Disabled children more likely to be bullied during school years, study says

This story was the result of an MU News Bureau press release:

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28, 2016 -- Bullying is a problem that affects almost all students in some ways, but for disabled children it's a problem that seems to last throughout their school years.

Disabled children, including those with learning disabilities, were about 20 percent more likely to report being bullied than other students in surveys taken at a New England school district. And that difference remained steady from third through 12th grades, the researchers found.

"Students with disabilities need to be taught skills to respond appropriately to bullying. They need to know what to do, how to respond and who to tell," said study co-author Chad Rose. He's an assistant professor of special education with the University of Missouri College of Education.

"But they don't have those response skills, and that perpetuates this gap," Rose said.

For the new study, Rose and co-author Nicholas Gage, from the University of Florida, analyzed the results of surveys of more than 6,500 students from grades K-12 during the years 2011-2013. About two-thirds of those children surveyed received free or low-priced lunches; 43 percent were Latino, 36 percent were white and 14 percent were black. Sixteen percent were identified as having a disability.

The surveys asked the students about bullying, which Rose defined as "pervasive aggression." Students responded to questions about whether they'd been hit or threatened, had their feelings hurt, or had lies and mean rumors spread about them. Online harassment wasn't included in the surveys.

The students also were asked questions about whether they bullied others.

The researchers found that disabled kids reported being bullied more than the other kids did. And this gap didn't change over time.

"Sixty-six percent of disabled students in grade 3 reported some bullying compared to 42 percent of other students, and when the students reached fifth grade, the gap remained similar, 61 percent
compared to 41 percent," said Gage, an assistant professor at UF's College of Education. "This 20 percent gap was constant across all grade levels."

Rose noted that many of the disabled children didn't have obvious disabilities. "We didn't primarily focus on those with visual, hearing or orthopedic impairments," he said. "Most of the students had learning and emotional disabilities like ADHD and autism."

So why are disabled kids vulnerable to bullying? Possibly "because they are perceived as looking or acting differently from their peers," said Jennifer Greif Green, an associate professor at Boston University's School of Education.

"Some researchers have speculated that students with disabilities have more trouble than their peers understanding complex communication, such as sarcasm or nonverbal cues, and that makes it more likely they will be involved in bullying," she said.

Green said the study is valuable because it's among the first to look at disabled children as bullying victims. And, she said, it shows that disabled kids can persist through school as both bully victims and bullies themselves.

What should be done? Rose goes back to the importance of training disabled children about how to deal with bullying.

Rose said all schools should be teaching skills "like working with others, knowing how to respond in aversive situations, keeping your temper, making sure you know how to communicate with your peers."

Other skills, he added, include "engaging in a conversation, working with others in a group, participating, knowing how to respond if you don't win a game. Basic skills that most of us have, even though we don't know how we learned them."

What can parents do? "I encourage them to talk to their kids beyond, 'How was your day at school?' Use more direct questions to establish more open lines of communication," Rose recommended.

The study appeared online recently in the journal Exceptional Children.
Adopt (Or Ditch) These Wellness Trends For A Healthier 2017

This story was the result of an MU News Bureau press release:

As we prepare to ring in the new year, those of us who work within the health and wellness sphere make it our business to identify emerging trends and information so that we can predict what is up and coming, and what is SO 2016.

Here are my predictions for 2017.

What's Hot

The Gut Brain Connection. Probiotics have become increasingly popular as a way to improve health and well-being. Studies have shown a direct correlation between gut microbes and the central nervous system.

Recently, I had the pleasure of speaking with two scientists from the University of Missouri this month who were as passionate as I am about mental health and the gut-brain connection.

Researchers at the University of Missouri have determined that a common probiotic sold in supplements and yogurt can decrease stress-related behaviour and anxiety. You can read more about their ground-breaking findings here.

The search is on for a new Mizzou chancellor

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 16 hrs ago

ST. LOUIS • Leaders from the University of Missouri System announced a committee of 22 people charged with finding the next Mizzou chancellor.

Interim Mizzou Chancellor Hank Foley is the only person to publicly express interest in the permanent position. He's held the interim role since November 2015 after R. Bowen Loftin stepped down.

Chaired by University of Missouri-Kansas City Chancellor Leo Morton and Mizzou engineering school dean Elizabeth Loboa, the search committee will start hosting meetings and forums with Mizzou stakeholders in January.

- Vairam Arunachalam, business school professor
- Ted Ayers, president of the Mizzou Alumni Association
- Jeri Doty, chief planning officer for MU Health
- Sean Earl, president of the Missouri Students Association
- Michael Hendricks from the Graduate Professional Council
- Chrissy Kintner, chair of the Mizzou Staff Advisory Council
- Kevin McDonald, chief diversity officer for the university system
- Joi Moore, education professor
- Pelema Morrice, vice provost of enrollment management
- Kim Nyoni, senior director of advancement
- Neil Olson, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine
- Jim O'Neill, Mizzou alumnus
- Elizabeth Parks, School of Medicine professor
- Katherine Reed, associate journalism professor
- Sarah Reesman, senior associate athletic director
- David Singh, professor, College of Arts & Science
- Marshall Stewart, vice chancellor for MU Extension
- Marty Townsend, acting president of Mizzou's Retiree Association
- Ben Trachtenburg, Faculty Council chairman
- Robin Wenneker, Mizzou alumna
Incoming University of Missouri System President Mun Choi announced plans to conduct a national search for the next Mizzou chancellor earlier this month. Similar to the search for system president, the chancellor search will be private.

University of Missouri announces chancellor search committee


COLUMBIA, Mo. - The University of Missouri released the names of its chancellor search committee Thursday.

It will be chaired by University of Missouri-Kansas City Chancellor Leo Morton and MU College of Engineering Dean Elizabeth Loboa.

MU Faculty Council Chair and committee member Ben Trachtenberg said the committee will bring a variety of opinions and ideas to the search.

"I think they put together a good search committee that really represents a wide range of constituencies and backgrounds and skills and opinions," said Trachtenberg "So, we ought to have a lot of people who care about Mizzou tremendously, but have different visions for what the university is about."

Stakeholder meetings and open forums will begin next month.

Once a candidate is selected, the committee hopes to release their name by May or June.
Missouri panel calls for big changes on campus with regards to tuition

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 8 hrs ago

ST. LOUIS • Missouri would no longer impose a cap on rising college tuition under a set of legislative recommendations released Thursday that would also redefine how University of Missouri System students are charged for their education.

The University of Missouri System Review Commission was created in the wake of upheaval at the university last year that toppled top leadership. The panel was set up to essentially audit the system and provide recommendations to the Legislature and the university Board of Curators.

The committee — chaired by Jeanne Sinquefield, a member of the Columbia campus’ steering committee and frequent Mizzou donor — focused the analysis and recommendations on four areas: governance and accountability; workforce readiness; diversity and Title IX; and research, extension and online education.

The report largely sticks to those areas, offering a host of directives addressing issues such as a perceived lack of transparency in the university system’s governance.

One of the more stark recommendations was directed toward the Legislature.

It calls on lawmakers to overhaul a 2007 law that prohibits all state schools from raising tuition costs more than the Consumer Price Index each year. The index value hovered around 1.8 percent since 2008, giving universities little wiggle room.

If changed, this would affect all state universities.
Gary Forsee, former University of Missouri System president and vice chair of the commission, calls it a push for local control. Governing boards of each university are appointed to be financial stewards, and yet the law forbids them from making these decisions.

“Let the boards control that, and if a campus gets out of line, the students and parents will let them know,” Forsee told the Post-Dispatch.

The task force also strongly recommends a new approach to the concept of tuition.

Under the recommendation, the four system schools would shift to differential tuition, meaning that the price tag of a student’s tuition would be based on the field of study. For example, an engineering student, who is more expensive to educate, would pay more than an English major.

The task force also suggests the Legislature switch to a two-year state funding cycle, rather than annual, to allow leaders to better plan ahead.

The recommendations are largely not new. Some are already being discussed by the curators or university administrators, and at least one legislative recommendation surfaced in a state audit during the fall.

Missouri House and Senate leaders were the first to receive a copy of the report as they were the ones to convene the panel.

A Missouri House spokesman said House Speaker Todd Richardson was expected to release a statement on the report after he reviewed it.

**Greater transparency**

Among the recommendations for the university is a review of the Collected Rules and Regulations, the governing rules for all four system campuses.

These rules dictate everything from the handling of sexual harassment and discrimination cases under the federal Title IX, to the procedures for hiring, firing and tenure.
Many legislators took a keen interest in such procedures in the wake of a controversy surrounding Melissa Click, a former assistant professor at Mizzou.

Click attracted national attention when she helped remove a student journalist from the scene of protests at Mizzou in November 2015. The protests, triggered by reports of racist incidents, led the system president and the campus chancellor to step down.

Some lawmakers immediately called for Click to be fired, a step that the curators eventually voted to take.

Forsee said it was time the Collected Rules and Regulations were reviewed and updated regardless, calling some of the rules antiquated.

In a statement, Board of Curator chairman Maurice Graham, a lawyer from St. Louis, said the idea of reviewing the Collected Rules was already a discussion point for the board. He called it “a process that will involve faculty and administration participation.”

The task force calls for curators to wrap up the review and schedule of proposed changes for the Legislature by the end of 2017.

A theme of recommendations for the university system and campus leaders is greater transparency and accountability to the public.

In one section, the task force calls for an accountability scorecard to be in place by January 2018. Under it, campuses would be measured by their top missions: teaching, research and economic development. In another section, the task force laments the difficulty of accessing student, faculty and staff diversity data.

David Steelman, a curator from Rolla, said the report acted as a reminder that the university “has an obligation for transparency that perhaps hasn’t been placed high enough as a priority.”

“I, as a curator, have even found it very frustrating to learn something from the press first, rather than (within the system),” Steelman said. But he’s sure that change is forthcoming.
“I’m confident this will change with people like (Graham), (incoming system president) Mun Choi and Gov.-elect Eric Greitens, who will stress the need for transparency with future board appointees,” he said.

Greitens can nominate as many as five of the nine curators when he takes office next month, through vacancies from terms expiring and those members who haven’t been confirmed by the Senate.

“If we as an institution can make some of these changes, and gain control of our own destiny, I think you’ll find the University of Missouri System will reach unprecedented heights,” Steelman said.

**More efficiency**

The task force had a slew of other recommendations, ranging from compiling and comparing data on institutional performance to strategies on expanding research opportunities.

In addition to system leaders, the task force met on each of the four campuses and talked with those chancellors. In the process, the group identified a few areas where the University of Missouri System could and should better coordinate the four campuses’ handling of services, such as human resources and information technology.

“We were reinforced by the role the system plays to make sure state money is used wisely, and the idea that the role of the system is to support the campuses, not the other way around,” Forsee said.

Other task force members include former gubernatorial candidate and St. Louis area businessman Dave Spence, former Mizzou research administrator Rob Duncan, conservative radio show host Renee Hulshof, Missouri Soybean Association board member Neal Bredehoeft, Maryville University professor Pam Washington and Kansas City lawyer Michael Williams.
The task force was initially given $900,000 for travel and other operational costs, but those funds were later withheld by Gov. Jay Nixon. According to the report, the lack of funds limited the depth in which the committee was able to operate during the last seven months.

Task force recommends MSU gain flexibility in expanding doctoral, professional programs

A task force has unanimously recommended that Missouri State University be granted the flexibility to offer doctoral and professional programs as long as there is adequate demand.

MSU President Clif Smart said the report approved by the Missouri Coordinating Board of Higher Education signals it's time to "open up the market" and ease restrictions placed on the degree programs each public institution can offer.

The task force, which included representatives from more than 15 institutions across the state, reaffirmed the University of Missouri's role as the state's top-tier research institution and stated that as such, it should continue its monopoly on offering key doctoral programs in medicine, law, dentistry and pharmacy.

It seeks to open the door, however, for public, four-year universities — not part of the University of Missouri system — to offer a wider range of doctoral programs that had been off-limits. It also creates a scenario under which two-year technical and community colleges, in narrow circumstances, could also offer bachelor's degrees.

"I like to characterize this as a win-win-win...," Smart said. "We are now going to have in place a structure that kind of outlines what all the two- and four-year schools are to do but also gives them the flexibility to meet workforce demand in their own part of the state. It's a really good resolution."

Citing numerous legislative attempts to resolve the dispute over which degrees can be offered, the Missouri Coordinating Board of Higher Education convened the task force to review the workforce development needs of the state and the goals of each institution and present a solution in a unified way.

MSU had much to gain from the work. Despite growing significantly, the Springfield-based institution has faced strict limitations — spelled out in state statute — stemming from a fight, 12 years ago, to change its name from Southwest Missouri State University.
"We got what was the most important thing for us and what we're ready to do right now," he said.

Smart said with the backing of the task force and the coordinating board, higher education officials are optimistic the changes will be supported by lawmakers. For the flexibility to be granted, language will have to be changed in state statute.

"We haven't gotten to the finish line, but the finish line is in sight," he said.

Institutions seeking to add new degree programs will still have to identify the necessary funding and go through a review process.

"We are pleased with that compromise given the limitations of funding the state has," Smart said. "Every university can't have every program. That is not an efficient way to deal with this. But, it's going to recognize our ability to participate."

MSU was previously approved to offer four doctoral programs. Smart said if funding is available and the demand is evident, the university will explore the possibility of adding new doctoral and professional programs in the next five years,

"We believe it's a growing niche market for us, particularly in health, but we are also thinking about expanding into education and business," he said.

As part of the recommendations, Smart said MSU gained wiggle room to offer engineering programs later on. But, he said he is happy with the existing degrees available through a cooperative agreement with Missouri University of Science and Technology.

"I don't envision us offering our own engineering programs but that has opened up to us as well," Smart said,

According to the task force, two-year schools will have a "narrow window" to offer applied bachelor's degrees if the option of collaborating with a four-year institution does not exist.

Smart said the work of the task force to come up with solutions to the lingering questions about degree offerings will allow the public institutions to concentrate on other weighty issues in the near future.

"It's a good next step for us and allows us to be united and focus on things like funding and higher ed policy with all the sectors working together," he said.
UM System Review Commission releases report; two-year funding cycle recommended

The University of Missouri System Review Commission has submitted its report to the Legislature.

The Commission says the UM System should conduct a review of its collected rules and regulations. Commission member Renee Hulshof, a Columbia radio talk show host, says Commission members Gary Forsee and Neal Bredehoeft worked on that recommendation.

“So there’s a lot of strife surrounding that issue, and they (Forsee and Bredehoeft) really felt that it was incumbent upon each of the four campuses to look at their collected rules, to look at how they handle their faculty, and really determine is what we’re doing best practice, yes or no?” says Hulshof.

Forsee served as UM System President from late 2007 to January 2011.

One of the Review Commission’s key recommendations involves a 2007 state law that placed tuition controls across all of Missouri’s four-year public institutions. Hulshof says that law led to a squeeze on all of the campuses, which caused the schools to charge fees that upset parents.

“The University has to make up those costs of delivering an education somehow and that’s how they’ve done it,” Hulshof says. “And they should be allowed, the Governing Boards of all institutions, whether it’s MU or any other, should be allowed to set their tuition rate without Jeff City telling them how much they can raise it.”

Hulshof says the market will take care of it. The Commission report says that the 2007 Senate Bill 389 put “unnecessary and burdensome tuition controls in place.” The report says that the needs of each campus are unique and that the Governing Boards should be given back this responsibility.

The Review Commission also recommends that the UM System be moved to a two-year funding cycle from the Missouri Legislature. Hulshof tells Missourinet that would allow more accurate planning and budgeting.

“So instead of having it be a constant, ‘oh what’s going to happen. Well we’re ok for this year, oh we’re not ok for this year,’ it would give them a little opportunity to plan,” says Hulshof.

The UM System’s annual budget is about $3 billion, which includes all four campuses and MU Health Care. The Review Commission’s report notes that in 2016, the state allocated $427 million of the System’s $1.2 billion operating budget.
The Review Commission also recommends that the UM System have in place by early 2018 “a robust set of accountability measures”, coinciding with the start of each Missouri legislative session.

Missourinet reached out to a UM System spokesman on Thursday to see if the System has any response to the report. We have not heard back yet.

The report has been sent to Missouri House Speaker Todd Richardson (R-Poplar Bluff) and Senate President Pro Tem Ron Richard (R-Joplin).

The Review Commission was established this year under a Senate concurrent resolution sponsored by State Sen. Kurt Schaefer (R-Columbia). Schaefer said this year that the future of the UM System was unclear, without some oversight.

Governor Jay Nixon (D) withheld $750,000 in state funding for the Commission this summer, citing less-than-projected revenue growth for the last fiscal year. That funding was aimed at providing Commission members with resources from outside staff.

**Occupational diversity, 2-year budgets among recommendations for UM System**

**Republicans lawmakers reacted to the 2015 protests on the Mizzou campus by creating a commission to review the entire university system’s operations and recommend changes.** And if the UM System failed to implement those changes, lawmakers would respond by slashing the system’s budget.

Those recommendations were released today.

They fall under four general categories:

1. Governance, accountability, and administrative agility
2. Workforce readiness, program analytics, and articulation
3. Diversity, Title IX, freedom of speech, and academic freedom
4. Research, extension, and distance learning/e-learning

Under the first category, commission members specifically set out advice for incoming Republican Gov. Eric Greitens when choosing new members for the Board of Curators: They
want any new curators to be picked based on “occupational diversity,” in addition to race and gender.

“The prior set of curators were pretty much all lawyers, and we felt that they didn’t have enough diversity in their background to deal with a lot of the issues that come up,” said commission chair Jeanne Sinquefield. “It did not mean that individually (they aren’t) strong, qualified people, it’s just you need people with a research background, for example, or (from) a regular business, or who were graduates from the university (system).”

The report notes that Greitens will “have up to five system curator appointments” to bring before the Missouri Senate after he’s sworn into office next month.

Other category one recommendations include reviewing all rules and regulations while also looking at “best practices” from other universities, and a broad set of accountability measures that includes a “scorecard.”

Under category two, commission members want the legislature to approve the budget for the UM System every two years, instead of annually, to allow for “more accurate forecasting, planning and budgeting.”

“If you’ve ever run a business, it’s hard to have abrupt changes every year, if you’re trying (to plan),” Sinquefield said.

That recommendation, though, won’t likely see the light of day in the Missouri House.

“I understand why the review commission would recommend something like that, because on the surface it would appear that it would (provide) more budgetary certainty,” said House budget committee chair Scott Fitzpatrick, R-Shell Knob. “But it would tie the legislature’s hands moving into the second year, (and) two years in the budgeting world is a pretty long time. It’s so hard to predict even one year in the future what revenues are going to bring, much less two years.”

Under the third category, commissioners want to adopt policies that promote “academic freedom” for students, regardless of their political beliefs.

“That was more of a recommendation based on a lot of universities,” said Sinquefield, “and we want to make sure that it’s very clear that the University of Missouri System is a welcoming place for the discussion of ideas.”

Recommendations under the fourth category include:

- Insist on academic excellence in hiring and expanding programs
- Measure departments using approaches like academic analytics and other “objective sources”
- Build research partnerships with industry, federal research facilities, consortia, and strategic nonprofits
UM System interim president Michael Middleton released the following statement:

“Upon receiving the University of Missouri System Review Commission Report, I plan to review with the leadership team to assess the recommendations. We will certainly consider adopting any recommendations that add to the betterment of the university’s mission and will help us continue to provide a high-quality education for our students.”

UM System Review Commission Report released


COLUMBIA, Mo. - The University of Missouri System Review Commission released its report Thursday.

The commission was formed by state lawmakers to review and make recommendations to address problems within the four-campus system. Its first meeting was held in July 2016.

In its 20-page report, the eight-member commission divided itself into four groups to focus on specific areas.

Governance, Accountability and Administrative Agility: The commission stressed occupational diversity, along with race and gender, is a critical step for appointing the next system curators.

Workforce Readiness, Program Analytics and Articulation: The commission noted the system should be allowed to set cost and degree program values by having differential tuition. They argue this would allow more faculty and staff for programs and areas that require expensive lab equipment and guidance.
Diversity, Title IX, Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom: "One thing that this commission noted was the absence of the student voice along the way in several aspects of standing committees or decision making," the report stated. The commission acknowledged students don't spend extended lengths of time on campus, but because issues directly impact them, every effort should be made to include input from them.

The commission also lamented the lack of clear data related to diversity. The report said "the frustration of this committee has been that the data related to issues of diversity has not been accessible in one concise report." It recommended putting together clear reports that would be accessed by parents and students alike.

Research, Extension and Distance Learning/e-learning: The commission recommended the system hire and expand programs in departments with a proven track-record. Also, use academic analytics and similar approaches to measure departments.

Rape case retrial set for March

The second trial of a man accused of raping a woman on the University of Missouri campus in May 2015 has been scheduled for early March.

Mohamed A. Mostafa is expected to be tried again on charges of first-degree rape and second-degree robbery on March 7.

Mostafa is scheduled to appear Feb. 27 in Boone County Circuit Court for a pretrial hearing.

In November, a judge declared a mistrial in the case when the jury was deadlocked after deliberating for about 9½ hours across two days.

Police say Mostafa, a 41-year-old Sudanese refugee, met a woman at a downtown Columbia bar the night of May 28, 2015.

The pair walked through downtown and onto the campus, ending up at University Hall, 1100 Carrie Francke Drive, where Mostafa allegedly raped the woman and took her cellphone when she tried to call police.

During the first trial, Mostafa testified in his defense and admitted through an interpreter to having sex with the woman but said she had initiated the contact and he at first resisted.

Semen found at the scene matched Mostafa’s DNA.
The prosecution said the woman’s story matched up with the physical evidence, including injuries she suffered that night and the presence of Mostafa’s DNA.

George Russell, former UM System president and UMKC chancellor, dies at 95

Former University of Missouri System President George Russell was described by those who knew him as an effective leader who brought the system greater success and prestige.

Russell, 95, who was UM System president from 1991 to 1996, died Tuesday at his home in Lee’s Summit. He also served as chancellor of the University of Missouri-Kansas City from 1977 to 1991.

Richard Wallace, former University of Missouri chancellor, worked with Russell as vice president of academic affairs for the UM System from 1985 to 1996.

“George was very bright, super well-organized and a very effective and aggressive leader,” Wallace said. “In my opinion, the system in the four campuses made great progress in his term as president.”

Mike Middleton, interim UM System president, said in a statement posted on the system website that he was saddened by the news of Russell’s death. He said Russell’s leadership strengthened the university.

“Most notably under his tenure, the university introduced a robust financial plan to realign its resources in a scale unmatched in the country,” Middleton said in the statement. “His efforts allowed the UM System to answer critical needs including competitive faculty recruitment, infrastructure maintenance and repair and enhancement of student financial aid, among many others.”

David Russell, interim chief of staff of the UM System and no relation to George Russell, had started his job in the office of university relations a few months before Russell was appointed president.

David Russell said George Russell probably was one of the strongest leaders the university system has had.
“He had a tremendous sense of humor,” he said. “He was a tough administrator, a brilliant researcher and a practically minded leader. I found him to approach his job as a reformer and with the caution of someone who knows change comes slowly.”

He said that during George Russell’s leadership, state finances were very tight and that he developed a five-year plan to reallocate and prioritize university resources. During Russell’s term, the system recruited the best researchers and teachers and wiped out a backlog of maintenance projects.

“He made the university strong and put the university on firm financial footing,” David Russell said.

He said in contrast to how the new UM System president was chosen, George Russell was chosen at a single curators’ meeting, with no formal search, a few months after the previous president resigned. He said the curators decided they already had the best person.

George Russell had a 20-year career in the Navy, including service during World War II.

David Russell said George Russell was a real rocket scientist, having served under rocketry pioneer Robert Goddard.

George Russell’s son, former Jackson County Prosecutor Andy Russell, said his father made hard decisions without regard to politics, noting his father’s financial plan included a decision to cut positions, which was unpopular with some.

“My dad had a very strong character, and he always told me that you are always selling yourself,” he said.

George Russell’s nickname was “Bullet,” but his son said he never determined how he had received the nickname.

Russell’s funeral will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Langsford Funeral Home in Lee’s Summit. A military graveside service will be at 10 a.m. Monday at the IOOF Cemetery in Charleston.
Former UM System President George Russell Dies

A man who was the longtime chancellor of the University of Missouri campus is Kansas City before serving as the four-campus university system's president has died.

The university announced Wednesday that George Russell was 95 when he died Tuesday at his home in a Kansas City retirement community. The cause of death was not released. The World War II veteran who spent 20 years in the Navy served as Missouri-Kansas City's chancellor from 1977 to 1991, when he was appointed the University of Missouri system's president. He retired in 1996.

Services for Russell will be at 2 Friday afternoon at Langsford Funeral Home in Lee's Summit, Missouri. Military graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Monday in Charleston, Missouri.