MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

May 9, 2016
FOX 11 parenting contributor: Mother's Day and evolution of the 'modern family'

LOS ANGELES (FOX 11) - Mother's Day is all about celebrating mom, right? Well, not so fast.

As the face of the American family continues to change, so do holidays and celebrations -- including Mother's Day.

Decades ago the definition of the "typical" family was mom, dad, and two siblings or something close to that. Now, the "modern family" is something very different.

In the 1970's the family unit began to change with singleparent families, then blended families came into the mix. Moving forward we saw interracial marriages/interracial adoptions. The "traditional" family began to expand.

Fast forward now to shows like Modern Family and all the social media platforms out there. We can see the evolution. Same sex families, IVF, adoption and transgender families.

According to Dr. Stacy Wadlington, a licensed clinical psychologist, practicing in Pasadena:

"The face of the typical family has evolved- and most likely will continue to do so – but the role of the parent to promote and support the physical, social and emotional development of a child has never waivered. The way that Mother's Day is celebrated will vary by cultural / religious beliefs traditions,etc but the sentiment will always be one of gratitude and love."

According to Dr. Larry Ganong, co-chair of Human Development and Family Sciences at the University of Missouri:

"Children need at least one adult who looks out for their interests (safety, security, food, etc.) and who loves them. If they have that, they have a chance to do well in life. Children in all types of family structures are doing well – poverty and family conflicts have the most detrimental effects on children, far more than does the type of family in which they
Shots fired on University of Missouri campus: university

Two gunshots were fired on University of Missouri’s flagship campus on Friday though no one was injured, the school said.

Police were investigating the shooting near a plaza on the campus, and were searching for a suspect, the university said.

"There is no indication of a current threat to campus," the school added.

About 35,000 students attend the University of Missouri in Columbia, 125 miles (200 km) west of St. Louis.
Major Brian Weimer said officers were trying to determine the nature of an "incident" on campus Friday night, but he gave no further details.

A notice posted on the university's website says no injuries were reported and "there is no indication of a current threat to campus."

Police are seeking a suspect described as a black male with dreadlocks, standing 5-foot-7 and weighing 160 pounds. Police say he was wearing a white shirt and was last seen driving a white, four-door vehicle.

**MISSOURIAN**

**Shots fired near Traditions Plaza activates MU Alert**

BRITTANY CROCKER, May 7, 2016

COLUMBIA — **MU police responded Friday night to reports of gunshots on MU’s campus.**

MU Alert reported at 11:19 p.m. that no one was injured after two shots were fired near Traditions Plaza. At 11:38 p.m. police said there was no evidence of a threat to campus but said they're continuing to investigate.

Police said they're searching for a black man with dreadlocks, about 5-foot-7-inches tall, 160 pounds and wearing a white shirt, according to MU Alert. He was seen driving a white four-door vehicle with a partial license plate of W93 Z.

Police are asking anyone with information regarding the incident to call 573-882-7201.
Gunshots heard on MU's campus during fraternity ritual

COLUMBIA — Gunshots were fired on MU's campus Friday evening according to University of Missouri police and multiple witnesses.

Students were gathered for a ritual revealing the newest members of a fraternity to the public when a fight broke out at Traditions Plaza, across from Jesse Hall. Witnesses said someone then pulled out a gun and fired two shots into the air.

University of Missouri Police said nobody was injured and no arrests have been made.

Police described the suspect as a black male with dreadlocks wearing a white shirt. He was described as 5-foot-7 and 160 pounds, and left in a white car.

MUPD investigating shots fired incident on campus

COLUMBIA, Mo. — UPDATE: University of Missouri Police confirm two shots were fired in the area of Traditions Plaza on campus.
Police said no injuries have been reported. They are further investigating the incident.

Police say they are searching for a suspect who is described as a black male with dreadlocks, 5'7", 160 pounds and wearing a white shirt.

Witnesses told police the suspect was last seen driving a white, four-door vehicle with a partial license plate of W93 Z.

Anyone who has information on the incident are urged to contact MUPD at (573)-882-7201

ORIGINAL: The University of Missouri Police Department are investigating unconfirmed reports of a shot fired incident at Traditions Plaza.

Just before 11:00 p.m. Friday evening an MU Alert was sent out about the situation.

The MU Alert said "there is no indication of a current threat to campus."

Officers are on the scene working the area for evidence.

KRCG 13 has a crew on their way to the scene and will update this story as more information becomes available.

MUPD searching for suspect after gun shots fired on campus

COLUMBIA, Mo. - May 7, 4:30 p.m.: MUPD confirms there was no law enforcement presence at last night's gathering on Traditions' Plaza. No plans to have extra patrols in the area tonight. University officials are working to get more information on last night's incident. We are waiting to hear back.

11:22 p.m.: MUPD confirm two shots were fired in the air. No injuries known.

The suspect police are looking for a 5'7", 160 lbs. black man with dreadlocks wearing a white shirt. He was last seen driving a white, four-door vehicle, partial license plate: W93 Z.
10:36 p.m. 5/6/16: Right now there is a strong law enforcement presence on MU's campus after reports of shots fired.

The MU Police Department as well as the Columbia Police are on scene between Traditions Plaza and Jesse Hall. Ambulances are also on scene.

MU issued an alert at 10:49 stating campus police were aware of unconfirmed reports of shots fired in the area and are investigating.

Major Brian Weimer with MUPD tells ABC 17 that responding officers say there is nothing in the area to indicate a current threat to campus at this time.

It appears there was some sort of large gathering in the area before police arrived. People on scene say there was a probate event going on where organizations like fraternities and sororities initiate new members.

Others on scene tell ABC 17 News crews that a fight broke out during the event.

University of Missouri softball team protests probe

COLUMBIA, Mo. -- The University of Missouri's softball players say they're playing in protest of an internal investigation they say focuses on the program and its coaches.

The Columbia Daily Tribune says the team announced in a statement Saturday it would play that day's home game against South Carolina under protest.

Without detailing possible reasons for the investigation, the statement said the inquiry by the school's athletic department is "wholly unsubstantiated."

Coach Ehren Earleywine has declined to discuss the matter publicly.

Earleywine has coached at Missouri for 10 years and has two seasons left on his contract. He signed a seven-year extension in 2011 and makes $155,000 a year.
Missouri's athletic director, Mack Rhoades, also has not spoken publicly about the investigation.

The Missouri athletic department is again facing scrutiny after the Tigers softball team played Saturday “in protest” of a university investigation into the program and longtime coach Ehren Earleywine.

A list of grievances, many aimed at second-year Mizzou athletic director Mack Rhoades, were released as part of a statement signed by “Missouri softball players,” before a 2 p.m. first pitch against South Carolina at University Field in Columbia.

According to a MU athletic department release Saturday, the university launched an internal review of the softball program after receiving complaints from both inside and outside the program in recent weeks.

Softball players at Mizzou upset with investigation of coaching staff, playing under protest. pic.twitter.com/ubwQJxWzgp

Here is the full text of the softball team’s statement:
“Missouri players are playing this game in protest of our athletic administration and specifically Missouri head AD Mack Rhoades. The Missouri athletic department is conducting a wholly unsubstantiated investigation of our softball program and the softball coaching staff. The softball players support and love our coaching staff, and we wonder why this black cloud is being put over our program intentionally by Mizzou AD Mack Rhoades.

“The administration is conducting an unjust investigation which includes:

— Bullying and intimidating players during forced interviews

— AD Mack Rhoades told us that we, the players don’t have ANY say in who is the coach of our team

— We believe a gag order has been placed on our coaches

— The administration was completely incompetent in handing the fall football scandal and they are doing a worse job at this

— This is a Title IX sport and they’re making up a false investigation

— The softball program under coach Ehren Earleywine IS THE WINNINEST PROGRAM IN THE HISTORY OF MISSOURI SPORTS

“Mack Rhoades and Mizzou athletics administration drawing out this unnecessary investigation on our coaching staff is having an emotional effect on our team.

“Let our coaches coach us! That’s why we came here!”

Following a request for comment about the softball team’s allegations, the Mizzou athletic department issued a release that said it and the university would have no comment because the review is ongoing and involves personnel matters. The softball players and Earleywine did not take questions from reporters after their game Saturday, a 3-1 loss to South Carolina. Two players told reporters they stood behind their teammates before leaving the field.

It’s unclear what the nature of the investigation is.

Earleywine, who became Mizzou’s softball coach in 2007, was reprimanded last year when emails obtained by ESPN exposed his rift with Missouri State coach Holly Hesse. He later apologized in a statement “for the unprofessional comments I made.” The National Fastpitch Coaches Association issued a public reprimand of Earleywine in August.

Rhoades said at that time that such criticism “bothers me, and Ehren knows that, because I’ve told him.”
He was suspended for the Tigers’ opening game in February for a secondary recruiting violation. Earleywine emailed a scholarship offer to a prospective student-athlete before Aug. 1 of her senior year of high school. Verbal offers are permitted, but he violated NCAA rules by making it a written offer in the email.

Earleywine is 449-150 in 10 seasons with the Tigers, including a 38-12 mark entering Saturday’s game with the Gamecocks. The Tigers have won nine consecutive games entering Saturday, improving to sixth in the Southeastern Conference standings.

Missouri, of course, was ground zero for a wave of campus protests last fall about race relations. The Tigers football team announced a boycott in solidarity with a hunger-striking student Nov. 7 and missed practice Nov. 8.

Mizzou returned to practice on Nov. 9 after then-University of Missouri system president Tim Wolfe and MU chancellor R. Bowen Loftin resigned under pressure.

Later that same week, MU football coach Gary Pinkel announced that he had follicular lymphoma and would retire after the season. He is Missouri’s career football coaching victory leader.

MU softball players announce protest of AD Rhoades, athletic administration

By Blake Toppmeyer

Sunday, May 8, 2016 at 12:00 am

The Missouri softball players announced in a statement released before Saturday’s senior-day game against South Carolina that they were playing in protest of Athletic Director Mack Rhoades and MU’s athletic administration.

The player statement, which was distributed in the press box by a Missouri player about 45 minutes before Saturday’s 2 p.m. game, came in response to the athletic department’s internal investigation of the softball program.
“The Missouri athletic department is conducting a wholly unsubstantiated investigation of our softball program and the softball coaching staff,” the statement read. “The softball players support and love our coaching staff, and we wonder why this black cloud is being put over our program intentionally by Mizzou AD Mack Rhoades.

“The administration is conducting an unjust investigation, which includes: bullying and intimidating players during forced interviews; AD Mack Rhoades told us that we, the players, don’t have ANY say in who is the coach of our team; we believe a gag order has been placed on our coaches; the administration was completely incompetent in handling the fall football scandal and they are doing a worse job at this; this is a title IX sport and they’re making up a false investigation.”

The protest is the second player protest within the athletic department in a span of six months. In November, more than 30 players on the Missouri football team announced a boycott in conjunction with Concerned Student 1950’s push to have then-UM System President Tim Wolfe ousted amid racial unrest on campus. Wolfe, along with Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin, resigned two days after the football boycott was announced, and the boycott ended.

Rhoades recently reached his one-year anniversary as MU’s athletic director. The Tribune’s attempts to reach Rhoades on Saturday were unsuccessful.

The athletic department made its first public acknowledgment of the ongoing internal investigation of the softball program in a news release issued in the sixth inning of Saturday’s game, a little more than two hours after the player statement was released.

“In recent weeks we have received complaints concerning our softball program,” the athletic department’s news release stated. “These complaints have come from both inside and outside the program. In response, the university launched an internal review. The review is ongoing and involves personnel matters, therefore, the University of Missouri and Mizzou Athletics will have no other comment at this time.”

Coach Ehren Earleywine, when asked by the Tribune last week whether he might not be back at Missouri next season, said, “I can neither confirm nor deny it,” and deferred other questions to MU’s administration.

“I love the University of Missouri,” Earleywine said then. “I love coaching here. I don’t want to coach anywhere else. I’d like to retire here.”

Earleywine, a Jefferson City native who grew up a Tigers fan, has often stated that coaching Missouri is his dream job.

Earleywine coached Saturday’s game. As part of the pregame senior day festivities, Earleywine was honored with a plaque commemorating his 10 years coaching Missouri.

A team spokesman said neither Earleywine nor players would be made available to reporters after Saturday’s game, which Missouri lost 3-1 to South Carolina.
“I don’t want to talk about it yet,” Earleywine said after the game. He declined further questions.

Missouri sophomore third baseman Amanda Sanchez and junior designated player Chloe Rathburn, a transfer in her first season at MU, each offered the same comment after exiting the locker room following the game.

“I support my teammates and my coaches,” they each said, offering no further comment.

“All I’m saying is I support the statement, and that’s it,” said shortstop Sami Fagan, one of the team’s three seniors.

Fagan and pitcher Tori Finucane fielded questions about Missouri’s loss, which ended its nine-game winning streak. They didn’t elaborate much on the protest.

Earleywine and several players have spoken glowingly in recent weeks about the team’s cohesiveness. Fagan said she doesn’t expect Saturday’s outcome to affect team chemistry.

“We already talked in the locker room. We’re all on board. We’re on the same page,” said Fagan, who declined to elaborate whether she meant all the players were on board with the protest.

Senior right fielder Emily Crane, when asked for comment after Saturday’s game said, “I can’t.” Senior center fielder Taylor Gadois also declined comment.

Earleywine is one of the nation’s winningest college softball coaches. He breathed life into Missouri’s program after former Athletic Director Mike Alden hired him before the 2007 season. In his 10th season in the Tiger dugout, Earleywine has 16th-ranked Missouri (38-13) on the verge of its 10th straight NCAA Tournament appearance. His .748 winning percentage during his Missouri tenure ranks as the best of any coach in program history.

Earleywine has compiled a 449-151 record during his Missouri tenure. He has a 595-206 career record. He entered the season with the 14th-best career winning percentage all-time among Division I coaches, and he ranked 11th in winning percentage among active coaches.

Earleywine, who previously was the head coach at Georgia Tech for three seasons, has never missed an NCAA Tournament during his coaching career.

Earleywine’s coaching staff also includes associate coach Pete D’Amour and assistant Gina Schneider.

Earleywine has two seasons remaining on his contract — the end of a seven-year extension he inked in 2011, marking the longest contract extension ever signed by a coach of a nonrevenue sport at Missouri. His annual salary is $155,000.
The softball player statement accused Rhoades and the administration of “drawing out this unnecessary investigation on our coaching staff,” adding that it “is having an emotional effect on our team.”

“Let our coaches coach us! That’s why we came here!” the players’ statement concluded, followed by the signature, “Missouri Softball players.”

It’s unclear what, specifically, the athletic department investigation centers on.

Tim Hickman, MU’s executive associate athletic director who oversees the softball program, said MU’s administration was unaware of the players’ plans to protest. Hickman was on the field before the game as part of the senior-day festivities. He said he did not learn of the protest until about 10 minutes before the game started. Rhoades, who often attends MU softball games, wasn’t at Saturday’s game.

Hickman said the investigation was an “ongoing process,” and he declined to answer questions related to the investigation.

Earleywine led Missouri to Women’s College World Series appearances in three straight years from 2009-11. Missouri notched three WCWS appearances in the 32 seasons before Earleywine’s arrival.

Earleywine has built a reputation for being a fiery competitor. That demeanor — coupled with Missouri’s success — has made Earleywine popular with many MU softball fans.

However, his style didn’t resonate with everyone, and he’s hardly the poster child for the positive coaching initiative that began at MU under Alden. Earleywine has ruffled some feathers.

Most notably, Earleywine was involved in an email spat with Missouri State Coach Holly Hesse last season. Hesse, in an email to Earleywine’s director of operations, Lisa Simmons, accused Earleywine of being a dirty recruiter and stated that she was ending MSU’s series with Missouri. Earleywine fired back.

“The truth of the matter is you’re scared to get your ass whipped yet again by old mizzou,” Earleywine wrote an email to Hesse. “Have the courage to say what it really is and quit hiding behind your phony excuses. … If/when you decide to be a big girl, you know how to get ahold of me.”

In the closing of his email, Earleywine commended Hesse for keeping her job “despite being horseshit for so long.”

He later apologized in a statement for his comments.

Earleywine made contact with a female umpire while arguing a call last season. He was ejected and received a two-game suspension, because of an NCAA rule barring physical contact with umpires. He was subsequently suspended one game later in the season after another ejection.
Earleywine’s email to Hesse, along with last season’s ejections, were among four instances the National Fastpitch Coaches Association referenced when it issued a public reprimand of Earleywine in August “for questionable comments and actions over the last three years” that the NFCA said violated its Code of Ethics.

However, Earleywine’s tenure survived those occurrences, and his 10th season at Missouri has largely been free of public missteps, other than a one-game suspension he served in the season opener for committing a secondary recruiting violation during the offseason.

Earleywine played college baseball for Missouri State for one season before transferring to Westminster College in Fulton. He became an elite men’s fastpitch player and was named an Amateur Softball Association All-American six times.

Earleywine’s first coaching job was as a baseball assistant coach at Westminster under Phil Bradley, the former two-sport star in football and baseball for MU in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Earleywine considers Bradley to be one of his top mentors. Earleywine took the reins from Bradley as Westminster’s head coach in 1997 and coached there for three seasons. Bradley served as a volunteer assistant under Earleywine at Missouri for five seasons.

Earleywine’s first softball head-coaching gig came at Georgia Tech in 2003 after he served two seasons as a Yellow Jackets assistant coach. After Earleywine’s successful three-year stint coaching Georgia Tech, which included him being named the ACC coach of the year in 2005, Alden hired Earleywine in advance of the 2007 season.

He inherited a team that went 26-27 in 2006 and delivered 40-24 record in 2007, leading the Tigers to an NCAA Regional appearance. In each of the next six years, Missouri advanced to the least the super regionals — softball’s equivalent of the Sweet 16 — or beyond. Alabama and Arizona State were the only other programs in the nation that could tout such a streak.

Earleywine was named the Big 12 coach of the year in 2007 and 2011.

Tension under the surface with MU softball

By Joe Walljasper

Sunday, May 8, 2016 at 12:00 am

It was senior day at University Field, and right before the Missouri softball team played South Carolina on a sun-drenched afternoon, MU’s seniors received framed jerseys.
hugged loved ones and posed for photos. Coach Ehren Earleywine, whose 16th-ranked team entered the game on a nine-game winning streak, received a plaque commemorating his 10th season in charge.

Everything seemed hunky-dory between a team, its coach and its university.

Those looks were deceiving.

Before the ceremony on the field, a freshman player was dispatched to the press box with a stack of news releases announcing the Tigers would be playing the game under protest of their own athletic director.

The letter accused Mack Rhoades of conducting a “wholly unsubstantiated investigation of our softball program and the softball coaching staff. The softball players support and love our coaching staff, and we wonder why this black cloud is being put over our program intentionally by Mizzou AD Mack Rhoades.”

By the sixth inning of what turned out to be a 3-1 loss, the Missouri athletic department, whose top officials were blindsided by the players’ news release, distributed its own statement. It said the athletic department had started an internal review of the softball team after receiving complaints from “both inside and outside the program.” Furthermore, it indicated that MU players and Earleywine would not comment on the matter after the game, which they mostly didn’t.

A source said the athletic department’s investigation of the softball program didn’t hinge on a particular incident but rather concerned Earleywine’s coaching style dating back several years. The source said there were complaints from current and former players that Earleywine intimidated them and created a “culture of anxiety.”

Without anything more specific than that, I can’t form a reasonable opinion on whether Earleywine deserves to be on the chopping block.

Earleywine’s temper has gotten him into trouble, most notably last year, when he bumped a female umpire while arguing a call and mocked Missouri State Coach Holly Hesse in an email to her that was leaked to the media. Some misbehavior is forgiven for coaches who win, and whatever else has been said about the culture of Earleywine’s program, it is a winning culture. He has won 75 percent of his games, gone to the NCAA Tournament every year and made the Women’s College World Series three times.

Considering the mountain of problems on Rhoades’ desk, this wouldn’t be a logical fight to pick unless Rhoades felt Earleywine was way out of step with the way he wants his coaches to treat players and is obstinate in his refusal to change. If there could have been a peace agreement that allowed Earleywine to keep his job, it will be harder now. By allowing his players to publicly criticize his boss — or at the least not trying to tamp down the controversy after the fact — Earleywine is in a deeper hole than before. In that sense, the softball players who support
Earleywine would have been better off simply praising their coach rather than attacking Rhoades.

I have always enjoyed my dealings with Earleywine — he is a media darling for his accessibility and quotability — and I respect the way he built the Missouri softball program into a proven winner with a dedicated fan base and a new stadium on the way. But he does have to look around and see that today’s college athletes are more aware of their power and willing to use it.

As soon as word spread about the softball protest, the immediate connection was made to the Missouri football team’s boycott six months ago.

The softball players — not shy with their opinions — even referenced the MU athletic administration being “completely incompetent in handling the fall football scandal and they are doing a worse job at this.”

A better comparison is the recent spate of player uprisings in women’s basketball. Nebraska Coach Connie Yori, whose 14-year tenure was the most successful in school history, resigned after being accused of mistreating players and fostering a negative culture. Iowa State’s Bill Fennelly is being sued by a former player for creating a “hostile education environment through racial harassment,” although he vigorously denies that charge and the school said it has found no evidence of discrimination. Seven former players sued Illinois, claiming Coach Matt Bollant created a racially abusive environment. Loyola Coach Sheryl Swoopes is the subject of an internal investigation after a mass exodus of players and allegations of mistreatment.

Whether or not any of those complaints had merit, they all had to be investigated. When players complain, athletic departments investigate. Ideally, from the AD’s point of view, the public never sees the drama behind the scenes.

I have heard rumblings about Earleywine’s job security for more than a week, but putting myself in Rhoades’ shoes, I had considered a firing unlikely.

With the men’s basketball and baseball programs struggling mightily, it would cause a big backlash if the one coach Rhoades fired was the wildly successful and popular Earleywine.

I had figured a stern lecture from the AD and a promise to do better from the coach would be the likely conclusion. It now looks more likely that Earleywine will go down swinging.
Mizzou softball players play game in protest of MU administration

COLUMBIA - Mizzou softball players played Saturdays’ game against South Carolina under protest, according to a news released written by the players. **The players say the Missouri athletic department is conducting an investigation centered around the coaching staff.**

“The softball players, support and love our coaching staff, and we wonder why this black cloud is being put over our program intentionally by Mizzou AD Mack Rhoades,” the release said.

Missouri players claim the administration is making a “false investigation.” They say, "Mack Rhoades and Mizzou athletics administration drawing out this unnecessary investigation on our coaching staff is having an emotional effect on our team.” Below is the list of accusations the players are making against the athletic department:

- **Bullying and intimidating players during force interviews.**

- **AD Mack Rhoades told us that we, the players don’t have ANY say in who is the coach of our team.**

- **We believe a gag order has been placed on our coaches.**

- **The administration was completely incompetent in handling the fall football scandal and they are doing a worse job at this.**

- **This is a Title IX sports and they’re making up false investigation.**

- **The softball program under Ehren Earleywine IS THE WINNINGEST PROGRAM IN HISTORY OF MISSOURI SPORTS.**

Less than two hours after the players made their protest public, Mizzou athletics released a statement.

“In recent weeks we have received complains concerning our softball program. These complains have come from both inside and outside the program. In response, the university launched an internal review. The review is ongoing and involved personnel matters, therefore, the University of Missouri and Mizzou Athletics will have no comment at this time.”
The Tigers lost Saturday's game 3-1. Mizzou did not make players or coaches available after Saturday's game. As they exited the locker room, junior Chloe Rathburn said, "I stand by my team and my coaches." Ehren Earleywine declined comment on the matter, telling reporters, "Not now."

Shorstop Sami Fagan was asked if she was told to not speak, only saying "I'm not gonna say." Sophomore Amanda Sanchez was asked the same question, but only smirked then walked away from reporters.

Mizzou plays its final regular season home game against South Carolina on Sunday.

Missouri softball team protests athletic department

COLUMBIA — The University of Missouri softball team announced its matchup against South Carolina on Saturday would be played under protest of the athletic department.

In a statement released by players before the game, the softball team criticized Missouri athletic director Mack Rhoades and the Missouri athletic department for putting the team under investigation, which players feel are unnecessary.

"The softball players support and love our coaching staff and we wonder why this black cloud is being put over our program intentionally by Mizzou AD Mack Rhoades," the team said in the statement.

The statement accuses the athletic department of intimidating players during forced interviews, leaving player input out of the team's coaching decision and placing a gag order on the team's coaches.

"Mack Rhoades and Mizzou athletics administration drawing out this unnecessary investigation on our coaching staff is having an emotional effect on our team," the team also said in the statement.
The team also said the athletics department did not properly handle the football team protest that took place in November 2015 and the department is doing an even worse job of handling the softball team's investigation.

Mizzou Athletics responded to the statement and said it had no comment on the situation. A team spokesperson told KOMU players and coaches would not be available for any interviews after Saturday's game.

Missouri softball players, coach Earleywine break silence about protest

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Missouri softball head coach Ehren Earleywine and his players broke their silence, regarding the players' announced protest of Missouri Athletic Director Mack Rhoades and the school's athletic administration, after Sunday's 2-0 victory against South Carolina.

Missouri coach Earleywine couldn't reveal specifics of the situation, after the game on Sunday. But when asked by reporters the reason for the investigation, he said a couple current players on the team have had issues with the way player-to-coach exchanges have been handled.

"I play in a different league. I'm a little bit of throwback into a millennial culture of people. It forces you to evaluate how you coach, and it's not easy changing who you are," Earleywine said.

Missouri's Amanda Sanchez, Emily Crane and Paige Lowary spoke with reporters after Sunday's game. But, all three players declined to comment directly on the protest. They did confirm they'd like to see Earleywine remain the softball coach at Missouri.

Reporters asked Earleywine if he thinks he'll be coaching at Missouri next season.

"I sure hope so," Earleywine said.

Earleywine has been the coach at Missouri for ten seasons. He has two years left on his contract.
University of Missouri rejects recognition of graduate student union

COLUMBIA — The University of Missouri System officially denied recognition to the Coalition of Graduate Student Workers Friday.

According to a news release the coalition said it received the news through its attorney. Graduate students voted to establish a union in April. In that election, 84 percent of MU graduate students supported the effort to unionize. After the vote, Interim Chancellor Hank Foley warned the University would not recognize the union.

The coalition said it would continue legal action against the UM system.

Psychologists Explain Why New ‘Diversity’ Efforts On Campuses Will Fail

Two top psychologists have published a lengthy essay in The Wall Street Journal warning costly new efforts to promote racial diversity on college campuses are likely to increase, not decrease, racial tensions and animosity.

Lee Jussim of Rutgers University is an expert on prejudice and stereotypes, while Jonathan Haidt of New York University is an expert on moral psychology. Haidt also co-authored last year’s immensely popular “The Coddling of the American Mind,” an article in The Atlantic about growing efforts to protect American university students from being
offended by alternative viewpoints. Together, they have written a new piece, “Hard Truths About Race on Campus,” which engages with the wave of demands made by Black Lives Matter groups at schools across the country.

**Schools like the University of Missouri, Yale University and Princeton University have seen large-scale racial protests coupled with lists of demands given to administrators by activist groups. Rather than standing up for themselves, many targeted schools have tried to placate activists by granting some — or all — of these demands.** Yale has pledged a five-year, $50 million faculty diversity initiative. Brown University is spending $100 million on a similar effort. Other schools have pledged to hire diversity coordinators, increase non-white faculty, and expand ethnic cultural centers without attaching a specific budgetary figure to it.

Regardless of their approach, though, Haidt and Jussim warn that these efforts are unlikely to resolve racial tensions on campus and may in fact make them worse. The reason, they say, is precisely because they will entrench a college environment that divides people by race.

“A basic principle of psychology is that people pay more attention to information that predicts important outcomes in their lives,” the authors write. “A second principle of psychology is the power of cooperation. When groups face a common threat or challenge, it tends to dissolve enmity … [W]hen groups are put into competition with each other, people readily shift into zero-sum thinking and hostility. With these principles in mind, it is hard to see how the programs now being adopted by many universities will serve to create campuses where students of color feel more welcome and less marginalized.”

For instance, they point out efforts to simply admit more black students will require engaging in increased affirmative action, with less-qualified black applicants being admitted in order to hit desired racial quotas.

“As a result of these disparate admissions standards, many students spend four years in a social environment where race conveys useful information about the academic capacity of their peers,” they say. “People notice useful social cues, and one of the strongest causes of stereotypes is exposure to real group differences. If a school commits to doubling the number of black students, it will have to reach deeper into its pool of black applicants, admitting those with weaker qualifications, particularly if most other schools are doing the same thing. This is likely to make racial gaps larger, which would strengthen the negative stereotypes that students of color find when they arrive on campus.”

Similarly, the authors argue boosting funding for “ethnic enclaves” (such as Yale’s Afro-American Cultural Center) is unlikely to result in racial harmony. In fact, they point out, existing research already indicates for non-white students, “membership in ethnically oriented student organizations actually increased the perception that ethnic groups are
locked into zero-sum competition with one another and the feeling of victimization by virtue of one’s ethnicity.”

Jussim and Haidt are also skeptical increased diversity and microaggression training will resolve these problems. Currently, they say, there is no experimental evidence suggesting diversity training actually helps, while microaggression training, with its emphasis on the power of simple words and gestures to cause grave offense, has great potential to increase racial hostility.

“How would your behavior change if anything you said could be misinterpreted, taken out of context and then reported—annonymously and with no verification—to a central authority with the power to punish you?” they ask. “Wouldn’t faculty and students of all races grow more anxious and guarded whenever students from other backgrounds were present?”

In contrast the counterproductive strategies universities are currently following, Jussim and Haidt suggest schools should try imitating the U.S. Army. The Army, they say, lowered racial tensions not through affirmative action and other acts of favoritism, but by focusing on closing performance gaps between white and black soldiers so that more blacks could qualify for promotions. Since the Army refused to lower standards for black officers, they prevented black officers from being stereotyped as less competent. The Army also promoted cooperation between groups by emphasizing patriotism and pride in the Army as a whole.

“The policies and programs that universities have pursued over the past half-century don’t seem to be working,” they conclude. “The time may be right for a bold college president to propose a different approach, one based on the available evidence about what works and what doesn’t.”

**MISSOURIAN**

**Graduation ceremonies continue next weekend**

GUOHAO CHEN, Updated May 7, 2016

COLUMBIA — The weekend of May 13, 5,606 MU students will receive degrees over three days.
MU will grant 6,229 degrees (some students receive more than one), including 4,630 bachelor’s degrees, 949 master’s degrees, 321 doctorates, 113 law degrees, 108 veterinary medicine degrees, 86 medicine degrees and 22 education specialist degrees. About 300 students will be graduating from Mizzou Online.

Stephens and Columbia colleges graduated a total of 607 students this weekend in ceremonies throughout the day Saturday.

**University of Missouri**

**Friday, May 13**

**College of Veterinary Medicine**

- 1 p.m., Jesse Auditorium, Jesse Hall
- Speaker: Michelle Haven, animal health care industry strategist

**College of Education**

- 2 p.m., Hearnes Center
- Speaker: Eryca Neville, director of alternative education for Columbia Public Schools

**College of Engineering**

- 4:30 p.m., Mizzou Arena
- Speaker: James W. "Jim" O’Neill, president of Boeing BDS Development organization and St. Louis senior executive

**Sinclair School of Nursing**

- 5:30 p.m., Jesse Auditorium, Jesse Hall
- Speaker: Judith Fitzgerald Miller, dean of Sinclair School of Nursing

**College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources**
7:30 p.m., Hearnes Center

Speaker: Wamwari Waichungo, vice president of global scientific and regulatory affairs at Coca-Cola Co.

Saturday, May 14

Honors Convocation

8 a.m., Mizzou Arena

Speaker: Shawn Askinosie, honorary degree recipient

Office of Graduate Studies (masters and educational specialist)

Noon, Mizzou Arena

College of Human Environmental Sciences/School of Social Work

4 p.m., Hearnes Center

Speaker: Marjorie Sable, director and professor, School of Social Work

School of Medicine

5 p.m., Jesse Auditorium, Jesse Hall

Speaker: William Salzer, professor of medicine in the MU Department of Internal Medicine

College of Arts and Science

7 p.m., Mizzou Arena

Speaker: Major Garrett, chief White House correspondent for CBS News and a substitute anchor of "Face the Nation"

School of Natural Resources

8 p.m., Jesse Auditorium, Jesse Hall
• Speaker: Alex George, author and lawyer

**Sunday, May 15**

**Trulaske College of Business**

• 11 a.m., Hearnes Center
  
• Speaker: José Gutiérrez, senior executive vice president, executive operations, AT&T

**School of Law**

• 12:30 p.m., Jesse Auditorium, Jesse Hall
  
• Speaker: Michael Middleton, UM System interim president and MU Law graduate

**School of Health Professions**

• 2:30 p.m., Mizzou Arena
  
• Speaker: Mary Sheid, physical therapy alumna

**Office of Graduate Studies (hooding ceremony for doctoral candidates)**

• 4 p.m., Jesse Auditorium, Jesse Hall

**School of Journalism**

• 5 p.m., Hearnes Center
  
• Speaker: Janet Shamlian, correspondent for NBC News

**Stephens College**

• *Friday, May 6*
  
• Graduate and online student ceremony
  
• 6 p.m., Kimball Ballroom, Lela Raney Wood Hall
No one hurt after fire inside MU Greek house annex

COLUMBIA, Mo. - The Columbia Fire Department responded to the Beta Theta Pi annex on Wilson Ave. just after 6 p.m. Saturday.

According to Battalion Chief Clayton Farr, there were no signs of a fire from outside the building. He said crews found a small fire and smoke inside one of the bedrooms.

Firefighters were able to put out the fire quickly and no one was hurt.

The fire marshal is investigating what may have started the fire. At this time a damage estimate is unknown.
26-year-old medical student refuses to let rare stroke overtake her

KEELEY DORITY, May 7, 2016

COLUMBIA — Sydney Priest did not expect to become a page out of her medical school textbook.

But on the afternoon of Jan. 26, after a normal morning of classes at the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, she suddenly felt dizzy, began to vomit and lost control of the right side of her body.

All are symptoms of a stroke, but Priest is just 26. Nearly three-quarters of all strokes occur in people over 65, according to the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke.

Priest had suffered a basilar artery occlusion, a rare kind of ischemic stroke that occurs in only 3 percent of cases, according to MU Health. Hers was caused by a 3-centimeter blood clot in the back of her brain.

She was rushed to Northeast Regional Medical Center in Kirksville, but needing advanced stroke care, she was flown directly to University Hospital.

When Priest entered the hospital, she had a 10 to 20 percent chance of survival, said her physician, Dr. Vikas Gupta. Even after successful surgery to remove the clot, her recovery was still in question.

Friday morning, Priest walked down the hall in University Hospital to reunite with the healthcare team that treated her. Gupta called her recovery "phenomenal."
The Friday reunion with Priest's health-care team was an emotional one. Priest said she had made a promise when she left the hospital after her treatment that she would return in six months with the ability to walk and talk. She was back within four months.

“I’ve made a really quick recovery,” she said. “This is hard, but stuff happens and you get through it.”

Born with a congenital heart blockage, Priest has worn a pacemaker since she was born. It was only after examining the device that doctors were able to conclude that she has an atrial flutter, causing her heart to beat irregularly or too quickly.

Gupta said the condition is very rare for young adults and played a part in her stroke.

After the incident, Priest spent two weeks in University Hospital. She left in a wheelchair, unable to walk, with the right side of her body nearly useless.

She transferred to the University of Kansas Hospital's rehabilitation inpatient center, where she spent a month in what her father, Chuck Driskell, called an "aggressive" program. At the end of her stay, she was able to walk, talk and eat on her own.

Priest then went to her family's home in Kansas City, where her mother and aunt cared for her, since she couldn't manage her daily routine independently. She continued to improve at the Rehabilitation Institute of Kansas City in Westport, starting with a schedule of five days a week, then two.

Going forward, a blood thinner will be part of her treatment and provide protection against another stroke.

Priest credited the staff at University Hospital in large part for her prompt recovery.

"They all got to know and cared about me," she said. Little things like cards, flowers and prayers helped her stay strong during her stay in the neurosciences intensive care unit, she said.
Olivia Warner was one of the registered nurses who admitted her. When Priest arrived for the reunion Friday, Warner hugged her and teased her about the way her hospital room was decorated with so many cards and gifts.

Priest plans to return to osteopathic school next fall. Before the stroke, she intended to specialize in pediatric cardiology but now wants to pursue a career in rehabilitation.

Between tears, Priest said that she wants to help people with experiences like hers and hopes her experience will help her relate to her future patients.

University of Missouri student chosen for Fulbright summer program

Clarabelle Fields, sophomore in the University of Missouri Department of Classical Studies, will spend four weeks studying British history from the Roman period through the late medieval period as part of the Fulbright Summer Institute at Durham University.

Fields will study archaeology and medieval theory through on-site seminars and workshops, the US-UK Fulbright Commission announced.

The study program is fully paid by the commission.

In a news release announcing the award, Fields said she was overcome with excitement when she was informed she was going to the United Kingdom.

“I was also greatly humbled that the Fulbright commission had chosen me as a participant,” Fields said. “As a Fulbright summer program participant, I look forward to collaborating with other students as we experience the history of the U.K. firsthand and engage with each other on a scholarly level.”

The commission is part of the Fulbright program conceived by Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas in the aftermath of World War II to promote leadership, learning and empathy between nations through educational exchange. About 60 students from the United States and the United Kingdom will participate in programs at nine British universities.