Several concerns at University of Missouri medical school

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COLUMBIA, Mo. -- The University of Missouri School of Medicine is noncompliant in several areas and must address them within two years to maintain its accreditation, according to a report by a national group that accredits medical-degree programs.

Among the findings in a June report by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education is the number of Missouri medical students who reported experiencing gender discrimination is twice as high as the national average.

The report was obtained recently by the Columbia Missourian through a Sunshine Law request.

The committee also found the school noncompliant regarding diversity programs, student mistreatment, curricular management and affiliation agreements, according to the 497-page report.

The school also needs monitoring in leadership, strategic planning, student observations, building renovations and assessments, according to the report.

The committee could put the school on probation if it doesn't make progress toward the standards within a year, and the school could lose accreditation if it doesn't make progress within two years. Normally, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education operates on an eight-year accreditation cycle.
In a statement, medical school dean Patrice Delafontaine said the school was aware of many of the issues before the report was created, and he said he is proud of the school for receiving full accreditation.

"We take the LCME's recommendations very seriously," Delafontaine said. "To that end, we have assembled a task force comprised of medical students, faculty and staff that is dedicated to continuous quality improvement in general, as well as to making specific quality improvements cited in the survey."

The committee met with administrators, faculty and students during a visit to the medical school in January.

The committee found 14 percent of Missouri medical students said they had been denied opportunities based on gender at least once, compared to the national average of 6 percent, according to data from the Association of American Medical Colleges.

About 43 percent of students said they had experienced public humiliation at least once, compared with the national average of 19 percent, and 22 percent said they were subjected to offensive or sexist remarks at least once; the national average is 14 percent.

Students' examples of mistreatment were redacted from the report by the university.

The school last fall created a committee to review mistreatment reports, said Missouri Health spokeswoman Diamond Dixon.

The school's lack of diversity among faculty and students isn't a new problem. The school was deemed noncompliant in diversity in 2008, when the committee granted the school full accreditation.

The number of black students in the medical school has dropped from 5 percent to 3.3 percent, however, and more than a third of students said they weren't satisfied with the school's diversity.

Delafontaine must submit an action plan to the committee by Dec. 1, including a letter and detailed list of the steps that will be taken.
MU School of Medicine Faces Criticism

Watch the story: http://mms.tveyses.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=495689ba-0ebe-40e6-a8c2-85a94d08d56a

Foley leads wreath-laying ceremony to commemorate Patriot Day

BRIANNA STUBLER, 14 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — About 30 people gathered in front of Jesse Hall to honor MU alumni and respect those lost on Sept. 11, 2001. Interim Chancellor Hank Foley led a wreath-laying ceremony in front of the columns at 2 p.m.

Staff, students, community members and family of deceased MU alumni attended to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attacks. Foley and his wife, Karin Foley, shook hands and spoke to the intimate group before he delivered a speech. Army ROTC Lt. Gary Kerr and Air Force ROTC Lt. Colonel Matt Daack came to show support as well.

The chancellor spoke sentimentally about the tremendous loss and how the act of terror changed the country and its people forever. However, he did not want to focus on the tragedy, but on what could be learned. He said it should serve to teach respect and acceptance, and encouraged everyone to perform acts of kindness on their behalf.
"We should aspire to be the best in their memory, and reunite with deep respect for humanity," Foley said.

He compared the columns to the United States, saying they represented the country and its people. Both faced adversity and rose to overcome tragedies; the 1892 fire that engulfed Academic Hall, leaving behind the columns, and the terrorist attacks, respectively. The important part, Hank Foley said, was that the challenges were overcome, as the columns and people stood stronger, ready to face another day.

Hank Foley also spoke in honor of MU alumni who were lost on Sept. 11. John Willett, a student from the graduating class of 1995, died in the World Trade Center. His mother, Lucy Willett, attended the ceremony and helped the chancellor lay the wreath on the monument in front of the columns.

As the group proceeded around the quad, 11 bells rang, and the mood grew more somber. Everyone grieved and observed a moment of silence.

The procession moved into Jesse Hall for light refreshments, and many people spoke with Lucy Willett. She asked if anyone knew her son, and shared stories with several community members. Karin Foley said while she and her husband were moved to tears by the ceremony, she couldn't imagine what Lucy Willett was feeling.

"(Lucy Willett) has to face that and address it every day, while we're only reminded of it once a year," Karin Foley said.

In the past, the university has celebrated Patriot Day with a barbecue. However, this year, the Foleys wanted the event to have a more honorary tone than celebratory, and decided to hold a more somber event remembering those lost.

Donna Puleo of the Mizzou Alumni Association said the focus shifted this year to make the event more inclusive of alumni and the community. Everyone remembers and has been affected
by the day differently, Puleo said, and she hoped everyone could share their experience and remember together.

Other alumni also died in the attacks, but the association was unable to get in contact with their families. They learned about John Willett and his mother and reached out to her. She came in his memory, wearing a shirt with his name, his face and a flag. The tragic day 15 years ago brought the community together today as people reflected on the past and remained optimistic for a better future.

"This is not to rationalize what happened, but to realize what happened," Hank Foley said.

Missouri graduate students call for union recognition

Graduate and professional students at the University of Missouri are asking the schools to recognize their graduate assistants' union among other requests.

The Graduate Professional Council passed four resolutions during its first meeting this semester, The Columbia Daily Tribune (http://bit.ly/2eLPyfq) reports. The students also asked for expanded waivers to cover supplemental fees and rules for social media monitoring by campus administrators.
A resolution asking for a more open process for establishing supplemental fees and assurances that promised increases in minimum stipends would not strain already tight departmental budgets was also passed.

The resolutions about supplemental fees and stipends both say "the unfortunate refusal of the university administration to recognize CGW threatens to leave the employee-specific interests of graduate-professional students inadequately protected."

The resolutions address issues stemming from a university decision last year to cancel individual health insurance plans for graduate assistants. The school reversed its decision, but it sparked an organizing campaign.

According to council spokesman Joshua Bolton, the resolutions are not explicit endorsements of the union, but a call for the university to recognize a vote in April where 84 percent of the graduate assistants who participated supported the union. About 30 percent of the school’s graduate assistants voted.

"We think the matter should be determined by graduate workers themselves and not by an unaccountable outside party," Bolton said.

The university increased minimum stipends for doctoral students with at least a half-time appointment from $15,000 to $18,000 and promised that health insurance would continue.

The Coalition of Graduate Workers sued the university in May seeking recognition.

Michael Kaemmerer, a lawyer hired by the university, says graduate assistants are students rather than employees and have no right to bargain collectively.
Missouri School of Journalism honors Rod Gelatt with endowment

COLUMBIA - Former students, friends and family gathered at the Reynolds Journalism Institute of the Missouri School of Journalism on Saturday to honor Professor Emeritus Rod Gelatt with an endowment for his 90th birthday.

The Rod Gelatt KBIA Faculty Enhancement Fund will offer support to KBIA-FM, the Journalism School's public radio station. The Director of Advancement at the School, Shannon Burke-Kranzberg, said people came together to donate more than $30,000 to the fund.

Former students Kent Martin and John Kaplan helped create the endowment.

“I’ve always wanted to let Rod know how much his students appreciate him and everything he taught us,” Martin said in an article released by the School. “Rod isn’t one to toot his own horn, so we wanted to toot it for him. Plus, we wanted to honor Rod in a way that would benefit KBIA for generations to come.”

Gelatt worked at the Missouri School of Journalism for more than 45 years. He joined the University of Missouri faculty in 1963, first serving as news director at KOMU-TV before moving to KBIA. Gelatt played a key role in implementing students into the major work of the newscasts, creating the foundation for the Missouri Method the School is known for today.

He produced and moderated KOMU's Missouri Forum, and created KBIA's Views of the News in 1994, which still runs today.

Gelatt also guided KOMU 8 through the switch from black and white to color broadcasting.

Those who would like to contribute to the endowment can mail donations to the Missouri School of Journalism Office of Advancement or make a donation online.

Gelatt will celebrate his 90th birthday on September 20.
MU professors reopen case of Lloyd Gaines vs. MU in new book

JESSICA RENDALL, Sep 9, 2016

COLUMBIA -- A search of Lloyd Gaines in the University Archives turns up an itemized list of lawyer fees and meal vouchers MU procured during its lawsuit against Gaines, a black man who sued MU in 1936 for admittance to the School of Law.

In "Lloyd Gaines and the Fight to End Segregation," the authors explore MU's role in the historical case and a story that ended with the disappearance of Gaines.

“It’s a story we often tell in American government classes, particularly because it’s a story that not only links to Missouri, but to the university,” Endersby said.

Endersby and Horner will be at the Walters-Boone County Historical Museum at 10:30 a.m. Saturday for a "Meet the Author" event to sign books and discuss their work; doors open at 9:30 a.m.

The motivation for Endersby and Horner was simple: In their eyes, no one had done Gaines justice. Despite numerous articles written about Gaines and several Ph.D. dissertations and master’s theses, they felt few people had done extensive work on the subject.

“We were both kind of shocked that nobody had done it yet,” Horner said. “It’s a landmark civil rights case, and it had not really ever gotten book treatment.”

Why Gaines disappeared and failed to attend the MU School of Law after the nation's highest court ordered MU to admit him remains unknown. The authors noted several theories about the disappearance, including a death, but concluded Gaines most likely slipped into a life of anonymity to avoid attention.
The book has been in progress for several years. Both authors felt it was a story that needed to be told by University of Missouri Press, which was a dream put on hold when the publishing company nearly closed in 2012. But the press continued and the book was published in March.

For Horner, research for the book led to him to insights about MU’s history: Middlebush Hall was constructed in 1959 in the name of a man involved with keeping MU segregated. Former president Frederick Middlebush “was in the center of it all,” Horner said.

What shocked Horner the most was learning that instead of acknowledging the legal need to accept black students into its program, the graduate program at the Journalism School closed altogether.

Understanding history can help explain recent racial tensions on campus, Endersby said. While the racial divide is nowhere near as sharp as it was in Lloyd Gaines’ day, he said, it still exists.

“If we read the history of it,” Endersby said, "we could talk more openly about what happened, and sort of why we have the predispositions that we do."

MU Astrophysicist Talks About Upcoming Total Solar Eclipse

COLUMBIA, MO. • Since he was eight years old, the fall meant football for Gary Pinkel, who grew up in the game, played it at Kent State, coached it at Kent State, Bowling Green, Washington, Toledo and Missouri. Now, 64 and newly retired, he's going through his first football season without football. Pinkel, who stepped down at Mizzou last season, continues to live in Columbia while monitoring his cancer — he was diagnosed with follicular lymphoma last year — while on call for the university as an athletics fundraiser.

This week, he sat down for an interview to talk about his life as a retired coach.

Q: What was Saturday like for you?

A: Saturday morning I got up a bit anxious. I was looking at my watch a few hours before pregame meal. I'm thinking, it's about time to arrive two hours before the game. That kind of stuff. I reflected on that a little. I got emotional for about two or three minutes when I went out
and got some coffee. I called (my wife), Missy. I knew it was going to happen. I just didn’t know when it was going to happen.

After that I was fine. We had a bunch of people at the house, so I had to bounce around a see different groups. That was just for that game. We’re not going to do that all the time. I had a lot of friends and family over. Grandkids were running all over the place. It was OK. First time in about 55 years that I haven’t been playing or coaching football. That’s why August was so different. I’d always try to give my staff as much vacation as I can then get back the last week of July and all of a sudden August comes and you’re gone until February.

Q: Was it hard to watch the game and not be a coach?

A: I’ll always watch it as a coach. I’ll always do that, critically but I always do that to my team. Even when I watch the NFL, I watch it critically. I still enjoy it. And maybe I’ll change after a while, you know? Schemes and down and distance situations. I’ve done it too long. Even after our season I’d go home and watch NFL playoff games in January or during recruiting. I’ve always been on the sideline making decisions or from a distance analyzing what the offense or defense could be doing. I’m sure that’s going to go on for a long time. It might not ever stop.

Q: Is it a helpless feeling? That’s still your team and your guys but you can’t put on the headset.

A: My wife told me, ‘I was going to buy you a headset so you could wear it around the house.’ She got a few chuckles out of that one. You’ve probably heard me say this before, but I loved being a head coach and running a program. But I really miss the players. I went back to a practice last week. They were changing drills and the entire defensive line was closest to me. I was talking to somebody else and they came over, one by one, came up and hugged me. That was the best feeling you could ever get. So, I’ll miss that. But I’ll always have that connection, my players texting me and texting them back. I’ll always have that, even for players I coached at Washington.
But the thing I’ll miss the most is getting on that sideline and putting my headset on. Now it’s ‘Let’s go.’ I went into a complete zone. I’ve told people I never heard those cannons go off (on Faurot Field) one time. These aren’t soundproof headphones. You can hear some things, but that’s the truth. I loved that. I felt very well prepared because of how we did things.

Q: Will you still go to all the home games?

A: Oh, yeah. I’ll go to home games. I won’t go on the field other than something ceremonial that they’ll ask me to do. Barry (Odom) and I are friends and he’ll do a great job. But I’m not going to be the shadow. You don’t have to worry about me at games being on the field and people flashing to me standing there. That’s not going to happen. So I won’t go on the field unless there’s a reason to be on the field. On the other hand, for public relations I’ll be around a lot on both sides of the stadium just talking to people. I’ve never been to a tailgate in my life. I’ll go to some but I’m a little concerned how I’ll get there and back. I used to come over to tailgates during the spring game and people were remarkably nice to me.

Q: With your role on campus, has that been clearly defined?

A: It is. Jim (Sterk) and I are working that out. First of all, I’m on call. Anytime they need me for something to go do this or be here, I’m on call. It’s about public relations. I’ve gone to a lot of things, other than this past summer, as far as events. People have been so nice. Also I’ll do fundraising once we get this project going, whatever it’s going to be. That is what’s driving me. Barry’s going to be fine on the field. He doesn’t need me at all. But where I want to help is resource-wise.

If you skip back five or six years ago, Brady Deaton called me and other university administrative people called me to ask my opinion about going to the SEC. I’ll say it again: If you don’t invest, you’ll get blown away. You will not have an opportunity to compete at the level you need to. That’s the league. If you don’t want to do that, then don’t go to the league. We’ve done a lot of things. The east side addition changed the view of our stadium and the skyline forever. Now we need some kind of complex for our football team. And it’s not that I’m not interested in the other sports, because they’re all important. My focus is to help Barry, help him get resources
to take Mizzou to a different level than I took it. That’s where my passion is. I’m going to be here the rest of my life. I’m working another two and a half years (under contract), but after that I’ll be working forever as long as they want help. Because I’ve just got a passion for the University of Missouri. And I want them to be successful.

Q: Did you know Jim Sterk at all? Your time in Washington overlapped a bit.

A: I knew of him. We overlapped some. When I was coaching there, he heard me at several different talks I gave. He’s four years younger than me, and he’d come over (to UW) with people from his staff. That was a long time ago, 25 years ago. He’s very well respected. He wants to be here for the duration of his career. That’s important to me. I had opportunities to leave and never did. Mike Alden had opportunities to leave and never did. All I care about is someone who has a passion to help the Missouri football program and athletics. And just not having a good program here but trying to take it to a different level. There’s a huge difference there.

Q: Over these last nine months, what can you do that you didn’t have time to do while coaching?

A: About anything I want to. First of all, my health, I’m doing well. It’s something you manage. I’m trying to do everything I can. I’ve tried to remove all the stress from my life. I went from one of the most stressful jobs that exists to zero stress. Health-wise that helps me. I’m trying to take care of myself. I always have but more so now than ever. And then I’ve re-prioritized myself with family. There have been a lot of differences.

It was an adjustment for me especially in December because I didn’t have a plan. We had that bye week (in October), and that Tuesday is when I told Mack (Rhoades) I was going to do this. There was just no plan. It was tough because I look at it after a few months at the pace of life that I led, I just shook my head. I can’t believe I did that for 25 years. Most coaches at the power five level last about six and a half years. That’s the survival rate average wise. I read that somewhere. Between Toledo and here I did it for 25 years, a lot longer than most coaches. I’m probably in the 90th percentile. For me, it was the time to do it.
I’ll be a lot better after an entire year starting in January. I went down to Florida in January, February and March for a week at a time. I’ve got grandkids here in sports. I’ve got my new family, two kids and they’re involved in a lot of things. I’m a big Cleveland Cavaliers fan, so one night we said, ‘Let’s go.’ We hopped in a plane, got tickets and went to Game 3. I came with T-shirts and everything. When they won Game 7 I went crazy. I could never do things like that before. I can pretty much do what I want now. That’s pretty neat. I’ve got three granddaughters here and three grandkids in Sedalia and two in Kansas City. Last week I jumped in the car, shot over to Kansas City, threw the boys around some, then shot over to Sedalia and did the same thing. Before I could never ever do those things.

The season is going to be the biggest difference. The summers are about the same but not the season. And then next year in August because there’s so many opportunities to do things that I’ve never done before. I really have no hobbies. I used to golf. I used to fish. I’ve got to start picking things back up. Now you can enjoy things that you like to do away from football.

Q: Have you realized that you missed out on anything while you were coaching all those years?

A: Quite honestly, I think you look at your time. I loved what I did in coaching, but I wasn’t home a lot. I talked to all three of my kids. I have great relationships with my kids. I unloaded. I told Missy, ‘You know, as I look at this, I wasn’t home very much.’ You don’t really think about it because you live in this world. That’s just the business. My kids were great. They said, ‘We earned tremendous benefits from what you did also.’ They said, ‘Dad, you always came home when you could.’ I wasn’t out having drinks with buddies. I hardly ever golfed because it took too much time. I told them I felt pretty good about that. But the realization is the job requires so much time away from home.

Q: Did you have any job offers after you retired? Was there any interest in doing more work with the SEC Network?

A: I talked with the SEC Network. I did the Cotton Bowl and the championship game. I just didn’t pursue it anymore. And the reason I didn’t pursue it is I analyzed time again. They talked to me
about timeframes what it would be like. You leave home Thursday or Friday and get back
Sunday or late Saturday night. And they’re all away games. All of a sudden I’m away three days
a week? I told Missy, ‘I'm not going to do that. It defeats what I did (retired) for. I’m just going to
do that.’ Did I enjoy doing it? I loved doing it. I thought I could have been pretty good at it. I just
didn’t pursue it after that because it didn’t fall in line with the reasons I decided to get away from
football.

Story continues:  

MISSOURIAN

Gary Pinkel transitions to new role as a tailgater

COLTON POUNCY, Sep 10, 2016

COLUMBIA — For the first time since 2001, Gary Pinkel didn't lead the Missouri football
team out onto the turf grass of Faurot Field.

He didn't escort the players down a tunnel of Missouri fans for "Tiger Walk." He wasn't in the
locker room giving his team a pregame speech before the home opener.

Hours before the game, the winningest coach in program history was nowhere near the team.
Instead, he got the chance to do something he's never had time to do.

Tailgate.

"I don't think he's used to it yet," Anthony Monsees, an MU alum, said of Pinkel's tailgating
experience. "I think this is very new to him."
If it seems like it was a new experience for Pinkel, it's probably because it was. According to Monsees, Pinkel told many that Saturday's tailgating was the first of his life. He said Pinkel was a bit awkward at times in their encounter, but it makes sense when you consider Pinkel's background.

In college, Pinkel was a tight end at Kent State University. His Saturdays were spent preparing for that week's opponent, rather than preparing that week's tailgating dish. After that, he spent time as an assistant at the University of Washington before becoming the winningest head coach at the University of Toledo in his 10 seasons there.

As the man in charge of Missouri football for the last 15 years, Pinkel had other priorities. He was tasked with leading young men to play each week.

Tailgating was something he never had time to do.

After retiring in 2015, Pinkel has transitioned from coach to program ambassador with an emphasis in public relations. Some of his daily duties include fundraising and fan engagement.

Now that he's no longer directly tied to the football team, Pinkel has more freedom to do what he wants to do.

"He was very down to earth," Monsees said. "Much more than what you'd expect from a former power-five football coach making millions of dollars. He was just kind of hanging with the people. He just seemed like a normal guy."

Pinkel arrived at a tailgating spot around 4 p.m. at Memorial Stadium. He mingled with friends under a white tent across from the statue of Don Faurot, the man he passed to be the winningest coach in Missouri football history.

He sported a black Missouri polo shirt, khakis and sunglasses on his head. His attire resembled his usual game day outfits, minus the Missouri visor and a headset.
Missouri fans came in waves. Every 5 to 10 minutes, the next group of Pinkel acquaintances would pay their respects to the man who built Missouri’s football program into what it is today. He posed for pictures, shook hands and did it with a smile on his face.

Pinkel took the time to speak with anyone who approached him. He’d end each encounter with a laugh, a hug or a pat on the shoulder, wishing his friends well when they left.

He left the tailgate to make his way inside the stadium around 6 p.m. On his way out, he was mobbed by Missouri fans and had to escape on a golf cart as they yelled "GP!"

He's still popular.

"He's a good guy," said Gary Willis, a Missouri fan who stopped by the tailgate. "I'd stand with him all day long. He's a real genuine person."

Budget cuts mean delay in football trash pickup

COLUMBIA, Mo - On Monday, custodial crews from the University will be picking up trash from Saturday's football game.

This will be the first year where trash is picked up on Monday rather than Sunday.

This comes after the University made job cuts back in April in an effort to compensate for budget cuts. Over 50 jobs were cut last year, and the plan was to save money on overtime by having crews wait until the normal shift to clean it up, meaning trash pick up would have to start Monday.

ABC17 Crews noticed on Sunday that there were some people out picking up trash, however it was unclear if they were volunteers or staff of the University.
ABC17 will check in with the University on Monday afternoon to see how the trash pick up went.

Local businesses plan ahead for MU game days

COLUMBIA-Saturday the University of Missouri will host its first home game of the football season. While the home games are always big among fans, they are also big to local businesses.

"Graduation is a really big weekend for us, so are show me state games and a few others but home football game days are big, big days here." said General Manager at Shakespeare’s Pizza, Kurt Mirtsching.

Owner of Tiger Towing, David Debates agreed. He said the first game especially, is one of the busiest because people always forget to move their cars.

His company is contracted by the University of Missouri to tow cars that are left in tailgating lots. On game days they will check on campus lots, several private lots, apartment complexes and even some areas of Greek town.

A few years back, his business towed around sixty cars on the first game day.

To prepare for the crowds on game days, Shakespeare's Pizza increases their staff all week and has extra supplies ready.

"For football Saturday's in order to get ready, we cut a lot of pepperoni and we stock up on a lot of cheese and make a lot of dough and we stock a lot more tp than we usually would," Mirtsching said.

Debates said his workers spend days preparing. They have to move cars from their primary lot to their second and third lots to make room for all of the cars they will have to tow.
On top of that, Debates doubles his work force to tow the cars.

“There will be three people staffed in the office opposed to one. Then there will be a guy helping unload (the cars). So, three people here processing the paperwork and going through the procedure of releasing the cars. It's pretty intense.”

To local businesses, game days are about more than just the football game, it can mean an increase in business.

MU gameday security involves all local law enforcement

COLUMBIA, Mo. - dozens of Missouri State Highway Patrol troopers trickled out of the University of Missouri Police Department station Saturday afternoon following their briefing on gameday security.

"Troopers assist us with all the traffic lights that are around the stadium to help make sure that the traffic keeps flowing and gets into the parking lots around stadium," said Maj. Brian Weimer with MUPD. "Then they'll help us again on outbound traffic to make things go as smoothly as possible."

Fans will mostly see troopers at the stoplights surrounding Memorial Stadium but mostly Boone County deputies and MUPD officers take care of security detail inside.

"Inside they're looking for problems and issue to try and head them off ahead of time," Weimer said. "We have people who try to bring alcohol into the stadium and cause problems later, so obviously they'll be ejected from the game and they also assist with medical emergencies."

There aren't any new security measures in place this season but every home game MUPD will use its bomb-sniffing dog to check every nook and cranny of the stadium. Capitol police also brings its dog to assist.

"There is also the bomb team that's on-site if we would need it," Weimer said. "We have individuals from the FBI and other groups that are here to help support us too and make sure that we're sharing information back and forth."
Post-game traffic can pose a dangerous problem for drivers and pedestrians because it will most likely be crowded and dark, and people have been drinking all day. Weimer says in order for everyone to be safe and for traffic to move as smoothly, fans needs to be patient.

"Many times people can figure out how they can get home faster but realize there's over 55,000 people that are there today and the traffic flow patterns are designed to help those 55,000 people get home as quickly and as safely as possible," Weimer said.

If there are any home games during hot weather, law enforcement officials urge people to drink lots of water, especially if they've been drinking alcohol out at a tailgate all day.

After each game, law enforcement officials will evaluate the game security and decide what could be better for the next game.

Tailgating fans share their excitement about Mizzou home opener


Driving while black: Black Columbians, public safety officials at odds over profiling

When the young men Lorenzo Lawson mentors tell him about their experiences being stopped by police in Columbia, he tells them to do what the officer says.
“Because you don’t want to lose your life,” Lawson said. “You can’t get your life back. We don’t want an incident that happened up in Louisiana, Minnesota to happen here in Columbia so remember, live to fight that battle the next day or the day after that.”

As founder and director of the Youth Empowerment Zone, Lawson helps at-risk youths and young adults find their way in life, and many are black. Many share the problems they have had with police, being treated harshly or unfairly, they believe, because they are black.

Race and policing have been at the forefront of a national conversation about equality in America, and the debate intensifies after every high-profile police shooting of a minority, usually a black man. Deadly attacks against police officers have helped fuel the strife.

Lawson referred to police killings of black men in Baton Rouge, La., and Falcon Heights, Minn., in July. Those incidents add to a list of fatal police encounters that have attracted national attention and sparked protest and national debate — Ferguson in August 2014; Staten Island, N.Y., in July 2014; North Charleston, S.C., in April 2015 and Milwaukee in August.

The focus on race and policing in Columbia and Boone County sharpened in July when Columbia police Chief Ken Burton, with Lawson and Columbia NAACP President Mary Ratliff at his side, denied his officers engage in racial profiling. Both Lawson and Ratliff said at that event that Burton was wrong. Lawson said he was shocked at first when Burton denied it, but after speaking with the chief, he understands that Burton supports his cops.

However, we still have a problem in Columbia, Lawson said. Most of the officers, he believes, do not profile people on purpose. In a country that was built on the backs of black slaves and that is only 50 years removed from significant civil rights legislation, racism is so ingrained in our national fabric that it is still systemic, Lawson said.

“I think it’s something that they’re doing because this is the way that they were raised and the thought pattern of the way they think,” he said. “That’s something I think is going to have to be addressed.”

For law enforcement in Boone County, accusations of racial profiling are a matter of perception, but many black people in the area say it is a part of their everyday lives.

Soon after Burton denied profiling happens in the city, Lawson, Ratliff and other activists pointed as evidence of policing bias to the latest batch of data on law enforcement traffic stops the Missouri Attorney General’s Office publishes annually.

Black leaders, activists and others claim the numbers of black drivers being pulled over prove racial profiling happens not just across the state, but in Boone County.

Law enforcement leaders say the data lack the detail to prove racist police practices. The experts who compile the data for the attorney general every year said the numbers show disparity exists, but not why it exists.
Burton said that after the uproar over the report and meetings with the activist group Race Matters, Friends, he has ordered his department to analyze its traffic stop data. He called the perception of racial profiling a “difference of opinion” between people in the community and law enforcement.

“I don’t deny that it’s a possibility that we have an officer out there using race as a basis to police, but I have no proof of it,” Burton said.

Burton and Boone County Sheriff Dwayne Carey said the data in the report are incomplete. Many law enforcement personnel say that in most instances, they cannot discern much about the driver’s appearance, including race, before a traffic stop. Where the stop occurred, what time of day it was conducted and whether the stop is related to a call for service should be included in the data, Burton said.

Carey called the report necessary but said it needs to go further.

“We might target an area where we know that we’re looking for certain people or certain vehicles, “Carey said. “That’s not racial profiling, that’s criminal profiling.”

Deputies working saturation patrols in an area with a high minority population would increase the number of vehicle stops and searches of black people, Carey said. The attorney general’s report only analyzes the data relative to the jurisdiction’s population, leaving out people who are pulled over as they come to Columbia to shop, work, for recreation or are just passing through, Carey said. He also pointed to large, multiagency efforts to bust criminals that sometimes are black or minorities, such as in November 2014 when his agency, Columbia police and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives arrested 17 people in one day, most black and some during traffic stops, who were involved in a prostitution and cocaine-trafficking conspiracy.

“You have the names on the whiteboard,” he said. “We know who they are. We know their associates. We know what they drive, so that’s the information that’s relayed to the patrol deputies.”

Since 2000, the attorney general’s office has published an annual report compiling law enforcement agency data, required by state law, about each stop. The report includes the race of the driver, whether there was a search done and if contraband was found. It also provides rates of stops, searches, and arrests in each jurisdiction for people of white, black, Asian, American Indian and Hispanic descent. The report includes a “disparity index” for each group where a rating of 1 means drivers are stopped in equal proportion to the group’s share of the driving age population in a given jurisdiction.

The seven Boone County agencies submitting reports made 466,904 traffic stops in 16 years, with Columbia police accounting for 257,900 stops and the Boone County Sheriff’s Department
making 82,086. Over that period, the disparity rate for black drivers is 2.24 for the Columbia police and 2.36 for the sheriff’s department.

**With no permanent population on campus, the University of Missouri Police Department sends data to the attorney general as other agencies do, but no disparity index is calculated.**

Using the state’s population demographics, the MUPD’s disparity index for black drivers over the 16-year period averages 1.10. Using Columbia’s racial makeup, the number is 1.20. MU police made 72,563 traffic stops from 2000 to 2015.

The 2015 findings fit the long-term pattern: Black people in Columbia and Boone County are about three times as likely as white people to be pulled over, more than twice as likely to be searched but less likely to have contraband.

Hispanic people in Boone County also are more likely to be searched than white people but less likely to have contraband. Columbia police, the report said, arrest black people during traffic stops at about twice the rate of white people and arrest Hispanic people at a rate that is one-third higher.

Sheriff’s deputies arrest black people at more than twice the rate of white people and Hispanics at nearly three times the rate.

Hispanic and black people make up a far smaller segment of the population that is pulled over by either agency. Of the 6,863 stops sheriff’s deputies made in 2015, 4,768 of the drivers were white, 1,735 were black and 139 were Hispanic. For Columbia police, 7,354 of the department’s 11,304 stops were of white drivers, 3,348 were black and 173 were Hispanic.

Lawson said he understands that Burton wants to do his research but is confident that when the analysis is done, “you can’t factor out” that it’s “because they’re African-Americans.” He takes issue with law enforcement focusing on areas with large minority populations because they are deemed high-crime areas.

The story continues: [Driving while black: Black Columbians, public safety officials at odds over profiling](#)
Birthday party celebrates three decades of Truman the Tiger

RILEY NEWTON AND KATHERINE KOKAL, Sep 9, 2016

COLUMBIA — **Marching Mizzou erupted in song as Truman the Tiger blew out his birthday candles on Friday in celebration of his 30th year as the MU mascot.**

About 150 people showed up to celebrate at the MU Student Center for a birthday party that marked the beginning of a weekend of events to commemorate the mascot.

Students, administrators, faculty and visitors ate cake, took pictures with the mascot and signed Truman's birthday card.

Of course, Truman couldn't blow out the candles without the help of a friend. Missouri Students Association President Sean Earl agreed to stand by Truman’s side.

“I mean it’s Truman so I said, ‘Of course!’," Earl said.

At the Missouri football game against Eastern Michigan on Saturday, two dozen former mascots will make a special appearance between the first and second quarter. Before the game, the former mascots will have a reunion party at the Reynolds Alumni Center.

As Deb Snellen, director of organization and professional development for the MU Office of Advancement, looked on at the party, she said she was excited the former mascots have the opportunity to reunite.

Snellen played “‘Lil Tiger," an older version of the mascot, in the 1970s. She will be in good company Saturday among generations of Tiger mascots.
“We have tigers from every decade,” Snellen said. “Some of us were mascots even before Truman was named.”

When the MU football program was established in 1890, the athletics committee adopted the nickname “Tiger” in recognition of a group of Civil War militia, according the MU website. The militia, named "The Missouri Tigers," was formed of Union loyalists.

Prior to 1986, MU had two tiger mascots. One was male and one was an apron-wearing female. They were simply known as “Big Tiger,” and “Lil Tiger.”

In 1984, a contest was held to name MU’s new mascot. One student submitted the name Truman in honor of former President Harry S. Truman, born in Lamar, Missouri.

The mascot makes over 35 appearances a month including football games, basketball games, hospital visits, schools, and other community functions.

**Somebody Else's Problem**
Report finds initiative fatigue and a lack of accountability, among other obstacles, are preventing colleges from improving student outcomes.

**No MU Mention**
Academic leaders say all the other colleges and universities out there are responsible for why higher education is delivering less value than it did 10 years ago, an upcoming report found. Their own institutions, they say, are doing even better than before. The report, based on a survey of 218 high-ranking administrators -- including presidents, vice presidents and provosts -- at private and public two- and four-year institutions, explores the barriers preventing colleges from improving student outcomes. The report, which will be published Sept. 29, suggests many colleges are struggling with a “bystander effect”: everyone is responsible for improving student outcomes, so no one takes ownership of it.
Eduventures, the Boston-based research and consulting firm behind the report, gave *Inside Higher Ed* an advance look at the findings. James Wiley, a principal analyst at the firm who wrote the report, said the survey responses suggest a “misalignment” between how college leaders view the work taking place at their own institutions compared to higher education more broadly.

“The overarching takeaway is that it’s very unclear what ‘student outcomes’ means,” Wiley said in an interview. Without a clear sense of which metrics they should be looking at to determine how students are performing, colleges are creating uncertainty around what technology could benefit students and who should be responsible for managing that work, he said.

The report identifies five obstacles hindering colleges from improving student outcomes, ranging from a lack of focus on teaching quality to organizational barriers. But the attitudes expressed by college leaders also raise questions about whether they feel the push to improve higher education should start on their own campuses.

About half of respondents said the value offered by their own institutions is much or somewhat higher than a decade ago. Another quarter said it is roughly the same. Asked to rate higher education as a whole, about three-quarters of respondents said the value has decreased or remained the same.

The split in some ways resembles the difference between the disapproval voters feel about Congress versus the high marks they give their own representative, Wiley said. The same finger-pointing emerges when looking at who college leaders say should be most directly responsible for student outcomes. The No. 1 answer, selected by more than 40 percent of respondents: everyone. Less than a quarter of respondents each picked a more specific answer, such as a provost or a vice president of student success.

Wiley said he was surprised that nearly half of the senior academic leaders surveyed couldn’t point to a single individual or office in charge of improving student outcomes. “If you don’t own it, then who does?” he said.

The lack of clearly defined leadership roles may stem from the fact that many academic leaders feel their institutions are stretched too thin. The top organizational barrier preventing colleges from improving student outcomes, according to 63 percent of respondents, is initiative fatigue -- that they simply have too many pilots and projects going on to focus. Budget constraints placed second on the list, with slightly less than half of respondents naming it their top barrier.
“What I’m sensing is a bit of a vacuum,” Wiley said. “Leaders are pulled in all directions, and if there’s no real ownership or space to do anything, then what fills that void?”

Gunnar Counselman, CEO of the ed-tech company Fidelis, who worked with Eduventures on the report, said he often hears about initiative fatigue from his customers. The company supplies learning relationship management software to colleges.

“Higher education is drowning in initiatives right now,” Counselman said in an interview. “What’s happened in the last 10-12 years is that higher ed has recognized that what got them here is not going to get them there. They’ve recognized that they’re going to have to change, and as a result of that ... they’ve put a dozen initiatives in the water.”

College leaders are also uncertain about what kind of technology they need to invest in to improve student outcomes, the survey found. A majority of respondents (56 percent) said their top priority for investing in technology is to boost admissions and enrollment, compared to about one-third (37 percent) who picked improving student outcomes.