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Greek council paves way for alcohol in MU fraternity houses

By Janese Silvey

Starting in August, University of Missouri students of legal age will be allowed to drink alcohol in fraternity houses.

That's a change from the current policy that prohibits liquor in Greek houses, which are not campus property. Supporters said the policy is more realistic and enforceable, but Columbia police foresee headaches.

"Any allowance of alcohol in the Greek houses is probably not going to have a positive impact on the police department," Sgt. Jill Schlude said.

The Interfraternity Council, the student body that governs fraternities, approved the policy last week, said Janna Basler, assistant director of student and Greek life. The change does not affect sororities, which are prohibited from having alcohol by their national association.

Matt Perkins, IFC vice president of risk management, said the change came about because "a lot of people thought it was unfair that 21-year-old people weren't allowed to drink in their own residences."

And the current rules simply aren't being followed, said Eric Woods, president of the Missouri Student Association. "If it were fully enforced, almost every house on campus would have some penalty because no one is following it," he said.

Schlude said officers routinely respond to fraternity parties where students are drinking. She expects to see an increase in those calls when alcohol flows more freely.

"One issue we have on a consistent basis is we get phone calls about medical emergencies with intoxicated persons at fraternity houses, and sometimes we encounter issues with being given access to the house," she said. "This is going to be a challenge for us. I don't see any way you can allow alcohol in the house and reasonably expect only those 21 and over are going to partake in alcohol."

The policy isn't a blanket one. Fraternities will have to get the OK from advisers, alumni representatives and the owner of the property before applying for an alcohol permit. Members will have to undergo risk training and meet certain academic standards. And communal alcohol, such as beer kegs, won't be allowed under rules that are consistent with current chapter rules, Perkins said.

A third party, likely a security company, will be hired to conduct random audits to check identifications and make sure students are obeying rules.

“With the audit system, someone has an eye on it, which isn’t the case right now,” Perkins said.

Last week, the Tribune acquired emails from a University Hospital doctor to Chancellor Brady Deaton expressing concern about the number of excessively drunken students coming to the emergency room. John Yanos cited seven cases, including one in which an underage student had a blood alcohol content of .358, and said he sees similar numbers on a weekly basis.

Columbia police routinely deal with excessively intoxicated students, too, Schlude said. She didn’t have numbers to cite an increase but said “it’s definitely not something we’re seeing a decrease in. An ongoing problem is excessive binge drinking. We confront that on a weekly basis.”

Reach Janese Silvey at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jsilvey@columbiatribune.com.

Possible MU performance funding model still up for discussion

By [Zach Murdock](#)

November 15, 2011 | 4:41 p.m. CST

Schools select four of the following six performance measures to calculate funding. There must be one from each category:

Student Progress

- Freshman to sophomore retention rate
- Full-time undergraduates completing at least 24 hours in their 1st year

Degree Attainment

- 6-year graduation rate
- Total degrees awarded
- Degrees awarded per full-time student

Quality of Learning

- Performance on nationally normed exams (Commons Education, Major Fields, and Professional Licensure)

plus

- An additional measure not listed above is chosen by each institution

The Department of Higher Education makes calculations for each school year using a three-year rolling average.

The DHE includes performance-based funding that has been calculated in the state budget request.

The state budget request goes to the Governor and General Assembly for review and approval.

Source: [Nikki Krawitz](#), UM SYSTEM VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Performance funding is the allocation of state money to schools based on their performance in certain academic areas from one year to the next. A performance-based model is being considered for Missouri's public colleges and universities. This flow chart illustrates how the decision-making process for how performance-based funding would work. | [Rachel Rice](#)

COLUMBIA – MU faculty will have another opportunity to discuss the consequences of a proposed performance-based funding model at Wednesday's fall general faculty meeting.

At a Nov. 3 meeting, the Faculty Council expressed its distaste for the model after a presentation and explanation from Nikki Krawitz, University of Missouri System vice president for finance and administration. She serves on a task force made up of higher education administrators convened to build a performance funding model.

Council members maintained that the current proposal shorts MU's full academic mission.

A performance funding model would allocate state money to public colleges and universities based on their performance in certain academic areas from one year to the next. But council members think the proposed academic areas don't account for MU's focus beyond undergraduate education.

Several council members maintained that the university's focus on graduate education and academic research is too important to be overlooked by a performance-based funding model.

"Just because we don't have a measure for these certain qualities doesn't mean it shouldn't be considered," André Ariew, associate professor of philosophy, said at last week's meeting. "We can't put a quantity on this quality measure, but it's still a really important part of our mission."

Krawitz acknowledged the issue is complex and said many details still need to be worked out before any model could actually be implemented.

"I appreciate the input, but I think as you discuss it, you discover how difficult it is," Krawitz said last week. "Keep the ideas coming because the book's not closed yet."

Krawitz will present the measures again at the general faculty meeting, which starts at 3:30 p.m. in Chamber Auditorium in the MU Student Center, and will take questions and comments from faculty members. The meeting was rescheduled from last month.

The task force will take performance funding measures to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education for approval at the board's December meeting.

MU's RADIL outgrew university setting, faculty say

By Raymond Howze

November 15, 2011 | 5:41 p.m. CST

COLUMBIA -- MU's Research Animal Diagnostic Laboratory, or RADIL, grew so much over the past 10 years, it finally reached its limits at the university, some faculty members said.

"RADIL required something bigger than the University of Missouri could provide, a bigger infrastructure," said Leona Rubin, a professor in veterinary biomedical sciences. "The university is great for startups, but once it is really up and running, it needs to be spun off."

In a deal that took effect Nov. 7, IDEXX Laboratories Inc. of Maine bought RADIL for \$43 million.

"The terms of the deal were outstanding," said Neil Olson, dean of the MU College of Veterinary Medicine, which oversaw RADIL. "There's no borrowed money — it was all wired."

The funds were transferred into a veterinary school account and an undetermined amount will be transferred to MU in the future, Olson said.

RADIL does diagnostics, biomedical research and genetic testing on animals used for research in medical facilities and private institutions.

IDEXX has a similar focus but also does diagnostics such as X-rays, cardiology and heartworm testing on small animals for veterinarians. IDEXX also works to identify and find solutions for diseases in livestock and poultry animals, diagnose and provide digital imaging for horses, and engage in dairy and water testing.

RADIL will be incorporated into these existing IDEXX "strategies," Olson said. IDEXX has a global reach in animal diagnostics and will be able to expand RADIL beyond what would have been possible had it remained with MU.

"In order for it (RADIL) to grow, it needs to spread its wings," Olson said. "It was reaching its upper levels of growth while contained in the university, and it was as valuable to sell it now as it ever would be."

The lab's location will stay the same: 4011 Discovery Drive.

Plans to sell RADIL began two years ago, Olson said. In December 2010, MU announced a Chicago brokerage firm would be responsible for finding a buyer.

"I was hopeful that a company would want to keep the operation in Columbia and keep jobs here and also have the growth strategies in place so that RADIL could grow and be of greater benefit to the Columbia community," Olson said.

Years of controversy

RADIL was founded in 1968. But in the past 10 years, it boomed, and profits poured into the lab, according to a 2006 *Missourian* article. With the increased growth in profits, however, concerns arose from others in the College of Veterinary Medicine, according to a 2005 *Missourian* report.

The conflict centered around incentives for eight RADIL employees who were also faculty members at MU. Fee-for-service activities from RADIL produced significant additions to faculty members' salaries. Several were receiving more in fees than their base salaries.

That incentive compensation, as it is known, created a sense of unfairness among faculty of the veterinary college, according to the 2006 article. RADIL employees were able to do lab work for the government and the private sector and, in turn, received the benefits of this work. However, those types of incentives were not available to the rest of the veterinary faculty and created a sense of exclusivity around the lab.

"Some faculty were given bonuses at figures above their base salary — that was a shock to everyone," said Rubin, who was chairwoman of MU's Faculty Council during part of the RADIL controversy. "That corporate incentive structure was new. I think on some level some got over it, and some didn't."

In 2003, the Faculty Council unanimously recommended that two faculty members associated with RADIL, Lela Riley and John Critser, step down or give up their incentives from the lab. That was in response to an earlier decision by an MU conflict-of-interest committee to allow Riley and Critser to keep their incentives.

However, a faculty forum including Riley, Critser, then-MU provost Brady Deaton and former College of Veterinary Medicine Dean Joe Kornegay defended the incentive program and allowed the employees to keep their incentives, according to a 2003 *Missourian* report.

Two years later, in 2005, all but two of the eight faculty members had incentives exceeding \$100,000. In 2006, contracts were renegotiated to move more profits away from the faculty and into the veterinary college. Then, in 2009, Riley stepped down as lab director amid conflict-of-interest issues.

Riley referred questions to IDEXX. Critser died in March. Incentives with RADIL haven't been a problem during recent years, Olson said, and related concerns appear to have died down.

"It reached its zenith about five years ago," he said.

Moving forward

On Nov. 7, RADIL's 43 staff members and six of the eight faculty members became employees of IDEXX Laboratories. The other two of those eight will stay with the university.

The veterinary school will work to replace three of the six faculty members — Olson said he hopes it will be during the next year. The two faculty members who chose to stay with MU will continue to teach and work on research grants, he said.

"The two that chose to stay desired to maintain their academic and teaching career and didn't want to be a part of a private enterprise," Olson said. "Professors enjoy a huge amount of academic freedom — when you go and work with a private entity, I think you give up some of that freedom. There's pluses and minuses for each route."

RADIL is owned by a billion-dollar private enterprise now and will be separate from the veterinary school, Olson said. Any possible relationships between the university and what is now called IDEXX-RADIL will be determined on a case-by-case basis. There is currently no formal relationship between the two, but room for possible future collaboration exists.

"We have the opportunity now not only to collaborate with RADIL but also with IDEXX," Rubin said. "It's going to expand our interactions with corporations — we didn't lose RADIL, we gained IDEXX."

Experience bonds Mizzou, Arkansas

By **BLAIR KERKHOFF**

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. | Brenson Bishop wasn't there to see it, but the lifelong Arkansas fan has heard the tales from family and friends about the scene of the first Southeastern Conference home game for the Razorbacks.

The opponent was Alabama, with the ferocious defense that would carry the program to the national championship in 1992, and the Crimson Tide made its presence known long before the game. Billboards promoting Tide pep rallies were purchased by Alabama fan clubs along Interstate 40 from Memphis to the game's site in Little Rock. Tailgaters arrived early to assume spots usually held by the Razorbacks.

"They came in a solid stream of cars, trucks, buses and trailers decked out in Alabama garb," Bishop said. "People said it looked like the invading red army."

Arkansas had played a SEC opponent a week earlier, winning at fellow conference newcomer South Carolina. But this was different. This was the Southeastern Conference in its full glory, the religion, brashness, and, as the 38-11 outcome revealed, the power.

Not every SEC member school plans life around football, but most do. This is the world Missouri is about to embrace, one that presented itself to Arkansas some two decades ago.

"We knew it was going to be tough," said Frank Broyles, the Razorbacks' legendary coach who was the school's athletic director through the transition from the Southwest Conference to the SEC. "But it's been huge for us."

There's more enthusiasm for Missouri's SEC future at Arkansas than any other school.

Much has been made of Missouri's distance to other Southeastern Conference cities, and Arkansas can relate. The Razorbacks have been the SEC's distant western border. Starting next year, Missouri and Arkansas will be the closest SEC campuses to each other.

"We have a great feeling for Missouri," Arkansas athletic director Jeff Long said. "I believe we can have rivalries against each other in a lot of sports."

But maybe not football right away, with the Tigers assigned to the East Division and Arkansas competing in the West.

SEC commissioner Mike Slive said at the Mizzou invitation ceremony recently in Columbia that the SEC isn't planning on switching from its eight-game league schedule. That means with seven-team divisions, six games will be played against division opponents, one against a permanent crossover foe and one against another from across the division on a rotating basis.

Arkansas' permanent crossover opponent is South Carolina. The SEC continues to work on schedules for football and other sports, but decisions must be reached soon for planning purposes.

Long would like for it to be Missouri, and eventually have the Tigers in the West Division.

"I hope that we can get there," Long said. "I've expressed to (Slive) that we would love to have a regular presence with Missouri. It only makes sense.

"I think it's in the best interest of the student-athlete. And it's best for the fan base."

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About the fan base.

Missouri has heard plenty about the football world it will enter and the contrasts it must confront. Big 12 teams are built to score in bunches, SEC programs are power running, defensive-minded and have won the last five national championships.

But Arkansas learned, from that first home encounter, that the football fans had to raise their game.

"I grew up believing there are no better fans than Razorbacks fans," said Jonathan Mast, an Arkansas fan who lives in Olathe. "I still believe that. But when I started seeing Alabama fans, and Tennessee fans, and Auburn fans, well, there are a lot of great fan bases in this conference."

Missouri? If Saturday was an indication, the Tigers will have to pick up their game. With Texas in Columbia for an 11 a.m. kickoff, the announced attendance was 61,323, about 10,000 fewer than Memorial Stadium's capacity. If the Tigers' average attendance this season was plugged in the SEC, they would rank ninth.

But it's not home games where SEC fans earn their reputation. Saturday, some 5,400 Tennessee fans settled into a corner of Razorback Stadium. Knoxville is 570 miles away, and the Volunteers are 0-5 in conference play.

"In the SEC culture, part of your vacation is following your team," said Bishop, a retired Army colonel who lives in Louisville, Ky. "They're looking for quality restaurants, entertainment and lodging. They want places where it's easy to tailgate, be close to the traffic flow and have security.

"They will bring money."

Arkansas brought a traveling band reputation into the SEC. At old Southwest Conference basketball tournaments, the Razorbacks took over Reunion Arena in Dallas. They traveled in droves to watch NCAA Tournament teams of Eddie Sutton and Nolan Richardson.

But schools don't change conferences based on basketball. When Arkansas arrived in the SEC, it believed its football team would measure up. When the switch was announced in August 1990, the Razorbacks were coming off a second straight Southwest Conference championship and Cotton Bowl appearance.

Instead, Arkansas stumbled in. The Razorbacks lost to The Citadel in their first football game as a SEC member, and as if to assure the conference they understood the importance of striving toward football excellence, they fired the coach the next day.

To some, the slow start left some to wonder if Arkansas had done the right thing. E. Lynn Harris, author of *Basketball Jones* and several books, was a former Arkansas cheerleader. Before he died in 2009, Harris shared his insecure feelings about the switch in ESPN's *Southeastern Conference Football Encyclopedia*.

"Razorback fans felt a little like foster children in a blended family," Harris wrote. "We might be cute, but it was as if we needed better braces or better clothes in order to fit in alongside the beautiful conference programs such as Alabama and Florida."

Others — this should sound familiar to Missouri — questioned the culture fit. University of Arkansas sociology professor Gordon D. Morgan believed his school had more in common with Texas schools than the deep South.

"My argument all along was that Arkansas is a schizophrenic state, without an identity that's distinctive," Morgan said. "It's a little Midwest, a little Southwest, a little West. But I didn't think of it as old South."

Missouri, a state with many personalities, can relate.

"I they they're similar in that way," Morgan said. "But the best thing about Missouri is that academically it rates well. That's important."

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Arkansas wasn't miserable in the Southwest Conference, and Missouri isn't leaving the Big 12 angry.

In both cases, the schools reacted to changes in the college sports landscape. The Tigers' confidence in the Big 12's future was shaken by the departures of Nebraska, Colorado and Texas A&M over the past 1 1/2 years and in September, when it appeared Oklahoma favored a move to the Pac-12. Missouri was soon in contact with the SEC.

College sports conferences were rapidly changing a quarter-century ago in the wake of the 1984 Supreme Court decision that gave the schools and conferences power to negotiate their own network television deals.

Penn State made the first move, announcing it was leaving its independent status to join the Big Ten. The SEC was next, but before Arkansas and South Carolina were added, Broyles wanted to know where the Razorbacks stood in a future where Southwest Conference and Big Eight schools started whispering about a joint venture and perhaps a thinning of the herd.

“I had been assured by leaders in the old Southwest Conference that if there was going to be a move, Arkansas would not have been included in what would become the Big 12,” Broyles said. “In my judgment, if the SEC had not welcomed us we would have been a lone independent playing a weak schedule in front of 25,000 people. I anticipated that we would be left out.”

That’s how Broyles found himself playing golf in Birmingham, Ala., with SEC commissioner Roy Kramer in the summer of 1990. Broyles, 87, said he has trouble recalling specifics about games and events. But he remembers that golf date like it was yesterday.

“Our board of regents and president had given me the authority to inform the SEC that we would accept an invitation on the spot,” Broyles said. “We wouldn’t have to come back and get a vote. I told them I had an agreement from our administration and board, the minute you make an offer to us, we’ll accept at that moment.”

The Razorbacks did just that, then spent two more uncomfortable football seasons in the Southwest Conference. Texas athletic directors thought about booting Arkansas from the league for the 1991 football schedule but realized that would create holes on the schedule. So the awkward season ensued, and the league that would soon fold took great joy when Baylor beat the Razorbacks 9-5 in a key contest.

“We don’t want them playing in our Cotton Bowl,” a Baylor player declared after the game.

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Arkansas likes to remind people that it was the first team other than Florida and Alabama to play in the SEC championship game. That happened in 1995, the fourth title game and the first time the Crimson Tide didn’t win the West Division. It would take a few more years before Arkansas became a bowl regular, but it still hasn’t won the SEC football championship.

The Razorbacks compete nationally in most of their 19 sports. Their facilities are some of the nation’s best, and the school is poised to invest \$320 million in new and upgraded facilities, which includes a new football headquarters designed by Kansas City’s Populous.

The Missouri-Arkansas bond will grow stronger, and the Razorbacks believe they’ll stand to benefit from the addition of the Tigers and Texas A&M as much as anybody.

“It’s going to help us recruit better.” Long said. “Some of our programs haven’t been able to recruit effectively in Missouri and Texas. This will help us.”

Missouri, said former Tigers and current Arkansas basketball coach Mike Anderson, “will be just fine. They’ll be very competitive, no doubt about it.”

Broyles, who was Missouri’s football coach in 1957, after Don Faurot and before Dan Devine, is convinced the Tigers will be in a better place.

“They have the potential to be as competitive as any team we could have added.” Broyles said. “It’s going to be exciting for them.”

As for the fans, they’re in for an adjustment.

“It will be strange for them for a while,” Mast said. “The fan base has hated Kansas for 100 years, and they’ll wonder who they should be hating on now.”

Put them on the schedule, and it might be the Razorbacks.

SEC policy restricts football fans from leaving, re-entering games

By Vinnie Duber

November 15, 2011 | 7:18 p.m. CST

COLUMBIA — At halftime of any Missouri football game, the Memorial Stadium parking lot is full. We're not talking about a car in every space. It's full of people, fans who ducked out of the stadium during the break between the second and third quarters.

The scene resembles the sea of people that can be found in the parking lot before the game starts. It's full of fans who are picking up where they left off — grabbing a bite to eat, drinking a few more beers or tossing the football around — before their tailgate was interrupted by a college football game.

This practice, as popular as it is, looks to be coming to an end.

Among the changes coming with Missouri's move to the Southeastern Conference is a conference-wide football policy that restricts fans from leaving and re-entering the game. It would change Missouri's current policy that permits the practice at Memorial Stadium.

According to an email from SEC spokesman Charles Bloom, the SEC policy on stadium re-entry states, "Once admitted to the stadium, no ticket holder shall be permitted to leave and re-enter the facility on that ticket. In the event of inclement weather, home team game management shall have the authority to waive this policy."

The policy was put in place in 2001, according to Bloom, after Arkansas and South Carolina joined the conference in 1991. No school has become a member since then, but that will change when Missouri and Texas A&M officially become members July 1.

Missouri spokesman Chad Moller said via email that the MU Athletics Department is "aware of the policy," but that it hasn't been discussed yet.

Especially for fans whose tailgates are near the stadium exits, heading out at halftime has become a routine. Some fans said they are looking to eat some of their own food rather than spend money on food inside the stadium, and others go outside to talk on their cellphones.

Another group of fans have to head outside the stadium walls in order to smoke. Many of the fans outside during halftime of Missouri's 17-5 win over Texas on Saturday were smoking, something that is prohibited inside Memorial Stadium.

The Missouri re-entry policy currently reads, "To re-enter the stadium, fans must have their ticket scanned out when they exit the stadium. ... A valid ticket scan is required for re-admission."

Most SEC schools alert fans of the policy on their websites, instructing fans to bring everything they need with them into the stadium and what to do in case of medical or weather emergencies.

What would need to happen for this policy to change?

"In order for this policy not to be in effect for SEC contests, the athletics directors must vote to overturn it," Bloom said via email. He said that to his knowledge there haven't been any discussions to strike down the policy.

Todd McCubbin, executive director of the Mizzou Alumni Association, said he has only heard from a couple of alumni regarding the issue. He said the way other schools' fans have handled the policy bodes well for Missouri fans.

"I can see where it will be an adjustment," McCubbin said via email, "but the SEC schools have large fan bases, and it isn't an issue for them."

Saturday, several fans said they thought the change would affect many others, but said that they won't be too upset by it personally.

For one fan, the policy change would be a small price to pay for seeing his school join a new conference.

"I think it will throw some people off," MU senior Ian Miller said, "but mostly people are happy to be in the SEC."

Student group sides with Regency residents

By Janese Silvey

A group of University of Missouri students is urging the Columbia City Council to deny a request that would allow developers to build a new student housing complex on the site of a mobile home park.

The council Monday will consider a rezoning request for the property now housing Regency Mobile Home Park off Nifong Boulevard and Ponderosa Street, which would make way for a 936-bedroom student complex. Mobile home park residents were notified late last month that they have to leave the premises by Feb. 29.

"We want to show the city council that as students we do not want the residents of Regency Mobile Home Park evicted in our names," senior Jack Buthod said while collecting signatures yesterday in Speaker's Circle on campus. "There are plenty of houses to go around without kicking people out in the middle of winter."

Buthod is a member of the MU chapter of Grass Roots Organizing, which collected roughly 300 signatures one day last week and was on track to get as many yesterday. The group plans to submit the petition Friday to MU Chancellor Brady Deaton and city officials.

Regency Mobile Home Park is owned by Regency of Missouri, a subsidiary of George Gradow's Churchill Group out of Colorado. If the rezoning request is approved, Gradow plans to sell the property to Texas-based developer Aspen Heights.

GRO members say they feel as though the developers are exploiting the student population.

"We don't need to turn Columbia residents against each other for two corporations that aren't even part of our community," Buthod said.

Aspen Heights had planned to give residents 180 days to leave and a \$1,200 moving allowance before Gradow last month sent the eviction notices that give them a 120-day moving period. Aspen Heights stands by that offer, said Charlie Vatterott, Aspen Heights' executive vice president of development. But Aspen Heights' purchase of the property is contingent on the rezoning ordinance, he said.

"A vote in favor of the ordinance is a vote in favor of the tenants," Vatterott said. "Because otherwise the seller is going to kick them out at the end of February with no money."

Vatterott will host an informational meeting for residents at 6 p.m. today at the mobile home park. He plans to ask residents to vote for an informal petition supporting the rezoning, which he would then present to the city council.

Tribune reporter Jacob Barker contributed to this story.

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