East St. Louis man charged with murder of Mizzou student

From staff reports

MADISON • The Madison County state's attorney on Monday filed first-degree murder charges against an East St. Louis man for killing a Mizzou college student last week in an apparent drug deal.

Deneshion M. Swope, 24, is accused of killing Jarrett D. Mosby on Dec. 23 as they sat in a car in Madison. Police say Swope tried to buy marijuana from Mosby. Swope and Mosby were acquaintances and agreed to meet in the early morning hours of Dec. 23.

Mosby, 21, of Collinsville, picked up Swope in his car and the two men got into an argument, according to the Madison County state's attorney. The argument escalated near 10th and State streets, where Swope allegedly shot Mosby seven times in the upper body, killing him, authorities say.

Police in Madison found Mosby's body in the front seat of a Pontiac at West Second and Bissell streets. Investigators say they think Swope moved the car from where Mosby had been shot.

The Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis investigated the slaying.

Mosby was a student at the University of Missouri in Columbia, where he was majoring in business. Mosby has a young child, police say. Mosby was apparently in the area during the school's winter break to visit his son.

Swope was on probation for federal gun charges. He currently is being held in the St. Clair County Jail. He will be brought to the Madison County jail and held on $500,000 bail. The charge of first-degree murder filed by State's Attorney Thomas D. Gibbons carries a maximum penalty of 60 years in prison.

A mugshot of Swope was not available Monday morning.
East St. Louis man charged in shooting death of MU student

BY PETER MAREK

COLUMBIA — An East St. Louis man has been charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death of an MU student, 21-year-old Jarrett Mosby.

The Madison County state's attorney charged Deneshion M. Swope, 24, on Monday with killing Mosby during a drug deal.

According to police, Mosby, who is a resident of Collinsville, Ill., drove to nearby Madison to pick up Swope early on Dec. 23 because Swope wanted to buy marijuana from him. The two got in an argument, and Swope shot Mosby seven times with a 9 mm handgun, police said.

Police found Mosby dead inside his car at 12:44 p.m. in Madison. He died from a gunshot to his lung, according to the coroner's report.

Mosby, 21, was majoring in business at MU. He was home during break to visit his son in Collinsville, according to The Associated Press.

Swope was on probation for federal gun charges and was being held at the St. Clair County Jail in Belleville, Ill. He was scheduled to be moved to the Madison County Jail in Edwardsville and held on a $500,000 bond. The charge of first-degree murder has a maximum penalty of 60 years in prison.

Swope will be required to serve all of his sentence if convicted.

The Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis was in charge of the investigation.
Scholarship fund in memory of slain MU business student will help his son, others

Monday, December 30, 2013 | 6:27 p.m. CST

BY BREANNE BRAMMER

COLUMBIA — A scholarship fund has been started by friends of Jarrett Mosby, an MU student killed on Christmas Eve who left behind a 6-year-old son.

In less than a week, the fund has already raised more than $5,000. It is intended to be a college fund for 6-year-old Jarrett Mosby Jr. Later, it will help other African-American men attend college.

Police found Mosby, 21, in a car on Dec. 24 in Madison, Ill., with multiple gunshot wounds. A suspect was taken into custody Monday and charged with first-degree murder.

The fund in his honor was started by two sisters and another woman, all fellow students at MU. Mosby was five months from graduating as a business major when he died.

Armani Tatum, her sister, Tiffany Tatum, and friend Alana Flowers held a memorial benefit on Dec. 27 in St. Louis. A portion of the money was given to the family for immediate expenses, and the rest will establish Jarrett's Dream, an ongoing college fund.

"Jarrett was a single father, and we wanted to do something to provide two things that he was dedicated to — being a father and a student," Armani Tatum said. "We wanted to give his son the opportunity to do what his father was so close to doing — graduate college."

She said a foundation is also being created to assist high school students with the college application process.
"Not a lot of African-American males are seeking higher education, and for those that are, the graduation rate is not high," Tatum said. "We would like to start the foundation in his memory."

Tiffany Tatum said she saw how Mosby's death impacted her sister and decided to take action. In a less than a week, she helped create the benefit through social media, contacted local media and set up a bank account for memorial funds.

"We wanted to show that we can all come together as a community to help the kids," she said. "This is a great opportunity to get the youth on the right path."

Flowers, a college adviser for Soldan International Studies High School in St. Louis, said many of her students have backgrounds similar to Mosby's. She said she wanted to help other students and share Mosby's story.

Miranda Williams, Mosby's mother, said she has been amazed by the generosity of people during this time.

"I was just so overwhelmed to look at the young kids and how they came together to do such a positive thing for their classmate," she said.
Two Mizzou football videos expose embarrassing side of college sports

December 30

If you love college football, you probably will enjoy watching two videos posted on the YouTube account of University of Missouri head coach Gary Pinkel.

But if you hate the excesses of college football — think it makes a mockery of student-athletes, and attracts too much attention and money from over-the-top boosters — then you still might like these videos.

Because the videos also help expose the embarrassing side of the sport.

• The first is called “Mizzou receives Cotton Bowl gear.”

As of Monday, the three-minute video had received more than 370,000 views. I assume most of the attention has come from people excited to see young men whooping and hollering about all the free stuff they are going to get as student-athletes for playing in the Cotton Bowl Friday vs. Oklahoma State.

• The second is “Mizzou Cotton Bowl gift suite: Shopping with Evan Boehm.”

It had only 3,000 or so views, but it offers an up-close look at Lee’s Summit West product/Missouri center Evan Boehm, as he and his teammates go shopping for goodies they are eligible to get because they are playing in the Cotton Bowl.

As this report explains after looking at all the “swag” received by football players in 2012 bowl games, the NCAA does set a limit on the value of the gifts that bowl game sponsors can give out.

But there’s more to the story, as this report notes: Football-playing student-athletes also can receive hundreds of dollars worth of other gifts. And the whole gift-getting exercise has grown more out of control in recent years.

Football fans defend all the free stuff being handed out to players. After all — beyond a scholarship worth tens of thousands of dollars to attend MU for many of them — what else do they get for devoting so much time to the college sport? (A little sarcasm there.)
Of course, athletes in all other sports do the same thing or even more when it comes to playing on behalf of Mizzou’s other sports teams, men’s and women’s. But outside of men’s basketball, most of these squads will get little to no attention, even if they do well during the year.

Finally, yes, playing in the Cotton Bowl in Mizzou’s second year in the Southeastern Conference is a big deal. The MU players should be proud of themselves for making it to the game.

Yet because it’s college football, these players will get more attention and more “swag” thanks to the bowl games. It’s something taken for granted, even cheered, by supporters of the college game.

But to critics, it’s one more indication of how the sport continues to veer off course.

Read more here: http://www.kansascity.com/2013/12/30/4719925/two-mizzou-football-videos-expose.html#storylink=cpy
Hospitals adjust to new Medicare reimbursement criteria
Goal is quality over quantity.

By JACOB BARKER

Monday, December 30, 2013 at 2:00 pm

MU MENTION P. 2

Half of the hospitals in the Central Missouri region can look forward to slightly higher payments from Medicare this year, while the rest will have to look for ways to improve to avoid future penalties.

For the second year, hospitals have received bonuses or penalties based on a set of criteria implemented by the Affordable Care Act, or ACA.

The United States spends far more on health care than other industrialized nations even though its health performance is lower. When the ACA was being written, health policy wonks pointed to the perverse incentives created by the "fee-for-service" model, where Medicare pays providers each time they perform a procedure even if there was a mistake and a patient had to go back to the hospital.

The new bonuses and penalties increase incrementally over the next several years and are intended to get hospitals more focused on quality rather than quantity. Hospitals stood to lose or gain as much as 1.25 percent of Medicare reimbursements under a set of criteria that include how they handled certain medical procedures, a patient survey and mortality rates. They also stood to lose as much as 2 percent of Medicare payments based on how often Medicare patients were readmitted to the hospital.

This year’s adjustment applies to all Medicare payments through September 2014. The payment data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services was compiled by Kaiser Health News last month.
Boone Hospital Center was one of the region's winners. It received no penalty for readmissions, and it was awarded a 0.1 percent bonus based on the quality measures.

Jerry Kennett, chief medical officer at Boone Hospital Center, said Boone Hospital, which was one of only three in the region to receive a bonus both years, had already focused on many of the quality measures in the past because of similar incentives in private managed care organizations.

"We've put efforts into that for many years, even before this program was started," he said. "We think the outcomes validate the care that we thought we were providing, and we hope to provide going into the future."

University of Missouri Health Care received a penalty of 0.16 percent this year. The year before, it had a bonus of 0.17 percent. Like other institutions, MU Health has tried to focus on a "safe handoff" to other physicians when a patient is discharged, said Kristin Hahn-Cover, the system's chief quality officer. "If there's one place where we've examined our processes, changed our processes, it's when a patient is ready to leave our hospital," she said.

Bothwell Regional Health Center in Sedalia, which received penalties both years, is focusing on what happens after a patient leaves the hospital. Bothwell was able to reduce its second-year penalty by 0.26 percent by focusing on readmissions from common maladies such as heart failure, Chief Operating Officer Mark Hirshberg said.

Now, when a patient is discharged after treatment for heart failure, Bothwell staff make a concerted effort to follow up with the family and the patient. They even host patient "reunions" to educate them on what they need to do to stay healthy.

"What's you're trying to do is change patients' lifestyles away from the hospital," Hirshberg said. "We can't control them, but what we can do is educate the patients on, 'Here's what you can do to improve your health in these areas to keep yourself out of the hospital.' Because no one wants to be here."

The new measures aren't without critics. When the law was being written, some providers — including academic health centers such as MU Health — worried that the populations they treat could be more likely to be readmitted because of underlying health factors.

Although in theory rewarding hospitals based on quality makes sense, there is debate over the criteria. Whether the new system will actually save money remains to be seen, but adjusting the culture of the health care system will take time.

"Moving toward outcome-based payments, value-based payments, those are all concepts that we very much understand, and I think they're heading us in the right direction, a good direction," Hahn-Cover said. "But looking at what we can control to get there, with a lot of uncertainty over the structure of those programs, is hard."
Lung cancer screening with CT scans urged for heavy smokers

By Deborah Kotz

DECEMBER 30, 2013

Many heavy smokers and ex-smokers who recently quit should be screened annually for lung cancer with a computed tomography scan that uses a low dose of radiation, a national panel of prevention experts said Monday.

Some of these people now get routine chest X-rays, but the panel concluded that CT scans are better able to detect the tiniest lung cancers at an early, more curable stage.

Current cigarette smokers ages 55 to 80 who have smoked the equivalent of a pack a day for 30 years, or people who had those same smoking habits within the past 15 years should be screened, advised the US Preventive Services Task Force, a group created by Congress. Under the federal health law, insurance companies will have to begin covering the $300 to $400 cost of the screening by the end of 2014.

“The medical community is pretty much in lockstep on this recommendation,” said Dr. Otis Brawley, chief medical officer of the American Cancer Society, which issued similar advice last year. “Lives will be saved,” he added, though community radiology centers need to ensure that they have the appropriate machines and competent medical staff administering and reading the scans.

About 85 percent of lung cancers occur in smokers, and nearly 90 percent of people who get the malignancy die of their disease. The high fatality rate explains why this relatively uncommon cancer accounts for 160,000 deaths in the United States each year -- more than breast, prostate, and colon cancers combined.

The task force calculated that 14 percent of these lung cancer deaths could be prevented if everyone who was eligible had annual screening, saving a potential 22,400 lives each year, according to the recommendation published Monday in the Annals of Internal Medicine.

“For non-smokers and those who haven’t smoked for 15 years, the evidence suggests that the harms of screening outweigh the benefits,” said Dr. Michael LeFevre, co-vice-chair of the task force and a professor of family and community medicine at the University of Missouri School of Medicine.

Such harms include a high rate of abnormal findings, which turn out not to be cancer but often necessitate follow-up tests such as high-dose CT scans -- with 10 times the radiation dose of the screening scan -- and, less commonly, lung biopsies.
“When a patient gets a phone call saying a CT scan isn’t normal, 19 out of every 20 times it’s not cancer,” LeFevre said.

In a large clinical trial of more than 50,000 smokers on which the task force’s recommendation was based, CT screening clearly trumped chest X-rays leading to a 20 percent lower risk of dying from lung cancer in those who were randomly selected to have CT screening three times over two years compared to those who were randomly given chest X-rays.

But 27 percent of the participants who were screened with CT wound up with an abnormal finding often requiring follow-up screening with another low-dose scan; some needed a high-dose diagnostic scan, before learning their abnormal finding was benign; 7 percent of people who initially had abnormal scans wound up having lung surgery to remove a tissue sample for biopsy, but only 4 percent of those with abnormal scans actually had cancer.

The task force calculated that the cumulative radiation dose from CT scans would cause 24 radiation-induced lung cancer deaths for every 100,000 smokers who followed the screening recommendations; 521 lung cancer deaths, however, would be prevented due to early detection of smoking-related tumors.

Primary care physicians should provide smoking-cessation counseling to lifelong heavy smokers along with a CT-scan referral, the Task Force said, and it also emphasized the importance of setting up a national registry to track the real-world use of CT screening in order to determine whether doctors are able to achieve the same rate of cancer diagnoses seen in the ideal setting of a clinical trial and minimize the number of biopsies performed.

But that still “does not address many practical aspects of implementing lung cancer screening,” wrote Yale University thoracic surgeon Dr. Frank Detterbeck and his colleague in an editorial that accompanied the new recommendation, such as “individuals who have great anxiety about developing lung cancer even though their risk is actually not so high.”

Non-smokers with lung cancer in their family or a former smoker who went through a pack a day for 10 years may insist on getting a screening test, for example, even though they don’t meet the criteria set by the task force. And their family doctors may have a hard time convincing them that their odds of developing lung cancer are too low to benefit much from the yearly scan.

“We worry how this technology will translate when it moves from 33 of America’s best hospitals that were involved in the clinical trial to community hospitals across the country,” Brawley said. As with mammography, radiology centers performing lung screening might benefit from getting certified by a respected medical organization to ensure they’re operating with certain standards in place, said Dr. Andrea McKee, chair of radiation oncology at Lahey Hospital and Medical Center in Burlington, who is working to get such standards in place.

“We had a 20-year learning curve with mammography,” Brawley said, “and we still have problems with radiologists not correctly interpreting the scans.”

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Looking at Entrepreneurship From a Theoretical Perspective, with Leading Expert Peter Klein

Posted: 12/30/2013 11:47 am

I have built my career on the belief that all students can benefit from learning how to start and maintain a small business, reverberating on a grand scale by helping to grow our economy and encouraging at-risk towards economic success. Of course, I am not alone in this effort, as one can see in organizations like YE and Empact, among many others. What has unified us is the practical approach to teaching entrepreneurship; but without understanding the theoretical underpinnings of this movement, we lose some of its significance. Recently I talked with one of America's top entrepreneurial education advocates and thinkers, Peter Klein, a well-known professor of Austrian economics.

Peter Klein, a leading theoretical economist with an expertise in entrepreneurship.

I first met Peter at the Mises Institute. He is a professor at the University of Missouri and Research Fellow at the Mises Institute, where he focuses on entrepreneurship, organization, and business strategy. Peter also co-founded the management blog Organizations and Markets and travels around the world to speak about economics.
Steve Mariotti: So, can you tell our readers why entrepreneurship is so important, particularly from your academic standpoint?

Peter Klein: The terms "entrepreneur" and "entrepreneurship" are used in many different ways, and not always consistently. Typically people mean a specific kind of business, like a startup company, a small company, or a high-growth company. But we also use the word "entrepreneurial" to describe a particular kind of thinking--being creative, showing initiative, being alert to opportunities, exercising responsibility.

Following the American economist Frank Knight and the Austrian Ludwig von Mises, I think that the entrepreneur peers into the uncertain future, trying to anticipate what goods and services consumers will want, and trying to meet those demands by investing in the present. As such, judgment is deciding and controlling, the responsibility held by all business owners, as they try to make a profit by creating economic value. Entrepreneurial judgment is essential to a market economy--it's what creates and sustains firms, introduces and develops new technologies, brings untold benefits to ordinary people, and underlies all the creative genius of a market economy. Startups require judgment, of course, but judgment is about more than just startups or high-tech companies.

SM: What, in your opinion, can a government do to promote entrepreneurship?
PK: Government officials talk about giving us more and better entrepreneurship, but what they usually do is pick particular firms, industries, or technologies they like, and give those firms subsidies and other benefits. There is of course nothing inherently wrong with having more of these kinds of firms, but the market should decide which firms, and which types of firms, succeed and fail. What entrepreneurs need is secure property rights, the rule of law, and sound money. The best government can do for entrepreneurs is get out of their way.

SM: Are there particular government policies that are hurting entrepreneurship?
PK: Our current monetary regime, with hyperactive central banks that create booms and busts, creates a terrible climate for entrepreneurs. Artificially low interest rates distort market incentives, leading to what Mises and Hayek called "malinvestment." Taxes and regulations make it harder to start and to run companies, favor some companies at the expense of others, and hamper bargaining between firms, financiers, employees, and customers. Think of the uncertainty caused by the Affordable Care Act or the heavy reporting burdens imposed by Dodd-Frank. Mises once wrote that in an economy such as ours where the state plays a huge role in all aspects of business, entrepreneurship degenerates into "bribery and diplomacy." Instead of focusing on creating value for customers, entrepreneurs spend their time lobbying for favors or to avoid penalties, trying to discern the government's next move, anticipating or adapting to the newest regulations.

SM: Have you experienced any obstacles in your career related to these challenges?
PK: Business entrepreneurship is the kind that drives the market economy but, in a sense, we are all entrepreneurs--life is uncertain, and we are always investing our time, energy, and reputation in search of one outcome or another. I've been entrepreneurial in that my perspective on entrepreneurship is not the "mainstream" one, in economics or management, and that my work blends insights from Oliver Williamson's transaction cost economics, the "Austrian" school of Mises, F. A. Hayek, Murray Rothbard, and Israel Kirzner, and other scholars. It's sometimes
been a tough sell--despite the popular image of the university as an open, tolerant, and innovative place, academia is actually very conservative, and ideas that don't fit within the dominant paradigm--as Thomas Kuhn famously explained--are often marginalized.

SM: Who have been the major intellectual influences in your career?
PK: Professor Williamson, my PhD thesis advisor, has been a major influence. His own work is an idiosyncratic blend of insights from different traditions, and he is a super thoughtful, creative, and careful scholar. Murray Rothbard, the brilliant polymath who built on Mises's economics and largely founded the modern libertarian movement, had a huge impact on me, professionally and personally. Rothbard had this amazing energy, and more charisma in his pinky than most economists have in their whole bodies. I've never met anyone quite like him. I'm also quite fond of Hayek, whom I didn't know personally, but whose works I came to know very well as an editor of his Collected Works early in my career.

SM: You teach entrepreneurship courses. Can entrepreneurship really be taught?
PK: We can teach practical skills related to starting and operating a business--accounting, marketing, finance, and so on. We can study the great entrepreneurs of the past and try to generalize from their experiences. We can explain to students--whether they go into business or not--the role that entrepreneurship plays in a market economy and what kinds of public policies harm or help entrepreneurship. But entrepreneurial judgment is, ultimately, not something we can teach. Judgment involves intuition, or understanding, or gut feeling; if we could break it down into simple rules or mathematical formulas, then it wouldn't be judgment, it would just be rational decision-making, and everyone would do it the same way and make the same decisions.

SM: What tips you would give a young entrepreneur just starting a business?
PK: First, remember that entrepreneurship is hard! Exercising judgment means taking chances, experimenting, and learning from your mistakes. Second, go with your instincts, and don't listen to "experts" who tell you this idea or that won't work. Third, entrepreneurship takes not only great ideas, but also resources, including risk capital, so treat your input providers--especially funders- with respect. Fourth, don't feel like a failure if you don't achieve commercial success right away. Be persistent, pay attention, and learn.

SM: What should low-income countries and communities do to increase the rate of successful entrepreneurship?
PK: Same as wealthier countries and communities--don't constrain entrepreneurs with bad policies, but don't try to subsidize them either. Let the market sort it out. Of course, startups and self-employment are important for economic growth, but they aren't necessarily superior to large enterprise and other forms of commercial activity.

SM: There are globally over 300 million young people that are unemployed. Do you think entrepreneurship can help create the jobs of the future?
PK: Absolutely! Entrepreneurship--in the broad sense of responsible stewardship over productive resources--is what makes a market economy tick. A healthy, entrepreneurial economy is the best solution to unemployment, and the remedy for broader social problems as well.
COLUMBIA — After the MU and Oklahoma State football teams rumble into Dallas for the Cotton Bowl on Friday, the North Texas Food Bank is hoping to recruit them for a service project.

The food bank is asking MU and OSU fans to set aside their rivalry for a few hours to serve and package food for its clients, according to a news release from the MU Office of Parent Relations.

The event will take place from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Friday at the North Texas Food Bank, 4500 S. Cockrell Hill Road off Loop 12 in south Dallas.

Those who wish to volunteer should follow these guidelines:

- Wear closed-toe shoes, knee-length shorts or pants and other comfortable clothes that might get dirty.
- Mizzou-themed clothing is encouraged.
- Bring water to drink.

The Dallas-based food bank serves 175,000 meals per day or 62 million so far this year in 13 Texas counties, according to its website.

Those interested in volunteering can contact Michelle Murphy, MU senior coordinator for leadership and service, at 884-1910. The number for the food bank is 214-330-1396.
DALLAS — His bracelet read “Leave Nothing,” but Luke Jackson paid the message no mind.

As the Missouri football team departed from the Children’s Medical Center of Dallas on Monday afternoon, Jackson — a reserve kicker — left his black wristband with a young man in a wheelchair.

Mitchell Coombs-Solomon had earned the gift. The 20-year-old suffering from a sensory integration disorder kept most of the Tigers players enraptured with his life story for the full hour of Missouri’s Cotton Bowl-sponsored visit.

He spoke about losing his ability to walk and the hard work and faith needed to conquer the illness. Coombs-Solomon, who also suffers from autism and dyslexia, has been working on an autobiography that has already exceeded a couple thousand words.
The young man used to play hockey and was a competitive swimmer, but several bad health breaks put him in a wheelchair. At one point, a near-death experience involving intravenous fluids left him with a “50/50 chance” at survival.

“I thank God I’m alive and for my body responding,” Coombs-Solomon said.

When he was finally left alone, defensive lineman Kony Ealy returned to give some advice.

The hulking athlete hunched over before issuing some quiet instructions.

“Don’t let nobody ever tell you that you can’t do something,” Ealy said in a near-whisper. “You can do whatever you put your mind to.”

The moment was one of several touching scenes during the whirlwind visit: A group of at least 10 players formed a conga line to dance with two young girls, some athletes drew pictures for sick children and the seniors went upstairs to deliver autographed gifts to bed-ridden kids.

“This really has made my day,” defensive lineman Lucas Vincent said. “I love working with kids, and it’s good that we could come out here.”

Missouri coaches and players had a full day of meetings, practice and a team picture. The hospital visit was the final stop before dinner.

Two hours earlier, the players were on the turf at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas. Finished with practice and donning the gold uniform tops they will wear in Friday night’s game, the athletes laughed, danced and played catch.

Monday was the culmination of a fun weekend that included trips to the mall, a Dallas Cowboys game and, in running back Henry Josey’s case, a visit to the spa.

“I’m big on spas,” Josey said. “I got a couple of guys and we went to the steam room and chilled. Just talked about things.”

Josey has been keeping things positive since the team’s Dec. 7 loss in the SEC Championship Game. After the game, he fought back tears in the bowels of the Georgia Dome, but arrived to the bowl announcement party the next day with a smile on his face.
After a leisurely weekend in Dallas, the Angleton, Texas native felt his team was finally in the right state of mind for the Cotton Bowl.

“It’s time to get serious now,” Josey said. “We’ve had our weekend fun. We’ve had a blast the whole time we’ve been here. Now, we’ve got to just stay focused on the game.”

If the Tigers needed any extra perspective, they got it in the afternoon with Coombs-Solomon and the children they met at the hospital.

“They were all excited we were here,” Vincent said. “You gotta love the kids.”