just because we are a college campus, it doesn’t mean there isn’t poverty around us, especially since we go to a school in the heart of a city,” said participant freshman Hieu Nguyen, who was moved by this event.

“When a world map of the global poverty percentage was shown, Nguyen, whose family is originally from Vietnam, was shocked by the results.

“I was really surprised when I saw Vietnam on the map,” Nguyen said. “I knew it was a poor country; they have a 20 percent to 40 percent poverty rate, but that is almost half.”

Hassan ended the presentation by provoking students to make a change in their community by writing to national politicians to give a voice for the poor and volunteering with organizations that aim to help poverty in their community.

For more information on future events, go to www.apcactivities.com.

Students at the APC Poverty Awareness Dinner drew tickets out of a bag dividing them into three socioeconomic groups. A student from the lower class group, pictured above, is given crackers.

Photo by Johanna Poppel

Briefly mentioned: UMKC among top 5 gay-friendly schools

Louis Trigg  Asst. News Editor

A report by Newsweek lists UMKC as the No. 5 Gay-Friendly School in the country. It’s a tribute to the acceptance and diversity of the student body at a time when gay rights are still a topic of national debate.

As shown by Rutgers freshman Tyler Clementi, who jumped to his death last year after he was secretly taped having sex, gay college students still suffer discrimination and harassment across the country.

The report, announced last week, relied on two measures for analysis: the College Prowler survey and Campus Climate Index Score.

In the College Prowler survey, students were polled about the development of gay and lesbian communities on campus.

When asked how accepting the campus community as a whole behaves toward someone who falls into minority categories (ethnicity, sexual preference or religion), 89 percent of respondents at UMKC chose “very accepting.” In addition, students said the diversity of the student body is above average.

The Campus Climate Index rated the continuum of progress for LGBT-Friendly policies, programs, and practices on campus.

The school received five stars for LGBT Student Life and five stars for LGBT Recruitment and Retention Efforts.

UMKC has come a long way since 1978, when gay students had to file a lawsuit against the university for their right to become a recognized student organization.

In 2003, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intense, and Ally (LGBTQIA) Office was launched to promote the physical presence of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals at UMKC.

Since then, more programs and resources have been established to support the acceptance of these students.

The school also benefits from improving relations in the surrounding area, which has made frequent appearances on other gay-friendly lists lately.

Supportive organizations and entertainment hotspots have made the city an attractive place for LGBTQIA residents.

The SIFE Financial Corner is created by members of the UMKC Students in Free Enterprise team.

For more information, visit us on Facebook and Twitter, or attend our weekly 7 p.m. Tuesday meetings in the Brookside Room of the Administrative Center.
Faculty Senate discusses downtown arts campus

Louis Trigg  Asst. News Editor

The School of Law continued its fight against wrongful convictions when it announced Laura E. O’Sullivan as the legal director of the Midwestern Innocence Project (MIP) and clinical associate professor of law.

MIP conducts pro bono and investigative legal services for people who may have been wrongfully convicted. As legal director, O’Sullivan will lead a team of litigators and investigators residing at Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP to investigate cases seeking exoneration for innocent persons in the region, primarily in Missouri and Kansas. She will also direct law and journalism students to examine cases of possible innocence.

As a clinical associate professor, she leads a Wrongful Convictions course this fall and the Innocence Clinic that uses resources to survey the causes of wrongful convictions and possible reforms that may alleviate unethical behavior of criminal litigants.

This isn’t the first time O’Sullivan has been linked to UMKC; however, as she previously served as a mentor to interns from the law school.

Possessing more than 20 years of legal experience, O’Sullivan has a foreseeable interest in upholding due process of law. She spent more than 14 years as a public defender, including time as an assistant public defender in the Missouri State Public Defender System’s Kansas City Trial Office. Most recently, she was training director for the Missouri State Public Defender System in St. Louis, where she received a JD degree from St. Louis University.

Earlier this year, released inmate Ted White made news when he was awarded a $15.5 million settlement as a result of his unjust conviction in Lee’s Summit. He was convicted in 1999 before it was revealed that his estranged wife and the case’s investigating detective were having a relationship.

For more information about the Midwestern Innocence Project, visit www.themip.org.

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briefly mentioned| Law School reinforces fight for justice with new program director

briefly mentioned| UMKC Alumna Named 2011-12 Missouri Teacher of the Year

Louis Trigg  Asst. News Editor

Alumna Kristen Merrell was surprised during an assembly on the first day of school at Lee’s Summit Elementary when she was announced as the 2011-12 Missouri Teacher of the Year.

Marking the second time in three years that a teacher from Lee’s Summit R-7 School District has won the award, her selection also becomes the second time it has gone to an alumna. Alumna Susanne Mitko of Lee’s Summit’s Campbell Middle School was Missouri Teacher of the Year in 2009.

Merrell’s award can be evenly credited to the high standards of the R-7 School District and to her teaching skills. For 12 years, she has been with this school district, which boasts seven state finalists for the award since 2002. Last month, it continued its winning streak by earning the top score on the 2010-11 state report card, known as the Annual Performance Report.

Since 2004, she has taught kindergarten, third, fourth, and fifth grades at Lee’s Summit Elementary.

In a generation when many classrooms are too large for one on one relationships with students though, Merrell was praised for her personable approach.

“While making data driven decisions about curriculum is critical to ensuring student progress, so is knowing each of my students and what individual motivational strategies might best combine with the data to propel that student to his or her highest potential,” she said in her application for the award.

Merrell and the six other finalists will be honored at a banquet Oct. 26 in Jefferson City. As the state’s top teacher, she automatically represents Missouri in the National Teacher of the Year competition.

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Time Warner Cable®
Athletics website sports a new look

Caleb-Michael Files  Staff Writer


The fresh, revamped web design features a modern look and easier access to pages within the site with less clicking, an upgraded video portal called Roos TV, that allows web viewers to see more into athletic games and events, and an upgraded online ticketing area.

Athletics is also adding a mobile application as well as performing maintenance to their social media pages in the coming weeks.

Rob McCutcheon, Sports Information Director at UMKC, noted that these changes were necessary.

“The old site was outdated and behind the rest of the Summit League,” McCutcheon said. “With the new site, it will help promote UMKC more effectively and project a more modern image of the athletic department and university.”

The process started in June with a meeting between key athletics staff and the host company of the website, named NeuLion.

Athletics made a list of the things they would like to see, where things will be placed, and NeuLion sent a draft design concept to Athletics about four weeks later.

According to Athletic Director Tim Hall, the new site embodies the culture and brand of UMKC and sets it apart from other universities.

 “[The site is] fresh and engaging content, easy navigation and the use of the latest interactive technology and multimedia show the world the kind of university UMKC is and aims to be,” Hall said. “The new site, along with social media will create a sense of community, a sort of gathering spot for students, faculty and staff so that everyone is participating in telling UMKC’s story.”

However, the site overhaul came at no cost to students.

The site will increase revenue. Through this redesign, more advertisement spots have been created. Photo sales, video subscriptions, UMKC gear sales and ticket sales should all get a boost from the ease of accessing them.

McCutcheon said he felt Roos TV is a great feature with higher quality webcasts, interviews, highlights and features.

Fans now have the opportunity to purchase Live On-Demand streaming sports events through Roos TV, with the four packages available being the one-day, one-month, four-month or year-long pass.

To see the redesign, go to www.umkckangaroos.com

cfiles@unews.com

Player of the Week

Sarah Meiners

Luke Harman  Sports Editor

Junior Sarah Meiners led women with a sixth-place finish in the JK Gold Classic at Wichita on Sept. 3. She finished the 4k race in 14:31.58.

Meiners seems to have picked up where she left off last season, when she recorded career-best times at 3k, 5k and 6k. After competing in all five meets in 2010, she performed well when it mattered most for UMKC as she took 21st at The Summit League Championships on Oct. 30 with a 6k time of 22:27.2.

She set a personal record for 5k at the Greater Springfield Sports Commission Richard Clark Invitational on Oct. 2, finishing 31st in 19:00.29. She recorded the sixth-best 6k performance in school history at the Bradley Classic last October when she finished in 22:11, earning a 24th-place finish. Her highest finish last season was 18th at the Missouri Cross Country Challenge on Sept. 11.

Born on August 8, 1991 in Union, Mo., the 5-foot-7 runner is the daughter of Paul and Sally Meiners. She has excelled both on and off the track at UMKC. She is a biology major who continues to shine through her hard work and dedication to her studies. In her first two years at UMKC, she was named a Distinguished Scholar and made the Summit League Fall Academic all-League team. As a freshman, she was named a UMKC Scholar Athlete.

For her performance last week at the JK Gold Classic, in which the Roos finished behind Wichita State and Kansas State, Meiners is the U-News Player of the Week.

Top Times

3k – 11:09 at Hawkeye Invitational (Sept. 3, 2010)
5k – 19:00.29 at Greater Springfield Sports Commission Richard Clark Invitational (Oct. 2, 2010)

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Men’s soccer comes up short in quest for first win

Darryl Washington  Staff Writer

The men’s soccer team seemed headed for its first victory of the season as it held a 1-0 lead over Drake late into Friday night’s game in Des Moines, Ia., before losing 2-1 in sudden-death overtime.

The Roos had some strong attacking chances and took the lead in the 60th minute when freshman Frankie Washington notched his first goal of the season. But the Bulldogs tied the game in the 72nd minute and forced overtime.

With just 2.29 gone in the first overtime period, Drake midfielder Charles Schwartz hit a free kick from 25 yards out to end the match. UMKC goalkeeper Kyle Martin, making his first career start, made five saves in the first half. However, Martin’s play and strong performances by junior David Sarabia and captain Chris Markey were not enough to prevent the Roos from dropping to 0-4.

The Roos were involved in another defensive struggle, a 2-0 loss on Labor Day, when they traveled to Evanston, outside Chicago, to face Northwestern. Playing in frigid temperatures along the shore of Lake Michigan with consistent winds of 20 miles per hour, the Wildcats got off to a hot start with a goal lead in the 11th minute.

The goal came off a header by Reed Losee, assisted by Scott Lakin on a cross. That was the only goal of the half, with the Wildcats having an 11-2 shot advantage. The Roos shook up the rotation by moving junior David Sarabia to the front after he had spent the first two regular-season games as goalie.

This move was not uncharted territory for Sarabia, who he played the position as a freshman. He had an unsuccessful shot on the goal in the 14th minute, UMKC’s lone shot on goal in the first half. The Roos made a strong push after intermission but a goal by Northwestern forward Olivier Kupé just three minutes into the second half put UMKC in a 2-0 hole.

UMKC’s next game will be Tuesday at Durwood Soccer Stadium against MidAmerica Nazarene at 7 p.m.

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Roos show promise in Kangaroo Classic

Luke Harman  
Sports Editor

The UMKC volleyball team (5-4) competed in the Kangaroo Klassic this past weekend (Sept. 9-10).

A 3-0 loss to Belmont on Saturday prevented the UMKC volleyball team (5-4) from emerging as a victorious host in the Kangaroo Klassic at the Swinney Recreation Center.

**UMKC 3, UT Martin 1**

The Lady Roos began the tournament Friday night with a 3-0 win over UT Martin in head coach Christi Posey's home debut. Junior Emily Lucas led the Roos with 12 kills and 14 digs, while senior Kelsey Knoche chipped in nine kills and nine digs.

UMKC opened the match with a 25-23 first-set win featuring back-to-back kills by sophomore Chloe Jarema. In the second set, the Kangaroos traded blows with their opponent until the game was tied at 22-22. UMKC closed the set with kills from Knoche and junior Brittany Fossier to win 25-22. A 22-9 run in the third set saw the Kangaroo jump out to a lead only to see the game tied at 18. Kills from Knoche and junior Elizabeth Beck led UMKC to an impressive .357 hitting percentage.

On Saturday, the Roos closed out the tournament with a 2-1 record after splitting its matches. In the nightcap, the Lady Roos began the tournament Friday night with a 3-0 win over UT Martin.

**Belmont 3, UMKC 0**

In the day's opening match, the Roos fell 3-0 to Belmont, their only loss in their last six matches. McQuin and Kerkman were named to the all-tournament team.

In the third set, the Bruins built a 13-8 lead, before UMKC fought back to pull within 20-19. The Kangaroos, rallying short as Belmont hung on for the 25-22 set win to capture the match.

**UMKC 3, Montana State 1**

Against Montana State, the Roos took an early 1-0 lead with a come-from-behind victory over the Bobcats. During the squad's final run, Knoche ripped off four straight kills before three MSU errors and a kill by senior Christina McQuin kill gave the Roos the 26-24 win. In a hard-fought second set, kills from Beck and Fossier sealed the 25-21 win. Coming out after the break, MSU would cut the lead to 2-1 with a 25-23 third set win, but could not complete the comeback as the 'Roos won the fourth set 25-22 and boosted their record to 5-4.

In the match, Jarema led UMKC with 15 kills, while Knoche added 13. Senior Christiana McQuin and Lucas, meanwhile, each had nine kills, with McQuin hitting a team-high .400. Setters Meier and Robers finished with 29 and 22 assists respectively. Defensively, Fossier and Knoche totaled 13 blocks, while Lucas (26), Kerkman (23), Knoche (16) and Meier (16) all had double-digit digs.

**Upcoming Events**

**Double overtime tie for the soccer Lady Roos**

Darryl Washington  
Staff Writer

Zaina Mayer's goal in the 81st minute averted a shutout for the Roos as their Sunday visit to St. Louis University ended in a 3-1 loss.

The Roos fell into a deep hole as Abbey Stock's goals from 25 and 56 feet out increased the Billikens' lead to 3-0. Finally, Mayer took a pass from Jordan Andrzejewski and scored from 12 feet out for her first goal of the season.

The Roos dropped to 1-3-3, three days after a scoreless, double-overtime draw at home against Drake. For the Roos, this was a chance to show their improvement from a year ago, when they lost to the Bulldogs 5-0.

As this year's renewal got underway, the game quickly turned into a battle of the defenses. Roos sophomore forward Taylor Bare just missed a shot wide coming off a Bulldog miscue. Roos goalkeeper Jami Finnell denied 10 shots on the goal, including some crucial late saves that kept her team in the game.

The Roos had a final chance to win the game on the last kick of the game when junior midfielder Randi Simmons tracked down a loose ball inside Drake's box and took a shot on goal. But the shot was saved as the second overtime expired. Head Coach Chris Cissell was happy with the performance of his Roos, suggesting this represented progress for his rebuilding team.

"I'm proud of the team," he said. "I'm really proud of the girls. I thought we really competed hard and played well. We controlled the game at times and did some of the things we wanted to do."

"Obviously we really wanted to win but at the same time Drake's a really good team with a really good program. To get another tie we're working to get better and I think we can take a lot of positives out of tonight."
The road to greatness

Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist began his career with *U-News*

Nathan Zoschke
Production Manager/Copy Editor

Winning a Pulitzer Prize was the last thing *Denver Post* cartoonist Mike Keefe expected when he was called to a special mandatory meeting on Monday, April 18.

Keefe's reaction was a combination of shock and disbelief, followed by elation. "I was afraid I would be cleaning out my desk because of the way the business has been going," he said. "I was like, ‘Well, it's been a great run, so this isn't all bad.’"

Keefe's interest in politics emerged when he was called to a special mandatory meeting in the early '70s, received a text from his editor announcing the meeting to be held Monday. "I was afraid I would be cleaning out my desk because of the way the business has been going," he said. "I was like, ‘Well, it's been a great run, so this isn't all bad.’"

"[UMKC] was the first time I realized there might be another direction I could take in life," he said. "I began doing [editorial cartoons] kind of on a whim joining the *U-News*. After a couple years there, I realized I might be able to make a living out of this."

"I wanted to say something, but I didn't know how," he said. "I knew I could draw, and there was no cartoonist at the *U-News*, so I decided maybe it was something I might be able to do."

At UMKC, Keefe began to realize his journalistic potential. "[UMKC] was the first time I realized there might be another direction I could take in life," he said. "I began doing [editorial cartoons] kind of on a whim joining the *U-News*. After a couple years there, I realized I might be able to make a living out of this."

Keefe's cartoons in the *U-News* challenged both the Vietnam War and the Nixon administration. "There was a lot of reaction," he said. "It was an easy thing in a way, because most of the student body and faculty were opposed to the war and opposed to the Nixon administration. It made me think, ‘Wow this is an easy thing to do.’"

In 1975, Keefe became an editorial cartoonist at *The Denver Post*, and quickly rose to the top of his profession. However, his work at the *Post* hasn't been without controversy. Shortly after the Columbine High School massacre in suburban Denver in 1999, he drew a cartoon of three witches brewing a pot labeled "Columbine."

"The metaphor was that they were mixing the toxic brew of easily obtained handguns, violent video games and various social influences of the time," Keefe said. "I got about 500 emails and a call from the head of the Wiccan religion in the United States who asked if I was blaming it on the Wiccan religion. I told them I was using it like the Macbeth metaphor. I wasn't attacking wiccans."

His cartoons from the past decade address a political panorama ranging from the Iraq war to tax cuts for the wealthy and social issues such as gay rights.

"[The Iraq war] was a misguided effort," Keefe said. "It was an attempt to manipulate Middle East politics and control the supply of oil. It was very reminiscent of Vietnam."

Although his job is in the creative field, he still finds ways to incorporate his math degree. A November 2010 cartoon, one of 20 in Keefe's Pulitzer Prize-winning portfolio, targeting Don't Ask, Don't Tell, a ban on openly-gay military service that has since been repealed, did just that.

The cartoon depicts two visitors at the Iwo Jima memorial with a caption reading, "Statistically speaking, there’s an even chance one of those heroes was gay."

Keefe's statistical proof was submitted to the Pulitzer committee as part of his portfolio. "A liberal estimate is that 10 percent of the population is gay," he said. "Mathematically, it's easy to prove that there's a fifty-fifty chance one of those fellows was gay."

The Iwo Jima cartoon, like much of his work, uses historical and cultural symbols to make bold political statements. "The news events of the day inspire me," Keefe said. "I decide what my reaction is politically, and I search for metaphors to express it. I stare at the ceiling a lot, and I find ways to say it visually. And it works. It's satisfying because I get to express my opinion and find a creative way of stating it. The downside of the job is being creative every day and the pressure to come up with something fresh. But that's a dynamic that I embrace. It's fun."
Top left: Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev is depicted as a bartender serving drinks to the U.S. government.

Center left: President Richard Nixon portrayed as a parody of Michelangelo’s “Creation of Adam.”

Keefe’s U-News cartoons

Top: Nixon portrayed as a spider in a web created by a tape reel of illegal wiretapped recordings from the Watergate Scandal.
Bottom left: A man labeled “Judiciary Committee” is about to use a toilet with a disconnected pipe placed directly above Nixon’s head.
Bottom: A cement layer labeled “GOP” paves a sidewalk labeled “campaigns.” A dog resembling Nixon leaves a series of tracks in the wet cement.

Cartoons courtesy of University Archives
Tibetan monks bring cultural pageant
Eventbrings art and spirituality together

Kharissa Parker  Staff Writer

Creative Buddhist missionaries held the Tibetan Culture Pageant last Friday at Pierson Auditorium.

The two-hour show was a brilliant display of Tibetan culture.

The monks came from one of the 10 monasteries in the southern region of India where the preservation of their culture is taught. In that area, there are approximately 3,000 monks, 2,000 of which are Tibetan refugees studying Buddhist philosophy.

The Tibetan culture on display Friday night was a show made up of eight performances that exhibited how Tibetans practice Buddhism.

The Chinese government has very strict laws concerning Buddhist practice and is attempting to smother Tibetan customs and traditions.

Nevertheless, Tibetan monks consider the Chinese as their spiritual brothers and sisters, a mentality that truly reflects the lessons of unity so highly embraced by their native tongue while his student translated. In English, the student monk explained the three goals of why they were visiting our campus and other places around the world.

The first goal is to promote peace, compassion and loving kindness.

The second is the desire to share their culture with various people.

The last goal is to raise funds to donate toward the well-being of the monks dwelling in monasteries and to ensure the school's survival.

The U.S. was mentioned as being a great contributor for the past 10 years. With that, the two thanked the audience for its participation and the show began.

The first act was a welcoming. Two giant horns rumbled loud groans throughout the auditorium. A picture of the Dalai Lama, the head of state and spiritual leader of Tibet, was displayed, an act of respect and homage practiced whenever he was unable to be present in the flesh.

Several monks stood around the picture and one bowed. A chant followed and the first act was complete.

Next was the “Good Luck” dance. Two monks played a drum and cymbals while another danced across the stage in costume.

The monk in costume roared deep belly laughs as he danced.

The third performance was the debate demonstration. This skit of sorts portrayed one of the most important practices of the monasteries. The main purpose of the debate is to achieve perfect view by clearing misconceptions through logic and reason.

The student monk host informed the viewers of key phrases and body gestures to look for that symbolized various phrases such as, “you are wrong,” “you are contradicting yourself,” and “hurry up!” Though the debate demonstration was performed in the monks’ language, the audience caught on quickly to the sarcasm and scolding which made for a very entertaining, humorous performance.

The fourth presentation was a chanting prayer that was originally taught by a female teacher. Its purpose is to cut off immoral defilement within, like selfishness, by making the chanter realize his emptiness. The point seemed to be to bring awareness to how small one is in this gigantic universe.

For this show, the monks sat in a line and recited a simple, repetitive melody. Some of them played small, green drums with long, elegantly colored scarves attached. Another added to the melody by ringing a bell.

Afterward, the most exciting performance of the night began: “The Snow Lion” dance.

The snow lion, which looked more like a big puppy, represented many themes. Among the themes it embodied were fearlessness, beauty, dignity, absolute freedom, joy and confidence. Near the end, the snow lion unrolled his tongue from his mouth. The words “world peace” were inscribed on it.

At the conclusion of the “Snow Lion Dance,” the show took a 15-minute intermission and came back with another animal-styled performance called “The Dance of the Panda.”

Two panda-costumed monks roamed the stage in a zoo-like manner, playing with a green scroll that read, “save the environment.”

One of them even went into the audience to let spectators pet him as if he were a real, cuddly panda bear.

“Praise to the Future Buddha,” the seventh show, was a simple performance in which the horns in line folded their hands in prayer and chanted in beautiful harmonies. The grand finale of the night was the “Special Chant.”

The two giant horns from the first act were reintroduced on either side of the stage as monks paid homage to “the great one” for protecting them from evil spirits.

The Tibetan Culture Pageant was an excellent display of inner peace in a world of constraint and persecution. The boldness and courage of the monks to practice openly in hopes of saving their philosophy should serve as both a testament to how lucky American citizens are for complete freedom as well as an encouragement to always stand firm for what they believe.

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All Around Town

Good old fashioned Brookside

Neighborhood’s location near Volker campus has much for students to appreciate

Nathan Zoschke
Production Manager/Copy Editor

The Brookside Shopping District, south of the Volker campus, baffles me because it is both relatively low-key and immensely popular at the same time.

The quaint Tudor-style architecture and pedestrian scale create a chilled, relaxed atmosphere anyone can enjoy, which helps explain the neighborhood’s mass appeal.

Brookside’s convenient location and variety of stores, restaurants and bars make it a convenient niche for area residents and students alike.

The Roasterie

In 2005, The Roasterie opened at 63rd Street and Brookside Boulevard, and has since made a name for itself among Kansas City’s coffee connoisseurs.

Roasterie coffee is air roasted, in contrast to the rotary drum technique most coffeehouses use. This gives Roasterie coffee a strong, distinctive flavor.

While the Roasterie’s espresso and latte drinks aren’t as sweet as what I have grown accustomed to drinking, the rich, fresh-roasted flavor of the Roasterie’s exotic blends blows Starbucks’ burnt-tasting drinks out of the water.

The interior of the Roasterie is contemporary and laid back with copious seating both inside and out. The art deco font and 1930s-era DC-3 plane used in the Roasterie logo add to the unique ambiance, which beats the overplayed lounge feel of most coffee shops.

The Roasterie has a 10 percent student discount available on all drinks. Hours are 6 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 6 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday, 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday.

Foo’s Fabulous Frozen Custard

Foo’s is a hidden gem for anyone with a sweet tooth. Tucked away at 6235 Brookside Plaza, I tried Foo’s for the first time this summer and, despite my dietary vigilance, had a hard time holding back afterward.

Frozen concretes are Foo’s specialty, and include a variety of fruit, chocolate, mint, fudge and candy bar flavors.

My favorite is the Blue Devil, a combination of mint ice cream, raspberries and chocolate chips, which complement each other surprisingly well.

Other Foo’s favorites include a selection of fruit-flavored frozen drinks, called “Slurries,” and a wide selection of sundaes, such as the “Turtle Creek,” topped with hot fudge, caramel and pecans.

Foo’s is open 1 p.m.-10 p.m. Sunday and Monday, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, and 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. on weekends.

Jalapenos

As the name implies, Jalapenos isn’t exactly authentic Mexican food, but whoever said something had to be authentic to be good was wrong.

Expect lots of chips, salsa and generous portions. The a la carte menu is reasonably priced, with most menu items less than $5. The dinner menu is a bit pricier, but is nonetheless extremely satiating.

The Mucho Chimichanga, a large, deep-fried cheesy tortilla filled with a choice of beef, chicken or pork and topped with sour cream, guacamole and a side of beans and rice, is my favorite.

An order of Sopapillas, a cinnamon flatbread served with honey, adds a nice finishing touch to the meal.

Hours are 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and noon-9 p.m. on Sunday.

Charlie Hooper’s

Charlie Hooper’s is the neighborhood bar and grill Applebee’s wishes it was.

Menu specials include classic American plates like chicken pot pie, meatloaf, philly steak sandwiches and chicken fried steaks.

The drink menu is heavy on domestics.

Hours are 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Wednesday-Saturday, and 11 a.m.-1:30 a.m. Sunday-Tuesday.

Other Brookside favorites include the Blue Grotto pizza and wine bar, Sharpe’s 63rd Street Grill, Bella Napoli, an Italian restaurant and deli, and Pickermann’s Soup and Sandwich.

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Top 10 Cold Treats!

Caleb-Michael Files  Staff Writer

1. Fresher Than Fresh Snow Cones, 110 Southwest Blvd.; $3-7
   - Walking up to this Shasta teardrop trailer, there may be a long line for this awesome summer creation. But it is worth it. This isn’t your average snow cone. It challenges the perception of snow cones as red, white or blue orbs. Instead, discover the new, decadent face of snow cones, fresher than fresh. Lindsay Laricks, the owner, has made it her mission to make sure the snowcones are 100 percent natural and the paper and supplies she uses are compostable. From Lemon Prickly Pear to Espresso and Piloncillo, these summer treats are sure to appease your tastebuds.

2. Glacé Artisan Ice Cream, 4960 Main St.; $5-9
   - Glacé is rich in texture and has inventive flavors like Venezuelan dark chocolate, floc de sel caramel, and pineapple-cilantro sorbet. Christopher Elbow, owner of Christopher Elbow Artisanal Chocolates expanded his creative passion to Artisanal Ice Cream. He has taken a culinary approach to the production of it and uses real, natural, and local ingredients. It is located just off campus and sure to be a great after-class treat.

3. Murray’s Ice Cream and Cookies, 4120 Pennsylvania Ave.; $5-7
   - Murray’s Ice Cream and Cookies, located in Westport has that soda fountain feel. There are so many things to choose from at Murray’s, from rich, homemade ice cream and a malt-ish “Lumpy” to a “Smoothie.”

4. Miami Ice, 1624 W 39th St.; $3-5
   - Miami Ice offers shaved ice desserts paired with custard, as well as ice cream, shakes and other concoctions. The environment at Miami Ice would lend you to believe it’s a hipster hangout, but that is not the case. Many a mother and child or young couple could be found here enjoying the treat they were craving.

5. Paletieras Tropicana, 800 Southwest Blvd.; $5-7
   - Paletieras Tropicana offers many types of desserts. From pan dulce (sweet bread) to helado (ice cream), all come paired with fresh fruit. If you are heading in on a Friday evening, be ready to wait in a line. Also, the menu is in Spanish, so non-native speakers may have a hard time understanding. The staff can help you translate. A sure-fire winner is the paletas (popsicles), made from fresh fruit and either milk or water. These will surely be the talk of your tastebuds.

6. Yogurtini, 4853 Main St.; $5-10
   - Yogurtini is one of the many self-serve stores popping up all over the metro area. Yogurtini has 16 rotating flavors with about 70 toppings. Sample cups are available to try different flavors. The yogurt wasn’t too heavy or too light. Paired with one or more of the 70 toppings from the topping bar, it’s sure to be the perfect treat.

7. Red Mango, 5050 Oak St.; $3-7
   - This location offers 10 rotating flavors with a toppings bar of about 30 to 35, from fresh fruit to mochi (Japanese rice cake). Red Mango is sure to have something to satisfy. The store is located just off campus and accepts Roo Bucks, but not flex points. They also have a wide list of smoothie choices that can be made with or without yogurt. Try it without yogurt, substitute orange juice and you’re sure to have a great light smoothie.

8. PeachWave Frozen Yogurt, 401 Westport Rd.; $5-7
   - Although its website is misleading (it claims to offer 30 flavors at this location), they offer 14 flavors at any given time. Their toppings bar has more than 40 toppings. It is relatively new to the area and are full on Friday or Saturday nights. They pride themselves on offering an “alternative to retailers that serve frozen desserts containing high amounts of fat and sugar.” But this tasted the most sugary of the frozen yogurt I tried. Located in Westport, PeachWave is a brisk walk from campus, be sure to try it out.

9. Cold Stone Creamery, 114 W 47th St.; $5-10
   - Cold Stone offers the original ice cream parlor feel. You pick your ice cream, then your “mix-ins.” The “Mix Master” then throws the ice cream or sorbet onto the five-foot-long frozen marble stone, and will mix in a wide variety of things, from fresh fruit to pie filling to candy bars. The concoction is up to you. This location was not the cleanest nor the friendliest.

10. McDonald’s, 3255 Main St.; $1-4
    - Sometimes we’re just in the mood for a simple vanilla cone. Whenever you are in the mood for that, McDonald’s is open around the clock to satisfy your craving. It also offers shakes in multiple flavors.

    cfiles@uneex.com
City Market offers superb food
Restaurants present worldly cuisine

Caleb-Michael Files
Staff Writer

Tucked inside an area known as the River Market, the City Market is an expansive outdoor marketplace located north of downtown at Fifth & Walnut, just off the banks of the Missouri River. This area was essentially the land from which Kansas City, originally Town of Kansas, got its start. The market, which has been around since 1857, is the 6th Top Area Attraction as deemed by the Kansas City Business Journal.

The City Market is home to one of the most unusual museums in the region. The Steamboat Arabia Museum has recovered cargo of the “Great White Arabia,” which sank in the river more than 140 years ago. Originally built in 1939 and renovated in 1990, the City Market offers a ton of shopping and dining opportunities. Just about anything can be found at the shops in the City Market. There is a wide variety of merchants offering ethnic wares, from African apparel to authentic Mexican pottery, which lends an international flair to the heartland. The shops are open daily.

On Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays the City Market’s open-air, year-round Farmer’s Market offers homegrown produce, herbs, plants and baked goods galore. The same groups are back every week, occupying the 144 stalls that the market offers. Almost 35,000 people visit daily. Admission is free.

This is the largest farmer’s market in a six state area.

If you are looking for the best produce, arrive around 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. on Wednesdays and Sundays. But if you are looking for the bargains, go around 2 p.m. or 3 p.m. when the vendors are ready to move product. The City Market is the place to go to grab your fresh vegetables, fresh meat, herbs and spices. The vendors are jovial and more than happy to assist you as needed.

Some terms used in the City Market are organic and natural. Anything sold as “organic” must be certified as adhering to the USDA national organic program standards. Use of the term “natural,” however, is unregulated and some vendors have been known to use this term to try to get people to buy from them over organic vendors.

“I love knowing that my money is going towards local farmers, who raise their crops naturally without taking short cuts, like pesticides, that damage our environment,” said sophomore Political Science student Parker Webb.

Parking is tough, especially on Saturdays. No matter what time you arrive, parking will be an issue. It is all street parking. Coming on the more relaxed Wednesdays and Sundays would be your best option.

Dogs are not allowed within the City Market Square per Kansas City ordinance, which states one exception: “Dogs serving in official ADA capacity are exempt from this policy.”

The City Market is on a bus route. Just hop on the bus at Brookside Boulevard and 51st Street and take the 58 toward 3rd street and Grand. You will be dropped off just two blocks from the market.

cfiles@unews.com

Parker Webb

Introducing the Bloch School Career Cohort!

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Sponsored by UMKC Career Services and the Henry W. Bloch School of Management

816-235-1636 ~ www.career.umkc.edu
Arm the Poor is official reggae

Kharissa Parker  Staff Writer

Arm the Poor may sound like a feed-the-starving-children charity, but it’s actually the latest reggae band in Kansas City, and the group has received a warm reception.

The group has seven individuals, who bring unique flair, flavor and talent. Four bandmates are UMKC students.

Torey Logan, 25, is the founder and vocalist. He is a graduate student studying history.

“I started the group about a year ago with David Barnes and another member who is no longer a part of the group,” Logan said.

Barnes, 24, plays bass guitar. It doesn’t take long to realize Barnes is the funny guy.

When asked, “What do you bring to the table that makes Arm the Poor complete?” Barnes responded, “My looks,” with a playful smirk.

The band laughs in unison at his boyish humor.

Emmett Starkey, the 20-year-old trombone player, gave a more definite answer. “We recognize our roles,” he said. “We know that we are just one part of a seven-fold group and no one tries to be the boss or take control.”

Starkey studies music education at UMKC.

He became a member of Arm the Poor this past May when he met Logan outside Scofield Hall.

A conversation about music and reggae ensued, and the rest is history.

Starkey brought with him two of his friends and classmates, Aryana Nemati, 19, and Teddy Krulewich, 20.

Nemati, the only female band member, plays baritone saxophone in the band and double majors in music performance and jazz.

Krulewich, who also studies jazz, plays the trumpet.

Interestingly enough, none of three horn players has played reggae prior to joining the band.

“If you can play jazz,” Starkey said, “you can play anything.”

Krulewich jokes, “Except for classical.”

Rick Cole, 25, joined the group shortly after the horn section members.

Cole, or Pretty Ricky as he is also called, is the lead guitarist. He first saw Arm the Poor perform at the Beaumont Club, and then again at Californios.

It was at Californios where Pretty Ricky asked to join the group.

The most recent to join, last week, is 18-year-old Aaron “The One Drop Kid” Anderson.

Anderson, was an Arm the Poor fan first and already knew a few of their songs.

One of Arm the Poor’s hottest tunes is “Babylon,” an easy listen with a traditional reggae feel. “Change Your Mind” is a slower smooth song that really sets the mood.

“Rude Girl” is a fun, up-tempo beat that embraces the ska side of reggae.

“This is what sets us apart,” Logan said.

“We’re not just one genre of reggae. We’re roots. We’re ska. We mix it all up. We are official reggae.”

Influences include Peter Tosh, Steel Pulse, Sugar Minott, Skatalites, Sublime and Bob Marley.

Arm the Poor’s debut album is scheduled to release sometime this fall.

The next live performance will be on Friday, Sept. 30 at Californios, at 4124 Pennsylvania Ave. in Westport.

The show, for all ages, is from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. and costs only $5.

Arm the Poor will play two sets with a DJ keeping the party hot in-between.

Until their album drops, fans can enjoy their music by visiting www.reverbnation.com/armthepoor and on the group’s Facebook and YouTube pages.

Kharissa Parker  Staff Writer

Fashion enthusiasts from across the Kansas City area joined in with Chicago, New York City, and LA among other high profile cities around the globe as one of the biggest nights in the fashion world took place. Thursday, Sept. 8 from 5 p.m. – 10 p.m. marked the official annual Fashion’s Night Out (FNO) of 2011. This year was Kansas City’s first time partaking in the three-year-old shopping party extravaganza.

The town took full advantage of the event as Zona Rosa, Power and Light District, and the Country Club Plaza were all actively involved.

Being that UMKC is blocks away from the Country Club Plaza, FNO was the perfect outing for students living on campus. The entertainment factor at the Plaza location was at a maximum.

Live performances could be heard throughout the courtyards. Soul-moving jazz and blues was played by a band named Grand Marquis right outside Banana Republic while an acoustic bongo-drumming and guitar strumming duo made sweet sounds inside of Gap. Gap made a huge hit with customers by serving beer, wine, coffee and snacks. They also gave a 25 percent discount to customers who gave a $10 donation to AIDS Services of KC.

Not far away, Massage Envy performed free chair massages outside of The North Face. Victoria’s Secret set up an appealing stand where women could try various perfumes, body shimmers, and lip glosses. Ink & Spaces made people feel like real life celebrities with their VIP-styled red carpet photo op near the new Michael Kors store. With them was one of KC’s hottest DJs, Ashton Martin, whose summer hits of the ‘90s and today attracted passersby from all over the Plaza.

Turn the corner and there was the Bo Ling family giving away their sweet treats of homemade almond cookies and fortune cookies. Bo Lings passed out coupons for 20 percent off dinner entrees, too. Further down the street, people could enjoy courtesy champagne and a carriage ride. More than 70 stores in the Country Club Plaza participated in Fashion’s Night Out, but it was Hall’s that really had the party jumping.

It, too, had an incredible DJ whose music was more of the techno, club genre. Onlookers couldn’t help but notice the glamorous, live models perched high above sales counters as they entered the store. A juice bar on both levels served a fun complimentary concoction of pink lemonade and gin. Tony, the bartender downstairs, had a great time smiling and laughing with the public as they came by to have a glass of the fun cocktail.

Halls was also pretty popular for its edible and wearable arm candy. But most people just heard about the creative delicacy because the store ran out fairly quickly. “We had over 300 arm candies that were completely gone by 6:30,” a sales associate said.

In addition to the DJ, the models, the cocktails, and the candies, Halls also gave away more than $8,000 in prize drawings that included various gifts ranging from fragrances to iPads. With this being the first time Kansas City was included in FNO, it was definitely a smashing success that hopefully citizens will be able to enjoy again next year.

Kharissa Parker  Staff Writer

Simply stop by the U-NEWS Office (5327 Holmes) beginning at noon Monday, September 12 for your chance to pick up a pass for two! * NO PURCHASE NECESSARY WHERE PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED BY LAW. One admit two pass per person. 25 passes available, while supplies last. Employees of participating sponsors are not eligible. This film has been rated PG-13 for some strong language.
Let me tell you what I think: The Snooki Complex

Teresa Sheffield  Staff Writer

Clearly, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow hadn’t met Snooki when he said, “Fame comes only when deserved.”

In this day and age, where all it takes to be famous is a webcam and no shame, for many stars, notoriety isn’t based on accomplishment; it’s based on how many people see your face.

American humorist Erma Bombeck once said, “Don’t confuse fame with success. Madonna is one; Helen Keller is the other.”

I’m not going to knock Madonna because I think she has talent, but I find Bombeck’s quote waggishly pertinent in 2011. There is a stark difference in “Nelson Mandela fame” vs. “Snooki fame”: one has been earned by a lifetime for the betterment of mankind, and the other by striving a lifetime for the equality and the point of being famous for being famous. It’s as if “15 minutes of fame” has been contorted into paltry, quasi-celebrity careers.

Benedict Carey in his New York Times article entitled “The Fame Motive” said that in a recent study, about 30 percent of American adults regularly daydream about being famous, and more than 40 percent expect to get their 15 minutes of fame in life.

Tim Kasser, a psychologist at Knox College in Nashville, Tenn. said, “It’s a distinct type, people who expect to get meaning out of fame, who believe the only way to have their lives make sense is to be famous. We all need to make meaning out of our lives, and this is one way people attempt to do it.”

The only reason I’ve been thinking about this topic is because of a recent conversation with an 8-year-old boy who goes to the elementary school where I volunteer. I asked him what he wanted to be when he grew up and he said, “Famous.” I asked him what he wanted to be famous for and he said, “I dunno, just famous.”

Is fame now a profession? Is this considered venerable work? What happened to doctor or teacher? What happened to being famous because of excelling in your field of work or making the world a better place?

It’s as if fame has become a right and not an anomaly. In a country where most people voted for the 2006 American Idol than the American president in 2004, you have to wonder where our priorities are.

It’s been a sort of running joke that Americans know celebrity facts over basic civics ones. Take for instance the segment Jay Leno does on The Tonight Show where he asks random people on the street rudimentary civics questions and gets some bafflingly dim-witted answers. Some gems include:

Q: “Who were Lewis and Clark?”
A: “Superman.”

Q: “Where is Iraq?”
A: “I dunno, like South Europe?”

Q: “How many continents are there?”
A: “52?”

Q: “What is the women’s suffrage movement?”
A: “I dunno, being with men?”

Funny? Yes. Representative of America? Probably not. If Jay Leno doesn’t seem like a credible polling source, let’s try Newsweek. Newsweek conducted a well-publicized survey where 1,000 Americans took a citizenship test given to immigrants before naturalization. The results: 38 percent straight up failed, 70 percent didn’t know the purpose of the Constitution, 73 percent didn’t know why we fought the Cold War and 29 percent didn’t know who the vice president was.

America is the home of the free, the brave and now the celebrity. I’m not asking for CSPAN to institute a takeover of all channels, and I’m not asking for the abolishment of all shows that aren’t the most enlightening (that would be cruel to VH1). I’m just asking that we keep those in this world with Snooki Complexes under control, and recognize shoddy fame for what it is.

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No More Cup

Lindsay Adams  News Editor

One More Cup is a tiny coffee shop tucked away on a strip of stores and restaurants. However, the small shop makes up for its diminutive size with all the color and character of Alice in Wonderland’s Mad Hatter Tea party. Its bright paint of baby blue, pink and yellow makes it immediately pop out from the rest of the stores around it.

Walking into One More Cup was an immediate assault on my senses in the best way possible. The whiff of fresh coffee reached my nostrils and “Evil Woman” played as the immediate assault on my senses in the best way possible. The whiff of fresh coffee reached my nostrils and “Evil Woman” played as the immediate assault on my senses in the best way possible. The whiff of fresh coffee reached my nostrils and “Evil Woman” played as the immediate assault on my senses in the best way possible. The whiff of fresh coffee reached my nostrils and “Evil Woman” played as the immediate assault on my senses in the best way possible.

One More Cup truly lives up to its name. It offers Nutty Girl sandwiches and bagels with flavored cream cheeses, such as coconut. Their coffee cups and lids are all recyclable.

The coffee shop also sells many products made here in the KC area, such as localbucha, which is a fizzy type of tea, with unusual flavors such as pineapple cilantro to pomegranate grape and Oishii caramels.

One More Cup has a diverse clientele, from the hipster and musicians to business owners around the Waldo area and even families.

From 4 to 7 p.m. it offers happy hour discounts. All pastries are half-price, and there are other specials that vary day to day. It also offers free Wi-Fi, which is yet one more reason to make One More Cup a great place to relax after a long day of classes or work.

One More Cup truly lives up to its name. It is a place that can create warm fuzzy memories and a longing for just one more cup.

One More Cup is located at 7408 Wornall Rd. Hours of operation are Monday–Friday 6:30 a.m. – 7 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. – 7 p.m., and Sunday 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

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foodreview

Please just give me... One More Cup

All the coffee and espresso used at One More Cup is certified fair trade organic.

It offers Nutty Girl sandwiches and bagels with flavored cream cheeses, such as coconut.

Their coffee cups and lids are all recyclable.

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Top: The ‘Hearthrob’ espresso with two chocolate chip cookies. Above: One More Cup’s patio.

Photos by Lindsay Adams

Newsweek
Vitamin B is best

Kharissa Parker  Staff Writer

Anyone who has seen me around campus this semester can tell that I’m obviously about to give birth. This will be my second time being a mom, yet this pregnancy is completely different from the first.

I have a 4-year-old daughter, Jalyn, who will turn 5 in October. When she was living in my belly, I was the picture of perfect health. Every craving was a healthy craving; carrots, broccoli and lots of water. I gained only 20 pounds. Besides a few weeks of morning sickness during the first trimester, my energy was high, I experienced no pain whatsoever, and life was grand. With this one, which happens to be a boy due Sept. 20, I felt as if I was literally experiencing hell on earth.

Not only did I have horrible morning sickness throughout the entire pregnancy. My body aches all the time for no reason.

My energy is non-existent and I am super moody. That can’t be too fun for my poor husband who I know was just thrilled by the 2 a.m. fast food runs I would send him on.

My body aches all the time for no reason.

Reason. Each pregnancy is different and that’s why this pregnancy was completely opposite. The problem is that there’s no definite reason. Each pregnancy is different and that’s that. So, instead of continuing to search for an undiscovered answer, I decided to do some research and find out what I could do to stay healthy despite the distress.

The solution: vitamins. The great thing about the research I found was that vitamins don’t mean pills.

They are found naturally in most of our foods.

Secondly, vitamins don’t just benefit pregnant women. They benefit women in general, especially on-the-go ladies like businesswomen, soccer moms and college girls. Each vitamin – A through K – plays a specific role in our lives that contributes to our physical, mental and emotional health.

Of all the vitamins, B is the best. Vitamin B is definitely God’s gift to girls. There are seven forms of Vitamin B that play a vital role in women’s lives. Foods like pork and beef contain B1 (Thiamine) which improves memory and concentration. Broccoli, asparagus and spinach are high in B2 (Riboflavin), which reduces anxiety, stress and fatigue.

B3 (Niacin) lowers bad cholesterol and elevates good cholesterol. B5 (Pantothenic Acid) prevents acne and hair loss and can be found in whole grains and salmon.

Now, here’s the kicker: need to ease those PMS symptoms like muscle cramps? Maybe you’re like me and need a cure for morning sickness or nausea in general. That’s where B6 (Pyridoxine) comes in. Bananas, avocados, and brown rice contain B6, which also treats depression.

If you feel yourself in need of an energy boost, B9 (Folic Acid) is just for you. Leafy greens, beans, and peas are high in Folic Acid. This vitamin is amazing for improving mental and emotional health, too.

Lastly, there’s B12 (Cyanocobalamin), which reduces the risk of osteoporosis, prevents cervical cancer, improves concentration and relieves fatigue. This vitamin is found in many seafoods like clams, oysters, crab and tuna.

All B vitamins are a general good source of energy and build our metabolism. It’s in my opinion that we take advantage of this God-given goodness and improve our health the natural way. For more information on vitamins that are good for you, visit credible websites like www.mcvitamins.com, www.everydayhealth.com and www.vitaminbenefits.org.

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Why I love Communiversity

Amanda Osborne  Staff Writer

If you have ever wanted to know how to research family history, or take an art class without deadlines, or learn how to swing dance or relax with yoga, a Communiversity class is a great solution.

What is Communiversity exactly?

Communiversity is a small community university that offers a set of classes throughout Kansas City to UMKC students for free.

These classes are taught by individuals in the respective categories of a particular interest. There are many classes within each subject, including Art of Clay, Salsa Dancing, Beginning Jazz Guitar, Annuities and Retirement, Basics of Résumé and Cover Letter Writing, First Time Home Buyer Seminar, Creole Made Easy, and Gentle Yoga for Beginners.

Bethany Jordan, a senior Studio Arts major, has taken two Communiversity classes.

“I think [Communiversity] is a great thing,” she said. “It gives a chance for people to share knowledge and talents with the rest of the community, and gives the community a chance to pick up new skills typically at a low cost in a fun and laid back environment.”

One was with Rebecca Koop, a Kansas City Art Institute graduate in ceramics.

The classes offered by Communiversity are a great way for people to get involved in things in which they might not normally get involved. Students can explore Kansas City while learning something new.

While these classes are free to UMKC students, they are available to the entire community at very low costs, some as low as $5 per class.

The classes are very relaxed in that individuals can learn at their own speed without the stress due to homework and deadlines.

I will be taking the class on genealogy in order to take a closer look at my family’s history and see who I might be related to.

This class is a one-session class from 1 to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 5 at the Kansas City Public Library Plaza Branch.

There is virtually a Communiversity class for every individual, no matter what your interests are.

So, if you’re looking to expand your knowledge in some way or just want to try something new, you should look into taking a Communiversity class.

Look at classes and register for them online at www.umkc.edu/commur/.

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An ode to the hoarders

Nathan Zoschke
Production Manager/Copy Editor

Stories about compulsive hoarders and episodes of TLC and A&E’s namesake shows are a peculiar source of fascination. Hoarding, the mass accumulation and inability to part with seemingly useless, and often times hazardous objects, seems to be a post-modern phenomenon. Perhaps it’s a byproduct of the rampant material greed and mass advertising that define our consumer-driven culture. Like gluttony, hoarding is consumption beyond what is needed to sustain one’s well-being to the point where it becomes self-destructive. As hoarders fill their homes with what they consider objects of value, their lives become increasingly less functional. Although the goal of material accumulation is to enhance the quality of one’s life, hoarders gradually lose the ability to function in their own homes as clutter interferes with basic living conditions. Yet I find it remarkably easy to sympathize with hoarders after observing the packrat tendencies of others, including people in my family. My dad is an avid antiques collector, and I can’t ever remember seeing more than a pathway through the basement or garage of the house where I grew up. It is the inside of the house where I grew up that looks noticeably different in my baby albums than it does today, and I’m not referring to my dad’s choice of decor.

My mom was a neat freak, like myself, but as my siblings and I grew older, she spent less time in the house, and wasn’t able to keep up with the mass accumulation that unfolded before our eyes. Out of fairness to my dad, I don’t consider him a serious hoarder and feel he is oftentimes very resourceful in his collecting, usually with the intention of reselling for a profit. The problem is that he accumulates new things faster than he can get rid of what he already has. When my mom was diagnosed with terminal cancer seven years ago, my father closed his antique store and started flipping houses to make money, which gave him the flexible schedule he needed to raise three children as a single parent.

But he didn’t stop going to estate sales and auctions, and what he accumulated quickly outgrew the capacity of my family’s home, as he no longer had a store to sell things in. The only three rooms I use in my home are the kitchen, my bedroom and my bathroom, not because the rest of the house is unlivable, but because I’m tired of being confronted with clutter and other people’s messes everywhere I turn. For this reason, I probably spend 90 percent of my waking hours away from my own home. My bedroom is both a prison and a sanctuary. A prison because when I’m home, I feel trapped due to the condition of the rest of my family’s house, and a sanctuary because it’s the only place that doesn’t have clutter.

Growing up, I was angry with my dad for the same reasons. I rarely invited friends over, and when I did, spent most of the time apologizing for the condition of my home, even though it was out of my control. I resented my dad, and worked hard to be the cleanest, most organized person possible to avoid becoming like him. (My grandfather was also a collector, so I’ve decided it’s a behavioral trait in my family.)

In doing so, I drove a wedge into our relationship, one I am now working to mend. For people like my dad, having lots of stuff, even things others may not appreciate, is a form of comfort and security. It’s the realization that he has something he can control at the end of the day regardless of what else happens in life. Being frustrated with my dad and nagging him to get rid of his stuff didn’t work because he was being told angrily to relinquish control over something he found comfort and satisfaction in doing. In fact, it probably made the problem worse.

Instead, my new approach is to help him replace the sense of comfort he had in material things by loving, supporting and encouraging him to make the life changes he needs. I can never reasonably expect my family’s house to look like it’s on HGTV, but if I can make a few inroads and happen to find our “Mission Accomplished” banner beneath the piles of clutter, I will proudly display it.

Pay it forward

Mal Hartigan
Copy Editor

Gay marriage seems to be a never-ending debate full of anger, disdain and unresolved tension. It’s a hot topic few political figures vocally support, and many seem to bash the idea. I’ve never struggled with the concept. If two people love each other, marriage shouldn’t be a right they are denied. And even though I can’t legally get married, the idea doesn’t necessarily have much personal appeal. I find it terribly presumptuous to assume that another girl would want to spend the rest of her life with me. I don’t particularly wish to engage in a government institution that is corrupt and collapsing upon itself. The divorce rate has increased drastically. Divorce doesn’t have the same stigma that it once had.

I don’t need a government document stating I love someone enough to marry them. I can love a girl without having to prove it with a certificate. Yes, I support the idea of gay equality and gay rights. Why wouldn’t I? Why wouldn’t anyone?

But even though I am denied the right to get married with national recognition, I don’t feel particularly persecuted or victimized by the rules of the heterosexual community. Society has evolved, and I couldn’t be more thankful. I came out to my parents when I was 13. That was seven years ago. I wasn’t scared to disclose the information, and in no way was I ashamed.

My family and friends never shamed me for something that wasn’t in my control. They never made me feel embarrassed about my sexuality.

Twenty years ago, having such comfort and support would be unheard of. Fifty years ago, it wouldn’t have been possible. My parents raised me very well and taught me to be an accepting individual. I never made enemies because of my sexuality, nor have I been criticized. I couldn’t be happier with the attitudes of the people I surround myself with. I am treated equally and held in the same high esteem as my peers. That speaks volumes of society’s progression and the amount of social acceptance gays have received.

I understand that this isn’t applicable to every member of the LGBT community. I have been very blessed to have such a substantial support system, but not everyone is fortunate enough to receive such assistance.

Some parents disown their children, and some friends will turn their backs due to religious beliefs or simply sheer bigotry. However unjust this is, no one’s disrespectful attitude should make another person ashamed of his or her sexuality. It is undeserved and absolutely repulsive to think that anyone’s attraction to the same sex is worthy of such despicable, prejudiced behavior.

Remember Matthew Shepard? After all, how could anyone forget?
Johanna Poppel
Photo Editor

“What do you like to do when you go to the Country Club Plaza??”

Aaron Palmer, Sophomore, Business
“I enjoy fine-dining.”

Andrea Hannigan, Sophomore, Nursing
“I go there to shop.”

Nick Bose, Senior, Philosophy
“Fred P. Ott’ because there is no cover charge. They have the best burger in Kansas City.”

Hannah Hiers, Senior, Nursing
“Shopping and people watching.”

Dave Winter, Junior, Electrical Engineering
“I walk around, drink coffee and people watch.”

Nikki Langland, Sophomore, Undecided
“Shop, eat and walk around especially, at the Plaza Lighting Ceremony.”

No, it’s not for the tuition. I would like to get a loan for my textbooks.
By Hanna Oliver