Man with connection to fatal hit-and-run of MU student turns himself in

COLUMBIA — A 31 year-old man turned himself in to the Dallas Police Department Monday in connection with the hit-and-run accident that killed MU sophomore Paul Miltenberger.

Jonathan Redmond said he was driving the 2011 Dodge Challenger that struck and killed Miltenberger while he was crossing East Mockingbird Lane early Sunday morning, according to the Dallas Police Department. The car was incorrectly described as a Dodge Charger in earlier press releases.

Miltenberger was not in a crosswalk when he was struck.

"Specific information regarding Mr. Redmond's statement will not be released due to the ongoing investigation," the Dallas Police Department Deputy Chief James Walton said at a press conference Tuesday afternoon.

Redmond was taken to the Dallas County Jail and charged with failure to stop and render aid. He was released after posting a $50,000 bond.

MU faculty share concerns about Title IX requirements

COLUMBIA — Faculty at MU sought clarification Tuesday from Title IX experts about the subtleties of handling sexual assault accounts from students.
MU’s Title IX policy calls for mandatory reporting by a university employee who becomes aware of sexual harassment, misconduct, stalking, partner violence or exploitation.

Gina Maisto Smith and Leslie Gomez, partners at the Law Firm of Pepper Hamilton in Philadelphia, were invited by the MU Faculty Council to explain the university’s new Title IX policies and respond to faculty concerns about them.

Morning and afternoon forums were held Tuesday in the Reynolds Alumni Center.

About 20 faculty members attended the morning forum. Several questions centered around the effect of the new policies on relationships with students in the classroom. Another set of questions addressed the restrictions on an adviser, usually an attorney, during a proceeding about a Title IX matter.

Joan Hermsen, chairwoman of the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, said her faculty wondered whether they should stop talking about sexual assaults in classroom sessions since it could prompt students to reveal their own experiences. Another faculty member asked where to draw the line that allows a classroom to be a safe space versus a place where student participation may call for action under Title IX procedures.

"What we need is better guidance on this campus on what kinds of things we have to report," Hermsen said. "It actually limits our academic freedom."

Reporting an issue to a Title IX coordinator may not result in an investigation, Gomez said. Instead, it could help individuals learn about resources and options.

"It’s not just about reporting, but extending the message of care and concern," she said.

If the complainant does not want to go further in the process, the university has criteria to determine the extent of compliance with that request.

An investigation without the complainant’s consent depends on the victim’s age, the perpetrator’s history of sexual violence, whether threats were made and if a weapon is included in the complaint, among other factors.
The second key concern during the forum focused on the role of attorneys in the process of a Title IX investigation. The new Title IX policy gives complainants and respondents the right to an adviser, but the adviser may not represent either party throughout the process. The adviser can only consult quietly or in writing.

In February, 193 faculty members across three of the four UM System campuses sent a letter to the UM Board of Curators that raised the concern about this lack of representation.

"It’s a mess," Faculty Council chairman Craig Roberts said at the forum.

Smith told him that Title IX leaves the choice of representation to the institution, as long as the complainant and respondent are given equal opportunities.

"The institution may establish restrictions regarding the extent to which the adviser may participate in the proceedings, as long as the restrictions apply equally to both parties," she said.

**As 110 faculty retire, MU administration sees opportunity**

“This is a truly extraordinary opportunity for the university,” Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin said.

**By the end of this academic year, 110 tenured faculty will lock up their offices for the last time and retire from MU, university officials told The Maneater.**

Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin announced in September 2014 that MU would offer a voluntary separation plan to faculty who are over the age of 62 by Aug. 31, 2015. The plan would award 150 percent of a year’s salary, capped at $200,000, to those who agreed to retire at the end of the academic year. Of the 261 qualified faculty, 110 accepted the offer.

Loftin called the turnover, the magnitude of which is rare, a “truly extraordinary opportunity” for the university. He said normally about 11 or 12 tenured faculty retire each year.

“That is a chance to renew our faculty, to bring extraordinary faculty to the university that will not simply replace those who are here but compliment other senior hires we’re making right
now,” Loftin said during a March 18 press conference. “(New faculty hires will) adapt this university fully for the future in terms of the opportunities we have in formal education and research.”

The heft of the turnover will be felt most in the colleges of Arts and Science, Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and Education. These colleges will lose 42, 15 and 14 faculty members, respectively.

Blazing a new trail

Some administrators view the exodus of 110 faculty as an opportunity to free up funds for new initiatives.

Michael O’Brien, dean of the College of Arts and Science, said he isn’t just looking for faculty who can backfill old roles when making new hires. Rather, he’s looking for people who can help boost the university’s standing in the Association of American Universities, a group of 62 of the most prestigious research universities in the U.S. and Canada.

The AAU uses eight indicators — seven of which judge performance based on statistics — to determine how universities rank within their system. O’Brien said MU is currently at the “bottom of the barrel” in many of the AAU’s quantitative categories. He pointed to the fact that MU only has six faculty who are members of the National Academy of Sciences, one of the leading associations of “distinguished scholars” in the country.

O’Brien said while MU is trying to improve its standing in areas like faculty citations, it is not catching up quickly enough.

MU has been successful in its effort to try to improve its standing with the AAU in some cases, O’Brien said, like when Professor of Chemistry and Radiology M. Frederick Hawthorne was awarded the National Medal of Science by President Barack Obama in 2012. However, O’Brien said, MU is not catching up quickly enough in categories like faculty citations.

“We’re getting better, but so is everybody else at a higher rate,” he said.

Only one indicator, the strength of the undergraduate education, is based on qualitative measures rather than quantitative ones. MU performs well in this category, O’Brien said — so well that he credits the good rating of the undergraduate program as the reason MU hasn’t been kicked out of the AAU.

“If it were just (judged) on the numbers, we’d have been gone 30 years ago … but we’re still here,” he said.

O’Brien said he’s also prioritizing new hires that can contribute to MU’s reputation for quality undergraduate education. He said getting undergraduates involved in research will keep MU at the forefront of progressive education.
“Getting kids involved in research — student undergrads, not just grads — is immensely important,” O’Brien said. “I wouldn’t hire somebody, whether it was in theater or in physics, who doesn’t want undergrads in his or her lab or in the theater.”

\textit{A more constrained plan}

CAFNR Dean Thomas Payne said he has different concerns. He is primarily focused on filling the roles left vacant by the 15 retiring faculty members.

Currently, Payne and administrators are conducting internal analysis in order to determine which roles need to be filled through hiring, he said.

The college will not be able to replace all of the faculty it loses due to lack of funding. Payne will not be giving preference to tenure-track faculty over non-tenure-track ones in the hiring process, he said he is just trying to “fill critical positions.”

Payne said he is also going to put some of the revenue created by retirees aside for merit-based raises for current faculty and staff.

\textit{Buying time}

College of Education Dean Daniel Clay said he feels constrained by time as well as money.

Clay said he plans to rehire about half of the 14 faculty members set to retire from the college at the end of the year. Some of the faculty who are retiring will return to finish research, while others will return to teach a class or two, Clay said.

The returning faculty will not be in violation of the buyout plan’s parameters as long as they are re-employed on a part-time basis, which the statutes define as 70 percent or fewer hours compared to full-time employment.

The move will buy Clay time to prioritize hiring searches and make sure they find the right candidates.

As Clay considers new hires, he said his goal is to find people who will enhance key areas of the college’s strategic plan, which are to improve the quality of academic programs and research, to create and sustain a positive and productive work environment and to increase the cultural and international competency of faculty, staff and students.

“We think of those things whenever we make a decision to spend money,” Clay said. “We say, ‘Is spending this money going to move the needle on one or more of those things?’ If the answer is no, we won’t do it.”
Saving for a “common good”

The colleges will contribute a portion of the revenue freed up by the retirees to the MU Strategic Operating Plan, which O’Brien called a “common good” fund.

The plan calls for every department, except scholarships and campus safety, to reallocate 2 percent of its general operating funds every year until fiscal year 2018. These funds will be used primarily to “enhance (MU’s) academic stature as measured by publicly made available metrics, including those of the AAU,” according to the MUSOP website.

“We made that offer because we realized that the campus didn’t have any ability to look down the line and say, ‘There’s a great initiative over there if we only had the funding,’” O’Brien said.

The plan, which is in the second year of its five-year schedule, will have generated approximately $300 million for the university by fiscal year 2018.

Clay said he’s excited by the opportunity for growth a turnover this large allows.

“This is a win-win situation for faculty who are interested in moving on to the next phase of their life and staying engaged in the university in a ways that they’d still like to,” Clay said. “And it also provides us as deans and as a campus an opportunity to re-evaluate how we use our resources and to invest them wisely.”

Student fee aims to increase MU library funding

By Ashley Jost

Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 2:00 pm

University of Missouri students will vote on a ballot measure this fall that could increase revenue for MU’s libraries by about 70 percent.

The referendum is part of an effort to boost the libraries’ stature among other research institutions by implementing MU’s first library-focused fee for students.
Administrators say the fee is essentially picking up where the state — and therefore university administration — has left off because of stagnant funding to higher education while costs continue to increase for maintenance, purchasing and employee cost of living.

If approved, students would start paying the fee in fall 2016. The added charge initially would be $5 per credit hour, meaning about $4.3 million in new funding for the library that first year.

The proposed fee would increase by $2 each academic year for six years, bringing the total fee to $15 per credit hour by the 2021-22 school year and drawing in about $12.9 million in funding.

The operating budget for the library this year is about $18 million, Director of Libraries Jim Cogswell said.

After 2022, the fee could stay at $15 per credit hour unless “consultation with students” leads to a change in the amount, the summary reads.

The fee proposal addresses tuition-cap legislation approved several years ago that prohibits tuition increases from exceeding the consumer price index. Because of that legislation, “there are few viable options for increased campus investment in libraries,” Cogswell wrote in the fee summary. “That’s why we are reaching out to students to help transform MU Libraries into a dynamic, learning-focused library for the 21st century.”

Cogswell said the idea of bringing the fee to students is not new. Unlike when administrators pulled back in 2012 because there was not time to educate students properly — and “an uneducated vote is a no vote,” Cogswell said — he and his team are prepared this time. Cogswell said he has started meeting with student leaders and groups, and he will continue to meet with as many as possible before the November election.

In addition to voting on whether the fee should be implemented, Cogswell said, students also will have a say in how some of the funds are used. The group of about 50 students who serve as “library student ambassadors” will act as an advisory group to help administrators decide how to spend the potential revenue.

“I don’t think that happens with the other supplemental fees that students pay,” Cogswell said.

The report created by library administrators includes a list of facility updates, staff raises, new hires for academic support, new technology and other issues that require funding.

The fee already has garnered a stamp of approval from the undergraduate student government, the Missouri Student Association. Cogswell said the Graduate Professional Council, the governing body for graduate students, also will be considering the fee increase.

MSA also approved creating a referendum on the fee.
Curtis Taylor Jr., director of student communication with the Missouri Student Association, said it took time for student leaders to support the fee. Taylor said many of the leaders who are deciding to put it on the ballot might not be around when or if the fee is imposed.

“It was important for us to think of those who come after us and what the value of their degree will be with a better library,” he said.

Deputy Provost Ken Dean said administrators have made cuts and created “efficiencies” within the libraries for years to save money because state funding for higher education has not met rising costs; that gap has meant limited funding for services such as the libraries.

“We have reached a point where this is the most viable option,” Dean said of the fee.

Dean said MU leaders have funneled money toward the library when possible. In the same way there is “never quite enough money” for other needs like pay raises, Dean said, there also has not been enough for the libraries.

After six years of this fee, the library’s budget would put MU “in the middle of the pack” of institutions in the Association of American Universities based on 2015-16 figures, Cogswell said.

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UM Press aims for increased digital presence, financial sustainability

Currently, a $400,000 subsidy from MU is helping the press stay afloat.

**A fundraising campaign through the University of Missouri Press hopes to raise $40,000 to digitize books related to Missouri or by Missouri authors.**

The Missouri Essential catalog, the focus of the fundraising effort, includes Mark Twain’s works, books about former President Harry S. Truman and the six-volume History of Missouri. UM Press Director David Rosenbaum said digitizing these titles will bring them to “a new generation of readers.”

The campaign has raised 56 percent of the goal, almost $23,000, as of April 5. The funds raised will go toward the intensive digitizing process.
“It’s easily a hundred hours of work, and that assumes everything goes smoothly,” Rosenbaum said.

The process begins with scanning each page into the computer. Next, the characters on the page have to be recognized as letters instead of images. Then, each book is re-edited to ensure that nothing was lost in translation.

State Historical Society Director Gary Kremer said he is pleased with the launch of this campaign, and he sees it as a way to introduce more people to the state’s history.

“It seeks to identify important, or ‘essential,’ older works that would help any reader come to a greater understanding of the complexity of Missouri over time,” Kremer said in an email.

The Missouri Essential Campaign is just one example of how the UM Press is adjusting to the changing world of publishing. Rosenbaum said many UM Press titles are available on various platforms. For all new books, the press creates a digital and print copy, a policy that started in 2012. The campaign will also allow all titles produced before 2012 to be digitized.

Despite the increased digital trend, Rosenbaum said, there is still more demand for print copies of scholarly works. Print makes up 80 percent of the press’ market, he said.

The backlist of books published anytime before 2013 contains over 1,000 titles, Rosenbaum said. He said 400 to 500 of these titles are about Missouri.

“These are classics that will be made more readily available to readers who seek to explore our state’s rich cultural heritage,” Kremer said.

Damage control

The press, founded in 1958, was almost closed in May 2012 when UM President Tim Wolfe withdrew the $400,000 annual subsidy, according to previous Maneater reporting. The press could not sustain itself and had to shut down.

The announcement of the closure sparked debate in Faculty Council meetings and the “Save the University of Missouri Press” Facebook page, which accrued over 2,700 likes. In response to the controversy, the ownership of the press transferred to MU. Rosenbaum, who had worked in the publishing industry for 16 years, was hired as director of the press in November 2013.

“The damage done in 2012 was significant,” Rosenbaum said. “We had to build ourselves back up. We are not quite at that (pre-2012) level.”

A sustainable future

Rosenbaum said the press has been improving, and he hopes to make the press self-sustaining one day. MU still pays the $400,000 subsidy, an amount that Rosenbaum said is common for university presses.
“I expect it will be several years before the changes we’re making today will be fully reflected in our finances,” he said. “Nevertheless, I’d like to see a significant reduction in our reliance on funding from MU in the next five years.”

Quick turnarounds are rare in the publishing industry, so climbing out of debt takes time, Rosenbaum said. He said the administration is supportive of his goals and is giving him the time to repair the damage.

The transfer in ownership was a “smart, healthy move,” Rosenbaum said, and has helped the press improve its ties with MU by presenting itself as a one-stop publishing shop for various departments and colleges. MU faculty also have greater representation on the press’ board as well, Rosenbaum said.

“We are looking closely at MU’s mission and making changes,” he said.

Those changes include expanding the areas of interest for the press. Historically, the press has focused on Missouri, history, journalism and literary criticism, political science and political philosophy.

Now, the press has titles related to organizational studies, which are part of a series with the MU’s Center for the Study of Organizational Change.

“Publishing titles in this area both plays to a particular strength here at MU but has a national audience,” Rosenbaum said. “Likewise, we’ve begun reviewing titles for a program in human and animal bioethics. This publishing program will also have significant national appeal but should appeal and be most relevant to important land-grant schools like MU.”

With a background in commercial publishing, Rosenbaum is experienced in running a profitable publisher. However, he finds his new position more fulfilling, as he serves a mission not centered around netting a profit. Under his guidance, the UM Press has adopted tools to measure financial implications of publishing a book.

“We don’t want to be in the business of losing money,” he said. “(The goal is to) break even.”

Rosenbaum said he has seen progress, but the publishing industry is about the long-term, not next quarter’s profits.

“It takes time to show results,” he said.
Columbia Missourian

Voters share their thoughts on Tuesday's municipal election

Tuesday, April 7, 2015 | 11:42 a.m. CDT; updated 9:30 p.m. CDT, Tuesday, April 7, 2015

By Missourian Staff

Columbia — Missourian reporters visited polling places around Columbia on Tuesday morning to get voters' thoughts on the municipal election. Here's what they had to say. (Polls will remain open until 7 p.m.)

"It's your responsibility to support the issues and the candidates that you feel are best. There are great issues and candidates in this election."

— Tim Wolfe, 56, University of Missouri System president

"I didn't vote for the school board because I don't have any children, so I don't feel it's my responsibility. I just left that part blank."

— Denise Quinlan, 59, administrative assistant at MU Construction Management

"This is the first municipal election I actually have voted in because I used to be a student at MU, but I live here now full time as a permanent resident. I knew voter turnout is low, and I did some research beforehand."

— Kevin Reape, 23, digital marketing administrator for MU

"I was interested in the two propositions. It's not that I don't think that we have to get the things done but the leadership has not been dealing with it properly. I think it was important to send a message because the council has been pro-developers on many issues, and it has not been asking them to pay their fare share. The council needs to know that citizens are unhappy."
"I voted for the hospital board of trustees. I’m less knowledgeable about that, but there are some issues that came out about one candidate. I know one of the candidates so that made it easy. I voted for Dr. Doroghazi."

— Angela Speck, 43, doctor

"I was interested in the propositions, especially Proposition 2. I do believe we need improvements to our infrastructure. It’s a serious problem. I was in favor of it. I voted in favor of Proposition 1 for the same reason."

— John Budd, 61, professor at the School of Information Science & Learning Technologies at MU

"I was interested in the school board election because I have kids, although they are much older now."

— Robin Kruse, MU Medical School Faculty

"I was interested in the Boone Hospital (Board of Trustees) elections because I have friends and family who work at the hospital and know both candidates. Kennett is still really involved at the hospital, whereas his opponent isn’t. I also voted for the propositions. People don’t like to have taxes raised, but if it’s going to help, then I’m for it."

— Whitney Greenweel, 21, MU student

"I voted for Betsy Peters. I think she’ll prevent developers from creating a uniform monoculture that makes the most money."

— Wayne Brekhus, 49, MU professor

"Sadly, the newspaper characterized (Proposition 1) as an issue about whether there is trust with the city. Nobody should vote on that basis as to whether they trust the city. I think that is very mean-spirited. The real issue is if you look at the actual data, energy in Columbia has been flat for 10 years. That wasn’t reported in the paper. Secondly, the Department of Energy gives
alternatives to building the big substations and wires, basically reinforcing the grid, which is a commitment to more coal power that was really not in the Missourian or the Tribune at all, because nobody told them."

— John O'Connor, 82, retired chairman of the MU Civil Engineering Department

Story continues: http://www.columbiamissourian.com/a/187353/voters-share-their-thoughts-on-tuesdays-municipal-election/

Resource Center partners with other campus orgs to celebrate LGBT pride

Throughout the month, students are encouraged to share photos of themselves showing their pride with the hashtag

Pride Month has returned to the MU campus and will feature 37 events throughout the month of April.

"Pride Month is traditionally celebrated in June in the United States, but because students are gone, we celebrate it on campus in April," LGBTQ Resource Center Coordinator Struby Struble said.

Pride Month is held in June to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall riots in Manhattan. Viewed as the tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States, patrons and supporters of the Stonewall Inn rose up against repeated harassment and persecution in the LGBT community from police officers.

President Bill Clinton issued Proclamation No. 7316 on June 2, 2000, marking the entire month of June as Gay and Lesbian Pride Month.

The month has since expanded to include all facets of the LGBT community over the last 15 years.
On campus, the LGBTQ Resource Center has partnered with dozens of organizations across campus, including the Triangle Coalition, the Women’s Center, the Multicultural Center and the Chancellor’s Diversity Initiative.

"We're really proud of all the collaboration and variety of events we're able to offer and help with," Struble said.

Throughout the month, students are encouraged to share photos of themselves showing their pride with the hashtag #onwednesdayswewearpride or #wearpridewednesdays.

Partnering with the LGBTQ Resource Center, the Sexual Health Advocate Peer Education program is promoting another meaning for the month of April: STI Awareness Month.

At Friday’s “Let’s Get Loud Drag Show,” held in the Memorial Union, SHAPE representatives provided resources, products and awareness of sexual health.

"We were invited here by the LGBTQ Resource Center just to give out free condoms and other free products like oral dams and female condoms, and promote sexual health safety," SHAPE representative Hannah Dismer said.

SHAPE also promoted its “Get Yourself Tested” event, to be held April 15. Testing is free and confidential and includes free tank tops while supplies last. The event goes from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in room 2206 of the MU Student Center.

Other events taking place are Pride Prom on the evening of April 11 in the Mark Twain Ballroom of Memorial Union. Guests are encouraged to wear what they like and bring who they like.

Queer Monologues is April 25 in Jesse Wrench Auditorium. Pride Parade is at noon on April 29, beginning at the fountain outside of The Shack and marching across campus.

Additionally, an open Safe Space Training session is available from 6-8 p.m. on April 13 in the LGBTQ Resource Center, and Catalyst Award Nominations are due April 17. Catalyst awards are given out at the end-of-the-year reception and awards ceremony to celebrate those who speak up, out and on behalf of the LGBT community.

This year’s keynote speaker is Robyn Ochs, editor of Bi Women Quarterly, the 42-country anthology Getting Bi: Voices of Bisexuals Around the World and RECOGNIZE: The Voices of Bisexual Men. Ochs will be speaking at 6 p.m. on April 29 in Stotler Lounge in addition to hosting a lunch discussion on middle sexualities at 12:30 p.m. on April 30 in the LGBTQ Resource Center.

Pride Month ends with the return of Take Back the Night March at 7 p.m. on April 30. The Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Center is hosting the event, which is returning after a five-year hiatus. It aims to empower survivors and provide urgency to end sexual violence on campus.
Updated anti-bullying legislation being heard in Missouri Senate

Cyberbullying, communication of policies addressed in the new bills.

In 2007, the Missouri House passed legislation that required all public schools in the state to draft and implement an anti-bullying policy by September 1 of that year.

Now, House Bill 458, designed to repeal and replace the old legislation, aims to increase restrictions placed on bullying by requiring that schools create and distribute an updated anti-bullying policy within schools’ student handbooks that must include a set of government-mandated regulations for how the school is to report and intervene in instances of bullying.

Bullying, defined in the bill as “intimidation or harassment that causes a reasonable student to fear his or her physical safety or property” or that significantly interferes with educational performance or opportunities “without exception,” is to be prohibited by students on school property, at any school function or on any school buses.

In order to effectively outlaw this intimidation and harassment, the bill, originally introduced by Rep. Sue Allen, R-St. Louis, requests that schools include three specific components in their policies: A statement requiring all district employees to report any instance of bullying, procedures for reporting and “prompt investigation” of bullying, and a statement regarding the way the schools’ policies will be publicized.

These policies must be reviewed annually for compliance with state and federal law.

“Essentially, (the bill) requires school districts to have a specific process in place for how to handle bullying based on increased communication of what their policy is,” Allen said. “A school can have their own policy, but that policy needs to be distributed to parents, students and other school officials and reviewed yearly.”

Allen said the bill is designed to treat every student equally.

“Bullying is a big problem,” Allen said. “Some schools have policies, others don’t. There are schools at which parents and kids are told they have policies, but those policies are either not working or implemented and are not protecting the kids. So, this is really kind of a direction for how communication is to be had regarding bullying within schools.”

An updated version of older legislation, HB 458 includes specific regulations to prevent and to remedy instances of “cyberbullying.” Cyberbullying is defined in the act as “transmission of a
communication including, but not limited to, a message, text, sound, or image by means of an electronic device.”

Bullying and harassment do not cease to exist after elementary, middle and high school. In university, workplace and other real-world environments, other ways of intimidation replace hair-pulling on the playground and sophomoric name-calling.

**At MU, the University Equity Office works to promote awareness and to provide information for handling instances of bullying or harassment on campus. The office’s program, “Show Me Respect: Promoting Civility at the University of Missouri,” offers tips for thwarting cyberbullying, harassment and stalking.**

Cyberbullying as defined in “Show Me Respect” exists in varying types, ranging from denigrating or putting someone down by posting or sending compromising material about an individual to others, to outing or posting or sending private information about an individual without his or her explicit permission.

The Equity Office said in a pamphlet that “threatening, frightening or intimidating in such a way that causes emotional stress” is a direct violation of Missouri State Law as well as the MU Student Code of Conduct.

Students who commit acts of cyberbullying from campus computers or while utilizing the campus wireless network will also be held in violation of MU’s Acceptable Use Policy.

For MU students struggling with harassment in any form, the Equity Office advises that victims should decide whether or not to respond, document all communications for evidence and report instances of abuse to MUPD, the Department of Residential Life or the Office of Student Conduct.

Additionally, the MU Counseling Center and 24-hour Crisis Hotline are always available to help students in need of emotional support or guidance.

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**COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN**

Ruffin emerges from nine-candidate ballot to take First Ward City Council seat

BY THE MISSOURIAN STAFF

**WINNER'S PRIORITIES: The Rev. Clyde Ruffin, an MU theater professor and senior pastor at the Second Missionary Baptist Church, made social justice his top priority throughout his campaign. He wants to promote the development of energy**
efficient, affordable housing and address problems with deteriorating infrastructure.

He also wants to rebuild trust between the citizens and local government and encourage racial diversity in all areas of city government, particularly in those that interact directly with the public.

OTHER POSITIONS
Columbia Police Department: Ruffin thinks that the department lacks staff and money and that a more diverse police force should be recruited. That, he said, will require city leaders to persuade voters who have grown weary of carrying the burden of tax increases to provide funding.

Transit: Ruffin thinks that Columbia's transit system should be better adapted to the city's demographic growth. He recommends offering $3 daily passes to attract more riders. He favors free transportation for students 18 and younger.

Economic development: Ruffin says there is no "best strategy" to boost economic development and job creation, although he sees tourism and recreation as key factors.

Downtown Columbia development: Ruffin is a proponent of C-2 zoning. He thinks city staff should be more transparent when discussing issues related to downtown development.

THE SCENE
Ruffin didn’t organize a watch party for Election Day, but his house was seething with excitement Tuesday night.

Surrounded by his wife, Sheila, his children, his grandchildren and his dog, Bubby, Ruffin watched the results come in on KMIZ-ABC 17. As the late results were coming in, he fielded questions from reporters at his home and over the phone.

When the Boone County Clerk’s Office published the first batch of results, Ruffin didn’t lead the race, but he didn't worry. "The first numbers were not the actual votes. Those were absentee ballots. That's not bad," he said.
Two-and-a-half hours after the polls closed, the numbers had shifted. Ruffin led with 26.6 percent of the vote. Reporters were already buzzing his doorbell, asking for comments and requesting photos.

Ruffin ultimately won the race with 327 votes, or 24.26 percent of the 1,383 votes cast.

"I have no idea," Ruffin said about where his support came from. "We tried to reach out to everybody."

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At his watch party of one, Rob Rasmussen checked his phone with a beer in hand at Uprise Bakery to keep updated on the latest election results. He said his first run for elected office was a learning experience, and he was honored to receive the support of 182 voters.

"I have no other experience to compare it to. It was fun," Rasmussen said. "Next time around I would probably just work on getting a couple more volunteers to help me get the basic message out and have a campaign staff to prod me to do some events."

Rasmussen, who was endorsed by Sal "Nooch" Nuccio after Nuccio dropped out of the race Monday night, said support from people in the know made him more optimistic and showed his message resonated with those who had a feel for government.

He said that tenants' rights will be his focus now that the election is over, along with finding out who he can partner with to create positive change for First Ward residents.

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John Clark finished third in his fourth attempt at winning a council seat. He was planning and strategizing until the end, surrounded by a dozen friends and supporters on the second floor of Bangkok Gardens with one precinct remaining. Even though he realized his chances for victory were slim, Clark rattled off numerous scenarios not only for the First Ward race, but for the Second and Sixth Ward races as well.

"This is really about knowledge, commitment and advocating for the First Ward," Clark said. "I'm not disappointed by the stands I took. The only disappointment would be the outcome."
Henry Hermes, a 23-year-old MU student, spent two hours holding a Clark sign outside of Paquin Tower. He said Clark struck him as radically different than candidates Jake Loft and Chad Phillips.

"They're just going through the motions," Hermes said. "John's going to be here until the day he dies."

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Dan Rader was somber when the results came in as he surveyed Bengals Bar and Grill and the crowd watching the St. Louis Blues game. No one was eating the white-frosted cake that thanked his supporters.

Rader was disappointed by the way the election turned out, but the things that went wrong were out of his control, he said.

He certainly tried to get out the vote. All throughout Election Day buses paid for by his campaign ran from Brookside on College and the corner of Richmond Avenue and Rollins Street in Greektown to the polling place at Paquin Tower. Another bus paid for by Rader and laden with Ryan Euliss signs patroled East Campus.

Rader and his supporters erected a tent on the FiJi lawn and serenaded students with music and implored them to vote with a megaphone throughout the afternoon. A supporter wearing a gorilla suit with a Rader T-shirt danced about.

The get-out-the-vote effort didn't quite work the way the campaign expected. Rader was surprised by the relatively low turnout despite the hundreds of students who registered to vote.

Adam Lowe, an MU student who helped with the Rader campaign strategy, was disappointed by the turnout but said the campaign had worked hard to put a candidate on the ballot who would speak for the students. He said the campaign focused on getting students to realize their votes in a college town matter.

**OTHER CANDIDATES' REACTIONS**

**Rob Stewart:** He could not be reached for comment.

**Jake Loft:** "The real winner of the election was the people at the First Ward. The nine candidates really care about the issues that matter in the First Ward. I think we are gonna be in good hands no matter who wins. This election is all about building trust. I think we are going to
get it no matter who wins.... This is a starting point for me. I think it’s a positive experience for me. I’ve learned a lot and gained a lot of friends over the last few months. My future looks bright, from my perspective anyway.”

**Sal Nuccio:** He withdrew from the race Monday night and endorsed Rasmussen.

**Nate Brown:** "It was an interesting experience. It was great meeting people at the polling places today. The winners in the First Ward are the voters, because nine people decided to run to represent them ... Congratulations to Rev. Ruffin.”

**Chad Phillips:** He received 35 write-in votes. "The biggest focus wasn’t to win. It was to increase student involvement and to give the students a student option in this election."

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**Banning Booze**

April 8, 2015

By Jake New

**NO MU MENTION**

The next few months could be a more lucrative time for bars in Hanover, N.H. The home of Dartmouth College is not especially known for its bar scene, with many students choosing instead to drink on campus at fraternity parties. When the spring term began on March 30, however, so did a new ban on hard liquor on campus, and the town's bars are now among the few places a student can drink a margarita without running afoul of the new policy.

"I'm sure we will see an increase of students," Marc Milowsky, the owner of Molly’s Restaurant and Bar, said Friday. "There is a vibe around town. People are wondering, 'What will this mean?'"

The new alcohol policy, announced in January, prohibits the possession or consumption of alcohol that is 30 proof or higher by anyone on campus, including those who are over
21. Penalties will be increased for students found in possession of hard alcohol, and third-party security and bartenders will be required at campus social events. It’s the college’s boldest move yet in an ongoing attempt to change its rowdy, drunken reputation. But will it work?

According to a 2001 survey conducted as part of Harvard University’s College Alcohol Study, students at colleges with complete drinking bans are 30 percent less likely to be “heavy episodic drinkers” and more likely to abstain from alcohol. Among students who still drink, however, heavy drinking is just as common as among their counterparts at colleges without alcohol bans.

The report has other caveats: the survey found a correlation between banning alcohol and lower rates of heavy drinking, the authors wrote, but that the lower rates could be due "to other factors, such as self-selection of students to these schools.” The report also focused on colleges that have banned all alcohol, not just hard liquor.

Colleges that have banned hard liquor are often convinced that it's the main source for their alcohol-related woes: hospitalizations, poor academic performance, sexual assault and other kinds of violence. They hope that banning hard liquor will help curb some of students' most harmful drinking habits, such as drinking from the open bowls of spiked punch found at fraternity parties, or the practice of "pregaming," in which students may drink large quantities of alcohol in an attempt to get drunk before even leaving their homes for the evening.

At Bowdoin College, where about 20 students are sent to the hospital every year due to overdrinking, the dean of student affairs said he can only recall two or three students ever being hospitalized after drinking too much beer or wine. He's been dean there for nearly 20 years.

George Koob, the director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism at the National Institutes of Health, said he agrees that administrators should focus their efforts on these types of behaviors. According to the institute, binge drinking has decreased among college students in recent years. But, at the same time, alcohol-related hospitalization has increased as much as 70 percent. “We have seen a fairly dramatic increase of alcohol-related hospitalizations among college students,” Koob said. “There’s an attitude now to drink as fast as possible and as intensely as possible. That's very dangerous.”

The idea has its opponents. Sexual assault prevention advocates say alcohol bans can make victims who have been drinking more hesitant to come forward. Critics also warn that hard liquor bans just push the drinking off campus, meaning Dartmouth would actually have less control over student safety.

In an interview the day the college announced the ban, Philip Hanlon, Dartmouth's president, admitted that the ban carries such a risk, although with Dartmouth being located in the tiny town of Hanover, he said, there's not much "off campus" to speak of. "It's something to be mindful of and to look out for," he said. "But it is not a reason not to adopt the ban."

The next state over, in Maine, hard liquor bans are commonplace at small, private liberal arts colleges.
In 2008, 14 students at Colby College were hospitalized for alcohol poisoning in a single day during an annual senior celebration known as Champagne Steps. The celebration was soon canceled, and two years later the college adopted a hard liquor ban.

“Since the policy went into effect, both hospitalizations and blood alcohol levels have dropped notably,” the college states on a webpage devoted to “facts and myths” about drinking at Colby. “The purpose of the policy is to eliminate high alcohol content punches and so-called pregaming that involves students doing multiple shots of hard alcohol in a short period of time prior to attending other events.”

The number of emergency room visits related to alcohol in recent years appears to be about same as it was in the years directly prior to the ban. In the 2013-14 academic year, there were 50 alcohol-related hospitalizations at Colby. From 2004 to 2009, an average of 46 students a year were treated for alcohol poisoning, according to a report created by a working group at the college. A Colby spokeswoman said this week, however, that there has been a "20 percent reduction in dangerous drinking" since the ban was adopted; the higher number of emergency room visits, she said, is attributable to the campus health center ceasing to be open 24 hours a day.

Nearby Bates College has had a similar ban in place since 2001. Though its numbers vary widely year by year, it’s not uncommon to see a similar number of hospitalizations as at Colby. In 2010, nearly a decade into the ban, 44 students were hospitalized.

That’s more than double the number of students hospitalized at Bowdoin College, another Maine institution with a hard liquor ban. Last year, only 15 of Bowdoin’s students were hospitalized in relation to alcohol. On average, about 20 students have been hospitalized per year over the last decade. Bowdoin’s alcohol ban has been in effect since 1999, but Scott Hood, the college’s vice president for communications and public affairs, cautioned against attributing Bowdoin’s low number of alcohol hospitalizations solely to the ban.

"It is combined with educational programming, open dialogue, enforcement, students looking out for one another and other measures, and we believe the practice has served Bowdoin and our students very well,” Hood said. “Nevertheless, I’m not sure our situation is transferable elsewhere. Different campuses have different cultures.”

Every year, first-year students receive a letter from Bowdoin’s dean of student affairs, Tim Foster, warning them of the risks -- both to their health and to their academic and career aspirations -- of heavy drinking.

“Please know that if you choose to drink excessive amounts of alcohol while at Bowdoin, it will be one of the riskiest and most dangerous things you will do,” Foster writes, adding that half of those hospitalized in a given year are first-year students who consumed too much hard alcohol. “Poor decisions by individuals and the irresponsible use of hard alcohol, especially in the form of ‘pregaming’ and ‘ripping shots,’ were the common denominators. In my 18 years at the college, only a handful of students have been taken to the hospital because they had too much beer or wine to drink.”
If Dartmouth hopes to drive its number of student hospitalizations down to Bowdoin-like levels, it doesn’t have much farther to go. Even with a student body twice as large, Dartmouth has already cut its number of annual alcohol hospitalizations down from 80 in 2011 to 31 last year. And that’s without any hard liquor ban in place.

But Hanlon said he views this milestone as a plateau, and hard alcohol is the “key challenge that remains” in lowering the number even more. “We’re viewing hard alcohol as a challenge facing our campus right now and we’re going to take it on,” he said in January.

Two months after the announcement and one full weekend into the ban, it’s not yet clear if Dartmouth’s policy will prevent that kind of dangerous behavior. It will take time to fully assess its effectiveness, said Justin Anderson, a spokesman for Dartmouth, and the university “can’t speculate” on how the policy has or hasn’t changed things this early into its adoption.

Across the street at Molly’s, Milowsky said he’s reserving judgment for now, as well. The number of students in the bar was especially high on Friday and Saturday, he said, but it was also a holiday weekend and so it could have been a holiday crowd. He said it will take at least a month to “determine if there is any pattern” related to Dartmouth’s new policy.

“I’m sure the students are going to test the waters,” Milowsky said on Monday. “I don’t think anything substantial will happen until a couple of incidents occur, and I guess then we’ll see what’s what.”