UMSL Graduate Cybersecurity Trio Awarded $10,000 In Scholarships by U.S. Bank

Kay Riddler
Managing Editor

U.S. Bank awarded $10,000 in scholarships to three graduate cybersecurity students at the University of Missouri-St. Louis: David Autry, Vernon (Vii) Maurice Bishop, and Alan Alyas. The formal awards ceremony was on October 11 at 10 a.m. in 103 Anheuser-Busch Hall. Senior managers of U.S. Bank, UMSL administrators, as well as Information Systems Advisory Board members were in attendance.

UMSL holds the National Center for Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education (CAE-CDE) designation granted by the National Security Agency and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. UMSL is only one of two institutions with that honor in Missouri and the only one in the St. Louis region.

Professor of Information Systems and Chair of the IS Department Dinesh Mirchandani said, “Information Systems are vital to the functioning of organizations. There is, however, an acute shortage of professionals trained in cybersecurity who can help organizations secure the sensitive data stored in their systems. U.S. Bank is committed to protecting the information of its customers and giving back to society. It is thus at the forefront of developing a diverse workforce in cybersecurity by investing in the education of talented students.”

Autry was awarded a $5,000 scholarship. Autry is pursuing the Master of Science in Information Systems degree at the UMSL and the Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity. He has a passion for technology and taught himself programming and assembly language as a youth.

He received his first computer when he was seven years old. Autry said, “I became interested in it right away. I would turn the power switch and a good old blinking white rectangular thing would come up right away and talk about its fast boot processor. I wondered what is that thing for? What does it do?”

He continued to feed his curiosity with his second computer, an Apple IIc. Autry said, “A good friend of mine in junior high disassembled computer games on that one to understand how they work. The Apple IIc had a built in disassembler so that was the easy part of it. Understanding how the code worked was a bit more of a challenge. When we figured it out that it could do things like change a choose bytes in the code so we could have unlimited lives so our little man could make it to the last level, we had motivation to understand the code.”

Autry has designed and written an application that transforms two-dimensional magnetic resonance images of a human brain into a three-dimensional model. He plans to complete an internship in cybersecurity in service of a government agency before branching out into the field to help curb cyber threats to organizations and individuals. He has earned Latin honors distinction in his undergraduate degrees.

Bishop was awarded a $2,500 scholarship. He is pursuing the Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity at UMSL. He is an alumnus of UMSL having graduated Cum Laude with the Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science in 2016.

“The three scholarship winners with their certificates and the U.S. Bank representative who presented their awards.

SA Student Spotlight:
Aleathea Williams

Harold Crawford
Staff Writer

Getting more involved with the student body of the University of Missouri-St. Louis is the major focus of the Student Government Association. Aleathea Williams, junior, political science, is arguably one of the busiest students on campus. Williams serves as the Director of Events and Senator for SGA on top of being the Vice President of the Associated Black Collegians.

Williams sits on the Assessment of Educational Outcomes committee and the Faculty Teaching and Service Awards committee as part of SGA. Williams said, “I sought to be a part of Student Government Association to learn how I could impact student experience as a student myself and to serve as representation.”

Aleathea Williams is the Director of Events of SGA

What’s Inside:

- Boy Scouts, pg. 3
- The Birds, pg. 5
- Blues, pg. 6
- Violent Video Games, pg. 7

IS Students Study Abroad

Kay Riddler
Managing Editor

On October 8 several students and former students in information systems presented their experience with the John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) Program. The F2F program is administered by USAID and provides technical assistance from U.S. volunteers to farmers, farm groups, agribusinesses, and other agriculture sector institutions in developing and transitional countries to promote sustainable improvement in food security, agricultural processing, and production and marketing.

The F2F program was initially authorized by Congress in the 1985 Farm Bill and funded through Title V of Public Law 480. The program was designated as the “John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer-to-Farmer Program” in honor of one of the pilots killed September 11, 2001 and of former Congressman Bereuter, who initially sponsored the program.

As aligned with Feed the Future, the U.S. Government’s global hunger and food security initiative, F2F works to support inclusive agricultural sector growth, facilitate private sector engagement in the agriculture sector, enhance development of local capacity and promote climate-smart development. Volunteer assignments address host-led priorities to expand economic growth that increases incomes and improves access to nutritious food. The F2F program has demonstrated significant high-quality services from volunteers. Volunteers help individuals...
Math Problem of the Week

Last week’s puzzle answer: 7 Hours

The first correct answer was given by John Beck.

This week’s puzzle: "Two candles are the same height, but one will take 4 hours to burn completely, and the other will take 6 hours to burn completely. How long will it take for one candle to be twice the height of the other candle?"

Email solutions, guesses, comments to mathclub@umsl.edu.

Edifying (adjective): uplifting; morally or spiritually instructive.

Sentence: October is LGBTQ History Month at UMSL, and many exciting and edifying events are happening. Check PRIZM’s Facebook page for more information.
Breaking with Tradition: The Boy Scouts will Begin Allowing Girls

Audrey Byron
News Editor

Boy Scouts of America (BSA) announced on October 11 its decision to allow young girls to join Cub Scout programs. The Board of Directors voted unanimously in its historic decision, one they claim comes after years of requests from families and girls.

According to the group, changing the organization to include girls will serve entire families more appealing. The decision could also help them reach the Scouts’ underserved groups like Asian and Hispanic communities, which may prefer to enjoy activities as a unit, research has found.

“This decision is true to the BSA’s mission and core values outlined in the Scout Oath and Law. The values of Scouting—trustworthiness, loyal, helpful, kind, brave and reverent—are important for both young men and women,” said Michael Scharbaum, the BSA’s Chief Scout Executive.

BSA is not the only organization to sign up girls for Cub Scouts will begin in 2018. Packs will have the option to remain comprised of all-boys dens, some girls dens, or create an all-girls den pack. The den structure will remain single gender.

In Oak Hall plans to develop a curriculum for older girls as well. Beginning in 2019 the organization estimates, they will use the Cub Scout model to expand a program that allows girls to reach the rank of Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout ranking requires years of badges, service hours, and projects. This coveted, hard-earned rank is a large reason one girl has been fighting to join the Boy Scouts for years.

Sixteen year old Sydney Ireland has been trying officially join the Boy Scouts for years. She has been part of a program, and camping with the scouts since she was four since her brother became a scout. Even though she has completed rankings alongside other members of the troop, the organization does not recognize her achievements.

Cases like Sydney’s are exactly the ones Boy Scout leaders say they’re trying to appeal to, where siblings can participate together as families. Many Scoutmasters of the group happen to be moms of the boys.

Of course the most resounding criticism of the move is, “Why can’t they just join the Girl Scouts?” Girl Scouts are not based off of the Boy Scouts and feature less outstanding leadership goals and badge requirements. The distinction of Eagle Scout for girls wanting to join the Boy Scout ranks. The Girl Scouts have a similar rank, but it is not nearly as prestigious and well-known.

The Girl Scouts responded to the decision with condemnation. “The Boy Scouts’ house is on fire,” The Girl Scouts asserted that Boy Scouts are responding to sex abuse scandals and low registration numbers by trying to “poach” girls.

In reality, both groups have suffered from lower participation in recent years, according to both groups member numbers, as school activities become more numerous and diverse.

“The BSA’s record of producing leaders with high character and integrity is amazing,” said Randell Stephenson, BSA’s national board chairman. “I’ve seen nothing that develops leadership skills and discipline like this organization. It is time to make these outstanding leadership development programs available to girls.”

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Currently Involved Column

Aubrey Byron
News Editor

T his week in the Office of Student Involvement at the University of Missouri-St. Louis:

• The Leadership Diversity & New Member Institute is this week. Students are encouraged to sign up for the institute, hosted by the Office of Student Involvement. The Leadership Diversity & New Member Institute is a one-day conference open to all UMSL students. The focus of this year’s Institute is to engage and educate participants in the areas of leadership and social justice. Lunch and a certificate will be provided. Learn more and register by viewing the calendar event on TritonSync.

• UMSL Students of Service presents its 8th annual Trunk-or-Treat event, happening October 28th from 12 to 2 p.m. in the Millennium Student Center South Garage. Trunk or Treat is a service event geared toward UMSL families and the surrounding community. It is intended to provide a safe and fun way for families to enjoy Halloween festivities, early exposure of a collegiate environment to children, and increase the community’s knowledge about the campus. Attendants will enjoy various activities and informational booths, followed by trunk-or-treating, which means they go from trunk to trunk getting treats. Organizations and departments can sign up to provide activities, booths, trunks and candy, or both, from September 18 to October 20 at https://orgsync.com/59704/forms/267129. Do you have questions? Contact Special Projects Chair Taylor Milan at tmnvl2@umsl.edu.

• Have you ever wanted to be a detective... in the 80's... while eating tons of free food? Well now is your chance. Come by University Program Board’s Murder Mystery on October 18th at 6:30 p.m. in MSC Century Rooms B & C for a great night of laughs and sleuthing. 80’s themed costumes are encouraged, but not required.

• Allies in Action—a LGBTQ+ History Month Event. Join the door program on they have different leadership goals and badge requirements. The distinction of Eagle Scout is also a main appeal for girls wanting to join the Boy Scouts. This year’s Institute is to engage and educate participants in the areas of leadership and social justice. Lunch and a certificate will be provided. Learn more and register by viewing the calendar event on TritonSync.

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Continued From Page 1

ABC’s 12th Annual Greek Step Show

Roderick M. Wilson
Sports Editor

The Associated Black Colleges’ 12th Annual Greek Step Show took place on October 7 at the J.C. Penney Auditorium on the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus. The show was hosted by KIZQ By The Way and Miss Posh from HOT 104 FM, with DJ Homie City on the 1’s and 2’s for over 250 guests. ABC is the student organization with the slogan, “Invest In Self, Invest In ABC.” The group celebrates African-American heritage and culture on campus.

The chairs of this event included: Yasee Ellis, senior, media studies; events coordinator; Lilo Baker, senior, theater and dance; public relations chair; and the ABC executive board. The show was hosted by Kappa Alpha PSI winners.

Kappa Alpha PSI winners.

Continued From Page 1

News Brief: Silent Witnesses on Campus

Aubrey Byron
News Editor

Red statues have begun to appear around University of Missouri-St. Louis campus. The statues are called “Silent Witnesses.” The Silent Witness National Institute is a program that is intended to raise awareness for domestic violence and abuse. The goal of the group is to abolish domestic violence homicides.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. According to the group, over one third of high school and college students have experienced physical violence in a relationship, and one in four women is abused during a relationship in her lifetime.

The iconic silhouettes made of red wood represent people who have lost their lives to domestic violence. The project began with the silhouettes of twenty seven women whose murders inspired a group of women and artists in Minnesota to take action.

If you or someone you know would like more resources on domestic violence or abuse, please contact UMSL Counseling Services.

IS Offers International Experience to Students

Continued From Page 1

and organizations build local institutions and linkages to resolve local problems and since 1985 have provided direct hands-on training to over 1.2 million people. In the last five-year program alone, volunteers and the hosting communities increased annual sales by over $442 million and raised annual incomes by $130 million. The project leveraged over $31 million worth of volunteer time contributions to development efforts and mobilized $40 million from the hosting communities.

Nearly 1 million farmer families (representing about 47 million people) directly benefited, and approximately 37% of all individuals trained were women. Since program implementation, 6,000 volunteer assignments have been completed in more than 110 countries. Please see below for specific examples of successful programming.

Winrock International won the USAID grant to perform services for the XREF. Winrock’s term of performance is 11 years. Winrock International is a recognized leader in U.S. and international development, with a focus on building Healthy, Secure, Sustainable communities, where innovations in science, technology, and entrepreneurship drive economic development and reduce global poverty. The project began with the Silent Witnesses National Institute, which began in 1985.

The Institute is a national volunteer effort to build a movement of local volunteers who research and report local community priorities and problem solving. The program leverage volunteers to generate local knowledge and solutions to local problems by creating a network of volunteers who are experts in their own communities and who can share their knowledge with a broader audience.

The statues made of red wood are scattered around the campus to raise awareness about domestic violence. They are always available via email: Dr. Mirchandani, Dr. Khan, Dr. Predmore.

One thing that I wanted to participate in, so I did, but I had communication issues. I would recommend reaching out to the people in the project to help protect sensitive information from malicious attacks. Bishop continued, “Through scholarships provide for the three students. Alyas wanted to thank the professors that made him feel like family in UMSL because he felt comfortable at the university. He looked into the Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity and Alyas said, “I fell in love with it immediately. I applied at the department and they generously let me in that day. They made me part of the family.”

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An Open Letter to Beck about Your New Album: Where Has All the Funk Gone?

Mike A. Bryan
Staff Writer

Beck, my goodness, what has happened to you? You have spent twenty years have passed since you declared yourself to be a loser, and in the process, you have become somewhat of a god of experimental alternative music.

Your songs have been featured in TV, movies, and video games. Your production talents have given us some gems, like a solo album you produced for Thurston Moore of Sonic Youth called “Demolished Thoughts,” and an album you produced for Stephen Malkmus (also of the Jicks, “Adler Traffic”), which was released in August 2011. Your more recent collaborators include Cymbalists Skrzynia and Hall’s father, Pittsburgh quarterback Ben Roethlisberger.

Most of your albums have been aggressive, somewhat revelatory, and to his singing capabilities. Not every artist can pull off both singing and dancing. Adele, for instance, said she would never have caught dancing, that it was just not her style. However, Hall seemed to have it down pat. This first song was called “Who Let the Freaks Out?” He put on a fantastic performance with both excellent singing and dance routines.

The next number was a cover of Justin Bieber’s “Sorry.” He channelled the energy of the audience, and when he sang the line “I’m sorry,” it was clear that the audience was loving it.

But perhaps the most interesting part of the show is the tips he gave on how to be a social media star. He also talked about the importance of being yourself. He talked about the importance of believing in yourself. Then he drove up the second point which was Entrepreneurship, and explained that this is what really allows you to be successful. This is all coming from a guy who used to add a little bit of everything and it made him enjoy it. His fourth point was that you need to Own Your Brand. He also discussed Networking and that you need to Evolve, which means that you should change with the times, and Challenge yourself.

These points can be ordered to spell Beyoncé, which is Hall’s idol. He strongly believes that everyone should be a Beyoncé fan.

The second part of the show was a Q&A, which included a set of two chairs and a table. Office of Student Involvements’ Assistant Director Ashlee Roberts was the host. We learned that Hall’s first hit was a song about McDonald’s and was written just because he liked the fast food chain. He uploaded it before watching a movie and by the time the movie was over his video had gone viral. The video is still available on YouTube.

Other things discussed included his opinion on negativity, and he said he used to always focus on the negative comments. But after a fan confronted him about it he now focuses mostly on positive comments.

Beck has become a husband and father? Is this music produced for a younger crowd due to a life change? A quick look into Wikipedia reveals that yes, indeed, our revered pastor of the funky, progressive, experimental alternative rock genre has more than one child. One can’t help but wonder, special changes that come with fatherhood have mellowed our formerly golden Beck into a mutation that is a complete sea change from the guero screaming “Odelay” at midnite vultures. Beck is the king of funky, weird, and offbeat. And this is the opposite. The loser has morphed into a boring Mr. Popular. The whole album is mainstream and sounds like the overly mature, sedentary version of your formerly funky self. Even after multiple listens, the album does not gain in complexity or interest. I will shelve this one and wait for the next.
The Saint Louis Blues are coming off a successful road trip at 4-2 now. The team is looking very different from when they did in the preseason. Many fans and writers were concerned for the missing players that are injured and a core of the team. Many of them thought the Blues would take a lot of loses in the beginning of the season. The question of which players would step up was the real issue. Thus far the best move the Blues made was letting the younger guys get a shot.

The 2016-2017 season for the Blues had the same injury issue throughout most of the season. They battled though and many of the replacements came in and produced. They finally got healthy right when it counted at playoff time. The resilience paid off with the Blues getting farther in the playoffs than they had in a decade. They made it to round two of the NHL Playoffs—a great feat.

Brayden Schenn is the best promotion I have seen since Robby Fabri last season. Schenn, #10, center, has come in playing on the first line. He is making big impacts on the team with his assists and enforcing his will on opponents. Schenn was acquired from the Flyers in the Jori Lehtera trade, a trade that some thought was very risky. Now it is paying dividends and he has been shining every day since training camp.

Before the regular season started, sports-writers such as Bernie Miklasz of 101Sports.com and Roderrick Wilbon of current-online.com were calling Jaden Schwartz out, left-wing, #17, for his under-thumbed, hesitant, and lost preseason play. Fans have not seen the supposed 30-goal-scorer that is a core member of this team. Quickly, Schwartz has caught fire since the regular season started with two goals and five assists thus far. Sports-writers can hold their tongues now about Schwartz if he keeps this high octane play up for the full season.

The Blues did take a beating from the Florida Panthers 5-2 on October 12. The shots on goal were 39-38 Blues for the game. Once, the Blues scored in the 2nd Period, the Panthers just confused the defense. Many of the goals they had the defense out of place and confused, or just plainly beat them. The Blues have matched the best start in franchise history. In the game Vince Dunn, defense, #29, scored his first goal. Paul Stastny, center, #26, is red hot; Vladimir Tarasenko, ace, right wing, #91, is not only scoring but assisting with goals, too. Finally, Alex Pietrangelo, captain, #27, is leading all NHL defensemen in points this season.

Blues also brought up Sammy Blais before October 14’s game against the Tampa Bay Lightning game. The game was his first professional debut. Blais recorded two shots on goal and 2 blocks in a game in which the Blues tried to turn it late in the game. The final score was a 2-1 loss for the Blues.

“We gotta be sharper, and know when we get on the ice the situation in the game,” said Mike Yeo. “They played a good game over there, and they’re a good team.”

The Blues return home October 18 to face the BlackHawks—the dreaded rivals who are always a sore spot in the Blues’ side. It will be a great home game and a packed house. For more information visit https://www.nhl.com/blues.
**Rick Santorum’s ‘Mountain of Evidence’: Stepping up at bat for video games**

**CHRIS ZUVER**

A&E EDITOR

**OPINIONS AND FEATURES**

**October 16, 2017**

**During an on-air discussion on October 8, CNN commentator and former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum of Republican fame, raised the topic of video games, indicating the need for a response to the” Mountain of Evidence’ against violent video games.**

First of all, the left has already tried to implement an entertainment censorship in the last few years with an online movement known as GamerGate, an anti-feminist, anti-Queer movement that sought to regulate video games. Meanwhile, Sega CD's title Night Trap was pushing the envelope with its provocative storyline. The developers were an organization aimed at enforcing censorship in media that they deemed too controversial. They argued that the rating system should not be used as a “safety net” for the entertainment industry, but also in advertisements, such as TV commercials. They also agreed to commit to a customer and make the rating system easy enough for any consumer to understand. Furthermore, to address any game developers not in agreement with the ESRB, many major retailers agreed not to accept unrated games.

Senator Lieberman knew that violence in video games wasn’t going away, and that it seemed inevitable that the gore would only increase over time. During that same year, in a July hearing in congress, he disapproved of the footage of an upcoming first-person shooter known as Doom, to stress this point. As in regards to Rick Santorum’s criticism of violence in the media, it is important to note that high-profile videos of mass shootings have been shown in newspapers and other media outlets.

In 2000, an analysis by the U.S. Secret Service of 37 premeditated mass shootings had concluded that bullying played a significant motivational role. Williams likes to encourage her students to use their brains, and to think about the consequences of their actions. She said, “I want to uplift my black community.” She used former President Barack Obama, who she believes was the “most important president the United States has had so far.” She said, “No matter what people say about him, he can translate his passion for change to believe that they can hold an office that high.”

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