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# CAN HE SURVIVE IN THE #METOO ERA?

**NEWS ANALYSIS**

Affair may have been overlooked, but allegations of sexual violence put Greitens in unsavory company

BY KEVIN MCDERMOTT • St. Louis Post-Dispatch

**T**he biggest threat facing Gov. Eric Greitens right now might not be Missouri legislators pondering impeachment, or even a St. Louis prosecutor pressing a felony case. His biggest threat might be the era in which we live. It's difficult to imagine a worse time for a sitting governor to try to navigate a scandal involving alleged sexual violence than this particular moment in America's cultural history:

See GREITENS • Page A4

**INSIDE** • Veterans of Greitens-founded Mission Continues are shaken by scandal. **A5**

## Risky K2 recipe vexes doctors, officials but doesn't deter users



**CHRISTIAN GOODEN** • cgooden@post-dispatch.com  
St. Louis police Officer Larry Dampier (left) confiscates a small K2 cigarette from a man who declined to give his name Thursday in a city-owned lot across from the Biddle House shelter, while on patrol with partner Greg Frost. The partners monitor the area daily for use and possession of the synthetic marijuana-like substance. "To be honest, I think K2 is almost worse than the heroin," Dampier said.

**Hundreds of forms**  
'Fake weed' is cheap, powerful and hard to detect on drug tests

**Deadly batch**  
Rat poison ingredient causes excessive bleeding; unlike heroin, drug has no antidote

BY DOUG MOORE  
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

**ST. LOUIS** • Sitting on the foundation of a long-gone building, on an overgrown lot where the city's homeless go to get high or hook up, Para Battle needs a fix of K2.

It's a weekday, a little before noon, in a forgotten part of town a half-mile north of the heart of the city's loft district.

She is talking fast, her eyes focused on nothing in particular.

"I got to have it every hour, every hour," Battle, 40, said. "It makes me sick if I don't have it."

K2 is the common name for synthetic cannabinoids, often referred to as fake

weed. It comes in hundreds of forms and its makeup changes often, usually to stay one step ahead of law enforcement. Once an ingredient is outlawed, K2 makers simply come up with a new recipe.

In late 2016, a wave of overdoses hit hard the downtown homeless community. And now K2 is back, flummoxing police and health officials, who are struggling to get a handle on the latest outbreak.

Adding to their concern is a deadly recipe that hospitalized a man in St. Louis for six days last month and is sweeping through Illinois, where three people have died and 123 others have

See DRUG • Page A7

## U.S. forces 'locked and loaded,' Haley warns Syria

U.N. Security Council meets on joint strikes against Assad

WASHINGTON POST

The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations told the Security Council on Saturday that the United States was "locked and loaded," ready to launch another military strike if the Syrian government ever used chemical weapons again.

"I spoke to the president this morning, and he said, 'If the Syrian regime uses this poisonous gas again, the United States is locked and loaded,'" Nikki Haley said at an emergency U.N. Security Council meeting called by Russia after the U.S. and allies struck three targets in Syria.

"When our president draws a red line, our president enforces the red line," she added, echoing earlier warnings that Western powers

See SYRIA • Page A12

INSIDE • Trump can't escape Syrian conflict. **A11**

## 'Animals attack' films still scare



A&E • C1

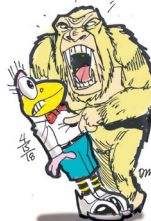
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Silver scream



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