

UNIVERSITY NEWS

UMKC's Independent Student Newspaper

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Textbooks

Could college mainstay go the way of the dinosaur?

Cyrus Moffet

Staff Writer

Colleges and universities across the country are being confronted with a major challenge: the World Wide Web and social media are changing the way classrooms operate.

According to David Tsouvalas, Editor-in-Chief of StudentAdvisor, an online site dedicated to advising students, "Social

media has revolutionized how colleges communicate."

How has UMKC dealt with this issue?

Every professor is different.

"Do I assign books to read and will I continue? Absolutely," said Judith Ancel, an Economics professor who specializes in labor issues.

For Ancel, however, there is a caveat: the professor favors articles which are posted onto Blackboard from library databases, underscoring the ways in which technology is changing the way classrooms operate.

Peter Morello, Associate Professor of journalism and mass communications, has textbooks for his classes registered through the UMKC Bookstore.

Whether his lectures follow the textbook depends on the course, he said.

"I often emphasize chapters I consider more important, and I skip certain chapters that are not important."

Professor Never of the Bloch School said, "I tend to like books, personally. But if students would rather use an

e-reader or tablet, then I'll order books in that online format."

Peter Eisentrager, head of

operations at UMKC's on campus Bookstore insists it's a myth

that the textbook is on its way out the back door.

"It's only a perception," Peter said, "that no one's actually buying the books."

He also said that "the vast majority of instructors require some type of traditional textbook."

Students at UMKC vary in their views on how textbooks and the internet should interact in the classroom.

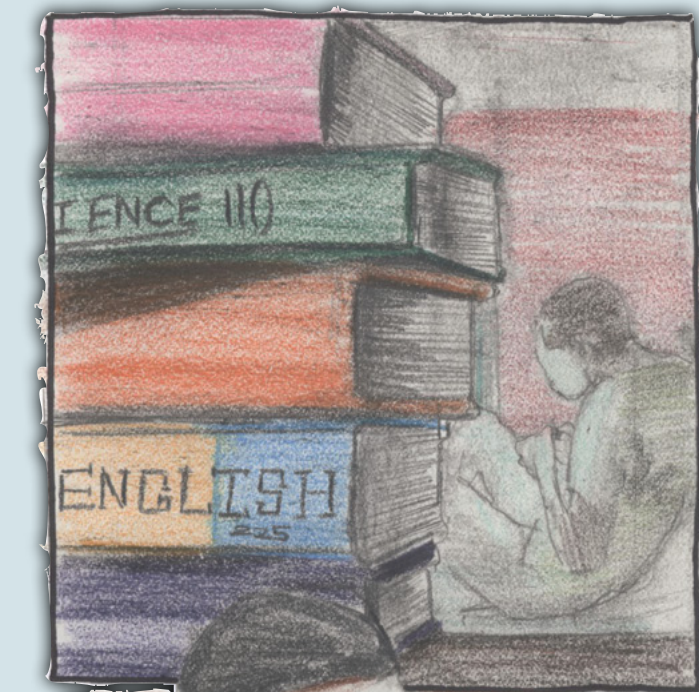
"I would say that at times, textbooks have been overshadowed by the internet and other means of getting the answer, such as Wikipedia, educational websites, etcetera," said senior Kory McEneney.

Melissa Howard, a Junior English major, said her political science textbook is useful. However, she cautioned, "I think that they [textbooks] are expensive."

Mallory Jones, a graduate student, says that "it has been my experience that the Web has not replaced textbooks but has supplemented them."

Jones' comments illustrate the middle path that seems most followed—at least at UMKC.

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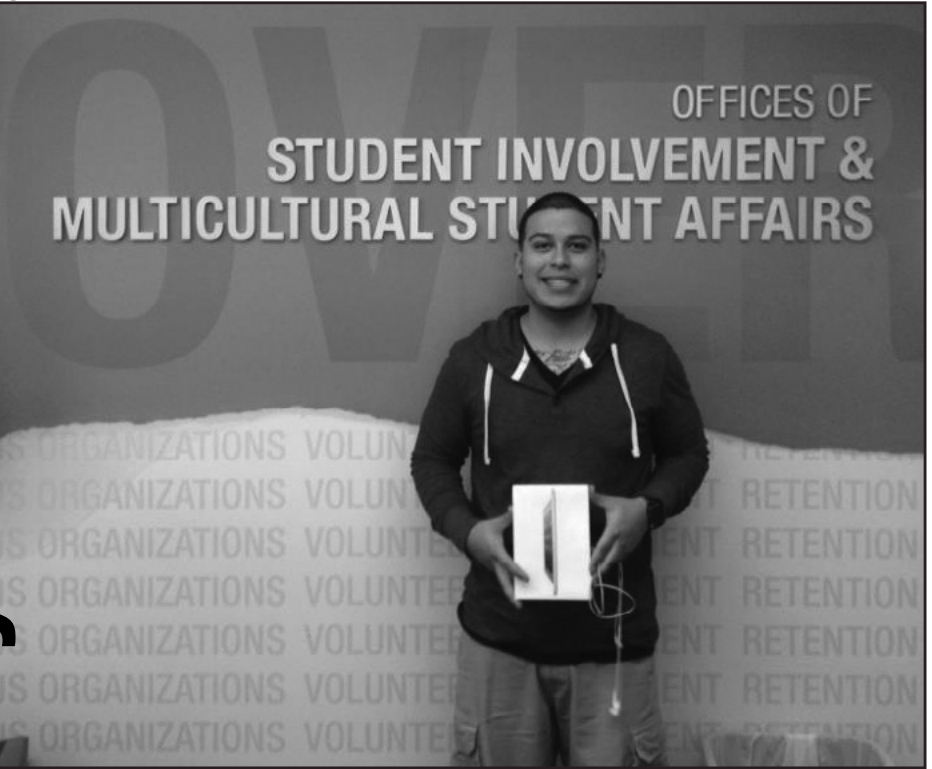
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student profile

Bryan Zamora



Zamora shows off the second iPad mini he won from UMKC in a Facebook contest.
PHOTO // Courtesy of UMKC Office of Student Involvement

Student wins second iPad from OSI

Andreina Byrne Staff Writer

For Bryan Zamora, winning contests has become second nature, especially those involving iPads. The Office of Student Involvement had an online Facebook contest promoting an iPad mini giveaway that began during the end of March.

Having won an iPad in a previous giveaway contest only a month before, Zamora's karma and lucky stars aligned, yet again.

The way the giveaway worked was that by sharing the photo of the brand new iPad mini, participants were entered. In order for a winner to be selected, the OSI Facebook page had to reach 1000 "likes."

"Honestly, I was scrolling through Facebook and I saw that my friend had shared it," Zamora said, "so I 'liked' it."

Luckily for Zamora, towards the end of the giveaway, he shared the photo and managed to beat the other participants.

"I believe it was the last day," Zamora said, "I was like one of the last ones to enter."

The giveaway ran for about three weeks and Zamora was notified of his success during the end of the first week of April.

"I was in shock when I received the email [saying that I won]," Zamora said, "I instantly told my coworker to read the e-mail to verify."

"Man, at that point I [realized] that I was one blessed kid."

Once he overcame the shock, he told his friends about his win.

"My friends were [so jealous] they couldn't believe it!" he said with a laugh.

Zamora offered his insight on the secrets of winning such contests.

"I wasn't really thinking much of it, I think that's the trick," Zamora said, "Don't get your hopes up, just go with the flow. If you win, that's awesome. But if you don't, there's not much to lose."

Zamora also suggests that his karma played a part in his success.

"I do good everyday [and] I live off of good deeds," he said. "[I] never expect anything back except for good karma."

Zamora's karma is about to benefit a relative.

"I have a little 10-year-old brother who has been asking for an i-Pad for his birthday," he said. "So, I decided to give this iPad mini to him to motivate him to do well in school and sports. Also, just to [teach him to] have a good attitude on life."

Zamora's brother lives in Los Angeles, so this is a way for the two to connect more often.

"He hardly gets to see me all but twice a year," Zamora said. "It's sad but true, but it's all sacrifice."

Reflecting on his good fortune, Zamora mused, "I guess the saying is true: 'Good things happen to people that do good things.'"

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SGA Election 2013

Vote online:
<https://roogroups.collegiatelink.net/election/start/22172>

Four slates compete for Student Government Association

Joseph Salazar Staff Writer

The elections for the new Student Government Association's executive board members are underway.

Through Friday April 26, students will have the opportunity to cast their ballots for President, Executive Vice-President, Administrative Vice-President and Comptroller.

Four parties, or slates of candidates, are competing for the 2013-2014 offices.

The slates include Gold Slate, Imprinting Diversity, RooServe and UMKC Alliance.

Gold Slate

Junior Daniel Baker leads the Gold Slate as a candidate for President. Baker is currently President Pro Tempore for Student Government Association. In an interview, Baker said his experience with SGA in the past led him to the decision to run for SGA President.

"I noticed the errors," Baker said. "A lot of students weren't having their voices heard. Student organizations weren't getting funding because they didn't know how everything worked," he continued.

The Gold Slate also includes Robert Robinson, Executive Vice-Presidential candidate, a student in the pharmacy program and has served as President of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and an Orientation Leader.

In a candidate statement, Robinson said, "I have a lot of Ideas (sic) that will give the voice to the students and allow them to utilize our campuses (sic) facilities to the max. I want to set forth events that will make campus life he (sic) amazing."

Freshman Business Management student Haley Reed is running for Administrative Vice-President on the

Gold Party ticket. According to her candidate statement, one of Reed's major concerns as a candidate is campus crime.

Jibran Ali rounds out the Gold Party ticket. Ali, a Junior majoring in Business Management, is running for Comptroller.

Imprinting Diversity

Imprinting Diversity is a slate led by Junior Jide Ajisafe.

Ajisafe described diversity and inclusion as the starting point for his slate's campaign.

"A lot of my motivations was to be the voice of people who feel like they haven't been heard" Ajisafe continued.

Imprinting Diversity's candidate for Executive Vice President, Latonya Haynes currently serves as President of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

Amara Heard, Imprinting Diversity's candidate for Administrative Vice President, is a student in the 6-year medical school program.

Chanel Maddox, who is running for Comptroller on Imprinting Diversity's ticket and currently serves on the Student Activity Fee Council, is a Senior Communication Studies student.

RooServe

RooServe is a slate led by Junior Benjamin Campero. Campero is double-majoring in Economics and Business Administration.

RooServe's Facebook page touts that Campero would be the first International Student to become SGA President, if elected.

In an interview, Campero said his main goal is to, "foster a community of inclusion that supports all of our student organizations".

Campero is joined by Parker Webb,

RooServe's candidate for Executive Vice President. Webb wants to increase transparency and inter-organizational communication.

Rachel Jenkins is RooServe's candidate for Administrative Vice President.

Jenkins is a transfer student from Missouri State University.

She emphasized in her candidate statement RooServe's desire to work with Associated Students of the University of Missouri and Missouri legislators to exempt textbooks from sales tax.

Makayla Maslanka is RooServe's candidate for Comptroller.

UMKC Alliance

UMKC Alliance, led by Presidential Candidate Peter Swingle, is a slate composed entirely of students at the Law School.

In an interview, Swingle explained that as graduate students, UMKC Alliance has the experience needed to lead SGA.

He also expressed a desire to reform the Student Activities Funding Council and increase transparency.

Swingle hopes to restructure SAFC in a way that allows student organizations more time to present their budgets.

Robert Givens, also running on the UMKC Alliance slate, as Executive Vice-President, emphasized in his candidate statement the party's desire to prioritize funding for student groups who want to sponsor networking events on-campus.

Katherine Corwin, Administrative Vice President candidate for UMKC Alliance articulated the party's desire to bridge the gap between graduate and undergraduate students in her candidate statement.

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Police Blotter

April 12

- 9:55 a.m.** Burglary
It was reported that copper pipe was missing on the 5400 block of Rockhill.
- 11:58 a.m.** Larceny
A student left her property in a classroom in Royall Hall between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. the previous day and returned to find it missing.
- April 13**
- 1:07 a.m.** Minor in possession of alcohol
Officers contacted parties who were drinking while under legal age.
- 11:19 a.m.** Burglary
A student reported that on March 3, the suspect had taken a cell phone case from her room in Johnson Hall.
- 10:34 p.m.** Suspicious Activity
A student reported several parties in an SUV were yelling at her.
- 10:34 p.m.** Arson
Residents at 54th and Harrison Streets were awakened by smoke and found a small fire on their porch.
- 10:34 p.m.** Noise Disturbance
Officers contacted a resident in Oak Place Apartments who had her music turned up too loud.
Missing Property:
- 7:50 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Property damage
A resident in Oak Place Apartments found damage to his apartment door.
- April 14**
- 5:10 p.m.-5:30 p.m.** Larceny
A student left his laptop unattended in Miller Nichols Library and returned to find it missing.
- April 16**
- 1:57 a.m.** Burglary
A resident at Oak Street Residence Hall left her room unlocked and returned to find an iPod and a laptop missing.
- April 17**
- 10:53 a.m.** Miscellaneous Investigation
A suspicious package in the Health Sciences Building turned out to contain surgical supplies.
- April 18**
- 12:20 p.m.** Larceny
A non-student left her cell phone in a coat in Swinney Recreation Center and returned to find it missing.
- 3-3:31 p.m.** Common Assault
Officers responded to a common assault at Oak Street Residence Hall.

Health Journal

Tips to relieve late-semester stress

Andreina Byrne Staff Writer

For every college student, stressful moments are inevitable. From forgetting to write a paper to waking up late for a test, feelings of anxiety are often unavoidable.

However, with proper exercise and stress-reducing techniques, these moments can drastically diminish, much more than anticipated.

“Often, exercise and leisure activities are the first to go at crunch time,” Sherri Theoharidis, Ph.D. of the Counseling and Testing Center said.

According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, (ADAA), exercise not only reduces stress, but it is also considered vital for the maintenance of mental fitness.

From forgetting to turn in an assignment

to focusing on the next social event, students are often overlooking the importance of maintaining their health in such a fast-paced environment.

“[These situations] only result in increased stress, pressure, fatigue and potential burnout,” Theoharidis said.

The demands of college and everyday life are constantly clashing. The ability to concentrate has become especially hard with the constant presence of technology and, thus, the presence of multi-tasking.

“It is helpful for students to map out a guideline for themselves during the semester that allows for organization of their time breaking large tasks into smaller readily achievable tasks,” Theoharidis said.

Exercise can help students achieve their other goals.

“Plugging exercise into that weekly

schedule instantly increases the likelihood of it occurring, as well as builds in the benefits of taking a break, increasing focus and creating an outlet for stress,” Theoharidis said.

From working out between classes at Swinney to walking up and down the infamous stairs leading to the Student Union from 51st and Oak Streets, there are many viable exercise options on campus.

“Swinney offers an array of exercise machines, an aquatic center, indoor and outdoor track and so much more,” said Swinney Recreation employee and dental hygiene student Carolyn Carmosino.

“They also offer exercise classes. In particular, the one that comes to mind when talking about stress is yoga. I would definitely recommend that class to someone who was looking for a way to relieve tension.”

According to the ADAA, exercising for

even five minutes a day can begin to healthily affect one’s body, stress levels and self-esteem.

In fact, with multi-tasking becoming second nature to most, a quick, five-minute exercise between classes can make a difference.

“Personally, I really enjoy running and listening to music,” Carmosino said. “I find it really helps my focus and is a great way to relieve built up stress and anxiety.”

Regular participation in exercise can improve countless aspects of health, academic performance and overall mental stability.

For more information on quick exercise tips and stress relief techniques, contact the UMKC Student Health and Wellness Center at 816-235-6133, or the Swinney Recreation Center at 816-235-2712.

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The Rugby team plays against Northland Rugby at Hodge Park on Saturday, April 20. PHOTOS // Dan Moreno

A roller coaster sort of season

Dan Moreno Staff Writer

The UMKC rugby team played its last home game of the semester on Saturday against Northland Rugby at Hodge Park in a friendly match.

Captain Aaron Dzik suffered a concussion in the first half, which came after a kick to the head from a Northland player. He was out for the rest of the game.

“That’s what rugby is all about,” he said. “You are always exposed to injuries.”

It has been a tough season for the rugby ‘Roos, who are a club team.

KC Doan described his team’s season as a “roller coaster.”

“We got rolling a little bit at the beginning of the season,” he said. “We won two home games and then winter break came along, after that we lost some momentum.”

The team is already planning ahead for next season.

“We are hoping to get a lot of recruitment going on this summer” said Doan. “Get a good-size team. It was a good year to grow but not exactly what we wanted.”

With only two games left the team stands 3-9.

“Thanks to the solid group of guys, our game play has improved a lot,” Doan said. “We have been able to work our offense instead of playing defense every game, so if we can keep that on the road we will be more competitive.”

UMKC has supported the rugby team since its start in 2009.

“They give us funding, which is the best kind of support we can get from them,” Doan said. “If they could give us more publicity, that would be even better. We need to get the word out about our team because most people don’t know about it.”

Any student can be part of the team.

“We are looking for anyone,” said Doan. “Rugby can relate to any sport. It has elements of soccer, football, wrestling and even basketball. So if you want to play for us, you just have to come practice.”

The camaraderie between the players can be seen from far away, and the team chemistry has grown a lot this year.

“Our team is all about brotherhood,” Doan said. “If rugby guys are anything, they’re loyal.” The team will face Missouri Science and Technology on Saturday at Rolla.

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Player Profile: Deanna Friese wins eighth 'Pitcher of the Week'

Kate Baxendale Copy Editor

Senior softball pitcher Deanna Friese on April 8 was named the Summit League Pitcher of the Week for the eighth time in her career.

On the previous weekend, Friese went 1-1 against the Omaha Mavericks, accumulating 19 strikeouts while yielding nine walks, six hits and two earned runs in 17 innings. She finished the weekend with a 0.82 earned run average.

Friese has also accumulated the best strikeout ratop in UMKC history, with 9.93 strikeouts per seven innings in 2010. She won the Summit League Pitcher of the Year in 2011.

She improved her 2013 record to 11-9 by going the last three innings of the second game of a 5-4, 4-3 doubleheader sweep of IUPUI on Sunday at Franklin,

Ind. In the first game, Friese pitched seven innings and struck out 14, one short of her season best. The Roos improved to 16-17, including 5-3 in the Summit League.

"When I first started playing softball, I wanted to go to the top and play in the Olympics," she said. "Being named Pitcher of the Year that year totally blew my mind."

"Every time I get named Pitcher of the Week, I think I really am a top competitor and I really can do this. I feel like all my hard work is actually paying off."

Friese started playing softball more than 10 years ago, and she started pitching just one year after being introduced to the sport.

Originally, she was a dancer when Friese and her family lived in Effingham, Ill.

When they moved to Kennesaw, Ga.,

where Friese graduated from high school, dance studios were not available. So she took a break from any athletics.

"When I was in eighth grade, I started hanging out at my brother's baseball games," she said. "Then I thought I should give softball a try."

Baseball and softball both run in Friese's family. Her father and brother both played baseball, her mother played softball, and two aunts were fast-pitch pitchers.

"We would always play together as a family at reunions," she said. "So I decided to give it a try."

Friese said the team's biggest competition in the Summit League is North Dakota State. The home series, which was supposed to be held March 22 and March 23, was cancelled due to inclement weather.

"I'm pretty disappointed we didn't go

at them, but if we make it to conference tournament, which I'm confident we will, we will have our shot then," she said.

Friese said North Dakota State has excellent pitching, which makes them a difficult opponent.

After graduation, Friese plans to go to graduate school for chiropractic practice. She has been accepted to Cleveland Chiropractic College and also has applied to a graduate school closer to her family in Ga.

Friese has not seen her family since Christmas, a price for her success.

"It's hard not being around them all the time, but it helps having close friends here and their family becomes my family," she said. "I get to video chat with my family every night, so it's not like I don't get to see them or talk to them."

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10 FEATURE Growing use of prescription stimulants raises concern among health professionals

By U-News Staff

Ten *U-News* staffers piled up 19 individual and overall awards at the annual Missouri College Media Awards banquet Saturday night at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin. Competing in Division I, which includes universities with the highest enrollments, the *U-News* also finished third in the prestigious Sweepstakes category, which ranks newspapers according to overall honors.

The *U-News* received three awards for first place, four for second place, eight for third place and three for honorable mention. With two staffers sharing each of two honorable mention awards and receipt of the Sweepstakes award, the *U-News* came home with 21 award certificates.

"I see the awards as an affirmation of the immense progress *U-News* has made in the past year," Editor-in-Chief Nathan Zoschke said. "This is the first time we have won a Sweepstakes award in four years."

"I was extremely pleased. My goal has been to see the *U-News* realize its potential as a quality, award-winning publication that adheres to its mission as UMKC's truth-seeking independent student publication."

Zoschke earned seven individual awards, including first place for feature writing, editorial writing and story illustration. The feature story, on UMKC Ph. D candidate Nazgol Bagheri's receipt of more than \$150,000 in grants and scholarships for the study of Iranian women, led a one-two-three sweep of the features category.

Second place went to Roze Brooks, for a feature on Peter Makori, a UMKC senior and *U-News* columnist, who as a journalist in his native Kenya experienced government harassment and imprisonment.

Third place went to Damion Alexander



12% FEATURE American students are abusing their ADHD treatments

for his story on Kangaroos basketball player Kirk Korver, one of four brothers who has played Division I basketball, including, Kyle, currently in the NBA.

Zoschke also won first place in editorial writing by addressing UMKC's proposed name change. He took first place for Best Story Illustration, with an arrangement of food items to accompany a story on students who buy their own groceries instead of using school dining facilities.

U-News awards were distributed among the news, features and opinion sections. Cartoonist Aaron Cecil also won a second-place award for depicting the Grinch driving a Santa sled for the cover of the Holiday edition, and a third-place award for addressing student debt.

U-News submissions struck a balance between light and serious issues. Michelle Heiman and Kate Baxendale shared a third-place award in investigative reporting for a story on student use of Adderall. Zoschke won a third-place award in news writing for a story on a corpse found on the grounds of the Linda Hall Library.

"These awards acknowledge the tremendous improvement the *U-News* had made this year," said Faculty Adviser Jon Rand.

"In my first year advising the paper, people around campus kept telling me how much the paper had improved and we won only two MCMA awards, none for first place. I would have been thrilled for us to win six or eight awards this year, so to win 19 represents a quantum leap for the *U-News*."

"And I'm delighted the way these awards have been spread around among the staff. I'm not sure there are many other student editors in the nation who could have overseen the kind of improvement Nathan has, and it's gratifying to know he'll be here

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LEARNING TO A GREATER DEGREE



Students discuss school's gay-friendly reputation

Conservatory opera presents 'Night in a Museum' at Union Station

Joey Hill

Staff Writer

The UMKC Conservatory last Friday at Union Station's City Stage presented "Night in a Museum," an expertly crafted selection of scenes from various operas chosen by the performers. It was directed by Marciem Bazell, with light piano accompaniment by students Richard Jeric and Jonathan Young.

The performance began with an interesting moment of exposition, with the singers standing and sitting on blocks, frozen in various poses like statues. This was the museum, and as the curator, student Vashti Goracke leaped and bounded around the performers. She silently gestured at secrets hidden within each block to a museum visitor she had in tow.

This beginning acted as a brilliant table of contents for the performance. It alluded to the works that would be performed while

simultaneously immersing the audience in the performance's world when Goracke "closes" the museum and continues to dance between the statues, bringing them to life with her touch.

The presentation of the scenes was kept to a largely minimalist style set design, using a very limited number of props, and at times even using other performers as elements of the set. A striking example of this was during student Laura Powell's moving performance of American composer Samuel Barber's work, "Sure on this Shining Night," based on lyrics by poet James Agee. The performers collected in two groups, on either side of Powell, outstretching and bending their arms to appear like trees.

During some performances, a song was accompanied by a dance performance by Goracke. During Willow Parsons' enthralling rendition of "Ideale," an aria by Italian

composer Francesco Paolo Tosti, Parsons stood still upon stage left. A spotlight shone directly on her while she held a gilded bird cage in her hands as Goracke proceeded to dance spryly around the empty space in center stage. It was the warm stillness of Parsons' body and the aching, melancholic softness of her voice which blended with the constant and spastic movement of Goracke's dancing. This bordered on either the most intricate and complicated of planned movements or the most inept of improvisational natures. Coming together, the two created a fascinating artistic dialogue on stage.

Multi-media effects were also employed in the concert during an operatic reading by student Christopher Carbin of selected excerpts from Homer's epic poem "The Odyssey." Carbin read as the other performers performed a shadow play on a screen far at up stage. Moments from Odysseus' escape from

the clutches of the Cyclops Polyphemus, as well as the tragic meeting with his mother in the Underworld, were acted out expertly.

The final piece was a work composed by Conservatory student Gavin Brivik. "Rapt In Reverie" was a chilling piece that used a combination of vocals by Evelyn Wouters, piano, and violin by Filip Lazoski. As a set piece, all that was used was a lone chair draped with a white shirt. Bathed in a ray of light beaming from the ceiling, the shirt glowed like a diamond piercing the low-lit stage and was accompanied by a slideshow of pictures of recently murdered student Aaron Markarian, to whom the performance was dedicated.

It's this finish that gave the entire performance its incredible lingering effect, which would stick with the viewers even when they had gone home.

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food

Fric & Frac a KC favorite for a good reason

Andreina Byrne

Staff Writer

A personal favorite of mine continues to please every Americana-style bone in my body, as it has for many Kansas Citians since the late '70s. Located on 39th street in Kansas City, Fric & Frac offers your everyday pub food and burgers with a great assortment of drinks

To change it up, I went during the evening hours, rather than my usual late afternoon time. With the difference in time came a difference in crowd, though this was not necessarily a bad thing.

The only table available in the somewhat loud, yet kid-friendly environment was a two-seater right by the front door. This worked out well, for the fact that those who entered rarely noticed us sitting down, which helped create calmness for us amidst the storm of food-goers. But it also created a chill I when the waitress walked in and out to help the outdoor customers in the 40-or-so degree weather.

The waitress, who seemed to be working a majority of the tables, was very kind and easy to speak with, though it was hard at times to get her attention due to the continuously growing number of customers. She quickly asked for drink orders and brought them back within minutes while allowing for a few moments of a quick menu look-over before coming back to ask for the order.

"I'll take the hot ham and cheese," I quickly said. This was a new choice for me and after eating the hefty ham and swiss sandwich with a pickle on the side, I definitely was not disappointed, or still at all hungry. For an

added treat, I ordered some curly fries, which were definitely the best I have had in a while. The order sizes of both were hefty and certainly worth the surprisingly short wait.

The drinks range from your everyday Coca-Cola to a fully stocked bar. There were definitely plenty of choices for a group of friends going out, or for the family grabbing a quick meal.

The prices were fair. There are also a variety of specials throughout the week, like the two-for-one burgers on Mondays and \$2 tacos on Saturdays. Wednesdays also include \$2.75 Boulevard draws for the loyal Kansas City beer drinker.

After finishing the meal, it did take a bit longer than expected for the waitress to return to grab our plates and ask if anything else was needed. I was planning on getting at least another drink but decided against it due to the duration of time that I was sitting there.

Perhaps I was being a bit childish, but I eventually did decide to get one more drink after the owner came by and asked how the meal was. I thanked him for cleaning off the table and asked for a check. He obviously conversed with the waitress shortly after, and only about a minute later, she was back with a cold drink and the check. I was grateful.

Fric & Frac is undeniably a reasonably priced destination for any college student, or family. It offers cheap drinks and meals all day from 11 a.m. until 1:30 a.m., along with pool tables and arcade games. You can't beat that.

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Students perform in the Spring Dance Concert.

PHOTO // Joey Hill

A celebration of form and movement

Joey Hill

Staff Writer

The UMKC School of Dance last Thursday presented the Spring Dance Concert, a collection of performances choreographed by the Conservatory's DeeAnna Hielt, Bernard Gaddis, Paula Webber, Sabrina Madison-Cannon, Ronn Tice, Ming Xia, and Gary Abbott.

Right from the very beginning, the concert's level of intensity was suddenly ramped up to ridiculous by a beautiful, yet simply titanic, work by DeeAnna Hielt. It was known simply as "A Series of Impressions".

Working with a female group of dancers, Hielt combined both rigid and mechanical movements with looser, flowing moves, which with the large collection of dancers, made an intense, surging body of movement

which at times seemingly wanted to explode off of the stage.

This was coupled with bright and abstract projections shown on a screen behind the dancers, as well as low, bright orange and purple lighting coming from the sides of the stage. These lights created large silhouettes of the dancers upon the walls, completely disorienting the audience and willing them to embark on a dramatic visionary trip.

Hielt used a very particular selection of music for the piece that propelled the work's enormous power: the explosive and earth-shattering booms of the Los Angeles production company's "Two Steps From Hell" from its 2007 album, "All Drums Go To Hell." This music, when echoing through the space of White Recital Hall and accompanied with the vicious stomping

of the dancers on stage, made to see, as the audience was being presented glimpses from the very first moments of chaos on earth.

Not all the dances performed were steeped in modernism. Some spoke to classical ballet. A gorgeous example was Paula Webber's "Variations with Episodes," which used the second movement, the Andante from Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 22 in E-flat Major. Using both male and female dancers, Webber eloquently represented beauty and grace as the dancers floated across the stage, males dancing with female partners when in formation. At times. Only two dancers were on stage. There were moments when the female dancers danced to the piano sections, and the men to the string and percussion sections, a; in perfect sync.

The Andante movement is slower than the

two allegros that make up the first and third movements of the concerto. In using this, Webber's dancers worked slower at times, demonstrating perfect form and poise. The subdued purple and blue hues that changed to magenta and teal lit the back screen and created a very dream-like quality to the dance.

What this dance concert was was an incredible and poignant celebration of form, beauty, and refinement. Each performance pushed farther the idea of beauty in the movements of the human form. Streamlined, graceful, and powerful, this dance concert was truly a sight, not just to behold, but cherish.

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Terror in the media

Bradley T. Hoffman

Staff Writer

The tragedy that beset the city of Boston a week ago Monday, when two bombs were detonated near the finish line of the annual Boston Marathon, killing three people, including a young boy, will leave a scar on the city and country for a long time to come.

Watching Diane Sawyer on ABC News that afternoon, I watched a particularly disturbing exchange take place between her and a reporter on the scene in Boston. For several minutes the two went back and forth, defining and redefining the terms "terror" and "terrorism" and if the events in Boston, not yet even 12 hours old, could be called an "act of terror."

The two eventually concluded the details fit inside the parameters of the definition they'd come up with and that, yes, it was terrorism.

While I believe it was too early in the reporting, with no details on the suspects, to begin using terms like "terrorism," I do not

disagree that it was, in the broad sense, some "act of terror."

What I disagree with is media inundating and saturating American culture with the word "terror," using it with the frequency of a trending buzzword.

The literal meaning of "terror" is extreme fear, but the word's political and social connotations are what make it such a marketable, profitable asset for news outlets. The day after the event, rather than reporting what had happened, the headline on the front page of *USA Today*, in big, bold lettering, read **TERROR RETURNS**. It almost sounds triumphant, or at least menacing, as if it's saying, "Watch out! Terror is back in town."

Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, appearing on Bloomberg Television four days after the events in Boston, mentioned, all within three minutes, that the bombings could have connections to Afghanistan, Pakistan, Russia, Chechen separatists, and the current poor relations between the U.S. and Russia.

Giuliani also said the police obviously were looking "for the one remaining guy," and then immediately interrupted himself and continued, "Well, we think one remaining guy, who knows?"

There had been noreports that more than two people were suspects in the bombing, one of whom had died. Why would he, an accomplished and respected politician and former two-term mayor of a major city, suggest on national television something that had no basis? He then said of law enforcement, "They may have information they're looking for more than one guy."

They very well may have had such information. But have you, Giuliani, heard this information? Do you know it exists? The power of suggestion is grossly overused.

Giuliani said all this while in front of a backdrop of a giant image of Copley Square moments after the bombs had gone off and next to a pane, twice the size of the one he appeared in, of live video of police searching parts of Boston. The effect was a huge



Bradley T. Hoffman

simulation of violence.

The media saturates us with violence, violent images, violent video, violent rhetoric, and makes it seem normal. It damages the way we respond to violence. It makes us passive and less concerned.

The networks need to be more sensitive to what they're showing on television -- how it's presented, and what leaps in accusation their guests or employees make. Saying something is not impossible in no way means it is true, but merely brings it into the conversation and on everyone's mind. When you're consuming news, it's wise to only digest the facts, and leave the rest alone.

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The promising future of solar energy

Patricia Sebastian

Staff Writer

Solar power systems have come a long way since 1839, when Alexandre Edmond Becquerel observed the photovoltaic effect via an electrode in a conductive solution exposed to light.

Solar energy, the radiant light and heat from the sun, is harnessed and used in various forms.

They include solar heating, solar photovoltaics, solar thermal electricity, solar architecture and artificial photosynthesis which can make considerable contributions to solving some of the most urgent energy problems the world now faces.

Twenty years ago, it was clear solar power wasn't going to get anywhere by itself. Photovoltaic panels were expensive and inefficient. Even solar systems designed to heat water, a far less technologically tricky task, were bad buys on the open market.

Producing electricity from sunlight cost 10 times more than generating power using coal or nuclear energy. "The early systems might as well have been made out of gold," said David Wedepohl, a spokesman for Germany's Solar

Industry Association.

But, as investors began to approach solar and wind power as long-term investments, knowing there was a guaranteed future for renewable energy and a commitment to connecting it to the grid, there was a decrease in prices of Photovoltaic Systems (PV) by 50 percent. A remarkable growth in solar system installations was seen.

In 2012, around 6 GW were installed in United States and 90 GW worldwide, many in Germany. That country is considered to be the harbinger of a future electrical power system that has a high penetration of variable-generation renewable energy.

Solar panels line Germany's residential rooftops and top its low-slung barns. They sprout in orderly rows along train tracks and cover hills of coal mine tailings in what used to be East Germany. Old Soviet military bases, too polluted to use for anything else, have been turned into solar installations.

Twenty-two percent of Germany's power is generated by renewable energy. Solar provides close to a quarter of that. The southern German state of Bavaria, population 12.5 million, has three photovoltaic panels

per resident, which adds up to more installed solar capacity than in the entire United States.

With a long history of coal mining and heavy industry and the winter gloom, Germany is not the country you'd naturally think of as a solar power. And yet a combination of canny regulation and widespread public support for renewables have made Germany an unlikely leader in the global green-power movement. That has created a groundswell of small-scale power generation that could upend the dominance of traditional power companies.

In the U.S., the Department of Energy (DOE), set a target of a \$1 per watt for installed PV solar energy systems, which equates to five or six cents kWh. This aimed to make solar competitive, without additional subsidies.

The DOE initiated the Sun Shot Initiative to reach this goal by 2020. Programs within the DOE are working diligently to make clean-energy technologies such as solar, wind, electric vehicles, building energy technologies, storage and smart grid technologies more commercially viable in the

market place.

However, apart from cost reduction, large scale deployment is also an important criterion. Therefore, as clean energy technologies become more prevalent, power systems need to be more flexible and integrated.

This multi-systems integration is critical to ensure all utilities continue to operate the grid in a safe, reliable and cost effective manner.

Also, when you look at solar power in a broader sense, every country uses it and always has. Every time a farmer leaves a stalk out to dry, he or she is using solar power. Every time someone hangs a shirt out to dry, opens the blinds to let light and heat in, or puts rice in a black kettle inside a reflective box, that person is using solar power. For millennia, people from all walks of life and on every foot of the earth have used solar power in some way. Nothing has changed. We're just improving the technology with which we may harness that power.

And they say, "Make hay while the sun shines!"

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The virtues of U.S. citizenship

Peter Makori

Staff Writer

While the U.S. Congress is embroiled in a heated debate to find an acceptable compromise on decades-long, elusive comprehensive immigration reform, ordinary Americans wonder: Just what does it take for an alien immigrant to attain citizenship?

On April 11, 59 immigrants from 38 countries took the solemn oath of allegiance to the flag of United States before a judge of the federal court of the Western District of Missouri. I was among the newly inaugurated American citizens.

On this chilly Thursday morning, close to 300 immigrants converged on 9th Street, the Court's premises, anxiously waiting to witness the initiation rituals of their relatives.

Parking spaces were gone by 8:00. Young, middle-aged and the elderly were already lining up at the security desk, ready to assemble in a large hall where the process was to begin.

Initially, I thought that citizenship was a contract only between the applicant and the immigration authorities. I had a lonely feeling during the six years since I filed my first paperwork to start the long journey to coveted citizenship.

I was taken aback to see applicants accompanied by family members and their children! Being a first-generation immigrant to the U.S., I did not have a family member to accompany me. So I sat forlornly, occasionally speaking with some Southern Sudanese immigrants who were also waiting for the big occasion.

What is required for an alien to become a

U.S. citizen?

You must pass U.S. history exam, and read and write in English. You must be a person of high moral high standards, have no criminal history, pay taxes, and be willing to carry arms to defend the sovereignty of the United States.

The majority of those who received their citizenship are refugees, and those who sought political asylum after fleeing persecution in their mother countries. They were required to have been in the U.S. for the past five years, after they became lawful permanent residents.

But a few in my group got their citizenship through marriage.

Of the 59 new citizens, one lady from Germany was so excited that she rubbed the U.S. flag around her chest, took pictures and loudly declared, "I have never been happy in my life like today."

Throwing her hands up and occasionally kneeling down, she hugged her companion and declared she could not forget this day.

Her reaction confounded me. Germany is not known to be a country of poverty or notorious political persecutions. What is it that made this lady so excited? Well, I did not ask her because I too had my own excitement to deal with.

I arrived in America in 2006 on an international press fellowship program. After my fellowship ended at *The Kansas City Star*, I was unable to go back to Kenya because I was targeted for extrajudicial lynching by state agents due to my uncompromising stance against corruption and abuse of human rights.

It therefore became necessary for me to seek political asylum, which was granted in early 2007.

Becoming a U.S. citizen is a very prestigious achievement. I remember when I travelled to East Africa before I received my green card. I was not allowed to fly through any European airspace without a transit visa.

I arrived in Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, with my State Department-issued special travel document. However, I was asked to either produce my permanent resident card, which had not yet been issued to me, or a U.S. passport to fly through Europe.

But my flight was scheduled enter German space. At the time, I had sneaked back into Kenya through a neighboring country in order to deal with pressing domestic matters.

My younger sister had gone through a very delicate brain surgery and was in very bad shape. I cried when I saw her. My mom was bedridden with an injured nerve. I felt constantly under intense pressure at the University of Missouri-Columbia where I was a visiting scholar.

In the summer of 2006, I appeared before a quasi-judicial human rights tribunal in Nairobi where I gave incriminating evidence against top government officials on extrajudicial executions, including my own torture and incarceration two years before.

Unknown to me was the fact that the same officers had not forgiven me. They were insidiously plotting to eliminate me when they heard I was back. Nevertheless, they needed clearance from their provincial bosses before they could execute their evil scheme.

As they had done before, they came up with fabricated allegations against me -- that I had brought millions of dollars from the U.S. to destabilize the government of Kenya. Eliminating me was necessary for national security.

I lived constantly haunted by dreams of being bludgeoned to death by police officers. At night, I never slept. I slept during the day so that I was able to keep vigil after dark.

I decided to call the Provincial Commissioner, the equivalent of a state governor, to discuss my security concerns. He agreed to meet with me.

While in his office, the PC informed me that he had a very serious briefing in his office from the Kisii district security committee. It claimed that I was implicated in high crimes of anti-government activities, and that I had brought millions of dollars into the country for that purpose.

I saw darkness in the room. The PC went on to inform me that his officers were on my trail and that I could be eliminated any time.

"I have done my investigations and established that these allegations against you are false," he said. "However, there seem to be political schemes that I am unable to stop from doing whatever they want, and I should urge you to get out of the area for your own good."

Immediately, I took a vehicle and crossed over into a neighboring country, then took the next flight to New York and the country that is now my home.

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Situation in Venezuela a cause for concern

Dan Moreno

Staff Writer

As a Latin American student, I have been following the current situation in Venezuela. Surprisingly enough, I haven't found as much coverage as I thought there would be, especially given the magnitude of the problem.

If you read this far and said to yourself "Oh, what's happening in Venezuela?", I do not blame you. I blame the media in this country for not considering this particular turn of events all that important.

Six weeks ago, Venezuela came to the end of an era when its dictator, President and Commander Hugo Chavez, who led the country for 14 years, passed away after a long battle against cancer.

After a month and a half, Venezuelans elected a new president, or at least half of the country did.

Chavez' right hand and vice-president, Nicolas Maduro, defeated the opposition candidate, Henrique Capriles.

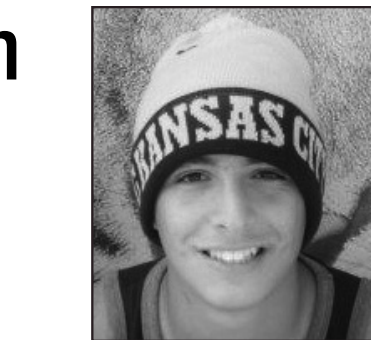
Venezuela's new president-elect won the election with a 50.66 percent of the votes, the closest election in the country's history.

The main problem is that now the country is divided. Thousands of opposition supporters have taken to the streets of Caracas and other cities protesting what Capriles claims to be a fraudulent act. The electoral institution of that country has been putting off a recount. Meanwhile, Maduro has already been sworn in.

This is highly newsworthy and should

concern all citizens of the world. Venezuela is an important player in the international oil export industry, has given support to impoverished nations and, despite conflicting opinions, has succeeded in moving a vast proportion of the poor up to the ranks of the middle class. Venezuela now fears the onset of civil war. Seven people have already died and 61 have been injured in street violence. Yet, media coverage has been lukewarm at best.

Granted, this has been an eventful week in the United States and elsewhere, with the bombings in Boston, the devastating fire in Texas, and earthquakes in Pakistan and Iraq, as well as China. However, Latin American countries have booming economies, and are among the emerging markets in the world.



Dan Moreno

Democracy is widespread, save for a few countries that still embrace leftist politics. That these countries and their citizens are now fighting for democratic rights in elections is certainly newsworthy. It is in our best interest to keep our eyes and ears open to what is going on south of our border.

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SGA

Election 2013

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<https://roogroups.collegiatelink.net/election/start/22172>

SGA coverage
continued from
Page 2

Students in the dark about SGA Elections

Joseph Salazar

Staff Writer

There is an election going on that no-one seems to know about.

This week, students have the opportunity to vote for the Student Government Association's Executive Board. The board members will represent the UMKC student population through the upcoming 2013-2014 school year.

"I didn't know," sophomore English Major Dylan McGonigle responded when asked if he'd heard about the election taking place.

Alexander Eden, a College of Arts and Sciences student, hasn't heard about the elections either.

The response was more or less the same for sophomore Cat Pearson, a Psychology major.

"A week ago I got an email," Pearson said.

In interview after interview it became

clear that very few students knew about the election taking place.

Even students who did know there is an election going on didn't know too much about it.

"I don't particularly know the candidates—other than like Facebook posts and such. I've just mainly heard about the potential smoking ban," said Cory Phillips, a Pharmacy student.

Only one student interviewed was able to talk about the elections in-depth. Kasim Hardaway, an Environmental Science student knew details about both the Gold Party and RooServe platforms, although he indicated that he knew the candidates leading those platforms previously.

Even students that knew about one candidate said they were reluctant to vote.

"I don't have a solid grasp of what I'm voting for," said Taylor Scholle, a Bachelor

of Arts in English student who will graduate next semester.

"I only know one side of the candidates, and I don't know any issues, if there even are any, that are up for debate," Scholle continued.

Some students expressed frustration at not hearing about the elections.

When asked why he thought he had not heard about the elections, Eden responded that it was probably because not enough had been done to get the word out about the election on-campus.

Chris Fuston, a Communication Studies Junior who also didn't hear about the election, agreed.

"No signage, e-mails from school, lack of interest by people on campus," Fuston explained, when asked why he supposed he had yet to hear about the election.

While at least three of the four slates of candidates have Facebook pages set up to promote their candidacies, students repeatedly responded to questions about candidates in a way that suggested they wanted to know about candidates outside of social media postings.

At least one slate is hosting a meet-and-greet with students this week. The event will be held by the Imprinting Diversity slate at the Culture House.

Overall, though, the lack of knowledge about the Student Government Association elections seems rampant.

Less than 300 students participated in the Student Government Association's Executive Council elections last year.

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