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University of Missouri-St. Louis, "Current, April 25, 2016" (2016). *Current (2010s)*. 231. http://irl.umsl.edu/current2010s/231

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#### 5 D SL S EΡ ΕŃ NEWS Ε **ISSUE 1501** APR 25, 2016 VOL. 49 Learning About the Digital Being at #MDMC16

**KAT RIDDLER** EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

966

Michael Becker of mCordis, explaining why digital marketing is more important now than ever to understand, said, "By 2020, the average person will have 10 connected devices and over 140 sensors associated with them. In fact, we are digital beings living in a physical world today and we are all witness to the rise of the connected individual."

Becker was one of the keynote speakers at the Midwest Digital Marketing Conference (MDMC), formally known as the UMSL State of Digital Media Marketing Conference. The conference was held at Union Station on April 21 at 8 a.m. this year, moving from the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus, which it had outgrown. This year's attendance doubled last year's numbers as over 1,375 attendees networked, listened to keynote speakers, interacted with vendors, and participated in breakout sessions.

Attendees could check in early from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 20 at CIC St. Louis to avoid lines on convention day. The convention started with attendees standing in line as early as 6:45 a.m. The exhibitors were set up, ready to greet attendees from a variety of vendors: FleishmanHillard, SLAM!, Perficient, and 26 other businesses. There were a variety of startup companies there as well: Scopio, Smash Toast, Better Weekdays, and 12 others. Many walked around to grab the free coffee and made their way to the Dancakes booth for a breakfast stop before the opening keynote speaker at 8 a.m.

Along with the record-breaking attendance, there were several changes made to the conference. There was a rebranding of the conference along with the change of venue from UMSL's campus and a partnership with Arch Grants. Arch Grants provides startup money from investors to help tech-

nology companies get off the ground in the St. Louis area. Because of the amount of tweets about the conference, #MDMC16 was trending nationally for over eight hours.

elebrating

Breakout sessions began after the beginning keynote speaker, Travis Sheridan from Venture Café. Crowds of people slowly filed down the hallway to the ballroom area of Union Station. Red Bull representatives carried their product on their backs in Red Bull-shaped backpacks, passing out the energy drink to those trying to make their way to the sessions.

There were a variety of presenters from Linkedin, and BuzzFeed, to Under Armour, Adobe and more. Kevin Murphy from Google presented "Faster Content and Open Distribution." Murphy discussed some of the frustrations potential, web customers when it comes to loading times, "Forty percent of people drop after three seconds waiting for a page to load... When people are looking at content on their mobile device and waiting for a certain period of time, they are going to abandon and go somewhere else. This is a major Continued on Page 4

## **Awards Ceremony Salutes Business Alumni**

ears as

#### LORI DRESNER **NEWS EDITOR**

Business alumni of the University of Missouri-St. Louis and their colleagues and supporters turned out for the 2016 Salute to Business Achievement awards presentation and reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on April 21.

Six notable UMSL alumni who earned Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) degrees were honored for their achievements in six separate categories: Aaron Golchert, BSBA 2007, for Rising Star; Julie Hiblovic, BSBA 1995, for Outstanding Volunteer; co-founder of Strange Doughnuts Jason Bockman, BSBA 2007, for Entrepreneurial Spirit; Tom Migneron, BSBA 1982, for Out-

President of the UMSL Business Alumni Association Ryan Davis acknowledged sponsors of the event and introduced Dean of the College of Business Administration Charles Hoffman and Chancellor Thomas George, who gave remarks prior to the awards.

Hoffman noted that the College of Business Administration will be graduating about 400 students over May and August, on average 55 percent of them are female. Nearly 100 percent of students who graduate in business find jobs within six months, and many have jobs lined up before they graduate.

"So we've had a lot of progress in the college in the last year," said Hoffman, speaking about the upcoming Anheuser-Busch Hall business building that is scheduled to open in Fall 2017 and the growing success of the cybersecurity, entrepreneurship, and digital media programs.

2016



standing Leader; Steven Finkelstein, BSBA 1972, for Distinguished Career Achievement; and George Paz, BSBA 1982, as the 2016 Accounting Hall of Fame Inductee.

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April 25, 2016

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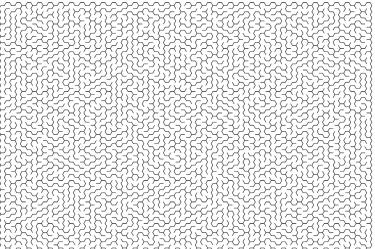
## The UMSL MATH CLUB Presents **Problem of The Week**

Submit your solution to the problem below by Friday, April 29. Submit solutions to R. Dotzel 329 ESH (dotzelr@umsl. edu)

Repeatedly rolling a pair Of dice which are certainly fair How likely could we Roll an eight ere a three? Please answer this question with care.

### **GAME CORNER**

## **Difficulty:** Finals Soon<sup>™</sup>



## **NEWS BRIEF** SGA Elections 2016-2017

SGA President: Kathryn Loucks, junior, biology SGA Vice President: Briana Robertson, senior, biology SGA Comptroller: Sean Burkett, sophomore, psychology

#### **SGA Senators**:

Thomas Poon, freshman, mechanical engineering

Kaitlin Henning, senior, psychology

Benjamin Branco, sophomore, criminology and criminal justice

Samual Schaffer, sophomore, engineering

Samantha Risius, sophomore, psychology

Julian Brown, junior, communications

Samuel Kayser, sophomore, accounting

T'Keyah Blockton, freshman, criminology and criminal justice

Eboni Valentine, sophomore, media studies

Nicholas Adams, sophomore, political science

Hassan Hossayrami, junior, history

Nicholas Bailey, sophomore, criminology and criminal justice

Maxim Sanders, sophomore, biology

All candidates had to submit applications by March 4. Bio information was not required, but highly encouraged for the election webpage. Bios were due by March 16. For anyone who did not provide a bio, their name, year in school, and major were listed on the webpage for students to educate themselves on the candidates before voting.

The campaign period started March 21. According to Jessica Long-Pease, Director of the Office of Student Life and Student Government Association (SGA) advisor, "Candidates were not required to campaign at any specific events, though they were encouraged to talk to students on campus regarding the issues they planned to address if elected."

Voting took place the week of April 18 and voting closed April 22 at 11:59 p.m. Only 319 students voted.

## **Business** Alumni Saluted LORI DRESNER **NEWS EDITOR**

#### Continued from Page 1

Award recipients were honored with plaques for their achievements during the ceremony. Each alumnus who received an award came forward to give a short speech, share personal stories, and thank the individuals who had made their achievements possible.

Bockman, who graduated in 2007 with a BSBA in international business, co-founded Strange Doughnuts with Corey Smale in 2013. The business now has three locations and a philanthropic arm called Strange Cares.

When Bockman came to UMSL, he was running a hot dog vending business around the city to help finance his education. He shared a few

> Continued online at thecurrent-online.com

THE UNDERCURRENT By MarVin Nicholson

#### **HOW ARE YOU PREPARING FOR FINALS?**



#### **JACOB BEERS**,

#### Freshman, Communication

"I'm preparing for final by getting a goodnight sleep and drinking more coffee."



#### ALI KLUCK,

Junior, Sociology

"Honestly, I'm making sure I meet all of my deadlines and turning all of my assignments in on time."



#### **DREW FOSTER,**

Freshman, Business

*"I am meeting with my tutor* twice a week, working in study groups, reviewing notes, getting rest, and eating healthy to prepare for my finals."



### The **Eurrent**

### News 3

#### **NEWS BRIEFS**



## **Woman Shot Near Washington University**

LORI DRESNER NEWS EDITOR

A woman was shot in an incident that may have resulted from road rage near Washington University on the afternoon of April 20.

Investigators said that a man driving a black SUV struck the victim in the forearm when he fired shots at individuals in a silver car on Forsyth Boulevard, near Washington University's Mallinckrodt Building. He then made a U-turn onto Forsyth and drove onto Skinker Boulevard. Police had not made an arrest as of Thursday afternoon.

The shooting caused Washington University to go on lockdown for some time after the shooting. University students, faculty, and staff were sent alerts instructing them to seek out a secure location and remain there. A nearby private school was also put on lockdown and all Clayton schools suspended recess and outdoor activities.

The victim was treated at the scene and then taken to the hospital. In an email sent to members of the Washington University community, she was later identified as an employee in the Café Bon Appétit in the Washington University School of Medicine.

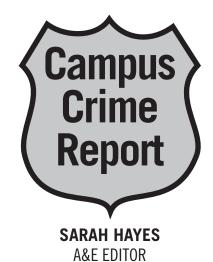
According to Clayton Police Chief Kevin Murphy, the shooting was not random and he said that the victims indicated that it was an act of road rage.

## **UM System May Receive Financial Relief**

**KAT RIDDLER** EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The University of Missouri System got some good news out of Jefferson City for a change when a conference committee comprised of members of the Missouri House of Representatives and the State Senate restored some funding for the system that had previously been cut by the House. The conference committee was held on April 20 to iron out differences in budgets passed by the two chambers. Their compromise language will now be sent to both the House and Senate to approve.

The State Senate had approved approximately \$12.6 million for the UM System administration, reducing the more drastic cut proposed by the House from \$7.6 million to \$1 million. They also agreed that a four percent performance-based funding increase for all state-funded universities should include the four campuses of the UM System, including the University of Missouri— St. Louis. The House had previously voted to deny the UM System any of the increase proposed by Governor Jay Nixon. They also agreed to remove language that required a tuition freeze, but leaders of state-funded universities had agreed that the four percent increase in performance-based funding would allow them to freeze tuition anyway. The conference committee also agreed to include in the budget \$750,000 for an oversight committee to examine the UM System's structure. The members of the oversight committee, four from the House and four from the Senate, will be appointed by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate.



The following is a series of daily crime reports issued by the University of Missouri—St. Louis Police Department since April 15. As of now, the online incident log has not been updated with any reports past April 19.

April 15: An Express Scripts employee was transported from the building to the hospital after cutting their hand in an accident.

April 16: No incidents were reported on this date.

April 17: At 1:25 p.m., a visitor at the softball field on campus was struck by a foul ball during a game. They received medical attention at the scene and were then released from care. A student reported to UMSL PD that tabs had been stolen from the license plate on their vehicle while parked in Lot E, some time between February 15 and April 17.

April 18: At 2:52 p.m., UMSL PD and Residential Life and Housing responded to a report of the smell of marijuana in Oak Hall; no substances were reported to be found. At 4:36 p.m., a staff member passed out in the J.C. Penney building and was transported to the hospital for treatment. UMSL PD responded to a 4:39 p.m. disturbance report inside Express Scripts; the dispute was between an Express Scripts employee and the father of the employee's child.

April 19: Four auto related incidents: 11 a.m. in Lot E, a student requested assistance after "a dispute with a boyfriend resulted in a broken key in their car ignition;" at 1 p.m. in Lot SS, a vehicle struck a light pole, resulting in minor damage but no injuries; on Mark Twain Drive at University Boulevard at 2 p.m., two vehicles were involved in an auto accident, with no injuries and minor damage reported; on East Drive at 9:30 p.m., Northeast Fire Department was on scene to put out a vehicle fire after two cars were involved in an accident, with no injuries reported. Back on campus: at 11 a.m., a student at Oak Hall reported fraudulent charges on their bank account after responding to a possible scam email. At 10:40 p.m., a key ring was found in the Social Sciences and Business Building and turned in to the UMSL PD for safekeeping.

## **Mizzou Graduate Students Unionize**

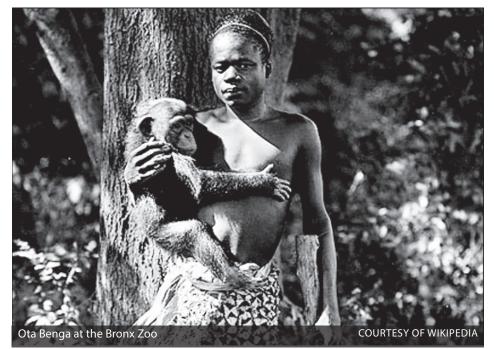
KAT RIDDLER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF adjunct professors. Interim Chancellor of Mizzou, Hank Foley, was quick to dismiss the NLRB says it is up to the individual state laws and the university whether or not to recognize a bargaining unit

Graduate students of the University of Missouri—Columbia voted to form a union on April 19 by a vote of 668-127. Whether they achieve the recognition to bargain collectively for things such as better pay, benefits, and working conditions remains to be determined. Graduate students or assistants work with professors to teach classes, grade papers, and attend classes while pursuing their own graduate degree. Graduate students are used as cheaper alternatives to paying for full-time faculty, similar to notion of recognizing the new union. "I am not for this union, let me say that," Foley said "I think that graduate students should be graduate students first and workers second. I don't think they are workers." This and a further reference he made to graduate students as "kids" sparked a firestorm of controversy.

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) does not currently recognize graduate assistants and the representing graduate assistants. Both sides seem determined to have the issue settled in the courts.

Mizzou has 2,569 graduate assistants and 1,973 faculty members, so they are a significant part of making the educational system work. One of the contributing factors to unrest last year at Mizzou and the formation of the union was the decision by the university to eliminate health benefits for its graduate assistants.

## **Ota Benga Film, Panel Discusses American Tragedy**



## **Revisions and Decisions Are Key in Yeats Lecture**

#### SARAH HAYES A&E EDITOR

The world renowned Irish poet W. B. Yeats was the topic of a April 21 lecture, "Revisiting Yeats Editing Yeats," in the Student Government Association Chamber in the Millennium Student Center. Guest lecturer George Bornstein, professor of English language and literature Emeritus at the University of Michigan, spoke about the process of re-releasing Yeats' work in the 21st century as well as the process Yeats himself took in editing and arranging his own works during his lifetime.

The lecture itself had been preluded by a visit to the St. Louis Mercantile Library, located on the first and second floors of the Thomas Jefferson Library. There, the University of Missouri—St. Louis had premiered the Finneran and FitzGerald Collection; over 3,800 books and 900 journals centered on Irish culture and literature that are now a part of the campus collection, thanks to the generosity of the Finneran and FitzGerald estates. The entire program for the day was led by UMSL's International Studies and Programs department, with Dr. Eamonn Wall, professor of Irish studies, leading the lecture with a brief introduction of both Bornstein and the new collection.

"Actually, there's a typographical error in the title," said Bornstein as his starting remark. For him, the lecture should have been titled "Revising Yeats," referring to the poet's lifelong continuous revision process, not only in the words of his works, but how they looked on the page and how they were arranged, down to the font choice and cover art design. From a modern perspective, Yeats was a real busy body and a nitpicker, but it allowed him to control how his writing was perceived by readers.

Continued online at thecurrent-online.com

#### SHANNON GEARY FEATURES EDITOR

The story of Ota Benga is one of tragedy, loss, humiliation, and the darkest parts of popular culture. The viewing of the harrowing, award-winning documentary "Ota Benga: Human at the Zoo," directed by University of Missouri—St. Louis Endowed Professor of African and African-American Studies 'Niyi Coker, Jr. and Jean Bodon, left its audience in stunned silence. On April 20 at 2 p.m. a collection of students, staff, and faculty gathered in the J.C. Penney Auditorium to learn of the Congolese man stolen from his home in the early 1900s.

The solemn event began with opening remarks from Dr. Sheilah Clarke-Ekong, associate professor of anthropology. On Coker she said, "His work spans generations, it spans centuries... That is his quest, to tell our own stories and to make them relevant to our situations that we find ourselves in."

The documentary told the story of Benga with pictures, animations, and drawings. The story began in the Congo when Benga, a Congolese pygmy, returning from a hunt with relatives, found his village razed and deserted, all of the women and children gone. When he discovered that his wife and two children had been brutally murdered by the Belgium Force Publique, the colonial power in the Congo, Benga attacked an officer. He was arrested and put up for auction.

At the same time in America, the president of the American Anthropological Association, W.J. McGee, hired an agent, Samuel Phillips Verner, to go to the Congo and procure pygmies to be exhibited at the St. Louis World's Fair. Verner pulled some strings and got himself ordained as a Presbyterian minister in three days so that he could join a mission to the Congo who would pay all of his traveling expenses. Benga's purchase from the Congo and display at the fair was part of a larger misunderstanding of Darwin's evolutionary theories. The European and American peoples of the time believed that all humans could be placed on an evolutionary scale with white people at the top and indigenous peoples below. For more information, see our article "Broader Historical Picture of 1904 World's Fair" online at thecurrent-online.com.

When the fair ended, Verner took Benga back to the Congo, but both returned to the U.S. shortly after. Verner dropped off Benga at the American Museum of Natural History in New York where he was not allowed to leave museum premises. During a party, the wife of a wealthy donor made a snarky comment and Benga, completely fed up, tossed a chair at her head. While his aim was off, the director of the museum contacted Verner and demanded that Benga be removed from the museum.

Next, Verner left Benga at the Bronx Zoo where he turned into a great financial success. The zoo director kept Benga in the monkey house where he was teased and laughed at continually by guests. While at the zoo, a Baptist reverend, James H. Gordon, organized a resistance to Benga's imprisonment. At first, the mayor of New York ignored all requests. However, Benga got hold of a knife and tried to slash a keeper. The mayor remained silent. Benga then fashioned a small bow and arrow and shot at the particularly mean visitors. At this point, his violence outweighed the financial gain and the zoo returned Benga to Verner.

Verner then handed Benga to Gordon who placed him in a "Colored Orphan Asylum." Four years later he was sent to a seminary in Lynchburg, Virginia as the reverend believed he **Continued online at** 

thecurrent-online.com

# Learning About the Digital Being at #MDMC16

KAT RIDDLER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

#### Continued from Page 1

issue in the industry, especially when web publishers are trying to build their sites and the content for a desktop and that some sites take longer to load on a mobile device can be for a number of reasons- ads, pictures, content- all that should be considered when trying to sell a product online on different sources.

This is the fourth year of the conference. It was created in 2013 by Perry



broadband."

Murphy explained that there is HTML code called Accelerated Mobile Pages (AMP) used for desktop computers and mobile devices. The reason that some sites take longer to load on a mobile device can be for a number of reasons- ads, pictures, content- all of which should be considered when trying to sell a product online on different sources.

Murphy explained that there is HTML code called Accelerated Mobile Pages (AMP) used for desktop computers and mobile devices. The reason Drake, assistant teaching professor of marketing at UMSL, and alumni of UMSL. Drake had only been working for UMSL for about four months when he created the conference. Drake said, "I wanted to really make a splash for UMSL and St. Louis to basically say 'we're here and this is what we're doing.' Drake's original inspiration of the conference was creating a half day conference for his students. While living in New York for 28 years, Drake had made several connections with corporations **Continued online at thecurrent-online.com** 

### The Surrent April 25, 2016 **Gallery 210 Hangs Together Student and Faculty Art**



Left to right: "North Woods Law: Bigger is Better," by Kenneth Anderson and "Female Chair," **ERIC WYNEN/THE CURRENT** 

## In '1916,' The Irish Struggle **Comes Alive on Screen**

#### **SARAH HAYES** A&E EDITOR

The last hundred years for the Republic of Ireland have been some of its most turbulent and triumphant years in its long and rich history, and the Irish community has found much to celebrate and also much to commiserate over during that time. Considering how much of a presence Irish-Americans have in Saint Louis, it seems only fitting that the University of Missouri—St. Louis would be the latest stop for the screening of the documentary "1916 The Irish Rebellion."

The film was narrated by actor Liam Neeson and created and written by Bríona Nic Dhiarmada. Dhiarmada is a professor of film, television, and theatre at the University of Notre Dame as well as the chair of the school's Irish Studies program. The April 19 screening in the J.C. Penney Conference Center was presented by the UMSL International Studies and Programs department; the film was introduced by Smurfit-Stone Corporation Professor of Irish Studies Dr. Eamonn Wall. Dhiarmada was a guest speaker at the screening. "1916" traces the history of

Irish-English relations leading up to

the infamous six days in which Dublin

was a literal battleground between Irish

nationalists and English troops, with

many civilians caught in the crossfire. Known as the Easter Rising, the 1916 event would end up shaping the history of not only Ireland but of other British nations under colonial rule, as the efforts of the Irish Volunteers were held up as an example of how a group of oppressed people can take a stand for freedom.

The documentary incorporates a wide array of primary sources, including interviews with those who lived through the Easter Rising and excerpts from letters that the jailed leaders of the Volunteers sent to their families from English prisons while awaiting execution. It humanizes the lives and work of many historical figures, giving a well-rounded portrait of such leaders as Padraig Pearse, James Connelly, and

#### JESSIE EIKMANN STAFF WRITER

The dynamic between students and professors in a classroom is usually described in terms of a professor's influence on a student. "Hung Together," the new exhibit at Gallery 210, focuses on the other side of the dynamic in a physical display of how the University of Missouri-St. Louis' Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) candidates have impacted their creative mentors. "Hung Together" is a series of paired pieces. One piece in each pair is by an UMSL Fine Art faculty member, and the other is a BFA candidate's piece selected by the faculty member to be displayed with their work. Gallery 210 Director Terry Suhre said, "Such pairings invite comparison. Although the faculty's influences may be detected, by and large each student's work stands as a confident and individual statement."

The statement behind one piece can be heard as soon as one enters the gallery. The insistent and rhythmic tapping noise that echoes through the gallery comes from the video performance piece "Striking Rocks Brings Water, Striking Rocks Brings Punishment, Speaking to Rocks Pleases God" by Steven Coplin, junior, studio art. The piece, selected by Associate Professor Phillip Robinson, is a commentary on the Biblical verses Numbers 20:7-12, in which Moses and Aaron are punished by God for striking a rock to get water rather than speaking to the rock as God commanded. Coplin's performance piece shows a man repeatedly banging on a rock for approximately ten minutes and is played on loop.

During the video the man vacillates between determination and dejection; not rewarded with water for his efforts. Watching the piece is frustrating. Coplin seems to anticipate that reaction, though, because at some point in the piece, the annoyed man brings the stick down on the rock with such an emphatic motion that part of the stick breaks off and falls on the ground. Even with

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this self-awareness, however, the piece is almost impossible to watch all the way through precisely because the boring, repetitive actions accomplish nothing.

A&E 5

What comes off as more striking than the video piece is the textile work. For example, the quilt "Lost in Expectations" by Alicia Winters, graduate, secondary education (selected by Endowed Professor of Education Louis Lankford) demonstrates the artist's talent in both screen-printing and stitch-work. The patches outside the portrait have chaotic designs of eyes and keyholes, but the way the stitches inside the portrait are carefully controlled creates a nice juxtaposition with the outside. The stitching on the inside, while hard to see, is the most intriguing part of it. The stitches form tiny cursive letters that spell out things like "Love is the reward for the role I play, but how much do I deserve?" Even though the letters are small, they are crisply rendered and sized perfectly in relationship with each other, and some of them have the interesting effect of framing the portrait and giving it texture.

Most of the pieces paired together in the exhibit, including the works of Coplin and Winters, do not relate in any obvious way to the faculty artwork, but in the case of the works of art professor Kenneth Anderson and Aimee Kick, senior, studio art, the surface-level connection between the pieces is obvious: both prominently feature chairs. Kick's piece, "Female Chair," uses a standard plastic-and-metal chair as the base, like the ones used in the classroom buildings. However, Kick has used fabric and photo intaglio techniques in an attempt to "feminize" the chair. It is easy to make that connection with the cream-colored lace on the back of the chair, but the honeycomb-like designs on the seat of the chair are more puzzling, leaving the question of whether Kick intended this pattern to also contribute to the chair's "femaleness."

> Continued online at thecurrent-online.com

- New Local Store
- Buyback In Progress

John Devoy.

Cinematography in documentaries is often what makes or breaks a film, and that rule certainly applies to "1916," which mixes the textured blackand-white photographs of 20th-century Dublin with the vibrant, moving color images of 21st-century Dublin. The anachronistic juxtaposition of modern Ireland with past Ireland may seem jarring at first, but it proves ultimately effective to one of the major sticking points of the film. The past informs Continued online at thecurrent-online.com

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## **UMSL Golf Wins Back-to-Back GLVC Championships**

ALEX NEUPERT SPORTS EDITOR

6 Sports

For the second year in a row, the University of Missouri—St. Louis men's golf team has emerged as the strongest in the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC), hoisting the GLVC Championship trophy on April 19 after doing so in the 2015 postseason. They defeated Indianapolis 4-1 in the match play final after first shutting down host Illinois-Springfield in the semifinals by the same score.

On top of back-to-back championships for the Tritons, the team will head to the NCAA Division II Regional tournament as the No.1 seed in the Midwest region. The top five teams from the Midwest/Central Regional, which will be held May 2-4 at the Meadows in Allendale, Michigan, will advance to the NCAA Championships May 17-24 in Denver, Colorado.

UMSL trailed three teams after the first round on April 17 but came up big with a tournament-best 283 in round two to come out on top with a tworound total of 573; Bellarmine trailed by just one stroke (574) by the end of Sunday, with Indianapolis (575) and Southern Indiana (588) rounding out the top four. James Henderson, freshman, finance, helped lead the second round charge with a score of 68.

The Tritons continued to play well the next day, completing round three with a score of 290, further distancing themselves from their opponents. Meanwhile, Southern Indiana slipped out of the top four as Illinois-Springfield emerged with a 287 to narrowly overtake Lewis. Henderson ended the three-round opening to the tournament tied for third overall with an individual score of 213.

In the semifinals, UMSL got off to a great start with Colby Yates, senior, criminal justice, shooting a 73 to defeat his Illinois-Springfield opponent by a healthy margin. Talon Stupek outshot Julien de Poyen, junior, international business, however, to tie everything up for Illinois-Springfield. The next three players for the Tritons kept the Prairie Stars at bay to take the win 4-1 with Anthony Cope, senior, international business, posting his own 68.

The finals got off to an interesting start as Yates faced off against Zach

Gurtner of Indianapolis, tying at 71. Overall, the matchup was as evenly matched as a finals bout could get, UMSL winning by the narrowest of margins—a combined four strokes across the five matches. Henderson ended up clinching the victory with his one-stroke win over Evan Stoker.

UMSL will now look forward to the NCAA Division II Regional tournament, which will be the 11th time the men's golf team has been there and the fifth in the last six years. Things are certainly looking on point for the Tritons, who, after last week's GLVC Championship, have won six tournaments over the course of the 2016 season. Hopefully, their skills will lead them to victory in Michigan on May 2.

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Please include "UMSL CURRENT" in the subject line for your entry to be valid. Entry deadline is Wednesday, April 27 at 12:00PM CT.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. LIMIT TWO (2) ADMIT-ONE PASSES PER PERSON. THIS FILM IS RATED PG-13. MUST BE 13 YEARS OF AGE TO RECEIVE PASSES. EMPLOYEES OF ALL PROMOTIONAL PARTNERS AND THEIR AGENCIES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016 AT 12:00PM CT TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE PASSES. WINNERS WILL BE CONTACTED VIA MAIL TO RECEIVE THEIR PASSES. SPONSORS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR INCOMPLETE, LOST, LATE OR MISDIRECTED ENTRIES OR FOR FAILURE TO RECEIVE ENTRIES DUE TO TRANSMISSION OR TECHNICAL FAILURES OF ANY KIND. SEATING IS LIMITED, SO ARRIVE EARLY. PASS DOES NOT GUARANTEE A SEAT AT THE SCREENING.



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### The **Eurrent Opinions** / **Fast Action Against Fast Fashion**

#### **SARAH MYERS** STAFF WRITER

Few regard fashion as a suitable topic for intellectual discourse, when in fact it is more than deserving of this attention. Once exclusively the domain of homemakers and the textiles and clothing industries, fashion has largely turned into "fast fashion," one of the largest industries in the world-and also one of the most unethical. Its practices remain largely unquestioned and are disrespectful to the earth and the minds that inhabit it.

Our knowledge of textiles has been lost with the disappearance of homemaking values. Caring for clothes

requires more than crude directions on the care label—like "dry clean only" or "low iron"—that do not always hold up to the garment's true needs. It is a disservice to American culture that we have become less educated about one of the basic necessities of life of food, clothing, and shelter.

Most notoriously, the fast fashion market has lured the masses into buying low priced, trendy items designed solely for the wearer to become the "in" girl or guy. Like its frequent medium of advertisement, cheap television, the only focus of fast fashion is visual, practically ignoring the three-dimensional aspects of what clothing is: touch, fabric quality, worker's rights, ethical distribution,

and the harvesting of fabrics. The stories wardrobe that complements their style of how the material is made, from where and from whom it is sourced, are all important details. These choices affect our worker's health, our economy, and waste levels.

As consumers transitioning from adolescence to adulthood, traditional college students often play an important role in the fashion industry: they shop for professional clothes and generally stand at the forefront of fashion trends.

Instead of focusing on the cheap and trendy, college students should maintain a level of ethical standards and protest the fast fashion values of disposability, trendiness, and poor craftsmanship. As students build a basic and preferences, they should take into account not only monetary value, but also fabric, pattern, and fit. Instead of accumulating an excess number of clothes, a smart consumer maximizes the number of outfits from a relatively small number of items individualized by appropriate fabric type and suitable for the individual's activities.

By taking a more grounded approach to the clothing industry and developing a more holistic value set, we can begin to reshape the industry for fairer and just practices. And, we just may save our planet in the process.

### Confidence with HTC 10 **HTC Renews Consumer**

#### HUY HOANG STAFF WRITER

After two years of failing to make a comeback in the phone industry, the HTC Corporation seems to have renewed our confidence in their commitment to developing the perfect smartphone.

HTC, a company whose products once held a certain amount of prestige, has been vocal about its struggles in the past couple of years. Nonetheless, they

impressed many attendees at the 2016 International Consumer Electronics Show by introducing the HTC Vive, their first attempt at building a true virtual reality headset. Its biggest rival, the Oculus Rift, has been the top headset for a couple of years and has already come to the final stage of production. Although the Vive is still pretty new to consumers compared to the Rift, it is nonetheless generating a lot of interest in the tech community.

And now, only a few months after

#### **GUEST EDITORIAL**

the Vive, HTC has impressed us again with its new flagship phone, the HTC 10.

The HTC 10 has made one thing obvious: just how much we have compromised when it comes to technology in the cell phone industry. Manufacturers are, no doubt, trying their best to make the highest quality phones; but that has too often come to mean limiting the use of plastic on the outside to maximize the visual appeal of the phone.

Which also means there will not be much customizable for now and probably in the future. The HTC 10 is subtly reminiscent of the HTC One M7, the best looking and almost perfect phone for a couple years. Following the M7, the HTC 10, with its 5.2" Quad HD display (1440 x 2560 pixels) Super-LCD 5, looks gorgeous.

For years, HTC emphasized the quality of the speakers on its flagship phone, the BoomSound, and this remains one of its selling point. Yet, this year, they have decided to minimize the phone screen, make it look as simple as possible, and move one of the speakers to the bottom of the phone.

Overall, this year's phones have not had impressive specifications, since all the flagships have the same chipset. The HTC 10's Snapdragon 820 processor is pretty fast—just as fast as the Samsung Galaxy S7 and LG G5—so there will not be any issues with performance.

And if pictures are your thing, the camera is one of the most impressive, ranking near the top among phones according to DxOMark. With the new 12 megapixel OIS camera with a f/1.8 aperture, complete with laser autofocus and dual tone flash, it will not disappoint. There are some small problems with the camera-focusing is a minor annoyance-but HTC will no doubt fix these with updates in time. Audiophile customers will also enjoy the hi-res audio.

The phone itself has some flaws, including an irreplaceable battery that does not last long, and a camera that does not always render exposure correctly. However, if you are a fan of one of the best speakers on the market, a great display, and an overall phenomenal performance, then this phone might fit your needs. This time, HTC will certainly not dash your hopes, as it did with the half-hearted M9 that came out last year, but will rather renew your confidence in the company's drive toward the near-perfect phone.

# The Case Against Palm Oil

#### **SAGE ROHRER** STUDENT

Orangutans are probably far from your mind when you are out buying peanut butter.

Unfortunately, the fate of this unique great ape is inextricably linked to our basic purchase choices. Peanut butter-as well as soaps, chocolate, bread, lipstick, and so much morecontains palm oil. This common ingredient seems harmless, but its production causes extensive habitat destruction and is leading to the sharp decline of key wildlife, particularly orangutans. With little time left to ensure the survival of these animals, it is essential for the Western world to consider the far-reaching implications of our everyday decisions and make choices based on informed personal ethics rather than convenience. Orangutans are the only great apes found outside of Africa. Native to the Southeast Asian islands of Borneo and Sumatra, they are the largest arboreal mammal in the world and prefer to live in tropical rainforests. Their impressive intelligence demonstrates their close evolutionary relationship to humans: they are skilled problem solvers, capable of building sleeping nests in trees and using varied tools for tasks like insect

foraging, shelter, or seed extraction. Like humans, they also maintain a high level of parental care, with infants often dependent on their mothers until up to ten years of age.

Orangutans are classified as an endangered species, and habitat loss and the pet trade threaten their continued existence. These issues are often catalyzed by the palm oil industry.

Palm oil is wildly popular, used in almost half of all consumer products in the United States. The huge industry earns over \$44 billion per year and sends products all over the world. However, the darker side of the industry has only recently been gaining attention. Palm oil plantations are often created via illegal slash-and-burn methods in the biodiverse rainforests of Indonesia and Malaysia, resulting in extreme deforestation and wildfires. Not only is the creation of these plantations one of the greatest biodiversity threats worldwide, it also contributes to climate change by releasing the staggering amounts of greenhouse gases previously stored in the rainforests. The rapid deforestation of these practices has rendered countless orangutans homeless and hungry. Upon fleeing the uncontrolled fire used in the development of plantations, such orangutans often approach areas populated

by humans, where they are then treated as pests or brutally clubbed to death. Orangutan young are also in high demand for the exotic pet trade, and deforestation has made the situation exponentially worse. No longer protected by the rainforest, many orangutans are exposed to poachers who butcher orangutan mothers and take away their babies to sell. In all, the outlook for orangutans is dire.

Though it may seem an impossible job to help primates on the other side of the world, it is morally imperative that we do what we can. These unique, intelligent creatures deserve our respect, and we cannot sit back and do nothing as they finish their painful trek to extinction. Purchasing food that either contains sustainably grown palm oil or lacks palm oil altogether is a simple and effective place to start, but informing others about the problems of the industry is also essential. With increased awareness about palm oil and an emphasis on compassion for other living things, we can reverse this horrifying trend of habitat destruction and violence before it is too late. Even for actions as trivial as picking out peanut butter, we must remember that our decisions matter and strive to act in the best interests of the entire world.

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### 8 A&E April 25, 2016 **UMSL Jazz Ensemble Jams with World Class Musicians**

#### **LEAH JONES** STAFF WRITER

The University of Missouri—St. Louis Jazz Ensemble performed in the annual Greater St. Louis Jazz Festival, held at the Touhill Performing Arts Center on April 22 and April 23. The event brought together some of the preeminent jazz musicians from around the country to perform with UMSL students during the evening, while giving high school bands from the area the chance to perform during the day.

On Friday evening, Chancellor Thomas George, whom it was later revealed has a passion for jazz piano, introduced the Jazz Ensemble. He credited the Jazz studies program director and Yamaha Performing artist, Jim Widner, for building the program into an internationally known program during his 12 years at UMSL. After this brief introduction, Widner stepped onto the stage, and with a few snaps of the fingers, the show began.

The ensemble consisted of Kwanae Johnson, junior, undecided, and Trae Riley on alto, Justin Straight, senior, music education and Brandon Vestal, sophomore, biochemistry, on tenor, Elliot Russo, senior, music business, on baritone, Joe Paule, senior, music education, Kyle Allen, senior, music business, Ryan Blankenship, senior,



music, and Dan Callihan, junior, music education on trumpet, Brett Lindsay, senior, computer science, Kyle Hopfer, sophomore, information systems, and Gavin Hendee, freshman, biology, on trombone, Simon Hart, sophomore, psychology, on bass trombone, Joseph Eckelkamp, senior, music business, and Ethan Saake, sophomore, on piano, Mike Owens, junior, music business on bass, Matt Sullentrup, sophomore, music business on drums, and Nick Ayata, freshman, music education on guitar. Unfortunately, Michael Ferrante, senior, business administration, who has been with the Jazz Ensemble for the past four years as lead tenor, was unable to attend due to another tour with the Air Force Band of the Midwest.

The first two pieces of the evening were fairly upbeat and lively pieces

incorporating a drum solo by Sullentrup, a trumpet solo by Allen, and an alto solo by Johnson. The third piece, entitled "You Must Believe in Spring," was a slower and softer though still light-hearted piece that incorporated several more solos.

After a short intermission, the second half of the performance commenced with the John Pizzarelli Quartet. Pizzarelli, who has been credited by the Boston Globe as "re-popularizing jazz," played a seven-string guitar and sang. A true performer, he interspersed the set with comedic stories about his father and working with great musicians like Frank Sinatra and Paul McCartney. In fact, a favorite of the night was a jazz rendition of a Beatles song.

"My favorite was 'I Feel Fine,' the mix with the sidewinder," said Tim

Warren, freshman, music education. This piece was also mentioned by the baritonist, Russo.

The second evening began on a quieter note with "Second Time Around" and featured a sensational tenor sax solo from Straight. The music then progressed to a livelier piece arranged by Alan Baylock titled "Torque," and included more solos from Allen, Johnson, Sullentrup, Paule and others. The third piece, "Body and Soul," returned to a more somber tone, and opened with a stellar piano solo by Eckelkamp.

The second half of the show was performed by the M.F. All-Star Big Band, who performed a tribute to the late jazz musician, Maynard Ferguson. This part of the show did not feature any UMSL students, but incorporated several trombone solos, as well as a flute solo that incorporated some scat vocals performed by Denis DiBlasio.

When asked about the significance of the performances for the UMSL Jazz Ensemble, Russo said, "It means we can hang with world class musicians. It's huge that we can bring in popular musicians and with practice and effort, we too can play some of the charts with the greats."

Paule agreed with Russo and added, "It's a great experience and opportunity to play with world class musicians. We've never played better."

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