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The★Star
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Mizzou goes to Smithsonian folk festival in DC

COLUMBIA -- Summer visitors to the National Mall in Washington could see a slice of the University of Missouri along with the usual attractions at the Smithsonian Institution.

The university is among two dozen public land-grant schools that will help celebrate a key moment in U.S. higher education at the annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival on the Mall.

This year's festival will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act. The 1862 law set aside federal land for public higher education at large state schools such as Missouri.

The university will have an exhibit on Missouri history and culture, along with historic re-enactors portraying early settlers in Ste. Genevieve. It's the first such appearance for the university at the popular summer festival, which starts in late June.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH



Missouri fan on team plane in federal drug probe

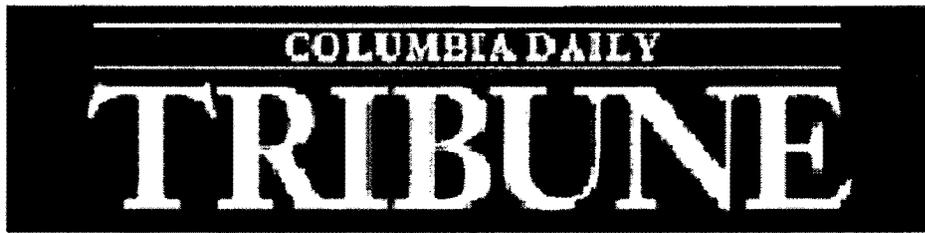
Associated Press | Posted: Monday, June 11, 2012 9:48 am | [\(0\) comments.](#)

A University of Missouri men's basketball fan who regularly traveled with the team to NCAA Tournament games is among 10 Columbia residents facing federal drug conspiracy charges.

The Columbia Daily Tribune (bit.ly/KtI9se) reports that Levi Coolley was on the team plane on four Tiger tournament trips from 2009 to 2011. Coolley also joined a team flight from Austin, Texas, in January and received complimentary tickets from Missouri players at nine games over two seasons.

In March, FBI agents arrested Coolley on felony cocaine distribution charges at the Missouri team hotel in Omaha, Neb., before their most recent NCAA appearance.

Missouri athletic officials told the Tribune that an internal review found no improper influence by Coolley, a car stereo shop owner who accompanied a prominent Missouri donor on the team flights.



Open Column

Press closure speaks volumes about MU

Editor, the Tribune: I'm dismayed by the shortsightedness of the decision to close the University of Missouri Press and by the values it exposes in the administration of the university.

Having read an excellent book by Ned Stuckey-French, "The American Essay in the American Century," in recent months and being in the middle of Lisa Knopp's marvelous "What the River Carries," my respect and admiration for the University of Missouri Press has grown considerably in the past year. If the work being published were not so outstanding, it might possibly be less upsetting, but a university that doesn't value astute thinking and literary craft and surrenders the chance to promulgate them is simply contributing — eagerly, in this case, it would seem — to the continued decline of the culture.

If the university will not stand up for literature and scholarship, what can we assume it values in regard to literacy, intellectual development and learning? I urge reconsideration of this decision and realignment of the priorities being established for the university system.

Robert Root
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LETTER: University of Missouri Press closing is betrayal

By Dan Jaffe, professor emeritus, UM-Kansas City

June 11, 2012 | 7:06 p.m. CDT

When my son Mike called me yesterday morning **about the University of Missouri-Columbia's decision to close down the University of Missouri Press in July, he sounded betrayed.** An MU graduate, a student of history and the arts, he understands what such a closing means. In many ways it sells out the fundamental principles of university and of learning itself.

The last time I remember Mike sounding this way was when MU left the Big Eight Conference. That was another kind of betrayal — of fans and students — and of a different kind of tradition. Of course, that was a money deal much larger than the press deficit. No matter the differences, it's apparent that this new business leadership, found so often in the administrative circles of institutions of higher learning these days, has a different set of values than used to be the case. Too many of these guys will not respond to the notion of keeping the faith, to protecting educational values or to other human considerations.

It seems only money matters to them, balancing the budget in the easiest way, without regard to intellectual importance or loss. Betrayal has become almost commonplace. It's important to examine how widespread it has become.

The closing of the University of Missouri Press betrays the notion of reason. It recommends that football matters more to the life of a university than the production of learning. It betrays the faculty of the university by denying the value of its intellectual contributions and closing down the dissemination of years of work. What follows, inevitably, is the betrayal of the future by denying those to come the learning and understanding that is the product of a university press. How, one might ask, will the university that dumps a press with a distinguished history be viewed by academics elsewhere? Will they think of it as a place to do research? Will they recommend it to their students? Will current students feel betrayed, enough to head elsewhere for graduate work?

Unfortunately, such a list of questions and betrayals can go on almost indefinitely. The decision of the moment changes our understanding of the past and the possibilities of the future.

This new university is ready to discard the great traditions that have emerged over centuries and resulted in an enduring body of knowledge and systematic support of the arts and sciences. By so doing, it relinquishes its power and stature. It does not lead but follows the new models of monetary capitalism, hardly the basis for intellectual inquiry. Such are the results of the failure to make distinctions. Living in the mindless moment leads few anywhere, certainly not to the wisdom of the past or to the understanding of the future.

I have been connected to the university for almost 51 years, as a faculty member and as an active retiree. My present feelings of sorrow and anger derive from my disappointment at the current drift of the university away from a serious devotion to creating and spreading knowledge. Is it hyperbole to react this way when, at the end of spring, we learn that the University of Missouri Press will disappear in early summer? What kind of shifty game is this? If I feel sorrow and anger, what do the members of the press feel? Shall I use the word “betrayed” again? What about those who depend on scholars — those artists and researchers who know that we are all connected in deeper ways — beyond accounting and dollar manipulation within a bureaucratic shell? The university is not meant to be a popular creator of short-term income.

This is a good time for us to re-evaluate university purposes. If not, we may soon witness threats to other profoundly important intellectual and artistic activities. We cannot say, “Copernicus, thou shall not look at the sun. It’s too expensive.” Nor can we insist that we must let the planet go and save our balances. We can be practical without poisoning the spring.

Questions? Contact news editor [Laura Johnston](#).

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

LETTER: Proposed alternative to university press fails Missourians

By Bruce Joshua Miller

June 11, 2012 | 2:51 p.m. CDT

The Chronicle of Higher Education and other national publications are now writing about the opposition to this move. And, as Ned Stuckey-French points out, this job-killing move to close the press damages the academic reputation of the university.

While it is indisputable that, as Tom Quirk says, "times are tough," the closure of the press is really not about that. It is a question of how the available money (and the university budget is considerable, just look at the publicly available listing of administrative salaries) is allocated.

As someone who has helped market university press books for over 30 years, I can tell you with authority that if the press is destroyed, nearly all of the books now in the warehouse will be pulped, and many of the manuscripts that would have been published will be thrown into the garbage, never to see the light of day.

That means the cultural heritage of Missouri, its writers, its history and its citizens are also being trashed, and everyone in the state, regardless of education or income level, ought to be concerned.

The proposal that the administration is about to release — some intern-run digital enterprise possibly created in conjunction with the Missouri Review — **will not be the University of Missouri Press since all the employees will be fired.**

This half-baked, still-to-be-worked-out, last minute fudge by an administration under fire should not be confused with the professional, world-renowned, 54-year-old not-for-profit publishing company known as the University of Missouri Press.

Bruce Joshua Miller lives in Chicago. Questions? Contact news editor [Laura Johnston](#).

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Bel Marra Health Supports Recent Research Outlining How New Software Utilizing the Tongue can Predict Disease

Bel Marra Health, well known for offering high-quality, specially formulated vitamins and nutritional supplements, supports recent research outlining how new software utilizing the tongue can that predict disease.

The researchers at the University of Missouri have recently developed computer software that provides health tips to people by analyzing images of their tongues in order to identify hot or cold zheng.

According to Dong Xu, chair of MU's computer science department in the College of Engineering and study co-author, "Knowing your zheng classification can serve as a pre-screening tool and help with preventive medicine. Our software helps bridge Eastern and Western medicine, since an imbalance in zheng could serve as a warning to go see a doctor. Within a year, our ultimate goal is to create an application for smartphones that will allow anyone to take a photo of their tongue and learn the status of their zheng."

The software works as a preventative health tool and generates health tips by taking into account the color of the tongue and the tongues coating. Yellow or red shaded tongues are a sign of too much hot zheng, while a white coating on the tongue is a classic sign of too much cold zheng. It is important to note that hot zheng and cold zheng do not refer to body temperatures; instead they refer to a number of symptoms associated with the health of the body as a whole, says Xu, who is on the faculty of the Bond Life Sciences Center.

In order to generate this software the scientists analyzed the tongues of 263 gastritis patients and 48 healthy volunteers. The gastritis patients had previously been classified as either predominantly cold zheng or hot zheng and the scientists used the previous classification in order to assure the accuracy of the new automated software. "As we continue to work on the software we hope to improve its ability," study co-author Ye Duan said. "Eventually everyone will be able to use this tool at home using webcams or smartphone applications. That will allow them to monitor their zheng and get an early warning about possible ailments."



CEO of Bel Marra Health Jim Chiang says, “we know the medical community is always on the cutting edge when it comes to new developments, but the fact this could mean such big things in the way of preventative medicine is so exciting.”

The Miami Herald

The★Star

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Senate race in Missouri suddenly heats up

By David Goldstein

McClatchy Newspapers

Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill is confronting strong headwinds in her bid for a second term, and it's made Missouri one of the most watched states on the political map.

But the battle inside the Republican Party over who will face her in the fall has flown largely under the radar.

Indeed, as GOP primaries go, it had been rather sedate. Except for the occasional attack over who's the "career politician," or one of the candidates hoping to "punch Claire McCaskill out," there have been few fireworks.

At least until last week, when a campaign ad from John Brunner -- one of the three leading contenders for the Republican nomination and a former St. Louis businessman -- aired a tough televised ad attacking his rivals. It accused Sarah Steelman, a former state treasurer and state senator, and U.S. Rep. Todd Akin of casting votes that sent Missouri and the country into debt.

It's a potentially powerful charge in a campaign where the economy is the No. 1 issue, and cutting spending is a driving force in conservative Republican politics and the tea party movement. All three candidates are appealing for tea party support.

But more than anything, the Brunner ad introduced a long-awaited jolt to an otherwise somnambulant GOP campaign.

"It's finally injected some energy," said Peverill Squire, a professor of political science at the University of Missouri. "You've got three candidates fighting over the same group of voters, and no one has a strong claim on any of them. They're going to have to work hard to distinguish themselves. We may start seeing the campaign get considerably nastier."

Election watchers have predicted that the intensity would increase once the race got inside the two-month window of the Aug. 7 Missouri primary. Until now, the campaign has been pretty much all about McCaskill, and for good reason.

She's an embattled incumbent in a year when voters are disgusted with the capital's inability to solve problems and the Washington "outsider" label resonates. She's also a close and prominent ally of President Barack Obama, and outside groups are spending millions of dollars to defeat both of them.

Also hanging in the balance is whether Democrats can hold on to their majority in the Senate.

The National Journal calls the race a "coin toss." But against what even some Republicans have acknowledged is a weak field, McCaskill can't shake the "endangered" label. Though a recent Democratic poll gave her single-digit leads over all three GOP hopefuls, her support was below 50 percent.

"They are all competitive," said Jennifer Duffy, a Senate analyst for the nonpartisan Cook Political Report. "Her task is not unlike Obama's, which is to make whoever the nominee is a lot less acceptable."

Whether that turns out to be Steelman, Akin or Brunner, the GOP standard-bearer is likely to face a fierce advertising assault from the Democrats almost immediately.

In the meantime, they're nearly in a three-way tie, with Brunner having gained the most ground since January, according to a survey by Public Policy Polling, a Democratic-leaning survey company.

Eight Senate candidates in all will appear on the Republican primary ballot. The others are: Jerry Beck, Mark Memoly, Mark Patrick Lodes, Robert Poole and Hector Maldonado.

A wealthy first-time office seeker, Brunner has been the only one of the three leading contenders to broadcast ads so far. The others probably are saving their money for the final push. He's attacked both McCaskill and Obama and run positive spots to introduce himself to voters.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Former Post-Dispatch editor to lead media group relocating to Mizzou's campus

BY MARLON A. WALKER • mwalker@post-dispatch.com > 314-340-8104 | Posted: Monday, June 11, 2012 11:55 am | [\(7\) comments.](#)



Post-Dispatch editor Arnie Robbins. Photo by Erik M. Lunsford, elunsford@post-dispatch.com

ST. LOUIS • Former St. Louis Post-Dispatch Editor Arnie Robbins has been chosen as the new executive director for the American Society of News Editors.

The move comes as the longtime organization for newsroom managers relocates its operations to the Donald W. Reynolds Journalism Institute on the University of Missouri's Columbia campus.

He succeeds Richard Karpel, who chose to remain in the Washington, D.C., area, and was recently named president and CEO of the Yoga Alliance, the Arlington, Va.-based organization that represents and certifies yoga instructors and yoga schools in the U.S.

Robbins, 59, spent 15 years at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, including more than six years as editor before stepping down last month. He begins with ASNE on July 9 and will commute between St. Louis and Columbia.

"We are overjoyed to have such a distinguished news executive and champion of innovation join ASNE at this pivotal moment in our history," said ASNE President Susan Goldberg, also the executive editor of Bloomberg News. "Arnie is an experienced and gifted leader, administrator and journalist who can help us build partnerships as we reinvigorate this important organization."

Robbins said he is excited to be part of the transition for the group as it partners with the University of Missouri.

"This is about two great organizations partnering at a perfect time, building something bigger and better than either could do alone," Robbins said. "There's a lot more innovation occurring in news organizations around the country than we give ourselves credit for. I really believe that this partnership can help boost that innovation even more by providing leadership, creativity and tools for the news industry, journalists, educators and students."

Besides the Post-Dispatch, Robbins has worked at the Minneapolis Star Tribune, the Chicago Sun-Times and the Suburban Trib, a regional insert of the Chicago Tribune. He is a graduate of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.