

NOV 7 2012

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

One injured in east Columbia shooting

COLUMBIA – Police responded to several reports of gunfire shortly after 2 p.m. Tuesday in the 3600 block of West Sugar Tree Lane in east Columbia, according to a news release from the Columbia Police Department.

A 17 year-old male **arrived at Women's and Children's Hospital** in a private vehicle with a non-life threatening gunshot wound shortly after, the release said. No other injuries have been reported.

The release said that gunfire hit one residence multiple times. Police are still investigating and searching the area, but believe this was not a random incident.

Supervising editor is Katherine Reed.



Professor recovering after hit-and-run

By Catherine Martin

Published November 6, 2012 at 3:56 p.m.

Elizabeth Chang, a University of Missouri English professor and wife of Columbia Public Schools Assistant Superintendent Peter Stiepleman, was injured in a hit-and-run incident Monday evening.

Chang picked up her three boys — ages 9, 7 and 4 — from a friend's house and put her youngest son in his car seat after the older two had already gotten in the car. After she secured her son in the seat, she turned around and was hit by a car traveling north on Garth Avenue.

The two older boys watched the driver get out of the car and remove their mom's minivan door from the front of the driver's car, Stiepleman said. Stiepleman said he was at home making dinner at the time and said he got a call from a friend that Chang had been in an accident.

She is in stable condition at University Hospital but will need surgery for a fractured pelvis and six fractured ribs, Stiepleman said. None of the couple's sons was injured.

"How our three boys were able to exit the car unscathed is beyond me," he wrote in an email. "I will tell you this: I am proud of my two older boys. They had the presence of mind to safely remove their younger brother from the car. They saw their mother in the street and immediately went to get help."

Since the accident, Stiepleman said, their family has seen an outpouring of support from Columbia Public Schools, MU and the city of Columbia, which he said "shows that we are a strong and caring community."

"The act of cowardice, of running over a parent in front of her three children, is a footnote in our minds," he said. "In CPS, we say that we want to be the best district in the state. I know for a fact that we live in the best city in this state."

The family has been in touch with Columbia police about the incident, Stiepleman said.

"We are confident that they are looking at this from all angles," he said.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Missouri votes no on proposed tobacco tax increase

COLUMBIA — Missouri voters rejected a proposed increase in the state's excise tax on tobacco products on Tuesday.

The defeat of Proposition B continued a consistent voting trend against tobacco tax increases in the state that has the nation's lowest per-pack cigarette tax at 17 cents. Missouri residents also voted against similar proposals in 2002 (Proposition A) and 2006 (Amendment 3).

The measure failed statewide by a thin margin, 51 percent to 49 percent, according to the Missouri Secretary of State's Office.

Boone County, however, favored Proposition B, with 59.6 percent of voters approving. Seven other counties — Adair, Clay, Jackson, Nodaway, Platte, St. Charles and St. Louis counties — along with the city of St. Louis, also voted for it.

Proposition B would have levied a 73-cents-per-pack increase on name-brand cigarettes, pushed the per-pack tax on value-brand cigarettes to \$1.47 and increased the tax on smokeless tobacco products such as "chew" and "snuff" by 150 percent. It would also have established a 3.65-cent per-cigarette tax increase on roll-your-own tobacco products.

The proposition was intended to increase funding for public education and tobacco cessation and prevention programs. It targeted 50 percent of tax revenue for K-12 public education, 30 percent for higher education, and the remaining 20 percent for smoking cessation and prevention programs.

The fiscal note on the ballot issue estimated it would generate \$283 million to \$423 million per year. Kelly estimated it would generate more than \$3 million for Boone County K-12 public schools alone.

The University of Missouri was planning to invest a portion of the anticipated revenue toward expanding its medical school enrollment and creating a clinical campus in Springfield. The one-time cost of these projects is an estimated \$33

million, which could have been partially funded by \$26.3 million the university system stood to receive from the tax.

State Reps. Mary Still, D-Columbia, Chris Kelly, D-Columbia, and Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia, all favored Proposition B.

Kelly, who was unopposed in his bid for re-election to the House of Representatives, spent a lot of his campaign time and money advocating for the measure.

Both Democratic representatives expressed disappointment with the results. Kelly said he wasn't sure how Missouri would move forward in generating new funding for education but said he was pleased with the local results.

"I'm very proud of the people of Boone County who supported it by almost 60 percent," he said. "I'm disappointed that we won't be able to move our schools forward."

Ron Leone, executive director of the Missouri Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association, led the opposition. Leone said on Tuesday morning that the new tax would jeopardize Missouri's competitive advantage over its border states.

"The 760 percent tax increase (on value-brand cigarettes) flips the dynamics so we go from a low-tax state to a higher than four of our eight border states," Leone said.

"That means all of that cross-border state traffic is going to stay home, so it's going to have serious economic consequences for small businesses," he said.

Leone also doubted that new tax revenue would reach the intended targets. He cited the use of state lottery and casino gambling revenue as past broken promises to fund education and health care.

"The promises can't be kept, and it's inappropriate of the supporters to be saying if this happens you will get X, Y, and Z because they just can't guarantee that," he said.

"We've seen that two times before with the lottery and casino gaming, where the money didn't go where everybody thought it would," an explanation that seemed to resonate among voters.

On Tuesday evening Leone said that he was "thrilled and grateful but not surprised by the outcome."

The Missourian spoke with Boone County voters on Tuesday morning to get their views on Proposition B. Penny Moore, a manager with Columbia Insurance Group who voted at the Boone County Fire Protection District headquarters, shared Leone's view that new tax revenue from Proposition B would not go toward the intended targets.

"I'm opposed to it because there won't be any control of it later, such as where the money will go," she said.

Larry Allen, 65, also doubted Proposition B would directly channel money toward education and tobacco cessation programs. He voted at the First Church of the Nazarene.

"I voted no on Proposition B because it's an awesome idea, but just like the lottery, the money will be appropriated somewhere else," Allen said.

Jeff Perkins, 48, a programmer assistant at Columbia Insurance Group, said he didn't vote for Proposition B because he thought the government would misuse the proceeds.

"It's like the lottery; they don't use it for what it was intended," he said after voting at Grace Bible Church.

Proposition B supporters in Boone County mostly cited benefits to education and public health as their motivations for favoring it. Donna Ogborn, 40, a special education teacher at West Junior High School, said that she voted yes because "it's better for the kids."

Joe Pintz, 38, an MU art professor, agreed. "As an educator, I voted for Proposition B, to bring in extra funding supporting education," Pintz said.

Sue Sinele, 49, a registered nurse, also voted yes on Proposition B. "I think it's sad that we have the lowest tax on cigarettes in the country," she said. "As a cancer nurse, I see a lot of death from lung cancer so I am for Prop B."

Supervising editor is Jeanne Abbott.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Missouri keeps tobacco tax as the lowest in the nation

Missouri voters produced another razor-thin division on raising tobacco taxes, but strongly endorsed a Republican referendum on Obamacare and refused to change judicial appointments.

With complete but unofficial statewide results, the tobacco-tax issue, called Proposition B, was defeated narrowly. It was the third attempt in 11 years to increase state taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products.

Missouri's cigarette tax of 17 cents per pack is the nation's lowest. The proposition would boost the rate to 90 cents per pack, still below the national average of \$1.49.

"I'm a smoker and I think we're already paying more than our share," said Karen Watson, 58, of Lake Saint Louis.

Ron Leone of the Missouri Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association, the opposition group, credited a narrow victory "to our ability to communicate with voters through our convenience-store education program." The American Cancer Society had promoted the tax increase.

Similar efforts to raise it failed by narrow margins — 49 percent in favor in 2002 and 48 percent in 2006.

Campaigns for and against Proposition B replayed the previous efforts. The Cancer Society says raising the tax will encourage smokers to quit and generate money for education and health programs.

Opposition came from the Missouri Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association.

Its vigorous advertising campaign avoided mentioning cigarettes, stressing instead that the tax would create a slush fund for Jefferson City politicians.

The vote showed Missouri's traditional urban-country split. St. Louis and St. Louis County strongly supported it, as did Kansas City and Boone County, home to the University of Missouri-Columbia. Rural counties thrashed it.

The other statewide issues were much easier to call. Constitutional Amendment 3, to adjust the system for appointments to Missouri's Supreme Court and courts of appeals, had been abandoned by its backers. Voters did the same, strongly rejecting it.

The health care issue, Proposition E, had a strong lead. It is another skirmish in the national battle over the federal Affordable Care Act and the second such referendum in Missouri — and with similar results.

In 2010, voters strongly supported a ballot proposition to exempt the state from the act's mandate to buy health insurance. Both issues were placed on the ballot by Republicans in the Missouri Legislature.

The one approved Tuesday would prohibit the state — meaning Gov. Jay Nixon, a Democrat — from creating health insurance exchanges without legislative or voter approval. The federal law requires creating the exchanges to help uninsured people buy health insurance.

Nixon has never asserted that right, saying he will meet with legislators in January on the issue. But state Sen. Rob Schaaf, R-St. Joseph, sponsor of Proposition E, said he wanted to avoid any confusion.

Schaaf's Senate colleagues voted 25-8, strictly on party lines, to adopt his bill. The House vote was overwhelmingly partisan, with a few Democrats favoring it and no Republicans against it.

There was little campaigning either way. Conservatives wanted to highlight what they call the act's unpopularity, and liberals called it a GOP stunt.

"Prop E has always been an attempt to play politics with people's health care," said Jennifer Bersdale of St. Louis, of Missouri Health Care for All, a group that opposed it.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU professor receives \$2.4 million grant to establish Terrorism and Disaster Center

COLUMBIA — MU's Brian Houston is using a \$2.4 million grant he received from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to help victims with the long-term effects of man-made and natural disasters.

The Terrorism and Disaster Center will focus on dealing with the emotional effects of disasters instead of immediate relief efforts such as providing food and shelter to victims. Houston, an assistant professor in the Department of Communication, will co-direct the center.

Houston said the center will help people be better prepared if disaster strikes. "When disasters are experienced, we can help people deal with them better and recover more efficiently," he said.

The center's headquarters will be at MU, but it will implement programs in Joplin, Kansas City and New Orleans. The center will hire a social worker to train school teachers, counselors and mental health practitioners in those areas on how to deal with the long-term emotional consequences of disasters.

"It's a partnership between the center and the people already in the community," Houston said. Michael Porter, chairman of the Department of Communication, said the center will bring awareness to the more long-term effects of disasters. He said the center will help remind people that the issues left by a crisis don't go away when the news media leaves.

Houston said the crisis training will be an intervention-type model focused on community resilience and getting a sense of a community's strengths and weaknesses.

"Overall, I hope we can increase our knowledge on how to help people, families and communities," he said. The grant is the largest the Department of Communication has ever received. The funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will continue until Sept. 30, 2016.

Supervising editor is Elizabeth Brixey.

Delta to end its Columbia air service

By Andrew Denney

Published November 6, 2012 at 4:08 p.m.

Delta Air Lines, which offers service from Columbia Regional Airport to its international hubs in Atlanta and Memphis, plans to leave Columbia in February after turning down a revenue guarantee offer from the city.

The city of Columbia offered a \$3 million revenue guarantee to Delta over two years to continue providing flights in and out of Columbia, but Delta declined the offer, City Manager Mike Matthes and Mayor Bob McDavid said at a Tuesday news conference. The offer also would have included a landing fee waiver for two daily flights to Atlanta starting in 2014.

“Air service to markets like Mid-Missouri must be regarded as fragile and must be approached with aggressive and innovative effort,” McDavid said.

McDavid said city and University of Missouri officials and Greg Steinhoff, who serves as chairman of a Columbia Chamber of Commerce task force appointed to develop strategies for better air service at Columbia Regional Airport, held a conference call with Delta on Oct. 24.

McDavid said the representatives were surprised at the “bluntness” of the exchange with Delta, and it was at that point that Delta told them it had lost \$900,000 last year by providing service to Columbia, despite the fact that Delta planes traveling to and from Columbia’s airport usually report high load factors.

“We can’t help but believe that this was a decision that was made at some point in the past,” McDavid said.

Matthes said that starting in January, Delta would steadily reduce the number of flights it offers to two daily flights and that it will offer one daily flight for the first two weeks of February. He said city officials have observed that Delta recently has increased fares for flights in the coming months.

The offer to Delta came after Delta expressed surprise at a \$3 million revenue guarantee deal between the city and American Airlines. The fund for American is made up of contributions from the city of Columbia, the Boone County government, MU, Cole County and Jefferson City governments and local businesses.

Delta was unhappy that American received financial incentives to bring service here when Delta had received no such deal.

Anthony Black, a spokesman for Delta, noted that since the air service provider stopped taking an Essential Air Service guarantee from the federal government in 2008, it has been providing service to Columbia without a revenue guarantee and in that time upgraded jets from 34 seats to 50 and added service to Atlanta.

“We had gradually improved the service, and we were committed,” Black said. He said the city should have considered Delta to be the “incumbent” air service provider and that there should have been more communication between the city and Delta as the city finalized a deal with American.

The city made the revenue guarantee offer to Delta in a letter dated Nov. 2, and Matthes said he spoke to Delta on Tuesday and officials said they were going to decline the offer and leave the market.

American’s service to Chicago and Dallas/Fort Worth is scheduled to begin Feb. 14. Booking for the flights opened Sunday. Flight times are:

- To and from Chicago O’Hare International Airport: Departing Columbia at 1:55 p.m. daily, arriving in Columbia at 5:10 p.m. daily.
- To and from Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport: Departing Columbia at 6:45 a.m. daily and at 5:40 p.m. every day except Saturday, arriving in Columbia at 1:25 p.m. daily and 8:25 p.m. every day except Saturday.

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Deaton calls for more faculty citations

By Jack Howland

MU's leadership is not properly encouraging increased citations, professor Stephen Montgomery-Smith said.

MU professors need to increase the number of researchers citing their studies, Chancellor Brady Deaton told Faculty Council on Oct. 30.

As one of 54 members in the American Association of Universities, MU has fallen behind some of its fellow members when it comes to citations. The AAU membership policy lists citations as one of five Phase I Indicators and states the citations database provides an annually updated measure of both research volume and quality, according to the AAU website.

"We're not happy with where we are," Deaton said.

Citations begin with a scholarly article, MU spokesman Christian Basi said. The first step is to get work published in a journal. When another researcher cites that study as a source, it counts as a citation for the university.

The AAU looks at citations every year. The number of citations is one factor that can influence the national perception of a school, Basi said.

"One very distinct portion of how a reputation is earned is through the number of citations a research institute has," Basi said. "So the more people who are citing work done by MU scientists, the more citations that are out there. The perception is that research is very well-respected and very well-done."

It's not the first time MU has been behind other AAU universities, Basi said. He attributes this mainly to the elite nature of the group. MU joined the AAU in 1908 and is listed in the same group as universities such as Yale University, Harvard University and Washington University in St. Louis.

"We are in a group of the best of the best," Basi said. "In some ways, being in that group challenges anyone in that group to do more and to do better."

Though MU isn't too far behind other AAU schools, it needs to strive to do better, professor Kattesh Katti said.

"We have not fallen behind AAU," Katti said. "However, there is significant scope for us to improve collectively from our current standing."

Researchers have cited Katti's work extensively during the last 20 years, and he said high citations always reflect the researcher. Citations measure the impact an individual has on his field, he said.

But MU has not encouraged this boost of citations in the right way, professor Stephen Montgomery-Smith said.

“I honestly believe that the chancellor and provost don’t know how to provide the proper leadership to make this happen,” Montgomery-Smith said.

Promoting citations takes careful buildup, said Montgomery-Smith, who is also chairman of Faculty Council’s faculty affairs. He said this does not include shutting down successful programs like the University of Missouri Press.

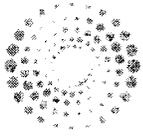
Research of the utmost quality is something that grows from the bottom up and takes careful nurturing, Montgomery-Smith said. He emphasized MU should reward professors who do good research and are diligent.

MU has shown for years the way to get a salary raise is to sell snake oil and lick boots, Montgomery-Smith said.

“The trouble with things like citations and awards is they are indicators of quality research — they are not quality research themselves,” Montgomery-Smith said. “I don’t think the current leadership have any appreciation of quality research and what it is about.”

Basi could not comment on any accusations against leadership but said Deaton was very clear on how he looks to proceed.

“The chancellor said that we wanted to help encourage and increase the number of citations that we have,” Basi said. “And part of that is through some of the initiatives that we have been doing already, including Mizzou Advantage.”



REUTERS Chicago Tribune

Missouri Republican Akin loses after comments on rape

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (Reuters) - Missouri Republican U.S. Senate candidate Todd Akin, who sparked a furor in August with comments about "legitimate rape," was defeated by Democratic incumbent Claire McCaskill on Tuesday.

Until the rape comment, Akin was considered the favorite to beat McCaskill in a state that has trended Republican and voted for Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney on Tuesday.

But the race reversed course after Akin's comment to a television station that women have natural defenses against pregnancy from "legitimate rape." The comment drew scorn from state and national Republican leaders who called on him to drop out of the race.

Akin apologized for his remarks but refused to withdraw. He regained support of some top Republicans but lost significant financial backing.

"There is something close to a consensus that he did himself in," said John Petrocik, a political science professor at the University of Missouri. "She was one of the most vulnerable Democrats."

McCaskill had drawn heat for failing to pay taxes on a private family plane, which did not sit well with state residents, Petrocik said.

People interviewed at St. Louis-area polling stations on Tuesday said Akin's rape comments were important to their vote.

"Seeing Akin's attitude toward woman in general, voting for him would be impossible," said Mary Mitchell Bartley, a St. Louis historic neighborhood preservationist who had backed previous Republican candidates.

Akin's loss was another blow to Republicans, who had hoped to make a net gain of four U.S. Senate seats to take the majority in the upper chamber.

AP Associated Press

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Seattle Post-Intelligencer

COLUMBIA DAILY
TRIBUNE

Student sentenced for underwear thefts

A University of Missouri sophomore was sentenced to two years of unsupervised probation after admitting to stealing numerous pairs of women's underwear from a Hatch Hall laundry facility in May.

Kevin D. Waida, 19, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor stealing for his involvement. The imposition of a sentence was suspended in favor of two years of unsupervised probation. The conviction could be cleared from his record if he completes probation.

Female residents of the hall had begun to notice over time that undergarments were missing, University of Missouri Police Department detectives said. But it was not until students spoke with a fellow resident who told them he had seen his roommate in possession of a large amount of women's underwear that police were notified.

Investigators learned from the six female victims that the items had gone missing after they did laundry in the residence hall. When detectives approached Waida about his alleged possession of the personal items, he handed over 15 pairs of women's underwear, police said.

Waida agreed to allow police to search his dorm room, and they found 11 more pairs of underwear and stockings.

One of the victims told police she believes Waida would watch for her to do her laundry and then follow her.

Waida was arrested on suspicion of misdemeanor stealing and misdemeanor stalking.

Mo. Gov. Nixon wins re-election over Spence

5 hours ago • Associated Press

MU MENTION P. 2

Through natural disasters and economic malaise, Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon has traveled the state offering aid in recovery and encouragement to businesses adding jobs by the dozens. Nixon's message in his re-election bid: Missouri is "moving forward" under his leadership.

On Tuesday, voters gave Nixon another four years. The Democrat governor turned back a challenge from Republican businessman Dave Spence, who had described Missouri's economy as lagging behind that of its neighbors and criticized Nixon as a career-politician lacking in substance.

Nixon's victory made him the first Missouri governor to win re-election since Democrat Mel Carnahan in 1996.

"Missourians said that because we've been able to work together, because we are putting the common good first, we are moving in the right direction," Nixon said at his St. Louis victory party. He added: "To the people of Missouri, thank you for your renewed faith and trust."

Nixon ran a centrist campaign highlighting budget cuts and tax cuts enacted in cooperation with a Republican-led Legislature. He traveled to scores of ribbon cuttings, ground breakings and business expansions over the past couple years. In his ads, Nixon declared that his administration was "getting folks back to work," citing the fact that state unemployment rates are below the national average. His top anecdotal evidence: decisions by Ford and General Motors to invest big bucks in assembly plants in the Kansas City and St. Louis areas after the passage of an automotive incentives law during a 2010 special session called by Nixon.

Nixon also noted his steady leadership in natural disasters, though he never campaigned too overtly on the issue. In 2011 alone, Nixon was at the helm during a blizzard, massive flooding along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and the deadly Joplin tornado. This year, Nixon managed the state's response to a widespread drought.

Voters who backed Nixon cited his track record.

"More experience. I like people that have shown that they can do things," said Easton Miller, 22, of Jefferson City, who is an overnight stocker at Wal-Mart.

Spence had claimed that Nixon's anecdotal examples of job growth masked the truth about a poor economy. He asserted that Nixon was claiming budgetary and policy successes rightly attributable to Republican lawmakers. And Spence said his own experience as a business owner made him better suited to spur economic development. He put \$6.6 million of his own money into the race.

Spence said he remained cordial in conceding to Nixon in a phone call Tuesday night. But the Republican was unrelenting in his criticism.

"I really believe the state of Missouri can get to a higher level," Spence told The Associated Press after acknowledging his defeat. "We've had leaders, including the one that just won, that want to throttle down Missouri and play it safe, and we're getting our tail-end kicked by neighboring states."

Some of Spence's supporters weren't buying into Nixon's positive descriptions of the economy.

"I'm just looking for a better change. It seems like the current governor has just been sitting at idle," said Blake Bopp, a 28-year-old electrical lineman from Jefferson City.

Nixon, 56, previously served 16 years as attorney general and six as a state senator from his hometown of De Soto after graduating from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a law degree. Because of term limits, this was the last time he could run for governor.

Spence, 54, of Ladue, campaigned primarily on his private-sector business experience. Not long after graduating from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a home economics degree, Spence bought a small plastic bottle manufacturer, Alpha Packaging. He touted its expansion over a couple of decades from a company with 15 employees and annual sales of \$350,000 to 800 employees and nearly \$200 million in annual sales. Spence sold it in 2010 and stepped down as president and CEO late last year to run for governor.

Nixon's ads focused on Spence's tenure on the board of St. Louis-based Reliance Bancshares when it decided it couldn't make payments on a \$40 million bailout from the federal government. Spence sued Nixon for defamation over the ads' portrayal of him as banker who used federal bailout money to buy a vacation home _ an assertion that he said was false, though he did receive a bank loan for a home at the Lake of the Ozarks.

Spence said Tuesday night that plans to push forward with the defamation suit, even though the election is over.