

A Mizzou Milestone
Freshman enrollment
breaks 5,000 for first time.
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Aug. 23, 2007
University of Missouri-Columbia

Losing a landmark

BRANCHING OUT

Maintaining Mizzou's 'treescape' is an ongoing job

After nearly 75 years on the south side of Jesse Hall, the towering old pin oak — like everybody and every living thing — finally succumbed to disease and old age. It had been in failing health for a number of years.

Beginning in the cool morning hours of Aug. 10, a Campus Facilities-Landscape Services crew brought in a crane, cordoned off the area with yellow warning tape and started bringing down the 90-foot tall campus landmark. By shortly after noon, the old oak was history. Of course, it had seen a lot of history itself during many decades as a sentinel at Mizzou's main academic building.

The tree was just a sapling in the early 1930s when the hard times of the Great Depression slashed MU's enrollment. It survived the long drought of the Dust Bowl days. Children who attended University Lab School in Townsend Hall played under its branches.

After World War II, the oak tree shaded a collection

of temporary, military-surplus buildings thrown up hastily to handle the thousands of ex-GIs that flooded campus. That same shade later attracted students who took part in anti-war demonstrations on the Quad and around Jesse Hall during the Vietnam War.

"Nobody loves our campus trees more than we do but they, like human beings, have a life cycle," says Pete Millier, director of Landscape Services. "We were concerned that falling branches could be a very real safety hazard. Hundreds of people walk under that tree every day." This past May, several large branches fell off the tree and landed on the sidewalk below. If the oak toppled, it also could damage nearby Townsend Hall or take out other trees.

Mizzou's arborists tried just about everything they could to nurse the old oak along. Over the years they applied a special fertilization regimen, and last year they injected growth stimulants into the trunk. The resuscitation efforts didn't work.

An assessment earlier this year by MU arborist Ryan Russell found the tree's overall



Rob Hill photo

HIGH WIRE ACT MU arborist Ryan Russell performed a delicate balancing act Aug. 10 when he dangled from the end of a crane's wire and carefully cut down sections of a dying pin oak tree on the south side of Jesse Hall. He and colleagues continually monitor the health of MU's campus forest.

condition was poor, and the rate of decline was accelerating. A strip of dead vascular tissue stretched 30 feet up from the base. Fungal growth on the trunk testified to widespread

decay. New sprouts on lower branches quickly yellowed, which meant the tree's roots weren't able to take up soil nutrients.

Trees add a lot to Mizzou's beauty, but they can face some

special challenges, Millier explains. "Every time you dig up the lawn, that impacts the root system." Nearby construction can compact the soil. Even the

SEE Landmark on Page 8

What's in a name? Recognition of Mizzou's unique role, Deaton says

THE NAME IS UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI — PERIOD

Effort is under way to drop 'Columbia' from MU's name

As the flagship institution of Missouri's public higher education community, this campus has been known by several names during its 168-year history: MU, UMC, Mizzou and even MSU or Missouri State University, according to yellowing documents in University Archives.

Before the UM System was formed in 1963, this campus was known simply as the University of Missouri. That name was a signal that this was Missouri's preeminent public university. The national steering committee for MU's \$1 billion For All We Call Mizzou campaign

is one group that wants to return to that straightforward title for this campus.

This past May, the committee urged Chancellor Brady Deaton to pursue an initiative to drop "Columbia" from MU's formal name. Committee members said the move would be a way to attract more outside research funding, recruit students and clarify MU's flagship status.

"MU has a statewide mission, yet carries a regional name," the campaign committee's letter said. "The conclusion we have reached is that the 'dash Columbia' does not serve the best interests of MU, the state, the UM System or the nation." The Mizzou Alumni Association governing board also passed a similar resolution. "I haven't heard anything but hoorays from alumni"

about that request," says Todd McCubbin executive director of the alumni association.

Responding to those requests, Deaton recently asked faculty, staff and the University community to consider supporting the elimination of "Columbia" from the official moniker, University of Missouri-Columbia.

A "name restoration" is the way Chancellor Deaton describes that effort. "This is a very important symbolic move that clarifies our communication with the public about what the role of this university is," he says. "Including Columbia in our name simply adds an additional communication barrier. There really should be no question that this campus is the flagship."

The "Columbia" designation

could lead some to believe that MU is a regional institution and to overlook its national prominence, he says. In fact, it is the state's only public member of the Association of American Universities. It also is Missouri's only public university designated as a "comprehensive doctoral with medical/veterinary" institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Understanding MU's distinction is especially important in light of name changes at a number of public regional universities around the state, Deaton says. More than a decade ago, Northeast Missouri State in Kirksville became Truman State University. In 2005, Southwest Missouri State in Springfield became

Missouri State University. Last fall, Central Missouri State in Warrensburg became the University of Central Missouri.

Those institutions argued that their new names would better describe their roles and responsibilities. The push to rename universities includes another UM System campus. Next January, UM-Rolla will become the Missouri University of Science and Technology.

Deaton says the name changes have been beneficial for those institutions. The move to drop Columbia from MU's name "is very consistent with what has been happening in the state as a whole," he says.

Mizzou's renaming initiative has received support from several quarters. Deaton has

See Change on Page 4

Calendar clock is ticking

When the school year kicks off, so do the hundreds of events that make a large research university like Mizzou such a rewarding place to work and study — all the lectures, seminars, workshops, plays, concerts, exhibits and sports events.

At the beginning of each semester, Mizzou Weekly publishes a semester calendar of campus events and needs your help to publish a complete list of events. This fall, the semester calendar will be published in the Sept. 6 issue. But time is running out for submissions; if we receive

items by noon Wednesday, Aug. 30, we can still get them in. Send your items to: Mizzou Weekly Calendar, 407 Reynolds Center or e-mail publications@missouri.edu. With questions, call John Beahler at 882-5918.

A special bond

MU has long had a special relationship with the nation of Korea. Following the Korean War of the early 1950s, President Harry Truman played an important role in an initiative that offered free tuition to Korean students to attend Mizzou. Korean students are still one of the largest

groups of international students at MU, and many of that country's business and political leaders are Mizzou alumni.

To celebrate that decades-old bond of friendship, MU sponsors the Harry S Truman Conference, which usually is held every other year with the location alternating between Seoul and the Mizzou campus. The eighth Truman Conference will be held on campus this year beginning Sunday, Aug. 26. Some of the dignitaries who will speak at the event include Korea's ambassador to the United States, MU Chancellor Brady Deaton and Vice Provost Handy Williamson.

The conference begins with a welcome picnic from 5 to 7 p.m. Aug. 26 on Carnahan Quad between Hulston Hall and the Reynolds Alumni Center. It continues Monday, Aug. 27, with a number of academic sessions presented by eminent Korean and MU scholars in the Reynolds Center on topics such as international relations in Korea, nuclear strategy and security, U.S.-Korea economic cooperation and trade agreements. All sessions are free and open to the public.

Throughout next week, Korea Week will be celebrated with a series of Korean films, a talent show and

panel discussions. Online links at asia.missouri.edu provide a detailed schedule of conference speakers and Korea Week events.

Science on Saturdays

If you're looking for a laid-back way to spend your Saturday mornings this fall, you might plan on attending Saturday Morning Science lectures. Organized several years ago by MU professors, the lecture series aims to showcase faculty members' enthusiasm for science. But here's the neat thing: No science background is necessary.

State task force issues campus safety recommendations

VITAL PLANNING

UM System campuses meet or exceed state guidelines

The state's 29-member Campus Security Task Force, appointed by Gov. Matt Blunt, issued a report Aug. 21 with recommendations for every Missouri university and college. MU Police Chief Jack Watring served on the task force.

"Our No. 1 priority is the safety of more than 38,000 students, faculty and staff," says Chancellor Brady Deaton. "Due to the size and complexity of the University, which resembles a small city, it is vital that we have the proper procedures and training in place in the event of

an emergency. We are pleased to note that we have already incorporated many of the task force's recommendations in our emergency plans. We also are fortunate to be home to the MU Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute that serves the entire state, and we have utilized their expertise in developing our emergency plan."

The complete report is available online at www.dps.mo.gov/CampusSafety/index.htm.

Gordon Lamb, interim president of the University of Missouri System, says the four-campus system welcomes and is reviewing the report. He

says he was pleased to note that the University has achieved or exceeded many of the areas identified for improvement. Other recommendations of the task force, such as enhancing emergency mass notification technology, are being implemented, Lamb says.

"The University of Missouri must always be a safe place to learn, live, work and visit," Dr. Lamb said. "We are absolutely committed to safety, and the report of the Campus Security Task Force will provide additional guidance in this regard."

The task force's survey of 36 Missouri higher education institutions found:

- Eighty-six percent of the institutions responding have developed an all-hazard emergency plan. The University of Missouri has such plans in

place for all of its campuses.

- Ninety-two percent of the institutions responding identified emergency notification as their greatest campus security challenge. The University has emergency alert systems in place on its campuses, using e-mails, telephone calling trees and in-person contacts. Moreover, the UM System is in final negotiations for an enhanced alert system with the ability to notify members of the University community by text message, e-mail, Web or phone.

- The survey found just 28 percent of the institutions responding coordinate development of their all-hazard emergency plans with local police and just 25 percent engage their local fire departments in such coordination. All University of Missouri campuses have close

working and preparedness relationships with their local public safety agencies.

- The survey found fewer than 40 percent of the institutions responding indicated their decision-makers had completed certain specialized training courses dealing with managing incidents. The University has ongoing training for the people involved in such decisions, and its own campus security task force is reviewing these protocols for potential improvements.

- The survey found that about one-third of institutions responding had a process to identify and assess distressed individuals on campuses. All UM System campuses have programs in place to assist students, faculty and staff. The best practices of these programs are being shared among UM System campuses.



Parking & Transportation Services
Turner Avenue Garage
Level 2
882-4568

All MU Faculty and Staff permits have been mailed. If you do not receive your parking permit for 2007-08 by August 31, please contact the Parking and Transportation Office at 882-4568 or email umcparking@missouri.edu.

parking.missouri.edu

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Some of Mizzou's most engaging lecturers will tackle some equally engaging scientific topics: What keeps the world green? What kind of molecules are we made of? Peering into cells with fluorescent chemical sensors. The weekly lectures will be held from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Life Sciences Center's Monsanto Auditorium. A complete schedule of speakers is available online at satscience.missouri.edu.

Now that's a tomato

Gardening historians tell us that up until the early 1800s

most Americans believed tomatoes were poisonous. And we might still believe that if the only types available were standard supermarket varieties with their pinkish color, indeterminate taste and a texture somewhere between cardboard and Styrofoam.

There won't be any of those monstrosities at the Tomato Festival on Sept. 6 at MU's Bradford Farm. What there will be at this horticultural happening is more than four dozen varieties of tomatoes, many of them heirloom varieties, for festival-goers to taste and compare, another 32 varieties of peppers and many

different salsa samples from local vendors. We're not talking only about old reliable varieties like Jet Star and Celebrity and Better Boy. The selection will include some tomatoes you've probably never heard of, such as Missouri Pink Love Apple, an accordion-pleated variety called Pink Accordion and a truly black tomato called Ugly Carbon.

The annual event will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6 and will feature informational talks on the half-hour about tomato culture and disease issues, and tomato breeding and staking methods. Master Gardeners will be available to

answer horticultural questions. Bradford Farm is located 6.5 miles east of Columbia on Route WW and 2 miles south on Rangeline Road. More information is available by calling 884-7945 or going online to aes.missouri.edu/Bradford.

Black and gold bonanza

Mizzou will join other colleges and universities across the country on Aug. 31 to celebrate the annual College Colors Day. The event coincides with the beginning of the new school year and the kickoff of college football season.

Faculty, staff, students and

alumni are encouraged to wear their black and gold throughout the day to promote the traditions and spirit of college athletics. Campus departments also are encouraged to take part by planning events on this day, such as a tailgate lunch or contests for best-dressed staff member or office. More information is available online at licensing.missouri.edu or www.collegecolorsday.com.

Science doesn't support supplements' claims

DIETARY DEBATE

Experts cite healthy options instead of using performance-enhancing substances

Young athletes, eager to be a starting player or earn a scholarship, may be tempted to follow the lead of pros and use performance enhancers to gain the competitive edge.

Dale Brigham, an MU Extension nutrition and fitness specialist, says high school and college athletes are better off focusing on their diet and training, rather than relying on performance-enhancing supplements.

"Eating food is healthier in the long run than taking pills and powders," Brigham says. "I always emphasize that a healthy diet, a good training plan, rest and a good attitude are the best bets for getting to where you want to go in terms of your athletic and sports and personal fitness goals."

This summer's news reports about the role of performance-enhancing substances in professional athletes have focused on steroids and other illegal substances banned by most sports.

But, Brigham says, there are many legal performance enhancers, and parents and coaches should be concerned. Sold as sports nutrition supplements, these substances are readily available in stores and on the Internet, and, though they are legal, they may be harmful. At the very least, Brigham says, they may not help.

Many of these over-the-counter products contain mega doses of essential nutrients. "Just taking more of an essential vitamin or mineral will not improve the performance or the fitness level of an athlete or someone who is exercising," Brigham says. "That's been established by decades of research."

Stephen Ball, an Extension fitness specialist, says claims about sports nutrition products generally lack scientific backing.

"Dietary supplements don't go through the same quality control that food products do," Ball says. "That's why you'll see these outlandish claims. They don't really have to prove it."

One exception is creatine, a naturally occurring compound found in the muscles. Research has shown that creatine supplements will increase body weight, strength and muscle mass, Ball says.

While the substance does not appear to cause adverse health risks, he says, athletes should not consider it to be safe. Creatine has a number of side effects including nausea, diarrhea, cramping and dehydration — a serious concern as athletes head back into training for fall sports, Ball says. It also can have adverse affects for people with kidney problems.

Another concern for parents and coaches is the link between legal and illegal substances. Studies have found that users of legal substances are more likely to take illegal performance drugs, such as anabolic steroids. Researchers call it the "gateway theory."

"They start to think this is a magic pill: 'I'm seeing all these gains; let's do something more because I really want to get better,'" Ball says. That attitude often is reinforced by professional sports.

"The message from watching the baseball scandals and these other sports is if you take these things, your performance is going to go up," Ball says. "A lot of young athletes have the mentality that 'I'll do whatever it takes,' and if that means 'I need to take something that's illegal,' they're very willing to do it."

Brigham says athletes who take anabolic steroids to build muscles can suffer long-term

detrimental effects. "They're something our bodies are not used to in large quantities. The risks include an increased risk of heart disease, liver and other organ failure, and outward appearance problems, such as hair loss and acne."

Recent large-scale studies of high school students have found the highest use level is about 3 percent for males involved in sports where strength and power are premium, Brigham says. To put that figure into perspective, Brigham said that in a high school with 500 male students, up to 15 athletes might be taking anabolic steroids.

On the positive side, the same study found that "most of the kids, close to 90 percent, have a very negative feeling toward people taking anabolic steroids or other illegal performance enhancing substances," he says.

"If we keep on reinforcing the fact that it's unhealthy, it's unethical, and it's illegal to take these substances, I think we'll keep them on the right track throughout their young lives."

MizzouWeekly

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Welcome Back Students!

Staff Advisory Council is looking for members from the following categories: CM/AP/SC* to help serve on the Staff Development Award Committee

*C/M: crafts/maintenance; A/P: administrative/professional; S/C: secretarial/clerical

Election Results Are In!

Please welcome the following to the 2007-08 SAC

A/P category: Rebecca Bergfield (elected for 2nd term)

T/P category: Amy Lana

C/M category: Stanley Hughes and Chad Heckman (elected for 2nd term)



Congratulations to our July Service Champion!
Ruth Erwin, Graduate School



Staff Advisory Council
University of Missouri-Columbia

CHANGE from Page 1 had informal preliminary discussions with UM System interim President Gordon Lamb, and Deaton also notes that no other campus has objected to the proposed name restoration. The Board of Curators would have to approve any change in Mizzou's formal name.

Rex Campbell, outgoing chair of Faculty Council, brought the matter up at the council's Aug.

2 meeting. The issue generated a vigorous discussion, both for and against the proposal. Some council members questioned whether the move was an attempt to "pander" to big donors and whether it would denigrate other campuses in the UM System.

Others suggested the effort is simply unnecessary. The universities of Michigan and Wisconsin, for example, are named for the cities in

which they're based, and nobody questions the national prominence of those schools, several council members argued.

Others on the council said they supported the initiative. One member wryly observed that, given the rush by other institutions to change their names, if Mizzou isn't renamed it may well become the state's only regional university.

Campbell said MU has

weakened itself by membership in the UM System and is in a territorial battle with other universities in the state. "We are not the University of Missouri for Columbia," he said. "We are the University of Missouri for the state of Missouri." Council members could vote on a resolution of support at their Aug. 23 meeting.

Dropping Columbia from its name would "eliminate any

public confusion about the role of this university," Deaton says. "What possible value is added by the 'dash Columbia'? It should be the University of Missouri — period."

MU Name Restoration

An initiative to drop the "-Columbia" from MU's formal name is being considered by members of the University community. Any change would have to be approved by the University of Missouri Board of Curators. The office of University Affairs has researched and compiled these answers to a list of frequently asked questions:

Q: Many people think the campus in Columbia is the University of Missouri. Why doesn't MU just use that name?

A: The Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri System designate specific names for each of the four campuses in the System, so each must be in compliance in regard to signage, letterhead, communications, etc. The authority to change the Collected Rules rests with the governing body, the UM Board of Curators.

Q: What public institutions of higher education in Missouri currently have statewide names?

A: Truman State University (formerly Northeast Missouri State University); Missouri State University (formerly Southwest Missouri State University); and Missouri University of

Science and Technology (currently UM-Rolla/new name takes effect 2008).

Q: What name do people use when they are searching for MU on the Web?

A: From Jan. 11 to Aug. 4, 2007, the MU homepage received 5,434,856 visits. Of that number, 1,365,450 came to the site by using a search engine such as Google, Yahoo, etc. These are the search terms they used most frequently to get to MU's Web site, www.missouri.edu, and the number of times those terms were used:

1. University of Missouri 212,718
2. Mizzou 129,031
3. University of Missouri Columbia 66,377
4. Mizzou.edu 44,155
5. people finder 42,887
6. Missouri.edu 34,549
7. parking 33,118
8. www.missouri.edu 31,622
9. Missouri University 26,586
10. University of Missouri-Columbia 24,651

Note that No. 3 and No. 10 added together represent 91,028. This is less than half of the number searching University of Missouri.

Q: Who has proposed restoring the name?

A: For many years, various MU administrators, faculty, staff and alumni have thought that a return to the campus' original name would be in its best interest, as well as the System's and the state's. On May 2, 2007, the co-chairs of the National Campaign Steering Committee sent a letter to MU Chancellor Brady Deaton requesting that the "dash Columbia" be deleted and the name be The University of Missouri. Chancellor Deaton found their reasons compelling and made the decision to move the request forward.

Q: What is the National Campaign Steering Committee?

A: The steering committee is a group of 57 MU alumni and friends who provide countless hours as the volunteer leaders of the For All We Call Mizzou billion-dollar fundraising campaign. They are highly successful individuals in their chosen fields from all over the country who are strongly committed to a bright future for MU. They were invited by former Chancellor Richard Wallace and Chancellor Deaton to be on the steering committee.

Q: Have any other groups endorsed the name restoration?

A: The Mizzou Alumni Association sent a resolution to the chancellor dated June 5, 2007, that includes this statement: "The Governing Board of the University of Missouri Alumni Association hereby expresses its full support that the official name of our University be returned to its original title of the University of Missouri."

An additional endorsement has come from the Jefferson Club Trustees, the MU Graduate and Professional Council and the Staff Advisory Council. The Missouri Students Association, the MU Retirees Association and the MU Faculty Council are currently reviewing the issue.

Q: Why do these groups think restoring the name is important?

A: Reasons cited have included the following:

- MU is the flagship university of the state of Missouri.
- MU has a statewide mission yet carries a regional name.
- It is critical to the future of the state and the UM System that MU continue to increase

its success in attracting external research funding.

- It is critical to the future of the state and the UM System that MU be able to compete successfully within the state, in the United States and internationally for students and faculty.
- MU has more than 245,000 alumni worldwide, and the alumni/donor constituency is critically important to the University's ability to recruit students, to raise funds and to seek other types of support. Representatives of this constituency think the "dash Columbia" impedes MU's growth on many fronts and its success.
- Use of the statewide name enables MU to take full advantage of brand recognition both within the state and nationally.
- Eliminating the confusion regarding the identity of Missouri's flagship that is caused by the location-specific name will enhance MU's ability to garner increased outside resources that will strengthen the UM System and benefit the state. More than any institution in Missouri, MU has belonged to

See Name Q&A on Page 6



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- Be a junior or senior (60 or more credit hours) by Fall 2007
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher in their major & related classes
- Be enrolled as an undergraduate in BOTH the Fall 2007 & Winter 2008 semesters
- Have a project that is NOT eligible for funding under the Life Sciences Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program

To apply, students MUST attend the MUURS application informational meeting:
Monday, Aug. 27, from 4-5 p.m., Bond Life Sciences Center, room 572
 (if they didn't attend the Aug. 21 MUURS application informational meeting)

Applications are available at the Office of Undergraduate Research or online.
 But hurry! The deadline for applications is **September 5, 2007 by 5 p.m.!**

Professors: Need a hand with your big project?

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 Check out our blog at <http://missourigrscholars.wordpress.com/>

'Chemistry in space' explores origins of life

SPACE SHOWERS

Interstellar dust could explain the mystery

Some of the elements necessary to support life on Earth are widely known — oxygen, carbon and water, to name a few. Just as important in the existence of life as any other component is the presence of adenine, an essential organic molecule. Without it, the basic building blocks of life would not come together.

Scientists have been trying to find the origin of Earth's adenine and where else it might exist in the solar system. MU

chemistry researcher Rainer Glaser may have the answer. Life exists on Earth because of a delicate combination of chemical ingredients. Using a theoretical model, Glaser is hypothesizing the existence of adenine in interstellar dust clouds.

Those same clouds may have showered young Earth with adenine as it began cooling billions of years ago, and could potentially hold the key for initiating a similar process on another planet. "The idea that certain molecules came from space is not outrageous," said Glaser, a professor of chemistry. "You can find large molecules in

meteorites, including adenine. We know that adenine can be made elsewhere in the solar system, so why should one consider it impossible to make the building blocks somewhere in interstellar dust?"

Glaser believes astronomers should look for interstellar dust clouds that have highly-concentrated hydrogen cyanide (HCN), which can indicate the presence of adenine. Finding such pockets would narrow the spectrum of where life could exist within the Milky Way galaxy. "There is a lot of sky with a few areas that have dust clouds. In those dust clouds, a few of

them have HCN. A few of those have enough HCN to support the synthesis of the molecules of life. Now, we have to look for the HCN concentrations, and that's where you want to look for adenine," Glaser says.

"Chemistry in space and 'normal chemistry' can be very different because the concentrations and energy-exchange processes are different," he says. "These features make the study of chemistry in space very exciting and academically challenging; one really must think without prejudice."

This theory describing the

fusion of early life-forming chemicals is presented in the latest issue of the journal *Astrobiology*. The article's co-authors are Brian Hodgen of Creighton University, Dean Farrelly of the University of Manchester and Elliot McKee of St. Louis University.

The paper, "Adenine Synthesis in Interstellar Space: Mechanisms of Prebiotic Pyrimidine-Ring Formation of Monocyclic HCN-Pentamers," describes the absence of a sizeable barrier that would prevent formation of the skeleton needed for adenine synthesis. The article also is featured in the Aug. 6 issue of *Chemical & Engineering News*.

We're taking a groundbreaking approach to patient care.

University of Missouri Health Care is committed to providing exceptional health care to our patients, now and in the future. To accomplish that, we are undertaking a significant upgrading and expansion of our facilities. From renovating Children's Hospital to building a new orthopaedics institute and a surgery tower at University Hospital, the projects all share one goal: to provide our patients with world-class care in a convenient and comfortable environment.

Beginning in July, patients and visitors to University Physicians Medical Building and University Hospital will be encountering construction on Hospital Drive and Monk Drive.

When you visit us, please take advantage of our free valet parking in front of University Hospital and University Physicians Medical Building.

For maps and more information about parking and construction detours, please visit www.muhealth.org and click on construction or call our Hospitality Hotline at (573) 882-8220.



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VIP service will have you asking, "This is a hospital?"

*Very Important Patient

NAME Q&A from Page 4
all its citizens for 168 years.

Q: Why did UM-Rolla change its name, and how did it accomplish this goal?

A: According to UMR's Web site, a name change was considered: "To distinguish UMR from the other University of Missouri campuses; to reflect the university's national mission; to broaden market share for the best students nationally, and to enhance the university's reputation." The Web site states: "To more effectively achieve campus priorities, Chancellor Carney proposed a university wide conversation about the possibility of changing the university's name to something that better reflects our mission and focus." UMR conducted that conversation and then formally requested a name change to Missouri University of Science and Technology from the Board of Curators, which approved it. MU supported UMR's goal to change its name.

Q: Does the MU campus administration support the name restoration?

A: Yes. Chancellor Brady Deaton was quoted in the Aug. 7, 2007, *Columbia Daily Tribune*: "At a time when regionalism has been so prevalent in the state of Missouri, it is important that the state realizes our university, our campus, is not a regional institution. To have any designation that tends to localize it or suggest that it's not the statewide institution is, in a sense, demeaning to the most significant

statewide university in the state."

Q: Will this affect the relationship between the University and Columbia?

A: Thanks to the great vision of local citizens, the University of Missouri was founded in Columbia in 1839. Today, their descendants plus thousands of other community members and organizations are among MU's strongest supporters in the entire world. "We consider our Columbia home to be the very best a university could have," said Chancellor Deaton. "The partnership that began decades ago continues to be a top priority for the 21st century for the benefit of us all."

Q: What would it cost MU to restore its name?

A: Very little. MU would simply replace letterhead, publications, etc., when the time came to reorder. Since hearing about the possibility of name restoration, alumni have come forward offering to provide private funds to cover any costs.

Q: What other aspects of MU's role in the state and nation are important to consider?

A: For consideration:

- MU is one of 34 public U.S. universities to be invited for membership in the Association of American Universities (AAU), the nation's most distinguished group of public and private research institutions. (The other Missouri member is Washington University.)
- MU is designated as comprehensive doctoral with

medical/veterinary by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching (formerly Carnegie Research I).

- With 20 schools and colleges and more than 264 degree programs – including 92 graduate programs and 36 online degree options – MU is the most comprehensive university in the state.
- MU attracts more valedictorians, Curators Scholars and two times more of the state's Bright Flight Scholars than any other college or university in Missouri.
- Twenty-eight percent of MU's enrollment comes from St. Louis; 11 percent from Kansas City; and 38 percent from outstate Missouri.
- MU plays various roles throughout the state, including founding partner in St. Louis' Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, stakeholder institution in the Kansas City Life Sciences Institute, and major source of innovation through the Agricultural Experiment Station's farms and research centers across Missouri.
- *Every week*, Missouri's economy benefits as MU brings in an average of \$2.2 million in private donations, spends \$9 million in payroll and wins \$3.5 million in external funds for research.
- MU is one of only six public universities in the country with medicine, veterinary medicine and law all on one campus.
- More Missouri physicians received medical training from MU than from any other university.
- University of Missouri

Health Care treats patients from every county in the state through a network of hospitals, clinics and telehealth sites..

- Two-thirds of Missouri veterinarians are MU graduates.
- Fourteen percent of Missouri's 68,516 classroom teachers and 23 percent of the state's 3,195 principals earned degrees at Mizzou.
- MU is focused on student success with the highest graduation rate of any public university in the state.
- Based on data from the National Science Foundation, MU ranks No. 1 among all institutions in the AAU in growth of federal research funding from 1994 to 2004. In fiscal year 2005, MU spent an estimated \$220 million on research and development. This had an estimated \$440 million economic impact on Missouri. Every \$1 million in external funding to MU creates about 40 jobs.
- MU attracts 72 percent of the federal research dollars flowing to Missouri's public universities.
- MU Extension delivers the University's land-grant mission to every county of the state and millions of its citizens, including 100,700 children age 5-18 involved in 4-H youth development.
- MU is home to the world's most powerful university research reactor and is the largest U.S. producer of radioisotopes used in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
- MU has more than 245,000 alumni worldwide and nearly 118,000 in the state.
- MU is a global institution: Last

year 880 international scholars came to campus to pursue post-doc studies or an extended research collaboration; 17 percent of MU graduates earned credits toward their degrees studying abroad in 60 different countries; and the Mizzou Alumni Association chapter in Seoul, Korea, has 1,000 members, making it the association's largest international chapter.

- Mizzou is the only public university in the state to stage a \$1 billion comprehensive fundraising campaign, nearing completion with \$811 million raised to date.
- MU is the home of the Missouri Tigers. More than 500,000 fans attend athletic events every year, and millions cheer the team on around the world, enhancing the state's visibility.

Q: What do the Collected Rules and Regulations of the UM System now say about the University of Missouri name?

A: The Collected Rules identify the University of Missouri System, the University of Missouri-Columbia, the University of Missouri-Kansas City, the University of Missouri-Rolla (to become Missouri University of Science and Technology), and the University of Missouri-St. Louis. There is no reference to the University of Missouri. (Chapter 170.060)

Q: Since the University's second reference or nickname is "MU," should "Missouri University" be considered for a new name?

A: History and tradition play very important roles for flagship universities. While it would seem to make sense that MU would stand for Missouri University, history and alumni say otherwise. Other institutions with similar identities include the University of Colorado (CU), the University of Kansas (KU), and the University of Oklahoma (OU).

Thank someone for making a difference

"I just wanted to thank you for everything that you've done for me. I'm highly motivated and determined because I know that my academic advisor will always be there to help me out."

– Message to a Mizzou advisor

"Thanks for 30 years of dedicated service!"

– Message to a Mizzou staff member

"You provided one of the most well-taught and challenging courses I have taken at the University of Missouri. You are knowledgeable, approachable and can translate complicated science into something understandable to students--something a lot of professors just can't do!"

– Message to a Mizzou professor

"Thank you for being so understanding and taking the extra time to make sure I understood the course work."

– Message to a Mizzou graduate instructor

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calendar



Exhibits

MUSEUM OF ART & ARCHAEOLOGY:

- "Daumier's Paris: Life in the Nineteenth-Century City" features lithographs by France's most famous printmaker and caricaturist. The exhibition, to be shown in three installments, runs through June 2008.
 - "Ancient Glass from the Permanent Collection" demonstrates various ancient glass manufacture techniques that date to Greek, Roman and Byzantine times.
 - "South Asian Sculpture" features selections of Buddhist and Hindu sculpture, including stone reliefs from ancient Gandhara that show early Buddhist imagery
- The museum, located in Pickard Hall.

BINGHAM GALLERY: Works by Nathan Boyer and J. Brett Grill, assistant professors of art, that illustrate Sarah Bree's classic short story, "The Base Pair," will be on display through Sept. 13. A reception will be held from 4-6 p.m. today, Aug. 23. The gallery, located in the Fine Arts Building.

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

- "Daniel Fitzpatrick: Artist/ Cartoonist" features fine art drawings by the former

St. Louis Post-Dispatch editorial cartoonist through Oct. 19 in the corridor gallery through Oct. 19.

- Lawrence Rugolo: "Forty Years of Printmaking" features a retrospective sampling of the MU emeritus art professor's serigraphs that showcase his inventive use of silk-screen technique through Sept. 15 in the main gallery.

Courses & Workshops

Wednesday, August 29

RETIREMENT SEMINARS:

- "Retirement Plan Seminar" will discuss the University's retirement benefits from 8:30-9:30 a.m., including when one becomes vested in the plan, what benefits the plan includes and how benefits are calculated.
- "Tax Deferred Annuities Seminar" will describe the University's Tax Deferred Annuity and Deferred Compensation plans from 9:30-10:30 a.m. and discuss how they can help employees prepare for retirement.

Both seminars will be held in 146 Heinkel Building; registration is required online at www.umsystem.edu/ums/departments/hr/benefits.

Lectures & Seminars

Friday, August 24

BIOCHEMISTRY SEMINAR:

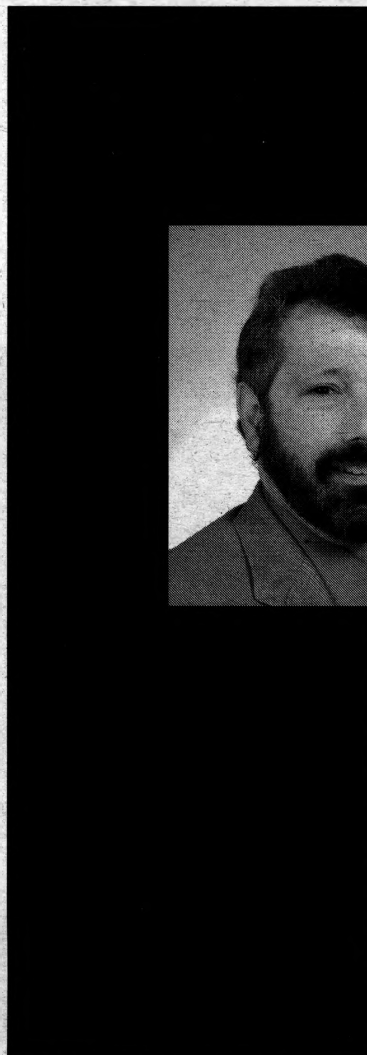
Johannes Scholten from the Pacific Northwest National

Laboratory will present "Systems Microbiology: From Pure Culture to Microbial Community" at 1 p.m. in the Bond Life Sciences Center's Monsanto Auditorium.

Tuesday, August 28

LIFE SCIENCES SEMINAR:

Fred Hawthorne, professor of radiology and director of MU's International Institute for Nano & Molecular Medicine, will



Chancellor Brady Deaton, Provost Brian Foster and the Office of Research invite you to attend a

Farewell Reception

in honor of

Dr. Jim Coleman

for his contributions as
Vice Chancellor for Research

Monday, August 27, 2007

4 to 6 p.m.

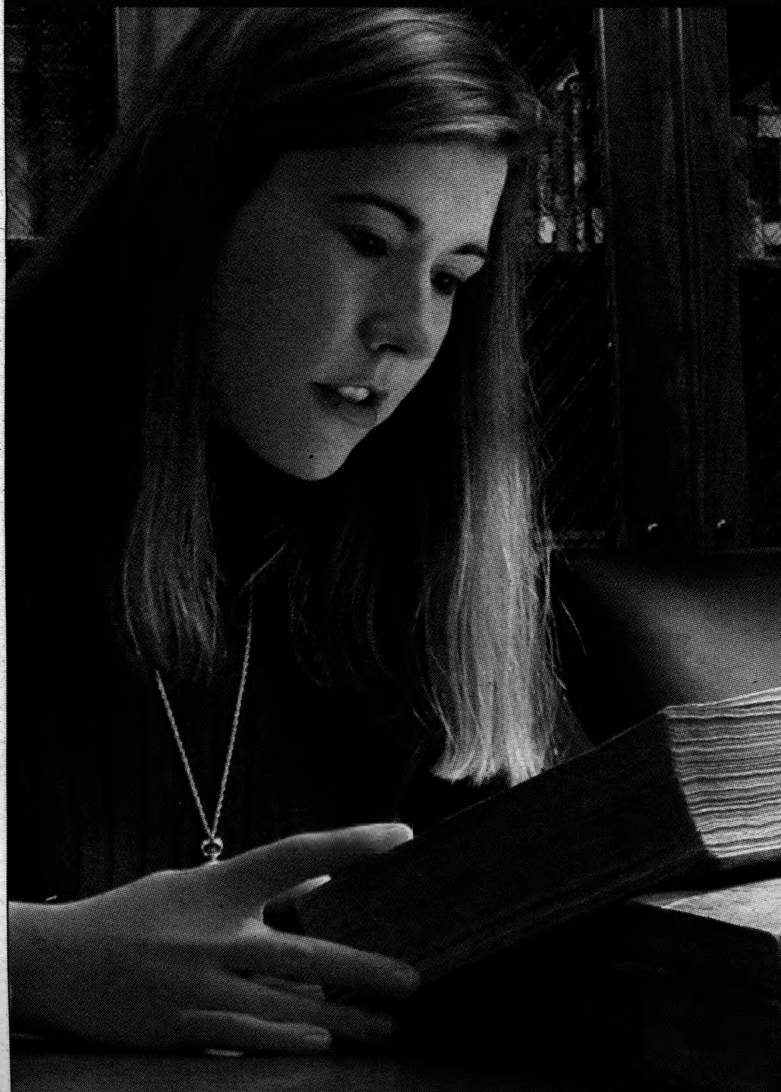
Program at 4:30 p.m.

Great Room at Reynolds Alumni Center



University of Missouri-Columbia

HONOR with BOOKS

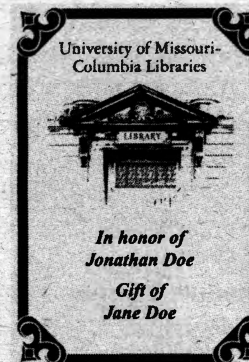


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present "Does Nano Science Connect With Agriculture?" at 1 p.m. in Monsanto Auditorium at the Bond Life Sciences Center.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LECTURE: Lawrence Rugolo, professor emeritus of art, will give an in-depth tour at 5:30 p.m. and discuss his work in the exhibit, "Lawrence Rugolo: Forty Years of Printmaking," on display in the main gallery of the State Historical Society on the east side of Ellis Library.

Wednesday, August 29

PLANT SCIENCES SEMINAR:

Marilyn Roossinck from the Samuel Roberts Foundation in Ardmore, Okla., will present the Millikan Seminar, "RNA Virus Ecology and Evolution" at 3:30 p.m. in the Bond Life Sciences Center's Monsanto Auditorium.

Thursday, August 30

KOREA WEEK PANEL: A panel of MU and visiting scholars will discuss "North-South Korea Summit: The Prospects for Korean Unification" from 12:30-2 p.m. in Allen Auditorium in the Arts & Science Building.

Films

Friday, August 24

MSA/GPC FILM: *Knocked Up* will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. today and tomorrow in Memorial Union's Wrench Auditorium. Cost: \$1.

KOREA WEEK FILM: *All For Love*, directed by Kyu-Dong Min, will be shown at 7 p.m. in Waters Hall Auditorium.

Wednesday, August 29

MSA/GPC FILM: *Requiem for a Dream* will be shown at 8 p.m. in Memorial Union's Wrench Auditorium.

Thursday, August 30

KOREA WEEK FILM: *The Host*, directed by Joon-Ho Bong, will be shown at 7 p.m. in Allen Auditorium in the Arts & Science Building.

Special Events

Saturday, August 25

QUAIL FIELD DAY: MU's Bradford Farm will host a field day from 8 a.m.-noon. "Integrating Bobwhite Quail Management With Agriculture" will showcase ways landowners can improve habitat for bobwhite quail with such techniques as wildflower and annual crop food plots, using buffers and native grasses, and invasive species eradication. Bradford Farm is located 6.5 miles east of Columbia on Route WW and 2 miles south on Rangeline Road.

Tuesday, August 28

BLOOD DRIVE: The Fall Welcome Blood Drive will be held from noon-6 p.m. in N201/202 Memorial Union.

Wednesday, August 29

VOLUNTEER FAIR: Representatives from a number of social service agencies and campus agencies will discuss volunteer opportunities and ways to get involved in the community at a fair from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in Lowry Mall.

Thursday, August 30

KOREA WEEK TALENT SHOW: A children's talent show from 7-9 p.m. in Whitmore Recital Hall will feature Korean music, martial arts, dance and song.

LANDMARK from Page 1
irrigation systems that keep lawns green can deplete soil oxygen and have a negative impact on tree species that are used to drought at certain times of the year.

Millier and his staff went out for a second opinion. They asked Chris Starbuck, associate professor of plant sciences and an expert on woody ornamental plants, to recommend the best course of action. Starbuck's examination found evidence of dieback in the tree's large branches and a compromised

root system prone to fungal infection. "In my opinion, when a tree declines to this point, recovery is not possible," his recommendation said. He had a similar prognosis for another venerable pin oak at the southwest corner of Townsend Hall.

"I know that many MU faculty, students and alumni will grieve the loss of the oaks in question if they are removed. However, it is painful for me to watch the slow death of

these once magnificent specimens," Starbuck wrote. "I would prefer to see new trees planted as a sign of optimism in MU's future rather than dying trees preserved to commemorate her past."

Campus Facilities-Landscape Services did just that after they ground out the stump. This time they planted a tree that tolerates damp conditions better. "Fortunately, we have a number of other trees around Jesse that are getting to a nice size," Millier says.



ELLIS TRIVIA: How many items were circulated (including Reserves) by the MU Libraries (excluding Law) during FY06?

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Chill out

DREAM CREAM

Graduate research: Create new ice cream flavors

A seventh-grade science project where he measured different carbonation levels in soda pops sparked Peter Graf's interest in food science. "I knew I wanted to get a job doing something like that," he says.

Fast-forward a decade and Graf, from Perryville, Mo., is now a graduate student in MU's food science department. He had a summer job this year that any seventh-grader could only dream of.

While helping supervisor Rick Linhardt run the daily operations at Buck's Ice Cream Place in Eckles Hall, Graf got to develop new ice cream flavors. He learned about making ice



Steve Morse photo

COLD COMFORT A scorching summer meant hot demand for the frozen treats produced at Buck's Ice Cream Place — 120 gallons a day. Graduate food science student Peter Graf chilled out this summer while working at Buck's and developing new ice cream flavors.

UPCOMING SEMINARS FROM FACULTY AND STAFF BENEFITS



University of Missouri Retirement, Disability and Death Benefit Plan Seminar

In this 1-hour informative session, you will learn when one becomes vested in the University Retirement, Disability and Death Benefit Plan, what benefits the plan includes and how these benefits are calculated. If you have been at the University for at least 4 years, this is the program for you!

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
August 29	8:30-9:30 am	114 Heinkel
October 31	8:30-9:30 am	1000 W. Nifong Building 7 Suite 210

Space is limited. Registration is required.

To register, go to:

<http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/departments/hr/benefits/seminars/>

Tax-Deferred Annuity Seminars

Whether you are just beginning employment with the University of Missouri, approaching retirement or somewhere in the middle, it is never too late to begin saving for retirement. The University of Missouri offers the Tax-Deferred Annuity (403b) Plan and the Deferred Compensation (457b) Plan — two easy ways to save for your retirement while enjoying favorable tax benefits. Learn what these plans are, how they operate and how to get started on your way to retirement readiness.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
August 29	9:30-10:30 am	104 Heinkel
October 31	9:30-10:30 am	1000 W. Nifong Building 7 Suite 210

Space is limited. Registration is required.

To register, go to:

<http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/departments/hr/benefits/seminars/>

Faculty and Staff Benefits

cream while practicing to be a member of MU's dairy judging contest team and individually placed third in the nation in the ice cream evaluation category.

"I tasted our ice creams and said there has to be some other flavors we can do," he said. So far Graf has come up with three ice cream flavors: banana crunch, blueberry and peanut butter cup. He also has developed a tangerine sherbet and is still working on caramel apple swirl, cinnamon and chocolate-covered cherry.

Buck's current counter holds 16 flavors. Graf wants to redesign the cabinet to fit an extra eight flavors. The top flavor is still Tiger Stripe, the black-and-gold-colored MU signature ice cream. Buck's was built in 1989 as part of an endowment by Wendell and Ruth Arbuckle. In addition to the store, Buck's includes a research and teaching lab.

In a single day, Buck's makes 120 gallons of Tiger Stripe in quarts, half gallons and cups for special events. "It may sound like a lot, but you would be surprised

by how fast it goes," Graf says.

"I've always enjoyed cooking, and making ice cream is kind of like cooking. I really enjoy making things on a large scale. There have been days when I have made four or five flavors in one day, and it is a lot of fun to taste every one," he says.

Graf gives schoolchildren tours of the ice cream making operation. "Their biggest excitement is when you open the freezer door and say, 'This is minus 40 degrees,' and they all back away," he says.



University of Missouri-Columbia
2007 Chancellor's Awards for Excellence
in Undergraduate Research and Creative
Achievements

PRESENTED APRIL 30, 2007

**ARTS AND HUMANITIES
CHANCELLOR'S AWARD**
Tiffany Lee, Senior, Classics
Mentor: Dr. Barbara Wallach, Classical Studies
"Elementary Latin pedagogy in University Model Schools"

HONORABLE MENTION
Stephanie Hunter, Senior, English, French, and Art
Mentor: Dr. Devoney Looser, English
Maiko Mitchem, Senior, Theatre
Mentor: Dr. David Crespy, Theatre

**SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
CHANCELLOR'S AWARD**
Rebecca Turner, Senior, Communication Science & Disorders
Mentor: Dr. Judith Goodman, Communication
"Do young children recognize the sound system of their Science & Disorders native language?"

HONORABLE MENTION
Michelle Carpentier, Senior, Psychology
Mentor: Dr. Kristin Hawley, Psychological Sciences
Sarah Mijares, Senior, Psychology
Mentor: Dr. Anna Bardone-Cone, Psychological Sciences

**PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
CHANCELLOR'S AWARD**
Sarah Barker, Junior, Biological Engineering
Mentor: Dr. Peter Pfeifer, Physics & Astronomy
"Gravimetric analysis of methane adsorption in activated carbon"

HONORABLE MENTION
Robert Jinkerson, Senior, Biological Engineering
Mentor: Dr. Gabor Forgacs, Physics & Astronomy
Daniel Tappmeyer, Sophomore, Chemical Engineering
Mentor: Dr. Shubra Gangopadhyay, Electrical & Computer Engineering

**LIFE SCIENCES
CHANCELLOR'S AWARD**
Matt Shirley, Junior, Biochemistry
Mentor: Dr. Judy Wall, Biochemistry
"Characterization of transposon insertion mutants in *desulfovibrio vulgaris* hildenborough by sequencing genomic DNA"

HONORABLE MENTION
Heather Nelson, Senior, Computer Science
Mentor: Dr. Chi-Ren Shyu, Computer Science
Stephanie Raney, Junior, Animal Science and Psychology
Mentor: Dr. Donald Spiers, Animal Science

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A tower of power

WINDBORNE WISDOM

Study looks at relation of wind and air pollution

A new weather tower installed on MU's Sanborn Field will provide more information about wind energy and air pollution in cities. It will measure how wind speed is affected by nearby buildings.

"It's important to know how pollutants disperse because that's the biggest problem that cities face," says Tony Lupo, associate professor of atmospheric science. "Under stagnant conditions, air pollution builds up and can have an impact on people's health."

Lupo says that cities have trouble with air pollution because the stagnant air cannot escape the area as quickly as it might if there were no buildings. The weather tower at Sanborn Field is surrounded by buildings and will measure wind speed at four different heights. Examining the wind speed profile will allow MU weather scientists to better understand how to forecast air pollution buildup in an urban area.

"This will not solve the problem, but the weather research can provide information to people and

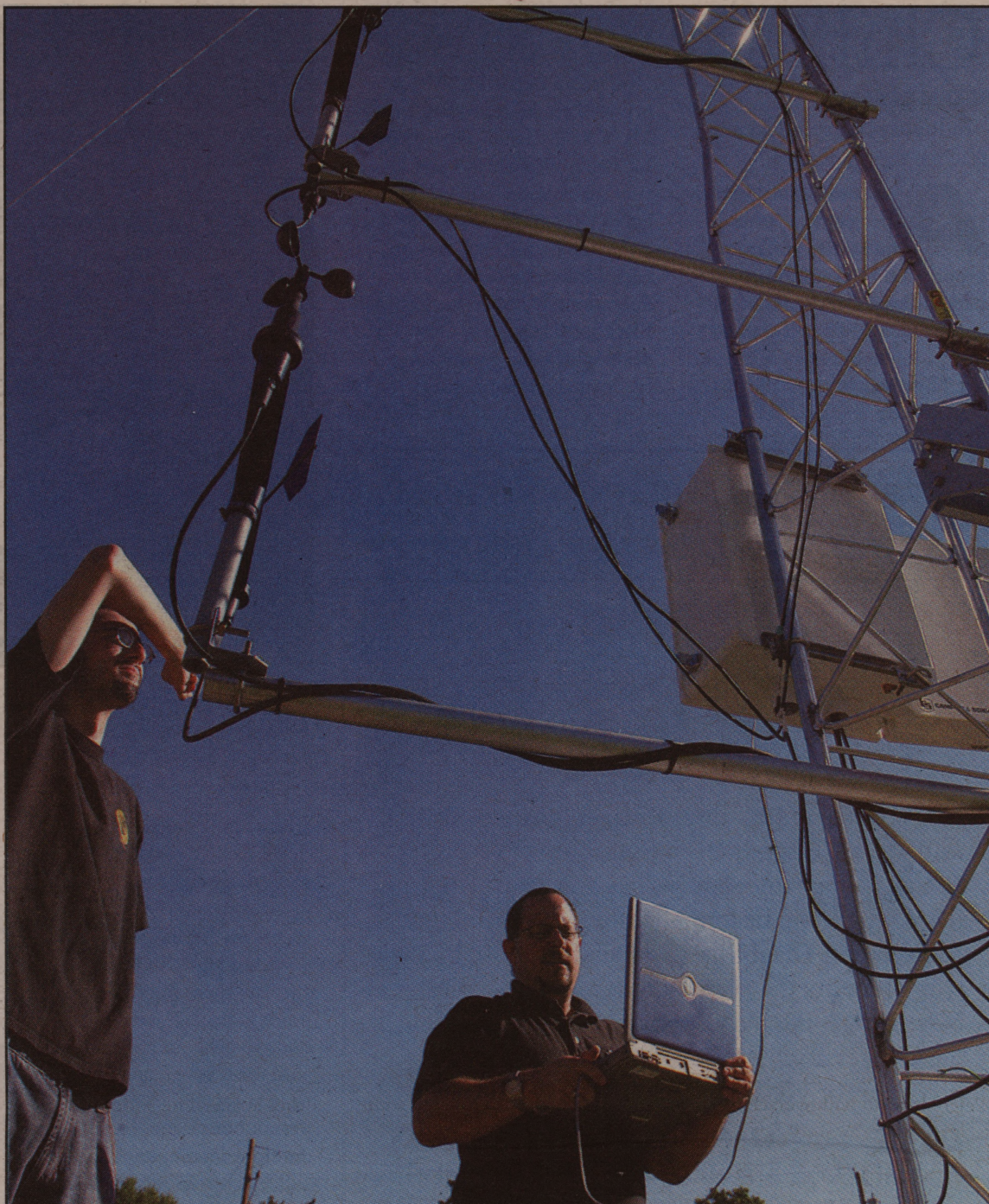
warn them ahead of time when air quality conditions are bad," Lupo says.

The weather tower also is part of a bigger project to examine wind power possibilities in mid-Missouri. By examining how winds near the surface compare to winds at levels where wind turbines would be placed, they will be able to better estimate wind power possibilities in more regions.

"We're looking at the wind speeds of the different levels along the tower to try to gain a sense of whether we think one day we could put a wind turbine here in Columbia, Mo., or nearby locations," says Ali Koleiny, a graduate student in soil and atmospheric sciences.

Koleiny hopes the data collected from the weather tower will lead to advances in wind power technology. "Maybe it will spark interest throughout the state, and even the country, to see if we can switch over to more wind energy," he says.

The new weather tower is part of a \$60,000 grant to study meteorological measurement techniques, including teaching students how meteorological data is gathered, stored and distributed to users.



Steve Morse photo

DATA STREAM Ali Koleiny, MU graduate student in soil and atmospheric sciences, left, and Tony Lupo, associate professor of atmospheric science, look at data collected from the new weather tower on Sanborn Field.

RETIREMENT PLANNING SEMINAR FOR FACULTY AND STAFF



September 18, 25, October 2, 9
5-7 p.m.

This seminar is designed for faculty and staff no more than 10 years from retirement.

- Session 1: ESTATE PLANNING
- Session 2: FINANCIAL PLANNING
- Session 3: SOCIAL SECURITY
- Session 4: UM RETIREMENT PLAN

To register, go online to:

<http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/departments/hr/benefits/seminars/>

Space is limited. No reservations by phone. Register online by September 10.

Faculty and Staff Benefits

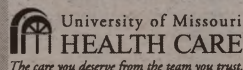
SOUTHEAST GATEWAY

Under Construction

The first phase of construction is under way to develop MU's Southeast Gateway. Development will include a parking structure, orthopedic institute and surgery tower.

• Latest Updates:

- Hospital Drive and south Hitt Street: Reopened to through traffic.
- Hospital Drive from Monk Drive intersection west to University Hospital ER entrance: Utility work continues, reducing traffic to one lane. Both lanes are scheduled to reopen in mid-September.
- Parking lots HSC2S and HSC4: Both lots are accessible from Hospital Drive, but available spaces are reduced.
- Demolition of University Terrace buildings and construction of temporary parking lots continues.



For more information, see
www.cf.missouri.edu/pdc/se-gateway.html
or www.muhealth.org/construction

Partnership cycle

JOINT VENTURE

Cyclotron will open doors for MU researchers

Behind 5-foot thick concrete walls in the recently completed addition to MU's Research Reactor Center, a high-tech machine called a cyclotron is being readied for operation. When it goes online in mid-September, the cyclotron will produce radioactive isotopes used in sophisticated imaging procedures that diagnose cancer and other deadly diseases.

The cyclotron, about as big as a good-sized SUV balanced on its back bumper, is a type of particle accelerator. It creates an electromagnetic field that speeds up subatomic particles called protons and slams them into a target of water or other molecules. The process creates short-lived "positron-emitting" isotopes that can be used for PET scans. PET stands for positron emission tomography.

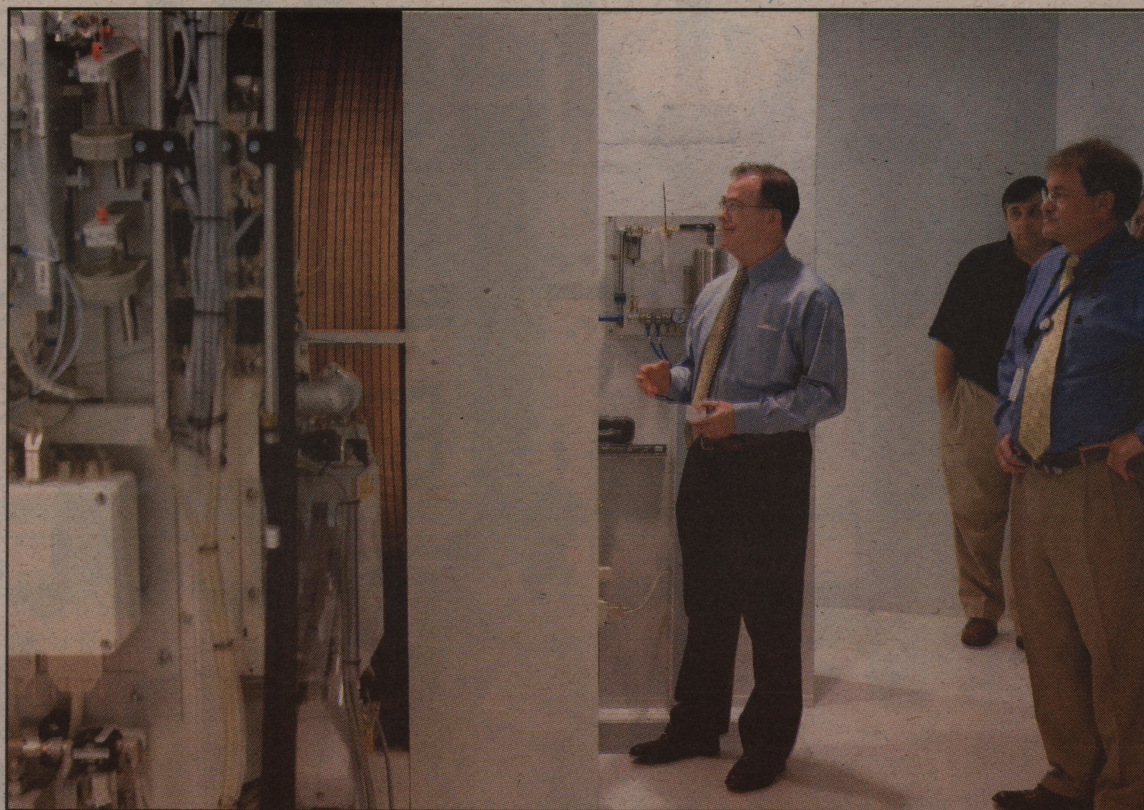
Two giant magnets on the cyclotron create the electromagnetic field. The magnets are so powerful that "this will tear a wrench right out of your hand," says Marc Weichelt, who will oversee the cyclotron operations. As a veteran nuclear pharmacist, Weichelt has had a hand in starting up nearly 20 cyclotron operations.

What makes this start-up unusual is that it's a joint venture between the University

of Missouri and a private corporation called Mid-America Cyclotron that is based in Ashland, Mo. When the enterprise is up and running, it's expected to generate revenue of more than \$1 million annually from the isotopes it produces for health-care providers and patients in mid-Missouri.

Currently, area doctors rely on isotopes produced in St. Louis or Kansas City. "Researchers have been seeking a cyclotron in Columbia for more than six years," says Ralph Butler, director of the research reactor center. "Not only will this machine fill a vital gap in our area's medical diagnostic abilities, but the additional building and associated cyclotron facilities will allow the University to expand its research and teaching capabilities as we continue to investigate the latest technologies in new cancer drugs and diagnostic imaging."

MU's partnership with Mid-America Isotopes has led to the creation of a jointly owned company called Essential Isotopes. The Ashland company owns 55 percent, and MU has a 45 percent stake. Mid-America paid for the \$1.5 million cyclotron. The reactor center is providing \$1.2 million for some start-up costs that include a clean room to prevent contamination of the isotopes and two "hot cells," which are lead-lined containment chambers that shield workers as they prepare doses of the diagnostic agent.



Nicholas Benner photo

DIAGNOSTIC BREAKTHROUGH In early August, Chancellor Brady Deaton toured the new cyclotron facility that is part of a \$6-million addition to the MU Research Reactor Center in Research Park. The cyclotron project is a joint venture between the University and a private company that will produce imaging agents for PET scans.

Another component of the new enterprise is a 25,000 square foot addition on the north side of the reactor center. Approximately 20 percent of the \$6 million addition will be used for cyclotron operations; the remainder will provide new laboratory, classroom and office space. The addition is financed by bonds that will be paid off with revenues from the venture. No federal, state or University money is involved, Butler says.

The University will enjoy some other benefits from the

partnership. It will provide education and training opportunities for MU students in nuclear medicine and other programs. It also will give Mizzou scientists unique opportunities to conduct research on new diagnostic imaging and radiopharmaceutical research.

"This fits very nicely with things the University can already do with its reactor," Weichelt says. MU's research reactor is the largest university-operated research reactor in the country and is the sole supplier of the active ingredients in two FDA-

approved radiopharmaceuticals used to treat nearly 1,000 cancer patients each week. The reactor also provides a routine supply of new radioisotopes used by researchers in developing innovative techniques for the diagnosis and cure of cancer and other diseases.

The cyclotron expands MU scientists' opportunities to discover new life-saving drugs and diagnostic agents and then bring them to market, Butler says. "We're able to do research and make money at the same time."

Bridge collapse triggers more inspections, monitoring

AGING INFRASTRUCTURE

Engineering professor is developing monitors to ensure bridge safety

The collapse of the interstate highway bridge in downtown Minneapolis earlier this summer brought the structural safety of the nation's aging overpasses into tragic focus. Engineering researcher Glenn Washer believes the catastrophe is a watershed event in the bridge industry that may spur states to revise how they prioritize the funding of bridge inspection and repair.

"There are almost 600,000 bridges in this country, with an average age of 42 years," says Washer, assistant professor

of civil and environmental Engineering. "With that many aging bridges, accidents can happen. The only way to completely eliminate the risk is to not drive on bridges. There is a massive effort by state departments of transportation to inspect, monitor and maintain bridges, but implementing some of the new technology and getting the work done is a significant challenge."

The last major bridge collapse happened 40 years ago. On Dec. 15, 1967, the Silver Bridge in Pleasant Point, W.Va., buckled into the Ohio River, claiming 46 lives.

Bridges were not inspected before that point, and the unfortunate event spurred

states to implement monitoring efforts to thwart future disasters. The fallout from the Minneapolis collapse could trigger similar action.

"There is incredible technology out there to help monitor and diagnose problems, and we continue to develop new technologies to keep up with the infrastructure of bridges," Washer says. "This will bring new focus to that, as well as remind the public that we use and count on bridges every day."

As of 2004, 13 percent of the nation's bridges were classified as "structurally deficient," meaning they are deteriorating, according to the latest report issued by the Federal Highway Administration. Another 13

percent were classified as "functionally obsolete," meaning they are structurally sound but no longer meet transportation standards and demands. In Missouri, 31 percent of the state's bridges are either structurally deficient or functionally obsolete, according to the November 2006 issue of *Better Roads* magazine, which is geared toward the governmental highway and bridge construction industry.

Earlier this year, Washer received \$109,500 from the National Academy of Sciences to develop a system that can continuously monitor piers — the primary support systems of a bridge — and warn of structural weaknesses. When he completes a prototype of

the monitoring system, the New York Department of Transportation will select a bridge to conduct a six-month test of the system. Washer also received a \$240,000 grant from the Missouri Department of Transportation to develop infrared imaging technologies to detect defects in concrete bridges.

Before he joined the MU faculty, Washer was the Federal Highway Administration's leading technical expert for the inspection and nondestructive evaluation (NDE) of highway bridges. While with the agency, he led a national study of the reliability of visual inspection methods, the primary methods used to assess the condition and safety of the nation's bridges.



TIGER WALK-THROUGH

The freshman class of 2007 symbolically began their academic journey at Mizzou with the Tiger Walk Aug. 19 in which new college students walk through the Columns toward Jesse Hall. When they graduate, students walk north from Jesse through the Columns to symbolize their departure from the academic life.
Nicholas Benner photo

Success-oriented

MIZZOU MILESTONE

Freshman enrollment breaks 5,000 for first time

The number of new students asking for directions on campus while learning about Mizzou has

reached a milestone this year. For the first time in MU's history, the number of first-time freshmen has risen above 5,000 students.

This semester's freshman enrollment is 5,027 students; that's an increase of 190 freshmen — or 3.3 percent — compared

to last fall's 4,865. MU also continued this streak in setting another record with total enrollment reaching 28,070. This is the fifth straight year that the University has broken this record.

"This class represents both a record enrollment and also a great group of bright students," says Ann Korschgen,

vice provost for enrollment management. "We are extremely pleased to welcome them and look forward to witnessing their successes at MU."

Freshman African-American enrollment was 331 students, the second-highest total in more than a decade. Total minority student enrollment was 566. The number of Bright Flight

scholars increased from 577 last year to 642 this year, an increase of 11.3 percent. The number of students receiving Curators and Excellence awards also increased.

"We are working to ensure that an MU education remains affordable to all students," Korschgen says. "This is the first year that we awarded a very significant scholarship, the 'Mizzou Scholars' award, which awards \$10,000 to high-ability Missouri students. This year, 10 students received this scholarship, along with one full-ride scholarship. We hope to add 10 new Mizzou Scholar awards each year for the next three years."

This year's mean ACT score, a measure of the quality of this year's freshman class, is 25.5. The state average ACT score is 21.6. The national average is 21.2, the highest national average since 1991.

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