2003

Oswald Research and Creativity Program

UK Office of Undergraduate Research

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Oswald Research and Creativity Program

Any current UK undergraduate (full- or part-time, enrolled for either semester) who does not already have a four-year degree is eligible for this competition and may submit papers and other projects in the following categories:

1. Biological Sciences
2. Design (architecture, landscape architecture, interior design, etc.)
3. Fine Arts (film, music, painting, sculpture, videotape, etc.)
4. Humanities: Creative
5. Humanities: Critical Research
6. Physical and Engineering Sciences
7. Social Sciences

Entries are judged on originality; clarity of expression; scholarly or artistic contribution; and the validity, scope, and depth of the project or investigation.

The following are representative winners in the 2002-2003 Oswald Research and Creativity Program.

(Extended versions of these entries are included on-line at www.uky.edu/kaleidoscope/fall2003.)

CATEGORY 1. Biological Sciences
No Entries

CATEGORY 2. Design
1st Place
NAME: John Sexton
TITLE: Concept Plan—George Washington Carver Center Park

2nd Place
NAME: Robert Litherland
TITLE: Rehabilitation of UK Administration Building Proposal

CATEGORY 2. Design
1st Place
NAME: Kelly Wright
TITLE: Set Design for UK Production of Buses

2nd Place
NAME: Robert Administration Proposal

CATEGORY 2. Design
2nd Place
NAME: Kelly Wright
TITLE: Set Design for UK Production of Buses

CATEGORY 2. Design
2nd Place
NAME: Robert Administration Proposal

CATEGORY 3. Fine Arts
1st Place
NAME: Tim Douglas
TITLE: Original work for Organ—sheet music and CD recording

2nd Place
NAME: Tony Smith
TITLE: Video Disc

CATEGORY 3. Fine Arts
2nd Place
NAME: Tony Smith
TITLE: Video Disc

CATEGORY 3. Fine Arts
Honorable Mention
NAME: Alex Brooks
TITLE: Gone Now—A book created by hand

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The history of costume and fashion informs historians about the society and culture of a specific group of people or time periods. Costume historians use fashion to analyze the effect of historical events. However, they explore these subjects only broadly and rarely bring them under the fine microscope of one time period, one group, or one piece of clothing. In the first half of the twentieth century, women’s hats as an accessory (as opposed to something to keep warm in the winter) essentially disappeared. Milliners, like other skilled artisans of the past, were driven out of business by a changing society that no longer needed them. Scholars have studied very little about milliners and the history of hat making on a specific, concentrated level. No one has investigated the specific causes of the disappearance of the millinery trade and how its disappearance relates to the events of the twentieth century. By focusing exclusively on the millinery trade of the first half of the twentieth century, I can produce a more complete and satisfying history of the industry than the broad-spectrum books currently in existence. More importantly, I use millinery as an example of the sweeping impact the social changes and events had on every aspect of the culture of the twentieth century.

Millinery was a thriving trade at the turn of the twentieth century and nonexistent by the middle of the same century. Specific events, such as the World Wars, had a devastating effect on the hat making industry. The women’s movement and trends in fashion also contributed to the loss of the trade. I provide concrete evidence of the impact of these factors as well as other issues. The changing status of women in the first half of the twentieth century played a substantial role in the sale and popularity of hats.

Evidence gathered from the United States Bureau of the Census shows a steady decline in sales and number of millinery shops from the beginning of the twentieth century until about 1960, when stores are almost nonexistent. Statistical evidence (gathered from American history textbooks and journals) showing the number of married women working outside the home, for example, demonstrate the substantial transformation of women in the early to mid twentieth century.

Women’s issues link the significant events of the first half of the twentieth century and the changes in fashion for women. As women gained freedom from social constraints, they also gained freedom from their clothing. Fashion, like all art forms, is a reflection of the society in which it was created. Women’s changing attitudes about fashion and their place in society resulted in a very low demand for hats. The styles became more casual and, as women sought the rights that men enjoyed, more androgynous. Cumbersome hats that prevented participation in sports or the workforce quickly lost popularity. The articles and accompanying pictures in fashion and women’s magazines, newspapers, and advertisements, demonstrate the trends in fashion that led to the disappearance of milliners, as in the New York Times articles calling for women suffrage supporters to give up hats as a sign of solidarity (equating hats with women’s low status).

I explore how women’s liberation led to a decline in the popularity in hats, thus resulting in lower hat sales. In addition, I examine the difficulties the millinery industry faced from bad publicity, such as the Audubon Society calling for a millinery boycott for the protection of songbirds (feathers were a common hat trimming). I separate the industry into the small, usually female-owned, milliner/artisan shop and the large, usually male-owned, wholesaler and department stores. As declining demand hurt the small milliner, the large, corporate wholesalers and department stores offered mass produced hats at low prices in beautiful settings, with which the independent artisan could not compete. These retail giants began to decline with government regulations on materials during the World Wars, import duties on millinery supplies, and new, strict labor guidelines. The government no longer tolerated their unethical (though profitable) practices, hurting the industry tremendously. Millinery survived for a few years after the regulations, however, because hats remained extremely popular, keeping the industry afloat. However, the pursuit of equal rights for women changed the fashion world, to the detriment of the hat. The large businessmen pushed out the independent artisans, though the law of supply and demand eventually put the corporate giants out of business as well.

Finally, I probe the larger themes that the millinery industry in the twentieth century embodies. The millinery industry brings together some of the most important events and issues of the twentieth century: the Wars, the Depression, the women’s rights movement, the incorporation of business, labor reform, even protection of the environment. Millinery is a microcosm of how these forces affected all different parts of society in the twentieth century, especially the women’s movement. Most milliners were women (at a time when women could not usually work outside the home), yet women’s distaste for hats led to the demise of the trade. The millinery industry showed all sides of the fight for equality, eventually coming full circle. The industry had afforded one of the first entrepreneurial pursuits for women. But, women’s liberation destroyed the millinery industry, originally a stepping stone to equality.

For the full text of the paper and the references, see the on-line version at www.uky.edu/kaleidoscope/fall2003.
Oswald Research and Creativity Program (Continued)

CATEGORY 6. Physical and Engineering Sciences
No Entries

CATEGORY 7. Social Sciences
1st Place
NAME: Michelle Elison
TITLE: We Can Do It! Woman Power: Lexington’s Driving Force During WW II

Taken from hours of oral interviews with Lexington native Ms. Etta Bietz, this historical perspective delves into the immense changes brought to Central Kentucky during WWII, especially for women.

Wartime industry was in desperate need of production workers, and pioneering women all over America answered the government's call to war jobs. The construction of the Blue Grass Ordnance Center and the Lexington Signal Depot created manufacturing jobs for women throughout Central Kentucky.

As a result of contributions to the war effort made by women like Etta Bietz, Lexington emerged as a forerunner of defense industries in the South.

For the full text of the paper and the references, see the on-line version at www.uky.edu/kaleidoscope/fall2003.

CATEGORY 7. Social Sciences
2nd Place
NAME: Casey Holland
TITLE: The Carnivore Internet Monitoring Device: Capabilities, Statutory Framework, and Constitutional Considerations

As America has rapidly become aware, the Internet is a powerful tool for research, shopping, and entertainment. However, it has also become a tool for criminals and terrorists. Child pornographers, con men, and financial hackers have found refuge in the anonymity of the World Wide Web. It was also rapidly revealed that the horrific terrorist attacks on September 11 were planned and implemented in large part through e-mail and the Internet. This boom in online criminal activity has thus far not coincided with an effective response from the law enforcement and intelligence communities. One possible solution is the device known by the name "Carnivore," developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) sometime prior to October of 1999 (the exact date of development has not yet been made public). To date, Carnivore usage has been made public only sparingly, with only a few deployments revealed during 1999 and none since then. However, given recent terrorist activity, it is safe to assume that Carnivore will take on a more active role in investigations.

"Carnivore is essentially a commercial 'sniffer,' which is a program that Internet service providers (ISP) employ to intercept digital information passing through their servers. Consisting of both hardware, referred to as a 'black box,' and software that the FBI attaches to an ISP's system, Carnivore filters all the digital code that passes through the ISP's server... Carnivore can collect any digitally transmitted information such as the suspect's e-mail, instant messaging, chat-room discussions, financial transactions and websites visited."8

When Carnivore was revealed to the media, it caused an instant controversy. Law enforcement heralded the device as essential to its capability to stay on top of changing technologies, while privacy advocates were immediately concerned with the sweeping nature of Carnivore and its threat to individual rights. Even the independent technical reviews of Carnivore have been forced to recognize the significant threat that the device can pose to individual freedom and privacy. However, despite, or perhaps because of, the rhetoric often used both for and against Carnivore, the basic facts of the government's capability to conduct electronic surveillance via the Internet have become somewhat obscured in the public eye.

Part I of this paper examines the true capabilities of Carnivore as it relates to electronic communications. Part II examines the technical problems with and failings of Carnivore, as well as the efficacy of the Illinois Institute of Technology Research Institute (IITRI) review. In Part III, the statutory framework allowing for the implementation of Carnivore is covered, specifically focusing on the recent antiterrorism legislation. This section also addresses the evolution of that framework as it relates to Internet communications. Part IV of this paper addresses concerns over Carnivore's constitutionality under the Fourth Amendment, especially in light of how terrorism has changed law enforcement and intelligence gathering forever. Finally, Part V examines how Internet surveillance is approached in the international community, and how invasive Carnivore is when compared to some of these other efforts.

For the full text of the paper and the references, see the on-line version at www.uky.edu/kaleidoscope/fall2003.