University of Missouri growth, payroll propel Columbia economy

By Rudi Keller

Sunday, June 12, 2016 at 12:00 am

In 1839, less than 20 years after the pioneering settlers of Boone County founded Columbia with their families and slaves, they donated $117,900 in land and money to win the competition to host the University of Missouri.

Today that investment returns $894.3 million annually to employees and pensioners in Boone County — equal to $1 of every $8 of personal income for the county in 2014, the most recent year with reliable data. The $1 billion total payroll for the MU campus, MU Health Care and the UM System administration supports jobs that pay, on average, more than $1,100 per week, or $400 more than the average wage in private industry.

It is hard to imagine Boone County or Columbia without the university. As MU has grown from 23,000 students in 2000 to 35,448 in the school year that ended in May, Columbia has grown along with it. From 2000 to 2014, the city added more than 34,000 residents, a growth rate of 38.3 percent.

Nearly one in five of the almost 100,000 Boone County residents in the workforce is employed by the university. MU employs 20,098 full- and part-time faculty, staff and student workers. MU Health Care has a full- and part-time workforce of 5,292.

The university’s payroll helps keep the county unemployment rate well below the state average and supplies a trained workforce for the health care, finance and insurance industries that are also major employers, as well as public schools. There are 22,542 MU graduates living in Boone County, including 906 teachers and 50 principals and administrators, 53 and 63 percent, respectively, of both professions.

The dark cloud inside the silver lining is that enrollment in the fall could drop 2,000 or more, the first significant reduction since the early 1990s. Whether it will start a trend or be a one-time dip, the decline could have a long-term financial impact. In each of the past 10 years, the sophomore class has been about 80.5 percent as large as it began as a freshman class.
When the latest projections were made, MU spokesman Christian Basi said it was impossible to determine whether future declines were likely. “A lot of this is asking us to speculate right now,” he said.

A recent report, commissioned by the Missouri 100, does try to imagine what the state economy would look like if the university did not exist. The Missouri 100 is an advisory and support group for the university president and system.

The report measured the economic impact of the UM System in three ways — earning gains of graduates, increase in state economic activity because of university research and development and increase in total state income because of better-educated residents.

The report was produced as part of the university’s campaign to assure state lawmakers it was a worthy investment at a time when turmoil gripped its administration.

“We believe this report solidifies some of those claims,” system spokesman John Fougere said. “We want to have current numbers to validate the statements we make.”

The study compared the median earnings of people aged 25 to 34 based on educational attainment. The study concludes a graduate of a large, public university will, on average, earn $1.62 million more over a lifetime than a high-school graduate and that a graduate of a large, public research university like the MU campus in Columbia will, on average, earn $2.15 million more during their lifetime.

Over 25 years, eliminating the university as a source of research and development would cost the state economy $168.1 billion, the study by university economists Ronald Harstad and Joseph Haslag found.

“The university system is very meaningful and important,” said Pam Henrickson, chair of the Board of Curators. “It is an important economic driver to the state of Missouri.”
University of Missouri budget cuts hit family of theater faculty hard

By Rudi Keller

Sunday, June 12, 2016 at 12:00 am

Interim University of Missouri Chancellor Hank Foley’s office sent an email to Dean Packard on Wednesday asking him to lead the Student Fee Capital Improvements Committee in the coming year — a routine bit of summer administrative paperwork at MU.

The only problem was Packard had been informed on May 17 that his services, after 26 years, were no longer needed as an adjunct associate professor of stagecraft, lighting design and sound design. His wife, Kerri, also was the victim of budget cuts, losing her position as adjunct associate professor of costume technology after 23 years.

The Packards held nontenured teaching positions in MU’s Department of Theatre and directed key elements of productions in the division’s two theaters. Dean Packard was traveling Friday and could not be reached, but Kerri Packard said the email is an example of bureaucratic inertia at MU.

“Hank Foley doesn’t know we were laid off,” Packard said. Her husband “politely replied he ‘would love to, but I don’t work there anymore.’”

On March 9, Foley directed campus divisions to cut 5 percent of their general fund spending in the fiscal year that begins July 1 because of an anticipated drop in enrollment. Vice Chancellor Gary Ward responded by cutting 50 jobs in the MU Operations division to save $5.47 million, notifying the campus in an April email that changes would require faculty and staff to clean their own offices and that there would be no trash pickup on Saturdays after tailgating for football games.

By May 11, the picture was clearer — MU expects to have about 2,600 fewer students in the fall, a decrease of more than 7 percent. Vice Chancellor of Finance Rhonda Gibler estimated tuition revenue would decline by $36.3 million, and the campus faced a total budget shortfall of $46 million to cover continuing expenses and unavoidable new costs.
The deficit will be covered by $9 million in new state funding, $5 million from increased tuition for out-of-state and professional students, the cuts ordered by Foley and by spending some reserve funds. The campus is planning for cuts of at least 2 percent per year for fiscal 2018 and 2019.

Overall, 38 employees had been laid off as of last week, MU spokesman Christian Basi wrote in an email. Across the 13 colleges and schools, the cuts have resulted in cuts of at least 104 faculty, administrative and staff positions, he said Friday. Not all colleges and schools have reported complete numbers on their reductions, he said.

The College of Arts and Science needed to cut $4.2 million and the equivalent of 18.75 tenured faculty, 27 adjunct faculty and 11.25 staff positions, Basi said.

Information still was being compiled on which reductions represent employees who were on payroll this year and which represent vacant positions that will not be filled, he said. Figures also were not available on the employees, faculty or staff members who took early retirement as part of the reductions.

Under UM regulations, the Packards were not officially laid off. They held nontenured contracts that are subject to annual renewal.

“No number of nonregular term appointments shall create any presumption of a right to reappointment on term or continuous basis,” the regulations say.

The Packards are not eligible for transitional assistance and said they are upset because there was no discussion in the department about how to make the cuts.

Dean Michael O’Brien “met with Arts and Science faculty about a month ago about the cuts and said they would be painful,” Kerri Packard said. “He repeatedly used the word ‘pain’ and said we as faculty should be discussing it as a department. In the Department of Theatre, we never had any of those meetings.”

Department Chairwoman M. Heather Carver did not respond to messages seeking comment.

In an October 2015 report on employment, MU counted 20,098 full- and part-time campus workers, including 8,991 student employees. The report noted 2,934 full-time teaching and research employees and 5,858 full-time administrative, service or support workers.

The UM System Board of Curators meets Thursday and Friday to discuss the system’s operating budget for the coming year. The budget documents that will be presented to the board will not be publicly available until Tuesday, UM System spokesman John Fougere wrote in an email.

Along with declining revenue from tuition in Columbia, the budget will show a decline at the University of Missouri-St. Louis because of an expected enrollment decrease of about 500 students. The budget also will show how the UM System administration will absorb a $3.8 million cut in state tax support, Fougere wrote.
This year’s systemwide budget — approved in June 2015 — was based on revenue estimates of $3.13 billion for all operations, including MU Health Care, and spending of $2.95 billion.

The Packards said the decision not to renew their contracts represents a sudden loss of about $106,000 in annual income — $52,914 for Kerri Packard’s nine-month appointment and $52,799 for Dean’s. Their daughter graduated from MU in May, and their son will be a senior in high school this fall.

Dean Packard described the unexpected notice on May 17 as “pretty crippling.”

“Education jobs, you apply for them late fall, early winter, then they go through the process of selection,” he said. “We are at a point where the jobs aren’t there.”

Kerri Packard said Friday that she and Dean had applied for positions with Columbia Public Schools and intend to stay in the area at least until their son graduates.

“Friends have been sending us postings of jobs around the country,” she said. “I am not sure we are ready to pick up and move.”

University of Missouri Columbia campus not alone in enrollment struggles

By Alan Burdziak

Saturday, June 11, 2016 at 12:00 am

The University of Missouri’s flagship Columbia campus is not the only of its four branches facing a drop in enrollment, with officials at the St. Louis campus expecting 500 fewer students this fall.

Meanwhile, the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla is anticipating an all-time high of 9,040 students come August, an increase of 151 from 2015 enrollment; the University of Missouri-Kansas City projects fall enrollment to be flat or to slightly increase from the 16,600 students who attended last year.

Interim MU Chancellor Hank Foley has attributed the anticipated decrease of about 2,600 students to numerous factors, including fewer high school graduates in the state, Illinois public universities accepting more students and a hit the university’s reputation took after turmoil that
began last summer. Officials at the St. Louis campus similarly point to several reasons for the loss of students. Bob Samples, associate vice chancellor of communications at UMSL, said his campus will suffer from fewer high school graduates both nationally as well as in Missouri.

Enrollment decreases at nearby community colleges also contributed, Samples said in an email, reducing the number of transfer students to UMSL.

“We also believe the relatively stable economy has affected enrollment,” Samples said. “We tend to see enrollment increases during a weak economy as individuals return to college to make themselves more marketable or to change their career paths.”

In fall 2015, UMSL had 16,763 students, a 4 percent decrease from 2014; the anticipated enrollment of 16,260 students this fall represents a decrease of about 3 percent.

MU is expecting about 32,800 students this fall. Foley in May held a budget forum where he explained to faculty and staff how the university would narrow a projected $46 million budget shortfall by making 5 percent cuts to all departments, finding new revenue sources and increasing student recruitment.

Officials at UMSL recently announced they would eliminate 85 positions over two years to reduce expenses. Samples said the budget plan for the next two fiscal years — the next one begins July 1 — incorporates the projected 3 percent enrollment decline. Fifty-three of the positions will be reduced via layoffs; the remainder will be cut through attrition. Samples said layoffs had started and will be staggered in the coming months.

A new 450-bed residence hall will open in the fall at Missouri S&T to accommodate the growing student body, spokesman Andrew Careaga said. The university has nearly doubled its enrollment since 2000, he said.

It’s not all good news in Rolla, however. Missouri S&T is expecting a decrease in graduate students because of fewer international students from petroleum-producing countries.

“The economies of those countries have taken a hit because of petroleum prices,” Careaga said, reducing money those governments typically use to train their citizens abroad.

Jennifer DeHaemers, associate vice chancellor for student affairs and enrollment management at UMKC, would not provide a specific estimate for fall enrollment other than projecting it will be level or slightly more than 2015 figures. International students are not expected to show up until the week before classes, she said, and UMKC does not require any sort of enrollment deposit, which makes it difficult to gauge how many students will be on campus in the fall.

“For our campus and the way things happen, it’s hard to give you an estimate,” DeHaemers said.
Turmoil means turnover at the University of Missouri

One tumultuous month at the University of Missouri left it with temporary system and flagship campus leadership, a short-handed Board of Curators and a reputation for administrative paralysis.

It also generated a commitment to attack the obstacles that have blunted past attempts at fostering an inclusive and diverse atmosphere that reflects the state. New diversity officers with enhanced power, new funding and requirements for students to participate in diversity training have all flowed from the Concerned Student 1950 protests that culminated with the Nov. 9 resignation of UM System President Tim Wolfe.

“The unfortunate events that captured much attention from the world in recent months are not a reflection of our great university, but rather those incidents represent a long-standing national societal flaw,” Interim President Mike Middleton said in December, a little more than a month after being called from retirement to take over from Wolfe.

Columbia campus Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin negotiated his departure a few hours after Wolfe resigned without conditions. As Loftin’s interim replacement, the curators chose Hank Foley, MU senior vice chancellor for research and graduate studies and UM System executive vice president for academic affairs, research and economic development.

Two interim officers took over for Foley. His system job was assumed by Bob Schwartz, who was system chief of staff from April 2012 until September 2014. Schwartz moved to system administration from the Missouri University of Science and Technology.

Mark McIntosh, chair of the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology and associate vice chancellor for Research and Strategic Initiatives, became interim vice chancellor for research, graduate studies and economic development.

Only six of nine seats on the Board of Curators are filled as the search for a new permanent president moves ahead. After a year of legislative criticism and heated rhetoric from GOP candidates for governor, the selection is timed to occur after the election but before the next governor takes office.
The terms of Chairwoman Pam Henrickson of Jefferson City and Donald Cupps of Cassville, expire Jan. 1, which will leave the system with a president who was selected by a minority of the board he or she will serve.

Henrickson said her short time left on the board will not limit her actions.

“You can look at it as temporary, or you can look upon it as your opportunity to build something and put your mark on that structure,” she said.

The board set up a presidential search committee that will be led by two alumni chairs: former curator and attorney Cheryl Walker of St. Louis and physician Jim Whitaker of Kansas City.

There are two faculty representatives, one staff representative and one student representative. The curators are members, as is the student representative to the board.

When appointed, the committee had 12 members.

The committee could have as many as 16 members if Democratic Gov. Jay Nixon appoints interim curators.

In all, there are three top interim officers at the system — Middleton, Schwartz and interim Vice President for Human Resources Kelley Stuck, appointed Dec. 4 to replace Betsy Rodriguez, who became vice president of Human Resources for Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

On the Columbia campus, six of 17 names on Foley’s staff web page are interim administrators. They are McIntosh, interim Chief of Staff Brian Millner, interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Jatha Sadowski, interim Vice Provost for Extension Linda Jo Turner, interim Vice Chancellor for Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Chuck Henson and interim Vice Chancellor for Marketing and Communications Jennifer Hollingshead.

There is no need to hurry decisions about which administrators will become permanent and which jobs will see new officers, Henrickson said. That can wait until a new president is named.

“You start at the top, and you work your way down,” she said.
SLU administrator to join MU in human resources role

Generated from News Bureau press release: “Haperberger Appointed Vice Chancellor for Human Resources”

COLUMBIA — MU has named Patty Haberberger the new vice chancellor for human resources.

Haberberger is a Mizzou alumna with a bachelor’s degree in business administration. She has worked in human resources at Saint Louis University since 1992. Her responsibilities as assistant vice president in the HR division have included assisting the vice president in the university’s recruitment strategies and mentoring human resource consultants.

Haberberger has more than 30 years of experience in a “constantly changing” human resources field, Chancellor Hank Foley said in a news release Friday.

“She will bring a new perspective to Mizzou at a time when we are experiencing significant change in the human resources field,” Foley said.

Jatha Sadowski has served in the interim position since Dec. 2014. Haberberger’s appointment will take effect Aug. 1.
MU hires vice chancellor for human resources

Friday, June 10, 2016 at 2:00 pm

The University of Missouri filled one of its open administrative posts Friday with the hiring of Patty Haberberger, assistant vice president for human resources at St. Louis University, to be the vice chancellor for human resources.

Haberberger will start Aug. 1 with an annual salary of $195,000. She will take over from Jatha Sadowski, who has held the job on an interim basis since December 2014, the university said in a news release.

Haberberger has been employed by St. Louis University since 1992 and has 30 years’ experience in the human resources field, the release said. She graduated from MU in 1983 with a bachelor of science in business administration.

New MU Vice Chancellor for Human Resources appointed

COLUMBIA - University of Missouri Interim Chancellor Hank Foley has appointed a new Vice Chancellor for Human Resources.
According to a press release from the MU News Bureau, Patty Haberberger will start in the position on Aug. 1. She will replace Jatha Saowski, who has been the Interim Vice Chancellor for Human Resources since Dec. 2014.

Haberberger is currently the Vice President of Human Resources at St. Louis University. She has held other human resources positions at Kelley Services, Inc. and Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

While she worked at SLU, Haberberger streamlined hiring processes, used technology to automate paper forms, compared staff compensation to other companies and collaborated with health care professionals to approach employee well being.

“This experience will bring a new perspective to Mizzou at a time when we are experiencing significant change in the human resources field. She is an MU alumna and we are very excited to welcome her back to campus,” Foley said.

Haberberger received a bachelor of science degree in business administration when she graduated from MU.

“I’m really excited for the opportunity to serve the Mizzou community,” Haberberger said. “MU is an amazing institution, and I’ve met many people who are very passionate about Mizzou; they love being here, and they love the institution. I’m looking forward to building on a great foundation and creating a workplace culture that strives for continuous improvement, high performance and excellence in service delivery.”

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

High on image, University of Missouri says no to marijuana on T-shirt

The University of Missouri and a student group are squabbling over marijuana.
Not over the drug itself, but on whether a marijuana leaf can appear on a T-shirt next to the school’s name.

University officials have said no. However, leaders for the campus chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws say it’s about First Amendment rights and fairness.

“The University of Missouri does not want to seem as if they are endorsing our viewpoint,” said Benton Berigan, president of MU NORML. “We just want the rights that are afforded to other university organizations.”

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education has written the university twice, saying the school is violating the First Amendment. In its most recent letter, the Washington-based foundation asked the university for a “substantive” reply by June 3 but has not yet received one.

MU spokesman Christian Basi said officials were reviewing the foundation’s letter.

“The university values free expression,” Basi said. “These are issues we want to take a look at very thoroughly and I don’t want to put a timeline on it.”

Last year, MU NORML wanted to raise money selling specially designed shirts with a marijuana leaf in the shape of an animal paw next to a depiction of the campus skyline, another leaf of cannabis and the group’s name.

Because the group also wanted to use the University of Missouri’s name, Berigan asked permission. He said his request was rejected. According to the school’s licensing guideline, the university’s name won’t be approved for use in “connection with promotion of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs or in connection with pornography or other forms of expression limited by law.”

Berigan said NORML doesn’t advocate the use of marijuana but aims to reform laws through political engagement and community education.

“I see it as an immediate threat to student intellectual freedom and First Amendment rights,” said Berigan. “This isn’t an issue that is going away.”

Both sides have reviewed a similar situation at Iowa State University. The campus chapter of NORML there sued in 2014 after the university withdrew approval for a marijuana-themed shirt featuring the school’s mascot.
In January, a federal judge granted the chapter an injunction, blocking the university from using a trademark to prevent the group from printing the shirts. The university has appealed.

University of Missouri says no to marijuana on T-shirt

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — The University of Missouri has denied a request from a student group that wants to put a marijuana leaf on a T-shirt next to the university's name.

Leaders for the campus chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws are fighting the decision, saying it's about First Amendment rights and fairness.

The Kansas City Star (http://j.mp/1UsRNNX) reports MU NORML wanted to raise money selling T-shirts with a marijuana leaf in the shape of an animal paw next to the campus skyline, another cannabis leaf and the name of the group and the university.
The group sought the university's permission, but was rejected.

The university says it's reviewing a foundation's recent letter in support of the group.

**Missouri, local LGBT leaders condemn Orlando terror attack**

COLUMBIA, Mo -

**UPDATE:** Several state and local LGBT leaders are condemning the mass shooting in Orlando that left at least 50 people dead Sunday.

Missouri Governor Jay Nixon tweeted in response to the attacks around 4:00 Sunday afternoon saying "#Missouri stands with #Orlando against hate and terror."

Senator Claire McCaskill also issued a statement on the attack just before 4:00 Sunday afternoon.

It said, "I’m heartbroken. And it’s a familiar feeling. It’s a depressing thing when such tragic events become so routine. We’ll be learning more about the poisonous ideology that led to this attack—on a community that’s had so much to celebrate in recent years, but who’ve long endured violence because of who they are and who they love."

McCaskill also said "we need to do more than know the facts surrounding this attack. We need to summon the resolve as a country to confront the issues at work here—issues of hate, and terrorism, and of military-grade gun violence in our communities. I’m resolved to do so, and I join Americans across the nation in standing with the victims and their loved ones in the face of this tragedy."

Former Mizzou football player Michael Sam also weighed in on the violence. You'll recall Sam announced he was gay back in 2014 and has since become a leader for the LGBT community.

On his Instagram account, Sam said in part, "Let this hateful act of terror of the #LGBTQ community be a wake up call for America. Men and women of all races, ages, and sexual orientation are being slaughtered because of hate crimes. How many more must die from a hate crime? We need to create awareness to ALL that hate is not the foundation of our nation."
Sam went on to say "Friends DO NOT let this coward put fear into your hearts!!! Let us all come together stronger than ever and let the world know that we will not be terrorized or bullied by the actions of hateful bigots. We are here to stay and fight not only for equality, but for our very existence."

The University of Missouri’s LGBTQ Resource Center also tweeted in response to the violence. The center offered support for members of the community saying "If you need to talk, there are those willing to listen."

It also listed these numbers as resources for anyone wanting to talk about the shooting.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Jamieson out as Mizzou baseball coach

COLUMBIA, Mo. • Last summer, Missouri baseball coach Tim Jamieson agreed to a three-year contract extension, but after missing the NCAA postseason for the fourth consecutive year, the school’s longest tenured coach won’t return next season. The school announced Jamieson’s resignation Saturday after he met with players and staff to share the news, a source confirmed.

Jamieson, MU’s head coach the past 22 seasons, could join the athletics department in an administrative role, the school said in a news release.

“I would like to express my appreciation for all the players and coaches who I have had the honor of working with during my 28 baseball seasons at the University of Missouri,” Jamieson said in a prepared statement. “I am proud of what they have accomplished in the sport of baseball but more importantly how positively they have represented the Mizzou baseball program as well as the University of Missouri. I am also thankful for the opportunity that I have had to lead this program and for all the great people that I have met along the journey. This is a special place and I wish great success as the program moves in to the future.”
The Tigers finished 26-30 this season and were eliminated from the SEC tournament with a first-round loss on May 24. That day, Mizzou denied a report that Jamieson planned to retire after the season, saying he still planned to meet with athletics director Mack Rhoades to evaluate the season.

MU plans a nationwide search for a replacement.

“Coach Jamieson has been an outstanding leader for Mizzou for more than two decades,” Rhoades said. “We are grateful for his devotion to Mizzou, and more importantly, the tremendous impact he’s had on hundreds of young men.”

Jamieson, Rhoades and Tim Hickman, MU’s senior associate AD who oversees the baseball program, were not available for further comment Saturday.

In 22 seasons as Mizzou’s head coach, Jamieson was 698-565-2 with 15 30-win seasons, nine NCAA regional appearances and one regional title in 2006. The Tigers won the Big Eight under Jamieson in 1996 and the Big 12 tournament in 2012. Jamieson, a native of Columbia, spent six seasons on Mizzou’s staff as an assistant under Gene McArtor before becoming head coach in 1995.

One name that could emerge as a natural candidate to fill the position is Arkansas assistant coach and former Mizzou player and assistant Tony Vitello. Reached Saturday, Vitello declined to comment on the Mizzou vacancy but said his goal has always been to become a head coach, like his father, former De Smet High coach Greg Vitello.

Jamieson “set the gold standard for integrity in his field,” Vitello said in an email Saturday. “For those of us that are truly in the trenches of college baseball and dealing with its parameters, we know that it can truly pay and pay well to be ruthless. Coach J’s principles would never allow him to creep into that area. Regardless, he was still able to accomplish some remarkable accomplishments on the field all while teaching all of us how to actually play the game of life.”
Vitello, who played at De Smet and lettered for the Tigers from 2000-02, has spent three seasons at Arkansas as assistant coach and recruiting coordinator. Arkansas’ 2014 recruiting class was widely ranked among the nation’s top five. With Vitello on staff, the Razorbacks reached the 2015 College World Series. Before coming to Fayetteville, Vitello also spent three years as an assistant at TCU.

Mizzou made the postseason in seven of Vitello’s eight seasons on Jamieson’s staff. As pitching coach from 2004-10, Vitello helped develop 15 Mizzou pitchers who were drafted by major league teams, including current Washington Nationals star Max Scherzer, as well as first-round picks Aaron Crow and Kyle Gibson.

Southeast Missouri State coach Steve Bieser could surface as another candidate. Bieser has gone 138-97 in four seasons at SEMO. Under his watch this season, SEMO made its first NCAA regional appearance in 14 years. He guided Vianney to two Missouri state championships in 2004 and 2006. Rhoades could take a look at his former coach at University of Houston, Todd Whitting, who’s coached the Cougars to 127 wins the past three years.

Under Jamieson, Mizzou hadn’t made an NCAA regional since 2012 and won just 14 of 40 series in the SEC, going 41-81 in four years in regular-season SEC games plus 1-4 in the SEC Tournament. The Tigers were swept 16 times in SEC regular-season series, including five this season.

Jamieson’s extension last summer was one of Rhoades’ first major personnel decisions. Jamieson didn’t get a raise but MU pledged to boost the team budget. For the 2015 fiscal year, Jamieson earned $293,213 in salary, bonuses and benefits.
Tim Jamieson resigns after 22 seasons as Missouri baseball coach

After 22 seasons as Missouri’s baseball coach, Tim Jamieson has stepped down.

Tigers athletic director Mack Rhoades announced Jamieson’s decision Saturday in a statement.

“I would like to express my appreciation for all the players and coaches who I have had the honor of working with during my 28 baseball seasons at the University of Missouri,” Jamieson, who informed the team of his decision Saturday morning, said in a news release. “I am proud of what they have accomplished in the sport of baseball but more importantly how positively they have represented the Mizzou Baseball Program as well as the University of Missouri.”

Jamieson’s team went 698-565-2 during his tenure as Tigers coach, including 15 30-win seasons and nine NCAA regional appearances.

Missouri, which made seven consecutive regional appearances from 2003-09, had eight All-Americans, 10 Freshman All-Americans and 75 players drafted under Jamieson.

“Coach Jamieson has been an outstanding leader for Mizzou for more than two decades,” Rhoades said. “We are grateful for his devotion to Mizzou, and more importantly, the tremendous impact he’s had on hundreds of young men.”

Ten former Tigers who played for Jamieson have reached the major leagues, including Nationals ace Max Scherzer, Tigers second baseman Ian Kinsler, Cubs reliever Aaron Crow and Twins right-hander Kyle Gibson.

The Tigers went 26-30 last season, including a 9-20 record in Southeastern Conference play, after narrowly missing the NCAA tourney in 2015 with a 30-28 record and a breakthrough 15-15 mark in conference.
According to the statement, Mizzou is exploring the possibility of retaining Jamieson, who signed a three-year contract extension through 2018 last June, in an administrative role.

Jamieson’s contract is worth $208,080 annually and he was the school’s longest-tenured head coach. He was a two-time conference coach of the year and led the Tigers to the 1996 Big Eight title and the 2012 Big 12 Tournament title.

“I am also thankful for the opportunity that I have had to lead this program and for all the great people that I have met along the journey,” Jamieson said. “This is a special place and I wish great success as the program moves in to the future.”

Women’s soccer coach Bryan Blitz, who has been with Missouri for 20 seasons, is now the university’s longest-tenured coach.

Jamieson out as Missouri baseball coach

By Matt Nestor

Sunday, June 12, 2016 at 12:00 am

Brock Bond arrived at Taylor Stadium on April 1, 2007, and found himself in a situation he hadn’t seen much that year.

For a Sunday series finale with Kansas, Bond — who had been a thorn in the Jayhawks’ side — wasn’t in the starting lineup. Coach Tim Jamieson took Bond aside and told him not to read much into it. Bond had been struggling, and Jamieson decided to give him a day off. The message was clear, Jamieson still had confidence in Bond.

Sure enough, Jamieson called on Bond to pinch hit with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning. Bond’s single set up Evan Frey for a two-run walk-off home run that clinched the series against Kansas.

“He wasn’t so focused on, ‘We’ve gotta win today’ that he didn’t think about talking to me,” Bond said. “He came up and talked to me, and he communicated with me, and that meant a lot.”
Missouri announced Saturday morning that Jamieson is out after 22 seasons as baseball coach after the Tigers failed to make the NCAA Tournament for the fourth straight year. The news release described Jamieson’s departure as a resignation and said there is a possibility he could remain at the school in an administrative role.

Jamieson went 698-565-2, which was 35 victories shy of the program record set by mentor Gene McArtor. Jamieson guided the Tigers to the NCAA Tournament in 1996 — his second season — and seven straight times from 2003-09, then once more in 2012, when MU advanced after winning the Big 12 Tournament. Since Missouri moved to Southeastern Conference — the nation’s best baseball conference — the baseball program has struggled.

“I would like to express my appreciation for all the players and coaches who I have had the honor of working with during my 28 baseball seasons at the University of Missouri,” Jamieson said in the release. “I am proud of what they have accomplished in the sport of baseball but more importantly how positively they have represented the Mizzou Baseball Program as well as the University of Missouri. I am also thankful for the opportunity that I have had to lead this program and for all the great people that I have met along the journey. This is a special place and I wish great success as the program moves in to the future.”

The next coach will be just the fourth to lead the program since 1936. John “Hi” Simmons coached from 1937-73, McArtor from 1974-94 and Jamieson from 1995-2016.

In the Big 12 and especially in the SEC, Missouri faced major discrepancies with its conference rivals in climate, facilities, budget, state-funded academic scholarships and fan support. Jamieson instilled in his players the idea of fighting as an underdog.

“One year when I was there, my junior year, might’ve been the only year we weren’t picked to finish at the bottom of the barrel,” former outfielder Aaron Senne said. “It was year-in, year-out, Mizzou is going to have to come out and prove themselves again and again and again. Just to show his resilience, the different teams that he had always came out to prove it. You had to do it every single year.”

Former Tiger Jayce Tingler, the major league field coordinator for the Texas Rangers, said one of the biggest things he learned from Jamieson was how he acted as a father figure toward the players and how he molded them to do things the right way.

“The biggest thing you take away from him is just his demeanor, his calmness,” Tingler said. “I know I have a problem at times with anxiety and being nervous, and playing for him, you never sensed any of that. He had a certain peace, had a certain relaxation, a certain confidence about him. I try to instill that in my coaching today.”

Missouri began to tail off beginning in 2010, and the move to the SEC highlighted the different emphasis the new conference’s schools placed on baseball compared to MU. Missouri’s facilities, budget and attendance is dwarfed by its SEC counterparts.
“I think that there’s a possibility that it could have been” harder on him than he’s let on “just because of the depth of it, and some of the things that we’ve had to battle in this league with other conference teams,” former assistant coach Kerrick Jackson said. “Specifically, when we talk about the whole scholarship situation, those types of things. I think the grind of a 30-game conference schedule is very, very intense. You’re talking about a man who coached in three different leagues, and all three leagues were different. The Big Eight wasn’t like the Big 12. The Big 12’s not like the SEC. There’s some similarities to it, but I think that each step, each change became a little bit bigger of a mountain to climb."

In its first two years in the league, Missouri went 10-20 and 6-24 in SEC play. In 2015, Missouri showed more competitiveness, finishing 15-15 in league play, but poor showings in nonconference games cost the Tigers an NCAA Tournament berth. This season began with high expectations and a national ranking, but the Tigers struggled and finished 26-30 overall and 9-21 in the SEC.

Jamieson is a Columbia native — the son of former MU football assistant coach Dick Jamieson — and a Rock Bridge graduate. He played catcher collegiately at the University of New Orleans and began his coaching career there as an assistant. He came to Missouri as an assistant under McArtor in 1988 and took over as head coach for the 1995 season. In the program’s heyday under Jamieson in the 2000s, the Tigers had a string of dominant pitchers that went on to play in the major leagues, including Max Scherzer, Aaron Crow and Kyle Gibson.

Missouri never made the College World Series under Jamieson. The Tigers’ deepest postseason run came in 2006, when the Tigers, who were seeded fourth out of four teams, won the Malibu, Calif., Regional before falling to Cal State Fullerton in a super regional.

“I think he really did like those guys who were a little bit underdogs coming in,” said former pitcher Garrett Broshuis, now an attorney, “guys who had to work a little bit harder than maybe some guys on some other teams that were the natural, blue-chip talent. … I think our best years of his program had those types of guys on it, that led by example and really worked and really battled for every out of every game.”

Missouri baseball coach Tim Jamieson steps down

Missouri baseball coach Tim Jamieson resigned Saturday morning after 22 years, per a release by Mizzou Athletics.
The Columbia native and Rock Bridge High School graduate had been unsuccessful in attempts to reach an NCAA regional since Missouri joined the Southeastern Conference four years ago. In the last four years, Mizzou has gone 93–123 overall and 40–79 in the SEC.

"I would like to express my appreciation for all the players and coaches who I have had the honor of working with during my 28 baseball seasons at the University of Missouri," Jamieson said in the release. "I am proud of what they have accomplished in the sport of Baseball but more importantly how positively they have represented the Mizzou Baseball Program as well as the University of Missouri."

Jamieson made nine NCAA regionals with Mizzou, including seven straight from 2003–2009. He also had 75 players drafted, and has coached MLB standouts Max Scherzer, Ian Kinsler, Aaron Crow, Kyle Gibson and has seen 10 of his former players make it to the big leagues.

One player Jamieson helped develop is shortstop Ryan Howard, who was drafted Friday by the San Francisco Giants. The rising senior said that he texted Jamieson on Saturday morning and thanked him.

“I’ve got nothing but great things to say about Coach J,” Howard said. “He’s been unbelievable to me since day one that I was there. He always had faith in me … He would always take the time to talk to me.”

Athletics director Mack Rhoades said in the release that Jamieson has been an outstanding leader for Mizzou and that he could be placed in an administrative role with Mizzou Athletics. Rhoades also said the search for a new coach will begin immediately. This is the third head coaching vacancy in the SEC thus far.

“I am thankful for the opportunity that I have had to lead this program and for all the great people that I have met along the journey,” Jamieson said. “This is a special place and I wish great success as the program moves into the future."

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**Should a robot manage your money?**

Here’s the bottom line on robo advisers:

If you’re a young person starting out, or someone just beginning to invest, a robo adviser will give you a decent investment plan on the cheap.
But don’t expect to pull a blueprint for your financial future out of a computer, and the robot won’t talk you in from the ledge if the next market tumble makes you freak.

With a robo adviser, you deal with a computer, not a person, in planning your investments. You answer a few — perhaps too few — questions online about your income and needs. Out pops a list of low-cost exchange-traded stock and bond funds.

Send in your money, and the robo firm will invest it for you.

There are two advantages here: Robo advisers are cheaper than humans, and the investment choices are usually pretty good.

Betterment, the king of the business, charges a fees of 0.15 to 0.35 percent of assets. People with between $10,000 and $100,000 will pay 0.25 percent to Betterment.

Wealthfront, the No. 2 robo in size, charges nothing for accounts under $10,000, then a fee of 0.25 percent of assets. SigFig will also manage the first $10,000 for free, charging 0.25 percent on more.

With a human adviser, expect a fee of 1 to 1.5 percent of your investment if you have at least $100,000 to invest, plus some backdoor costs that you may not see. With less money to invest, you’ll often pay a bigger percent for human contact, often through sales commissions.

On top of that, you’ll pay the expense ratios in any mutual funds either way you go.

There at least 17 firms in the robo business. You can find a list at bit.ly/25ShKOL.

Low cost makes robos a hit with millennials, who grew up tech-savvy. But it’s also a choice for middle-income people who can’t afford human advice.

“The middle market historically has not been served very well,” says Michael Guillemette, an assistant professor of financial planning at the University of Missouri-Columbia.
The robos’ investment choices are actually good, Guillemette says. He likes their “passive” investment approach, generally using funds that simply match investment indexes rather than trying to beat them.

The exchange-traded funds have very low expenses, certainly compared to the actively managed mutual funds that human advisers often recommend.

“It’s a great way to get things started and accumulate wealth,” Guillemette says. “When it comes to investment advice, you can do far worse.”

The robo firms will rebalance investments when they grow out of sync, and some will sell losing investments to harvest tax losses.

Life is more than investments

But there are some things the computers can’t do, at least not yet.

A good air-breathing adviser will consider all your goals — a new house in five years, college for the kids in 15, retirement in 30 — and get a plan to reach all of those. A good human will make sure you have the right insurance, an emergency fund and a plan for cutting debt, notes Guillemette. Unmute

I looked at seven robos and found that some make a weak stab at that. Future Advisor, for instance, will open a tax-free college savings plan. Betterment coaches you on an emergency fund. Some let you gear investments for different time frames: long, intermediate and short.

But life is too messy for a machine. Some families have to save for children with disabilities or support the old folks. A machine can’t hold your hand when the market crashes and you want to sell everything at the moment you ought to be buying.

That said, the human-powered advice business has its own problems. Lots of people end up with bad humans. They find stock jockeys charging big fees for second-rate investments.
There are good advisers in the St. Louis area, and how to find them is a subject for another column.

The robos do try to adjust to a client’s risk tolerance. SigFig and WiseBanyan, for instance, ask lists of questions designed to tell if you’ll sleep at night when your investments lose money. Other robos get by with a single question, which is worrisome.

Some of us have our messy-life stuff figured out without an adviser. If all you need are investment choices, the machine could suffice.

“Robo advisers are good for the investment management part of the plan,” Guillemette says.

For a 40-year-old with moderate risk tolerance, saving for retirement, Wealthfront recommended a mix of cheap Vanguard and iShares exchange-traded funds, or ETFs. The machine recommended placing 84 percent in stocks, half domestic and half international, 15 percent real estate and 11 percent bonds, tilted toward riskier emerging markets debt.

I did find one recommendation puzzling. Betterment and Wealthfront recommended municipal bonds in taxable accounts for investors with $70,000 in income. Munis are best for high-income people looking for tax-free interest. The machines couldn’t know the investors’ tax situation — they didn’t ask.

Some robos have conflicts of interest. For instance, Charles Schwab charges nothing for its robo service but collects money from the ETFs it recommends, some of which are run by Schwab. It also makes money off the 6 percent to 30 percent of investors’ money it sends to cash accounts at Schwab Bank.

So, does Schwab pick investments that benefit the investor, or that pay Schwab?

Some firms marry man and machine, offering robo advice along with a human adviser on the phone. Vanguard, the mutual fund king, has such a service, charging 0.3 percent of assets, but it
demands a $50,000 investment. It recommends only Vanguard funds — another conflict of interest.

The pure robo model makes sense for young investors without much money, says Scott Puritz, managing director of Rebalance IRA, a man-and-machine firm in suburban Washington. As they get older, life gets complicated and they need a human adviser to sort things out.

For instance, one 70-year-old client said he wanted to leave his savings to his grandchildren. They invested it much differently than if he wanted to spend it on himself.

In some cases, people may think they’re hiring a human, when a robot is doing the work. Robos are selling themselves as behind-the-scenes solutions to human advisers too busy or lazy to manage client investments.

Take Hedgeable, a New York robo firm. It sells robo services directly to the public, and also to human advisers.

In its online pitch, Hedgeable says it’s a solution for advisers who don’t have the time, expertise or licenses to handle their clients’ investments.

“Do you lack the time to provide high quality service to all of your clients?” Hedgeable asks advisers.

Who would want an adviser like that?
3 St. Louis area school districts join push for more minorities in AP classes

Chris Belcher (assistant teaching professor in the College of Education at the University of Missouri) was alarmed several years ago when as superintendent of Columbia, Mo., schools, he entered the city’s diverse high schools and saw very few African-American and low-income students in Advanced Placement classes.

“It was terrible,” Belcher said.

So he took a drastic step. Working with principals, he changed procedures in the 2012-13 school year and removed prerequisites, such as high grade-point averages. All students with college ambitions, the district hoped, could enroll in at least one AP class.

That year, 239 additional low-income and minority students in two high schools enrolled, almost entirely erasing the racial and income disparities in the courses. The passing rates on exams remained unchanged. Of the juniors who otherwise may not have taken the classes, 90 percent took another one the following year, Belcher said.

Now Belcher is working with three districts in the St. Louis area to increase access to the rigorous college-level courses.

The Parkway, Ferguson-Florissant, and Belleville Township High School districts have agreed to a yearlong partnership with Equal Opportunity Schools, a nonprofit organization based in Seattle that worked with Belcher to address the disparities in Columbia. Belcher now works for the organization as a superintendent-in-residence.
“We want to change the whole conversation about education reform,” he said. “It’s not about fixing what’s broken. It’s about leveraging what we’re doing well already and getting more kids into the rigorous programs.”

Equal access to AP courses is a concern throughout the area and the nation.

Data released this week by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights show a stark disparity in the racial makeup of AP course enrollment nationwide. A story last month in the Post-Dispatch highlighted the wide racial divide throughout the region.

Expanding access to rigorous high school curriculum is a goal of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, which considers the issue on par with improving teacher quality in high-poverty schools. The state also is working to encourage the expansion of AP course offerings in rural high schools, where they’re in short supply, said Paul Katnik, an assistant commissioner of education.

Illinois is the first state partner to work with Equal Opportunity Schools on a statewide level to tackle the issue.

Curriculum for AP classes is developed by college professors. Studies show that students who take those classes are far more likely to complete college with a degree.

African-American and low-income students are less likely to enroll in these classes for a number of reasons — partly because high schools with high concentrations of black and low-income students tend not to offer them.

At Lafayette High School in the Rockwood School District, which is predominately white, 27 AP classes were offered in the 2014-15 school year, ranging from Latin to environmental science and art history. In the Normandy Schools Collaborative, which is almost entirely black and low-income, no AP courses were offered in that year. Next year, however, Normandy High will offer seven.
In schools where AP courses are plentiful, education experts here and elsewhere say barriers have limited access to the classes for minorities and low-income students. Those barriers appear in the enrollment procedures, which often require permission from counselors and teachers to enroll.

In Parkway, district staff has worked for years to improve access to tougher classes and gifted programs. But the disparities persist.

Lisa Meridith, assistant superintendent of teaching, learning and accountability for Parkway, said she was eager for Equal Opportunity Schools to challenge district staff on their practices.

“Traditional public schools have been working the same way for many, many years,” Meridith said. “Sometimes when you work and live that on a daily basis, it’s hard to see some of the unintentional barriers that may exist.”

The organization will be surveying teachers and students in each of the high schools in Belleville, Ferguson-Florissant and Parkway to get a sense of how they view AP classes and issues related to access.

They’ll also use the survey to identify students who show potential for success by considering nonacademic factors, such as a student’s college aspirations and perseverance. Those attributes are better predictors of success in AP classes than grades, Belcher said.

Through that analysis, Equal Opportunity Schools will give high schools a list of students who should be recruited to take the classes.

And in places where there’s a shortage of AP courses, such as the Ferguson-Florissant School District, the organization is helping administrators plan which AP courses to offer and how to foster student success in them.
Superintendent Joe Davis has been talking about increasing rigor throughout the Ferguson-Florissant district since his arrival last summer. A number of teachers are working to get certified to teach AP, so that schools such as McCluer South-Berkeley High can expand AP course offerings. Davis said he hoped the partnership would help identify students who could be successful in more challenging classes.

Davis is speaking with parents of gifted sixth-graders about potentially expanding the middle school gifted program to five days a week, starting with sixth grade.

“It’s really about preparing children for college,” Davis said. “Many of our students are living in poverty. That should not be a predictor of whether our kids are ready for college.”

The partnership with Equal Opportunity Schools costs about $50,000 per school. Donors who support the organization cover $25,000 of that cost. In Missouri, the education department is covering $10,000, Belcher said. It was up to school districts to come up with the rest.

**Update: MU student arrested on suspicion of attempting to have sex with a child**

COLUMBIA — A Columbia man was arrested Thursday for allegedly attempting to meet up and have sex with a child, in addition to other charges.

Zachary Davis, 22, was arrested on suspicion of attempted enticement of a child, attempted sexual misconduct involving a child, possession of controlled substance under 35 grams and
possession of drug paraphernalia. **Davis is an MU student studying Physics, according to the MU student directory.** Before attending MU, he lived in St. Charles.

The investigation began on Wednesday when Davis emailed a 14-year-old, who was actually an undercover detective for the Boone County Cyber Task Force. Davis allegedly arranged a meeting at a Columbia convenience store to pick up the child for the purpose of having sex. The suspect also is alleged to have sent the decoy child a nude picture.

Davis was being held Thursday night in Boone County Jail. His bond was set at $4,500 for attempted sexual misconduct involving a child, $500 for possession of a controlled substance under 35 grams and $500 for possession of drug paraphernalia. Bond for the attempted enticement of a child was not yet set Thursday night.

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**Disabled veterans talk business at MU boot camp**

By Roger McKinney

Friday, June 10, 2016 at 2:00 pm

Michael Donnelly has seen the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan, and he deals with the lasting effects of injuries he suffered during combat.

On Wednesday, he was learning to apply the discipline and skills he learned in the military to a new use — creating a business.

**Donnelly, from Layton, Utah, is one of 12 veterans from around the country on the University of Missouri campus this week taking part in a boot camp for veterans put on by the Trulaske College of Business.** Veterans at the camp learn ideas for creating successful businesses and get a chance to network with other veteran entrepreneurs.

The Entrepreneurship Boot Camp for Veterans with Disabilities is a consortium of 10 schools.
The initiative is designed to offer cutting-edge training in entrepreneurship and small business management to post-9/11 veterans with disabilities. It started at the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University in 2007, and the Trulaske College of Business is the most recent addition to the consortium.

A $450,000 donation from Veterans United Foundation paid the costs of the boot camp at MU and will be used to continue to support the veterans over the next year.

Donnelly, 32, is a Purple Heart recipient with combat injuries to his shoulder and back that limit his mobility, and he also has residual effects from a traumatic brain injury. He spent 13 years as an Army infantryman and had six overseas deployments, including two each in Iraq and Afghanistan. He’s the operations director for Sportsmen for Warriors, a not-for-profit organization.

Donnelly said he wants to expand into the for-profit world.

“I think I’ve always had that spirit,” Donnelly said. He said after World War II, thousands of returning veterans started their own businesses, but that has been less common after subsequent conflicts. He said military veterans can use their skills to improve their communities.

“I’m here to set the example,” he said.

The veterans will make pitches to a panel of business people on Saturday. It’s not a pitch competition, but the panelists will provide boot camp participants with feedback and ideas after they make their pitches.

Donnelly’s idea is a consulting service, Alpha Group Strategic Consulting. He said one aspect of the business would be targeted to law enforcement and another aspect would provide training to corporations.

He said when training police agencies, he will help them repair and enhance their relationships with their communities.

Donnelly said he worked for a police department in Florida after getting out of the military.

“I learned a lot about human interaction to communicate and de-escalate conflict,” Donnelly said. “I was seeing the results on the streets in Florida.”

He said he would modify the training for corporations to help their sales teams.

Timothy Robinson, 52, is an Army veteran. He lives in Albany, Ga., but he owns a farm in Baconton, Ga., that has been in his family for many generations. He said he found out about the boot camp during a briefing for retirees and decided to apply.

He said he stopped farming when he was in the military but that it continued to have a hold on him. He now wants to make his family farm into an organic farm.
“That’s my whole passion,” he said.

Greg Bier, program director for the boot camp, said veterans have experience and confidence that the undergraduate students he teaches do not.

“They also have that grit and determination that entrepreneurs have to have,” he said.

Bier said Saturday’s business pitches will be more like a coaching session.

“This is a no-risk environment,” he said.

Health plan identifies gaps in Boone County; local facilities expand

By Jodie Jackson Jr.

Boone County ranks as the 14th-healthiest county in the state and No. 1 for having the most physicians available for its residents. Another report ranks the county No. 8 overall for child well-being.

But the County Health Rankings report, released in March, showed that some public health indicators such as poverty and alcohol-impaired traffic deaths were worse than state and national averages. And the Kids Count report in early April showed that the county is trending in the wrong direction in child abuse and neglect, child deaths and the number of children younger than 18 living in poverty.

The numbers and community indicators are not new to local public health officials and other organizations working to identify ongoing needs and gaps in local services. The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services, directed by Stephanie Browning, is in the middle of a community health improvement plan that targets some of those needs.

The economic and social issues that affect a community’s health speak to Browning’s oft-repeated phrase that “health isn’t just the absence of disease.”

The local health plan, which is part of the city of Columbia’s long-term strategic initiative that also places a priority on social equity, has emphasized lowering tobacco use and obesity rates, lowering substance and alcohol abuse and making neighborhoods safer.
Racial disparities make up one of five strategic areas identified for improvement in the Community Health Assessment, an outgrowth of the process the department is using to address the community’s most pressing public health concerns. The racial and income disparity picture is especially troubling to city and county officials. Not only is there a wide gap in median household income in Boone County, but similar disparities exist in high school dropout rates, death rates, low birth weight and the percentage of residents with no health insurance.

Other community initiatives focus on transportation needs, affordable housing and increasing activity levels with trails and parks.

Meanwhile, health facilities continue to expand in size and technology to meet the area’s growing population. One new skilled-nursing facility is on the horizon, and a 72-bed psychiatric hospital that would serve children and adults also is possible.

CenterPointe Hospital has applied with state regulators to fill the need for additional inpatient psychiatric services with a $21 million hospital at the northeast corner of Range Line Street and International Drive. MS Columbia MO LLC, based in Carmel, Ind., has been approved to build a 50,000-square-foot, 70-bed skilled nursing facility off Berrywood Drive near Women’s and Children’s Hospital. Construction on the $11 million project is expected to begin in November.

Other projects either underway now or on the horizon include:

- **Landmark Hospital’s $12.3 million, 60-bed “transitional care” facility**, near the current hospital off Old 63. Landmark is a long-term acute care hospital that accepts most of its patients who need care longer than traditional hospitals can provide.
- **Boone Hospital Center** opened three new operating rooms in January, at a cost of $12 million, then opened Nifong Medical Plaza a month later. The 80,000-square-foot, $23 million structure at Nifong and Forum boulevards eventually could become a four-building medical complex.
- **Truman Memorial Veterans’ Hospital** began about $38.7 million in construction projects before the end of 2015. The major projects include $8.6 million to move an intensive care unit, $8.1 million to build a new parking garage, and $8 million to build a new inpatient unit on the third floor.
- **University of Missouri Health Care is undertaking a 19,850-square-foot addition to University Hospital and renovation of some 15,000 square feet in the emergency department.** The $15.9 million project is targeted for completion in January 2019 and consists of construction of a three-story addition to University Hospital and will include expanding the emergency department from 26 beds to 49 beds. The project also will allow for the consolidation of a 24-bed Medical Psychiatric Unit at the hospital. The psychiatric unit is for patients who require hospitalization for a medical condition but have a concurrent psychiatric diagnosis.
- **Missouri Orthopedic Institute** is the focus of a $40 million, four-story expansion that should be ready by fall 2017.
- **MU School of Medicine’s Patient-Centered Care Learning Center** is a $42.5 million project comprising just more than 97,000 square feet.