

Alumni Game Kicks the Season in Gear

By Justin Williams 🕒 September 26, 2011



The University soccer program held the annual Alumni Game on Saturday, August 27th. Highly anticipated, the game included notable alumni from as far back as the class of 1995 all the way to the graduated seniors of last year to play the current Griffin Men and Women soccer teams. Each game was played as three 30 minute periods, which allowed the alumni to see how the team is shaping up for the upcoming season, as well as give the current team the opportunity to play a few of the best players to come through the University. Junior defender Nick Platipodis said, "It is always a good time playing the alumni, and is a great experience whether you are a senior or a freshman, and it's always funny when they somehow end with extra men on the field at the end!"

"Below: Current Junior Brittney Radley cuts past opposing defender."



First, the current Women's team played before the men's team at 4:30, coming out on top of the Alumni with a 2-1 score. The Alumni team scored first on the current Griffins, earning an early 1-0 lead. The younger team tied up soon enough, though, and then one-upped the Alumni. The current Griffins got their goals from Junior Robyn Meesey and Senior Kendra Shilli. Shilli scored her goal after Junior Ava Johnson dribbled an Alumni defender down the line and crossed the ball perfectly to Shilli, shot and scored.

Junior goalie Kaniz Abbas said, "It was an even matched game, but we never gave up. We were able to control the ball the entire last half to win the game." The women played tough, fighting hard to gain control. Control of the ball and holding on to it was what they needed, which in turn tired out the Alumni, giving them their scoring opportunities. Brian Hoener has just taken the role as the women's team's coach, which now makes him the head coach of both teams.

The men's team was tied after the end of regulation, but then won their game in Penalty kicks. During regulation, the alumni took the lead, which was immediately answered 10 seconds later. The second and third goals were both scored by Junior forward Joe Dusch in answer to the second and third set

forth by the alumni. When the alumni went up 4 to 3 with only a little bit of time left in the final period by a beautiful head ball off of a cross by an alumni player, our University Griffins didn't have much time to equalize, but the boys were given a chance by Junior midfielder Charlie Chaffin, who volleyed the ball out of the air that was hit perfectly to him by Senior forward Ted Gansmann to tie the game up 4-4. After the regulation ended, Alumni goalie Chuck Woodcock, who is the All-Time record holder for any goalie to ever come through and play for The University, faced off against our University Griffins in penalties, while goalie Zach Will faced down the Alumni Penalty takers. Our Griffins put away every PK, one of which was almost saved by Alumni goalie Woodcock. Due to the 4th kicker's shot on the Alumni being saved, the current Griffins ended up winning over the alumni in the 5th and final penalty kick, making it impossible for the Alumni to pull ahead.



"Above: Current Junior Taylor Pratt holds the ball."

During last year's alumni game, there were upwards of 30 Alumni men playing in the game. Every year, the Alumni seemingly end with more than 11 guys on the field at a time; even reaching 15 at one point during the end of the match. This year, both men's and women's teams played fair games and fought hard.

The current University Soccer teams are working harder than ever to earn access to the NCAA National Soccer Tournament. This goal is accomplished by being the winner of the Conference Championship at the end of the season. Each team's seed is determined by the conference games played during the season, which if won, give the winning team points. The team with the highest amount of points at the end of the season are then given their tournament seed according to how many points are gained.

Photos courtesy of Fontbonne University

Baby Boom Makes Nursery out of East Building

By Elizabeth A. Brennan 🕒 September 26, 2011



The third floor of the East building is not the place for people uninterested in offspring. Last year's baby boom made four of the floor's fifteen faculty members new parents. "The rumor is not to drink the water," says Dr. Stephanie Afful, Assistant Professor of Psychology, whose son, Isaiah, was born in late May last year. Dr. Benjamin Moore of the English department says, "It's like having our own little population explosion. If this trend continues, the third floor will have a greater population than many small countries."

English Department Chair Heather Norton kicked off the boom in February 2010 with Ella Daives, who was born eight weeks early. Next, Professor Vince Willoughby's baby, Max, was born in March. In May, Afful's son was born, and the birth rate shifted into overdrive.

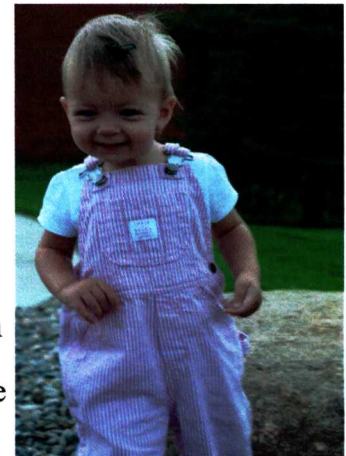
The 2011 crew began with the January arrival of Nico, the son of English professor Dr.

Margaux Sanchez, who was welcomed into the world by a foot of snow on the ground. In February, Dr. Lisa Oliverio, Assistant Professor of English and Communication gave birth to Miles, and the latest addition to the count was Mia Zdenka McCarthy, born June 21 to Communications professor Dr. Jasna Meyer and Dr. Patrick McCarthy, a contributor to the University's Bosnian Memory Project. Also, Dr. Sarah Huisman, Assistant Professor of the Human Environmental Sciences Department, and Norton are expecting, which will continue the baby boom into the next few months.

The new mothers and the lone father in the hall appreciate having coworkers to share the experience with. "It has been a great benefit to have colleagues going through the same issues and we often have "mommy talk" on 3rd floor of East" said Afful.

And there is much to talk about. "I have a very happy son, so it is pure joy to just watch him explore and play," says Afful. "He loves to dance right now, so when he hears music or clapping, he immediately starts dancing, whether that be in the grocery cart, car seat, or backyard." Willoughby says "One of the exciting aspects of caring for our baby has been watching him learn things and seeing the joy that communicating with us brings him." For Norton, "Every stage is more enjoyable than the last--just when I think that she can't get any more fun, she does. Right now she is having a language explosion, which is so much fun."

In addition to its joys, parenting comes with difficulties. Norton's daughter was born eight weeks early, and Ella stayed at Children's Hospital until she was eight weeks old. Afful feels the work-family balance is the greatest challenge. "It always feels like I'm rushing and there are not enough hours in the day...You are constantly thinking about your child as you juggle your workload, daily routines, and social life."



Dr. Heather Norton's daughter, Ella. Courtesy of Heather Norton.

Others, such as Meyer and Willoughby, have had experience with childcare and do not find this time too straining. Since Willoughby's wife is a former nanny and both have many nieces and nephews, "Parenting has not

been too hard to adapt to,” he said. Meyer says the knowledge she gained when her daughter Nasja was born twelve years ago has decreased the level of difficulty she experiences today. “Parenting gets easier. Just like most things in life, the first time you do it, it is the hardest. The second time, you know what to expect.”

“Adapting to new roles is always difficult, I think,” says Norton, “But this is one that I’ve been looking forward to. It isn’t easy. Figuring out how to fit everything in has been a challenge. It also has forced me to think of myself in new ways the sometimes conflict with the identity that I had before.”



Sanchez says, “I’m learning that my best effort has to be good enough, and that the world doesn’t end if I walk out of the house with my pants on inside out. And yes, that has happened.” Fortunately, “Nico finds a way to let me know what he needs, so I don’t feel mystified, as I may have feared. It’s more challenging in that he needs something, even if it’s just a silly smile, nearly all the time.”

Nico Sanchez, son of Dr. Margaux Sanchez. Courtesy of Dr. Margaux Sanchez.

Sleep deprivation is the main challenge. Norton says Ella “didn’t sleep very well until she was 13-months old. I felt like a zombie by then. It was really difficult.” Meyer has gone 2 months without adequate sleep, as Mia wakes up every two to three hours at night. “I have caught myself, and Nasja has told me, that I just sometimes start speaking Croatian to people in the middle of a conversation in English because I’m sleep deprived.” Soothing Mia when she cries at night is an easier task. “All I have to do is walk up to her, and she will instantly stop crying and smile at me – a big toothless grin. She also chuckles in her sleep, which I love.”

As for juggling their families with the demanding profession of teaching, the instructors are grateful for the flexibility their jobs allow them. “Fontbonne strikes me as being pretty unique in its support for faculty with growing families. It is really wonderful to be at a place that is excited for faculty members who have children,” says Oliverio. Afful agrees. “I’m fortunate to have a job where I can spend more time with him in the summer and bring him up in the occasional developmental psychology lecture.”

Amidst the challenges and joys of parenting, one thing is for sure: on the 3rd floor of East, babysitters are at a premium.

Commuting Just Got a Little Bit Easier

By Arlene Gandy ☺ September 26, 2011

The Commuter Story

With fewer than 10% of students living on campus, commuters are vital to the existence of the University. In a small Fontbanner survey, thirteen of fifteen commuter students felt welcomed and accommodated. However, three expressed concern about the lack of connection with resident students and other commuters. A new transfer student said he hadn't been made aware of any of the services available for commuters.

According to Elizabeth Brennan, new President of the Commuter Advisory Board (C.A.B.), "In the past, C.A.B meetings were just a 'crab fest.' Now, they have focused their attention more on activities that are meant to engage the commuter population." C.A.B has plans for a week of commuter breakfasts, a casual dinner once a semester, and monthly commuter activities, beginning in October. C.A.B. has also provided a lounge in Medaille Hall on the 4th floor, with a full kitchen, Plasma television, DVD player, Wii, and a computer to check email. Commuters have a place to study, play, chill, and if parking is available, not worry about losing a spot on campus.

Parking is an issue that remains a sore subject for commuters in particular, and is a daily challenge. Most commuters drive 5-10 miles or less; some use public transportation, which lengthens the time of their commute. Although the survey only reflects a small portion of the commuter population, surely a great amount of commuters travel further each day. The most common complaint of commuters, is parking seeming less than adequate. Despite the frustration with the everyday drive, the overall consensus felt the journey is worth the education, as seen in the survey.

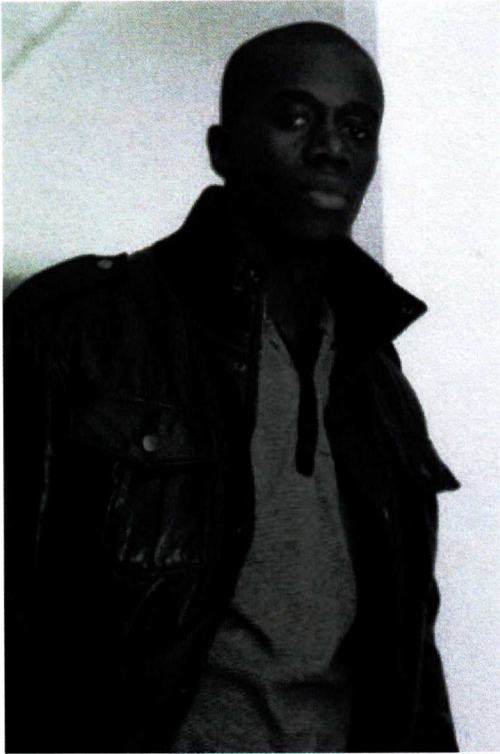
Commuter student Christina Sinch, who relies on public transportation, would like assistance with bus pass fees. She said "That it is not the way she commutes, it is the time it takes on the bus to get here." Her routine requires a one and a half hour ride. She has to leave her house by 5:50 in morning to arrive on time for her 8:00 class. On the topic of public transportation, Brennan says the CAB staff attempted to offer a solution to the high cost of bus pass fees, and students could purchase a semester pass at a discounted rate in the Registrar's Office. Unfortunately, the lack of students in need of public transportation was very low. Until more commuters have a use for public transportation, or show that there is a larger need for it, the issue can't be further addressed.

Other commuters have lodged varying concerns about balancing class time with social time on campus. Lina Williams, a new transfer commuter student, expressed difficulty with time management and managing class loads. Junior Tamiko Blount, a commuter, said for three year she has only come to campus for class and the library. She didn't know about the services for commuter. She also thought it would be helpful to have student ambassadors give campus tours throughout the semester, for commuters.

While not all issues can be addressed, commuters have not been in the background, and the University has kept them in mind. Brennan assures that there is much in store this year for commuters, all they have to do is get here.

Hip Hop Culture on Campus

By Kayla Sager ☺ September 26, 2011



It's Thursday night after basketball practice, Yedata keeps his eyes on the MAC screen while he runs his fingers over the keyboard and the mouse to run the programs. Saliou Dioum stands in front of the mic belting out rhymes. Yedata is in full control of what is recorded or recorded over by making the right clicks to start and stop. Once the vocals are laid down they can begin to edit and mix the track.

Saliou Dioum, better known on campus as Lu or Luevega, is a Senegalese rapper, songwriter, talent buyer, and event manager. His love for music started at a very young age. When Luevega was only seven years old he was up-rooted from Senegal and moved to Providence, Rhode Island. On the east coast, hip-hop culture flooded him with music by Jay-Z, Nas, The Diplomats, Biggie Smalls, Mase, and native Rhode Islander and friend Jon Hope.

Lu/Luevega/ Saliou Dioum, Photo Courtesy of Saliou Dioum

His influences are clear in lines like, "Man...we so infamous, clothes we be rock'n go hard like concrete, 'Bout to make this money like Wall Street....haters wanna' gain our trust 'cuz we infamous."

Yedata's Hip-Hop name is simply Yada, and his journey starts off in Vegas, raised by a single mother since the age of four. When Yada was 14 years old he started his music career with audio engineering.

He is inspired creatively by artists such as Little People: Mickey Mouse Operation, Jake One, The Alchemist, Pete Rock, Nightmare on Wax, and many more electronic producers with similar styles. You can feel Yada's passion and inspiration bleed out in lines like, "What you know about a problem to be, living in a family with no college degree, then you wanna' act like you're smarter than we-- he

ain't never heard of land that is free 'cuz the same place they die is the same place they eat...special clothes match the ranking-- steel bars, only big enough just to blink in...and that story is for the ones that know nothing in life, besides the ones that they raised in."

Lu later moved from Providence to Chicago where he played basketball and deepened his love for music by attending open mic nights to watch rappers battle. He took this opportunity in Chicago to explore the Mid-West hip-hop culture.

Luevega came to Saint Louis where he took a dive into the nightlife. He then enrolled at the University, influenced by the late Dr. Lee McKinney. Luevega stated that McKinney inspired him to be more. McKinney would always say, "Son you got talents, I want you to use them." When choosing this university it was not just to play basketball but to become a musical talent. "I knew that here at this university I could become a well-rounded individual and a productive member of society." Lu started hosting parties at various venues through the city of Saint Louis, where his passion for hip-hop has intensified.

While in Saint Louis he was offered a job by Gorilla Productions as a show host, judging dozens of battles, and during this job his love for rapping took off. After previously considering the idea, Luevega finally started making music in 2008.

Lu expressed that making music was harder than he thought. "Many times I would record for hours rapping over other peoples beats, and then I would listen to them the next day. When I listened to them I would just delete them all because I felt none of the lyrics were good. I repeated the punch lines too often. It was hard to develop my flow and learn how to rhyme on the spot to the beat."

Yada 's education in making music began with his family. When Yada was first listening to music his mother never played American music, only African acoustic music. "She had the music on old school tapes that had to be flipped over to hear the second half of the song. She played it mainly when she was cleaning, and sometimes she put me to sleep as a young boy by singing them to me." His first musical partners were his mother, sister, and brother. "I was exposed to pop music from my sister who loved to sing, and my brother loved the hip-hop."

Yada expresses in a song that, "lyrics is the emotion, music is my motion," and he truly feels that music is an expressive art. "I want people to experience the mood and central theme of the song when lyrically listening to my music. They need to understand that my words are not hollow. I'm a deep thinker, and everything I say has an emotion attached to it from either experience or my own personal theory."

Previously Yada attended college in Seattle to get his Associate in Arts with an emphasis in digital music. He chose Fontbonne for its athletics, and he has been working with Luevega since he started here. He hopes to dive deep into music during his time in Saint Louis, while also attending his classes and fulfilling his duties as a member of the basketball team.

When listening to Luevega's music listeners immediately will hear his Senegalese accent. He also wants to be set apart from other artists in this genre by his faith in God. His mother is a strong believer in prayer and has instilled that in Lu since childhood. She taught Luevega at a young age to pray many times throughout the day, from when he wakes up till he goes to sleep. Luevega is committed to bringing his fans the best music that he can while he puts his trust in God during each step. He appreciates all of his fans for their patience and support as he builds his career from the ground up.

The release date for his mixtape, “Zero II Hero” is October 1st.

reverbnation.com/luevega

<http://www.luevega.com/>

Facebook- Luevega Yo

Twitter-Luevega

[www.reverbnation.com/yedata.](http://www.reverbnation.com/yedata)

Facebook- Yada Demisse

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Gorillamusic.com

Rockxrecords.com

Major Talk: Education

By Kayla Sager ↻ September 26, 2011



Durand for News

I knew I wanted to become a teacher so I could make a difference and impact students. In 2009, I visited an inner-city charter school, an all brick building with graffiti on it and no children in sight. I was buzzed into the building by the secretary, and at 7:20 in the morning, the office was filled with parents, faculty, and students. Staff answered the phones, figured out where busses were, and placed substitute teachers in the correct classrooms. Many parents were there to turn in bad behavior bus notes. With so much commotion, I sat there quietly, waiting to be placed in my class. After 25 minutes, I was sent to my assigned room. Passing through the halls filled with students, it hit me that I was a minority in the building.

Teachers shouted “Get in Hall Position!” and the students lined up in uniforms, hands clasped together, eyes looking straight ahead. Afraid of breaking the rules of hall procedure, none of the students looked at me as I walked by. Down the halls I noticed many small tutoring tables with about five chairs at them. By 8:30, the students had received breakfast and made their ways to their rooms, but class still hadn’t started.

When arriving at my location Mrs. R introduced herself to me. She was a strong African American woman, and her homeroom was in the Junior Academy portion of the school—similar to a middle school with only sixth through eighth graders. Mrs. R taught reading, and I was excited to get my notebook out and begin taking observation notes.

Shortly after beginning class, we were interrupted by a verbal altercation outside the bathroom. When Mrs. R left the classroom all of her students were talking, out of their seats, and shirking their assignment. When our teacher returned she was interrupted once again by a phone call. Mrs. R was in charge of everything in the Junior Academy, so she was responsible for taking care of things like class schedules. The call concerned an Algebra course that Mrs. R was instructed to implement. Keep in mind it was September and students had already been moved constantly and now they would have a schedule change again.

Mrs. R also said this posed the problem of finding a classroom where the class could meet and a teacher able to teach Algebra I. Then Mrs. R would have to find out what students even had the ability take this level of math course. Through all of the chaos I did notice that the students responded well to her and behave when she was in the classroom.

A feeling of sadness came over me, knowing that all she wanted to do was teach these kids, and she was such a great teacher. She truly cared for the students, but with all the bad behavior and setbacks,

she could hardly do so. Verbal and physical fights broke out throughout the day across all age levels. Students wouldn't sit quietly, and most students all picked on each other all day. Fortunately, I noticed in each class there would be at least six to eight students that sat quietly and abided their instructors.

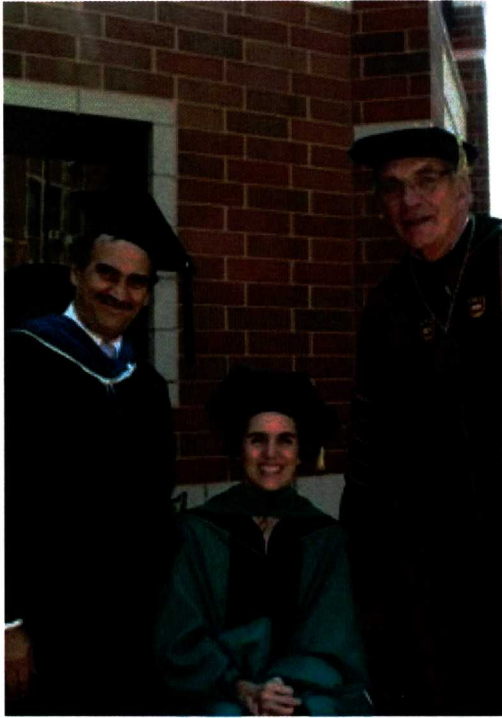
I decided right then that I needed to search for what was happening to make the school run like this. Furthermore, from my observations I wanted to find a way to fix this. This very first day is what pushed me to get my substitute teaching certificate. I knew the best way to learn is first-hand experience. Also, I knew that if I could make a difference here then I would be on my way to become a well-rounded educator.

My passion for education grew that day when I saw that so much work could be done. I knew that this would be a challenging career and my ideas of having students all in their seats with pencils on their desks was a dream. After observing two years ago I have been substitute teaching for over a year in the charter schools.

Even though the word multicultural always comes up I'm not convinced that as students we have thrown ourselves into an atmosphere that is different from our own. I believe if you want to understand the full realm of teaching to its entirety you must step out into the unfamiliar areas. Be assertive and go out and get your substitute teaching certificate and then your eyes will be opened.

“Murderball” at Convocation

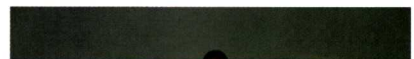
By Elizabeth A. Brennan 🕒 September 26, 2011



Had it not been for her brother Mike, Kerri Morgan may not have become the formidable athlete she is today. Morgan, the keynote speaker at this year’s annual Academic Convocation, attributed her athletic development to the childhood games of football and hockey he forced her to play, despite her wheelchair. Mike adapted the games so that Morgan, whose disability prevents her from running, could be a stationary version of the quarterback for football games and the goalie for hockey. Although she may not have liked it – she used to cry and beg to quit while being pelted by puck after puck – his actions made her a strong competitor for life.

The Academic Convocation held August 31 in the Dunham Student Activity Center was a time for the University community to take “an opportunity...to reflect on what this University is really all about,” in the words of new Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. John Bruno as he welcomed the crowd. Classes were cancelled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. so students could attend Convocation events, including the main ceremony, a Mass, and a barbeque. An additional Convocation ceremony was also held that evening. Some new students were initially confused as to the nature of Convocation, including freshman Sean Pelligrini. “I’m looking forward to it so I’ll know what it is,” he said, minutes before the event began. For returning students, the ceremony was a welcome time to reconnect with the school. Sophomore Courtney Iberg views Convocation as an “opportunity to celebrate the beginning of the new school year.”

After an opening prayer by junior Izzy Liu and Bruno's introduction, Dr. Kevin Cloninger, the recipient of the 2010-11 Jason Sommer Dedicated Semester Award, took the podium. In keeping with



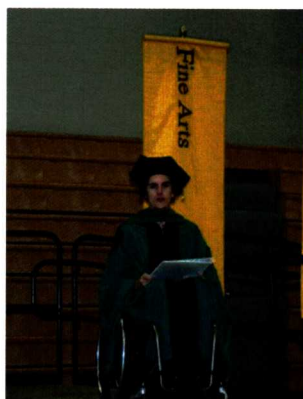
the '10-'11 Dedicated Semester theme of happiness, Cloninger was honored for his work as President of the Anthropedia Foundation, an organization which supports well-being and happiness through innovation. In a brief speech, Cloninger deplored cynicism and spoke of the importance of optimism and happiness in life. "There may be tyrants and assassins, but in the end, they always fall. Think of that always."



After Cloninger, the keynote speaker, Kerri Morgan, was introduced. Morgan, a petite woman in green and black academic robes and using a wheelchair, is an instructor in the Department of Neurology and Program in Occupational Therapy at Washington University and the only woman in history to participate on the United States' Paralympic quad rugby team.

Morgan became interested in quad rugby in her twenties, and although she gained skill, she lacked the speed necessary to play with more competitive players. In the rugby off-season of 2007, she began racing in wheelchair track and field events to become faster, and competed in the 2008 Paralympics on the United States' track and field team, taking fifth place in the 100 meter and 200 meter T52 races. Her training paid off: in 2009, Morgan became the first and only female to play in the Paralympic Games for the United States' Quad Rugby team. After failing to make the Rugby team in 2010, she decided to move into track and field full-time, and is currently preparing for the London Paralympic Games.

Morgan entertained the crowd with stories of how her disability affects her life, from overly-helpful women in grocery stores to a runaway wheelchair fiasco in a mall parking lot. She then explained her life story, starting from when she contracted the debilitating virus that led to paralysis from her lower



chest down. In an emotional moment, she described the way her brother adapted neighborhood sports like football and hockey so she could play, too, despite her disability. It was through his help that she found her passion for wheelchair rugby, also known as quad rugby or "Murderball." She described the sport as "a made-up sport for people with quadriplegia...It looks a lot like bumper cars and wheelchairs, basically bashing into each other."

Although only 10 of the 500 players nationwide are women, Morgan takes the skewed gender ratio in stride. “I need to be smarter and faster than all the stinky boys,” she said. She also understands that “having a disability doesn't mean life is over. I learned that with the proper accessibility equipment and right attitude, anything is possible. I found out I can do anything.”

“I've been on this stage many times before, and I've seldom seen that,” said University President Dr. Dennis Golden after the speech. “Everyone's eyes were glued on her. One-hundred-twenty percent...Congratulations, Kerri.”

Following the speech, a Commissioning ceremony led by Golden allowed students, faculty, and staff the opportunity to make their annual vows to “support Fontbonne's mission, vision, values, commitments, and Catholic identity.” For sophomore Toan Vu, the event showed him “the professors are here to cheer you on,” and Iberg called the presentation “uplifting.” Afterward, students processed down the main aisle to trade in their yellow laminated vow “cheat sheets” to receive either a University Convocation stole, for first-time Convocation attendees, or a University pin, given to returning students. After much applause, the Convocation presenters, followed by the audience, processed out. “It was much better than the accordion lady,” a student who wishes to remain anonymous said in reference to last year's Convocation speaker. Sophomore Arjuna Ganim appreciated the day, as well. “It's nice to be part of a community.”



Photos courtesy of Elizabeth Hise-Brennan

Real Murderball: From On Screen to On the Court

By Sarah Wirtz 📅 September 26, 2011

Often times when someone thinks of wheel-chair accessible sports they think of wheel-chair basketball. However, there are other sports in which those who have physical limitations are able to participate. One of these is known as Wheel Chair Rugby or Murderball.

One of the main purposes of this year's dedicated semester, the "Disability Experience," is to begin to understand and make life easier for those who are differently abled. In keeping with this theme, the University hosted a couple events to better understand the game.

The first event was a viewing of the documentary "Murderball" on Tuesday September 6th. On Wednesday September 7th, there was a demonstration of the game by St. Louis's own Wheel Chair Rugby team the St. Louis Rams. During the demonstration they gave a brief crash course of what the rules of the game are. The game is played on a basketball court. There are many different rules that allow the game to be fair for people with different abilities. One of these is that there can be players on the court whose rankings are more than eight points. The rankings are determined by a committee that evaluates the athlete's ability to move and are out of three points. Those who receive a lower score have a lower mobility and those who receive a higher point score have better mobility and will be better able to handle the ball.

There are also different chairs for the different "positions" on the court. Those who have a lower score are placed in sturdier chairs with bigger wheels. Their job primarily on the court is for them to be the defense of the team, and to slam into the opponents in order to prevent them from scoring. The other players have lighter chairs that enable them to move quicker and be able to score. These are the people who do most of the ball handling because they have more mobility and better hand coordination than those who have lower scores.

The demonstration began with the Rams showing off their moves. Following, there was a question and answering period. Inquiries about the sport included: how the sport got started, if the wheel chairs are custom made, and how long the players have been playing the sport. The demonstration concluded by allowing a few lucky members of the audience to strap into some extra wheelchairs and play one on one with the team. The enlightening experience provided a fun way to learn about a new sport and reminded students that having limitations doesn't take you out of the game.

Special Education Professor Inspired to Teach by Sister's Experience

By Kayla Sager ↻ September 26, 2011



Behind every teacher is their passion that has driven them to become a part of the education system. Dr. Jamie Van Dycke's passion begins with being the oldest of five, three girls and two boys. She was only a teenager when her younger sister Rachel was born. "One week after my sister's birth she was diagnosed with being deaf and blind. This was due to developing meningitis as an infant. During her first week she had already undergone brain surgery."

Van Dycke watched her mother seek out ways to strengthen her sister, since she was born premature. They turned to a company called Shaklee which sold mainly vitamins at that time. Van Dycke's mother continuously mixed powdered proteins and vitamins from this company into Rachel's formula.

After taking Shaklee's vitamins, Rachel's vision went from legally blind at infancy, to just impaired vision. Now Rachel just has to wear glasses. Now Rachel Cheatwood is skilled in sign language and lip-reading. She also passed the driving test. However, being a country girl, she fears city traffic and prefers not driving.

All of Dr. Van Dycke's degrees are in education. She completed her undergraduate degree at Oklahoma Christian University of Science and Art, and she went on to complete her Master's work at the University of Central Oklahoma. And to answer the famous Saint Louis question: she attended Northeast High School and Central Innovative High School in Oklahoma City.

Van Dycke loves her career and life as an educator. She commends the University's commitment to the student body. "How wonderful it is that this university has impacted them to be community-oriented." Van Dycke expressed that all students feel very comfortable in their environment here. Due to that comfort she has discovered that many would like to live here after completing their degrees. Van Dycke believes this speaks highly of the area and the level of education students are expecting to receive from the University.

Van Dycke said that students at the University should not be upset about the Culminating Project because all future educators must complete this type of assessment. She explained how all of the other universities have very similar layouts for a final project. Each one varies, but all of these notebooks allow the university to make sure that they have covered all that they were supposed to. This is a tool of reflection for the University to make sure we are all receiving the knowledge we need to be the best

educators we can be. Van Dycke has already been assigned student teachers at the University. Meanwhile, she is learning about all the components of the culminating projects as she starts to grade them.

She enjoys the student-teacher ratio that the University has since she has worked at much larger Universities before. She loves how she can allot more time for in depth conversations and class activities.

Junior Chelsea Mangan, majoring in Special Education, spoke highly of the new professor, "I really love Dr. Van Dycke. She is easy to talk to and knows the content very well. I see her as an accepting teacher." Mangan said her teaching style is a combination of lecture, discussions, smartboard, and tons of handouts providing students with real-life examples. She is thankful that Van Dycke has spent a great amount of class time and discussion on IEP's. "She has expanded our knowledge on this topic, and this is the first time I have felt confident in conversations about it." Mangan also added that Van Dycke's young attitude and "very spunky vibe" keeps her connected with her students."

Dr. Anthony, professor of Education/Special Education articulated what an honor it is to have Van Dycke as a colleague. "She is bringing to the University a wealth of research information and academic acumen."

Due to her experiences growing up, Cheatwood tells her sister that she is "bi-cultured" because she has a foot in the deaf and hearing community.

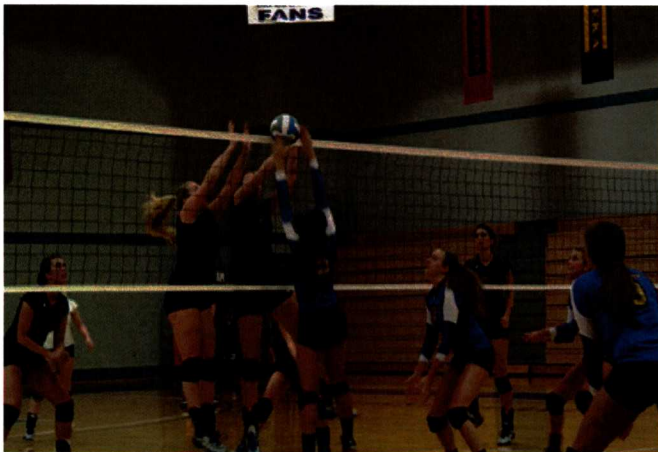
Van Dycke says, "I did not come into Special Education to make things better for Rachel, but because I saw first-hand individuals working with her." She respected the workers who came and took care of Rachel as a premature infant. "I was scared to touch her," Van Dycke says, "but the people that came into our house treated her like any other baby. They took my sister and embraced her for who she was. Those professionals looked beyond the challenges and let me know it's OK."

Womens Volleyball Geared Up For Season

By Justin Williams 📅 September 26, 2011



The University Women's volleyball team started off their season on September 13th. This year, the team was picked 6th out of nine teams in the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC) Preseason Coaches' poll. The women finished in seventh place last season with a 4-20 overall record and a 4-12 SLIAC record. This season, they play their opening game in Carlinville, Illinois against Blackburn College at 7:00 pm. The Women are looking forward to a great season this year, and are determined to beat their main rival, Eureka. According to Junior Olivia Thurmond, "Our main rival this year is Eureka because last year, we won one and they won one, and each game went to 5 sets."



Last season, Our University Women's Volleyball team swept two matches during the weekend of November 1st, beating opponents MacMurray College 25-23, 25-19 and 25-19 and Blackburn College 25-19, 25-18 and 25-11. The women played well, beating MacMurray and Blackburn with a dominating performance. In the MacMurray match, Abbie Bergholdt, who is currently a sophomore, recorded seven kills and two blocks, while Senior setter Kaitlyn Stephan, who was in her 4th and last year of eligibility, had six kills and 21 assists. The team also played great defense, which was led by current Junior Olivia Thurmond, who recorded 37 digs. They played Blackburn College next, but the story was much the same. After winning both matches, the women fell to Greenville College at Greenville to conclude their 2010 season, where they lost Hanae Fujita, Nadia Pasque, and Jennell Boeger, also due to all four of their years of NCAA eligibility being up.

After the 2010 season, the University received awards due to good sportsmanship and defense. Current Junior defensive specialist Olivia Thurmond was named the SLIAC Second Team All-Conference. Thurmond led the girls in the 2010 season in digs and was ranked with the top players in the entire SLIAC conference in digs per set. However, our yhe Griffins did not stop there. Current Senior Anna Hibbler was one of 5 The University student athletes to receive the SLIAC All-Sportsmanship team honors. This award is given to the player for displaying great sportsmanship, which includes fairness, honesty, respect, responsibility, unselfishness, and civility.



This season, the girls are working hard so that they can continue showing these qualities on the court, as well as playing strong defense and working together collectively to defeat their opponents. Sophomore Tabitha Bennight said “The team is really close already this year and we are improving daily.” This year, the current Griffins are getting geared up for the season with the addition of Liya Pak, Shaun O’Leary, and Sikora Ruiz, who are looking to be good



additions to this year’s Volleyball roster. Junior Cassie Dougherty stated “We had a young team last year, but a lot of us have returned and we are ready to have a great season.” The Griffins are looking forward to their trip to Spaulding University this year. Abbie Bergtholdt said “Spaulding University is one of the top ranked teams in the SLIAC this year, and we are looking forward to the game.” The current Griffins started off their season at Stephens College on the 13th of September, who they lost to 22-25, 21-25 and 8-25. Fontbonne was led on the offensive side by Sophomore Abbie Bergtholdt, who recorded a team-high 9 kills with 16 digs and 2 blocks. Defensively they were led by Junior Olivia Thurmond, who also set a team high of 20 digs with 3 kills to accompany her great defensive work. After this loss, the Griffins traveled to Blackburn College for their first SLIAC match, where they won in 5 sets. After losing the first two sets 13-25 and 23-25, the Griffins worked together and won the next two sets 25-19 and 25-10, and finishing them off by winning the final set 15-11. The Griffin Women play next October 1st against Westminster College.

Would the Teacher of the Year Please Stand Up?

By Erica Van Buren 📅 September 26, 2011



She's known around campus as "2010's Teacher of the Year," but that's just one of the many accomplishments of Stephanie Afful. In 2001 Professor Afful received her B.A in Psychology and Sociology, with a minor in Global Studies from Drury University. In 2004 she was awarded a certificate in University Teaching skills from Reinert Center for Teaching Excellence, Saint Louis University.

She then earned her Ph.D. in Social Psychology and minored in Research Methodology from Saint Louis University where she wrote her dissertation titled: "Will the Real Modern Racist Please Stand Up?" The main focus was placed on the role of oppositional thinking and self-control on racial attitudes. Professor Afful decided to pick racism as her main focus after experiencing through her friends the types of injustices they were encountering as a minority. She quickly realized that available resources and overall treatment between her and her friends differed greatly. She wanted to focus on racism in a more modern way, which led her to more creative and indirect ways of finding out if a person thinks a certain group of people are different.

The primary goal of this study was to apply the concept of "oppositional thinking" to the perception of groups more specifically. The end result implied that oppositional perception of groups is a strong predictor of contemporary racial attitudes, even when participants are able to self-monitor their responses. More information regarding this research can be found on any online data base. Her research interests also include measurement of contemporary racism, racial and gender identity, teaching of psychology and list of other topics and issues that continue to be unresolved topics.

East 310A isn't just one of the many offices located in East Hall; it's where Professor Afful spends her time in between classes readily available for students and fellow faculty. She's currently Assistant Professor of Psychology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences, and she's taught at the University for four years. Current Developmental Psychology student, Kelly Flaherty says with Afful's enthusiastic attitude and her flexible teaching style, it's no wonder she's Teacher of the Year.

Alumni Soccer Game Brings Back Memories While Making New Ones

By Raechal (Mounts) Catalano ↴ September 27, 2011



How would you define *team* in one word? Is it dedication, discipline, focus, or every other textbook definition? Well according to the members of the 1981 first men's soccer team at the University they would use a few different words to characterize the term such as "brotherhood" from Steve Jacoby, "spirit" suggested by Pat Tighe, "camaraderie," as said by Jeff Kramer, "family," added Jim Catalano, and even "bromance," according to their wives.

Photo Courtesy of Jeff Kramer

Front Row: Head Coach Jack Jamieson, Eric Grega, Tim Jamieson (Jack's son), Angelo Simaku, Mike Rakowiecki and Louie Garavaglia

Back Row: Steve Jacoby, Jeff Kramer, Mark Scheipeter, Pat Tighe, Ibrahim Al-Korashi, Jerry Wingbermuehle, Jim Catalano, Tony Lorenz, Steve Mounts and Mike Brusati

(Not Pictured: Steve Parhomski and Adnan Shamoan)

On September 11th, the University honored the original 15 members of the 1981 soccer team during half time at the soccer game against Nebraska. I was fortunate enough to attend the event with my dad, Steve Mounts, who was one of the first players thirty years ago.

Photo Courtesy of Jeff Kramer From left to

right: Paul Enright, Tom Malecek, Tony Lorenz, Steve Mounts, & Mike Brusati

As we made our way into Centene Stadium, my father was walking ahead of me, with a spring in his step, heading towards a crowd of people with a smile beaming across his face. As I looked at the gentlemen he was approaching I saw that every other team member there had the same grin. Each one welcomed each other with a warm handshake or hug, followed with the comments like "Oh man, it's been too long!" or "How the hell are ya?" Their embraces were exciting to watch and their stories were even more interesting to hear. As we all baked in the hot September sun, I listened to each player talk about their glory days as a Fontbonne soccer player.



They shared stories about epic injuries, like when Steve "Cheese" Parhomski at the first game against Lindenwood was kicked in the leg causing a compound fracture that took him out for the season. They

talked about how one night they “supposedly” got lost on the way to a game and had to stop for directions at a local bar. There was also a time when Jeff Kramer washed his white uniform with a red shirt causing his soccer jersey to turn pink; a silly mistake which still gets many laughs thirty years later.

Most importantly, though, I heard heart-warming stories about Angelo Simaku, one of the first Fontbonne soccer players, who had passed away during the first season. Each one of Simaku’s teammates had wonderful memories of him. Mike Brusati said that “Angelo knew only one speed, fast! He ran fast, talked fast, and lived life to its fullest.” Other team members remembered Simaku as being caring and someone who would give you the shirt off his back in the dead of winter. “He was a person that would light up the room as soon as he entered, and he wanted to be friends with everyone and everyone wanted to be friends with him,” said Steve Mounts. Each member of the 1981 team said that they were fortunate to know a man like Simaku and is thankful to have had him in their lives.



At halftime, the 1981 team members, including Coach Jack Jamieson and Athletic Director Dana Moore, took the field. Each player lined up next to one another, proud to be once again standing amongst family. After every member was announced, Simaku’s father and other family members were called onto the field to commemorate the loss of the star player. Pictures were taken and new memories were captured, which none of them will ever forget.

Photo courtesy of Raechel Catalano

Eric Grega, Steve Jacoby, Jeff Kramer, Mark Scheipeter, Pat Tighe, Jack Jamieson, Dana Moore, Jim Catalano, Steve Mounts, Mike Brusati, Steve Pahromski

Growing up I heard stories from my dad about the team and cherished those moments because it gave me a glimpse of my father’s life and ultimately brought me closer to him. I feel very fortunate to have been a part of such a memorable and important event and would like to personally thank every team member for allowing me to step onto the field with you. If there is anything the University soccer team today should know it’s that you stem from the dedication of Jack Jamieson, the commitment from Dana Moore, and the 15 men who sweat, bled, laughed, won, lost, and loved the thrill of playing soccer.

Great Job 2011 FOCUS Leaders!

September 28, 2011



Front row: Jake King, Monica Kleekamp, Husani Whitlock, Libby Brauss, Anna Hotop, Molly Stadler, Sam Rosner

Back row: Josie Zeugin, Cameron Braun, Sean Fisher, Melissa Roberts, Jes Stevens, Mary Alice Pierce, Maggie Pohl, Cassie Dougherty.

The Strangest Thing That Happened to Me this Summer

By Jake King 🕒 September 28, 2011

The strangest thing that happened to me this summer was when I was asked to leave the Chase Park Plaza after swimming in their pool when I wasn't even a guest.

This debauched evening took place on a warm night in late June. I had just enjoyed a few cocktails with friends and I decided that the stifling heat was reason enough for me to take a dip in the luxurious pool with its changing lights and spewing fountains.

Let me add that by "a few cocktails" I mean three Bud heavies and a shot of Rumplemintz. I still do not see what the big deal was. I kept on a majority of my clothes, I was drinking at an establishment within the Chase, I had tipped my bartender generously, I only made ONE crude remark about an older lady in her swimsuit, and, for the most part, I am a clean-cut and kind young man. Respect is in my blood.

After I did a cannon ball into the pool, shouting "best night ever!", I did a couple of laps around the pool like I was Michael Phelps racing for the gold and pretended I was a dolphin much to the amusement of some children across the pool. Then the hotel manager came out with a towel and an extremely angry look on her face. I knew swim time was over.

I hesitantly grabbed the towel, pulled myself out of the pool, dried off, and apologized to the manager, who resembled a female John Goodman. Little did she know, I kept the towel and that exact same fancy cotton now resides in a closet in my apartment.

You may have won the battle, Chase Park Plaza, but I won the war. And I'm keeping your towel. Believe in your dreams!

Students Respond to Bosnia Memory Project

Film

By Lonnie Miller, Ray Collins, Allison Hogan, and Shelby Ellison 🕒 September 29, 2011

"Women, War, and Peace" is a PBS mini series, airing October 11th, that challenges the concept of war being men's domain. *I Came to Testify* focuses on the conflicts in Bosnia during the 1990s where women were imprisoned, abused, and raped by the Serb forces. After years of hiding their past, sixteen brave women testified against their offenders in a national court of law, eventually leading to new international laws about sexual violence. Their courage is recognized by the Bosnia Memory Project at the University and gives purpose to its endurance.

Courtesy of Lonni Miller

I Came to Testify, the first segment of the Women War & Peace screening was very moving and thought-provoking. It is a story about how Bosnian women of the town of Foča were raped and abused by the Serb soldiers. After many years, sixteen women told about what happened to them when they were younger. Prosecutors found physical evidence with which they could start a case.

One woman known as Z.R., or number 99, told her horrific story about what happened to her and her family. She said that she was raped and beaten, and then the Serbs shot her family members in front of her and burned her house down. She was able to escape into the woods and find her way to a refugee camp. Another woman was led through the streets naked, with no one coming to her rescue. A third woman kept telling herself, "I won't let him slaughter me."

One of the witnesses said that he figured the whole thing was a misunderstanding and that he didn't have a desire to have sex with these women, despite being given his "pick" of any one of them. Another man said that when he was through with the girls, he would sell them. These men made the girls into objects, stripping them away from their identity.

After the trial, several people went back to Foča and tried to put up a plaque to show what happened to the people there as a remembrance, but the current Foča people wouldn't allow it.

These women all had fears of what would happen after going public and revealing their story, but the truth had to come out, even at their expense. They had a desire for justice. They were humiliated by the Serbs who were killing women's dignity. Z.R. said when she took trial she was proud and full of strength.

These women are heroes; they fought and banished their demons in defense of justice.

Courtesy of Ray Collins

I thought that this story was absolutely horrifying how people could start out as friends and neighbors one day and become sworn enemies the next. The story really sheds a light on what can happen when the rule of law breaks down in a society.

One of the worst things in life that one can possibly lose is her dignity, and the mass rapes that were committed really made me feel sorry for them and their families. A man's first instinct is to be a protector, so the pain that fathers and brothers felt must have been unbearable as they were forced to watch the women of their families being raped and murdered.

It's hard for me to understand this type of war, war aimed at destroying the soul of a society or race. It is one thing to fight army against army but to rape defenseless civilians seems like it should have never been tolerated by the commanders. In this war the soldiers were taught to rape by their superiors before the first shot was ever fired.

I was glad to see that some justice was served in the end. The Bosnian women showed great courage in traveling to the Hague in the Netherlands to testify against their attackers. The conviction of these attackers should serve for other nations at war as a reminder of the consequences of committing atrocities against a society.

Courtesy of Allison Hogan

The women in Foča lived in fear of death and rape. Military leaders set up rape camps for the women, and children as young as 12 were held under the Serb control. I felt like these military men were acting out on selfish matters caring what these women think or how it affects the women's lives. They were simply abusing them for their own pleasure, and I find it sickening.

The women were enslaved, making it possible for men to purchase them for no less than three hundred dollars, and the women were never to be seen again. This fact was appalling. You own your life; nobody else should have the right to sell you off. I can't imagine how low I'd feel to be sold, and my stomach drops to think of what it would be like to know I'd never see those other women again.

Women were constantly told they were useless while being humiliated on a daily basis in the camps. These women lived in the shadows with their secrets never told. Rape is a crime against humanity and if those sixteen brave women of war didn't testify, their stories,

Three men were charged with crime of war and are currently serving time in jail. The women who testified are heroes to all the rape victims of war in Bosnia. I could have never done something so nerve racking as being the voice of thousands of rape victims. The sixteen woman who had the courage to face their demons and speak out, not just for themselves but for the thousands of girls and women raped, decided it would be best to find home elsewhere. I hope through all the hardship of testifying gave them some satisfaction knowing three rapists were put away.

I was so intrigued by the film because as a girl I was emotionally drawn to it. I had sympathy towards the imprisoned women and wished I could help. I have gained so much respect for the women of Bosnia and am thankful for the production of a film to pass on the untold story.

I couldn't imagine going through what these women had to face. My heart goes out to all of those victims and hope they can live the rest of their lives in peace.

Courtesy of Shelby Ellison

I did not have much background information on the war that took place in Foča in 1992. After watching the film and retaining information on the reasons why the war had begun, my emotions started to elevate. I didn't fully understand why neighbors or close friends could all of a sudden turn their backs on each other.

On that morning in April, the war had begun and friends were abusing their closest friends. This struck me very hard because I couldn't imagine if this would happen with my friends. My emotions started to take control when the women of Foča started telling their story. When one woman in the film talked about how they separated the men from the women and children my eyes started to fill with tears. I couldn't imagine being taken away from my family, not knowing what would happen to them.

As I looked around the room during the film I felt the sadness in all the people surrounding me. The thing that upset me the most was when the women testified in front of the court and told details of their story. What these women went through in Foča is unimaginable. I admire the pride they had to come out and tell their story. It takes a lot of courage for a woman to come out and testify when she has been brutally beaten and raped day after day.

This film was very inspirational and educational. I would love to either meet some of these women or even go over to Foča and experience the site myself. I plan to watch the rest of the films of "Women, War, and Peace." This film touched my heart so deeply, that I know have a different perspective in life.

University Remembers September 11

By Elizabeth A. Brennan 🕒 September 29, 2011



Juniors Angie Brasher and Andrea Artz created the flag display with seniors Debbie Ecklekamp and Cici Campbell on behalf of Students for Life.





Courtesy of Elizabeth Brennan