June 5, 2018

May 2018 Media Report - A monthly overview on MSU Engineering

Dean Leo Kempel was featured on WKAR’s “MSU Today with Russ White.” The 16-minute conversation aired: Saturday, June 2, at 11:30 a.m., 1240 AM WJIM Lansing; Sunday, June 3, at 4:06 p.m. on 105.1 FM and 870 AM WKAR Lansing; Sunday, June 3, at 7:30 p.m. on Detroit's WJR 760 and June 6, at 7:06 p.m. on WJR 760 AM.

MSU research shows Lake Michigan beach closings have dropped over the past 15 years as E. coli bacteria concentrations have dropped, which coincides with the explosion of quagga mussels across the Great Lakes, said Chelsea Weiskerger, a doctoral student in civil and environmental engineering (CEE) and co-author of the study. Her advisor is CEE Professor Phani Mantha.

Computer science PhD student Pranshu Bajpai and Richard Enbody, associate professor of computer science and engineering, co-wrote an essay for The Conversation on cryptojacking. It’s a warning that others may be making money off your computer's memory, processor power, and electricity.

See the essay: [https://theconversation.com/cryptojacking-spreads-across-the-web-94088](https://theconversation.com/cryptojacking-spreads-across-the-web-94088)
University Distinguished Professor of Computer Science and Engineering Anil Jain is quoted in a number of media on a facial recognition app, which is helping ID endangered primates.

Drowning in plastic – University Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science Ramani Narayan is among the international experts quoted in a National Geographic story on plastic waste. “Let’s say you recycle 100 percent in all of North America and Europe,” he said, “you still would not make a dent on the plastics released into the oceans.”

Eight Engineering alumni were honored May 5 during the 2018 College of Engineering Alumni Awards banquet.

Associate Dean Tom Voice chose Consumer Reports for his professional service – an avocation he has enjoyed for 10 years. He is currently the vice chair of the CR board. He discusses why other faculty members should stretch their view of service alternatives in an MSUToday Faculty Voices column.

Yadu Pokhrel, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering, will use a $500,000 NSF CAREER Award to continue hydrology modeling on land-water use.

Thomas Wielenga, a 1978 mechanical engineering graduate, so believes in the value of the creative process that he is investing $1 million to kick-start the next teaching paradigm in the College of Engineering.
MSU finished seventh out of eight in the first AutoDrive Challenge™ from April 30-May 5 in Yuma, Arizona.

MSU will welcome its largest and most diverse freshman class this fall. The colleges of Arts and Letters, Engineering, Natural Science, Nursing, and Social Science will all reflect more than 10 percent freshman enrollment increases.

MSU is mentioned in this think piece by corporate friend, CARMERA: “Using Maps to Make Autonomy Work for All.”

Alumni

Patrick Donovan (BS AES '18) helped the MSU men’s lacrosse team win its first national championship.

Will Allen, PE, PTOE, (BS CIV EGR '07) was named a 2018 Rising Star by Civil + Structural Engineering Magazine.

The Lansing Lugnuts baseball team distributed 1,000 Mike Sadler #3 jerseys in only 20 minutes on Thursday, May 3, during a fundraiser for Sadler’s Foundation. Sadler was a 2013 AES graduate, who died in 2016.

Current students

Fourteen Spartan Engineers achieved Academic All-Big Ten honors for the 2018 spring sports season, announced by the Big Ten Network on May 30. Student-athletes must be in at least their second academic year and carry a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Men’s Golf: Austin Jenner, chemical engineering (ChEMS), and Andrew Walker, applied engineering sciences (AES); Men's Track & Field: Morgan Beadlescomb, mechanical engineering (ME), Max Knoblock, AES, Evan Litch, ChEMS, Winter Romeyn, ME, and Nathan Whitting, civil engineering; Women's Tennis: Lexi Baylis (recognized for her perfect 4.0 GPA) ME, Julia Fenn, ChEMS, Women’s Track & Field: Amanda George and Erin Keller, biosystems engineering, Kayla Kavulich, ChEMS, Dillon McClintock, ME, and Erin McDonald, AES.

Katie Frayer, a mechanical engineering senior from DeWitt, has been named to the 2018 MSU Homecoming Court. She and the other homecoming ambassadors will be featured in the homecoming parade on Oct. 5 and at the football game in Spartan Stadium on Oct. 6. Katie is a member of the Honors College.

MSU's STARX team competed at the University of Michigan in May, showing off the strength-augmenting robotic suits, also known as exoskeletons, at the first Applied Collegiate Exoskeleton competition. Other teams came from the University of Nebraska, Iowa State, and Colorado School of Mines.

Computer Science and Engineering seniors Mustafa Jebra, Dane Rosseter, Samantha Oldenburg, Alex Wuillame and Shun Yan created Mobile Maestro as their Spring 2018 Design Day project, an app to help those with Duchenne muscular dystrophy have more control of their arms.
MSU’s Formula Race Team was revved up and ready for the Formula SAE Competition at Michigan International Speedway, May 9-12.

Incoming students
A set of quadruplets, the Doyle brothers of Onsted, Michigan – all honors students – are headed to MSU this fall. Two of them – Tony and Patrick – will study computer science.

Dan Beaudrie will use a STARR Scholarship to travel from Wyoming to MSU to double major in computer science and electrical and computer engineering, beginning this fall. His goal is to build robotic prosthetics.

Owen Diller, valedictorian of East Jordan High School in northwest Michigan, will come to MSU this fall to study applied engineering sciences.

Several top students at Lansing Sexton High School are headed to the College of Engineering, including Michael Le, who will study mechanical engineering, Jet Vue to pursue engineering studies, and Nou Gee Yange, who is interested in chemical engineering.

Among the top scholars at Lansing Everett High School coming to MSU is Jeremiah Fabian Benavides, who wants to study engineering.

Jericho Herblet of Ovid-Elsie High School will study engineering at MSU this fall.

Treyvon Pennington earned academic merit at Lansing Eastern High School and will attend MSU to study chemical engineering.

Emily Darling and Jason Taft, top scholars at Perry High School, will attend MSU this fall to study engineering.

Top scholar Brendan Ryder of Dansville High School will come to MSU this fall to study mechanical engineering.

Ionia High School valedictorian Justin Helmer, and top scholars William Erskine IV and Garrett Gould, are all headed to MSU for engineering this fall.
Justin Shemka, salutatorian at Bad Axe High School, will attend MSU to study engineering. He is an award-winning soccer player and a member of the Ecology Club.

Sydney Janssen of Ida High School in Monroe County will attend MSU to study biosystems engineering. Her favorite subject is physics.

**MSU Pride Points**

* May 16: Mechanical engineering senior Jennifer Ju is among five in the nation selected for a #NewFaceofTech STEAM Scholarship from HARMAN International and 1,000 Dreams Fund. She was selected from more than 200 applicants.

Related Website: [Communications contact: Patricia Mroczek](https://www.egr.msu.edu/news/2018/06/05/may-2018-media-report)