

# **The Loudon Times**

**A Weekly Report from the Missouri State Senate**

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## **A Week of Filibusters**

This week was the week of the filibuster. A filibuster is simply a way for the minority on a certain issue to drive the majority to compromise or withdrawal. On Tuesday, SB 2 was filibustered until 11:37 PM. Many staffers were guessing as to the time of ending. St. Louis senator Joan Bray led the filibuster. After the smoke cleared the bill was ordered perfected and the filibuster was for not. To hear a snippet of the debate click on this link:

<http://www.missourinet.com/gestalt/go.cfm?objectid=78AE3E6D-6183-4345-B5A9A9441F07E9F5&dbtranslator=local.cfm>

The very next day saw yet another filibuster, this time it was over a proposal to bar public bodies from discriminating against “merit shop” (non-union) contractors. Senator Victor Callahan (D) Independence saw it as a prevailing wage issue that hurts labor unions. However, Senator Loudon, the bill’s sponsor, saw it as a choice for schools to make the best use of their tax dollars. The bill is SB 185. This filibuster ended at 5:30 pm with both sides agreeing to meet and try to compromise.



## **Senator Loudon Meets Cast of “The Game of Their Lives”**

Senator Loudon and his wife met Gerard Butler of “The Phantom of the Opera” fame and the other soccer-playing actors at the St. Louis screening of the movie filmed primarily in St. Louis. They ate dinner with the group and were treated to an impromptu performance by Mr. Butler. That night also was a treat for Lyda Loudon when she received a phone call from the Phantom himself.



## **Governor Appointee strikes a chord of Discord**

The Governor appointed Mike Kehoe from the Columbia area last week to the Highway Commission. This resulted in a little strife with those in the northeast area of the state. Larry Webber of Mexico was on this commission and was not reappointed so that Kehoe could take his seat on this powerful committee. Cauthorn, also of Mexico was not upset at Kehoe the man, he was upset that his part of the state no longer has representation on the Highway commission

*Quote of the Week*

*"I cannot undertake to lay my finger on that article of the Constitution which granted a right to Congress of expending, on objects of benevolence, the money of their constituents...." --James Madison*