Zika Best Repelled by Preventative Measures at WCW

**Kat Riddler**
**Editor-in-Chief**

April showers bring May flowers—as well as standing water for breeding mosquitoes.

The What’s Current Wednesday discussion for April, led by Roberta Lavin, associate dean of academic programs in the College of Nursing, was centered on the successful response to the Zika virus. The discussion was held in Century Room C of the Millennium Student Center at 2 p.m. on April 5 and was the last session of the monthly What’s Current Wednesday programs for the semester.

The Zika virus was first identified in 1947 in Uganda and is part of the virus family Flaviviridae. The name Zika comes from a forest in Uganda where the virus was first discovered. Before 2015, Zika outbreaks primarily occurred in areas of Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands.

Those infected may or may not have visible symptoms. Symptoms that can occur are fever, rash, joint pain, muscle pain, and headache. Those symptoms can last for several days to a week. Usually, people infected with Zika do not go to the hospital, though they rarely die from the virus. Once a person has been infected with the virus, it is likely that they are protected from future infections.

Zika can be transmitted through mosquito bites, from pregnant women to their fetus, through sexual activity, and possibly through blood transfusions, though that has not yet been confirmed by the CDC. Zika outbreaks occur seasonally with the mosquito cycles, like other viruses spread by mosquitoes. Once an infected person is bitten by a mosquito elsewhere on their body, the mosquito becomes infected for about a week and can transmit the disease to others whom it bites. It is hard to document how many cases of Zika have occurred because symptoms can be mild.

While the symptoms seem mild for adults, the virus poses a larger danger for women who contract the virus and are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Zika can cause microcephaly and severe brain defects for the baby. The virus has also been linked to complications like miscarriages, stillbirth, and other birth defects. The Centers for Disease Control has noted increased reports of the rare nervous system disorder Guillain-Barré syndrome in areas affected by Zika.

Blood and urine tests can be administered to find out if a person has Zika, and individuals are usually tested following recent travel to areas known to have the virus. If infected, the individual should get plenty of rest, drink fluids to prevent dehydration, take medicine like acetaminophen to reduce fever and pain, and potentially take prescribed medicine after consulting with a healthcare provider. There is currently no vaccine for the virus.

One measure individuals can take to avoid contracting the Zika virus is preventing mosquito bites. The CDC suggests wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants, treating clothing and gear with permethrin or buying pre-treated items, and using Environmental Protection Agency-registered repellents with active ingredients like DEET, picaridin.

The CDC also urges pregnant women to avoid travel to areas where Zika is known to be present and to use condoms during sexual activity with a partner who has traveled to an area with Zika activity.

St. Louis Science Center One of Four to Host Apollo 11 Exhibit

**Chris Zuerer**
**Staff Writer**

For the first time in 46 years, the Apollo 11 command module Columbia will leave the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. It will travel on a two-year tour titled “Destination Moon: The Apollo 11 Mission.”

The command module is the only portion of the spacecraft to complete the first mission to land a man on the moon safely and return him to Earth. Its national excursion is in celebration of the coming 50th anniversary of the Space Race.

The tour will begin in Space Center Houston in October this year and will conclude at the Museum of Flight, Seattle, where it will be from March 16 to September 2 or 2019.

St. Louis is, honorably, one of the four locations in the nation in which this event will take place. Part of the tour will be hosted at the Saint Louis Science Center starting on April 14, 2018, and will extend to September 3.

“St. Louis played a vital role in the Space Race,” said Bert Vescova, president, and CEO of St. Louis Science Center in the press release for the event. “We are the only museum in the Midwest to host this exhibition, which is so special for the city of St. Louis. We feel very honored because we know that for many people, this will be a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see these artifacts.”
Suppose you have a fair coin (equally likely to land on either side, and call one side “heads” and the other side “tails”). What is the probability that you flip as many “heads” as “tails”?

Email solutions to covertdj@umsl.edu.

The previous puzzle (on writing 100 as a sum of two primes) was correctly answered by Kathy Furgason. There are six ways to decompose 100: 100 = 3 + 97 = 11 + 89 = 17 + 83 = 29 + 71 = 41 + 59 = 47 + 53.

**Math Problem of the Week**

**Update from the Office of Student Involvement**

**THIS WEEK in the Office of Student Involvement:**
The University Program Board (UPB) presents Egg Hunt Aliens on April 12, at 8 p.m. on Oak Hall’s front lawn. Join us for a night of fun, candy, and prizes.

On April 13, join PRIZM Queer Trans - Straight Alliance in bringing awareness to the silencing effects of oppression-based bullying and harassment in schools. Students will take a vow of silence in an effort to encourage schools and classmates to address the problem of oppressive behavior by illustrating the silencing effect of bullying and harassment on minority students. Participants should visit the PRIZM portal on TritonSync to register. If you have any questions, please contact PRIZM at prizm@umsl.edu or visit us in the Office of Student Involvement.

The Hispanic Latino Association (HISLA) is hosting Dreaming in St. Louis today (April 10) in the Millennium Student Center Student Government Association (SGA) Chamber. Join HISLA, Professor Virginia Braxs from Washington University, and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals students from the region for a discussion on what it means to be an undocumented student in our state. Contact HISLA for more information about this event.

SGA elections are coming up soon. The student body will vote to elect the 2017–2018 SGA president, vice president, comptroller, and senators. These SGA officers will guide the work of the organization over the next year. Be on the lookout for candidate information, which will be posted soon. Voting for the election will take place April 17 to April 21.

SGA representatives: The April SGA assembly meeting is this week. Join us on April 14 at 12:30 p.m. in the SGA Chamber.

The Office of Student Involvement can be contacted at 314-516-5291 or studentinvolvement@umsl.edu.
The project is expected to be finished in mid to late May. The project cost amounted to approximately $135,000 and is being paid for from the campus maintenance and repair budget. A discussion about bridge renovations had been moving on since fall 2016, according to Baize.

Larry Eisenberg, associate vice chancellor of facilities management, said that the bridge work is connected to other renovations that will take place around campus some time in the summer. This will mostly involve replacing broken walks, cleaning brick, and plant material. We hope these efforts will give some highly used areas a fresher appearance and create a better environment for students.”

MSC Bridge Upgrades Begins

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

T H E F O L L O W I N G  i s  a  s e r i e s  o f  d a i l y  C R I M E  a n d  i n c i d e n t  r e p o r t s  i s s u e d  b y  t h e  U n i v e r s i t y  o f  M i s s o u r i – S t .  L o u i s  P o l i c e  D e p a r t m e n t  b e g i n n i n g  f r o m  A p r i l  3 0  t o  A p r i l  6 .

March 14: At 17:47 p.m. UMSL student who suffered a fall at the Recreation and Wellness Center was treated by paramedics and released.

March 15: No incidents were reported on this date.

March 16: At 7:51 p.m. UMSL student was transported from Oak Hall to the hospital after expressing suicidal thoughts.

March 17: At 2:37 p.m. UMSL student reported that a red and white cab had struck and damaged the side of their vehicle in the main parking area. The driver was not on scene.

March 18 to March 19: No incidents were reported on these dates.

March 20: At 7 a.m. a Hyund- ai car key found on West Drive was turned into UMSL PD and held for safekeeping. At 6:45 p.m. a juvenile who suffered a fall from a bicycle in the West Drive Garage was transported to the hospital. At 9:30 p.m. an UMSL PD officer found an IPad left in Villa Hall and held the item for the owner.

March 21: At 10 a.m. an UMSL employee reported being harassed by a non-student. At 5:01 p.m. a wal- lert found at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping. At 6:57 p.m. an UMSL student reported that their backpack that contained keys and personal items had been stolen at Marillac Hall.

March 22: At 7:47 a.m. UMSL PD took an informational report after an UMSL staff member reported concerns about a student’s welfare; all was found to be in order. At 7:55 a.m. a visiting bus struck and damaged a light pole in Lot W; there were no injuries. At 11 p.m. UMSL PD took an informational report regarding a vehicle repossession by a tow company in Lot JJ. At 11:30 p.m. a credit card fraud reported in the Thomas Jefferson Library was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping. At 11:54 p.m. UMSL PD and Resi- dential Life checked the welfare of a student following a friend’s request; all was found to be in order.

March 23: No incidents were reported on this date.

March 24: At 9:37 a.m. an UMSL staff member reported that a box containing contact lenses was stolen by a town company in Lot JJ. At 11:30 p.m. a credit card fraud reported in the Thomas Jefferson Library was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping. At 11:54 p.m. UMSL PD and Resi- dential Life checked the welfare of a student following a friend’s request; all was found to be in order.

March 25 to March 26: No incidents were reported on these dates.

March 27: At 5:09 p.m. two ve- hicles were involved in an accident in the West Drive Garage; there was minor damage but no injuries. March 28: At 1:04 p.m. a car key fob found in Lot F was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping. At 2:34 p.m. an individual not affili- ated with the university requested an ambulance for psychiatric help; the individual was transported to DePaul Hospital.

March 29: At 11:33 p.m. UMSL PD was called in to assist the Nor- mandy Police Department in searching for a runaway juvenile; the juvenile was taken into custody by Normandy PD.

March 30: At 1:30 a.m. an iPod found at Marillac Hall was turned in to UMSL PD and was later retrieved by the owner.

March 31: At 7:08 a.m. UMSL PD and Facilities Management re- sponded to a call regarding five individuals who were stuck in an elevator in Clark Hall.

April 1: No incidents were re- ported on this date.

April 2: At 1 p.m. UMSL PD found a broken window and an ap- parent burglary to an office in Seton Hall; it is unknown whether any- thing was stolen. At 3:24 p.m. a burg- lary was reported in the Provincial House kitchens; nothing was stolen. April 8: At 10:15 a.m. a non-stu- dent was escorted off campus after trespassing at the Patient Care Cen- ter. At 2:40 p.m. a car key found in the Social Sciences and Business Building (SSB) was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping.

April 9: At 2:16 p.m. a student reported losing keys in Stadler Hall. At 9 p.m. a set of keys found in Lot E was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping.

April 8: At 8:30 a.m. an UMSL employee who suffered a cut hand was sent to Concentra. At 7 p.m. a Visa card found in SSB was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping; the owner was notified. At 11:19 p.m. UMSL PD was called in to assist the St. Louis County Police Department with a shooting that occurred on the Metrolink UMSL South Station. At 11:23 p.m. one university vehicle was involved in an auto accident in the Quad; there was minor damage but no injuries.

April 8: At 10:08 a.m. UMSL PD was called in to assist the Division of Family Services and the Normandy Police Department with a child abuse report.

Stanford’s Knight-Hennessy Scholars Program Seeks UMSL Students

LANCE JORDAN
SPORTS EDITOR

W I T H  e n r o l l m e n t  b e g i n n i n g  i n  e a r l y  M a y  f o r  g r a d u a t e - l e v e l  s t u d e n t s ,  S t a n f o r d  U n i v e r s i t y  i s  s e e k i n g  i n d e p e n d e n t  t h i n k e r s  t o  a p p l y  f o r  a n  e x c i t i n g  o p p o r t u n i t y  t o  j o i n  t h e  K n i g h t - H e n n e s s y  S h o r l a c h e r  p r o g r a m .

The Knight-Hennessy program is Stanford’s new graduate-level fellowship aimed at preparing the next generation of global leaders to address increasingly complex challenges facing the world. “We’re looking for people who are independent thinkers who can hold a con- trary point of view, yet argue people with a rebellious mind,” said Jeff Watchel, executive director of the Knight-Hennessy Scholars program.

“They don’t necessarily have to be loud and disagreeable,” Watchel added. “But [they should be] people who can argue different ideas in a logical opinion and carry it through.” Before being named executive director of the Knight-Hennessy Scholars program, Watchel served as chief of staff to the president of Stan- ford University, John Hennessy, for whom the program is named, along with Nike CEO Phil Knight.

Watchel felt that the civic mind- set needed to bridge the gap between the private sector and the public sector, and that thought in which we could make a difference in that area and develop this fellowship program, and that this gap had become a difference,” explained Watchel.

The program will select up to 100 students annually from across the globe to receive full funding to pursue a graduate education at Stanford. Each student will receive a full fellowship to pay for room and board, and a stipend that would sup- port some travel and research. The program’s reach is national: by three years of funding for the student. If the graduate program they choose is longer than three years, the school is entitled to fund the balance of the fellowship.

“The idea is when you finish, you will have no debt, and what you choose to do next will not be influ- enced by the need to repay student loans,” Watchel said.

There are two things Knight-Hennessy Scholars can ex- pect when attending Stanford. The first is a first-rate graduate educa- tion in whichever field they choose, and the second is building a network with a diverse and passionate group of students that will last a lifetime.

Admission criteria for the program has been published on the program’s website. The application launches May 1 and is due by Sep- tember 27.

Alumni of the Knight-Hennessy scholars program, students are also required to apply to Stanford graduate programs for their choosing no later than November 15. Students cannot be part of the Knight-Hennessy Schol- ars program without first being accepted into one of the Knight-Hennessy fellowship programs and, students must apply within five years of receiving their bachelor’s degree.

Stanford is located in the heart of Silicon Valley in California and offers a comprehensive range of fields with over 25 graduate degree programs.

“Being at a research university provides students with the opportunity to learn new knowledge for the next genera- tion of students. What’s particular- ly exciting about Stanford is that there’s an entrepreneurial approach to what we do,” Watchel said. “There seems to be no limit to what students can accomplish, and the possibilities are endless.”

For more information on the program visit knight-hennessy.stan- ford.edu.

What’s Current Wednesdays is a monthly forum for faculty and students discussions about current events, co-sponsored by The Cur- rent and The New York Times, with support from Community Outreach and Engagement at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

WCW Discusses Zika Prevention Methods

Continued from Page 1

According to the CDC, pregnant women should talk to their doctors about the risks of Zika infection. Pregnant women who live in or who have traveled to areas with the highest levels of Zika virus transmission should be particularly careful. Pregnant women should avoid mosquito bites and use insect repellents with at least 20% DEET.

The CDC recommends that pregnant women who do get a mosquito bite should tell their doctors about the exposure, and get tested for Zika. The CDC also recommends that pregnant women who have a history of Zika exposure and who develop symptoms of Zika should contact their doctors.

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The CDC recommends that pregnant women who have a history of Zika exposure and who develop symptoms of Zika should contact their doctors.
I think that a lot of people, whenever they hear that someone has a mental illness, they think that’s kind of, you know, ‘Oh, they wonder what is wrong with you?’” says Anna McEntire, senior, business. “One of the most stigmatized parts of society are people who have mental illness, depression, and suicide prevention.

Carson explained that though Greek Week was cut short, consisting of only three days, the Greek decided that UMSL Voices was an important event which they wanted to host.

Greek life teamed up with Solid Lines Productions to put on the event and give students a chance to tell their stories about mental health [struggles], and they [Solid Lines Productions] are going to put on a performance of those stories.

Carson said that UMSL held two workshops prior to the performance to give students a chance to talk about some of their stories. The first workshop had about 20 students, according to Carson. Though attendance was lower at the second workshop, with just four people attending to the general April 4 workshop, Carson said that that still meant that there were a lot of stories from which to choose at the event to what Dr. Benjamin Torbert, associate professor and graduate program director in the English department at UMSL, calls “linguistic social justices.”

“IT’s very important for sociolinguists in particular to return linguistics to the community, that is, to pay people back by arguing for the value of all varieties,” said Torbert, who has been involved under and worked alongside Wolfram. One of the documentary’s purposes is to examine the power of African Americans’ variations of English, which, by the way, are not all, but are, ethnically black. As many of the linguistic experts in the film explain, dialect is one way in which people can make immediate, but not always accurate, estimations of each other.

“So you ask them what is going on in their life—and most of the time, people just want you to ask them—and then they will give you a response, you just listen to them, and you don’t try to provide advice or anything. Then you refer them to get help,” Carson explained.

According to the brochure, published by Partners in Prevention, a coalition of universities in Missouri, these changes in behavior may indicate that a person might be struggling with depression do not necessarily have to be negative changes. Instead, the brochure lists diverse factors such as trouble concentrating, slowed thinking and indecisiveness, and pessimism, among others.

“The brochure does not advocate for acting as a counselor. Instead, it says that concerned friends and family should ask, listen, and refer.”
Irish Series Comes to an End with Reading By Mary O’Malley

Daniel Strawhun A&E EDITOR

“There is nothing like live music, live theater. It’s always better to go to the cinema than to watch it on the screen,” she told the audience, according to a performance summary by her student. “And reading, well, it’s better than nothing.”

O’Malley’s poetry is a reflection of her personal life, and her readings are often infused with a sense of comfort and warmth. She reads her works with a sense of passion and dedication, often engaging the audience with her stories. She is known for her ability to connect with the audience, and her readings are often accompanied by a warm greeting and a personal anecdote.

“I’m sure you know,” she said, “I have a single hand rose, she said, “Right, doesn’t like music? Anyone here who's the poet who grew up), O’Malley’s poet- and as indifferent. “Much like the titular character, she read, “His contemplation in the observer. personality that inspires solemn contemplation in the observer. O’Malley’s questions to the au-

As a teacher shone through in the Q&A section, the audience was encouraged to ask questions. Many members of the audience formulated their questions and then worked on the answers. O’Malley’s questions to the audience were thoughtful and insightful, encouraging the audience to think critically about the works.

“The synchronization of flawless choreography, energetic dance, and traditional Bollywood tem-

This captivating performance could easily have anyone in love with Bollywood if they were not already.
**Triton Softball Recap: Tritons Split Two Doubleheaders**

Lori Dreesner

The University of Missouri-St. Louis Tritons softball team faced the Saints in a doubleheader at Maryville in the final games of a 10-game road trip on April 4. The Tritons won over the Saints in the opener 2-0, but dropped the closer to the Saints 5-6.

In the doubleheader opener, the Tritons took an early 2-0 lead during the first inning on an RBI double by Serena Olson, sophomore, accounting for the only runs of the game. Tritons pitcher, Morgan Hill, redshirt freshman, pitched the entire game and struck out nine Saints. Tritons catcher, Alex Steupe, senior, managed to catch the Saints twice due to an error on the left side of the field.

In the second inning, the Tritons jumped ahead of the Saints 5-0, thanks to a three-run homerun by Steupe. The Saints, however, fought back in the second inning, scoring two runs at the bottom of the first to come within a point of tying the game. In the third inning, the Tritons jumped ahead of the Saints 7-2, after an RBI single by Olson scored Ryan Logan, senior, business. The Tritons scored an additional run in the third inning after a sacrifice fly by Olson.

Despite their strong performance in the first three innings of the closer, the Tritons did not score enough runs to claim victory. The Tritons once again pulled ahead of the Saints in the seventh inning with a three-run homerun by Steupe. The Saints, however, fought back in the second inning, scoring two runs at the bottom of the first to come within a point of tying the game.

**The Summer in St. Louis?**

Make the most of it. Pick up a class or two at STLCC that'll count toward your degree.

**Sports calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 3/22</td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Women's Tennis</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maryville Away</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Men's Tennis</td>
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<td>Southern Indiana Away</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Maryville Away</td>
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<td>Lewis Away</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Lewis Away</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Baseball</td>
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<td>Maryville Away</td>
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<tr>
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<td>All Day</td>
<td>Women's Golf</td>
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<td>Wisconsin Parkside Away</td>
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Escape the Stress of Finals with Intramural Sports

LANCE JORDAN

Sports Editor

Between work and studying for finals, some students say it would be nice to have an activity that lets them release some stress and forget the troubles of their impending college algebra exam.

Lucky for University of Misour-ri-St. Louis students, the Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC) offers such relief with five one-day tournaments to close out the spring semester.

First up will be the Backyard Games Tournament on May 1, which will allow up to three players on a team. Three different popular backyard games will be played: cornhole, ladder golf, and parking lot bocce. Each team will consist of two players and will be played on campus at the grass field north of the Mark Twain Library. This tournament will take place in the Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC) on campus.

Second will be the Backyard Volleyball Tournament on May 4, which will be open to all students, faculty, and staff. Stability Ball Volleyball Tournament will end the spring semester on May 5 and will be open to all students, faculty, and staff. Stability Ball Volleyball is a new, fun version of volleyball played with a normal volleyball and a stability ball. The twist is that each team player holds a stability ball and can only make contact with the volleyball using their stability ball to get the volleyball over the net.

All tournaments are open to registration now with no registration fee. Students, faculty, and staff can register before the deadline for each tournament. If a team decides to forfeit before the start of the tournament, a $25 forfeit fee will be placed on the team captain’s RWC account.

Each of the five tournaments allows any male and female combination, and all equipment will be provided by the Intramural Sports Department.

For further information on dates, times and registration visit umsl.edu/campusrecreation or IM-leagues.com.
The War on YouTube: Wall Street Journal’s Witchhunt

CHRIS ZUVER
STAFF WRITER

Y
ouTube has become a widely popular platform for a variety of content. A seemingly endless number of channels exist that are monetized through Google—the corporation that owns YouTube—and their automated advertising system. Many of these channel owners are capable of their high turnout rate of content because of this revenue.

However, many videos from such channels have become demonetized at an alarming rate in recent months. A couple recent stories might grant us some insight on this significant trend.

On March 24, the Wall Street Journal published an article entitled “Google’s YouTube Has Continued Showing Brands’ Ads With Racist and Other Objectionable Videos.” The article went on to show a screenshot of a video taken down by YouTube user known as GulagBear. The screenshot shows a Coca-Cola ad playing on a video with a racially-insensitive title. Ethan Klein, a member of the duo operating as H3H3Productions, a YouTube channel that, among other things, is the first to speak up about an article in this video he released as the video's statistics were not accurately reflected in the article.

In the video, Klein claims to have contacted the user GulagBear to ask about these claims. GulagBear was fined and revealed extensive data about the history of their uploaded videos and its monetization.

Klein reports in the video that, according to the records, the video-in-question had been uploaded on June 29, 2016 and became monetized on September 1, 2016. Yet, the monetization had stopped only days later due to YouTube's automated filtering system for what is deemed “offensive content.”

The screenshot in the WSJ article shows GulagBear's video having 261,165 views at the time it was taken. Klein went on to conclude that the video was taken down because of its recent presence of a Coca-Cola ad when the WSJ article claimed that YouTube only had these rules.

Klein also discussed how the WSJ's report that Google’s automated system placed ads for major brands including Amazon.com and Microsoft Corporation on five different YouTube videos “peddling racist and anti-Semitic content.”

The WSJ article states that they asked these major companies what they intend to do with this information. Companies such as PepsiCo, Google, and AT&T released a statement that they intended to suspend their agreements with Google. Eventually, these companies took action to prevent the video from being advertised. However, the video was not removed, and the WSJ released a follow-up article that said they had been taken down. Yet, Klein reported that the video was still available and was taken down in the presence of a recent ad for Coca-Cola ad when the WSJ article claimed that YouTube only had these rules.

So, what does this all mean? Statistically, Kleinberg’s channel, and many other YouTube channels have been demonetized from the mainstream media in terms of web traffic. Millions have made it clear that they are consistently willing to turn to alternates and new media for their entertainment and news as opposed to the old-guard media.

And YouTube is one of, if not the biggest, platforms for these outlets. And so it seems that there are multiple factors coming into play here. For one, I think that corporations have withdrawn their support for Fox amid reports of sexual assault claims against one of the network’s hosts, Bill O’Reilly.

What troubles me about the situation with YouTube is that outlets like the WSJ and also YouTube are not doing anything to promote such agendas. Many of these channels are simply providing entertainment or news often with a slight dash of hug-people, but taking the time to take from these outlets may challenge people’s opinions, most are in no way outside of the possible possibility that they may irritate people who don’t agree with them.

Is this a signal of a war between old media and new media? Perhaps. Is there a reason for concern? I think so.

Outlets like the WSJ and also The Times, London, have effectively conflated truly racist, anti-progressive content with YouTube channels which are in no way promoting such agendas. Is this a signal of a war between old media and new media? Perhaps. Is there a reason for concern? I think so.

OCCUPATIONS

Is an American Blackout Possible? Not Really

CHRISTIAN CHEN
STAFF WRITER

What would happen if the entire country lost power for an extended period of time due to a cyber attack? This is a scenario explored in the National Geographic TV movie “American Blackout.” In the film, a cyberattack on the United States power grid is initiated by hackers taking down thousands of centrifuges at an Iranian nuclear fuel plant. Chillingly sophisticated, the worm, reportedly targeted frequency converters controlling the rotational speed of a centrifuge. U.S. Senator Ed Markey, a Democrat in Massachusetts, claimed that one well-placed keystroke could damage the power grid enough to plunge the country into the darkness. As scary as this sounds, other people disagree on how likely an event like this is.

For example, John McDonald, a grid expert at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, said that such an attack is difficult. Extensive firewalls and strict rules regarding thumb drives and CDs, in addition to strategic changes in operations, are just some of the defenses a grid could possibly implement. People say that attacking the power grid is actually easier than you would think. Hackers could result from hackers attacking a handful of substations, or maybe just one chain reaction that would eventually lead to a cascading failure. Then again, even though these types of attacks are unlikely, studies have shown that you are more likely to experience a power failure because a squirreled electrocuted itself on a live powerline.

Yet, there’s another theory that people think could cause a national blackout. This theory is that a hacker could set their sights on a few control centers and create a failure. If one of the smaller substations goes down, the overload could shift to neighboring substations, and eventually lead to a cascading failure. Supporters of this turning off the black-out of 2003 as an example, when parts of the Eastern U.S. and Canada were without power for at least a day. Now imagine that happening to the entire country for 10 days or more.

The good news is that we’re not completely defenseless. One possible solution to cyber attacks is the development of algorithms that randomly identify specific nodes to protect in a grid at different times. This would minimize a cascading failure.

And yet, in the scenario in the movie “American Blackout,” I must say that for the most part, the plot is accurate, but as always Hollywood likes to exaggerate things. Realistically, if the power were to go out for a long period of time, people would feel confused and slightly elated at first. After all, no power means no one can work. However, you’d quickly have traffic issues, and car acciden- tals would skyrocket. Commuters would be stranded at airports and on the subways. Only two, the food in the industry could collapse due to the failure of transportation infrastructure. Transportation delays could lead to traffic jams and lead to a halt. There would also be fears of looting. By day three, riots over food and water would occur, and law and order would slowly collapse. By day four, you’d have total anarchy. Water shortages would lead to illness, and if things got really bad, the National Guard would get involved. In short, without power, society would pret- ty much collapse in a short period of time.

Yet, launching a cyberattack against the United States’ power grid is not practical. First of all, the potential perpetrators would likely be exposed. There’s no such thing as the perfect crime. However, in addition, the international reaction would be huge. If a foreign enemy were responsible, then we would be looking at World War III.

In addition, you would need a lot of know-how to launch such a war. Think about how long it took for Osama bin Lad- den to plan 9/11. If such a da- terstaker attacks like 9/11 took years to plan, imagine the time it would take to plot an attack on the United States’ power grid. America is a superpow- er, and it is impossible to have such an act of terrorism. People working in cybersecurity will ex- pose the threat one way or another, and the United States government is currently working on ways to bet- ter protect the power grid. In other words, attacking the United States’ power grid would be a death wish.

The scenario in “American Blackout” can happen but difficult to pull off in real life. Because of Amer- ica’s status as a superpower, in ad- dition to current efforts to better protect the grid and the risk of ex- plore during the planning of such an operation, the attacking a grid is practically impossible.

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Dr. Wolfram Discusses African American English at UMSL

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social and political ramifications of language. It is especially American in the Kenyon College at St. Louis. He has written extensively on language and race, and the various languages spoken by African Americans. Dr. Wolfram has also conducted research on the language of African Americans in the diaspora, including in the Caribbean and in the United States.

Dr. Wolfram is currently a professor of linguistics at the University of Maryland, College Park, where he has been a faculty member since 1987. He is also a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has received numerous awards for his research on African American English. He is the author of several books and articles on this subject, including "Language and Race in the United States," which was published by the University of Chicago Press in 2008.

Dr. Wolfram is joined in the film by other experts in the field, including linguists and anthropologists. The film explores the history and evolution of African American English, as well as its continued use today. The film also highlights the importance of language in shaping identity and culture.

Dr. Wolfram is scheduled to speak at the American Association for the Advancement of Science conference in San Diego on November 12, where he will present his latest research on African American English.

Triton Softball Recap

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any more runs for the rest of the game, and the Saints battled back in the fifth and sixth innings to eventually win the game 6-5.

On April 8, the Tritons played a Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) doubleheader at home against the Truman State Bulldogs. The Tritons won the first of the two games against the Bulldogs 5-3, but fell to their opponents 3-9 in the second game.

In game one, Stupbek homered to center to give the Tritons an early lead of 1-0. In the third inning, however, the Bulldogs answered with a series of runs, taking a 3-1 lead. In the fifth inning, Walker homered to left field, and Olson scored on a double by Stuppek, cutting the Bulldogs to 3-2. Fortunately, a two-run walk-off homerun by Reagan Olson secured the win for the Bulldogs.

In the second game, the Tritons managed to score just three runs against the Bulldogs. The Bulldogs took an early lead of 2-0 in the third inning, but the Tritons answered with a series of runs, taking a 3-1 lead. In the fifth inning, Walker homered to left field, and Olson scored on a double by Stuppek, cutting the Bulldogs to 3-2. Fortunately, a two-run walk-off homerun by Reagan Olson secured the win for the Bulldogs.

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