

# UNIVERSITY NEWS

UMKC's Independent Student Newspaper



## Past is prologue to chancellor

### Leo Morton contrasts upbringing with racial realities today

Chancellor Leo E. Morton contrasts his upbringing in Birmingham, Ala., with 'The New Jim Crow', a set of legal and social obstacles faced by African Americans today.

PHOTO // Nathan Zoschke

**Peter Makori** Copy Editor

**UMKC** Chancellor Leo E. Morton looks the part of a suave, prosperous chief executive who has spent a lifetime rushing between board meetings, fundraisers and high-profile civic events.

He is, in fact, living testimony to what hard work and determination can accomplish. Morton is the epitome of success achieved despite a harsh upbringing at a time when it was impossible for most African Americans to imagine moving beyond the position of janitor.

Morton, the first African American to lead UMKC as chancellor, grew up in Birmingham, Ala., during the Jim Crow era of the 1950s and 1960s. This was mostly a

period in which it was illegal in that region for blacks to attend the same schools as whites, sit together on a bus or drink from the same water fountain.

**“I really want to hear about this ‘New Jim Crow’ because I knew about the old Jim Crow up-close and personal.”**  
**-Chancellor Leo E. Morton**

Early this month during a Phi Kappa Phi honor society function in which dozens of UMKC students were initiated, Morton discussed how it was impossible in the 1950s and 1960s for a black student to aspire to more than a menial job.

Morton, who has a humble, personable, straight-speaking and unassuming presence,

spoke to the *U-News* in his office, stressing that students of today can take advantage of a prevailing favorable environment to get the best out of their education.

Morton also shares a different reality. He acknowledges that a new Jim Crow has emerged, one very different but more subtle than that of the mid-20th century.

“During the time I was growing up in the South, things were a lot more overt,” Morton said. “In fact, there were these Jim Crow laws that made segregation legal. Most of those

laws have now been done away with.”

Morton said the Jim Crow culture made life very hard for African Americans, and only the most determined made it through school.

He said, “But the laws were in place to make sure there was separation in housing, employment...there was separation in every walk of life, separate water fountains...It was pervasive.”

Morton lamented that as the old Jim Crow was abandoned, a new form of Jim Crow has taken shape in American society today, undermining important gains of the Civil Rights movement.

Morton was introduced to the concept by Michelle Alexander, a lawyer and civil rights activist who authored the book, “The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age

## faculty profile

# Robert Unger retires

## Beloved journalism professor leaves big shoes to fill

Andreina Byrne

Staff Writer

After two decades of teaching in the UMKC Communications Studies Department, Professor Robert Unger is retiring, though his legacy of investigative journalism will not be forgotten.

"Bob's Pulitzer Prize-winning résumé in daily newspapers speaks for itself," Communications Studies instructor Jonathan Rand said. "His reporting skills were never more impressive than when he wrote the book reconstructing the Union State massacre, and revealing eye-opening material that had previously been hidden from the public."

Unger, who received his undergraduate degree from the University of Missouri, spent years with the *Chicago Tribune* and *Kansas City Star* as an investigative reporter, international

correspondent and columnist.

Unger has covered five presidential elections, three wars and two uprisings on the West Bank of Israel, and written a book discrediting the FBI's account of the Union Station Massacre in Kansas City.

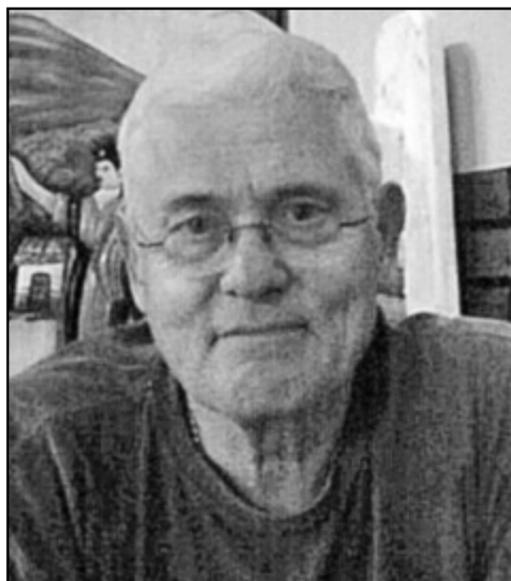
"I've been overseas more times than I can remember," Unger said. "Getting to know people, getting to understand them a little bit, I think that's what I love. The real people out there, I miss them. I'd like to go back to that."

In 1995, he decided to contain his adventurous spirit and settle down as a professor at UMKC.

"It's a different kind of rush [with teaching]," Unger said. "When I see students really succeed and do something well, it's a rush."

"I contacted UMKC and said, 'Ya know, I know you don't

CONTINUED // Page 3



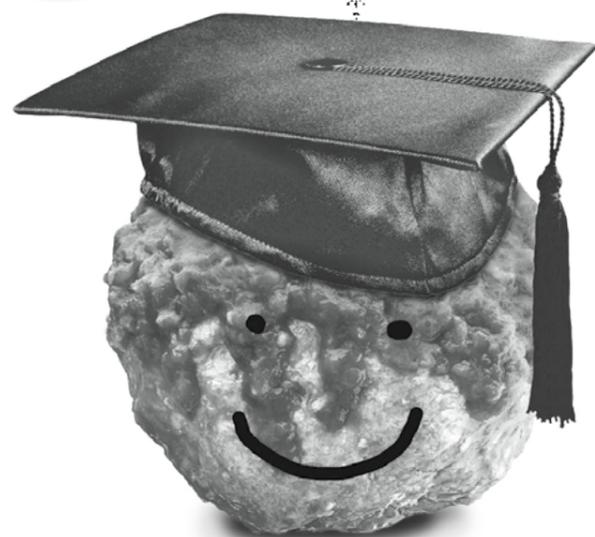
Professor Robert Unger.

PHOTO // Andreina Byrne

**BOOK NOW!**

**THROW A BUCA-STYLE GRAD PARTY**

Book it at Buca or Order our Party Pans To Go.



**KANSAS CITY - PLAZA**  
310 WEST 47TH STREET  
816.931.6548 • BUCADIBEPP.COM

**BUCA**  
di BEPPO  
Italian Restaurant

**MCC Metropolitan Community College**

**Finish Faster and Save Money**

Here's **your** chance to shorten your time to graduation—take a class at Metropolitan Community College. Make MCC your college this summer to:

- Complete prerequisites on your time, in the classroom or online.
- Earn credit hours
- Save Money. \$92 per credit hour for in-district residents.

Take a class, save money on tuition and living expenses, then transfer the credits you earn to your college or university. MCC is Kansas City's source for great value, small classes, exceptional faculty and work-friendly internet, day, evening and weekend scheduling. Visit our website to learn more. This summer, the opportunity is **yours**.

**Blue River**  
Business & Technology  
Longview  
Maple Woods  
Penn Valley

**816.604.1000**  
**mccck.edu/summer**

# Morton: Continued from Cover

of Colorblindness." She delivered last year's Martin Luther King, Jr., keynote address at UMKC.

"I was asked to introduce her, and I said I really want to hear about this 'New Jim Crow' because I knew about the old Jim Crow up-close and personal," Morton said.

Alexander's book talks about a new form of racial discrimination in America camouflaged in the war on drugs. Discreetly, it lays the ground for the long-term incarceration of African Americans and other people of color.

Morton said, "What she describes was the situation where today some of the laws we have, about possession of drugs for example, those laws are really dragging a number of African American and Hispanic males, in particular, to some unusually high levels of incarceration."

He said the 'New Jim Crow' ideology has resulted in more young black and Hispanic males in prison than in college.

"The cost of maintaining them in prison far exceeds the cost to educate the same individuals," Morton said. "The difficult part is that 80 percent of those who come out of prison end up going back."

Morton said the so-called "war on drugs" has systematically destroyed the potential of many young blacks, just as the old Jim Crow laws did in the South.

He said, "The reason is, that once you are convicted of a felony, you aren't allowed to live in public housing. You can't get a job. You can't vote. If you can't make a living, you end up committing crimes."

Morton, whose father owned a business in the all-black neighborhood in which they lived, brought up the infamous murder of a teenager from Chicago who was visiting Mississippi.

His crime was that he allegedly flirted with a 21-year-old white woman.

"Two weeks after my 10th birthday in 1955, a 14-year-old Emmett Till was mutilated and shot in Money, Mississippi," Morton recalled. "He didn't know that in the South you did not look at white women."

Morton said many young men who are released from prison lack job skills.

"In essence, if you think about what the old Jim Crow laws did, and the situation now, that is how to define the new Jim Crow," he said.

Morton pointed out that authorities applied harsh prison terms for African Americans under mandatory sentencing laws that gained traction during the 1980s.

The 1990s saw the rise of "three-strike

laws" that required harsh sentences, up to life in prison, for any two-time felon who received a third conviction. President Bill Clinton, in 1994, hailed the passage of a federal three-strike law.

Since the introduction of mandatory sentencing, often involving drugs, incarceration has skyrocketed in the U.S.

### Morton shares vision for students, UMKC

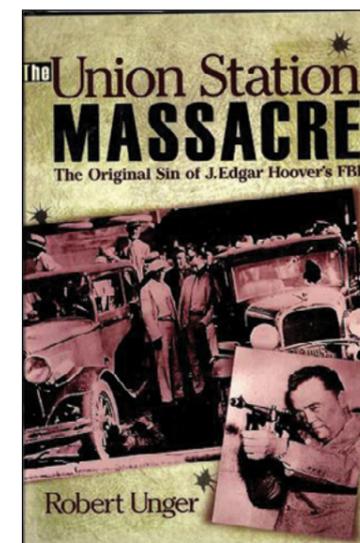
Despite today's obstacles, Morton envisions a chance to succeed for those who are focused on their studies and know what they want to achieve.

He said that despite the harsh realities of his upbringing, he was focused and knew where he was destined to be in life. Morton holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Tuskegee University, and a master's of science degree in management from the Massachusetts Institute of

**“In 10 years, UMKC will probably have an enrollment of 22,000 students, be well connected to the city, have robust research, supply more engineering talent to the Kansas City region, [promote] continuing education, and have a downtown campus for arts.”**

**-Chancellor Leo E. Morton**

pmakori@umews.com



CREDIT // Amazon

## Unger: Continued from Page 2

have much of a journalism program there," Unger said. "In '95, this was before the journalism world began to tank. I told the dean [about] the laboratory that we had right here for [students] to practice journalism. We were going to try [and develop a program] and call it the Urban Journalism Program."

"That Bob was able to carve out such an important place for journalism at UMKC was amazing for a campus that doesn't have a journalism school," Rand said. "His Introduction to Journalism course has been so popular that it's routinely been packed into two sections."

Though Unger's dreams for the Urban Journalism Program didn't quite take off due to lack of funding, his legacy of tough love teaching and as a defender of the rights of the *University News* are ingrained in the

journalism students' lives that he has touched.

"Professor Unger is blunt and real with you, which I love about him," said student Jordan Tanel. "He doesn't sugar coat things, so you are actually able to get honest feedback. That being said, he likes to joke around with his students too; he's witty and sarcastic."

The experiences from the field have enhanced Unger's ability as a professor.

"Unger knows how to utilize his real world experience in way that benefits the classroom," said student Kharissa Forte. "He develops students from writers to journalists."

For Unger, experience has taught him to keep on pursuing and questioning.

"When I was 17 years old, I told my girlfriend, who is now my wife, that I wanted to travel the world, interviewing presidents and kings, and I wanted someone else to pay

Technology.

He suggested a lack of vision and a sense of purpose are responsible for the mess in which some students find themselves.

"Students who don't succeed have poor time management," Morton said, using student athletes as examples of those who must learn to effectively manage their time. "Student athletes have good time management."

"Students who have not been busy don't get it. When I was in high school, I engaged in athletics, entertainment, leadership positions and worked with my dad. You should be focused. Every class you take should advance you to achieve a certain goal. Know what you need to get through your course."

"Today on this campus, if a student enrolls and they don't declare a major, which means they are undecided, the six-year graduation rate is 18 percent. If you look at a student who comes here to major in engineering, medicine or pharmacy, they tend to graduate on time. They are focused. Even student athletes graduate in four years at the rate of 86 percent with a 3.25 GPA."

Where does he see UMKC going during the next decade?

He predicted, "In 10 years, UMKC will probably have an enrollment of 22,000 students, be well connected to the city, have robust research, supply more engineering talent to the Kansas City region, [promote] continuing education, and have a downtown campus for arts."

pmakori@umews.com

for it," Unger said. "That's exactly what's happened. The only thing I forgot to say was that 'Oh yeah, and I want to be rich.' I have seen everything. I've loved it, every minute of it."

Unfortunately for future UMKC journalism students, Unger's sarcasm and lessons will have moved on to another adventurous journey.

"His retirement will leave some very big shoes to fill," Rand said. "And a very, very tough act to follow."

Said Unger, "I have my reservations but it's time for me to go home to be grandpa. My wife and I will probably travel some, and there are books that I want to write. So, I'm looking forward to it. It's been a good ride."

abyrne@umews.com

## Police Blotter

**April 19**

**11:42 p.m. Drug Offense**  
Officers responded to the report of the smell of marijuana in the Oak Street Residence Hall.

**April 21**

**3:12 p.m. Larceny**  
The victim returned to find her lock and possessions had been taken and placed in another locker at Swinney Recreation Center.

**April 22**

**2:01 p.m. University Violation**  
Officers recovered a hangtag that had been reported lost in the Rockhill Parking Structure.

**April 24**

**1:24 a.m. Property Damage**  
Several people walked the hallway destroying ceiling tiles and ripping up carpet in the Oak Street Residence Hall.

**April 25**

**1:01 p.m. Property Damage**  
The victim returned to his vehicle in the Biological Sciences Building parking lot to find scratch marks on the paint.

## Clarification

Issue 28 cover story:

Kate Baxendale was not properly credited for her contributions to the article.

Visit us online  
[www.unews.com](http://www.unews.com)

### faculty profile

## Gabe Cook pushes to restore local urban high school debate programs

Bradley T. Hoffman

Staff Writer

The art of argument is an immensely valuable skill for at-risk middle and high school students, which, according to Debate-Kansas City director Gabe Cook, is not being fostered and cared for by the Kansas City, Missouri school district.

Since 2010, 14 schools have dropped the Debate-Kansas City program, resulting in a 90 percent funding cut for the UMKC-supported urban debate league.

"The reason they said they did it was financial," Cook said, "and the economic crisis that hit definitely affected all the schools' budgets. But we think that debate was unfairly targeted by then-superintendent [John] Covington."

Debate-Kansas City aims to bring debate programs to urban schools that have limited financial resources.

Cook recently saw the fruits of his work. Emporia State University's Ryan Wash, whom Cook coached at Central High School, teamed with Elijah Smith to win the National Debate Tournament policy championship and the Cross Examination Debate Association championship.

In 1998, Linda Collier, then-director of the UMKC debate program, wrote a grant to start Debate-Kansas City because, as Cook said, "Debate in city schools across America was

**"I think every school, period, should have debate programs. I believe in debate."  
-Gabe Cook**

pretty much dead."

Debate-Kansas City had to significantly ramp up fundraising efforts to continue operating and avoid losing staff.

In order for a school to participate in Debate-Kansas City, it must pay an annual \$3,500 fee, which guarantees it will receive all services necessary to keep its debate program going throughout the year.

But, with Kansas City Public Schools cutting nearly all of its financial support for the program, Cook said he's worried that what he's helped build will continue to lose steam, and the results of that could be longer lasting than others realize.

"If you can get a student to debate enough rounds in high school," he said, "there is very clear data that says they will graduate high school [and] they will be substantially better critical thinkers."

"They will have improved ACT scores in English and reading. They will be civically engaged; they'll avoid at-risk behavior; they'll be far more likely to go to college, and then they'll be more likely to make an impact in society."

Covington resigned from the position of superintendent in August 2011 and was replaced by Steve Green, about whom Cook expressed optimism.

"He's been more supportive," Cook said. "He's considering, examining."

In April the Lincoln College Preparatory Academy debate team qualified for this year's national tournament—the Super



Gabe Cook, director of the UMKC-supported Debate-Kansas City program, believes urban debate has a promising future.

PHOTO // Sai Srikar Kadiyam

Bowl of high school debate—in Birmingham, Ala., and Green has agreed to fund the team's travel costs.

But, even with a new superintendent in charge, it is still uncertain whether or not Debate-Kansas City's funding will be completely restored so the program can flourish and include more schools. "I have no idea when it'll get restored," Cook admits. "It's something we've been working on for like three years."

Despite budgetary struggles and the burden of allocating more time for fundraising efforts, Cook does not believe Debate-Kansas City will disappear.

"I don't really think that's possible," Cook said. "There's too much invested, too many supporters."

"I think every school, period, should have debate programs. I believe in debate."

bhoffman@unews.com

## Men's golf wins Summit League title

Dan Moreno

Staff Writer

The men's golf team swept the first three places on their way to winning the Summit League Championship for the second time in three years. The 'Roos shot 880 over three rounds, beating runner up South Dakota by 19 strokes.

Korbin Kuehn, scoring 216, claimed his second Summit League title. He shot rounds of 69, 78 and 69.

Freshman Antoine Rozner was one stroke back, and junior Nathan Hughes was third, with 220, at the Sky Creek Ranch Golf Club in Keller, Texas.

For the second time in school history, the 'Roos will head to the NCAA Regional Championship on May 16-18. Location and time will be announced next week.

Head Coach J.W. VanDenBorn, who was named Summit League Coach of the Year, said he was "blown away" by the team's success.

VanDenBorn listed the team's accomplishments: "Five 'Roos on an all-conference team, newcomer of the year, championship MVP, and three 'Roos on all-tourney team, not to mention a conference title."

The three golfers to make the all-tournament team were Kuehn, Hughes and Rozner.

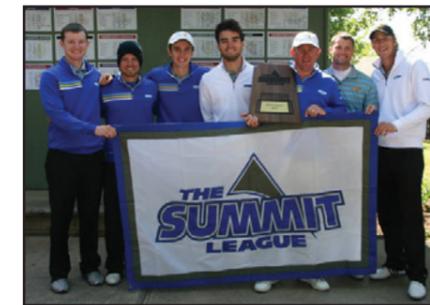


PHOTO // UMKC Athletics

"It feels great," Kuehn said. "This is what we work for all year. We have so much talent on the team."

Rozner was named Newcomer of the Year.

"It feels really cool to be champs," he said. "We all played really good."

UMKC Director of Athletics Tim Hall expressed support on his Twitter page by writing, "Congrats to men's tennis on advancing to SL Championship. Drilling through granite."

dmoreno@unews.com

## Women's golf finishes second at Summit League Championship

Dan Moreno

Staff Writer

The Lady 'Roos fought hard at Keller, Texas, last week in the Summit League Championship and returned to Kansas City with their best finish in school history as the runner up to North Dakota State.

The 'Roos totaled 960, 11 strokes behind the winner. Four of their five golfers finished in the top 12.

Junior Emily Isaacson was named to the all-tournament team after she finished third with rounds of 78, 85 and 72 for a 235 total.

Micah Radler tied for sixth place by shooting 243, Susan Kirschenman tied for 10th with

244, and Taylor Fisher tied for 12th with 245.

"I'm proud of us for fighting. Everyone played great," said Isaacson.

Head Coach Brianna Broderick seemed pleased with her team's performance.

"I'm extremely proud of the ladies for how they fought back and played hard today," she said. "It was fun seeing the team get within reach of winning a championship."

When questioned about Isaacson's strong final round, Broderick said. "The round today should give her the confidence to excel this summer and take her game to the next level."

dmoreno@unews.com

# Choose Red

## to go further, faster.

Want to graduate on time but short a class or two?  
Have you decided to change your major?

UCM makes it possible to save time and money  
by completing a semester-long course in as little  
as six weeks.

Courses are offered in six-, eight- or 12-week sessions.

Summer sessions begin **May 20.**

For more information, visit  
[ucmo.edu/summer](http://ucmo.edu/summer).

Online • Lee's Summit • Warrensburg

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL MISSOURI

LEARNING TO A GREATER DEGREE



## music

## Soul singer ZZ Ward performs at Student Union

Joey Hill

Staff Writer

Campus experienced the presence of a rising musical star in the form of soul singer ZZ Ward last Tuesday in the Student Union theatre.

Organized by UMKC's Activity and Program Council, Ward's concert was free and provided an amazingly big, new sound.

The concert began with a simply phenomenal

opening act by UMKC business major Erica Joy, who was chosen by Ward herself from a selection of entries sent in by various students hoping to open for her. She was the perfect choice.

Joy created a wonderfully crafted, intimate atmosphere, which drew listeners in and boasted an incredible control over both vocals

CONTINUED // Page 7



ZZ Ward performs at the Student Union Theatre on Tuesday, April 23. PHOTO // Joey Hill

## food

## Kokoro Maki House offers friendly atmosphere and generous portions

Andreina Byrne

Staff Writer

Simple and clean, the family-owned Kokoro Maki House provides an at-home atmosphere among an array of sushi and other Japanese and Korean dishes.

Walking into the small yet comfortable restaurant at 340 West 75th Street in Waldo, I was immediately taken back by the friendly environment and the small staff working behind the counter. I am a fan of smaller-scale environments for dining experiences, and Kokoro again takes the cake on instilling such an essence.

After sitting down at one of the tables and grabbing a menu from the counter, I read over the many different styles of sushi and noodle combinations. Compared with similar style restaurants in town, this place, by far, wins in the price department. With small sushi combinations less than \$3 to specialty plates for less than \$10, each portion is well worth the price.

For those who are iffy about raw fish, the dinner portions are a little bit pricier. The healthy-sized portions are also worth the price.

From chicken teriyaki meals to delicious rib dishes, these portions run on the \$10-to-\$20 scale, yet they would be a great option for two friends on a budget to split. There are also a variety of cheap appetizers and small entrees, from seaweed salads to different soups.

After perusing the specialty roll section, I decided on the Hot Mama sushi roll, consisting of spicy tuna and spicy crab, which was less than \$9 and completely worth the price – I ended up not being able to finish it, which is rare for me. I also chose the mildly-spiced Ramen and enjoyed every mouthful.

Drink-wise, the choices were fairly modest. I chose a Perrier sparkling water and went to the counter to pay for my order. Even with two entrees and a higher-priced drink, my meal was just under \$20. This seemed like a splurge for



Mildly spiced Ramen. PHOTO // Andreina Byrne

**Food:** ★★★★★  
**Drinks:** ★★★★★  
**Price:** ★★★★★  
**Service:** ★★★★★  
**Ambiance:** ★★★★★

the prices of the menu, because it truly is an extremely decently priced place.

Finally, after I ate my food and drank my Perrier, I felt full but still refreshed enough and ready to take on the night.

The service was difficult to judge because, quite honestly, the only interaction I had with the cashier or server was when I went up to pay before getting my meal and when the cashier casually picked up the empty plates.

However, sometimes this is the best kind of interaction, so I did approve. I would recommend this place for any student on a budget and to anyone with a keen love for sushi, Japanese or Korean cuisine. I plan to give myself at least a week break until my next visit – until then, Kokoro.

abyrne@unews.com

**2013**  
**UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY**

**summer session**

**CATCH UP! STAY ON TRACK!**

and  
**GET AHEAD!**

\* **Convenient and Flexible** \*  
 Classes start May 28

\* **Current Student Registration** \*  
 Begins April 1

\* **Open Registration** \*  
 Begins April 22

**Everything you need to enroll is at:**

[umkc.edu/summersession](http://umkc.edu/summersession)

UMKC  

**Disclaimer:** The views of individual writers expressed below in this section do not represent the official stance of U-News. U-News welcomes participation from all UMKC students. Letters to the editor may be submitted to Editor-in-Chief Nathan Zoschke, [nzoschke@unews.com](mailto:nzoschke@unews.com).

## U.S. Senate acted disgracefully by rejecting common-sense background checks for gun owners

Peter Makori

Copy Editor

Exactly what drove the U.S. Senate to reject the proposed legislation on background checks for all gun sales? What if all the 20 children shot dead in Newtown, Conn., early this year were grandchildren of these senators? Would they have rejected the legislation in the shameful way they did? I doubt it.

So, how many people should be killed through uncontrolled gun ownership in order to move the nation's conscience to act? Maybe if all the victims were relatives of senators, they could surely see the sense of legislating how we acquire and misuse our guns.

I've concluded it is easier for kindergarten kids fighting over a toy to solve their differences than for the U.S. Congress to solve straightforward problems affecting the American people.

I personally do not know what it feels like to lose a child, but I know what it means to lose a relative. When my father died 13 years ago, I agonized for more than five years, refusing to accept the reality that he was gone.

My father was a poor man. He never played any role in my education or much else. But the fact that he was my father created a strong human attachment. And when he

died, I felt that he should not have died. He didn't die of gun violence. He was sick.

What about a parent who dropped a son or daughter at school being called to be informed that the child was no more because he or she had been slain by a deranged gunman?

What about a wife or husband being informed that his or her mate had been shot dead by a gunman who went berserk and killed 20 children and six staff members?

Any person who has suffered tragedy like the one in Newtown would tell you that the decision of 46 senators was disgusting. Any person who has seen a loved one senselessly killed will tell you how disappointing it was to hear that U.S. senators had rejected legislation to ensure proper background checks before anyone acquired a firearm.

Carrying out background checks is necessary if American schools, public installations and private homes are to be safe from those who misuse guns. I have never understood what guides the misguided decisions of U.S. senators when they are confronted with such matters of national importance.

But I have also never understood how these same people get re-elected when they clearly appear to be a national disgrace. And many of them claim the solution to the problem is having guns everywhere, even on the campuses of schools such as UMKC.

Ever since I came to America, I have been outraged to see a dangerous trend where opposition to any piece of legislation, however useful, is rationalized under the

guise of safeguarding "Constitutional rights." Does that mean these victims of gun violence have no Constitutional rights?

This recent gun control legislation was intended to expand background checks to include buyers who bypass licensed gun dealers. That is not asking for too much. Senate proponents even gave up their legislation intended to curb military style assault rifles, and there's still no meaningful action on keeping guns out of the hands of the mentally ill.

The background check proposal did not try to deny Americans their Constitutionally guaranteed right to bear arms. Lobbyists, especially those from the National Rifle Association, misinform people that the government wants to take away their Second Amendment rights. That is simply not true.

As a university student, I pray daily that the unexpected does not happen at UMKC. This is because ever since I came to this college, I have never seen clear security measures in place to ensure that everyone is safe.

Security cameras are either obsolete, if they are installed, or do not exist in many places. While security cameras may not guarantee security for everybody, if we did not have cameras in Boston, we could not have arrested those criminals who detonated a bomb that killed three people and injured dozens of others.

How would UMKC police piece together an incident at a location on campus where there were no functional cameras?

Americans should stand up and reject legislators whose agendas do not promote



Peter Makori

the greater good of this country.

I come from a society in Africa—Kenya—where people have no inherent rights like we have in America. I am also the last person to advocate any intention, implied or otherwise, of the government trying to take away people's fundamental rights and freedoms.

But the madness with these guns must be tamed. We don't want to see a family lose a son or daughter in the most senseless killings, as we saw in Newtown. We don't want to see any more Virginia Tech or Columbine massacres. The killings must be stopped.

Following the rejection of the gun-control legislation, international media splashed the story with screaming headlines that portrayed America in the most negative way.

*The Telegraph* of the United Kingdom wrote, "Shameful day for Washington." And it was, and remains, a shameful day indeed.

I sincerely believe that the people of America can still defend their rights by doing away with what is not right.

Mass killings that have hit American schools on all levels must disturb the conscience of this nation so much that we finally act to protect each other while bearing in mind that our Constitutional guarantees must remain intact.

pmakori@unews.com

## A&amp;E // ZZ Ward: Continued from Page 6

and guitar.

A perfect example was "Come on Home," where her guiding voice amplified through the theater with a graceful intensity to the point of being almost ethereal. Her sound was old, but not recycled, as though it had been resonating through the earth for years until finally freeing itself on stage.

This performance provided the perfect mood to introduce the combat boot-clad Valkyrie to the stage, ZZ Ward. Bathed in a single white spotlight while caught in the

glow of the various multicolored stage lights radiating a golden hue, Ward brandished her guitar and began to play.

With hard-hitting songs like "Put the Gun Down" and "Blue Eyes Blind," both of which are from Ward's debut album, and "Til The Casket Drops," which came out last October, the energy of the concert went up exponentially.

While fully capable of building a feeling of excitement, Ward was also able to tone down the mood into a relaxed ambiance with songs

like "Last Love Song".

At times she created an eerie atmosphere with a rendition of Blues legend Son House's song, "Grinnin' in Your Face."

The combination of her incredible vocals and ghostly harmonica playing made it feel as if somehow she was conjuring a thunderstorm, or some elemental tempest was about to befall the audience.

This was the greatest feeling of being at this concert, this feeling of being emotionally grounded to the music that Ward could deal

out in spades. One of the best moments of the concert was when she played a beautiful response to the Etta James song, "Waiting for Charlie," in the form of "Charlie Ain't Home."

This was a powerful anthem with a defining beat and guitar section which, when performed live, makes one wonder about the structural integrity of the venue.

Put simply, ZZ Ward is a force of nature.

jhill@unews.com



PHOTO // UMKC Athletics

## Men's team wins Summit League Championship

Dan Moreno

Staff Writer

The men's tennis team last Saturday won the Summit League title for the third year in a row, defeating IUPUI 4-0 at Fort Wayne, Ind.

The 'Roos did not lose a match. In singles play, Grant Fleming beat Jake Heddering 6-1, 6-1. Andrey Smirnov beat Deon Shaver 6-3, 6-1, and Conner Edwards beat Armaan Choudhary 6-1, 6-1.

The UMKC doubles teams of Fleming and Abdul Alawadhi, and Edwards and David Heckler both gained 8-4 victories to win the doubles point.

The championship gives the 'Roos a spot in the NCAA tournament. The team is still waiting to learn where it will begin the national tournament.

At the pre-championship banquet Thursday night, Alawadhi, Fleming, Nino Hasandedic and Tomas Patino were named

to the All-Summit team.

The 'Roos finished with a record of 13-10 and entered the conference tournament as the No. 1 seed for the fourth consecutive year.

Coach Kendell Hale will lose five players as the senior class played its last season with UMKC, winning three league championships and four regular-season titles.

"They are great guys, I'm going to miss them," he said. "It has been great working with them and I'm glad they can leave with another championship."

The UMKC women nearly upset top-seeded Fort Wayne but came up short 4-3 for the Summit League Championship. In the deciding match, Fort Wayne's Marcy Huck outlasted Amelie Amsallem, 6-3, 6-7, (4-7), 6-2.

UMKC's No. 1 player Laura Bouet defeated Summit League Player of the Year Anita Henestrosa, 6-4, 6-2.

[dmoreno@unews.com](mailto:dmoreno@unews.com)



## BUILDING your success at BLOCH

The Henry W. Bloch School of Management at UMKC is top-ranked in accounting, non-profit management, entrepreneurship and innovation, and is home to nationally and globally recognized faculty experts.

Choose the graduate program that will transform your future.

### Graduate Degree Programs

- M.B.A. (Masters in Business Administration) and Executive M.B.A.
- M.P.A. (Masters in Public Administration) and Executive M.P.A.
- M.S.A. (Master of Science in Accounting)
- M.S.F. (Masters of Science in Finance)
- M.E.R.E. (Masters of Entrepreneurial Real Estate) and Executive M.E.R.E.
- Executive Education (non-degree)
- Master of Science in Global Entrepreneurship and Innovation

For more information, contact Gene Pegler at [peglere@umkc.edu](mailto:peglere@umkc.edu) or 816-235-5254.

[bloch.umkc.edu](http://bloch.umkc.edu)



UMKC Henry W. Bloch School of Management  
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY



# UNIVERSITY NEWS

UMKC's Independent Student Newspaper

## Contact:

5327 Holmes St. Kansas City, MO 64110

Editor's desk: 816-235-5402

Advertising: 816-235-1386

Fax: 816-235-6514

## Board of Publishers:

Stephen Dilks (chair)  
Robin Hamilton  
Allen Rostron  
Jon Rand  
Nathan Zoschke  
Patrick Hilburn  
Rhonda Cooksey

Patty Wolverton  
Andrew Kraft  
Shannon Jackson  
Catherine Saylor  
Michael McDonald  
Yu Xu

## U-News Senior Staff:

Editor-in-Chief  
Nathan Zoschke

Online Editor  
Sai Srikar Kadiyam

Advertising Manager  
Joseph Salazar

Photo Editor  
Sai Srikar Kadiyam

Business Manager  
Xuan Cai

Distribution  
Andrew Graff

Social Media Editor  
David Kim

Faculty Adviser  
Jon Rand

Copy Editor  
Peter Makori

## Mission:

To provide relevant, timely coverage of the UMKC community by seeking truth, fairness and accuracy in reporting while preserving the integrity of *U-News* as an independent student-run publication.

## About us:

The *U-News* is the official independent student newspaper of UMKC, produced each week by a staff consisting entirely of students.

We publish 4,000 copies each week, and distribute to the Volker and Hospital Hill campuses and surrounding neighborhood businesses.

Letters to the Editor can be submitted by mail or to [info@unews.com](mailto:info@unews.com). Letters should be 350 words or less and are subject to edits for clarity.

*U-News* is printed by *The Kansas City Star*. *U-News* is an equal opportunity employer.

Visit us online at [www.unews.com](http://www.unews.com)