MU student in critical condition after Wednesday night car crash

BY Elise Schmelzer

COLUMBIA — **MU student Gregory Phipps was in critical condition after he flipped his car in a wrong-way crash on Highway 63 on Wednesday night, said Sgt. Joe Bernhard, Columbia Police Department public information officer.**

Phipps, a junior chemistry student from Lee's Summit, was driving south in the northbound lanes near Grindstone Parkway when he veered off the east side of the road for unknown reasons. The car struck a roadside sign, flipped multiple times and landed on its side at 11:36 p.m., according to a news release from the Columbia Police Department.

No one else was injured.

Phipps was transported to University Hospital by emergency personnel and treated for life-threatening injuries. Hospital personnel said he was in critical condition about 2 p.m. Thursday.

Officers were dispatched to find the vehicle after another driver called to report a car moving in the wrong direction, according to the release.

Excessive speed and alcohol intoxication are believed to factors in the crash, but the investigation is continuing, according to the release.
100,000 pints and counting!

The University of Missouri Homecoming blood drive reached a landmark in this its 28th year by collecting its 100,000th unit of blood for the Red Cross.

The official tally for this year’s blood donations came to 6,237 units. About 5,700 units were collected at the Hearnes Center Fieldhouse from Oct. 14-17. Another 500 units were collected at various satellite donor sites around the state, making this the largest multiday blood drive in the

“We have the potential to save 15,000 lives with that much blood,” said Craig Jackson, American Red Cross recruitment representative. “We really appreciate the support of the students and other donors.”

The blood collected during the drive was spun in centrifuges and broken down into three components, Jackson said — plasma, red blood cells and platelets.

Plasma gets flash-frozen and can be stored for up to one year, he said. Red blood cells are the most-used component and have a shelf life of 42 days,. Platelets are good for five days.

The average adult has about 10 pints of blood in his or her body at any given moment and gives up one pint when donating whole blood. Donated blood is tested for infectious diseases before it is given to hospitals.

More than 41,000 blood donations are needed every day, according to information at the American Red Cross website. That breaks down to one transfusion every two seconds.

Nearly 16 million units of blood will be collected nationwide this year from about 9 million donors, according to the Red Cross. The Red Cross supplies about 40 percent of the U.S. blood supply. It has been collecting blood for hospitals since 1940.

The university will hold two blood drives in November, one at the Memorial Union on Nov. 4 and one at the School of Law on Nov. 11. Faculty and staff can donate blood at 311 Jesse Hall on Dec. 12.
25 years later, LBC Homecoming continues
By Jill Deutsch

Chester L. Brewer had a vision in 1911.
Brewer wanted alumni to come home to Columbia for the football game against Kansas. That year, more than 9,000 fans crowded into Rollins Field to watch the game against Missouri’s biggest rival.

Since then, the MU tradition of Homecoming has continued with themes, parades, talent competitions, football games and more and more alumni, year after year, all coming home.

Not everyone was included, however.

At the time when Brewer envisioned alumni coming home, black students were not allowed to attend MU. It was 39 years after the first Homecoming that MU admitted its first black student, and 57 years later that the Legion of Black Collegians formed to provide the black student voice on campus.

Admitting black students and the black student voice to campus were not enough to ensure the black student perspective was represented for Homecoming.

Creation of LBC Homecoming

In 1988, the Mizzou Alumni Association’s Homecoming celebration was built on the theme “Show me Ol’ Mizzou.”

Former LBC President Jacquie Judie was quoted in the Oct. 18, 1988, issue of The Maneater saying that the “Ol’ Mizzou” theme brought to mind a past of racism and racial disharmony.

“Black students are hopeful that Mizzou is changing, and we don’t want to see the old Mizzou,” Judie said in 1988.

So, LBC created its own Homecoming, with a separate theme and separate court. The LBC theme, “Show Me a New Mizzou. Black to the Future,” focused on the future of MU and expressed the hope that minority students’ situation will improve, Judie said.

It has been 25 years since the first LBC Homecoming, and the tradition continues. Although the celebration ended briefly in 1995, it was revived in 2008, and this year, the LBC Homecoming celebration is thriving.
Minority Representation in the Alumni Association Homecoming

The Homecoming Steering Committee has made efforts to make Homecoming more inclusive in recent years, said senior Jordan Denker, a Mizzou Alumni Association Homecoming tri-director. Anyone can participate in the blood drive, the day of service, the parade, Decorate the District, the in-between acts during the talent competition, or audition to sing the National Anthem and apply to be on the steering committee.

“We encourage any student to be involved,” Denker said.

Minority organizations have made efforts to be a larger part of Homecoming festivities. In 2003, specifically, the new Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center director Amanda Clarence asked for black alumni to return to MU to become a bigger part of the Homecoming festivities.

And historically, black students have not been completely absent from the alumni association’s Homecoming. For example, 1971 marked the first year a black woman, Jill Young, became Homecoming queen. In 1984, a black Homecoming king was elected, and the next year, Vivian King and Marvin Cobbs were the first black Homecoming king and queen pairing to win the crown.

Black students have been represented in Homecoming recently, as well. Last year, Xavier Billingsley was crowned Homecoming king, and numerous black students have been involved on the Homecoming Steering Committee.

LBC President Marnae Chavers said representation is more than having a black Homecoming king or queen, though.

“I think people think that just because a king was black or a queen was black, that that’s it,” Chavers said. “... It’s not just the representation, but it’s the implementation of different ideas that attract different cultures.”

Still, the organizations most involved in the Homecoming celebrations are Greek chapters. Chapters are paired together the semester before Homecoming and members pour endless hours and countless dollars to create floats, campus decorations and talent skits.

Mizzou Black Men’s Initiative President Lindsay Murray said the biggest issue with inclusivity in Homecoming is with peer communication, especially during his freshman year when the MU Student Center, the central location for student communication, did not exist.

“A lot of people, including myself, want to be involved in Homecoming on the larger scale,” Murray said. “But you have to look at someone like me: I’m not Greek. If I wasn’t involved with any organizations of any kind, I probably wouldn’t know anything about Homecoming.”

Much of Greek involvement in Homecoming is a continuation of tradition and is not a bad thing, Chavers said. It just requires other forms of involvement as well.
“People celebrate in different ways,” Chavers said. “So with the alumni association’s (events) being very Greek-centered, it’s great for students who are Greek, but for students who aren’t Greek, they should have things like that, too.”

**Just Another Celebration**

Although LBC’s celebration began as a separate entity for black students, Chavers said it is not a separate celebration. It is just LBC celebrating Homecoming with events that are not sponsored by the alumni association.

“I don’t think there is a separation like people try to make it be,” Chavers said.

LBC’s Homecoming celebration allows black students and alumni to return to their homebase, which for many is the black community, Murray said.

“It’s not an attempt for the African-American community to divide ourselves,” Murray said. “It’s tradition.”

LBC and the Homecoming Steering Committee communicate when planning their schedules so that events do not conflict, Chavers said. Chavers added that many black students also participate in alumni association Homecoming events in addition to the LBC events.

Cathy Scroggs, the vice chancellor of student affairs, said she supports LBC and other organizations hosting additional Homecoming events.

“If students want to do things to make them feel more a part of festivities, then they should do it,” Scroggs said. “If LBC wants to do things to make them feel included, more power to them.”

**A Divide, A Discussion**

LBC’s Homecoming celebration may be more of a tradition nowadays, but this does not mean there is not a divide on campus in some ways.

Chavers said black students often face different challenges than other students. Some of these issues include a lower academic retention rate and more difficulties finding money. Others felt a deeper divide.

“I definitely do feel like (LBC’s Homecoming) is necessary,” said Deshaunya Ware, president of the Mizzou Black Women’s Initiative. “I know I, personally, still do not feel welcomed at Mizzou at some of the organizations and some of the traditions. I think Mizzou is a great school, but I think we are still stuck in our traditional ways.”

Many of MU’s alumni were at MU when it was at a very different stage of racial inclusivity, Ware said.
“It’s hard to move forward and make progress when some of those people don’t want to change,” Ware said.

The divide is not just created from MU’s history of racial divides but is also created when students get stuck where they are comfortable. For Murray, he was most comfortable with the black community.

“As soon as I found my homebase, I found it easier to branch out,” Murray said, “The problem with that is when whenever people find homebase and then stay home and never branch out.”

The biggest issue is often not talking about racial divides, Ware said. Ware said the black community often talks about divides on campus but that is not enough.

“We always talk about being One Mizzou, but I think as a whole, as an MU community, we all need to come together and figure out ways to move on from these racial divides because they are on campus,” Ware said. “… We need to all stop just talking about being One Mizzou and actually do something about it.”
Happy Missouri sports fans more likely to spend money

BY Elise Moser

COLUMBIA — When Missouri football wins, fans are more inclined to buy that extra container of ice cream at the grocery store.

Teams with winning records, such as the 7-0 Tigers, are expected to be good for local business. But fans' mood acts as a more subtle force motivating them to spend money on more than just hotel bookings and tailgates.

"If you're in a retail setting and feeling good, you're more likely to treat yourself," said Peter Bloch, professor of marketing at MU's Trulaske College of Business. "If you have a positive buzz after a big win, you're more likely to buy more."

Bloch said these short-term effects may be an attempt by consumers to capitalize on their winner's high.

"You're magnifying it by treating yourself," he said. "It could be sports or anything that puts you in a good mood — if you got a compliment at work or had a good workout."

This "high" may last longer than the few hours after the game. Lauren Price, a manager at Alumni Hall, an MU apparel and gift store near Columbia Mall, said she's noticed a change in customers' buying habits this season. She said customers aren't looking for bargains as much as in past years.

"Now it's whatever they can get their hands on," she said. "Price has become not a factor as it was before."

She estimated sales are as high as three times the store's weekly goals.

"Instead of being slower during the week and day to day, it's been steady," she said. "And we see big hits on the weekends."

Wins may also have more of an effect on consumer spending than hype. Price said the store saw a drop-off in sales after the beginning of last year's losing season, despite Missouri's debut in the Southeastern Conference.
Price said the store also did well in 2010, the last time the Tigers were ranked in the top 10, but sales are even better this year.

Researchers at the University of Miami studied the potential link between sports teams’ success and the effect on the local economic environment. They found factors such as weather, political optimism and sports wins all affected statewide economic recovery from the recent recession.

The 2011 study showed that economic recessions are weaker in areas where individuals are more optimistic.

Bloch said these effects are more likely to occur for individuals who are more loyal fans.

"When (the team) is winning, they might be more elevated because they're more passionate," he said.

Columbia may also see an increase in spending from St. Louis Cardinals or Kansas City Chiefs fans. Marsha Collins of Clarence, Mo., was in Columbia on Monday, buying Cardinals World Series gear. She said she likes to get together with friends when her team wins.

"I think it just promotes people getting together," she said. "And then you buy food for that."

Luke Abney, a Kansas City native, said he bought a Chiefs hoodie at a game he recently attended.

"We probably wouldn't have gone if the team wasn't doing good," he said.

Abney said he has spent more time watching games with friends and splurging on snacks like cheese dip and pizza.

Beyond individual spending, Columbia can expect increased business when Missouri teams are winning, said Matt McCormick, president of the Columbia Chamber of Commerce.

"It's a trickle-down effect," he said. "Every year, the fan support, local support and out-of-town support is always great, but whenever we're having a season like we are this year, it ramps it up even more."

Participation in MU athletics events contributed to $188 million of economic stimulus in Columbia during Missouri's inaugural season in the SEC, according to an economic impact report commissioned by the Columbia Chamber of Commerce and Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau.

McCormick said the effects of a winning team can be felt beyond traditional sports markets such as apparel and sports bars.
"You would expect people to start having watch parties," he said, "so then that trickles down to our grocery stores and other food vendors. It's more diverse than just people selling sports gear or just bars showing the game. It starts hitting more businesses."

The 22-0 Missouri volleyball team is ranked No. 7. The next match is Friday against LSU in Baton Rouge. The No. 5 Tigers football team is undefeated going into Saturday's homecoming game against No. 21 South Carolina.
The celebration beyond the campus

By Liz Henderson

With students, family and alumni coming from around the country for Homecoming weekend, MU is not the only entity affected by Homecoming.

Local businesses along the parade route and downtown Columbia take part in Homecoming as well.

Shakespeare’s Pizza, one of the most well-known establishments in Columbia, will stay open later and open early on Saturday after the parade, Shakespeare’s manager Jon Medley said.

“Shakespeare’s is a good place for alumni to come back and reminisce on their days at MU and really carry on the tradition,” Medley said.

Junior Sara Driscoll, a former Maneater editor and an employee at Yogoluv Frozen Yogurt, said the business is one of many stores that participate in “Decorate the District,” an event in which student organizations get assigned a local business and come in and paint and decorate its windows for the homecoming weekend.

“I think small businesses get excited about big events like Homecoming,” Driscoll said. “I know Yogoluv definitely makes more (that weekend), and I’m sure other businesses do too.”

At Yogoluv, Driscoll said its owner supports Homecoming and other MU events not only because the business is in the heart of the college town but also because many of its workers are MU students.

The store will also have Homecoming promotions on its Facebook page.

Tiger Spirit will also be partaking in Homecoming activities by participating in “Decorate the District.” Tiger Spirit owner Michelle Dillard said Homecoming will probably one of its biggest weekends of the year, and it expects a lot of business from alumni and out-of-towners looking for MU memorabilia.

Many local bars will also be having drink specials.

Campus Bar & Grill manager Matt Hudson said he expects the bar to be busier than a typical Saturday night with more alumni in town wanting to sit down, watch the game and reminisce.
The bar will be participating in “Decorate the District,” along with many other local stores on Ninth Street.

“(The bar) wants to create good atmosphere where alumni and fans can come in and have a good time, watch the game and cheer on our Tigers,” Hudson said.
University to host astronomy event

Scientists from the University of Missouri's department of physics and astronomy will be hosting the "Hogwarts Astronomy Tower" on Wednesday to help kids learn about astronomy and meet famous astronomers.

The Harry Potter-themed event, which will be at Laws Observatory in the Physics Building at MU, will allow children to learn about astronomers such as Einstein, Galileo and Tycho Brahe, known for his accurate and comprehensive astronomical and planetary observations.

Candy and treats also will be available for the kids. The event will run from 7 to 10 p.m. and is free and open to the public. The observatory will be open if weather permits.
Missouri Gov. Nixon touts college study

Friday, October 25, 2013 | 6:49 a.m. CDT

NO MU MENTION

JEFFERSON CITY — Gov. Jay Nixon is touting a report showing tuition increases at Missouri's four-year public colleges and universities have been smaller than those in other states.

The analysis shows tuition at Missouri schools increased 5 percent in the current academic year from 2008-2009. Tuition increased 8 percent in Maryland and 9 percent in Maine. The largest increase in tuition was 70 percent in Arizona.

The figures were included in the College Board's 2013 Trends in College Pricing report.

Nixon has said he plans to propose more funding for colleges and universities and student scholarships in next year's budget.
MU Extension programs back on track after shutdown

Shutdown had caused freeze.

By Karyn Spory

University of Missouri Extension programs are back up and running after being suspended during the partial shutdown of the federal government, but leaders are not expecting full funding from federal agencies.

Jo Britt-Rankin, program director of Human Environmental Sciences for MU Extension, said the Family Nutrition Program, which provides nutrition and physical activity education to low-income Missourians, was suspended Oct. 3 because of the shutdown. The nearly 130 affected employees were still paid while their programs were suspended.

Britt-Rankin said she was notified late last week by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that the program was reinstated and would be able to resume service.

"Right now, we're still waiting to hear from the United States Department of Agriculture about how much funding is going to be released," Britt-Rankin said.

Britt-Rankin said with ongoing discussion about the federal budget and the farm bill, which governs federal farm and food policy and is up for renewal every five years, she thought it would be likely that Extension would receive a reduced amount of funding, probably a fourth of its funding for the quarter.

Britt-Rankin said her quarterly funding is roughly $2.6 million, but she's not expecting to see more than $1.8 million.

"We're going to proceed cautiously," she said.

Although current employees are back on the job, Britt-Rankin said she is not planning to fill Extension positions that have been vacant for several months.
"Without educators, you're not able to reach the people. … Our impact is definitely going to be reduced in this first quarter," Britt-Rankin said.

Michael Ouart, vice provost and Extension director, said even though the government is back in business, there is another crisis looming in mid-January, when the bill President Barack Obama signed to reopen the government and raise the debt ceiling is set to expire.

The bill funds the federal government through Jan. 15 and lifts the debt limit through Feb. 7.

"All they've done really is, as they say, kicked the can down the road," Ouart said.

Ouart said if the budget issues cannot be resolved and the country finds itself in the midst of another government shutdown in January, Extension would handle the scenario the same way — by keeping employees on board. Ouart said Extension paid around $350,000 in salaries over the course of the three weeks of the shutdown but will be reimbursed when the federal money comes in.

Quart said this is merely a short-term solution. He said he was close to having to begin layoffs during the shutdown.

"We were within 24 to 36 hours of doing that," he said.
Columbia conference examines health reform


COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) - Health policy experts from across the state were gathering Friday in Columbia to discuss the future of national health care reform.

The annual conference hosted by the Center for Health Policy at the University of Missouri. This year's topic was "Moving Beyond Politics: Meaningful Health Reform for Missouri Communities." Participants include the president of the Missouri Hospital Association and the director of the state Department of Insurance.

Much of the agenda focused on the role of technology in health care. The conference comes as enrollment glitches continue to limit consumer access to healthcare.gov, the federal government's online insurance enrollment portal.
Summit in Columbia will take look at health care law

JEFFERSON CITY • While the firestorm over the Affordable Care Act rages in Washington, more than 100 Missouri health care leaders will gather in Columbia on Friday for an optimistically named conference.

“Moving Beyond Politics: Meaningful Health Reform for Missouri Communities” is the title given to the summit that will be hosted by the Center for Health Policy, part of the School of Medicine at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Health care providers, professional associations and state and federal officials are among those who will lead panel discussions on the act’s implementation. The day-long event will be held at the Hilton Garden Conference Center. Registration is $175.

Given the massive problems faced by the healthcare.gov website, the keynote speech seems particularly timely. That address, which is titled “Technology in Health Care,” will be delivered at 1 p.m. by Stephen McHale, co-founder of Explorys, which develops electronic health record systems.

Other IT firms took heat this morning from congressional committees trying to sort out who’s to blame for the problem-plagued federal website that was supposed to make it easy for consumers to sign up for insurance. According to the Washington Post, the firms -- CGI Federal Inc., Optum, Serco Inc. and Equifax Workforce Solutions -- submitted this written testimony.
School of Journalism to recognize 7 with Missouri Honor Medal

BY Julia Bush

COLUMBIA — Carol Guzy recorded Mother Teresa's funeral in India in 1997. She waded through New Orleans during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. She walked the rubble-filled streets of Haiti after the 2010 earthquake. Now, she's coming to Columbia to share her experiences.

Guzy, a four-time Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer for The Washington Post, is one of seven Missouri honor medalists to be recognized next week by the Missouri School of Journalism. Honor medalists are chosen for their careerlong dedication to journalism, according to the Journalism School's website.

This year's other winners are global communications firm FleishmanHillard, Hearst Television, New York Times executive Michael Golden, South Florida Sun Sentinel executive sports editor Greg Lee, author and investigative journalist Charles Lewis, and correspondent Aye Aye Win.

The winners come from different aspects of journalism and strategic communication, but each has achieved great things in his or her field, said Suzette Heiman, director of planning and communications for the School of Journalism, who is overseeing the event.

"It's an opportunity to celebrate a collection of outstanding work," she said.

Finding her niche

Guzy's online portfolio contains images from around the world: some of grief and devastation, some of joy and relief.

Guzy said Haiti was like her second home early in her career, and she calls the island country "an obsession."

Seeing the island country covered in rubble and chaos after the 2010 earthquake was especially difficult, she said.
In one of her Pulitzer Prize-winning photos from Haiti, a woman unable to rescue her brother from the rubble cries in anguish. In another photo, a man's decomposing body lies in the street. His arms are splayed on the concrete, and only a skull remains of his head — his face was torn off by debris.

"Haiti's an open wound; it's almost impossible to stitch up," Guzy said. "Here was probably the poorest country on Earth in many ways, with the most tragedy and political conflict, and they just keep getting hit over and over again."

Guzy said she thinks she got an "overdose of empathy," which makes her work translate across cultures.

"Lives are so dramatically different, but if you can make them feel — really feel in their gut, not just their mind, whether it's sorrow or triumph or an important issue of the day that needs to be addressed globally — I think that's a mission of sorts," she said.

Guzy didn't find photography right away. She graduated from Northampton Community College in Bethlehem, Pa., with an associate degree in nursing in 1977. She wasn't sold on photography until a friend gave her a camera, according to her Washington Post biography.

Since then, Guzy has won the top prize in the Newspaper Photographer of the Year contest three times, according to her biography.

**Becoming a medalist**

The School of Journalism has awarded Missouri honor medals since 1930. To select this year's winners, the school's faculty members nominated potential candidates and eventually voted to present the honor medal to Guzy and her six fellow medalists.

"There are so many who are doing outstanding work," Heiman said. "We always have many deserving journalists and strategic communicators to consider."

All seven medalists will present free lectures Tuesday at the School of Journalism. Topics include Golden's "Business Model in a Digital World" and Lee's "Why Diversity and Journalism Service Matter."

"This event never fails to inspire me," Heiman said. "You have people who are passionate in a very generous way. They want to share their insights and what they do with the world."

Medalists will be honored at a banquet Tuesday evening at MU's Reynolds Alumni Center. A video for the honorees will highlight their accomplishments, and each will receive a medal, a citation and a copy of the Journalist's Creed written by Walter Williams, the school's founder.

Guzy said she plans to dedicate her medal in memory of her mother, Julia Pammer, who died recently.
"Without her, I wouldn't be who I am," Guzy said. "She would be so proud."

**Meet the medalists**

**FleishmanHillard**

Alfred Fleishman and Bob Hillard established FleishmanHillard in St. Louis in 1946, according to the School of Journalism's website. Since then, the advertising and public relations agency has served clients including Procter & Gamble, Dell, Nortel and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. The firm conducts business in about 20 languages in more than 80 offices around the world.

The company provides brand marketing, research and analytics, media relations and other services to clients around the world. The company's own brand, "the power of true," reflects its high values and dedication to transparency and authenticity, according to FleishmanHillard's website.

**Hearst Television**

Hearst Television is a national multimedia company that covers 30 cities with 29 local television stations and two local radio stations, according to the School of Journalism's website. The stations broadcast 60 video channels, which feature national and local news, entertainment, sports, weather and other coverage.

The company, which is part of the larger Hearst Corp., reaches about 18 percent of Americans who own televisions. Hearst Television also has digital and online platforms, which extend its influence internationally.

Hearst Television has earned many awards for journalism and service, including several Peabody Awards, national Edward R. Murrow Awards, and awards for excellence in election coverage, according to the Journalism School's website.

**Michael Golden**

Michael Golden was elected to The New York Times Co.'s board of directors in 1997. In the same year, he was appointed vice chairman of The New York Times Co.

Golden is chairman of the nonprofit International Center for Journalists, based in Washington, D.C. The center works to raise journalism standards through a series of classes, workshops and exchange programs, according to his New York Times biography. He also serves on the boards for the Newspaper Association of America and The Associated Press.

He previously served as president and chief operating officer of The New York Times Co.'s Regional Media Group and publisher of the International Herald Tribune.
**Greg Lee**

New Orleans native Greg Lee is the executive sports editor at the South Florida Sun Sentinel, where he leads coverage of south Florida's professional teams. He is also the 19th president of the National Association of Black Journalists and a co-director of the Sports Journalism Institute, a nine-week training program for college journalists.

Lee graduated from Xavier University in New Orleans in 1996. He started his career as a copy editor at his hometown paper, The Times-Picayune. He then worked for five years as an editor at The Washington Post and spent eight years as the senior assistant sports editor at The Boston Globe. There, he spearheaded coverage of the Beijing Olympics and NBA finals in 2008.

**Charles Lewis**

Charles Lewis, an investigative journalist and New York Times best-selling author, founded the Center for Public Integrity in Washington, D.C. He worked as an investigative producer for ABC News and CBS' "60 Minutes" before he established the nonprofit organization in 1989. He ran the center out of his home until CPI opened its first office in Washington, D.C.

Under Lewis' leadership, CPI published about 300 investigative reports, including 14 books. In addition to his work with CPI, Lewis is the founding executive editor of American University's Investigative Reporting Workshop.

**Aye Aye Win**

Aye Aye Win covered her first pro-democracy uprising in Myanmar in 1988. Her journalist father, U Sein Win, had been imprisoned for his support of a free press.

She stepped up to take his place while he was in jail. One year later, she joined The Associated Press as a correspondent. Win's father died Oct. 18 in Myanmar.

In her 24 years as a journalist, Win has never been imprisoned, but she has had her phone tapped and has been threatened, questioned and warned, according to the Journalism School's website.

She reported on political uprisings and protests in Myanmar despite the risk and difficulty involved. Her coverage won her the International Women's Media Foundation's Courage in Journalism Award in 2008 and The Associated Press' Oliver S. Gramling Award for excellence in 2004.
Q&A: Expert witness discusses false memories, Ryan Ferguson case at MU

BY Morgan Denlow

COLUMBIA — A captive audience of about 250 people packed the seats and aisles of Jesse Wrench Auditorium on Wednesday to learn how memories can be manufactured and planted in people's unsuspecting minds.

Elizabeth Loftus, a distinguished professor at the University of California, Irvine, focused 30 years of research on the malleability of the human memory. She spoke as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series in Psychological Sciences at MU about the potential for implanting false memories to help people create healthy aversions to unhealthy foods or fondness for healthy ones. One of the studies planted memories of being sick after eating certain foods and found subjects no longer wanted to eat that food.

Loftus sat down with the Missourian before the lecture to talk about how misinformation and false memories played a role in the 2005 Ryan Ferguson case. Loftus has written 22 books and more than 500 scientific articles, according to the lecture pamphlet, and often serves as an expert witness on how human memory works. She testified when Ferguson was on trial for the murder of Kent Heitholt, sports editor at the Columbia Daily Tribune.

She said police investigators planted false memories while questioning Ferguson's friend Charles Erickson. He came forward two years after the murder and told police he dreamed he was involved in the murder and later confessed that Ferguson was also involved. He recanted his testimony in 2009.

Q: Do you believe that Ryan Ferguson is innocent?

A: Given the shabby evidence against him it's shocking that he was convicted and it's shocking that he's still in prison.

Q: As an expert witness, you said that you think Charles Erickson's memories are false. Why?

A: There's no credible scientific support for his testimony. To come forward two years later and wonder "did I dream this, did I do this?", and eventually claim to have a full fledged memory that came back ... there's just so many things wrong with the way he described his memory. I've watched the interviews of him. I saw that he didn't have any information at all, and then I saw
him being fed information about what might have happened or what did happen, and he adopted those details.

**Q:** What are the most outrageous examples of leading questions that helped Erickson create false memories when he was being interrogated?

**A:** It's hard for me to remember all the details after eight years, but there was evidence that he may have had as many as nine to 10 drinks, which means he could have been in almost a blackout type of state. He was like a blank slate on which you could paint any memory that you wanted to paint. Even as few as two to three drinks could affect someone's formation of memory.

**Q:** Have you done any research in the ensuing years that has strengthened or weakened your conviction that Erickson had false memories implanted?

**A:** I just think this is an outrage. His claimed memory sent this young man (Ferguson) to prison. Now there's even stronger evidence that entirely false memories of things that didn't happen can be planted into the minds of people. You can also get people to claim to remember that they did bad things, like cheat on a test, all through the power of suggestion.

**Q:** Not too long ago, two key witnesses recanted their testimonies, and one of them was Erickson. Judge Daniel Green said that Erickson's recantation was false and not credible. What's your response to this?

**A:** Well, I'm not sure what to make of that. I think that Erickson was wrong both times. I didn't see any evidence that Erickson was there when Heitholt was murdered. It seems to me that both of his stories, the initial confession and his recantation, are not credible.

**Q:** How do you retain your credibility as a scientist when you are repeatedly paid to be an expert witness?

**A:** I don't need to be an expert witness — I have ample compensation from my university. I could take it or leave it, but I get involved in these court cases because I believe there's a tremendous benefit to doing so. One is that I'm often helping innocent people, and the other is that I'm gathering all kinds of useful information that can help my teaching and my research. The prosecutor in the Ferguson case tried to insinuate that I'm just a hired gun and only doing it for monetary compensation, but it's just not true.

**Q:** How many times have you been an expert witness, and how much do you get paid to be an expert witness?

**A:** I've testified about 280 times since June 3, 1975. It depends on the case. I take pro bono cases here and there and sometimes I can get $500 an hour for my time.

**Q:** How hard is it to manipulate someone with a false memory?
A: Easy.

The Department of Psychological Sciences will host four more lectures this year as a part of its distinguished lecture series. The next lecture, which will be held from 3 to 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 19 in Jesse Wrench Auditorium, will focus on the effects of media violence on the mind, brain and behavior. There will also be three more lectures next semester.
ASK A SCIENTIST Q: What do scientists mean when they say foxes hunt using magnetic fields?

By PATTIE QUACKENBUSH and DEANNA LANKFORD of MU's Office of Science Outreach

Submitted by Melissa Wessel's biology class from Rock Bridge High School

A: Conservation biologist and University of Missouri Professor of mammalogy Matt Gompper notes, "Foxes and other predators may rely upon the Earth's magnetic field when hunting in places where prey such as mice cannot be seen. A fox is likely to initially align to magnetic north and then tilt its head while listening for the mouse, creating an asymmetry in the height of the ears and thus a slight difference in the time it takes for the sounds of the mouse to reach each ear. By approaching the mouse along a northward compass bearing, the fox can then estimate the distance to its prey by moving forward until the sound is a fixed strength and aligns with the magnetic field. This would consistently place the fox at a fixed distance from its prey, allowing it to attack using an almost invariable pouncing behavior."

Gompper explains, "Other animals, such as cattle and deer, also align themselves roughly along north and south when resting." This alignment might be important, allowing animals to know their exact location and rapidly determine an escape route, even when visual cues are lacking, and could determine life or death for the animal.

These studies on animals and magnetic fields began with observations of animals in nature. Gompper says, "This shows how observations of the everyday life of animals can really lead to some deep insights into how these animals see the world. It gives us a better sense of how the world around us operates."
Mother of shooting victim in mid-Missouri seeks Justice Dept. probe

21 hours ago • THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, Mo. • The mother of a young black man shot to death by a white man in mid-Missouri is asking the Justice Department to investigate after the local prosecutor decided not to file charges.

Brandon Coleman, a 25-year-old groundskeeper at the University of Missouri, was killed on May 19 following a confrontation in Columbia. No arrest was ever made and on Wednesday, Boone County prosecutor Dan Knight announced the shooting was "legally justified" and no charges would be filed.

The case has stirred racial tension in Columbia, but generated little publicity outside of mid-Missouri. About 25 people attended an NAACP-organized rally Wednesday, after Knight's decision was announced.

Coleman's mother, Winona Coleman-Broadus, believes racial prejudice played a role in the decision. Knight said his decision was based on evidence and the law.