

AUG 28 2009

**ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH**

**AP** Associated Press

## **Popular tailgating spot on MU campus off-limits**

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Friday, Aug. 28 2009

COLUMBIA, Mo. -- Some University of Missouri football fans are going to have to find a new place to tailgate this season.

The university said Thursday the popular Reactor Field parking lot will be off-limits to all but media and event staff this season.

Whit Babcock, senior associate athletics director, says the 800-space parking lot was becoming known as a party spot for people, many of whom weren't interested in attending the football game. He says fights and underage drinking were becoming more common at the spot.

The Columbia Daily Tribune reported Thursday that the university will lose some money because of the change. But plans are being worked out to offer a limited number of spaces next season to donors who hold season passes.



## MU shuts off Reactor Field for tailgating

**Unruly conduct cited in ousting public from lot.**

By Janese Heavin

Thursday, August 27, 2009

Advertisement

The party's over at Reactor Field.

**Poll: Will closing Reactor Field to the public deter underage drinking and fighting?**

- Yes
- No

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The University of Missouri is turning the tailgating hot spot into a parking lot for media and event staff only.

"It was a university decision but fully supported by the athletics department and the MU Police Department," said Whit Babcock, senior associate athletics director. "It was really just a behavioral issue down there. We were having fights, some underage drinking."

The athletic department will lose money this year by changing use of the parking lot from a \$15-per-vehicle parking area to a free but restricted lot. Next year, however, the department might offer a limited number of spaces to donors who hold season passes. Details are still being hashed out, Babcock said. Under the current donor parking plan, a season-ticket holder can opt to purchase a yearlong parking pass if he or she also donates at least \$50.

The university created the 800-space parking lot by paving Reactor Field in 2006. It has since turned into what Babcock described as a local "Party Cove," — named after an infamous party spot known for unruly behavior at the Lake of the Ozarks.

“If you go down there and park a car with four people and tailgate, that’s one thing,” he said. “But if you set up a truck with a lot of beer and 500 college kids come to that one space to socialize — the socializing got out of hand.”

In one instance, an 18-year-old was cited for possessing alcohol after police found some 800 cans of beer in his truck. Another time, an MU police officer was shoved against a tent pole when he tried to break up a fight.

Athletic Director Mike Alden said the department wants fans to enjoy the game-day experience, but most people showing up at Reactor Field weren’t even interested in watching football.

“Over the course of the last couple of years, what we’ve found is that the vast majority of patrons paying to park down there — the vast majority — weren’t going to the game,” Alden said. “They were paying a fee to go into the lot and were turning it into a huge party area. People were going to the parking lot and weren’t going to the game. We never anticipated something like that.”

The university tried to curtail problems last year by limiting the hours tailgaters could use the lot. Fans were allowed in the lot three hours before kickoff and to stay an hour after the game.

MU senior Dieter Kurtenbach said he saw the latest change coming. “It was a center of underage drinking — no ifs, ands or buts about it,” he said.

But changing the use will simply shift problems elsewhere, Kurtenbach said. Students are already brainstorming about where they can tailgate this year. “We’re poor and scrappy. We’ll find a place to drink our Mizzou Bud Light cans,” he joked, referring to beer sold in new black-and-gold cans.

Still, moving tailgating activities to smaller lots should minimize problems, Babcock said. “Instead of a huge lot, if it’s splintered up, I don’t know that it becomes as big of an issue,” he said.

Athletics spokesman Chad Moller said anyone wanting a handy place to park for the game should have no problem finding space in other lots, including a new 2,000-space parking garage opening soon at University Hospital.

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# The★Star

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Posted on Thu, Aug. 27, 2009

## China is going to great lengths to prevent the spread of swine flu

By DAVID KLEPPER  
The Kansas City Star

BEIJING | Before the plane even lands, the flight attendants pass out influenza forms. Coughing lately? Fever? Contact with anyone with flulike symptoms?

You walk past Chinese customs officials — most wearing medical face masks — and pass under thermal-imaging cameras. They scan for fever and possibly flu.

While the United States prepares for an H1N1 pandemic this fall, China is acting as if it's already under way.

"We are taking all the precautions we can," said Wang Shuai, a deputy director at the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. "We have 1.3 billion people, so public health is a great priority."

So far some 2,000 Americans have been detained by the Chinese on suspicion that they were infected or exposed to swine flu. They include business travelers, schoolchildren and even New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin, who was quarantined for five days.

Jonathan Metz, a Kansas City native and psychiatry professor at the University of Michigan Medical School, was held for a week in June after someone on his flight to Shanghai came down with the flu. He was housed in a formerly abandoned hotel reopened as a government quarantine facility.

Metz and fellow "guests" weren't allowed out of their rooms. His Chinese guardians were polite, although there were bugs and some mice.

He said China instead could focus on controlling the spread of the disease among its own population. But he doesn't question China's right to protect itself.

"The Chinese have been through SARS, they've been through avian flu, so I think their tolerance for these quarantines is a lot higher than ours," he noted.

The Chinese government so far has reported more than 2,800 cases of H1N1 — but no deaths — on the mainland, the first being a Chinese student returning home from the [University of Missouri](#). Hong Kong officials report 10,000 cases and four deaths.

H1N1 has killed 522 people in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention no longer reports the number of cases but estimates that nearly 8,000 people have been hospitalized because of the virus.

Many U.S. public health experts say aggressive quarantines such as China's serve little purpose, although governors have the right to quarantine areas in a public health emergency.

But it's premature to even discuss the possibility, said Kit Wagar, a spokesman for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

"There's absolutely no reason to do anything like that," he said. "There are ways to limit the spread of it, and that's what we're focusing on."

Checking the temperature of every visitor to a country isn't likely to do much to prevent H1N1 either, [according to Michael Cooperstock, an infectious-disease specialist at the University of Missouri](#).

"The virus is so contagious and so widespread," he said. "Trying to identify people as they come into the country isn't going to work because plenty of people would be incubating without showing any symptoms."

Instead, a voluntary quarantine of those already sick is the goal, with health officials urging anyone feeling ill to stay home from work or school.

That's what's happening at the University of Kansas. KU officials reported 59 new cases of flu on campus Thursday, bringing the total number of cases of likely flu to 243. The outbreak started last week with the beginning of the fall semester, but it's not clear whether it's H1N1.

University administrators urge students who feel sick to stay home and avoid contact with others. Housing staff will bring food to sick students in their dormitories and find new places for healthy roommates to stay for a few days.

China implemented its more aggressive approach after learning about epidemics the hard way.

SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, first appeared in southern Guangdong province in southeast China in 2002. Within a few months it had spread to 37 countries and killed 774 people.

The epidemic ravaged the Asian economy and devastated tourism and foreign investment, costing the economies of Southeast Asia an estimated \$18 billion and pushing Hong Kong into recession.

In the aftermath, Asian governments were sharply criticized for their slow response. Officials seem determined to head off any criticism this time.

Hong Kong authorities quarantined a hotel in May after a foreign guest tested positive for H1N1. But once it became obvious that the virus wasn't as lethal as early reports indicated and that the virus was already circulating, officials dropped the idea of additional quarantines.

"At first we didn't know what we were dealing with," said Hong Kong Chief Secretary Henry Tang.

But high vigilance continues on the mainland. Two weeks ago, the upscale, 375-room Shangri La hotel in the northern city of Hohhot was quarantined after a Japanese man tested positive for H1N1. Police cordoned off the hotel lobby, and those with reservations were told to find other hotels.

A Star reporter saw Chinese caution firsthand when a woman on a domestic flight began coughing. Two men sitting nearby hurriedly called a flight attendant and asked to be reseated.

The anxious attendant asked the woman whether she felt feverish. The woman said she suffered allergies. Still, many people nearby donned face masks.

On the streets of Beijing and Hong Kong, face masks are a familiar sight. Signs on the subway warn people to cover their mouths when they cough. Hand sanitizer dispensers are as common as drinking fountains in many buildings.

China plans to manufacture 65 million doses of vaccine by year's end.

So far, H1N1 hasn't proved to be much more dangerous than seasonal flu strains. But as in the United States, officials in Beijing and Hong Kong worry that the swine flu virus could return this winter with a vengeance.

"What we're concerned about is how it (H1N1) will mutate," Tang said. "There's the fear that H1N1 and H5N1 (bird flu) could mix into a much more dangerous strain."

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#### **Editor's note**

David Klepper recently returned from a four-week visit to China as part of a journalism fellowship sponsored by the East-West Center.

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## COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

# Swine flu rises at U.S. colleges as students return NO MU MENTION

By DORIE TURNER/The Associated Press

August 27, 2009 | 5:14 p.m. CDT

ATLANTA — Colleges across the country are seeing spikes in the number of students with suspected cases of swine flu as dorms fill up and classes begin for the fall semester.

While the increases were expected and colleges say they were ready for the coughing, sneezing and feverish students before move-in day, health experts say hundreds more could get sick as the virus winds its way through college campuses.

At Georgia Tech in Atlanta, classes are in full swing for the university's 20,000 students, and so is the highly contagious H1N1 virus, commonly known as swine flu.

The university has had 150 suspected cases of the virus in the two weeks since students moved back to campus.

Georgia Tech freshman Elise Woodall, 18, was met with a message scrawled on the bathroom mirror of her dorm when she moved in two weeks ago: "Wash your hands. Swine is not fine."

"Nobody wants to get sick because missing classes is a pain," said Woodall, a biomedical engineering major from Marietta.

At the University of Kansas, almost 200 students have reported having flu-like symptoms in the last week or so, spokesman Todd Cohen said. University of Tennessee administrators are estimating about 100 suspected swine flu cases on campus, spokesman Jay Mayfield said.

The University of Alabama had more than 50 cases of flu reported on the first day of classes last week. At Texas Christian University, 10 students were diagnosed with swine flu on the first day of class Monday.

"We're finding out for the first time in a long time how quickly a contagious disease can move," said Don Mills, vice chancellor for student affairs at Texas Christian.

To get ready for the expected outbreak, some colleges stocked up on hand sanitizing gel and Tamiflu — an anti-viral pill — while others have designated empty dorms where sick students can be isolated. Some campuses have developed "flu kits" with items such as tissues, thermometers and box lunches for students in isolation.

Students have been getting regular e-mails from administrators reminding them to wash their hands frequently, stay away from sick friends and isolate themselves if they develop flu-like symptoms.

"We all knew this was going to happen," said Liz Rachun, spokeswoman for the University of Georgia health clinic, which has seen nearly 50 suspected swine flu cases in the last two weeks. "We stocked up on masks, and we have doctors in place."

Health experts predicted swine flu cases would spike once the school year began and that colleges and elementary and secondary schools would see an increase in cases.

Most campuses won't know for certain how many confirmed swine flu cases they have this year because many states are no longer routinely running tests on every suspected case. Still, many administrators say they're treating every case as if it's swine flu to help stem the spread of the disease.

Health officials say the concern is that swine flu is very contagious and spreads quickly once it is introduced to a population. That means hundreds more could get sick in the next few weeks.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta recommends students with flu symptoms — fever, cough, sneezing, chills, aches, sometimes diarrhea or vomiting — stay home from class.

"The mere fact you have lots of people in close proximity with each other results in the virus being transmitted from person to person," said CDC spokesman Tom Skinner. "I don't think we're surprised by the fact influenza is returning to these campuses. What is concerning to us is people becoming complacent about this and not taking the steps we know can protect them."

# theman eater

## Bud Light Fan Cans generate debate

*Complaints focus on the message sent by beer cans in school colors.*

**By Margaux Henquinet**

Published Aug. 28, 2009

A few weeks ago, just in time for football season and tailgating, Anheuser-Busch began producing Fan Cans, cans of Bud Light in 27 different color combinations often found in school colors. The cans are sold near major universities in their corresponding colors, meant to show school spirit without featuring school names or logos.

Already, many schools have expressed opposition to the cans, some contacting Anheuser-Busch with complaints. They fear having school colors on the cans will give the idea the school approves of drinking or drinking is part of school culture.

The concept has not gone over particularly well at MU.

"I'm not thrilled that it's happening," Wellness Resource Center Director Kim Dude said. "I think it goes to enhancing the culture of alcohol in colleges, especially at sporting events."

Student Health Center Director Susan Even echoes Dude's sentiments.

"Here we have a campus with a significant number of students under 21 who are avid participants, both as athletes and fans," Even said. "To put the Fan Cans into their environment just seems to send a wrong message."

Even said the Fan Cans do not reflect the university's values.

"I think it does not promote the kind of healthy environment that makes students successful on a campus," she said. "It's not consistent with those values. It's concerning to me that alcohol merchandising like this would be part of our campus environment."

When graduate student Jim VanGordon saw the cans for the first time about a week ago, he said he was confused because they didn't look like the cans he's used to buying. He said he doesn't find the idea of Fan Cans too exciting.

"I would buy them more so because they're Bud Light cans than for the color of the can," VanGordon said.

VanGordon said the cans could be popular for tailgating.

"It's a good marketing idea," VanGordon said. "[Anheuser-Busch] might make a little extra money off of it and it's a good way to promote their local presence."

Dude said she is not concerned about an increase in student drinking due to the special cans.

"I don't think more people will drink as a result," Dude said. "I think more people will drink Bud Light as a result."

Dude said the cans' availability could pressure students to make poor decisions about alcohol safety.

"The reality is, it's difficult enough to get students to pay attention to making safe choices, and it's too bad that this is making it more difficult," Dude said.

Dude said most students are safe about alcohol because most football fans drink between zero and four drinks at games.

"We have seen significant improvement in the behavior of our students, and we hope to see that continue," she said. "[Fan Cans] will be an obstacle to us, but we hope we can work through it."

# MU adapts to new Internet technology

The university has changed wireless and e-mail systems.

By MICHELLE HAGOPIAN  
news@ColumbiaMissourian.com

MU's Division of Information Technology finds the start of a new school year brings the burden of responsibility.

With the campuswide implementation of Mizzou Wireless and the new e-mail system switch to Microsoft Office Outlook Live, the division has had its hands full early this semester. Although students were alerted to the Internet transition in November 2008, many have trouble connecting to the new system.

Terry Robb, IT director of marketing and communications, said that is the main reason MU students file complaints. The division's Web site has step-by-step instructions to connect.

Robb said the division receives inquiries from MU faculty and staff, but students file the majority of complaints.

Sophomore Morgan Kidd, 19, said Mizzou Wireless doesn't have a very consis-

tent connection. "I think it's way too sensitive because it works fine in one area and then three feet away it doesn't work at all," Kidd said.

Kidd, a communication science and disorders major, said the only places on campus she has taken her laptop this semester are the Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Building and Waters Hall.

"It either wouldn't connect or it would work in the hallway but not in the lecture halls," she said.

Robb said the chief reason behind the switch from TigerNet, the former campus wireless system, to Mizzou Wireless was security. "The systems are exactly the same, but now we have better protection for users," he said.

Robb said Mizzou Wireless users must also be affiliated with MU in order to access the system.

"We offer a guest service for visitors and faculty to temporarily use, and our Web professionals allow them access to a secret key that is changed once a month for security purposes," he said.

The division offers more than 1,300 wireless access points on

MU's campus. Robb said the division hopes to improve its technology in the near future.

"Instead of using Wi-Fi we may use different technology to blanket the campus in the future," he said.

Junior Rachel Collings, 20, said she frequently experiences problems with Mizzou Wireless.

"If I'm in any of the buildings on the Quad or along University Avenue, my Internet connection will say that I'm connected but no applications will actually load that require wireless," she said.

Collings said her Internet connection is interrupted sporadically and is unreliable when using Mizzou Wireless.

MU students and faculty also upgraded their e-mail system over the summer. While students switched to Outlook Live, faculty upgraded from Microsoft Exchange Server 2003 to

Microsoft Exchange Server 2007, Robb said.

More storage space, blogging capabilities and picture libraries are among the benefits students can expect to receive with the transition.

"The new Outlook Live offers 10 GB instead of the old 40 MB, and students can keep their new e-mail address for life instead of losing it after graduation," Robb said. "It's more consumer-oriented now."

Robb also noted the new feature that allows students to collaborate in virtual work spaces online. He said 6,800 students have yet to make the switch to the new system, and the division has generally heard positive feedback from those who already have made the switch.

Robb said students who don't switch to the new system by October will have their new accounts created for them. Those students will lose all existing mail from their old mailboxes, and they will have to call the Division of IT to set up their credentials to log in, he said.

The division recently introduced the new Tegrity lecture capture systems, which allow professors to record their lectures and post them online for students to access later. Students can also play the lectures on iPods or cell phones. Robb said more than 50 courses plan on using the system this semester.

**"I think it's way too sensitive because it works fine in one area and then three feet away it doesn't work at all."**

MORGAN KIDD  
MU sophomore