

MU student dies after two-car collision in Wisconsin

By MISSOURIAN STAFF

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COLUMBIA — **An MU student died Saturday** morning following a two-car collision Monday afternoon near Minocqua, Wis.

The Peoria Journal Star reported that Timothy "Kelly" Needham, 21, died after spending nearly a week in a hospital in Wausau, Wis.

Needham of Peoria, Ill., was riding in a car driven by John Pearl, 21, when it collided with a flatbed truck at about 2:40 p.m. Monday near Minocqua, a popular vacation destination in northern Wisconsin. The truck's driver, Robert Lemmer, 50, of Hazelhurst, Wis., was pronounced dead at the scene, according to a news release from the Minocqua Police Department.

Needham was airlifted from the scene to Aspirus Wausau Hospital, about an hour south of Minocqua, where he had been listed in critical condition, according to the Peoria Journal Star. Pearl, also of Peoria, was taken to a nearby hospital, where he was treated for his injuries and released.

Needham was a senior at MU majoring in business administration, according to the MU student directory. He also worked at the MU Student Recreation Complex and was a member of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity, according to his Facebook page.

The Missourian will continue to update this article as more information becomes available.



Group plans event to honor UM Press

Saturday, August 18, 2012

A group of authors, editors and others in the scholarly book business will host a celebration of the University of Missouri Press next week.

The event is scheduled for 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday at Jesse Wrench Auditorium in Memorial Union South on the University of Missouri campus. It's organized by the Coalition to Save the University of Missouri Press, a group that formed in opposition to plans to shut down the current UM Press.

Organizer Lois Huneycutt said the event will begin with recognition of the 10 Press employees who have been or are expected to be laid off. After a few readings from UM Press books, author William Least Heat-Moon is expected to talk about the press. The event will wrap up with a question-and-answer session and discussion.



Hugh E. Stephenson

By Henry J. Waters III

Saturday, August 18, 2012

I return to town after a few days to discover my old friend Hugh Stephenson Jr. lost his fight with Parkinson's on July 26.

His extensive obituary in the July 29 paper outlined but a few of his astonishing career accomplishments. I knew many, but hardly all, of his national and international innovations in medicine. He was instrumental in founding and developing the University of Missouri School of Medicine. He was a giant in his field.

My own close encounter with Stephenson's greatness came in 1956, when he was selected as one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men of America by the U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce, a truly prestigious national award given for extraordinary accomplishment by men between 18 and 40.

Hugh and I were members of the local Jaycees. He was 35, and I was 26. Our club was agog over Stephenson's honor. I became chairman of the local committee staging a community recognition ceremony and went with him to Dallas, where co-recipients were the likes of Thomas Dooley, the subject of a popular song for his work in Africa, and Bob Richards, the pole-vaulting preacher, along with innovators and leaders in many other fields.

I was overwhelmed by the array of talent in the TOYM Class of '56, and the clearest recollection of all is the way Hugh Stephenson stood out among these greats, not only for his accomplishments but for his inherently elegant demeanor, a characteristic known to all who knew him.

Hugh Stephenson was not done at age 35. His enormous lifetime contributions in the field of medicine and beyond enrich us all.

HJW III

Master your antipathies. We often allow ourselves to form dislikes of people, even before we know anything about them. At times this innate yet vulgar aversion attaches itself to eminent people. Good sense masters this feeling, for there is nothing more discreditable than to dislike those better than ourselves. As sympathy with great people ennobles us, so dislike of them degrades us.

— BALTHASAR GRACIAN, 17TH CENTURY JESUIT

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Mizzou's about to discover the high cost of SEC travel

BY STU DURANDO • sdurando@post-dispatch.com > 314-340-8232



University of Missouri athletics director Mike Alden, on the sidelines at the Mizzou-Miami (Ohio) football game. (Chris Lee / clee@post-dispatch.com)

COLUMBIA, MO. • During its tenure as a member of the Big 12's North Division, Missouri was conveniently situated near most of its competition and buses were a common mode of transportation for its teams.

The athletic department's rule of thumb was that if an Olympic sport team could make a trip in seven hours by driving, it did so. Moving to the Southeastern Conference and being placed in the East Division will alter the plan and the travel budget considerably.

The athletic department expects to see a minimum \$750,000 increase for travel the first year in the league, boosting what was already a \$4 to \$4.5 million annual expense.

"We're still evaluating and the feeling is that it's a little higher," said Tim Hickman, Mizzou's senior associate athletics director overseeing the transition to the SEC. "I think it will be at least that. It's a moving target."

Trips to places like Iowa State, Kansas and Kansas State will be replaced by journeys to Florida, South Carolina and Georgia, among others, forcing an increase in air travel for many sports.

As one of the major expenses in doing business in college athletics, Mizzou took a hard look at the landscape long before the paperwork for the move was signed.

"We absolutely looked at that as we were evaluating the move and identified that early as one of the key differences," Hickman said. "We wanted to make sure we could have options that didn't adversely affect the student-athletes. Sometimes you have to spend money to make money."

The Big 12 had its share of longer trips with four schools in Texas, but SEC locales are even more far flung.

The average roundtrip flight to the nine cities in the Big 12 last year was 850 miles. That will increase to 1,020 miles in the SEC. And with only one roundtrip shorter than 500 air miles, more flights will be a necessity.

Mizzou will maintain its practice of having the football, men's and women's basketball and volleyball teams travel via charter planes. Decisions on how other teams travel will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with commercial air flight the standard option when drives are too long.

Athletics director Mike Alden said it will take two years to get a good handle on what works best as teams become accustomed to traveling to unfamiliar cities.

"This is a great example of needing to go through two cycles," he said at the SEC spring meetings. "We think we can predict the time of how long it will take to get to Gainesville (Florida) and all that stuff, but until you actually do it in all sports for two years, we won't have a good feel for that."

For example, Hickman said getting to Mississippi State could present the biggest logistical problem. Teams might have to fly to Birmingham, Ala., and follow with a two-plus hour bus ride to the campus.

In Missouri's final year of membership, the Big 12 had five cities that were close enough to travel by bus within the seven-hour guideline. When Nebraska was in the conference, there were six. In the SEC, only Arkansas, Kentucky and Vanderbilt fit that scenario. Mississippi is a bit longer.

Hickman doesn't anticipate increases in travel costs other than transportation. He said additional nights in hotels aren't expected but teams can expect to return to Columbia later than usual.

Mizzou will be aided somewhat by Delta's expansion of flights out of the Columbia airport. The airline has flights daily to and from Atlanta and Memphis and will add another Atlanta route on Sept. 5. That's just in time for the SEC opener against Georgia.

Atlanta is a key city in the conference because of its proximity to Georgia and Auburn, which is about a 100-mile drive from the Atlanta airport. Memphis, meanwhile, provides a flight for trips to Ole Miss, which is 68 miles from the airport.

"I think (Delta's expansion) was heavily influenced by the SEC and the timing particularly coming with the Georgia game," Hickman said.

The longest roundtrip in the SEC will be 1,694 miles to Gainesville, and five other cities will require a trip longer than 1,000 miles. That includes Texas A&M, which also is joining the SEC but was given a slot in the West Division.



Missouri Press boosters hold back-to-school rally

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) - A campus group fighting plans to dramatically revamp the University of Missouri Press is holding a public celebration of the academic publishing house as students return to school this week.

The Coalition to Save the University of Missouri Press opposes system President Tim Wolfe's decision to fire the press's 10 employees. Wolfe wants to create a digital-driven alternative overseen by the editor of the the Missouri Review literary journal.

The group will gather at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Memorial Union for a series of readings by press authors and other activities. Classes for the fall semester at the Columbia campus begin Monday.

Another group fighting the planned changes says that nearly 40 authors have asked the university to return their publishing rights.

Hundreds of new MU students volunteer for annual Step Forward Day

By J. Farmer de la Torre

August 18, 2012 | 8:52 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Doughnuts and bagels greeted smiling new MU students who were all bent on serving the Columbia community Saturday morning at the 10th annual Step Forward Day.

The students met at Tiger Plaza. Lauren Wainscott and Kassidy Hannah, both freshmen, were among the approximately 400 students waiting to board idling school buses. These buses would transport them to 11 service sites around Columbia.

The two agreed they couldn't stop themselves from helping others. This is not new for them. In high school, Wainscott volunteered with the Assistance League. Hannah assisted Joplin residents last year with disaster relief after the city was devastated by a powerful tornado in May 2011.

Other MU students found ways to help, too. MU senior Trevor Peters cleaned kennel cages with six freshmen at Columbia Second Chance animal rescue. He volunteered as a Step Forward Day site leader because it allowed him to participate in an event designed to introduce incoming freshmen to the Columbia area by providing service to the community.

The MU Center for Leadership Development began the Step Forward Day as an opportunity for freshmen and new students "to learn about and participate in community service projects," according to the center's website.

Nine organizations at 11 sites received student volunteers including: the Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri, the Boone County Historical Society, the Columbia Public Works Department, Columbia Second Chance animal rescue and five others.

Despite the 8 a.m. start on a Saturday, there was no grumbling among the students.

One group of students assisted the Columbia Public Works Department with cleaning Douglass Park. Freshmen Bryan Oldham and Brian Zhao filled their orange plastic bags with cigarette butts, discarded plastic and other debris.

"I'm from a small town and we never had community service projects, so it's nice to help out in a bigger community," Oldham said.

Columbia resident Courtney Lawhorn watched appreciatively as Oldham, Zhao and a dozen other volunteers fanned out across the park.

"I've been coming to this park for 30 years. I was raised here. I try to clean it up myself, you know, but it's difficult," Lawhorn said. "I just love to see the volunteers come out. It's a good thing, you know, especially for the kids who come and play. It's good that they have some place clean, some place safe."

More than 20 miles away, MU students carried gravel in a wheelbarrow, worked their shovels into the ground and hauled heavy wooden platforms from one field to another at the Columbia Second Chance dog ranch in Jamestown.

Rustic conditions did little to dampen the lively conversation that could be heard wherever the students worked.

"These students are fabulous," said Valerie Chiffin, executive director of Columbia Second Chance, a privately funded animal rescue operation. "In one morning, they're doing a couple of months of work."

Freshmen Megan Hill and McKenzie Ewigman took turns tossing a ball with an airborne hound named Satchmo, who soaked himself in a little plastic pool between rounds.

Ewigman said she expects to volunteer throughout her freshman year. Hill said she found the work rewarding because she knows it will help these dogs be adopted into a new home.

But for the moment, the students and the dogs seemed to simply appreciate each others' company and a pleasant afternoon.

Supervising editor is Ted Hart.



Films might affect teens' sex behaviors

By Janese Silvey

Saturday, August 18, 2012

A University of Missouri study has confirmed that youngsters who watch steamy movies are more likely to be sexually active at a younger age.

"We can't say that watching sexual content in movies is directly responsible for adolescents' sexual behavior," said Ross O'Hara, a post-doctoral fellow. "However, there is a correlation between the two. Sensation seeking, or the tendency to seek more novel and intense sexual stimulation, does seem to increase in young people who watched more movies with sexually explicit content."

O'Hara conducted the research while at Dartmouth College before coming to MU. He and his team recruited 1,228 participants between ages 12 and 14 for the study.

Participants reported which movies they viewed out of randomly selected lists of the top films — previously evaluated for sexual content — from 1998 to 2004. Six years later, participants were surveyed about their sexual behaviors, including how many partners they've had and whether they consistently used condoms.

The results showed that the teens who had watched more sexual content in movies started having sex at earlier ages, had more partners and were less likely to use condoms.

"One important observation from our evaluation of the films was that few showed contraceptive use or safe sexual practices," O'Hara said in a statement.

He thinks that's because safe sex in movies often is portrayed as embarrassing or inconvenient.

The study was published in *Psychological Science*, a journal of the Association for Psychological Science.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Letters to the editor, August 20

If you want it

Regarding Jack Wax's guest commentary "We need to make college affordable again" (Aug. 15): I attended the University of Missouri 45 years ago and didn't consider it affordable then. I took out loans, worked two and three jobs at a time and also held summer jobs. It took me more than four years to graduate and 10 years to pay off my student loans. College was fun and hard work, and it instilled in me a work ethic. I don't see the injustice that Mr. Wax is writing about.

Education is attainable if you want it.

Leslie Bright Wainwright • Chesterfield



MU researcher develops quality beef program

By Janese Silvey

Sunday, August 19, 2012

Consumers are opting to pay more to buy top-quality steaks instead of lower-end beef, and agricultural experts at the University of Missouri want to help area cattlemen take advantage of the trend.

"What we're really focused on is trying to create an avenue for producers to take advantage of premiums available for cattle that are of high quality," said Scott Brown, a research assistant professor in MU's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Brown and David Patterson, an animal science professor, are co-directing a new program called Quality Beef by the Numbers. The idea is to boost the amount of beef being produced in Missouri and neighboring states that will be graded Prime or Choice by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Doing so might require some changes in a herd but could help producers recognize they already have the animals needed to snag the higher prices.

"Most producers today sell calves for an average price," Patterson said in a statement. "Their calves may be of very high quality, but they reap none of the financial rewards that result from their health, reproduction, genetic and management decisions."

Quality Beef by the Numbers will be a fee-based program that gives participating farms access to researchers and market experts who can help them better understand their cattle.

Specifics will be unveiled during an all-day conference on Aug. 30. Experts from Tyson Foods, Sysco Foods, feed companies and USDA will join politicians and university leaders for the event, which starts at 9 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn and Convention Center, 3300 Vandiver Drive. A schedule can be found at www.quality-beef.com.

Although details are being finalized, Brown said the quality beef program will mainly focus on the genetics of a herd, an area MU has seen pay off at its Thompson Farm in northwest Missouri. There, MU manages about 300 head of Angus-influenced cattle, and about 30 percent of the

steers coming from that herd have been graded USDA Prime, he said. That's 10 times the U.S. average of 3.5 percent of cattle.

Brown credited that, in part, to artificial insemination from bulls that tends to make meat marble and have other characteristics. When farmers use semen from those high-quality bulls, over time they're stacking the genetics of the herd, improving not only the male calves that become steers and end up on dinner plates, but also the female calves that grow up to be fertile heifers.

Artificial insemination isn't the only option for farmers, though, and Brown said Quality Beef by the Numbers experts will also help cattlemen using their own bulls understand the genetics of the animal. There are ways to know a bull's genetic capabilities — which affect the marbling of the meat — by characteristics such as how much the bull weighed when he was weaned.

Brown also envisions the beef program helping producers track the genetic capabilities of cows by tracking the history of their steers. That could be important when farmers have to decide which animals to keep when culling a herd.

Brown knows the timing of the program's launch isn't ideal — cattlemen this summer already have culled their herds because of drought conditions. But he said it's a project that was in the works long before the dry summer spell and is a program that will be around for the long run.

"The economic value available for high-quality cattle and the demand for high-quality beef is going to provide some economic value to these producers over what they see today," he said.

"High-end steakhouses are clamoring for more high-quality beef supplies. From the export side, the high-quality side is going to be growing more rapidly. I think there's a chance for producers to participate in what we think is a segment that is going to have the growing value."