# MizzouWeekly



**Focus on Food Friday** 

Panel discussion led by Chancellor Deaton on food sustainability happens Friday in Reynolds Journalism Institute

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\$1.4 million gift

Funds will go toward promoting music creation

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March 14, 2013

University of Missouri mizzouweekly.missouri.edu

#### Thunder snow?

No problem for MU Health Care employees Page 4

#### Coach to lead men's wheelchair basketball team at 2016 Paralympics

#### FROM COLUMBIATO RIO

Training wheelchair athletes similar to training ablebodied athletes, coach says

he Paralympics could be an end in itself. Athletes with physical challenges competing against one another sends a strong message about the human spirit and overcoming obstacles. Goal achieved.

But MU Coach Ron Lykins, who will lead a team in the next Paralympics, also wants his players to win, both on the court and in life.

"I am helping the players gain life skills and prepare for their lives after basketball," said Lykins, head coach of MU's Tiger wheelchair basketball team.

A few months ago, the National Wheelchair Basketball Association announced that Lykins would coach the United States' wheelchair basketball team in the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. Lykins hopes to improve on the third-place finish last September of the U.S. men's team in the Paralympics in London.

This won't be his first foray into Paralympic coaching. Lykins led

the women's wheelchair basketball team in 2000, 2004 and 2008, the past two times winning gold.

He began his coaching career as a volunteer for the wheelchair basketball team at his alma mater, the University of Kentucky. After graduating with a bachelor's in community recreation and a master's in education, he spent 10 years coaching the wheelchair basketball team at the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater. He arrived at MU in February 2009.

For the 2009–10 MU wheelchair basketball season, the men's team had a winning record for the first time in the program's history. Since then, Lykins has led the Tigers to two Mizzou Wheelchair Basketball Classic championships and two-fifth place finishes in the National Intercollegiate Wheelchair Basketball Classic.

Once a sports fan gets pass the spectacle of wheelchairs screeching across a basketball court, it's easy to settle in and simply enjoying the players' ball handling, team organization and hoop scores as though watching any other college-level basketball game. According to Lykins, training



Courtesy of MU News Burea

**TEAMWORK** Ron Lykins, head coach of the men's wheelchair basketball team, instructs players, from left, Zach Herries, James McCormick and Andrew Bush, at the 2012 Mizzou Wheelchair Basketball Camp in the MizzouRec Center.

wheelchair athletes is similar to training able-bodied athletes.

"Successful wheelchair basketball players have a combination of physical skill, coordination and understanding of the game," Lykins said. "The general rules and principles are very similar to those in ablebodied basketball, but we do emphasize chair skills, quickness and hand speed. The best athletes

can read the floor and have great anticipation of what is to come."

In London, the Paralympics received more than average media

See PARALYMPICS on Page 4

### A projected \$2.3 million shortfall for Mizzou's 2014 budget has administrators exploring options

#### 2014 BUDGET

Employees attending meeting suggested ways to stanch budget

shortfall of \$2.3 million is projected for the University of Missouri's budget for fiscal 2014 without raises or benefit cost increases, the Budget Office said March 7. Budget officials and administrators are exploring ways to make up the projected deficit.

But despite this, the general timbre of the budget meeting in the Reynolds Alumni Center was positive. Budget Director Rhonda Gibler said MU has no huge past deficits and has money in "reserves at a responsible

level, with 61 percent of reserves held within colleges."

MU's spending plan has had to adjust to declining state higher education appropriations for more than a decade. Tuition funds have compensated somewhat for the loss to state-provided general operating funds. Gibler said the fiscal 2013 operating budget in part consisted of 31 percent state funds and 62 percent tuition. By contrast, fiscal 1990 was made up of 70 percent state funds and 27 percent tuition.

Gibler said that, though the budget has been well managed year to year, the data suggests "we've just been getting by." Unless some changes are made, MU might have a budget shortfall of \$3 million annually in coming

years without making progress on the highest priority items identified by the campus.

"We are being more efficient but not making choices that are sustainable over the long term," Gibler said.

Budget woes can affect MU's highest priorities, including raising faculty salaries, infrastructure maintenance, and funding research and development faculty leaves. The numbers are sobering. To improve MU tenure/tenure-trackfaculty salaries in comparison to peers, for example, would take an influx of at least \$14 million a year, Gibler said.

But there is hope. "The issues are not impossible for us to solve," she said.

Much of the two-hour meeting was a discussion of possible approaches to raising funds to stanch the budget deficit and strategies to reach MU's strategic priorities. Gibler and Provost Brian Foster facilitated the discussion with about 20 faculty and staff.

In-state tuition cannot be raised higher than the CPI (consumer price index) each year by Missouri law; the CPI impacting fiscal 2014 is 1.7 percent. A discussion ensued about raising out-of-state tuition by a greater percentage, which is not limited by the Missouri Higher Education Student Funding Act. But a balance must be struck between the tuition increase and the applicants lost due to the increase, Gibler said.

The question is "how much can you change your price and still not hurt your enrollment?" Gibler said.

As for the issue of faculty salaries, Foster suggested one approach might be obtaining endowments that provide about \$20,000 in annual revenue that could go toward faculty compensation.

The meeting ended with a discussion of attempts to mitigate health costs. Healthy for Life, the UM System wellness program, has about 700 wellness ambassadors across the four campuses, of which 300 are at MU. Healthy for Life Director Laura Schopp encouraged faculty and staff to exercise more and eat healthier to stave off chronic health conditions that cost the university millions of dollars each year.

"It is in our interest to keep people healthy well into retirement," Schopp said.

#### Enrollment strategies event

Ann Korschgen, vice provost of enrollment, will discuss from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. today strategies to coordinate enrollment planning. Her talk will concentrate on the possibilities and challenges the university faces concerning diversity planning.

The open meeting is in the Student Center's Chamber Auditorium. For more information, visit cdi .missouri.edu/leadership.

#### 10 percent off sunglasses

Throughout March, University Optical, part of Mason Eye Institute at One Hospital Drive, and University Optical East, 3215 Wingate Court, are offering an additional 10 percent off the MU benefit employees' regular discount on prescription or nonprescription sunglasses.

Contact University Optical at 884-7710 and University Optical East at 884-4568.

#### Rock climbing classes

Scaling rocks isn't just for the professionals.

Venture Out and the Department of Student Life are hosting a three-evening rockclimbing class for beginners.

Classes will be held 4–7 p.m. weekly Wednesday or Thursday beginning the second week of April. Cost is \$75. Register at ventureout .missouri.edu/rockclimbing.

#### New director of clinical services

Last month, Kristin Sohl, previously an assistant professor in the Department of Child Health at the School of Medicine, was named director of clinical services at the MUThompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment Disorders

Sohl will oversee the coordination of interdisciplinary programs offered at the center.

"Kristin's energy and expertise made her an easy choice for the position,"

Stephen Kanne, the center's executive director, said in a statement. "You'll never find a person more passionate and committed to patients and their families."

## <u>calendar</u>



#### Concerts & Plays

#### **Thursday, March 14** "WE ALWAYS SWING" JAZZ

SERIES: The Joe Locke-Geoffrey Keezer Group, with the MU Concert Jazz Band will perform at 7 p.m. at the Missouri Theatre. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster or by calling 449-3001.

#### UNIVERSITY THEATRE SERIES: True West, by Sam Shepard, at 7:30 p.m. today through March 21 in the

Shepard, at 7:30 p.m. today through March 21 in the Corner Playhouse. For ticket information call 882-7529.

#### Friday, March 15 UNIVERSITY CONCERT

SERIES: Joan Rivers, internationally renowned comedienne, talk show host, actress and author will perform at 7 p.m. at the Missouri Theatre. For ticket information call 882-3781.

#### Courses & Workshops

#### Thursday, March 14 COMPUTER TRAINING:

- "HTML5 & CSS: Links, Graphics & Structure" will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in N3 Memorial Union.
- "Dreamweaver CS5 2: Intro to CSS" will be offered at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union. Registration is required online

Registration is required online at training.missouri .edu or call 882-5000.

#### Tuesday, March 19 COMPUTER TRAINING:

- "Webinar-Visio Basics" will be offered at noon at doit .missouri.edu/training/webinar.
- "HTML5 & CSS: Tables, Layout & Typography" will be offered at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union.
- "Access 2010: Advanced Forms, Reports & Queries" will be offered at 1 p.m. in 4D11 East Ellis Library.

Registration is required online at training.missouri .edu or call 882-5000.

#### Wednesday, March 20 COMPUTER TRAINING:

• "InDesign CS5 2: Modifying

& Finalizing Documents" will be offered at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union.

 "Excel 2010: Charts & Graphics" will be offered at 1 p.m. in 4D11 East Ellis Library.

Registration is required online at training.missouri .edu or call 882-5000.

#### Thursday, March 21 COMPUTER TRAINING:

- "Excel 2010 for Starters" will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in N3 Memorial Union.
- "Outlook 2010: Divide & Conquer Your Inbox" will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in 4D11 East Ellis Library.
- "Dreamweaver CS5 3: Tables, Templates & Movies" will be offered at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union.

Registration is required online at training.missouri .edu or call 882-5000.

#### **Exhibits**

#### BINGHAM GALLERY: An undergraduate juried exhibition showcasing selected work by current students will be on

The gallery, located in the Fine Arts Building, is open 8 a.m.–5 p.m. weekdays.

display through March 21.

#### MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY:

- "Rolando Estevez and the Genius of Vigia" will be on display through March 17.
- "Sites of Experience: Keith Crown and the Landscape of New Mexico" will be on display through May 19.
- The museum, located in Pickard Hall, is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, and noon-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

#### STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

- "Nelly Don: Self-Made, Ready Made," a collaboration with the Missouri Historic Costume & Textile Collection, will be on display through May 18.
  "Money, Mail and Memoria:
- "Money, Mail and Memoria: Ephemera of the Civil War Era" will be on display through Aug. 31.
   Gallery hours are 8 a.m.—4:45 p.m. Monday–Friday, and

8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Saturday.

#### Lectures & Seminars

#### Thursday, March 14 LEADERSHIP IN DIVERSITY

SERIES: Ann Korschgen, vice provost for enrollment management, will present "Connecting the Campus Community with Strategies and Processes that Work" at 2:30 p.m. in Chamber Auditorium.

#### DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES IN PSYCHOLOGY:

Hazel Markus, Davis-Brack professor of behavioral sciences at Stanford University, will present "Our Cultures, Our Selves: The Sources of Belongingness" at 3:30 p.m. in Memorial Union's Jesse Wrench Auditorium.

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

LECURE: Marcus Rautman, Elizabeth Raubolt and Lauren DiSalvo, from the Department of Art History and Archaeology, will present "Three Lessons in Roman Sardis" at 5:30 p.m. in 106 Pickard Hall. The lecture is preceded by a reception at 5 p.m.

#### Friday, March 15

#### E-LEARNING BROWN BAG

SERIES: Hear lessons learned from experienced instructors about moving an academic program online in "Online Program Planning: The First Years." The lunchtime event begins at 11:30 a.m. in 2205 A&B Student Center.

ZOOBIQUITY: Barbara Natterson-Horowitz and Kathryn Bowers present "Zoobiquity: What the Flamingo's Heart Attack, the Dolphin's Diabetes and the Koala's Chlamydia Mean for Human Health" at 5:30 p.m. in the Columns Ballroom in Reynolds Alumni Center, followed by a reception and book signing.

#### Saturday, March 16 SATURDAY MORNING

SCIENCE: Charmaine Royal, associate research professor in the Institute for Genome Sciences & Policy and of African and African-American studies at Duke University, will present "LSSP: Claiming Kin" at 10:30 a.m. in Monsanto Auditorium.

#### Thursday, March 21 MISSOURI CONFERENCE

**ON HISTORY:** This year's conference will bring special focus to the centennial of the adoption of the Missouri state

flag. It will be hosted by Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Giardeau and will continue on Friday, March 22. Visit shs .umsystem.edu/mch to register.

#### **Films**

#### **Saturday, March 16** STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

A Stitch in Time: Spring 1941
Fashion documentary screening at
1 p.m. in the Ellis Auditorium.

#### Friday, March 22

MUSEUM OF ART & ARCHAEOLOGY: History of the World Part I (1981), directed by Mel Brooks, will be shown at 7 p.m. in 106 Pickard Hall. The showing is free and open to the public.

#### Special Events

#### WELLNESS PROGRAM:

Free health screenings are available for faculty and staff as part of the Healthy for Life wellness incentive program. Available this week:

- Thursday, March 14: 8 a.m.– noon in Memorial Union, Stotler Lounge
- Friday, March 15: 8–11
   a.m. at University Hospital, MA223 School of Medicine
- Tuesday, March 19:
   8 a.m.– noon in Memorial
  Union, Stotler Lounge
- Wednesday, March 20:
   8 a.m.-noon in Hearnes Center, East Entrance
- Friday, March 22: 8–11 a.m. at University Hospital, MA223 School of Medicine
- March 26: 8 a.m.–12 p.m. 216 Heinkel Building
- March 29: 8–11 a.m. University Hospital, MA 223 School of Medicine
- April 3: 8 a.m.–12 p.m. Student Center, KC/St. Louis Room
  April 5: 8–11 a.m.,
- University Hospital, MA 223 School of Medicine For more information on the program, visit umsystem

.edu/curators/wellness.

#### Friday, March 15

#### MU LIFE SCIENCES & SOCIETY SYMPOSIUM: The

9th annual symposium, entitled "Claiming Kin," will explore the evolution of kin groups and evolving notions of kinship. The event will continue through Sunday, March 17. For event schedule and registration info, visit lssp. missouri.edu/claimingkin.

#### MUSEUM OF ART &

ARCHAEOLOGY: The annual Art in Bloom spring festival combines the beauty of fine art with that of nature in bloom. The festival is open 7–9 p.m. today and continues through 9 a.m.–4 p.m. March 17.

#### **Saturday, March 16** MUSEUM OF ART AND

ARCHAEOLOGY: "Art in Bloom for Kids," which allows children to create their own artistic arrangements with real flowers, is 1–3:30 p.m. in 106 Pickard Hall. Preregistration by calling 882-9498.

### classifieds

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#### **Board appointed by Obama to discuss** worldwide food challenges Friday at MU

#### **FEEDING THE WORLD**

Chancellor Brady J. Deaton is chair of BIFAD

he Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD) will assemble for a wide-ranging panel discussion on feeding the world 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Friday in the Reynolds Journalism Institute's Fred W. Smith Forum. The public is welcome to attend.

BIFAD is a group of scholars and agricultural specialists appointed by President Barack Obama to develop solutions to worldwide food challenges.

Chancellor Brady J. Deaton, appointed BIFAD chair in April 2011, said Wednesday that part of his role as chair is

"to ask fresh questions about what [the board] is doing."

Deaton wants to "marshal that talent and energy" of those appointed to meet the food challenges the world faces, he said.

"Vital to this is a continuing communication process," Deaton said.

BIFAD was created in 1975 under Title XII (Famine Prevention and Freedom from Hunger) of the Foreign Assistance Act. The board's role is to draw on the scientific expertise of U.S. higher education institutions, especially those with land-grant missions such as MU, and advise and serve the country's international food security assistance efforts through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

"We have an incredible challenge before us — to produce food for 9 billion people [by 2050] — and we need our best scientific thinking to meet this challenge as we help people feed themselves worldwide," Deaton said.

Since Deaton's appointment, the board has met outside Washington, D.C., several times at universities. Deaton said the reason is to tap into faculty ideas and expertise at higher education institutions. Friday marks the first time MU has hosted a BIFAD panel discussion.

"We are especially proud of being able to host this meeting of these international policy advisers on our campus," Deaton said. "As scientific advisers to the administrator of USAID, we are dedicated to addressing the needs to feed a growing population.

The event will be broken into three parts:

• 8:40-9:15 a.m., board outreach reports on Africa and Asia.

The speakers scheduled are Catherine Bertini, professor of public administration and international affairs at Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University; Marty McVey, president of McVey & Associates LLC; and William DeLauder, president emeritus of Delaware State University (board term recently expired, but DeLauder will attend meeting).

• 9:15-10:30 a.m., panel discussion on development of USAID labs and research priorities in pest management and sustainable intensification, which involves increasing food production and water conservation.

Deaton will moderate the

discussion. The panel is Julie Howard and Saharah Moon Chapotin of USAID; Sylvie Brouder, professor of agronomy at Purdue University; and Dale G. Bottrell, a professor in the Entomology Department at the University of Maryland.

• 10:45 a.m.–noon, an MU faculty panel will discuss agriculture research. Deaton will moderate.

On the panel are:

- Marc J. Linit, associate dean for research and extension in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Jill Findeis, chair of the Division of Applied Social Sciences
- · Robert Sharp, director of Interdisciplinary Plant Group
- Handy Williamson Jr., vice provost of International Programs
- William Meyers, director of International Agriculture Programs.

#### Here, what Do YOU Think? Getting the Most Out of a Course Review

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Friday, March 15, 2013 from 12:00 PM - 1:00PM 2205 A&B Student Center

#### Mizzou Weekly Calendar



Email your event information to mizzouweeklycalendar@missouri.edu by noon Thursday the week before publication. Events are free and open to the public unless otherwise

### Zoobiguity

Come explore how animal and human commonality can be used to diagnose, treat and heal patients of all species.

Featuring special guests:

Barbara Natterson-Horowitz M.D.



Kathryn Bowers

Friday March 15 at 5:30 p.m. Reynolds Alumni Center, Columns Ballroom

A Mitchell Rosenholtz M.D. Lectureship Sponsored by Mizzou Advantage

#### Life Sciences symposium kicks off Friday

#### **LECTURES ON KIN**

Professors from MU, Harvard and other universities to speak

he ninth annual MU Life Sciences & Society Symposium runs March 15-17 with lectures in Jesse Hall's Jesse Auditorium and The Bond Life Sciences Center's Monsanto Auditorium. This year's theme is "Claiming Kin," which explores the link between family relationships and evolutionary science.

The event is free and

open to the public.

The keynote address is 7-8:15 a.m. Friday in Jesse Auditorium. The speaker is Stephanie Coontz, author of *Marriage*, a History: How Love Conquered Marriage.

Over the weekend, besides lectures by professors from such institutions as Harvard and Duke, two MU professors will give talks.

Martin Daly, an evolutionary psychology professor in the anthropology department, will lecture 9-10 a.m. Saturday in Jesse Auditorium on how theories of social evolution are relevant

to modern human behavior. particularly violence within families.

Robert S. Walker, an MU assistant professor of anthropology, will speak 9-10 a.m. Sunday in Monsanto Auditorium. His topic covers the possible benefits of having two or more men raise a child, based on a family social structure within a South American tribe.

Last year, 665 people registered for the weekend talks.

For more information, including the full slate of speakers, visit lssp.missouri.edu/claimingkin.

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#### Missouri couple gives \$1.4 million to School of Music

**SUPPORTING THE ARTS** 

Gift will support programs, scholarships

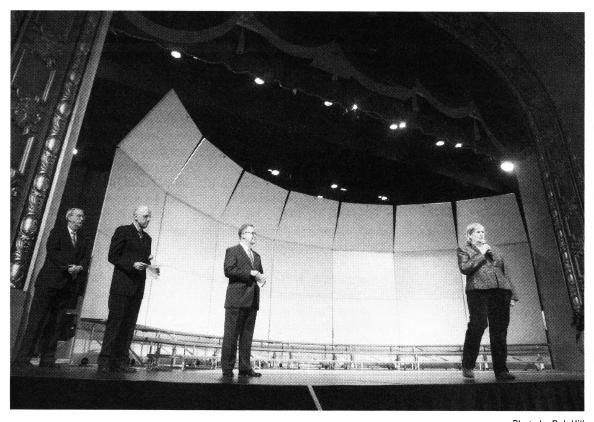
eanne and Rex Sinquefield of Westphalia, Mo., have given \$1.4 million to the School of Music at MU. The three-year gift, announced March 11 at the Missouri Theatre in Columbia during the Chancellor's Concert, will expand the Mizzou New Music Initiative (MNMI) and the Creating Original Music Project. The evening also featured the premier of "Missouri," a new music composition by David Witter, BM '10, MM '12.

The Sinquefields have worked with MU for eight years to foster new music composition. Since 2005, they have supported various competitions and summer camps open to kindergarteners through college students. These include the Creating Original Music Project, a statewide competition with cash prizes, in which Missouri K-12 students compose original works in a variety of music styles. In 2009, the Sinquefields gave \$1 million to

MU for scholarships, ensembles, faculty support and to create an annual international festival of new music composers in Columbia.

This week's gift will expand the existing programs and provide funds for professional recordings of new music premiered at MU, said Robert Shay, director of the School of Music. "The gift also will commission more great composers and have their works performed for the first time here by Missouri students. It will bring in more guest composers and guest performers to interact with students and create a laboratory where students can work on film scoring, which is an important career avenue."

Jeanne Sinquefield, herself a musician, told the crowd she is pleased with the progress so far. "In the last eight years, we've had over 300 pieces composed, performed and recorded by Missouri composers. They range to second graders whose feet didn't hit the pedals on the piano," she said. "So we've been having fun, and I feel that we have to continue because I



have a goal that we're going to make Missouri a mecca for composition."

- Dale Smith

GENEROUS GIFT At the Missouri Theatre Monday, Jeanne Sinquefield and her husband, Rex (not shown), donated \$1.4 million to help MU's School of Music expand its composition program. On stage with her were, from left, Michael O'Brien, dean of the College of Arts and Science; Robert Shay, School of Music director; and Brady J. Deaton, MU chancellor.

### MU Health Care employees earn their stripes during snow closures

THE CULTURE OF YES

Health care workers remain on the job despite extreme weather

hey might not have been eating lobster and steak and sleeping on plush beds. But MU Health Care employees were taken care of, receiving bed, breakfast, lunch and dinner during the two February snowstorms.

Although most staff and faculty went home early Feb. 21 and didn't work at all Feb. 22 and 26 when the university announced day closures, MU Health Care's hospitals and emergency centers had a lean but effective group of employees on

the job. After all, patients don't stop needing care just because most of the population isn't working. In fact, extreme weather can result in more emergency-room patients.

Keeping health centers open in times of peril requires preplanning, said Roger Higginbotham, director of support services. "If you just react, it won't work well."

Between real events and exercises, the hospital used the emergency operations plan more than 20 times in 2012. Before the snow started, Higginbotham and Chris Smith, manager of communications and emergency preparedness, set up a command center and pulled together

their staffs to make sure there would be enough staff, food and equipment to weather the storm.

University Hospital and Clinics issued employees 220 cots during the storm beginning Feb. 21 and 170 during the Feb. 26 storm to make sure people such as Garrett Rucinski, an office support staff member, and David Weston, a registered nurse, could spend the night. MU's Women's and Children's Hospital also provided lodging for 155 employees during the two storms.

With many roads impassable, Rucinski stayed overnight Feb. 21. His wife, Kylee, walked a mile to the hospital to bring him boots before they walked home together at the end of his shift the next day.

The command center activated a transportation center to coordinate and send drivers to bring more than 200 employees into the hospital. David Foley, a concierge, hopped in a hospital's four-wheel drive vehicle and started making runs.

"He's always the first one to volunteer and the last one to go home," Higginbotham said.

If the new Culture of Yes initiative were in place, Rucinski, Weston and Foley would have earned their stripes, said Mitch Wasden, the CEO/ COO of MU Health Care.

The Culture of Yes emphasizes the need to care, deliver, innovate and serve. Part of the initiative is a recognition program called Earning Your Stripes, where employees receive a coupon for embodying The Culture of Yes. "'Care' is about the heart, 'deliver' is about getting results, 'innovate' is about creatively overcoming obstacles and 'serve' is about working together for a common goal," said Wasden, who launched the initiative March 4.

Wasden said employees who worked beyond their designated shift would have received a stripe for caring and employees who figured out how to get into work despite the road conditions would have received a stripe for innovating. When employees rack up enough stripes, they can cash them in for rewards, including movie tickets and gift cards.

"Hundreds of employees earned their stripes during the storm," Wasden said.

- Kelsey Allen

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#### PARALYMPICS from Page 1

exposure thanks to the presence of Oscar Pistorius, a 26-yearold South African whose legs were amputated at the knee as an infant. His competing in the 2012 Summer Olympics was a global news event, and the interest carried over one month later when he won two golds and a silver in the Paralympic Games. Even though Pistorius' world came apart in February when he was arrested on charges of murdering his girlfriend, the attention he brought to the Paralympics might roll over to 2016.

Lykins will remain the MU coach while recruiting and training the Paralympic team. Currently he and his assistants

are viewing hundreds of player videos submitted by U.S. wheelchair basketball coaches. The staff will invite 30 to 50 players to tryouts in May to whittle the team down to 12.

"I want to find athletes who will adapt to our system and who will work hard to contribute to the team," Lykins said. "I believe in great teams, and we will win by the players' ability to work together as a team."

To make it to the 2016
Paralympics, the team must qualify for the World Championships in 2014 by competing this year in a "zone qualifying" tournament at Mizzou. The team must finish in the top four to qualify

for the World Championships in Goyang City, South Korea. To qualify for the Paralympics, the team needs to place in the top four at the 2015 ParaPan-American Games in Toronto.

Though it's a good bet the U.S. team will make it to Rio, Lykins is cautious. "It's all a process from start to finish," he said. "Right now we can't even begin to think about Rio."

After 31 years of coaching wheelchair basketball teams, Lykins still gets excited before each season. "There is always something to learn and a new component to add to the teaching of the game," he said.

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