

# THE SHAMROCK

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MAR · 2024



# THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE CURTAIN

(PHOTO BY COLE JONES)

It's hard for us to believe, but last month, The Shamrock celebrated its first anniversary since being brought back in this digital format, and with it, we added our own eventful year to the already century-long history of this magazine. My favorite element of The Shamrock is one that has remained constant through its entire existence, including our small share of it: how clearly the personality of everyone involved shines through. From the very first chronicles, poems, and sketches found in the early issues to the passionately researched articles in later incarnations, it has always been clear that behind the pages of The Shamrock lies a team that truly enjoys what they're doing.

Aside from the anniversary of The Shamrock, another important event for all engineers is rapidly approaching: E Week begins on the day of this release! The theme this year is "The Engineer of St. Patrick," a parody of "The Wizard of Oz." So allow me to take this letter as an opportunity to give you a peek behind the curtain into what we have prepared for you this issue.

To kick things off, we sit down with two of the wizards who make the magic happen to program all the events for E Week. Make sure you have your courage on hand to brave the horrors within the universe of Pixar's Cars films, your brains to puzzle through our crossword and Puzzgrid, and your heart to find some sympathy for the terribly mistreated vampiric community at Mizzou. And although there's no place like home, you shouldn't wait for a tornado to whisk you away on adventures, so we have some suggestions on how you can get outside and touch grass...or, er, yellow brick? I'm running out of references here.

You'll also find reviews of the latest tech announced this year (including the Apple Vision Pro), classic engineering recipes, and all of our usual recurring sections such as the horoscopes, comic, and advice from our beloved mascot, Shammy.

With the timeline having mostly righted itself since last issue and a range of exciting articles to present to you this month, the future of The Shamrock is looking blindingly bright. So join us in donning our emerald-tinted glasses as we look ahead to an exciting week celebrating all that makes us engineers...and along the way, we might just get some glimpses of the past, too. We've snuck a few of our favorite comics from old editions of The Shamrock into our pages for you to enjoy.

We hope you enjoy this issue of The Shamrock, happy E Week, and Erin go Bragh!



JASPER HOLLAND  
(AND SHAMMY THE ROCK)

# WIZARDS OF E-WEEK

## JONAS FERGUSON

I got the chance to speak with Madi Robinson and Jimmy Keating, the co-presidents of St. Pat's board for E-Week 2024. I was also joined by Shamrock writer Sam Hirner. We were treated to an hour of information and secrets surrounding E-Week and its festivities. I have done my best to capture the highlights of our interview and publish them here to share with you, our dedicated reader:

### SHAMROCK: CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF?

Madi: My name is Madi Robinson. I'm one of the co-presidents of Engineer's Week 2024. I'm studying chemical engineering and I'm from Imperial Missouri.

Jimmy: I'm Jimmy Keating. I'm a senior studying Information Technology. I'm one of the Engineer's Club co-presidents, and I am from St. Louis, Missouri.



### SHAMROCK: WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO JOIN THE ENGINEER'S CLUB?

Jimmy: So, I joined the Engineer's Club actually in 2020 during COVID, so, my freshman year. Everything was on Zoom, and I just wanted a way to meet more engineers and make some friends. I've also grown up celebrating St. Patrick's Day very heavily within my family. So I joined [Engineers Club], and from then on, I really loved this organization, even though my first year was on Zoom and I never got to meet anyone in person. I just stuck with it, and I absolutely loved the people, and I loved the organization and all the traditions that went with it.

Madi: I had a peer mentor Freshman year, Lauren Baratta, and she was a co-president that year. She told me that it was a very social organization, and it was super fun. I didn't want anything super rigid because I was over involved in high school, so I was trying to take a step back in college, but now here I am as co-president.

## **SHAMROCK: HOW DOES YOUR FAMILY CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY?**

Jimmy: My dad's dad, he was a St. Louis city police officer for about 30 years, and he would always be on security for St. Patrick's Day when my dad was growing up. Grandpa would always be there with his green lapel pin directing traffic and everything else. My Grandpa was retired by the time I was born, but growing up, my dad always played the bagpipes, which he's been playing since third grade. He always played the pipes on St. Patrick's Day, and we'd always go down to the city to see the parade. We were always really festive with it, and we just loved everything about it.

Madi: Growing up in a single household with my mom, it was always fun, but a weird holiday. Now it's my favorite holiday because everything that we do for a week is centered around St. Patrick being an engineer and it's also super cool because the first E-Week was here at the University. So that is what makes St. Patrick's Day so special.

## **SHAMROCK: HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT E-WEEK'S PAST?**

Jimmy: There's so much magic happening within this University, I can only imagine some of the things that [past Engineer's Club members] had to do just to keep the tradition going. It's absolutely incredible that the fact that a couple of rogue students decided to start one of the oldest traditions at Mizzou, St. Patrick was an engineer is honestly amazing. I love the fact that we have continued this tradition for as long as it has been. 122 years, older than Homecoming. I love the fact that we have consistently and always been better than the University of Missouri Rolla at St. Patrick's every year. No matter what, we do it better.

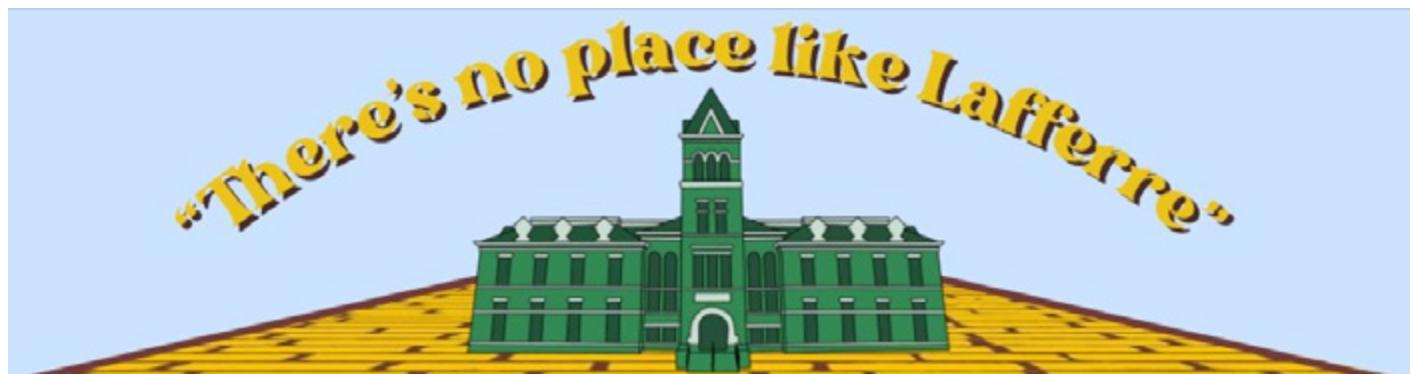
## **SHAMROCK: CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR?**

Madi: I personally wanted to have a theme that a lot of alumni would be able to relate to, and for it to be super recognizable. So, our first meeting, we all sat down as an org of 70 people spitting out random themes. There were two that came out on top. There was Pat Wars, like Star Wars, or A Wizard of Oz theme, and we eventually came to the conclusion that Wizard of Oz would be super cute. Follow the Yellow Brick Road, There's No Place Like Lafferre. That's how we landed on that very recognizable theme, and lots of different characters that we could use.

What didn't make the cut?

- Pattenhiemer
- Parby
- Irish you were here
- Harry Patter
- Five Nights at Lafferre
- Pattatouille
- Patrick Starfish
- Pat Man
- Patter Pan
- Legally Green

*Photo Credit: Engineer's Club*



## **SHAMROCK: ARE THERE ANY CHANGES TO EVENTS THAT WE CAN EXPECT?**

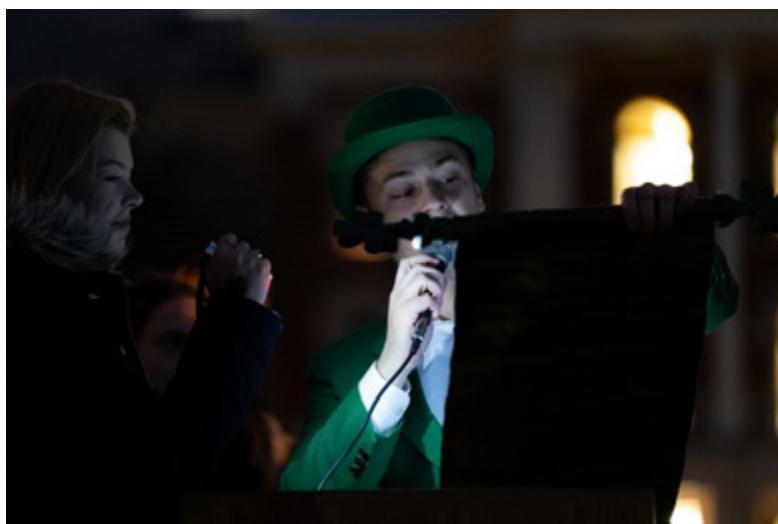
Madie: The Friday of the Dome Lighting, we will have a student networking event that will be in Overholser Auditorium from 1:30pm - 3:30pm, Friday, March 8th. We're inviting back alumni professionals, companies that would like to come recruit, and our sponsors to come and speak to students in a very casual and conversational way. We would advocate for a lot of freshmen and sophomores to go because it's a lot less intimidating than the career fair, and we're catering Chick-fil-A and Crumbl for students that participate.

Jimmy: One of the big ones is that we got rid of Professor for a Day. Professor for a Day was historically something where we would have a guest speaker come to engineering classes. It was hard, especially after COVID. Kids would skip class or wouldn't go because someone would be speaking. We had difficulty finding professors that wanted to dedicate class time to that, so we are replacing that event with our new industry exposure event that [Madie] talked about earlier.

## **SHAMROCK: WHAT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT?**

Jimmy: I'm incredibly excited about dome lighting. The big reason for me is that I was on the committee for dome lighting for the last two years, so it is very near and dear to me. Especially last year we had record attendance, I want to say about 500 people showed up. It was incredible, I couldn't believe just how many people showed up to celebrate. I thought everyone was going to get food and leave, but everyone stood around and watched the whole ceremony. Everyone was excited, it was like there was an energy in the air, it gives me goosebumps just thinking about it. Especially after COVID, we had very low attendance because everyone had to get back in the swing of things and figure out all these traditions again, so being able to bounce back that hard and make it as big as it was just incredible, and I can believe that it will happen again this year and I'm really excited to see it.

Madie: What I'm looking forward to most is the networking event because it was really my idea to nix Professor for a Day and we were lacking that alumni connection. If it flops, I'm going to be really upset. I'm just really excited to see how many professionals and alumni we can invite back and how many students will hopefully gain something from this event. I am hoping mentorships come up out of it and maybe some networking opportunities.



*MU Engineering*

## **SHAMROCK: HAVE YOU MEMORIZED ALL THE WORDS TO ST. PATRICK WAS AN ENGINEER?**

Madi: We sing it after every single meeting, so everyone within Engineer's Club should know it by now.

Jimmy: Usually by the last meeting, we turn off the projector and make them recite it without looking at the words, so then we can know who's really been paying attention.

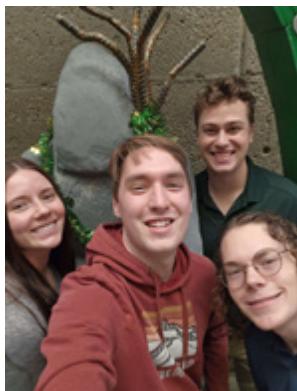
## **SHAMROCK: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE E-WEEK MEMORY?**

Madi: Last year I went to the 5k/10k, now it's known as the Shamrock Race. I'm a recipient of a scholarship from the Josh Seidel Memorial Foundation, and their mission is really important to me, so I was able to connect with the 5k/10k committee head last year and asked if the Josh Seidel Memorial Foundation would be able to come speak at the event before the race started. Seeing the people from the board that I grew connections with and that were able to spread Josh's memory and honor him before the event was really cool. I think that was one of my favorite memories, and Hot Dog Banquet's always fun.

Jimmy: I think last year's Dome Lighting and having Dr. Dave Wollersheim be the guest speaker was amazing. He was so important to the University, and he's contributed so much time and effort to the College of Engineering as a whole over the past many years, he's been here forever. Getting to throw the switch with him was really cool, and we even got the pyrotechnics on the switch to flash last year, it was really neat. Overall, it was such an amazing experience, and he loved every second of it. Seeing him so happy about the event made me so happy, and really made me feel good about

## **SHAMROCK: DID YOU HAVE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT?**

Madi: Everyone's welcome to come to every event within E-Week. It doesn't matter your major, age, or status in the org. We're just celebrating engineers!



# **ST. PATRICK WAS AN ENGINEER**

St. Patrick was an Engineer –  
he was – he was.  
St. Patrick was an Engineer –  
he was – he was,  
For he invented calculus and  
handed it down for us to cuss;  
Erin Go Bragh – RAH FOR  
THE ENGINEERS!

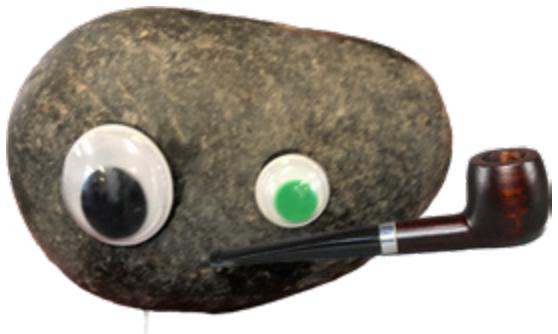
St. Patrick was an Engineer –  
he was – he was.  
St. Patrick was an Engineer –  
he was – he was,  
For he surveyed the Emerald  
Isle; he made its maps and its  
profile;  
Erin Go Bragh – RAH FOR  
THE ENGINEERS!

St. Patrick was an Engineer –  
he was – he was.  
St. Patrick was an Engineer –  
he was – he was,  
For he turned on the switch  
one day and hustled all the  
snakes away,  
Erin Go Bragh – RAH FOR  
THE ENGINEERS!

St. Patrick was an Engineer –  
he was – he was.  
St. Patrick was an Engineer –  
he was – he was,  
For he was a gun with a Monkey wrench; he screwed the  
lawyers all to the bench!  
Erin Go Bragh – RAH FOR  
THE ENGINEERS!

# SHAMMY'S ADVICE

## SHAMMY THE ROCK



YOU asked the questions, and SHAMMY has the answers!

If you have any burning questions...  
[...ask ya boy Shammy on Instagram!](#)

### IS SHAMMY SINGLE?

Shammy is married to the grind.

### WHAT'S SHAMMY'S FAVORITE SPORT?

Jai alai, he likes to imagine he's the one being thrown around.

### WHAT ARE THE BEST OPTIONS IF I'M STRUGGLING IN MY CLASSES?

Stop it get some help.

Tutoring options are always available, talk to your professor about when you can meet for office hours, or ask some of your fellow students in your class or who have previously taken the class for some help studying.

### WHAT IS SHAMMY'S LONGEST MEWING STREAK?

It's still going baby!

### GUKO VS SHAMMY, WHO'S WINNING?

Only one way to find out.

Also, that's not how you spell Goku.



## **HOW WOULD ONE EAT A 12 FOOT LONG CHICKEN CHORIZO BURRITO SAFELY? ASKING FOR A FRIEND.**

One 12-foot bite at a time.

## **SHAMMY, HOW DO I GET PPL TO APPRECIATE MY INNER BEAUTY**

You need to have inner beauty first. You should try cultivating some.

## **WHO DOES YOUR HAIR SHAMMY YOURE SO SLAY!**

I am bald.



## **SHAMMY WHATS A QUICK WAY TO MAKE A LOT OF MONEY- LIKE REALLY REALLY FAST PLEASE SHAMMY PLEA-**

This is not financial advice, but I can tell you in 10 easy steps. You are going to need a large pair of pantyhose, a crowbar, a grappling hook, a jar of elbow grease, a set of thieves' tools, access to the internet, and a Walther P22.

Step 1: Google a list of local sex offenders because they are not allowed to legally own firearms as they are felons. After you have located your next score.

Step 2: Wait for a new moon, so it is as dark as possible outside.

Step 3: On the night of the new moon put the pantyhose over your face and attempt to enter the house using your grappling hook via the chimney.

Step 4: After your 10th failed attempt to get the grappling hook to stick, you will give up and pull out your thieves' tools and attempt to unlock the back door. After fiddling with the lock for 5 minutes you will realize you should have looked up a video on how to lock pick first.

Step 5: Pull out your phone and look up a video on lock picking. Start watching LockPickingLawyer. Realize you've been doing this for 30 minutes and that you haven't been paying attention and still don't know how to lock pick a door.

Step 6: Break the window and climb into the laundry room. Now they for sure know you're here. Don't worry, you are prepared for this.

Step 7: Pull out your jar of elbow grease and slather it on the stairs so if anyone comes down and investigates, they will slip and fall.

Step 8: You are now going to want to start searching the house for a safe, lockbox, jewelry, or anything of value to make this whole thing worth it. Start tearing things off the walls looking for a hidden safe behind a painting or something.

Step 9: Ignore the thudding sound coming down the stairs and the following moaning at the bottom of the staircase. Once you find the safe you can easily open it by using your P22 and unloading it into the door and hinges. Once you fire enough shots into the solid metal safe, it will register that it's taken enough damage and the safe will break and swing open. Grab your reward.

Step 10: Throw yourself through the front window and make your escape under the cover of a new moon. Congratulations on your first heist, well done. Don't forget to give a kick back to whoever gave you this great idea.

\*Warning results for heist may vary\*

If that's too much for you can always go to Ape Atoll and can talk to Solihib at his food stale.

## SHAMMY VS SATAROU GOJO, WHO'S WINNING?

Listen if you think for a moment that I, Shammy, would lose against some no-name Gojo mother Fricker, you are sorely mistaken. I would slice, dice, and sauté him. Then I would serve him over a nice bed of rice with a side of green beans. If I hear such disrespect again, I will personally send you to Guantanamo Bay.

## The Engineer Party



A Business Student's View

An Engineer's View

# A DEEP DIVE INTO CARS

BRADY WALTERS

Pixar's 2006 hit "Cars" is a film I hold very close to my heart. When I was little, I would watch it day and night. I'd "rev up" during the races, sit perfectly still during the scenic route scene, and of course, only wanted Cars toys. I know I'm not alone, as the movie certainly served its purpose in generating a profit. It was a standard Shamrock meeting day; Sam and I were on our way amid a deep Cars discussion. As we conferred, it was slowly dawning on us that the lore of Cars goes deeper than we could ever imagine.

As we entered the meeting, my mind was flooding with questions relating to the "World of Cars," as it's called in the spin-off "Planes." I brought it up to the Shamrock team, and we had a brief discussion about what counted as a "Cars" movie. Since Pixar had nothing to do with either of the "Planes" films, were they canon? Were the multiple TV show spin-offs canon? In my opinion, they should all count. And that is frightening.

So, then and there, I decided to (re-)watch every single Cars-related film and series, finally completing my knowledge of the Cars universe. While rewatching "Cars" was a nostalgic start, it quickly became a grueling process. "Mater's Tall Tales," the series of shorts, had no real bearing on anything since Mater just made them all up. "Cars 2" introduced several elements of the world (like iPhones?!?) that induced the start of this madness. "Planes" was the first entry in the series not

controlled by Pixar, as Disney created both spin-off movies alone. It was just a re-telling of "Cars," but with planes this time. "Planes: Fire & Rescue" was a bad, but fun to look at, straight-to-DVD sequel that simultaneously had no reason to exist while also confirming the true mortality and inner workings of the inhabitants of the World of Cars. "Cars

3" completely ignored the second Cars film and did what I would imagine my parents originally wanted a sequel to do rather than all the killing and death. "Cars on the Road," the series on Disney+, was a fun bit of campy classic

car fun that terrifyingly confirmed some previously unknown elements of the universe. I'm just glad "Trains" hasn't come out yet (yes, that is real. The original movie was scrapped but the concept is coming back).

This universe is built from the most confusingly well-thought-out but still secretive lore I have ever seen from G-rated films. My mind has been consumed more and more by the car. So rather than spiral further down like Dusty Crophopper does in "Planes," I have instead compiled a list of the most mind-boggling elements

"Sentient Roomba-style vacuums exist ... Imagine being born and your purpose as a sentient, conscious being is to eat garbage until you die ... Why?"

*Bigfoot exists. Why not Bigtire? It's right there.*

**It's Bigfoot.**



of this universe for all to see and ponder. But I'm not alone: I reached out to Connor, an expert in the Cars fandom with an ever-growing knowledge of the lore (in his words) to collect the craziest facts from this universe. If I don't have someone else to back me up here, I'm going to sound crazy (...crazier than usual). Here are our top ten worst findings from this series.

10. Cars use "feet" for measurement and the legend of Bigfoot exists despite the monster just having large tires. This goes along with all the human-specific wordplay and references in the series.

9. Along with human references, many, many things in the Cars universe are human-sized for no-specific reason. The world itself is identical to ours, save some location-specific changes that make scenes more car-themed. Things like radios, posters, apartments, lightbulbs, and smartphones(?) are all identical to their real-world counterparts. How were these produced? Why were they produced at this scale in which most of society can't even use them?



*How does car use a radio? How does it turn on the mic?*

8. Sentient Roomba-style vacuums exist, as shown in "Planes: Fire & Rescue." Imagine being born (...created? We will get there, I promise) and your purpose as a sentient, conscious being is to eat garbage until you die. For another strange vehicle case, in "Cars 3," a school bus for humans exists. It has a stop sign attached, and it has a school district assigned to it. Cars, even the smaller child cars, cannot use that bus. Why?



*Some things shouldn't exist*

7. Come to think of it, what's conscious and/or sentient and what's not is tricky in the Cars universe. Tractors have the intelligence and instincts of cattle, yet older and larger vehicles are active members of society. Flying car bugs exist, which confuses me to no end as the vehicles in Cars still run on fuel, whether it's gasoline or electricity.



*Does a bug car fill up at a bug car gas station? Do they bite other cars like mosquitos?*

6. Speaking of... cars are both produced and born. This feels contradictory, but both prove to be true throughout the movies alone. There are several references to being "made" in Cars, and car brands such as Ferrari exist as well. However, there are also moments where miniature cars are voiced by and act like children, or when adult (???) cars reference their childhood or parents.



*Baby car - so cute!*

5. "Flashing" means the same thing for cars as it does for us. They just do it with headlights. This is in the Mizzou archive forever now.



*The most uncomfortable scene in that movie*

4. In "Cars 2," the pope is shown in a sentient popemobile, cross and all. Religion not only exists in the Cars universe but seems to have mirrored our world's history. I will leave the rest to you. reader. (*Was Jesus a plane?*)



*Car pope* 🙏

3. In "Planes," rated PG, a veteran plane has a traumatic flashback to his entire squadron being killed in fiery explosions in the middle of World War II. That is something that happens in that movie. Car WWII happened. Car WWI happened. Once more in "Planes," John F. Kennedy airport exists, and the air traffic controller speaks in JFK's accent. It is assumed then that car history's major figures were all identical to their real-life counterparts. Again, I will leave the rest to you.

(*Which car brands represented who?*)



*Nothing can traumatize you like your plane friends dying on screen.*

2. "Planes: Fire & Rescue," of all movies, finally confirmed that the engine is the sole vital organ of a vehicle. Both the main character and a side character experience something going wrong with their engine. When a part inside of the engine chips, the engine stalls out, but the plane remains conscious. When the engine completely stops, the plane falls unconscious and remains that way until the engine is fixed. This seems to function very similarly to a heart. However, in this case, planes have parts that can be replaced. The main conflict of the movie is the fact that they stopped making parts for the main character. Who is "they" and why is this how things work?!

1. Finally, we've reached the most ridiculous, yet canon, piece of information about this universe. In



*The mechanic trying to fix a plane's engine,*

*because planes are still mortal I guess.*

"Cars on the Road," Mater participates in a competition to go as fast as possible using jerry-rigged modifications such as rocket boosters. Unfortunately, he dies. While flying, Mater blacks out and wakes up outside of himself and engages in a conversation with the car angel of death. Mater then outsmarts the angel by convincing it to close its eyes as he opens his own door, something that has not previously been shown, and his soul re-enters his body. The car afterlife exists, there is a separation between the physical engine organ and the soul, and cars can cheat death. I... have reached my limit.



*Maybe cars aren't mortal.*

As fun as it is to point this stuff out, this series was made by people. Pixar wanted to make a fun film with a good message. This universe is the way it is because it is our universe. Watch these movies again but replace the vehicles with the people who drive them in our world. You still have a heartwarming story about a hotshot who finally slows down and falls in love after coming across a small town of unique people. You also have a story about a tow truck driver who accidentally becomes a super spy and uncovers a terrorist plot to deter the public from using sustainable fuel alternatives to protect the oil industry. Both are equally good, and no one can tell me otherwise. The point is that tearing into the little details of movies like this will never reach a satisfactory conclusion, as the creators never meant for you to do so. I suppose I just like watching these movies and I needed an excuse to do it again. There's nothing quite like nostalgia.

But seriously, why were the Roombas sentient?

# CES 2024 RECAP

## JONAS FERGUSON



*Kimberly Gedeon*

CES (Consumer Electronics Show) is one of the largest tech conferences held annually. This year's event, hosted from January 9th through 12th in Las Vegas, had more than 135,000 people in attendance. Jam-packed with quirky TVs, questionable speakers, and the constant presence of AI, this year's conference was definitively marked by the presence of up and coming innovations in the industry. We at the Shamrock have looked at some of the wildest and strangest technologies unveiled at this year's event and have given them our unbiased and factual thoughts.

### CLICKS CREATOR KEYBOARD - \$159



Remember when you could get a phone that had a physical keyboard when you wanted it, but slid away when you didn't? That long-gone world can be yours again, except for the low cost of owning a recent high-end iPhone, never being able to slide away the keyboard, making your phone a full 8 inches tall, forcing your phone to be bright yellow, and costing \$159 with shipping. I love a mechanical keyboard as much as anyone else, but when it comes to phones, maybe there's a reason Blackberries disappeared.

*Clicks Technology*

## RABBIT R1 - \$199



Rabbit Inc.

Imagine if Siri or Google Assistant was connected to Chat-GPT, then put in a box that's bigger than it needs to be and looks like an arcade game interface. That is the Rabbit r1, except with a weirdly cubical rabbit, and an AI voice that's even worse than the Tik-Tok one. The best way to describe this genre of product is smartphone but with fewer features. Additionally, all features are driven by AI, which is not yet reliable enough to isolate from other resources. You're better off spending your \$200 on an actual phone.

## C SEED - \$300,000

The C seed is a product catered only to those so wealthy that they buy 5 of them to put in each of their houses and never use one. C Seed is a line of foldable TVs meant to store away and seamlessly integrate into the aesthetics of one's home. The top-of-the-line 165-inch model will set you back \$300,000, or \$1,500,000 once you've bought all 5. Or you could take that money and for each display, pay for four people's entire bachelor's degree. It is a true insult to the working class that someone spent the time and money to design and build this product.



C Seed

## BARSYS 360 - \$475



Barsys

The Barsys 360 is a robotic bartender. It can hold over 5 liters of liquid, with up to 6 different types, then mix them into any drink you want. Additionally, it connects with apps to recommend drinks to make, assuming you've provided the required ingredients. This product interests me for the simple fact that I never would have considered doing this. However, for what it is, it is surprisingly cheap at \$475. Those who love drinks enough to want this are probably willing to spend this kind of money and will get a truly unique experience. If you want to do some of the work yourself, Barsys also offers a coaster that functions as a scale, showing you how much you need to pour of each ingredient.

## NIMBLE BEAUTY - \$599

The Nimble Beauty calls itself “The world’s first smart home nail salon”, and it offers just about what it says. However, it seems that the only real manicure feature this product offers is to paint your nails a solid color in at least 25 minutes. Additionally, you are limited to using their line of polish which offer only two uses a bottle and cost \$10 each. The machine also does not provide any other level of nail care or allow for any unique designs. I could understand this if it was particularly fast, or if it could do intricate designs and techniques, but I really don’t see what this offers you that painting your nails at home, or the most basic level of service at a salon could provide, and certainly not for \$699.



*Nimble Beauty*

## WEHEAD - \$4995



*Wehead*

Easily the most memeable item at CES 2024, the Wehead aims to put a face on ChatGPT. While ChatGPT already provides free and unreliable answers online, you could instead pay \$4950 to have a creepy screen tell you these unreliable answers instead. The team behind this product is very proud of their ability to capture the 3D reality of a face, but this was accomplished with multiple 2D screens set closer and further away in a very strange-looking setup. I honestly can't imagine a single use for this product, other than maybe the villain in a 2000s sci-fi movie.

## SKYTED MASK - \$799

The idea behind the Skyted mask is to allow you to control the volume level of your voice. You can keep your voice silent when having a sensitive phone call, or when you’re on a plane, and you can amplify your voice when you’re presenting at a meeting. It is an interesting pitch, but it just doesn’t seem that helpful, products like this already exist to serve both these needs, which reminds everyone a little less of 2020. With the high price of \$799, it’s hard to justify.



*Skyted*

## PLANTPETZ- \$40/60

PlantPetz is a pot with sensors that detect water levels and audio. The pot moves around and has a speaker, so the plant can dance to music and tell you when it needs to be watered. It's impressively affordable at \$40-60. It doesn't seem particularly practical and feels like a novelty item that will wear out quickly, but it could make a fun gift.



Hello Tomorrow Inc.

## SAMSUNG BALLIE - \$1599

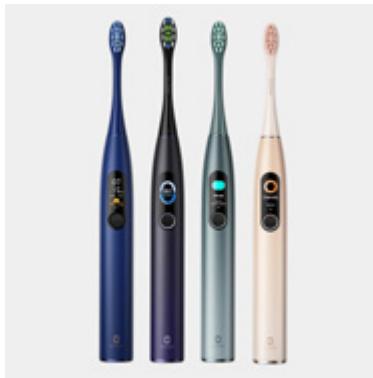


3d\_molier

The Samsung Ballie is described as an "AI-powered robotic companion". It is a small robot that can roll around your home. It can take pictures, watch your dog, project video onto the floor or wall, and connect with other smart home devices. Of all the features that it offers, the ability to project on any surface from a mobile device is the most intriguing to me and could have many potential applications. However, this feature cannot justify the \$1599.99 just yet. I imagine that this type of technology will be exciting and affordable in a few more years but it is perhaps not quite there yet.

## OCLEAN ULTRA X - \$129

The Oclean is a smart toothbrush. It can track all your teeth and see if you have cleaned them enough, send brushing reports to your phone, give you brushing tips, and even tell you the weather. I am not a dentist, so I cannot say if this product works as advertised, but it is an interesting idea. At a \$129.99 price tag, it isn't outrageously more than existing electric toothbrushes and offers useful features. Most intriguing perhaps, feedback is not given through a speaker but through bone conduction via your teeth.



Oclean

## BARACODA MIRROR - \$500?



Baracoda

The Baracoda mirror is an AI-powered smart mirror, aimed at improving one's mental health. The mirror has a built-in screen and adjustable lighting along the rim. Most notable is its ability to recognize one's mood and provide remedies such as light therapy, guided meditation, and self-affirmations. While we can all agree that mental health is extremely important, I don't know if a talking mirror is going to help make me feel better. While features such as telling the weather, or leading meditation seem useful, they don't seem to go beyond what a phone could provide. The price is estimated to be \$500, which while cheaper than I expected, is by no means a price I would be willing to pay for something like this.

Now that you've gotten to learn about all these products: let's see how they stack up.

Was I a bit pessimistic? Perhaps. Items from this conference usually try to push boundaries and we only really looked at the most extreme examples of this. These items are all a bit odd and fairly more expensive than they're worth. I would encourage you to check some of this tech out for yourself, they pretty much all have reviews online from people who actually got to try using them, instead of glancing at a few pictures and each item's website as I did.



Another one of our writers, Cole Jones, took his own look at the CES conference, and made the following ranking. Note that Cole ranked different items than I did in this article, and that the conference included many more items of tech that neither of us reviewed.

Make your own tier list! <https://tiermaker.com/create/ces-2024-16859184>

Be sure to tag us on social media @the\_shamrock\_mu

# SHAMROCK RECIPES

## LILY SCHRADER AND ASHER FERGUSON

Hello everyone and welcome back to another installment of Shammy's kitchen! In this episode, you'll find sweets, treats, meats, and more. A smørgasbord of joy awaits you below, we can't wait to show you what we have in store! Make sure to tag @the\_shamrock\_mu on Instagram if you cook any of these delicious snacks!

*(Disclaimer: try these recipes at your own risk, The Shamrock™ in no way guarantees your safety upon trying these recipes or endorses their creation)*

## QUICK AND EASY SQUASH SOUP

Ingredients: 1 butternut squash, 1 small onion, 1 potato, chicken stock

1

Dice the onion and place it in a pan with some olive oil to caramelize.

2

Peel the potato and squash, then chop both into small cubes. Make sure to remove the seeds from the squash.

3

Place the squash and potato into a pot of boiling chicken stock (use bouillon cubes if you don't have any stock) -use just enough liquid to cover the vegetables.

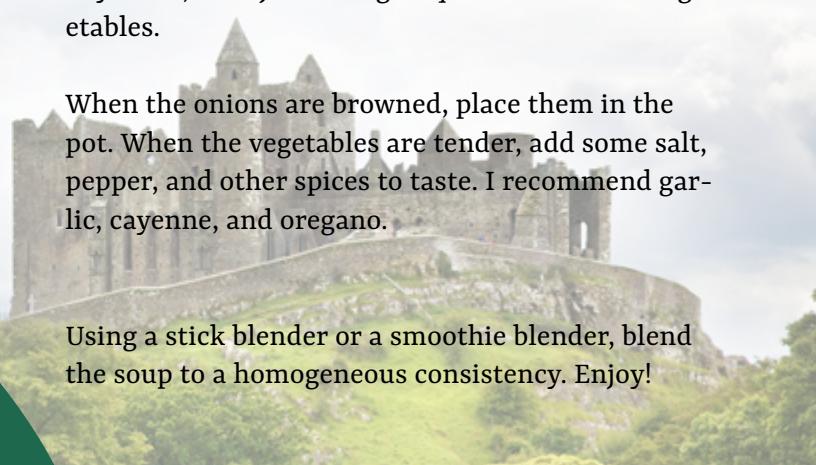
4

When the onions are browned, place them in the pot. When the vegetables are tender, add some salt, pepper, and other spices to taste. I recommend garlic, cayenne, and oregano.

5

Using a stick blender or a smoothie blender, blend the soup to a homogeneous consistency. Enjoy!

Gimmie Some Oven



# CHOOKIES

Ingredients: No-bake Chex cookies, 2 cups sugar, 3 tablespoons cocoa powder, 1/2 cup milk, 1 stick of butter, 1 egg, 1 tsp baking powder, 1 tsp cream of tartar

1

In a big pot on the stove, add sugar, cocoa powder, milk, butter, egg, baking powder, and tsp cream of tartar.

2

Bring to a boil for one minute.

3

Add as many of the following as you have: orange extract, strawberry extract, peppermint extract, anise seeds, nutmeg, cloves, and ginger. Flavor is key.

4

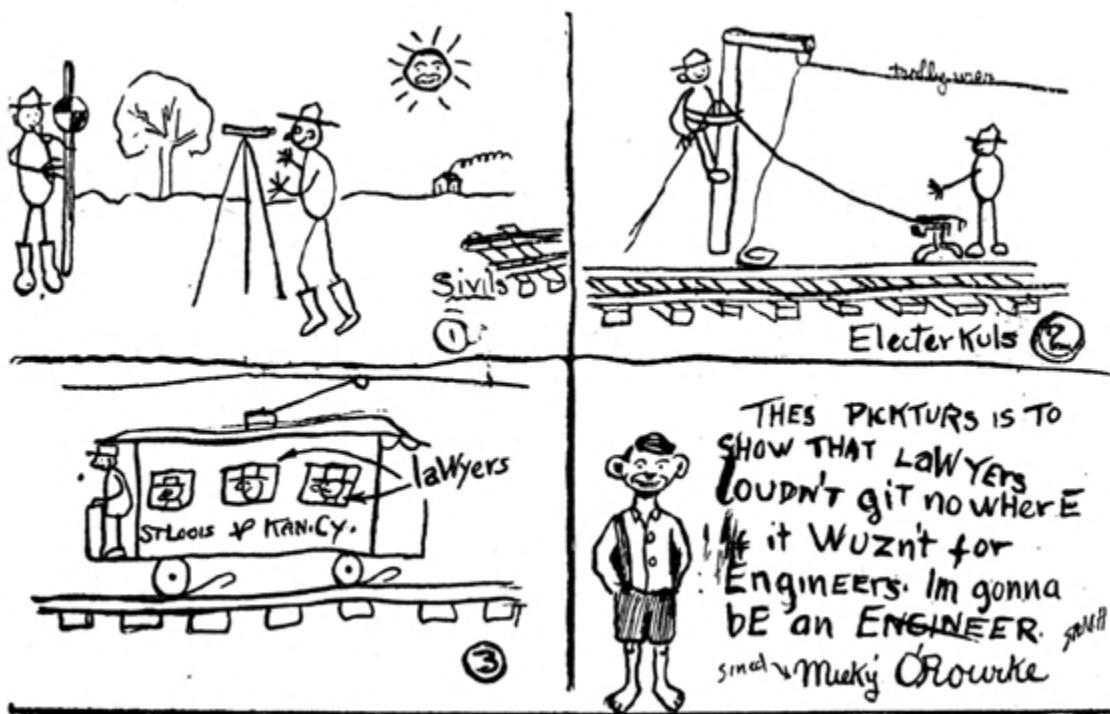
Take off the burner, and add a half cup of peanut butter.

5

Add three cups of Chex cereal (NOT chex mix unless, y'know, you're into that).

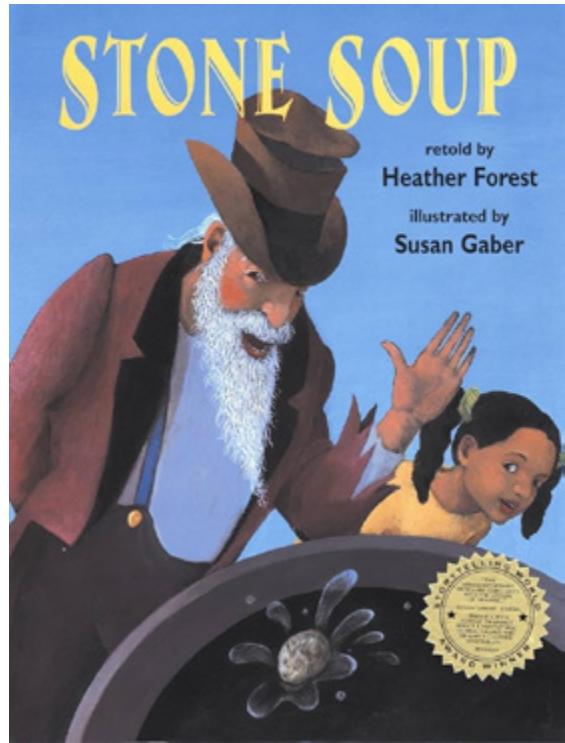
6

Drop onto parchment and let your Chookies cool before eating.



# STONE SOUP

Ingredients: Stone, water



1

Fill the largest pot you have in the house with water and bring it to a simmering boil.

2

Go to your nearest garden, walkway, or ancient lake buried far below the bottom of the ethereal depths (anywhere flavorful stones are found really), and retrieve one medium-sized stone.

3

Add the stone (extremely gently, do not throw) to the pot.

4

Enjoy a rich earthy broth built over the course of a millennium!

5

Ponder the intense, aromatic, sensual flavor of the earth-worn remnant of the past.

6

Wonder whether the magic of the ancient universe has faded, or if you have simply been crushed by years of heartbreak surrounded by the endless machine of the modern world.

7

Look to the skies and vow to forget what you've learned under the shadowy umbrella of hate and disgust, live to live, wander to wander, and create without doubt of creation.

8

*Rejoice as you reclaim your inner youth, making up soups and playing in the streams of life, experiencing true beauty like your ancestors before.*

9

Drink the broth it might taste funny or something.



Kristina Gaugler

# BEEF WELLINGTON

Ingredients: "beef", "wellington"

1

Roll out some fresh wellington -make sure it cooks on "tep-id" for at least two epochs. Then, place it in a cooker. Cook it for three more times.

2

Acquire some beef, the more humid the better. Beef the beef, preferably in a freshly greased beefer.

3

"Bring me a heifer three years old, a she-goat, three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle dove and a young pigeon." -Genesis 15:9

4

Take the beef and the wellington, and concatenate them.

5

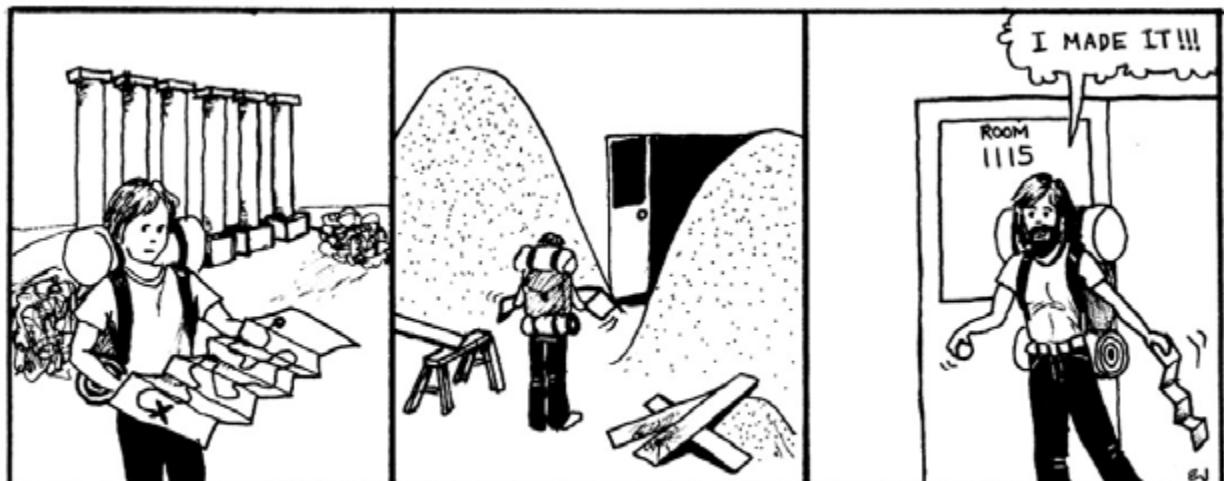
Flour any cooking surface. Cooking surface any flour. Surface flour of out hot eat the surface.

6

Roll up your beef wellington, like those fancy shefs do. Then sprinkle salt on it, give it a shef's kiss, and say /bɔ.n a.pe.ti/ (for IPA transcription help, please check subchapter 41K of "The International Phonetic Alphabet" by John International Phonetic Alphabet.)

7

Bring your beef wellington to the Hanover, New Hampshire town hall and you are legally entitled to receive \$10. Make sure to take @the\_shamrock\_mu in any posts about your earnings!



"Searching So Long"

Elsa Johnson - 1980 Shamrock

# THE BROKE COLLEGE STUDENT

Ingredients: Vending Machine

1

In a small bowl, cup, or available apparatus, add an entire can of Redbull. If your container overflows that's on you, I told you to add the whole thing.

2

Grab a package of ramen noodles. If upon opening the package, you aren't immediately accosted by the scent of microplastics and the horror of the overseas food industry, you're wasting valuable money,

3

Add the noodles and spice mixture into the Redbull broth.

4

Whatever cereal, Poptarts, or eggo waffles you have lying around go into the broth, stop thinking about it just do it.

5

Chips go in, cookies go in, candy goes in.

6

Gingerly place the foul concoction into your awful college microwave, press the highest numbers your small brain can muster, and pray to whatever god pleases you that your stomach can handle the de-

7

Congratulations! You've actually just made foie gras! You didn't know but that's actually how chefs make it, good on you for learning about the world!



<https://depidiomas.unitru.edu>.



Dick Culbert

# LATIN PIG

Ingredientsay: 1 oundpay ofay orkpay

1

Aketay ethay igpay otay a utcherbay. Akemay ure-say eythay emoveray allay offalay anday ivegay itay otay ouyay.

2

Etgay a ighbay ickstay anday aceplay itay orizontal-lyhay ovaray a irefay. Isthay isay alledcay a itspay.

3

Oremlay ipsumay olorday itsay ametay. Onsectetu-cay adipiscingay emetay. Edsay oday eiusmoday emportay.

# APPLE VISION PRO

BRADY WALTERS



I'm no Apple fanboy.

*But...*

**READ MORE ▶**

I'm no Apple fanboy. But... I use a lot of Apple products in my day-to-day life, and I like to think that I know a lot about them. And as the resident "Apple guy" at the Shamrock, I proposed this article because it's not often we get a brand new line of Apple products. The Apple Vision Pro represents Apple's gamble on the future of technology being based in augmented reality; blurring the lines between our physical world and the screens we use in it. The leaks and rumors leading up to this launch seemed outlandish: two tiny 4K screens, a dozen cameras, an external battery, no controllers, a pair of desktop-grade chips, and a very high price point. But when it was revealed in June of 2023 at Apple's WWDC event, the leaks turned out to be true. This was set up to be a behemoth of a device, especially in the virtual reality space. Excuse me. *Spatial computing*. Apple decided to ditch the term "reality" right before revealing this thing, replacing it with a word of their own. They wanted to make it clear that while this thing could be used recreationally, it was a computer. It was just strapped to your face this time.



Brady looking a like a big doofus pinching to click with Apples's first dystopian face googles.

So obviously, I wanted to try the strap-a-computer-to-your-face-nightmare-machine since it was made by Apple. The only issue I was running into was the fact that it was \$3500. Luckily, Apple has 30-minute demos available nationwide at Apple stores for people to try out the headset. Here's a really funny thing about where we live. We are literally right in the middle of two major cities, making a trip to the closest Apple store takes 2 hours whichever way you go.

So Sam and I made our way to Kansas City for a good

ol' Shamrock road trip. After showing up a bit early, we hit Trader Joe's because we don't have one in Columbia and I was not about to let that opportunity slip by. But eventually, we were in. After clearing things up about taking photos, my experience began.

Apple Vision Pro does not work with glasses. They simply won't fit within the headset. Instead, Apple opted to create magnetic "optical insert" lenses in every single mainstream prescription in partnership with ZEISS. To get my prescription, they put my glasses in a custom machine that (once a car battery was swapped out) gathered all the data it needed to match me with optical inserts. After a 5 minute wait as the team in the back room put together the headset in my size (I have a medium sized head, apparently), they brought out my Apple Vision Pro.

Joking aside, I was really excited. I had seen the videos online, but experiencing this thing was something I knew was an in-person ordeal. I was ready to finally enter the world of spatial computing.

Huh. The field of view was a lot smaller than I had expected.

"Joking aside, I was really excited. I had seen the videos online, but experiencing this thing was something I knew was an in-person ordeal. I was ready to finally enter the world of spatial computing."

I had assumed that the lenses being closer to my eyes and the size-matched light shield would be able to create a much more immersive experience compared to other VR headsets I had tried, but it was comparable. Light leaked through the nose hole as it had on others, and it was pretty obvious throughout the whole experience that I was wearing a headset.

But the same can't be said about the displays. I don't even know how it's possible to have displays of this cal-

iber in a consumer product. The pixel density is unlike anything I've ever seen. Unlike others on the market, you can't see the individual pixels on Apple Vision Pro (unless you really shift your eyes towards the edge of the screen where there's a bit of lens distortion). Everything blends just as it does in the ads.

Navigating the device was similarly cool. Unlike the controllers and basic hand tracking of old, you control the device using your eyes. Things shift around and lighting changes based on what you're looking at, and you can tap your fingers together to select things. This solution works better than most headsets on the market. Facebook's now-discontinued Quest Pro headset has eye tracking, but the Quest 3, which was released later on, does not. And that's a shame! More competition in useful applications of virtual and augmented reality could really propel this into the mainstream, which is something I'd like to see rather than one company making or breaking the whole thing.

The demo continued with calibration and introduced me to the spatial version of the Photos app. Spatial photos and videos are pretty neat, although spatial videos shot on iPhone have noticeably less depth than the ones shot on Vision Pro. They try to get around this with a blooming effect surrounding the videos, but this experience is a bit over-exaggerated in the marketing. However, one thing still stood out. Panoramas are... good now!?

This was very similar to what they had shown online. It helped that they used the exact same picture, but

honestly, this was more immersive than the "spatial" photos they had shown me. They pull a trick here where they hide a bit of the edges of the panorama unless you lean in and look beyond the border, making it feel all the more real.

After Photos, I messed around with window management and environments. You can choose whether you want to blend your apps with your space or get completely immersed in a simulated environment. Being able to have an infinite canvas is something you don't realize is freeing. You can get a pretty big monitor these days, but this was something else entirely. Your eyes also think they're looking at something far away. It's crazy that this works. I know that's "the thing" with VR headsets, but this was the first time that it had really clicked for me. I mean, sure. The field of view, the blurry edges, the light seal not being perfect, and the weight meant that I was always aware that I was wearing a headset. But as I flew through the rest of the demo, browsing the web, using a standard iPad app, watching a giant 3D movie trailer, and seeing a shark get rotated in immersive 8K at 60 frames per second, all the trade-offs nearly felt worth it. But as I exited the demo, I still couldn't justify even thinking about buying it. The use cases just aren't there yet for me, which means that they definitely aren't there yet for most people who don't use computers for everything they do all the time.

But that's the point. It's not supposed to be there. It's not supposed to work with the average person's life right now. If Apple can make a profit off of this thing,



*Brady's live reaction to a panorama not looking like trash.*

*Sam thinking long and hard while looking at sharks in 3D.*

that's great, but that's clearly not their goal. I mean, this is the first generation of this product?! That's incredible! Vision Pro was built to show the world what this technology can do for us. It's prohibitively expensive for a reason. There's no killer app yet. There's not a lot of use cases that don't make you look like a dork. But it gets in your head (in more ways than physically).

Sam was able to demo the headset right after me, and we shared similar thoughts on how it's not quite ready yet on the ride home. But a couple days later, we reconvened with an interesting development. In the days after the demo, we had been thinking about where we could be putting the spatial computing apps in our daily lives. I used the damn thing for less than 30 minutes and I was daydreaming about putting my notes next to the slideshow in the lecture hall so I wouldn't have to keep craning my neck down to write on my laptop. I'd never thought about that before, but now I can't really stop?

Here's what I think comes next for Apple's spatial computing kick. To be clear, I'm speculating about the future here. The die-hard fans and developers will rave about the Vision Pro (1st generation) for a bit as it slowly builds up more and more 3rd-party apps. Eventually YouTube officially shows up (it's not currently on

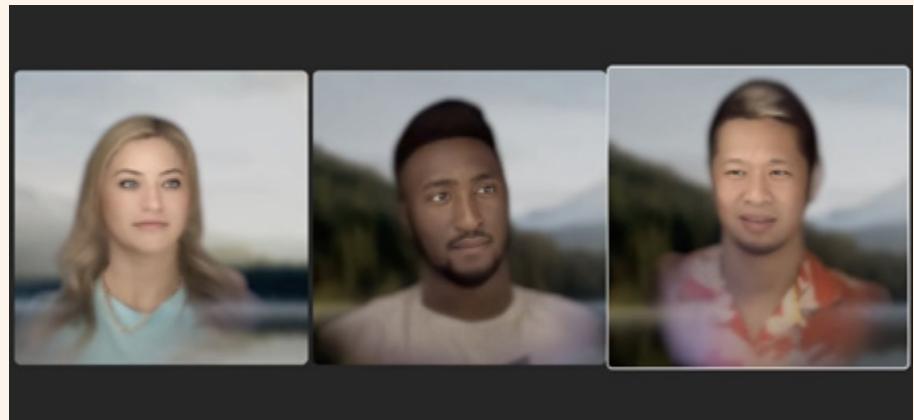


*Did this thing brainwash me?*



the device), that sort of thing. Then, the Apple Vision launches, without the "Pro" attached. It doesn't have the crazy external display for EyeSight, it's made of less material, and it's a bit less powerful when compared to the Vision Pro. Apple focuses hard on making sure it's still leagues above the headset world in terms of display quality. It's also a bit lighter thanks to the changes. It might be made of plastic, but I'd give that a 20% chance of happening. Apple really likes their aluminum. It's \$1999. This gets joked about just as much as the first price did, but a few more people give it a shot. It becomes something in the realm of an upgraded iPhone or iPad. Some prolong getting an upgrade for one of those devices in favor of trying out the Vision. Then it becomes a generational game. Vision Pro and Vision tee each other up for a bit. The Vision Pro earns its name by allowing things like multiple virtual Mac displays or fully customizable 3D backgrounds for when Personas stop looking like they want to eat human souls.

After the third or fourth generation, it's all very streamlined. Most of the issues I've talked about are



*The Personas feature used to represent users in a FaceTime call shown here summoning dooplegangers from the nightmare dimension.*

*(Image Credit: Brian Tong)*

simply gone. Even the battery life has drastically improved from the measly 2 hours on the first one. It's not uncommon to see someone wearing one in day-to-day life. And eventually, the final shoe drops, and they figure out how to cram this stuff into a regular pair of glasses without compromise.

If this all sounds a bit dystopian to you... I agree. There's one issue that they're not going to be able to fix. They're gonna try a few times, and I'd love to be proven wrong, but things are probably going to get more isolated. Widespread adoption of something like this means that truly individualized experiences will begin to outweigh general experiences that can happen with

others around you. I can see this being a lot better than what we have today, but also a lot worse. There's no telling what the future holds, but this gives us a glimpse. The first generation of Apple Vision Pro is not for most people, myself included. I'll eventually cave to spatial computing, but for now... I'm waiting.



**I'm not going to be  
quiet about it, though.**

# DIVERSITY ACROSS MU

## LILY SCHRADER



For too long here at the University of Missouri, a group remains isolated from their peers. This group, although small, has as much claim to this educational institution as any other. Those unaware might parade ignorance when faced with the ugly truth of the tragedy occurring over the past hundred years. This excuse has reigned over the populace of Columbia for too long, a change must be made. Throughout history, these people have been hunted, discriminated against, and made scapegoats. This blatant disregard and hatred will no longer be tolerated. Clear differences in the student body must be adequately addressed. The Vampiric population at the University of Missouri will be accepted.

These flaws start at the very infrastructure of the University. The lack of shaded walkways around campus creates a dangerous environment for Vampiric students to walk around and attend classes. Many have resorted to using homemade sunblocking contraptions, illicit high-concentration preventative sunscreen, or even attending night classes to cope with their sun-averse conditions. No student at this institution should resort to restructuring, and even worse, endangering their lives around a lack of inclusive architecture. To prevent this, shaded walkways, dark corridors, and dank passageways should be installed across major routes around campus. Additionally, a black-out window bus should be available at determined intervals for the sun-averse population of Mizzou; Vampiric students, and computer science majors alike.

Beyond infrastructural changes, the buildings on campus could easily be provided with quality-of-life improvements for those in need. Automatic student welcome machines could prevent embarrassing and frankly intrusive emails to faculty. No student should be forced to ask permission to enter an establishment, and especially shouldn't be forced to out themselves to faculty without any options for privacy. The IT department could very easily, with an established budget from the Mizzou administration, create said devices to allow students to be welcomed onto the premises without the need for faculty assistance.

The Campus Dining Services could also be similarly altered to assist the accommodation effort. Garlic restrictions among the Vampiric population here at the University are not a trivial matter. An estimated 95% of Vampiric people have extreme affliction with garlic and garlic substitutions, with ingestion potentially causing nausea, paralysis, death, or even tummy aches. This issue is entirely preventable with proper documentation. Peanut, soy, and milk allergies are treated with the gravity that life-threatening allergens possess, the same should be true for garlic. The reason it is not? Discrimination. All garlic-containing substances should be packaged with the proper warning labels and be updated online via the GetMobile application.

Additional dining accommodation could be found in providing nutritional supplementation. The accessibility of blood and blood alternatives is at an all-time low for Vampiric people in the United States. The University of Missouri could provide a powerful statement against discrimination with the creation of blood-alternative dispensers alongside the other drinks in the dining halls. As a means to create non-alternative blood food circulation, an optional blood drive for the benefit of Vampiric people could be hosted by the Greek life of Mizzou. These would not only stand as a monument of solidarity but as a much-needed reprieve for those suffering from malnutrition. These events would allow for normalization and integration for those currently outcast due to the way they were born, a direct focus of the University in every other aspect but the Vampiric community.

These changes are almost certain to be met with backlash from those predisposed against what they don't understand. Even without changes to the legislation, anti-biting signs have appeared on light poles and cork-boards around campus. The ingrained discrimination at this school is disturbing and in no way is supported by factual evidence. 99.995% of Vampiric people have never drunk unwillingly given blood. The facts demonstrate that Vampiric people are in no way the bloodsucking villains and monsters of urban legend and folklore. These stereotypes are the result of confusion and bigotry, ultimately leading to real violence and targeting. To prevent any alterations, a strict no-tolerance, enforced policy for prejudice must be enacted on campus property. A brief optional training course (with the potential of an integrated class structure) on reducing Vampiric stereotypes could go a long way in educating those without the proper knowledge of customs. Vampiric people deserve to feel at home in every building as much as they do in the Mizzou Law School.

To solidify these advances in vampire equity and diversity, a celebration of the culture of Vampiric people should be hosted on campus. A themed ball, with proper nutritional refreshment and a lack of garlic, would provide an excellent catalyst for the relations of Vampiric students. Mirrors would be silverless, gowns would be elegant, and the night would end far before the sunrise. The opportunity would be felt as a show of genuine love and appreciation if hosted with proper guidance from Vampiric students. Vampiric culture is rich and beautiful, however often misinterpreted and perverted by the media. If properly implemented, these actions would advance the cause of those in need drastically, and could easily go on to save future generations from trauma and regressive policy.

# WAYS TO TOUCH GRASS

KAITLYN SELF

It's high time all of us engineering students started trying to come outside and see the light of day a little more often. Whether you're swamped with classwork or just don't enjoy leaving your house, it'd do us all a lot of good this 2024 to, as they say, "touch grass." To start us on our way, here are a few options to consider:

**THE CLASSIC:** Take a walk. Yes, I know we've all heard this one before, but there's a reason why people treat it as their go-to "enjoying the outdoors" activity. It's easy and requires nothing but yourself and a little initiative. Walk alone, with others, downtown, the MKT, or around campus; the choices are infinite and entirely yours. (NOTE: only walk around the shops downtown if you trust yourself to not make impulse purchases. Retail therapy is a slippery slope, and there are many cool little shops that I do not trust myself to enter alone.)

**THE LEVEL UP:** Consider hiking. For those interested in slightly more demanding activities that don't need expensive equipment, there is no shortage of hiking opportunities near Columbia. The potential for longer distances and/or rougher terrain provides an experience gap for newer hikers, but if you're seeking a challenge, the opportunities are not too far away. Some popular locations include Bear Creek, Devil's Icebox, and Gans Creek Conservation Area.

**THE ARTSY:** Pick up some sidewalk chalk. At one point MU rules explicitly stated, "Use of chalk on sidewalks or buildings is not permitted." However, these rules were revised several years ago (as anyone who's ever walked through Speaker's Circle can testify). As of now, there are very few restrictions on sidewalk chalk on campus (check bppm.missouri.edu/policy/chalking-on-campus/ with concerns if you're afraid you might break any rules). Consider giving your eyes a break from all the screens, taking a trip back to elementary school times with some sidewalk chalk scribbles.

**"Going outside is great for your health! In this technological age, it's important to unplug. Get off those screens and live your life to the fullest."**

-Diogenes

*Our very own Jacob Hock, doing some very literal field reporting. Apparently not all comp sci majors burst into flames when exposed to sun. Who knew?!*





*Embroidery is a good way to relax or be creative! Plus, when you're done you have some cool art, evidenced here by Kaitlyn's own hoop showcasing characters from her favorite video game.*

**THE SELF-IMPROVING:** Take up that new hobby you've been considering. There are several activities that many of us think, "Huh, that sounds fun, I'd love to try that", only to forget about it immediately. Take this as your sign to not forget. For those who may think they don't have the time, consider: How much screen time do you log daily? And how much of that is mindless scrolling, regretting all the time you accidentally wasted? How much is being overwhelmed with everything happening in the world? Hobbies away from screens are a good way to keep ourselves from "doom scrolling," seeking out positive and forward-thinking actions instead.

If you're looking for inspiration, then here are some personal hobbies of the author of this article, a.k.a. Kaitlyn, a.k.a. me:

**Embroidery**, or cross-stitching, anything to do with needlework, really. I don't claim to be good at it, but luckily for me I don't have to be the greatest embroiderer to enjoy myself. You don't have to know any complicated patterns or stitches to make pretty pictures; you could even use them to decorate your house, grandma-style. (For anyone who really enjoys pixel-art, most all pixel images translate to cross-stitch very easily.)

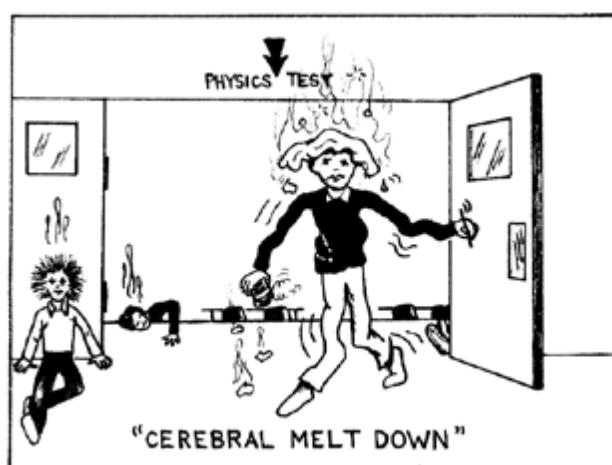
**Gardening.** Growing little plants is so satisfying to me, especially now that it's getting warmer. Whether it's houseplants that thrive on neglect, fussy exotic plants, or even vegetables out on the porch, a little greenery goes a long way in my opinion. (I'm beginning to realize I may be more of a grandma than I thought.)

**Reading and writing** are both very simple and fun hobbies that let me be creative in my own time, especially fiction stories. Non-fiction reading and writing

lets me learn about new things, whether they're relevant to my major or not, but the beauty of fiction is that it can either a) let me relax my brain, or b) let me put my brain into overdrive. Writing things out, especially by hand, is an invaluable way for me to organize my thoughts (which are usually rushing at 80 billion miles an hour).

**Better yet, getting my thoughts out any way I can** is a very therapeutic thing for me. Whether I'm just talking to myself, my cat, or to my friends and family, just getting the thoughts out of my head and into the air often helps me think of solutions to problems and better prioritize my time.

If you think my hobbies aren't what you're looking for out of a pastime, then reach out to our Instagram and give us some activities that fit your tastes. Who knows? Maybe I can write about some of the more interesting ones in a future Shamrock issue. No matter what you do in the coming warm months, though, remember to take the occasional breath from all of your workload and enjoy some sun!

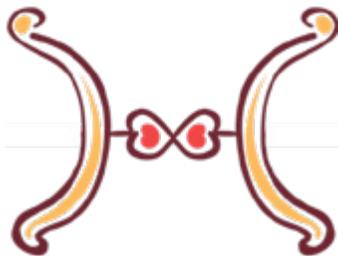


# HOROSCOPES

## BY HELENA VERBRUGGE



**Aries**  
Roses are red  
Violets are blue  
Unless they are different colors which is definitely scientifically possible



**Pisces**  
You need to take a deep breath, look in the mirror and brush your teeth (or hair if you have any). Maybe eat some chocolate.



**Cancer**  
Flowers are awesome, maybe smell a few or eat a few. Better yet buy some (preferably the lego kind).



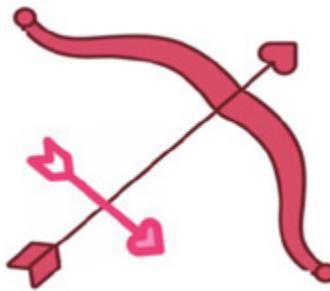
**Leo**  
Every day is Valentine's day. Except not really since it is specifically February 14th which occurs only once in our calendar year.



**Taurus**  
Statistically 2024 is supposed to be a very lucrative year, proposal wise. An estimate of 2.5 million proposals are expected to happen, versus the usual 200,000 a year. But it's unlikely to be you <3



**Pisces**  
Here are a few animals that mate for life: prairie voles, swans, gibbons and wolves.



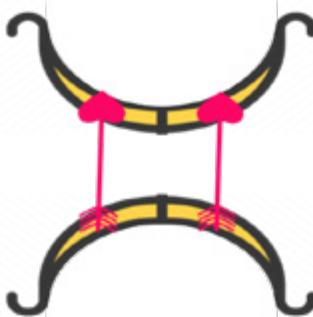
**Sagittarius**  
Please only listen to your heartbroken/lonely podcast once a day dearie.



**Libra**  
Dip every meal today into chocolate, 100% dark chocolate if it's a salad because ewww <3



**Scorpio**  
Don't use q-tips to clean out your ears, it just pushes the earwax deeper in and that's dangerous.



**GEMINI**  
IF YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT, PLEASE SERENADE ME :)

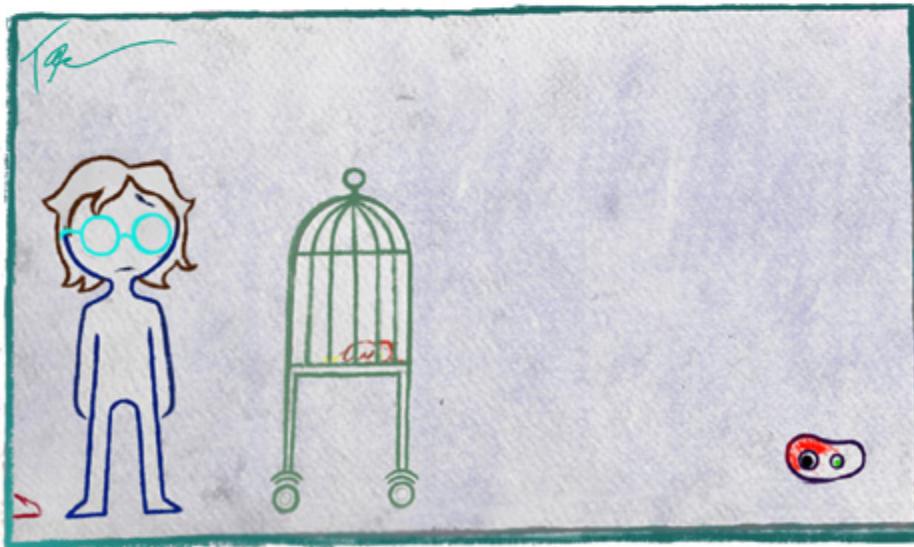
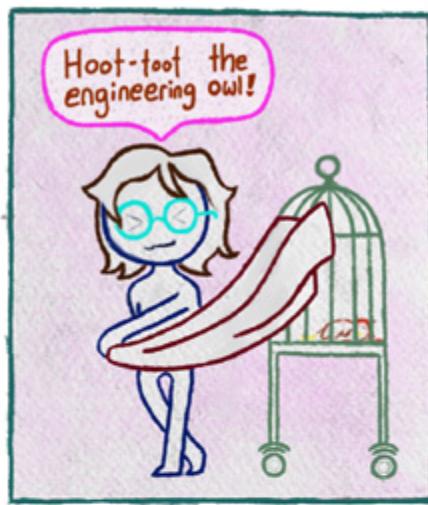


**Virgo**  
Humans are in the top 10 of most violent species, we are awesome.



**Capricorn**  
Knees are very strong but also very susceptible to injury.

"Nevermind"



**COMIC BY  
THOMAS  
GRISWOLD  
LAWLESS**

# PUZZGRID

**LILY SCHRADER AND JONAS FERGUSON**

To play, sort these 16 words into 4 categories of 4 words each (much like the New York Times' "Connections" game).

Think you have the answer?  
[Click here](#) to play online and check your work!

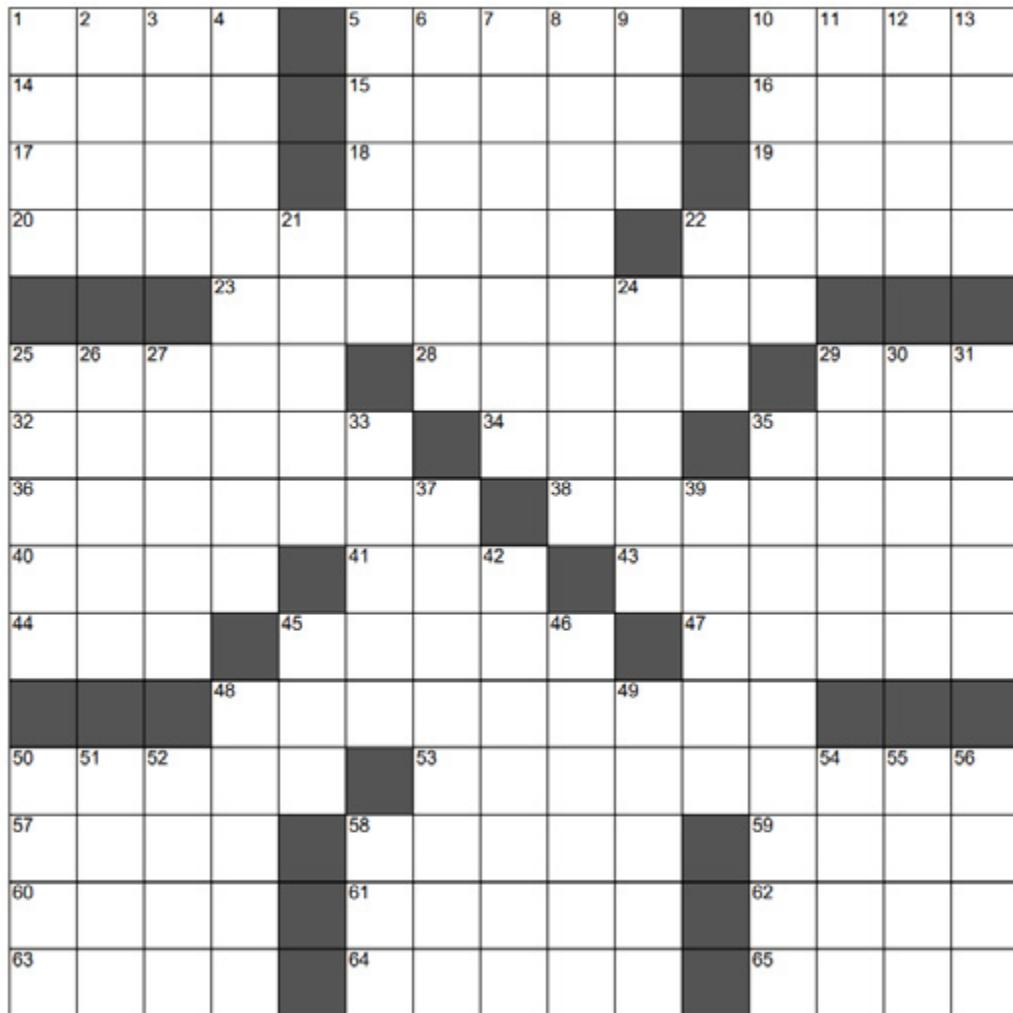
Don	Troll	Gay	Pine
Lesbian	Goblin	Bisexual	Holly
Fairy	Poinsetta	Pansexual	Boughs
Ogre	Mistletoe	Imp	Asexual

# CROSSWORD

## LILY SCHRADER & JONAS FERGUSON

### ACROSS

- 1 Cat's weapon
- 5 Procter & Gamble soap
- 10 Plumbing problem
- 14 Longish skirt
- 15 NFL's Beckham Jr.
- 16 Singer Stefani
- 17 Actor Steven in The Walking Dead
- 18 Neil Young's "A Man Needs \_\_\_\_"
- 19 Beast, in Versailles
- 20 Senior's ceremony
- 22 Scarecrow stuffing
- 23 Food and laughs event
- 25 Freudian concept
- 28 Pigpens
- 29 Lah-di-\_\_\_\_
- 32 Ballpark snack
- 34 Add-\_\_\_\_ (extras)
- 35 Indian butter
- 36 Whole number
- 38 'Erin \_\_\_\_!'
- 40 UMKC mascot
- 41 List of chaps.
- 43 Subject to legal action
- 44 Nike's \_\_\_\_-FIT fabric
- 45 Author Asimov
- 47 Climbing vines
- 48 Street race
- 50 Vowel sequence
- 53 March formal dance
- 57 Dalai \_\_\_\_
- 58 Hits the mall
- 59 Black-and-white cookie
- 60 Unpaid TV spots
- 61 Shinto temple gateway
- 62 Culture medium
- 63 Risque message
- 64 Engineering celebration, including 20-, 23-, 32-, 38-, 48-, and 53- Across
- 65 Sound quality



### DOWN

- 1 Initialism in color printing
- 2 Property claim
- 3 Punishment for drinking and driving
- 4 Ranch, blue cheese, carrots, celery, for example?
- 5 Raccoon relative
- 6 Confesses
- 7 Has every intention of
- 8 Coordinating
- 9 Investment return: abbr.
- 10 Pride letters
- 11 Pitcher

- 12 Luzon native
- 13 Was aware of
- 21 Pup in a Chinese special autonomous region
- 22 Ballfield thefts: Abbr.
- 24 Cancun kisses
- 25 Last stop before home
- 26 Pay tribute to
- 27 "And you?", en francais
- 29 Abu \_\_\_\_
- 30 One of the Hesperides
- 31 Laughs
- 33 \_\_\_\_ kick out of
- 35 Nautical sauce dispenser
- 37 Touring troupe
- 39 Erected
- 42 Transport rock, underground
- 45 Debtor's letters
- 46 British slang for capitalist
- 48 Poke fun at
- 49 Vision correction acronym

- 50 Swiss peaks
- 51 Comfort
- 52 Big-screen format
- 54 Jason's ship
- 55 Low-fat
- 56 Folk wisdom
- 58 Sault \_\_\_\_ Marie

*Try the Crossword on our website!*

[Shamrock Puzzles](#)



# **THANKS FOR READING!**



**ACCESS OUR LINKTREE:**



