

# UNIVERSITY NEWS

UMKC's Independent Student Newspaper

## Diversity moves to fore



Dr. Barkis and Dr. Wilson lead diversity discussion at the Student Union.

PHOTO // Sai Srikar Kadiyam

**Kate Baxendale** Copy Editor

The Chancellor's Diversity Council held the first series of listening and sharing sessions to discuss UMKC's Diversity Strategic Action Plan on April 2 and 3.

Speakers Dr. Susan Wilson, associate dean of Diversity Partnership from the School of Medicine, and Dr. Marita Barkis, director of UMKC's Counseling, Health and Testing Center, led the open discussion among faculty, students and staff.

"It is important that we do not lose sight of historically underrepresented populations, specifically Native Americans, African Americans and Hispanics," Wilson said. "We need to look at ways to expand enrollment. We have looked at the

demographics of our area and our younger generations are, and will continue to be, more diverse."

Wilson stressed the importance of diversity in the "business" of education.

Attendees included students, faculty

**"It is important that we do not lose sight of historically underrepresented populations."**

-Dr. Susan Wilson

and organizations like Institute for Urban Education and Multicultural Student Affairs, UMKC Athletics and the Admissions office.

A draft of the Diversity Strategic Plan, which included five key dimensions of diversity, was provided to attendees. Each dimension had a clearly defined goal, a set

of objectives and a list of strategies and activities to promote it.

The speakers asked the participants how their work as a member of the UMKC community fits into the diversity plan.

Robert Greim, manager of compliance for UMKC Athletics, asked that faculty and staff members reach beyond what is stated in their job descriptions.

"We have a responsibility to promote campus organizations other than our own," Greim said. "Of course you are going to hear from a coach that you need to play a sport. We need to show interest and get involved outside of our area of expertise."

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### Chancellor strives to promote diverse campus



PHOTO // Sai Srikar Kadiyam

Chancellor Leo E. Morton

**Houston Zizza** Staff Writer

"To celebrate diversity in all aspects of university life' is goal number five in the overall university-wide Strategic Plan at UMKC," said Marsha Pyle, Dean of School of Dentistry and Director of Counseling Marita Barkis.

A strategic plan is the overall achievements a university hopes to accomplish in a specific duration of time.

UMKC'S 10-year strategic plan is "to lead in life and health sciences; to deepen and expand strength in visual and performing arts; to develop a professional workforce and collaborate in urban issues; and to create a vibrant learning and campus environment."

This is the first specific plan of diversity the university has put together, although it has been underway since 2011.

Chancellor Leo E. Morton initiated the steps toward broadening diversity with a Diversity Council. Some of the efforts taken were focus groups, online surveys, town hall

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UMKC's Independent Student Newspaper

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PHOTO // Matt Cook

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PHOTO // Sai Srikar Kadiyam

**9 Sports //** Dance team heads to Daytona Beach for competition

# Spay & Neuter Kansas City brings affordable care to pets



1.



2.

1. A cat waits to be treated.
2. A cat is in recovery.
3. A happy, healthy Kansas City dog.
4. A cat receiving treatment is free to walk around and drink without being confined all day.

PHOTOS // Kate Baxendale

Kate Baxendale

Copy Editor

Spay & Neuter Kansas City is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to reduce the number of stray and unwanted pets entering shelters in the Kansas City area.

It offers affordable spay and neuter services for pet owners who might not otherwise be able to afford these services. In addition to spaying and neutering, SNKC offers basic pet care needs, such as vaccinations, heartworm testing and a walk-in wellness clinic.

Kristy Taylor, the surgery call center manager, highlighted the goals of the organization.

"We believe in our hearts that every family deserves a pet, no matter what their financial situation may be," she said. "We want to keep pets in their loving homes."

SNKC participates in a Pet Outreach Program in which staff and volunteers go door-to-door in areas of Kansas City responsible for 80 percent of animal control calls.

The organization focuses primarily on the northeast section of Kansas City.

The program is designed to educate pet owners about responsible pet care, provide food and other pet supplies and schedule spay and neuter appointments.

"We use what is called a geographical information system that tells us which areas have had problems with animal control," Taylor said. "The different colored dots on the map indicate which type of animal problem was reported."

Taylor said the vast majority of pet owners reached in the Pet Outreach Program openly accept SNKC's helping hands.

"We help people who didn't think spaying and neutering their pets was an option because they couldn't afford it," she said. "These people absolutely want their pets to be spayed, neutered and vaccinated."

SNKC also offers a pet food pantry program in which more than 500 pets are enrolled to receive food free of charge about once per month. Pet owners must qualify for the program by filling out an application that explains their financial situation.

"We rely on grant funding, private donations and corporate sponsorship to keep our pet pantry and veterinary clinic stocked," she said.

When SNKC is running low on supplies, a newsletter is sent out to the community in hopes of a response.

Taylor said the Kansas City community is happy to help its efforts by donating pet supplies.

"We serve a wide range of clientele," she said. "We serve many students who work part time and are living on student loans."

SNKC has partnered with Kansas City Animal Control in a new Tag License Chip Program. Pet owners can have their animals tagged, licensed and chipped for just \$30 if the animal is spayed or neutered.

"The beauty of this program is that the chip is a

pet's ticket home," she said.

"Animal organizations, like veterinary clinics and pet stores, have scanners that pull up the owner's information so the pet can make its way home."

Kansas City Animal Control rewards pet owners who have their animals chipped by bringing the lost pet home for a fraction of the price that an animal shelter would charge.

Cats can be spayed for \$50 and neutered for \$35. Dogs can be spayed for \$100 and neutered for \$75.

SNKC is located at 59th Street and Troost Avenue. It is open for surgeries Monday through Thursday and the Walk-In Wellness Clinic is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

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4.

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# Diversity: Continued from Page 1

Director of Basketball Operations Jessica Trahan explained the sensitive balance when dealing with diversity.

“Obviously ignorance still exists, but on the other hand there is a heightened sensitivity to diversity issues,” she said. “We must find that happy medium. There isn’t enough funding to accomplish everything on this list but we need to decide what is most important and work toward that goal.”

Dr. Jennifer DeHaemers, assistant vice chancellor for Enrollment Management, said it is her job to help students understand the value and possibility of higher education.

“My work is about our students,” she said. “My mission is not only to get numbers, but to help

and résumé workshops.”

Judy Ancel, director of The Institute of Labor Studies, shared her observations about demographics at UMKC.

“My department alone is overwhelmingly white and male,” she said. “The administrative department is somewhat diverse, but it mostly consists of dreadfully underpaid women. The Sodexo employees on campus are mostly people of color, mostly women. They have horrible working conditions. This is something UMKC is incredibly insensitive to.”

Dr. Gary Ebersole, chair of the Faculty Senate and a professor of religious studies, highlighted some positive and negative aspects of UMKC diversity.

“The new general education program effective in fall 2013 now has a diversity requirement so that no student will be able to graduate without having some knowledge about other cultures,” he said. “The Board of Curators has come a long way in the past eight years.

At one time, diversity was the last thing on their mind. The board consisted of socially conservative lawyers who were steadfastly against recognizing diversity. We also need to increase diversity in our faculty. We do not have the money to retain the best minority faculty.”

Barkis concluded the discussion by adding that the effort to increase and retain a diverse community on campus must be a group effort.

“The idea is that everybody owns it,” Brooks said. “We must have better collaboration among campus organizations.”

The next Listening and Sharing Session to discuss the Diversity Strategic Action Plan will be held Tuesday at noon in Pierson Auditorium. The Chancellor invites everyone to join in on the conversation.

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Dr. Wilson discusses diversity.

PHOTO // Sai Srikar Kadiyam

“The new general education program effective in fall 2013 now has a diversity requirement so that no student will be able to graduate without having some knowledge about other cultures.”

-Dr. Gary Ebersole

students be successful and to graduate. Our survival as a university depends on educating the people of our community.”

DeHaemers said in order for the diversity plan to be effective, there needs to be significant personal and institutional change.

“We must address existing biases and begin those difficult conversations,” she said. “This can be achieved through staff development so we can gain comfort in discussing these issues.”

Several students suggested that Roo Camp, a summer program for incoming freshmen, should be brought back to UMKC.

“Roo Camp sets you up to meet people you can network with in the future,” said Latonya Haynes, who attended the event as a freshman.

“I know I, like many others, felt alone as a freshman,” senior Jordan Brooks said. “It would have been helpful to know about all the resources we have on campus beforehand, like counseling, free tutoring

## Strategic plan on campus: Continued from Page 1

meetings and email blasts.

UMKC also reaches out to diverse students and staff by hosting African American Youth Days, an admissions effort dedicated to recruitment of underrepresented students. Access and Equality hosts the annual Woman of Color Leadership Conference and collaboration with the Hispanic Development Fund Program.

With over 30 percent of UMKC staff and students having an ethnic background, efforts towards diversity have not fallen short.

Soaring on the diversity scale does not stop UMKC from examining further achievements. The division is working closely with middle and high school institutions and students providing mentoring and tutoring.

The Diversity Strategic Plan created by the Chancellor’s Diversity Council, a group of individuals from across campus, have put countless hours in making UMKC a diverse campus.

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## sustainability corner

### ‘The Island President’ event encourages global environmental awareness

Johanna Poppel

Staff Writer

Evidence of global warming, scarce resources and a growing global population have struck environmentalists with concern.

Daily mundane activities done by people in well-developed nations have a negative impact on those not living the same quality of life. Greenhouse gases emitted by the affluent support a changing global climate that may cause a drought in equatorial countries and lead to famine due to inefficient crop yield.

Some politicians push aside the need for change in today’s world and stay ignorant to the global state of the environment. Mohamed Nasheed, former President of the Maldives, is an exception.

“He was one of the leading figures fighting against global warming in the United Nations,” said James Mitchell, senior environmental studies student.

Mitchell, representing the UMKC Garden Collective, is hosting a screening of “The Island President” on Wednesday April 17.

The screening begins at 5:30 p.m. with free snacks and socializing and the documentary starts at 6 p.m. A nation-wide discussion on the challenges fossil fuels pose to democracy begins at 8 p.m. The screening will be in the Student Union Room 302.

The documentary tells of Nasheed’s first year as president of the Maldives and how he stood up for the survival of his country and its citizens.

The Maldives, an island nation located in the Indian Ocean, 400 kilometers (250 miles) southwest of India, is one of the most low-lying countries in the world. A rise of three feet in sea level due to global warming would submerge the 1,200 islands of the Maldives, making them uninhabitable.

After Nasheed led the country to

democracy following the corrupt term of former president Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, Nasheed was elected president. He then was confronted with a problem no global leader has ever had to face the survival of his country.

“The Island President” captures the remarkable influence Nasheed had internationally to promote urgent action on climate change.

Guest speakers will speak online to 100 colleges internationally. The discussion is moderated by Eban Goodstien, the director of Bard College’s CEP (Center for Environmental Policy).

Guest speakers include Jon Shenk, director of “The Island President,” Thilmeeza Hussain, former United Nations deputy permanent representative to the Maldives, and May Boeve, executive director and co-founder of *350.org*.

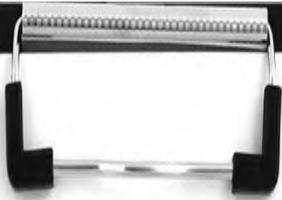


President Nasheed at the Copenhagen Climate Summit 2009.

CREDIT // Lincoln Else

Attendees will be exposed to the struggles of justice in international politics and the strong leadership Nasheed possessed.

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# Police Blotter

## April 1

**12:04 p.m.**

*Burglary*

The victim returned to find paint transfer and scrapes on his car in the Hospital Hill Parking Garage.

**10:05 a.m.**

*Larceny*

The victim put her iPad down in Royall Hall and went to get coffee. When she returned, the property was missing.

**5:56 p.m.**

*Burglary*

The victim returned to his Oak Place Apartment and found two MacBooks, a Galaxy Nole and clothing missing.

## April 2

**2:56 p.m.**

*Violation of Rules and Regulations*

Officers recovered a lost parking pass from a student claiming he had found it.

## April 4

**10:00 a.m.**

*Larceny*

The victim left his Samsung Galaxy S2 in the Swinney Recreation Center locker room while taking a shower. He returned to find it missing.

**2:50 p.m.**

*Property Damage*

The victim returned to find her car had been keyed in Parking Area 32 South.

briefly mentioned

## NPR anchor will give Caesar Chavez keynote speech

Meredith Shea

Production Manager

Maria Hinojosa, anchor and executive producer of NPR's Latino USA, will deliver the sixth annual Caesar Chavez keynote address tonight at 6 in the Student Union Multipurpose Room.

Caesar Chavez, a Mexican American, co-founded the National Farm Workers Association, later the United Farm Workers union, and to this day is considered one of the best Latino American civil rights activists in history. This April marks the 20th anniversary of his death.

Chavez supported and initiated many workers' strikes in the '60s and '70s. The UFW's "Salad Bowl Strike" is the largest farm worker strike in history and helped grape and lettuce growers win higher working wages. Similar strikes happened throughout the U.S.

Throughout Chavez's life and after, he was decorated with many awards, including the *Pacem in Terris* award (Peace on Earth) presented by Pope John XXIII, and the Presidential



Chavez (right) speaking at a UFW rally in June 1974.

CREDIT // Joel Levine

Medal of Freedom presented by President Bill Clinton.

The National Chavez Center was opened in Keene, Calif. in 2004 to commemorate Chavez's life.

Hinojosa, a four-time Emmy winner and award winning Latina journalist who has worked at PBS, NPR and CNN, will speak of Chavez's life and commemorate his accomplishments.

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## MindBody Connection will offer free HIV, Chlamydia and Gonorrhea testing



One in 15 sexually active women between the ages of 14 and 19 is infected with chlamydia.

ILLUSTRATION // Meredith Shea

Meredith Shea

Production Manager

According to *aids.gov*, every 9.5 minutes, one person in the U.S. is infected with HIV. One in five people currently living with HIV is unaware he or she has it.

This Wednesday, MindBody Connection will offer free HIV, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia Testing in the Student Success Center Room 112 between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The free testing is sponsored by Student Health and Wellness and was set up through the Good Samaritan Project.

### HIV facts, signs and symptoms:

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the estimated number of HIV diagnoses of 18-to-24 year olds in the U.S. was 10,294.

African-American men are most at risk of HIV infection. However, men and women of all races and ethnicities are affected.

The majority of infections are spread through male-to-male sexual contact, but women are also capable of contracting HIV.

The infection can be spread through contact with blood, semen, vaginal fluids and breast milk.

During the initial infection, a person may experience flu-like symptoms. These symptoms are followed by a period where the infected person experiences no symptoms, but as the disease progresses the person is much more likely to get sick as the infection attacks the immune system.

HIV has the potential to turn into AIDS, a disease in which the body's infection-killing cells are destroyed. AIDS was discovered during the '80s, and since then, more than 600,000 people who contracted the disease in the U.S.

have died.

### Chlamydia facts, signs and symptoms:

Chlamydia is a sexually transmitted disease that affects both women and men.

According to the CDC, in 2011 1,412,791 cases of chlamydia were reported, but an estimated 2.86 million infections occur annually. An estimated 1 in 15 sexually active females between the ages of 14 and 19 has the disease.

Many people do not know they have the disease because symptoms can remain silent for up to several weeks. Symptoms include abnormal vaginal discharge or a burning sensation in women.

Symptoms can move up to the uterus and fallopian tubes and cause pelvic inflammatory disease.

Infected men may experience a penile discharge or a burning sensation while urinating.

### Gonorrhea facts, signs and symptoms:

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted disease bacterium that can grow in the cervix, uterus and fallopian tubes in women, and in the urethra of both men and women. It can also grow in the mouth, eyes, throat and anus.

According to the CDC, of the 820,000 annual cases of gonorrhea, around 70 percent are in 15-to-24 year olds.

Many men and women will not ever show any symptoms of the disease. If they do, symptoms in women include painful urination, increased vaginal discharge or vaginal bleeding. Symptoms in men include a white, yellow or green urethral discharge, or testicular pain.

Because sexually transmitted diseases are so prevalent among college-aged students, students who are sexually active are encouraged to get the free testing.

# Dining Hall leads list

Houston Zizza

Staff Writer

With almost ten different restaurants on campus for students to eat, take a break, or socialize, there are five certain places the majority of students go, according to JP Singh, UMKC's dining service general manager.

The UMKC Dining Hall, located on the first floor of the Student Success Center, is the most used food facility on campus. Singh believes this is because of how convenient the dining hall is with its decently priced buffet.

It also might be most popular because the dining fee is covered by the UMKC financial aid meal plan. Stacey Branson, freshman communication studies major, regularly eats at the dining hall because of her financial aid meal plan.

Financial aid does not stop Chick-fil-A, located on the second floor of the Student Union, from coming in second place. This is no surprise since Chick-Fil-A is the 10th most popular fast food chain in America, according to Technomic fact-based consulting and research.

Einstein Bros Bagels, located on the first floor of Royall Hall, comes in a close third. Einstein's provides an accessible place for students to communicate, or grab a bite to eat or drink, while not straying too far from class.

Following Einstein Bros is Jazzman's Café and Bakery,

located on the second floor of the Student Union. For some, Jazzman's is a place to get an array of fresh-brewed coffees and smoothies, or grab a fresh-baked pastry and sandwich.

For others, like freshman English major Dylan Sanchez, it is a place to get coffee while enjoying some peace and quiet.

"Einstein's is too loud and has too many people, so I go to Jazzman's to get my coffee," Sanchez said.

Finally, Smart Market Commissary and Snack Shop is the fifth most frequently used food facility. Although the snack shop is not a dining facility, it provides students with a quick and easy place to pick up food, according to several dorm residents.

There are still those who do not like to eat on campus. According to Sarah Filiaggi, junior criminal justice and criminology major, eating on campus is too expensive.

"I like Einstein Bros and Chick-fil-A, but prefer to eat them off campus where the price isn't as high," Filiaggi said.

Other dining options on campus include UMKC Café, The Robot Café, HSB Café, Baja Fresh or SubConnection. These facilities are located around campus from the Student Success Center to Hospital Hill.

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ABOVE: Jazzman's Cafe, located on the second floor of the Student Union.

BELOW: Baja Fresh express is located on the second floor of the Student Union.

PHOTOS // Sai Srikar Kadiyam



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# theatre 'Drums in the Night' is unsatisfying and dull

Meredith Shea Production Manager

Bertolt Brecht's "Drums in the Night," presented by the UMKC undergraduate theatre department, is disappointing and fails to maximize its potential as an epic piece of theatre.

Director Erin Merritt attempts to have an audience-wowing production, but an attempt is all it is.

In an action-packed play about the German Spartacist uprisings in Berlin 1919, the return of a missing soldier of four years to his lover who has just announced her engagement to another man, overbearing parents and revolution, the play should have been upbeat. Instead, the first act dragged on for an hour and a half. By the time intermission came, the audience was asleep.

Brecht, an early 20th century playwright working during the expressionist movement, requires a specific style and attention to detail that Merritt seemed to disregard.

Brecht developed a specific style of acting called *gestus*, a combination of physical gesture and attitude. The actors failed to utilize this technique, probably due to a lack in direction. Their performance is dull, and at the end of the night, the audience leaves unsatisfied.

This is not to say that everything about the show is terrible. In fact, there are some good aspects of it, and some of the acting, however un-Brechtian it may be, is still good and worthy of attention.

In particular, the female lead Jenny Ward, junior theatre major, has a rich performance in her portrayal of Anna. Her presence is grand, and she is an actor audiences like to watch. She plays the daughter torn between her lost love and her new fiancé while trying to follow her parents' advice and show her maturity at the same time.

Brecht was a master of 'epic' theatre, a movement against the popular naturalistic movement of the time, where the audience must completely understand it is watching a play at all times.

The set, by Olivia Marshall, sophomore theatre scenic design major, was good because it allows for the playing space to be easily deconstructed during the performance. At various times, actors take down pieces of the walls, completely breaking any suspension of disbelief required for realistic plays, but serving this production well. Perhaps the deconstruction of the walls represents the changing of the times, out with the old, in with the new, during this particular 1919 revolution.

The most interesting parts of the play are the mini kabarettes, the German way of spelling and pronouncing cabaret, in the beginning of the show and between each scene. But these bits are not part of the original script, and are not necessary. They are something Merritt added to the play. By the time the opening kabarette is over, the audience is wondering when half-naked kabarette ladies will be finished with their opening bit, and if the play will ever actually start.



From left to right: John VanWinkle, Jenny Ward and Frank Lillig. PHOTO // Shara Abvabi

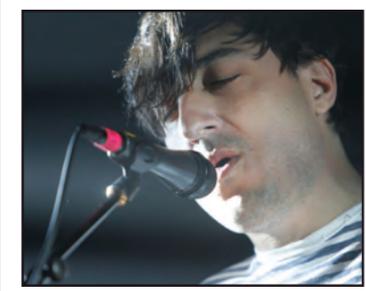
Instead of using pre-recorded sounds and music, "Drums" has a simple, live band, and the kabarette ladies sing and play instruments. Live music allows for a more intimate audience-actor-space relationship and serves this production well.

Thankfully, Act Two is only forty-five minutes long. Had it been an hour and a half like the first act, audience members may have started walking out.

For those willing to brave the lackluster performance, tickets are \$6 for students with a valid UMKC ID, and the show runs through April 14.

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# KC's Middle of the Map Fest rocks out Westport, Midtown



Dan Moreno Staff Writer



Top to Bottom: Ed Droste (Grizzly Bear), The Hillary Watts Riot and Ritzzy Bryan (The Joy Formidable). PHOTOS // Matt Cook

Over one hundred bands took over the Westport-Midtown area last weekend for three days of non-stop music hosted by *Ink Magazine's* Middle of the Map Fest. For the third consecutive year, Kansas City opened its doors and ears to local and national artists.

Headlining last year's festival was the band "Fun," which went on to receive a Grammy for Best New Artist. This year's lineup, curated by The Record Machine, had Joy Formidable and Grizzly Bear performing to a packed Uptown Theater.

Joy Formidable, the indie trio from Wales, took the stage Friday night. Led by Ritzzy Bryan's exuberant and energy-filled guitars and vocals, the band gave the formidably joyful fans just what they came for, especially as they played their biggest hit, "Whirring."

Grizzly Bear, a four-piece outfit from Brooklyn, N.Y., was certainly a highlight of the weekend. The roaring crowds were treated to songs from its latest album, "Shields," as well as past hits such as "While You Wait for the Others" and "Two Weeks."

Thousands of fans enjoyed bands like Beautiful Bodies and Tennis on Saturday.

A wide variety of music genres and styles were represented over the weekend. With bands such as Adam Lee and the Dead Horse Sound Company, with their bluegrass sound, all the way to the freak pop tunes of The Hillary Watts Riot, the festival had something for everyone. The venues were just as diverse, from intimate and cozy to large and loud.

Chris Haghirian, *Ink Magazine's* account executive and festival organizer seemed pleased with the success of this year's event and the

increasing interest in concert-goers. "One-hundred and thirty eight bands is not something you see every day," Haghirian said. "This is your [the fans'] festival, I am glad to see thousands of people come together and enjoy all the different types of music from local, national and international bands."

Live music is only one of three aspects of *Ink's* Middle of the Map Fest. April 17 through 19 will see the return of last year's Forum, with an emphasis on art, culture and technology. These events will take place throughout the Crossroads District and feature speakers such as John McDonald, Boulevard Brewing Company founder and president, and Rob Heineman, Sporting Kansas City chief executive officer.

May 1 through 5 will see the premier of the festival's focus on film, which will take place at the Alamo Drafthouse downtown and will feature fanfare parties, post-film speakers and costume role play.

Middle of the Map is already making plans for next year.

"We are already talking about possible bands," Haghirian said. "We attend different festivals during the year and study bands who we think could be part of ours."

One can only imagine what next year's festival will bring.

"This is a gift of local talent to the city," Haghirian said.

And it certainly seems that way. With a thoughtfully planned lineup, a reasonable price (a \$45 three-day pass grants access to every show) and a clear vision for the future, this fan-focused festival is certainly putting Kansas City on the map.

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Top to Bottom: Adam Lee, The Whistle Pigs and Steddy P. PHOTOS // Matt Cook

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# movie review 'Jurassic Park' stomps on in 3D

Elizabeth Golden Managing Editor

"Jurassic Park," one of the most classic films of all time, comes to life in 3D with the dazzling 20th anniversary celebration.

First released in 1993, the Steven Spielberg film tells the story of a couple of dinosaur experts who are invited on a life-changing adventure to preview a new amusement park on an island off Costa Rica.

By harvesting DNA found in pre-historic insects, peculiar millionaire John Hammond (Richard Attenborough) is able to create a park full of living dinosaurs. Accompanied by his two grandchildren and another weird scientist, the group ventures out in the unknown wilderness only to discover a raging storm bound to knock out their power supply.

When the storm hits the island, one employee sabotages the system in order to smuggle out dinosaur embryos. Sure enough, he becomes the first victim as the raging beasts seek to destroy the land.

"Jurassic Park" is one of the greatest films ever made and 3D allows its legacy to live on. Spielberg has become a fan of 3D in recent years with the remaking of several films in order

to accommodate new technology. Despite the failure of 3D in most action packed blockbusters, anything Spielberg touches has no choice but to be phenomenal.

The film was amazing when it was first released, but mixed with new technology and the same intense emotions, "Jurassic Park" 20 years later could arguably be better than the original. Unlike many transformed films, the 3D allows the dinosaurs to come to life in a way that was impossible in the '90s.

I will never forget the first time I saw "Jurassic Park," although it was not shown on the big screen like all true classics should be. There's something truly amazing about the first few minutes. Open on a beautiful green wilderness as the colors come to life. Wait for the ripples, as they appear in a glass of water. Spielberg does more with a simple shot than most directors can do in an entire film.

"Jurassic Park," 3D or not, is a truly phenomenal film that should be seen by anyone, old or young, long-time Spielberg fans or those who have never seen any of his films. Everyone should get absorbed in this classical masterpiece which will live on for years to come.

egolden@unews.com



'Jurassic Park' in 3D honors the 20th anniversary of the original film.

CREDIT // Universal Studios

# Denim Day raises awareness for victims of sexual assault

Bradley Trevor Hoffman

Staff Writer

Denim Day USA is a day to wear jeans as a protest against sexual violence. It was started in 1999 as a result of an overturned conviction in Italy where an appeals court judge ultimately ruled a 16-year-old student had consented to her alleged rapist, her driving instructor, because of her tight jeans.

"We encourage everyone in the UMKC community to wear jeans on April 24 to show solidarity for survivors of sexual violence," said Kelly Rifembark, UMKC Violence Prevention Coordinator, who is in charge of this year's Denim Day event.

Denim Day has been observed worldwide and by UMKC for the past five years.

"I hope students will gain an awareness of their personal misconceptions of why sexual violence occurs and decide to challenge their beliefs," Rifembark said.

"The passive educational event allows people to learn about Denim Day in their own way. To me, Denim Day is a great beginner program to get involved in stopping sexual violence."

On April 24, there will be a clothesline of jeans hung at the Stanley H. Durwood soccer stadium on the fence from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The jeans on display will have been painted by students to display anti-sexual assault messages or imagery.

Cindy Peckham, a senior in criminal justice and sociology, attended the denim decorating party event last Thursday at the Women's Center to help design this year's jeans.

"No" does not mean "yes," she said, referring to her message.

Terry Ross has been with the Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault since 1982.

"I had two good friends telling me they needed men to volunteer," said Ross a UMKC alumnus and volunteer. "I didn't know a woman at the time who hadn't been a victim. This is not right. This is not acceptable behavior."

Ross initially started running a support group for the family members of victims, among other things.

"If there's something to do with MOSCA, I've pretty much done it over 30 years," he said.

One in 11 men is a victim of sexual assault and Ross offered his support for all affected male victims.

"Rape isn't always about penetration," he said. "It's a power issue. It's a sexual act used to control the victim. Rape has always been a crime of violence, never a crime of passion."

Denim Day is part of Sexual Abuse Awareness Month and a series of events being held by the Women's Center, including Take Back the Night on April 18, which will include free food and a pre-rally on the quad starting at 6:30 p.m., followed by a march to the JC Nichols fountain and a moment of silence for victims.

For more information on April's events, contact Rifembark at 816-235-6175 or email her at rifembarkk@umkc.edu.

bhoffman@unews.com



Jeans featuring sexual assault awareness art hang on a fence as a part of Denim Day.

CREDIT // The Center for Violence-Free Relationships



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## food critic's corner

### Mildred's offers exciting coffee atmosphere

Joey Hill

Staff Writer

In the heart of the Crossroads District, amidst the sprawling streets of galleries, bars and bakeries sits a small hole-in-the-wall café known simply as "Mildred's".

Among the excited energy that fills the streets during First Fridays, Mildred's at 1821 Wyandotte Street may appear like any other café or restaurant, but it's not. The instant one elbows his or her way through the poets, artists and eager onlookers to enter the low-lit, amber colored atmosphere of exposed brick, couches and black wooden tables, you know you've entered the right door.

A row of artisan light bulbs hangs above the register, and softly illuminates a display of muffins, danishes and egg and cheese quiches. Each pastry exudes a rough, asymmetrical exterior, the look of something handcrafted that morning.

It's not just pastries that Mildred's offers. The cooks also make a variety of soups, salads and sandwiches.

One dish in particular, a deceptively simple-looking roast beef sandwich on marble rye with tomatoes, onions, cheese and spinach, is a culinary marvel. From the first bite, one is overcome with an intense savory combination of meat, cheese and tomatoes until being pulled back to reality by the fresh tug of the spinach that leads into the final lingering hint of the red onion's sting. Mildred's uses all natural ingredients and prepares everything in



Roastbeef sandwich a marvel.

PHOTO // Joey Hill

the kitchen, with the exception of the bread, which is bought from Kansas City's own Roma Bakery.

Unlike other cafés, Mildred's atmosphere is never defined by the hour of the day Mildred's is always a comfortable, relaxed space that never feels like a diversion.

One can simply run in, order coffee and run out like anywhere else, but one look at the exquisite crafting of the "rosette" crème design which graces the top of a prepared latte, and even the busiest of coffee-drinkers will pause and question the idea of covering it up with a black plastic to-go lid.

Mildred's is the kind of place that sets the standard for other cafés with a wonderful atmosphere, delicious food, fantastic service and of course, incredible coffee.

For more information, visit [mildredscoffeehouse.com](http://mildredscoffeehouse.com)

jhill@unews.com

# Dance team expects to take big step at Dance Championship

## Team heads to Daytona Beach this week

Kate Baxendale

Copy Editor

The UMKC dance team will compete in the National Cheerleaders Association and National Dance Alliance Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship at Daytona Beach, Fla. this week.

The team received a fully paid bid to nationals for its third consecutive year. It placed second overall in last year's competition.

Captain Hannah Castleman, a sophomore dance major, has been on the team for two years.

"I think our biggest competition will be Towson [University]," she said.

"They have won the championship 14 years in a row," Head Coach Michele Morgan said. "They have had the same coach for years, and their dance program has been around much longer than ours."

Despite the stiff competition at nationals, Morgan is proud of UMKC's progress.

"The first year we competed, we got eighth place overall, and then we placed fourth in

2009 and 2010," she said.

According to Morgan, the team placed second in Daytona last year, and is certain to advance from preliminary competition on Thursday to the final round on Friday. About half the teams from preliminaries will advance to the finals.

"We hire a choreographer and the girls learn the [nationals] routine in November," she said. "Then they go on break, so training is really based during the spring semester."

Each team's routine must include at least 30 seconds of jazz, hip-hop and pom skills. Morgan said UMKC's squad has an "aggressive, powerful and intense theme" this year.

"The original choreography changes a lot according to our strengths and weaknesses," she said. "Since jazz is our strongest area, that section is the longest."

Morgan said pom is the team's weak spot because it is not a typical style for traditional dancers.

To match the team's aggressive theme, the outfits are all-black with cutouts at the



The dance teams performs in front of a small audience in Swinney Recreation Center in preparation for its upcoming competition.

PHOTO // Sai Srikar Kadiyam

midriff and black half sleeves. The makeup will be intense, with red lips and a black band painted across the dancers' eyes.

Morgan said the judges will evaluate the routines by section: execution, difficulty,

staging and overall performance quality.

"Staging is how the girls are spaced on the floor," she said. "They need to be lined up a

Continued on Page 10

## Scoreboard

Kate Baxendale

Copy Editor

### Men's Golf

**April 1-2**  
Bancorp South Intercollegiate  
hosted by Mississippi, 25-over-  
par 899, 12th of 14 teams

**Up next:**  
**April 8-9**  
Wallace Jones Invitational,  
hosted by ULM at Calhoun, La.

### Women's Golf

**Up next:**  
**April 8-9**  
Kangaroo Invitational at Shoal  
Creek Golf Club

### Men's Tennis

**Overall Record: 8-10**  
**Summit League: 3-0**

**April 1**  
UMKC 0, Wichita State 5  
**April 5**  
UMKC 6, St. Louis 1  
**April 6**  
UMKC 7, Western Ill. 0  
**Up next:**  
**April 9**  
Creighton, at Omaha  
**April 10**

Omaha, at Omaha

**April 12**  
Goshen College, at Fort  
Wayne, Ind.

**April 13**  
Fort Wayne, at Fort Wayne

### Women's Tennis

**Overall Record: 8-13**  
**Summit League: 5-1**

**April 5**  
UMKC 1, St. Louis 6

**Up next:**  
**April 9**  
Northwest Missouri State, at  
Plaza Tennis Center

**April 10**  
Omaha, at Omaha

### Softball

**Overall Record: 12-16**

**April 6**  
UMKC 1, Omaha 2

**April 6**  
UMKC 1, Omaha 2

**April 7**  
UMKC 3, Omaha 0

### Men's Track and Field

**April 6**  
Emporia State Relays, 4  
champions

**Up next:**  
**April 12-13**—K.T. Woodman  
Invitational, hosted by Wichita  
State

### Women's Track and Field

**April 6**  
Emporia State Relays, 4  
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Invitational, hosted by Wichita  
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## player profile

## Ott breaks UMKC softball RBI record

Dan Moreno

Staff Writer

This marks senior Emily Ott's last softball season as a Kangaroo.

Ott celebrated her birthday on Feb. 16 by becoming UMKC's all-time leader in runs batted in when she hit a solo home run against Texas Tech.

"I ended up earning a school career high when I hit that home run," she said. "Now I'm at 108 and want more. It was a great birthday present."

Ott's hitting career started when she was six years old.

"I was subbing for my sister's tee ball team," she said. "I started playing softball when I was eight and took it from there."

In her high school years in Des Plaines, Ill., Ott was Maine West High softball's Most Valuable Player all four years and an All-state selection her senior year.

Coach Meredith Smith brought her to UMKC in 2010.

"I was at a tournament in Chicago when coach emailed me and I asked her to come see me play," Ott said. "After she saw me play, I came to Kansas City and liked the school a lot."

Ott is well-known for her softball skills, but also for wearing number "00" on her jersey.

"I am the first athlete to bring '00' to UMKC," Ott said. "I chose it because it is easy to remember but also because my last name starts with an O. I just loved the idea."

Coach Smith's team was originally scheduled to open up the Summit League on March 22, but was unable to do so due to inclement weather.

After spending its first 25 games on the road, Ott said the team was looking forward to starting conference play.

The Roos, 12-16, began their league schedule by losing two of three games to Omaha at home this past weekend. Two RBI in Sunday's 3-0 victory increased Ott's career total to 110.

"It has been a tough season. We have played against great teams and we are ready to come back and start strong in the league," she said. "I am anxious and excited about this season. I have been practicing hard and hitting the gym a lot."

UMKC added No. 7 Mizzou and Iowa State to the schedule in attempt to make up some of the cancelled games.

"I have played against them [MU] the last three years and we have always put a good game against them," Ott said. "I'm ready to beat them, and have it be my senior year when it happens."

Ott said UMKC's softball team is a great experience.

"We are all very goofy," she said. "We are a great team, thanks to the team's chemistry."

After graduation, Ott has already decided to continue in sports.

"I want to go back to Chicago and get an internship with a sporting team," she said. "Probably the Bulls or the Cubs. I want to do something for them."

Ott and the Lady Roos will host Mizzou this Wednesday in a doubleheader at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

[dmoreno@unews.com](mailto:dmoreno@unews.com)



Emily Ott owns the UMKC softball record in RBI, 108.  
CREDIT // UMKC Athletics



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## Dance team: Continued from Page 9



Practice makes perfect.

PHOTO // Sai Srikar Kadiyam

specific way."

Overall performance quality includes aspects like facial expressions, synchronization and appearance.

The preliminary competition will be held indoors at the Ocean Center and the Peabody Auditorium. Finals will be outdoors at the Daytona Beach Bandshell.

"The dance floor outside gets tacky from the sun, so turns can be hard to hit," she said.

Graduate Assistant Ashley Rodriguez was on the dance team the first year UMKC competed at nationals.

"I've seen the program progress a lot over the years," she said.

Rodriguez was a dance major at UMKC who graduated last spring.

"Realistically I think the team can make the top five this year," she said.

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**Disclaimer:** The views of individual writers expressed below in this section do not represent the official stance of *U-News*. *U-News* welcomes participation from all UMKC students. Letters to the editor may be submitted to Editor-in-Chief Nathan Zoschke, [nzoschke@unews.com](mailto:nzoschke@unews.com).

## U.S. double standard insults other countries

**Peter Makori** Staff Writer

What would be the reaction if a politician facing international charges of crimes against humanity offered himself for president?

There would definitely be a public outcry, and neither the Republicans nor Democrats would entertain such a pariah.

Yet a similar scenario has been endorsed by a former U.S. assistant secretary of state for African Affairs, Jendayi Frazer. She has been agitating for a change of foreign policy by the Obama administration, encouraging its cooperation with two individuals facing crimes against humanity charges by the International Criminal Court. These charges include rape, murder and forceful eviction of civilians.

Frazer, who was George W. Bush's top diplomat for Africa, has criticized the Obama administration for taking a hard-line stance against Kenya's

controversial elections of Uhuru Kenyatta and William Ruto as president and deputy president, respectively. Both face serious charges from the ICC at The Hague, Netherlands.

Frazer has appeared in various TV interviews and penned opinion pieces in major newspapers asking America to respect the "verdict of the Kenyan voter." She does not understand the political and social dynamics that influence elections in a poor country like Kenya.

Frazer recently wrote, "Innocent until proven guilty' is a defining principle of all respected legal systems, including that of the United States. Presumption of innocence allows an individual to run, win and hold public office until they are found to be anything other than innocent."

Before she wrote that, Frazer published another opinion piece in Kenya's leading daily newspaper, the *Daily Nation*, in which she criticized her predecessor, Johnnie

Carson, for insisting that the U.S. government's foreign policy on Kenya would significantly shift if the two men indicted for war crimes were elected into office.

I have been unable to fathom Frazer's wisdom, or lack of it, in her pronouncements.

I asked UMKC professor of Anthropology Shannon Jackson whether establishing university programs to study other societies might better prepare America's future foreign policy experts to better understand the dynamics of those societies.

"For an American to effectively address global issues, he or she must first understand America," Jackson said. "We do not teach our students to understand our own culture, economy and politics in order to prepare them to effectively relate well with the rest of the world.

"Any suggestion that a university like UMKC might introduce a center for African studies or Asian or Middle Eastern studies in order

to give the students early education on these societies won't work because of ideological and practical reasons."

Frazer's arguments about the political events in East Africa were embarrassing to me because almost none of them reflect the reality.

She claimed in one of her TV interviews that the 1998 terrorist bombings in Kenya's capital, Nairobi, and Tanzania's Dar-es Salaam targeting U.S. embassies, where 258 civilians were killed and 5,000 injured, came from Somalia.

Soon after the attack, according to *CNN.com*, the Clinton administration launched cruise missiles targeting Sudan and Afghanistan where then Al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden was suspected of harboring terrorist training cells that were behind the bombings.

As for Frazer saying she did not see anything wrong with an indicted war criminal being elected president unless he was proved



Peter Makori

guilty, candidates have been driven out of the presidential race for far less grievous sins.

In last year's Republican primaries, Herman Cain was forced to drop out after a chain of women came forward to accuse him of sexual impropriety when he was the chair of the National Restaurant Association.

If it is immoral to have a man facing sexual impropriety allegations to remain a candidate for the presidential contest in America, I do not know why the same standards should not apply to an African politician charged with crimes against humanity.

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## 'Job hunting sucks, whore yourself'

**Bradley Trevor Hoffman**

Staff Writer

In May, I will leave UMKC for hopefully greener pastures, but more likely very desperate, underpaid pastures. I'll be graduating with an English degree.

If you're like me, you're unimaginably bothered by the language you see other people using to market themselves on career sites such as LinkedIn and Indeed.

It's not that I don't know what I want to do. I know exactly what I want to do. But being an editor at a literary magazine is not an entry level position. So, I'm resigned to searching jobs online that have even an inkling of connection to

my major. I've made my profiles on career sites by posting a flattering, conservative photo of myself, answering questions about my past jobs, what "skills" I believe I have to offer and posting my résumé. And I hate it.

When I think about career sites, I imagine a very tall, fit, ideal man in a stunningly clean and stylish suit pinching the last piece of food in the world and holding it above a crowd of some 100,000 people just too short to reach the food. The ideal man is smiling and the 100,000 people are all shouting out phrases like "formulated strategic plans to effectively and efficiently evaluate" and "coordinated and implemented an analysis of quantified research" trying to convince the ideal man

that they are most deserving of and qualified for the foods.

The language that I am competing with on these websites seems to me to be increasingly seductive and untrue. Should I be in the position to hire a person for a job, I would ask the applicants to describe their skills in the shortest words possible. If you can say "knows how to use a copy machine" instead of "am cognizant and capable of the necessary knowledge to operate a papyrus duplication device" then do.

It's not that I don't know and cannot use these elevated, \$5 and \$10 terms. It's that they feel false to me. I could tell you that I have experience with observing diverse market demographics

and engineering verbiage that will influence the behavior and decisions of a wide client pool, or I could, and perhaps more accurately but less impressively, tell you I know how to say what people want to hear.

I think the root of my disdain for this career dance is that the similarities between selling a cheap plastic toy and convincing someone I'm a smart, capable person are too similar.

I don't want to "sell" myself or "promote" myself. I want to have an informal conversation with someone over a beer and talk about doing some work for him or her. I realize, because while I am idealistic, I am still not insane, that my desire for an uncompetitive job



Bradley Trevor Hoffman

market is never going to be.

But like many other graduating seniors, I will continue to participate in this humiliating race for a job. Perhaps the best advice I've received on finding a job after college and behaving strictly how I think others want me to, was from a friend who graduated two years earlier and now has a great job in a field he loves.

He told me, "Job hunting sucks. Whore yourself."

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# Celebrity film critic, Roger Ebert's living legacy

**Elizabeth Golden**

Managing Editor

"Thank you. Forty-six years ago on April 3, 1967, I became the film critic for the *Chicago Sun-Times*. Some of you have read my reviews and columns and even written to me since that time. Others were introduced to my film criticism through the television show, my books, the website, the film festival, or the Ebert Club and newsletter. However you came to know me, I'm glad you did and thank you for being the best readers any film critic could ask for."

Roger Ebert wrote these words April 2, two days before his death. He continued to explain how his

health is rapidly declining and he will not be able to review as many movies in the future. Coming from his usual 200 reviews a year, most expected his drop in attendance wouldn't be reduced by much.

The loss of Ebert is one of the greatest losses to the film and journalism community I have ever witnessed. He was not just a movie critic. He was an icon. He represented film critics everywhere. From giving select films two thumbs up to being relentlessly critical when a film failed to be adequate, Ebert was one of a kind.

Ebert was the first critic to win the Pulitzer Prize and the only critic to ever receive his name on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He

died at age 70 after a long-term battle with cancer.

He planned on starting back up his television show and updating his classic film reviews.

Ebert wrote "I am not going away. My intent is to continue to write selected reviews but to leave the rest to a talented team of writers hand-picked and greatly admired by me."

I remember watching Ebert on television growing up. Although I didn't always agree with him, I wanted to know his opinion. Even as a kid, I respected him.

As I grew older, I began reading every review he wrote, always after I saw the movie. Go to movie, formulate opinion, read Roger

Ebert's blog, consider his insight. This was a weekly, or sometimes daily, hobby of mine.

After a while, I recognized his critical skills. Anyone can see a movie; many may even write about a movie. But not many can allow readers to truly feel the movie.

Ebert made me realize what I wanted to do with my life before I even knew there was a thing called journalism. From watching him and reading him, I knew I wanted to make my living watching movies and writing about them.

Although I still have a while before I can hopefully make my dream a reality, I still give credit to Ebert for making me believe my dream could become a possibility.



Elizabeth Golden

When I first heard of his death, I felt the urge to burst out in tears. Strange, since I have never felt this way about a person I had never even met, but then I began thinking and realized it felt like he was actually in my life. I read him on a daily basis. He inspired me and he is everything I hope to become, minus the nasty cancer part.

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# Don't judge a table by its guests

**Riley Mortensen** Staff Writer

I'm not going to go out on a crazy limb and say serving has changed my life, but I have experienced some people and incidents, who have made my life a whole lot easier and more interesting.

I began working at the Cheesecake Factory around two years ago. I spent my first year working at the front desk, but by year two, I was able to convince my managers to put me in the next serving class.

For me, it wasn't about making more money, it was about making the same amount and working fewer hours so I could spend more

time on school. Well, wish granted, I work a max of 20 hours a week and make more than enough to get by.

Throughout my two years, I have observed many occurrences which I otherwise would have never experienced. Here is a look into the life of a server.

Nearly everyone knows, or everyone should know, that servers get paid very little by the restaurant itself. We don't make even half the minimum wage, but what they don't pay us, we compensate for with tips.

After serving long enough, it's common to get into the habit of sizing up a table based on a

predicted tip.

Stereotypes are off the charts in restaurants. A server might take one look at a table and think they're not going to tip much, maybe not even at all. Serving can severely slant one's perspective, but if a server treats everyone with a great attitude and good service, he or she will often be surprised.

Saturday night, for example, I was out working on the patio and 9 p.m. rolls around. I'm tired, my feet hurt and I've just gotten my butt kicked with keeping up the pace through our evening rush. I'm ready to wind down. One of the hosts comes out and pushes together all of my tables and tells

me I'm getting an 11 top, which is restaurant lingo for a party of 11.

This rambunctious group of college guys comes out, and most servers would have taken one look at that group and had nothing but doubts. But, I went in with a friendly attitude and came out with the best tip I've ever received on a party. We automatically put an 18 percent gratuity on parties of a certain size, and every one of them tipped extra, as well.

I've never had so much fun with one table. There were more laughs had through that one meal than I have in a typical night.

And when they were done, everyone, including me, the one



Riley Mortensen

who'd done all the work, left in a wonderful mood. It really is true what they say, don't judge a book by its cover, but even more importantly, don't judge a table by its appearance. It's all in the attitude.

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