In late January, an ESPN Outside the Lines report sparked controversy, and change, throughout the University of Missouri System.

Outside the Lines released a scathing investigation of the Missouri athletics department's failure to report the alleged sexual assault of one of its athletes, Sasha Menu Courey. The former Tigers swimmer, who was diagnosed with borderline personality disorder, committed suicide in 2011, a year after the alleged assault.

The ESPN investigation initially fostered a harsh response from the athletics department. The parents of Menu Courey, meanwhile, fought for change. And myriad voices from within the UM System, around the state and across the nation recognized this as a key moment not only in terms of MU's sexual assault policy, but also nationwide.

Menu Courey was gone. Nothing could fix that, but her death could bring about positive change.

MU passed the investigation to the Columbia Police Department because the alleged assault took place off campus. UM System president Tim Wolfe implemented a plan to help the MU campuses better address sexual assault. After an independent investigation found MU was negligent in following its Title IX obligations to look into alleged sexual assaults of students, Wolfe and Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin took action.

Since then, the administration has added more obligations for employees when it came to reporting sexual assault or the possibility of one based on information from students. The Menu Courey family expressed its appreciation not only for the findings of
the independent firm but also the university's response.

"It's not just about the rules, but, if the rules are followed and things still don't change, what can be done above and beyond the rules," Mike Menu, the father of Menu Courey, told the Missourian in April. "It's about founding a new system that can really work."

The hope is this one will.

_Supervising editor is Mark Selig._

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**Citrus Bowl parade joins Mizzou, Minnesota fans**

Posted: Dec 30, 2014 5:31 PM by Hanna Battah, KOMU 8 Reporter

_View the video:_ [http://www.komu.com/player/?video_id=27092&zone=2,73&categories=2,73](http://www.komu.com/player/?video_id=27092&zone=2,73&categories=2,73)

ORLANDO, Fla. - Gloomy weather plagued cities around the Sunshine State Tuesday, but the Citrus Bowl parade was filled with color.

120,000 oranges, tangerines and grapefruit decorated parade floats for the annual event before the game.

Parade Director Stephanie Hanisak said organizers took a year to plan the parade.

"We work with each sponsor to design their float and make sure that it's something they want," Hanisak said. "We have probably about 100 volunteers for each float."

After the parade, the citrus fruits used for the floats are donated to the Society of St. Andrews, which distributes food donations to food banks across Florida.

"The whole entire thing was just awesome," said Serena Ivey, one of the Mizzou fans at the parade.
"I saw a lot of Minnesota fans and I came with a big crew so it was a lot of fun." said Tricia Hill, another Missouri fan.

"The last time the Gophers played on January first was over 50 years ago in Pasadena," said Jerry Jordahl, a Minnesota fan. "I was at the University at the time and of course didn't have enough cash at the time so I decided we better make it this year."

The parade is a yearly tradition between the Russell Athletic Bowl and the Buffalo Wild Wings Citrus Bowl games.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

PHOTO GALLERY: Relive 2014 in 14 photographs

Wednesday, December 31, 2014 | 6:00 a.m. CST
BY MISSOURIAN STAFF

COLUMBIA — Missourian photojournalists traveled from St. Louis to Kansas City this year to cover the state’s top stories, including the World Series, Battle High School’s state football championship, and ongoing events in the aftermath of the fatal shooting in Ferguson.

We culled through 27 of our staff photographers’ best work to bring you the year’s top images, ones that stood out either because of their news value or their sheer beauty.

Images are arranged in chronological order.

MICHAEL SAM COMES OUT
On Feb. 10, a day after former Missouri football player Michael Sam publicly announced that he is gay, the iconic rock "M" in Memorial Stadium was joined by a snow-carved "S" and an "A." In May, the St. Louis Rams drafted Sam, and he became the NFL's first openly gay player. In July, Sam received the Arthur Ashe Courage Award, an ESPY awarded by ESPN. | Photo by Andrew Schrider/Missourian
Click here to read the letter Sam wrote in March to the MU community.

MU CELEBRATES 175TH BIRTHDAY, HIRES NEW CEO

From left, Truman the Tiger, MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin and Cindy Mustard of the Voluntary Action Center blow out the candles on a cake in the shape of Jesse Hall and the columns for MU’s 175th birthday on Feb. 11. MU also welcomed a new leader this year when Loftin came to MU from Texas A&M in February and was inaugurated as the university's 22nd chancellor in September. | Photo by Alex Scott/Missourian
Click here to explore 175th anniversary coverage.

STORMS TEAR THROUGH THE CITY

Homeowner Neil Kohler, left, and friend Tyler Lasley walk past a 20-foot-tall tree root in Kohler's storm-damaged backyard on July 13. Kohler and his wife, Jessica, rallied friends and family to clear the fallen trees on their property. Several heavy storms ripped through Missouri during the summer, leaving more than 17,000 without power and racking up thousands of dollars in damage. | Photo by Travis Hartman/Missourian
Click here to view 360-degree panoramas of storm damage.
'FIRE IN THE SKY' LIGHTS UP COLUMBIA

Fireworks light up the night over Jesse Hall on July 4. The city's "Fire in the Sky" started at 9:15 p.m. with a volley of fireworks launched from the top of the parking garage at Sixth and Cherry streets. Jesse Hall has been temporarily closed since July for $10 million in renovations. About 600 faculty and staff who work in the administration building will be displaced until the building reopens in June 2015. | Photo by T.J. Thomson/Missourian

Click here to read more about renovations at MU.

CENTRAL MISSOURI EVENTS CENTER TO CLOSE

Katie Smith carries the U.S. flag before the 2014 Wild West Shoot-Out during the Boone County Fair at the Central Missouri Events Center on July 26. The center, formerly known as the Boone County Fairgrounds, will close Jan. 1 because the county can no longer afford to maintain it. The Boone County Fair will continue to be held at the fairgrounds. | Photo by T.J. Thomson/Missourian

Click here to read more about the closing.

CITIZENS PROTEST OPUS DEVELOPMENT

Bob Pittman performs songs he composed as part of a protest against the Opus development project at the Daniel Boone City Building on Aug. 18. Opus is building a six-story, 259-bed student apartment building scheduled to open in August on Locust Street between Seventh and Eighth streets. Pittman estimates that he has written 20
protest songs, which take him two to three days to write. He said, "It takes a lot longer to memorize them." | Photo by J. Evan Arnold/Missourian
Click here to read more about the development project.

RICHARD KING SELLS BLUE NOTE
Music duo Loudpvck poses for a photo with the crowd during the I'm Shmacked event Sept. 13 at The Blue Note. Richard King, 60, closed a deal in October to sell the downtown club, as well as Mojo’s, for an undisclosed sum. I’m Shmacked was one of dozens of events the Blue Note hosted this year. | Photo by Tim Tai/Missourian
Click here to read more about the Blue Note sale.

BATTLE OF CENTRALIA REMEMBERED
Elizabeth Robinson of Springfield surveys a re-enactment camp at the historic Centralia Battlefield on Sept. 13. Commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Centralia featured battle re-enactments, cannons firing flames at night, charging cavalry and other Civil War-inspired events. | Photo by Hannah Baldwin/Missourian
Click here to read more about the people that keep this history alive.

MISSOURI HONORS WAR VETERANS
Liana Denney waves an American flag as a motorcycle procession leads 71 Vietnam War veterans back to town after a trip to Washington, D.C., hosted by the Central Missouri Honor Flight on Oct. 9. | Photo by Lili Sams/Missourian
Click here to read a first-hand account of the Honor Flight.

MISSOURI ADVANCES LGBTQ EQUALITY
Sequoyah Moore and Ashley Bland take control of the stage as drag kings dancing to throwback R&B songs during the Black 'N Gold Drag Show on Oct. 18 at MU. In June, the UM Board of Curators voted to extend benefits to same-sex partners in the university system. In October, a Missouri judge ruled that the state must recognize same-sex marriages that are legally performed elsewhere. More recently, a pair of court rulings struck down the state’s gay marriage ban and allowed same-sex couples to wed in St. Louis and Kansas City. | Photo by Tiffany Melecio/Missourian
Click here to read more about the progress of marriage equality in Missouri.

ROYALS PLAY GIANTS IN WORLD SERIES
Friends Hailey Lapin, Sara Kennedy and Holly Durall cheer for the Royals during Game 6 of the World Series at the Kansas City Live! Block in the downtown Power & Light District on Oct. 28. Kansas City won that game 10-0, forcing Game 7 against the San Francisco Giants. Ultimately the Giants won the series, but it had been 29 years since the Royals were contenders. | Photo by Tim Tai/Missourian
Click here to relive the memories of the Royals 10-0 shutout over the Giants.

MIZZOU WINS BACK-TO-BACK SEC EAST CHAMPIONSHIPS
Missouri defensive lineman Harold Brantley, left, and defensive lineman Shane Ray prepare to take on the Kentucky Wildcats at Memorial Stadium on Nov. 1. The Tigers ended their regular season 10-2 as SEC East Champions for the second year in a row, then lost to No. 1 ranked Alabama for the SEC championship in December. Artist Kim Beck coordinated with a pilot to pull off the skywriting in the background. | Photo by Mark Kauzlarich/Missourian
Click here to read about the Tigers' back-to-back victories.

**BATTLE WINS STATE FOOTBALL TITLE**
The Battle High School Spartans hoist the 2014 Missouri Class 5 state football championship trophy after defeating Nixa High School 25-22 at the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis on Nov. 28. Battle won the state championship in its second year as a program and first of postseason eligibility. | Photo by Tim Tai/Missourian
Click here to get the full details of Battle's historic win.

**PUBLIC OUTCRY FOLLOWS FERGUSON DECISION**
"Black Lives Matter" protestors stage a "die-in" at Tenth and Cherry streets in downtown Columbia on Dec. 12. Protestors also blocked the road at Broadway and Hitt Street. Dozens of similar events across the state followed the Aug. 9 shooting of unarmed teenager Michael Brown, who is black, by Darren Wilson, a white police officer. Protests spiked again after a grand jury decided in November not to indict Wilson in Brown's death. | Photo by Tim Tai/Missourian

Click here to read more about the ongoing demonstrations in Missouri.

*Supervising editor is Brian Kratzer.*
Flu season is severe this year

by Mark Slavit

Posted: 12.30.2014 at 4:48 PM


COLUMBIA, MO -- MU Health Care officials said the flu season is severe this year in Mid-Missouri.

An infection control expert said we can expect the flu season to last another 8 to 12 weeks.

MU Children’s Hospital Infectious Disease Specialist Dr. Michael Cooperstock said more people in Mid-Missouri have the flu this year because of an earlier flu season and a shift in the genetic makeup of the Influenza A Virus. Doctors who made this year’s vaccine did not predict the change.

Dr. Cooperstock said, “They weren’t quite right. Sometimes the strain of the virus gets ahead of the people who make up the vaccine. We have to decide about what to put in the vaccine in April. Not always is the virus the same by the time you get to October.”

There were 85 confirmed flu cases in Boone County last year. The most current number available for this year is almost 1,100 confirmed cases. Dr. Cooperstock said the best way to prevent the flu is to cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and then throw the tissue away. If you do not have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your sleeve at the crook of your arm. Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Use a hand sanitizer containing alcohol if you can’t wash your hands. Avoid touching your eyes, mouth or nose, which are places where flu usually enters the body. Avoid close contact with sick people. He said it’s not too late to get a flu vaccine.

Dr. Cooperstock said, “The flu shot is not quite as effective this year as it has been in past years but it still has a lot to offer.”

MU Health Care officials recommend children as young as 6 months old get vaccinated for the flu. However, school age children, the elderly and people with chronic diseases are at the highest risk.
Even though this year’s vaccine isn’t a perfect match, Dr. Cooperstock said it will prevent the disease about 50% of the time.

What's Next for the Missouri Rehab. Building?


The future of the Missouri Rehabilitation Center is brighter after the City of Mount Vernon agreed to buy the land and the equipment from the University of Missouri on Tuesday. City Administrator Max Springer talks about the buildings future.

Business Schools

2014 Was the Year Colleges Finally Had to Answer for Rape on Campus

By Natalie Kitroeff December 30, 2014

NO MU MENTION
It has been three years since the government issued new guidelines for how colleges must handle sexual violence, but this was the year we learned just how badly our institutions needed them. Stories of sexual assaults on campuses—and mangled responses by colleges—made rape a dominant issue for American colleges and universities. Meanwhile, in response to those who criticized the coverage as sensational or downright overblown, a growing number of women revealed their own experiences of sexual assault at college. Here are the stories that fundamentally changed the way we think about sexual assault this year:

*New York* magazine chronicled the crusade of Emma Sulkowicz, a Columbia University student who began carrying a 50-pound mattress everywhere to represent the burden she carries after the university cleared the senior man she accused of rape. The alleged perpetrator, Paul Nungesser, told the *New York Times* this month that he has been unfairly maligned and humiliated thanks to Sulkowicz's allegations.

At the University of Virginia, a *Rolling Stone* article describing a supposed gang rape at a fraternity spurred broad criticism of the way the school deals with sexual assault allegations and prompted an ongoing effort among administrators to fix their approach to campus rape. *Rolling Stone* later retracted the article, after the *Washington Post* found deep factual irregularities in the account. The *New York Times* detailed Hobart and William Smith Colleges' botched response to a student's claim that she had been raped by several members of the school's football team. The student body rallied around the woman and the college's board vowed radical changes to the school's culture and policies, *BuzzFeed* reported.

My colleague Claire Suddath documented the grassroots campaign to bring colleges to account for failing to properly adjudicate students' claims of sexual assault. A group of female students are filing complaints with the Department of Education, charging that the colleges violated women's rights under *Title IX*. In the process, Suddath reported, the student activists are "changing the way discipline occurs in the quiet, self-policing world of the college campus."
Bill Cosby has long faced accusations of sexual assault, but as the claims gathered momentum in recent months, several colleges severed ties with Cosby, a longtime benefactor and perennial commencement speaker. Of particular note: Cosby stepped down from his position on the board of trustees at Temple University, ending an unusually close relationship between the comedian and his alma mater. Spelman College, the historically black women's college and the inspiration for the Cosby Show spinoff A Different World, suspended an endowed professorship funded in part by a $20 million gift made by Cosby and his wife, Camille, in 1988.

These news stories, and the controversy over the Rolling Stone article in particular, prompted many women to tell their personal stories of rape on campus. Here are five:

Rachel Dodes Wortman, a former Wall Street Journal reporter who now works at Twitter, described being drugged and raped when she was a senior at Cornell University. "There are a series of blurry images, like a movie montage: us kissing on the couch, him carrying me to his bed, and then choking me while we had sex. I don’t remember saying 'No,' but I also think the issue of consent, in this particular instance, is not really applicable," she writes.

Randi Weingarten, the president of the American Federation of Teachers, wrote on Jezebel this month about having dinner with a "nice Jewish boy" who tried to rape her during the summer between her junior and senior years at college. She told her story, she said, because she was worried that the retraction of the Rolling Stone story would erect a "curtain of silence, where young women feel too afraid to share their truth."

Abigail Hauslohner, the Cairo bureau chief at the Washington Post, told the story of visiting a family friend at his college 14 years ago, going to a fraternity party, and being raped by the friend afterward in his dorm room. She recalls "my head lolling to one side and then my body falling back onto the mattress," before repeatedly saying "No."

In an essay in her book, Not That Kind of Girl, Lena Dunham wrote about being assaulted by a fellow Oberlin College student after leaving a party drunk and
high. In a BuzzFeed post this month, Dunham described the backlash she faced for recounting the incident, including having her "character and credibility questioned at every turn" and being "attacked online with violent and misogynistic language."

Susan Dominus, a reporter for the New York Times Magazine, uses column space to chronicle an episode in her senior year of college, where she drank unidentified liquid from a red cup at a party and was later assaulted by the man who filled the cup for her: He pressured her, "until, under the influence, I stopped resisting."

Kitroeff is a reporter for Bloomberg Businessweek in New York, covering business education.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: College students will suffer without Medicaid expansion

Wednesday, December 31, 2014 | 6:00 a.m. CST

NO MU MENTION

BY ALLIE HALBERT

I’m writing in as a college student and future professional. As I continue my education, I’ve noticed an alarming problem that is happening across Missouri’s college campuses — not all of these students have health insurance.

Now, when you imagine a person who would benefit from Medicaid expansion, whom do you picture? Is that person a college student?

Students are continuously coming to college without health insurance. We need to stop making the assumption that college students are always on their parent or guardian’s health insurance plan. For some, a college health plan is the first health insurance they’ve ever had, and college health insurance only includes basic coverage.

Issues surrounding mental health and eating disorders are becoming more prominent on college campuses as well. Many college students are left with only their college health care plan, which
doesn’t include emergency visits, continuing care and specialists. Now students are expected to balance full course work, jobs, extra curricular activities and untreated health issues, not to mention the additional stress.

College is difficult enough when you’re healthy; imagine it when you’re suffering from mental or physical illness. For students who need specific care in order to be their healthiest, which influences their success in school, health insurance is absolutely necessary.

We need to shift the focus on the discussions around Medicaid expansion. The ability to see a doctor is a right, not a privilege. This is a right that 300,000 Missourians currently don’t have. Among this population is largely college students and working professionals.

It’s time to take action. Will you let your representative know why passing Medicaid Expansion is important to you? We need to let our representatives know that all people deserve health insurance. You can be the difference.

_Allie Halbert is a student at MU._