

MIZZOU

mizzou.com | Winter 2021

ACCIDENT ON THE GLACIER

Beth Peterson fell in love with glaciers. **Then she fell into one.** Page 14



Are Women Equal?

Looking back a half century to Martha Wright Griffiths and the Equal Rights Amendment 30

Medical Mission

A physician paves the way to med school for people of color. 24

Paul McCartney Is Dead?

A humorist recalls student days as a Beatles-era broadcaster at KCCS in Pershing Hall. 32



FIRST LOOK

NOT ALL IS BRIGHT In this photo by Patrick Fallon, BJ '11, a firefighter stands beside a Christmas tree rescued from a burning home during the Skirball Fire in the Bel-Air neighborhood of Los Angeles on Dec. 6, 2017. Sparked by a cooking fire at a homeless encampment, the fire destroyed more than 400 acres and six homes in the wealthy LA neighborhood, highlighting the dangers of sprawling development and further exposing the city's socioeconomic inequalities. Farther north in Ventura and Santa Barbara, firefighters were working on the Thomas Fire. "This is an ongoing issue now, where multiple fires start and grow in a sort of siege that strains resources across the state," says Fallon, who has been covering wildfires for over a decade. In place of what has been a fire season, "it feels like a yearlong battle now. And the largest fires keep getting larger." In 2018, the National Press Photographers Association gave Fallon its Humanitarian Award for helping a woman escape her burning home in Redondo Beach, California. — Kelsey Allen, BA, BJ '10
More: patrickfallonphoto.com

Same great cards!



A fresh new look!

Celebrate 25 years of support and of making Mizzou stronger by carrying the Cash Rewards credit card from Bank of America!

3% cash back in the category of your choice:
Gas | Online Shopping | Dining | Travel | Drug Stores | Home Improvement & Furnishings

2% cash back at grocery stores and wholesale clubs

1% cash back unlimited on all other purchases

Up to \$2,500 in combined choice category/grocery store/wholesale club quarterly purchases

\$200 cash back bonus after qualifying purchases(s)[†]

To apply for a Tiger credit card, please visit go.bofa.com/Tigers

To apply for the Columns credit card, please visit go.bofa.com/Mizzou

Brought to you by:

BANK OF AMERICA



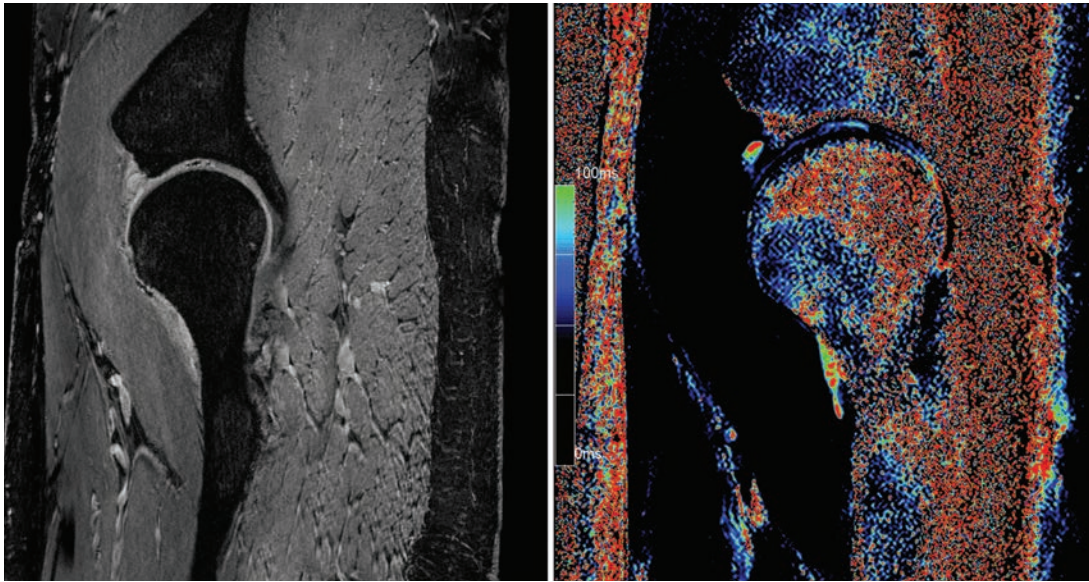
For information about the rates, fees, other costs and benefits associated with the use of this card or to apply, please visit go.bofa.com/Tigers. To apply for the Columns credit card, please visit go.bofa.com/Mizzou. Residents of the US and its territories only. See full disclosure for details.

^{*}**Bonus Cash Rewards Offer.** You will qualify for \$200 bonus cash rewards if you use your new credit card account to make any combination of Purchase transactions totaling at least \$1,000 (exclusive of any fees, returns and adjustments) that post to your account within 90 days of the account open date. Limit 1 bonus cash rewards offer per new account. This one-time promotion is limited to customers opening a new account in response to this offer and will not apply to requests to convert existing accounts. Your account must be open with active charging privileges in order to receive this offer. Other advertised promotional bonus cash rewards offers can vary from this promotion and may not be substituted. Allow 8–12 weeks from qualifying for the bonus cash rewards to post to your rewards balance. The value of this reward may constitute taxable income to you. You may be issued an Internal Revenue Service Form 1099 (or other appropriate form) that reflects the value of such reward. Please consult your tax advisor, as neither we, nor our affiliates, provide tax advice.

[†]**Mobile Banking.** Mobile Banking requires that you download the Mobile Banking app and is only available for select mobile devices. Message and data rates may apply.

By opening and/or using these products from Bank of America, you'll be providing valuable financial support to Mizzou Alumni Association. This credit card program is issued and administered by Bank of America, N.A. Visa and Visa Signature are registered trademarks of Visa International Service Association, and are used by the issuer pursuant to license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. Bank of America and the Bank of America logo are registered trademarks of Bank of America Corporation. Residents of the US and its territories only. See full disclosure for details.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ahead of the Curve



Like many industries, higher education is facing an unprecedented moment. For years, universities — and public universities in particular — have had to adapt to meet the dynamic needs of society. Now, challenges in public health, the economy and society have added pressures to the ongoing decisions we must make. But the University of Missouri is ahead of the curve. Our strategic approach fueled by our pioneering spirit has put us in a strong position to become a university of the future, today.

The foundation of that approach is our statewide NextGen Precision Health initiative. Mizzou is committed to its role as a world-class Association of American Universities research institution that makes breakthrough health care discoveries and innovations to impact lives around the world. Our core missions of teaching, research and engagement are more important than ever. To fulfill these missions and enhance the NextGen initiative, we continue to invest in transformative programs and recruit top researchers.

For example, we recruited Carolyn Anderson, an expert in radiopharmaceutical and nuclear medicine, who will expand her research in theranostics at the University of Missouri Research Reactor, the most powerful university research reactor in the country and the only U.S. supplier of the cancer-fighting radioisotope I-131. We also recruited neurologist Rick Barohn into the role of MU's executive vice chancellor for health affairs and the scientific director of the NextGen initiative.

Building clusters of excellence by aligning

talented researchers with state-of-the-art resources is the crux of our precision health vision. Record-breaking corporate partnerships will enable us to boost our statewide economic impact and bring more discoveries to market sooner. And our NextGen Precision Health building — the largest research facility ever built on Mizzou's campus on track for its grand opening in October 2021 — will give researchers unparalleled access to cutting-edge laboratories and tools. Take the 7-Tesla MRI, for instance. This powerful tool can detect conditions such as early-stage cancer or traumatic brain injury that less advanced technologies miss. That precious time can be the difference between a cure and a treatment. With the work of our people and the resources they'll have, we are taking a significant step toward revolutionizing health care and eliminating health disparities. Our strategy to revolutionize an industry is rooted in Mizzou's history.

During the 20th century, we helped transform Missouri into an agricultural powerhouse. In this new century — and new decade — we are recreating that success in the biomedical industry. With the backing of our alumni and supporters and strong championship from our state, Mizzou will not only advance its core missions, but we will also reaffirm our value as a public, flagship, land-grant, research institution that pursues excellence at every turn.

MUN Y. CHOI, PHD
President, University of Missouri

Editorial and Advertising

Mizzou Alumni Association
123 Reynolds Alumni Center
704 Conley Avenue
Columbia, MO 65211
phone: 573-882-6611
mizzou@missouri.edu
executive editor
Ashley Burden
managing editor
Dale Smith
art director
Blake Dinsdale
class notes editor
Jennifer Manning
editor emerita
Karen Worley
advertising
Scott Dahl: 573-882-2374

Mizzou Alumni Association

123 Reynolds Alumni Center
Columbia, MO 65211
phone: 573-882-6611, fax: 573-882-5145
executive director, publisher
Todd A. McCubbin, M Ed '95

Opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the official position of the University of Missouri or the Mizzou Alumni Association. ©2021

Statements of Purpose

The Mizzou Alumni Association proudly supports the best interests and traditions of Missouri's flagship university and its alumni worldwide. Lifelong relationships are the foundation of our support. These relationships are enhanced through advocacy, communication and volunteerism.

MIZZOU magazine reports credible and engaging news about the University of Missouri community to a global audience.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Robin Wenneker, BS BA '91 · **President-elect** Sabrina McDonnell, MBA '15 · **Immediate Past President** Steve Hays, BS BA '80 · **Treasurer** Jeff Vogel, BS Acc '90 · **Secretary** Todd McCubbin, M Ed '95 · **Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair** Joe Valenciano, BA '95 · **Mizzou Legislative Network Committee Chair** Jeffrey Montgomery, BS Ed '89 · **Directors** Cristin Blunt, BS Ed '02; Pete Ferretti, BA '93; Chuck Kaiser, BA, BJ '93; Derek Kessen, BS BA '05; Leigh Anne Taylor Knight, BS HES '89, BS Ed '90, M Ed '91; Emily Kueker, BS '02; Rusty Martin, BS CIE '84; Mindy Mazur, BA '99; Craig Moeller, BS '93; Ellie Preslar, BS BE '04; Martin Rucker, BS '07; Bill Schoenhard, BS PA '71; Jim Simmons, BS '93, MD '98; Dawn Smith-Popielski, BA '96; Peggy Swaney, BS Ed '71; David Townsend, JD '00 · **Student Representative** Lynn Kreul

MIZZOU magazine

Winter 2021, Volume 109, Number 2
Published triannually by the Mizzou Alumni Association



CASE Bronze Awards

2019: General Interest Magazine
2020: Feature Writing ("Forever Young," Spring 2019), Council for Advancement & Support of Education

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MORE MIZZOU ONLINE



Celebrating the Campaign: The *Mizzou: Our Time to Lead* campaign set a new university philanthropy record. Check out a video of ESPN's John Anderson, BJ '87, as he hosts a campaign celebration at tinyurl.com/OurTimeToLead. Our campaign special section starts on Page 46.

CONTRIBUTORS



Beth Peterson, PhD '14, an assistant professor of writing at Grand Valley State University in Michigan, shares an excerpt from her essay collection *Dispatches from the End of Ice*, a book about disappearing landscapes and people. Page 14.



David LaGesse, BJ '79, a former reporter for *U.S. News & World Report* and the *Dallas Morning News*, has also published in *Money* and *National Geographic*. He covers Randall Prather's groundbreaking swine genetics research. Page 26.



Sara Bondioli, BA, BJ '05, is an editor for *HuffPost* and previously served as assistant managing editor at *Roll Call*. She profiles Black Men in White Coats founder Dale Okorodudu. Page 24.



Margaret Engel, BJ '73, a playwright and former reporter for the *Washington Post*, also co-authored a book that inspired the long-running show *Food Finds*. She introduces us to playwright and teacher Brad Korbesmeyer. Page 80.



About the cover

Beth Peterson dangled from a rope after falling into a crevasse. Her essay ushers readers across (and into) the physical and cultural terrain of Norway's glaciers. Page 14. Photo by Morten Ødegaard/Getty Images

[facebook.com/mizzou](https://www.facebook.com/mizzou)

twitter.com/mizzou

[instagram.com/mizzou](https://www.instagram.com/mizzou)

Departments

1 First Look

Photojournalist Patrick Fallon, BJ '11, documents California's siege of wildfires.

6 Around the Columns

MU sets record retention and graduation rates, the UM System helps expand access to broadband statewide, and the College of Veterinary Medicine Mule Club gets new mascots.



64 Mizzou Alumni News

Meet the 2020 Mizzou Hall of Fame class and get to know a Marching Mizzou-made couple.

65 Class Notes

Alumni dish on their latest anniversaries, jobs, weddings and babies.

75 Alumni Bookshelf

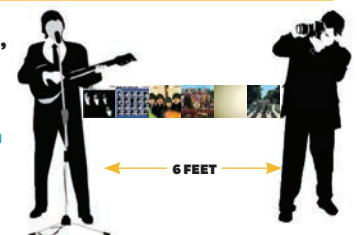
Alumni keep banging out the books. Check out new fiction by William Least Heat-Moon of *Blue Highways* fame.

80 Semper Mizzou

After winning a renowned award for his one-act comedy, Brad Korbesmeyer spent three decades building a top playwriting track for undergraduates.

COME TOGETHER, GET BACK

Photo sessions since social distancing maintain six LPs of distance.



Features



† When rumors of Paul McCartney’s death flared up, Mizzou’s student-run radio station had the story. KCCS, which broadcast only to residence halls, launched more than one media career. Page 32.

14 **Hiking to the End of Ice**
Beth Peterson grew up wanting to be a wilderness guide. But now, instead of leading gaggles of trekkers, her beautifully written essays escort readers through the exotic and fragile landscapes of Norway’s glaciers.
BY CARSON VAUGHAN

16 **The Long Quiet**
How does it feel to tumble into a crevasse, and what goes through a hiker’s mind while dangling from a safety rope, hoping to see the sun again? Find out in this excerpt from *Dispatches from the End of Ice*. BY BETH PETERSON, PHD '14

24 **A Doctor for Diversity**
Mentorship was at the core of Dale Okorodudu’s Mizzou experience. Now he pays it forward on a national scale. BY SARA BONDIOLI, BA, BJ '05

26 **Genomically Speaking**
Randall Prather builds a renowned research center using swine as models in human health studies. BY DAVID LAGESSE, BJ '79

30 **The Rights Stuff**
Fifty years ago, Congresswoman Martha Griffiths introduced an Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution — an amendment meant to guarantee women’s rights.
BY TONY REHAGEN, BA, BJ '01

32 **The Great 58**
During the brief but boisterous life of KCCS, students in a basement radio studio spun the platters that kept dorm-dwellers on top of pop music.
BY AARON MERMELSTEIN, BJ '72

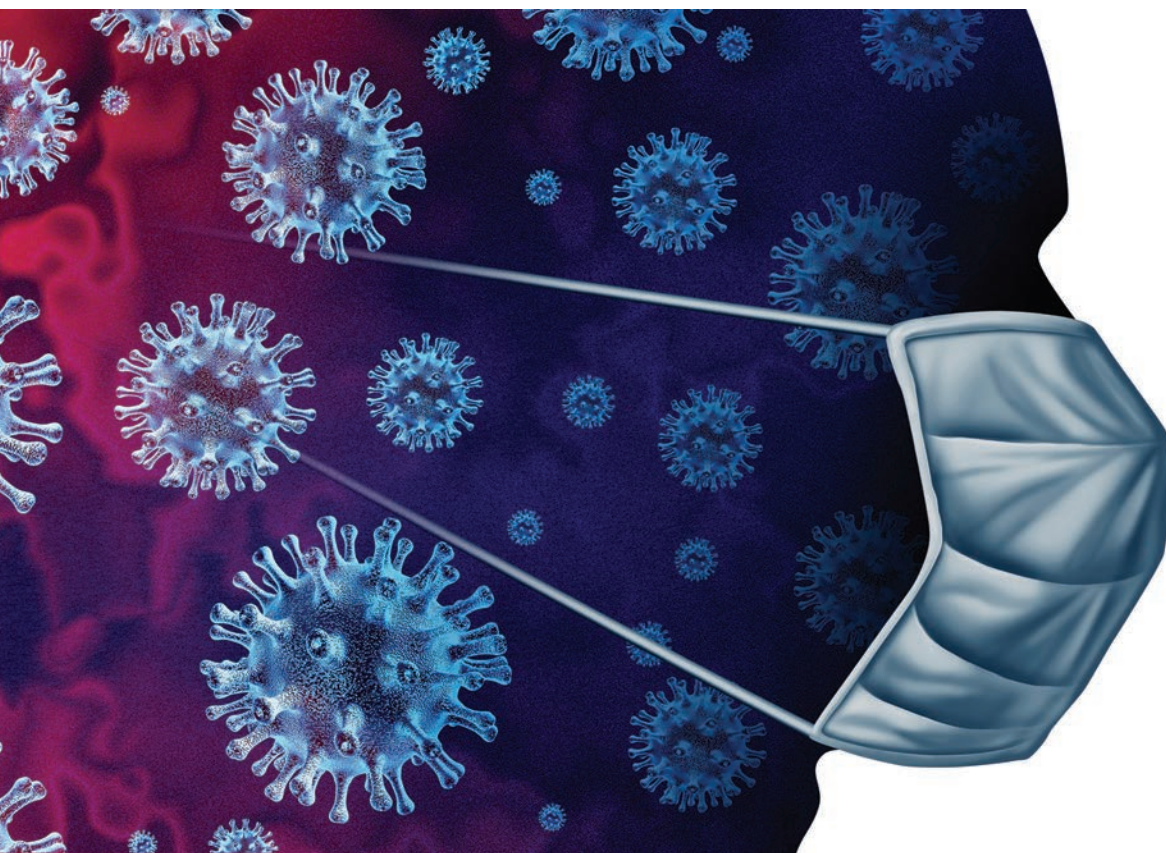
40 **Tall Order**
Can Jeremiah Tilmon’s performance elevate Mizzou’s basketball squad?
BY MARK GODICH, BJ '79

43 **Double Threat**
Back when sports cartoons were common, Murray Olderman reigned.
BY TONY REHAGEN, BA, BJ '01

SPECIAL SECTION

46
Leading the Way
The Mizzou: Our Time to Lead campaign raised over \$1.4 billion. But the measure of success is in the lives changed. These are their stories.

A WHOLE-CAMPUS STUDY OF COVID-19



A multidisciplinary team of Mizzou scientists is collaborating to bring the best of biological and behavioral sciences to bear against COVID-19. The three-part study marshals experts in molecular immunology, epidemiology, sociology, psychology, health informatics and public health.

Every week during fall and early winter, researchers tested a cross-section of about 150 campus community members for coronavirus antibodies. Antibody positivity rates ranged between 2% and 12%.

The second part of the study tracks how long antibodies last in participants who have tested positive for COVID. The results could offer critical information on vaccine development, according to veterinarian John Middleton.

The study's third arm surveys participants about their behaviors and perceptions associated with the virus. Data from surveys and follow-up interviews can help fine-tune MU policy, says public health researcher Enid Schatz, who

directs this part of the work. "The aim is to have evidence about our community, not just based on assumptions from a few very loud voices or well-publicized events," she says. "As a population health specialist, I like bringing together what we know scientifically about the disease with what we know scientifically about human behavior to help us become a healthier community."

Middleton helps facilitate the first two study arms and informs the administration of study outcomes, which helps track virus exposures on campus. Along with Mark McIntosh, vice chancellor for research and economic development, he also helps coordinate a public-private partnership with Siemens Healthineers, which supplies testing kits and helps fund the study. "If we come up with solutions, our great outreach and extension group can then take it to the people," Middleton says. "That's the beauty of a land-grant institution."



GET HEALTHIER LIFTING LESS

Seniors eager to hone their exercise routines should check out a new study by Stephen Sayers, an associate professor of physical therapy. It turns out that the quest to lift ever heavier weights is not necessarily the way to go.

Sayers' pilot study looked at two groups of people age 65 and over who followed prescribed workouts thrice weekly for 12 weeks. One group performed fast-paced exercises using weight machines set at 40% of maximum strength while the other worked more slowly at 80% capacity. In the end, the 40% group showed greater improvements in vascular function and power. Strength gains in both groups were the same.

"After a year, people might gain a little more strength with heavier weight training, but in our short-term study, we're not seeing any differences," Sayers says. He attributes the 40% group's improved vascular function to lighter weights. Heavier resistance raises blood pressure, which increases seniors' already elevated risk for cardiovascular disease.

The faster-paced workouts increased muscle power and taught the seniors to move faster — so much so that they were more adept at catching themselves in a simulated laboratory fall. Sayers says that, for older adults, finding an approach that prevents both falls and vascular disease is like winning the lottery.



READING THE ROOM

Literacy and reading comprehension are hot topics in modern education. Four MU professors — one in psychology and three in education — are looking into different aspects of the problem.

David Geary lives in a sea of numbers. The MU professor of psychology has spent the better part of the past decade sifting through big data, looking specifically at gender differences. He noticed that in the U.S. more women than men go to college. And he wondered if the data would tell us why.

The answer, he found, was partially because men aren't reading as well. Geary's recent study, conducted with Gijsbert Stoet from the University of Essex and published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, looked at international postsecondary enrollment data, reading scores for 15- and 16-year-olds, and social attitudes toward women going to college. The authors found that, although social attitudes are the greatest inhibitor of women enrolling in higher ed, the negative effect of teen boys' reading scores on their postsecondary enrollment was about four times stronger. On average, girls performed about 30 points better than boys on objective reading tests. "We expected reading to be a big predictor," says Geary. "Turns out that even if you're a boy who is good at math and science but isn't good at reading, you still are not going to college. You need good reading skills to pass the ACT or SAT."

When it comes to negative attitudes toward women attending college, Geary believes that the U.S. and much of Northern Europe have moved past the social taboos. Women now constitute 56% of undergraduates in this country. But there is concern among educators that the dearth of males on U.S. campuses might point to a future male workforce ill-prepared for better careers. Geary's findings might offer a clue to bridging that divide by emphasizing reading comprehension for younger male students.

For that answer, educators and policymakers might look to Geary's colleague, **Professor of Special Education Matthew Burns.** He and researcher Kathryn Drummond with the American Institutes for Research recently received a \$4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to evaluate interventions that help students, both male and female, improve reading comprehension.

Burns' study will examine an intervention known as PACT (Promotion of Acceleration of Comprehension Through Text),

which is unique in that it is aimed at eighth graders. "We tend to focus heavily on helping young kids learn how to read," Burns says. "But once they are struggling learners in middle school, we don't work with them enough."

In previous studies, PACT has greatly improved content acquisition and retention, content-specific reading comprehension, and, in some instances, even content recall. This grant will enable Burns and Drummond to train PACT coaches to help implement the program through eighth grade social studies teachers in 150 schools in Massachusetts, Michigan, Washington, D.C., and Missouri. PACT uses broad questions, vocabulary lessons, educational videos and team activities to improve comprehension of American history. The study will test whether the program can be broadly implemented without being taught directly by the developers. "I used to be a practicing school psychologist, and the No. 1 problem, by far, was children's inability to read," Burns says. "Even behavioral problems were at least linked to, if not caused by it. They get frustrated. Some become violent. Once we addressed the reading problem, all of that stopped."

This issue is being tackled locally by a pair of MU education professors. **Amy Lannin, director of the Campus Writing Program,** helms the Missouri Writing Projects Network, which will use a new \$2.7-million, five-year grant to help elementary, middle and high school teachers implement literacy plans. The idea is to help students practice reading and writing every day and prepare themselves for life after school.

Meanwhile, **Angie Zapata, associate professor of education,** is drawing on her experience as the daughter of Peruvian immigrants to support teachers incorporating reading and writing from outside the classroom. The Missouri Language and Literacies Center, which Zapata leads, received a \$2.75-million, five-year grant to partner with K-12 teachers, students and families in using the home as a resource for learning literacy. The aim is not only to help students strengthen their literacy in English but to also broaden the entire classroom's experience by being inclusive of the rich multilingual literacies of all Missouri families. —*Tony Rehagen, BA, BJ '01*

Watch These Three

MU makes new hires highlighting inclusion, diversity and NextGen research.

Years ago, **Maurice Gipson** arrived at Louisiana State University as a college freshman who had finished fourth in his graduating high school class with a high ACT score. But it didn't take the small-town Louisiana native long to realize that his prep transcript wouldn't keep him afloat in the sea of students and systems at this sprawling public university. He felt lost.

Gipson got a student job in the multicultural affairs office, where he found a role model and mentor in a young administrator. But he never forgot the unmoored feeling of being a fresh face on campus. And now that Gipson is an administrator himself — Mizzou's new vice chancellor for inclusion, diversity and equity — he will build networks to ensure all incoming students, especially those from marginalized backgrounds, have a lifeline that will help them thrive.

He lands on a Missouri campus that has seen increases in both Black and Hispanic graduation rates in the past three years, as well as a 32% boost in underrepresented faculty since 2015. Gipson will be charged with continuing that recruiting success while at the same time expanding and developing programs that help all students feel like they belong at Mizzou and have all the tools to graduate.

While Gipson seeks to help the school become more diverse, two other new administrators are coming in as part of the university's unprecedented investment in the NextGen Precision Health, a systemwide initiative to translate research into useful health treatments and devices.

Richard Barohn, a native of suburban St. Louis, returns to his home state as MU's new executive vice chancellor for health affairs. He had spent more than 20 years at the University of Kansas, where he rose to chair of the Department of Neurology and later vice chancellor for research at KU Medical Center. There, he helped expand clinical research and boosted KU's stature as a medical research institution. Barohn brings with him a research program dealing with rare neurological disorders. This includes groundbreaking work in muscular dystrophy and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS. One of his federally funded therapeutic trials will now be based at MU. As a key component of MU's NextGen Precision Health initiative, Barohn will endeavor to make Mizzou an international player in translational research.

One of Barohn's first recruits is **Lemuel Russell Waitman**, who is the new associate dean for informatics in the School of Medicine. In addition to being a professor in the Department of Health Management and an adjunct in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, Waitman will serve as NextGen Precision Health's director of medical information. Waitman made a name for himself by linking electronic medical records for health centers throughout the Midwest, Utah and Texas. Barohn calls Waitman one of the foremost informatics researchers in the country and a prime example of the type of big-splash recruit NextGen is attracting. "This is a transformational hire to the University of Missouri System," Barohn says. — *Tony Rehagen, BA, BJ '01*



↑ Maurice Gipson



↑ Richard Barohn



↑ Lemuel Russell Waitman



MU NOBEL LAUREATE HAS A NEW CALLING

For most scientists, election to the National Academy of Sciences would be the highlight of their career. For George P. Smith, a Curators' Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences at Mizzou, the new honor is more like an encore. Just two years ago, Smith became the first MU professor ever to receive a Nobel Prize, which Smith won in chemistry for his work with phage display and "harnessing the power of evolution." But that's not to say that Smith doesn't appreciate his latest honor — in fact, he sees it as an important call to action.

Election to the academy is not just something a scientist puts on their shelf. Smith says that, unlike the glamorous Nobel, which commemorates a single contribution to global science, election to the academy is more like a summons to serve his country. By reviewing articles, contributing to committees and consulting on government policy, Smith will have a hand in pushing American science into the future. And in terms of recognition, academy membership is more of a nod to an entire career of work than to a singular achievement.

For Smith, that career began at Mizzou in 1975. Fresh off his postdoctoral fellowship, Smith joined the MU Division of Biological Sciences, where he focused his research on genetic diversity. He published more than 50 articles and was given the Promega Biotechnology Award by the American Society of Microbiology. He became a Curators' Distinguished Professor in 2000 and retired in 2015. In 2018, Smith won the Nobel for developing bacteriophage display, which identifies unknown genes for proteins. The breakthrough has been applied to everything from the treatment of cancer and autoimmune diseases to helping locate stress fractures in steel.

Smith is the 11th MU faculty member to join the academy. He is one of 120 members and 26 international members elected to the 2020 class, which becomes part of the body of 2,403 members now active in giving science, engineering and health advice to federal agencies. "It is a daunting challenge to live up to such high expectations," Smith says, "but one I am committed to fulfilling." — *Tony Rehagen, BA, BJ '01*

Self-inflicted Therapy

Cancer cells hide themselves from the body's immune system, which is what enables tumors to grow and spread. But cancer can't hide from itself. So Mizzou researchers have developed a vaccine that uses cancer cells against themselves.

In a study at the MU College of Veterinary Medicine, the immunotherapy has proven so effective against bone cancer in dogs that other researchers will test the approach on brain cancer in humans. Federal regulators fast-tracked the study for patients with incurable brain cancer, says Jeffrey Bryan, a veterinary oncologist who led the team. "They considered it safe because it uses the patient's own cancer cells to make the vaccine."

In the initial study, researchers collected cells from the tumors in 14 dogs to create personalized vaccines that, when injected into the dogs, spurred each to generate antitumor lymphocytes. The veterinarians then collected those cancer-fighting cells, amplified them in number and exposed them to chemicals that prompt a stronger immune response. "We activate them — we make them angry," Bryan says. "We show them molecules that make them ready to kill that thing that they're programmed to kill."

Infused back into the dogs, the treatment on average kept them alive months longer than the year they might have lived with surgery and chemotherapy. Five dogs responded particularly well and lived more than two years, with only one of those then suffering a cancer relapse. "It's exciting that they did better than average," Bryan says, "and with good quality of life."





Broadening Access to Broadband

The information superhighway bypasses large swaths of rural Missouri and skips past entire neighborhoods in underserved urban areas. This leaves 1.2 million Missourians without what has become an essential utility — broadband. Telehealth services, online education and the ability to work from home are all but impossible using slow dial-up internet connections. “The pandemic has made Missouri’s troubling lack of broadband infrastructure more apparent than ever,” says Marshall Stewart, vice chancellor for extension and engagement at MU.

In response, MU and other UM System campuses are working with communities to bring in high-speed internet by linking local leaders with funding sources and academic expertise. In June, the UM System’s Broadband Leadership Team held its first workshop with Bollinger County residents. The group collaborated online to create a pilot plan that communities statewide could adapt to get broadband.

Various governmental offices and internet providers

have an interest in expanding broadband’s reach, and the UM System is helping to lead the effort. “We are able to use the lift of the university to take this to a higher level,” says Stewart, who also serves as UM System chief engagement officer. For starters, the university has put plenty of faculty expertise on the ground. Also, the UM System developed the Missouri Broadband Resource Rail (mobroadband.org), an online aid for communities looking to supply high-speed internet to homes, schools and businesses.

“These days, the stakes surrounding broadband access are as high as they were for rural electrification,” Stewart says. Nearly 90 years ago, the Rural Electrification Administration led an initiative that extended lines to even the most remote homes and farms. “Then — as now — land-grant university faculty and researchers on campuses and in the field worked with local policymakers and partners like the rural electric cooperatives to help expand access to this key infrastructure.”



Rising in the Ranks

Many universities around the country faced a decline in enrollment this fall. Not Mizzou. Enrollment is up 3.5% for a total tally of 31,105 students. This rise is due, in part, to a record 89.4% retention rate. MU also broke a record with its six-year graduation rate, which rose to 73%. Both rates have increased steadily over the past 20 years thanks to student success initiatives. For instance, an early warning system called MU Connect tracks trends — missing class, poor academic performance — so faculty and advisers can direct students to helpful resources. *U.S. News & World Report* has taken notice. MU jumped 15 spots in its list of top national universities, rising to No. 124 of more than 380 public and private institutions.

Twitter Buzz About #Mizzou

@usarmyccdc

@ArmyResearchLab is working with U of Missouri-Columbia scientists to develop state-of-the-art capabilities for #Soldiers. Their focus is machine learning, artificial intelligence & autonomy. #ArmyModernization #TeamDEVCOM @Mizzou @armyfutures

@AAUniversities

Pilot study @Mizzou shows sleep therapy may also reduce alcohol-related issues among those who binge drink

@MizzouAlumni

👑 Congratulations, Mizzou Royalty! Your #MizzouHomecoming 2020 Queen and King are...
♥♥ Gabrielle Gilmore, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc and ♥♥ Omobude Eke, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc
Our thanks to the 2020 Homecoming Court, for their dedicated service to @Mizzou

@MizzouMusic

Dr. Michael J. Budds:
June 11, 1947–Nov 19, 2020



@wojespn

Restricted free agent Jontay Porter has agreed to a three-year, \$6M deal to stay with the Memphis Grizzlies, agents Mark Bartelstein and Andy Shiffman of @PrioritySports tell ESPN.



A Pigment of Imagination

A Mizzou professor has teamed up with researchers from Mexico and Canada to explore the lives of our hemisphere's earliest humans. Brandi MacDonald, a faculty member at the MU Research Reactor, examined artifacts from Sagitario, a newly discovered cave system on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. The caves, now submerged, hold clues to life 10,000 to 12,000 years ago when hunter-gatherer groups collaborated to mine them for ochre, a pigment that has captivated humankind from time immemorial.

"A lot of color symbolism goes into trying to understand humans' longtime fascination with ochre," MacDonald says. This durable pigment ranging from yellows to reds contains iron oxide that colored early cave paintings, tools, jewelry and mortuary practices. "In many areas throughout the world, people would sprinkle the deceased with iron oxide," she says. "It's largely interpreted by archeologists as signifying blood and belief in the afterlife."

Ochre's value helps explain why hunter-gatherers risked the dangers of extracting it from underground caves. Evidence from Sagitario indicates that mining involved early cooperation among highly mobile groups in this region who shared their knowledge across generations.

"This is obviously a group activity because of the extent of damage that's done," MacDonald says. "Extraction would have been highly difficult, if not impossible, for a single person to do." The caves, though dry when they were mined, flooded during rising sea levels 7,000 to 8,000 years ago, rendering them an underwater time capsule.

Divers negotiating their passages discovered navigational markers, digging tools, shattered rocks and fire pits. Using sophisticated cameras, they created stunning three-dimensional models that allowed

MacDonald's team to see Sagitario virtually.

"The pristine nature of the site is remarkable," MacDonald says. "It's incredibly rare in archeology to find evidence of human activity that's this old and this well preserved."

More: tinyurl.com/cave-ochre



THE MULE-ER REPORT The MU College of Veterinary Medicine Mule Club has new mascots. Meet 2-year-old Belgian mules Rose and Bess, named after Kewpie creator Rose O'Neill and First Lady Bess Truman.

Briefly

- MU officials broke ground in November on a new \$30 million, 64,585-square-foot **Sinclair School of Nursing building**.

The high-tech resources housed in an expanded footprint will allow the school to graduate more desperately needed nurses. More: nursing.missouri.edu

- A \$2.8 million grant extension will help the **School of Medicine** deal with rural Missouri's physician shortage. The grant will allow the school to purchase a state-of-the-art mobile simulation truck to provide on-site training for physicians, students, nurses and first responders in rural communities, as well as to develop other new rural programs.

- The National Nuclear Security Administration announced it would name its new Albuquerque Complex facility, currently under construction in New Mexico, after its founder and first administrator, **Gen. John A. Gordon**, BS '68. Gordon, whose career highlights include stints as deputy director of the CIA, director of operations for Air Force Space Command and undersecretary of the Department of Energy, died April 19, 2020, at age 73.

- The Mizzou Alumni Association will soon launch **MIZ Talks**, a hub for webinars and virtual content produced by MAA and campus partners. Visit mizzou.com Feb. 1 to check out the spring schedule.



TRIPLE CLIPPERS

↑ Above, Evan Unrau takes the floor as director of the Los Angeles Clippers' Youth Basketball program. A trio of Tigers work in various capacities for the organization. They are, from left, Jordan Rasch, Unrau and Tricia Teschke.

Evan Unrau was a star player for the Missouri women's basketball team, twice earning first-team All-Big 12 honors. But when she thinks back on her college days, some of her fondest memories are from helping girls learn the game's fundamentals at summer camps. "It's kind of strange for a player to say they enjoyed working camps, but I loved it," says Unrau, BA '04, M Ed '06.

When her playing days ended, Unrau spent a decade as an assistant college coach before she eventually was drawn back to the game's grassroots level as the director of the Los Angeles Clippers' Youth Basketball program. "This was a natural fit for me, to be able to work with kids," Unrau says. "We have the largest youth program in the NBA."

She didn't realize when she took the job that she would become part of the franchise's Mizzou connection. Jordan Rasch, BJ, BS BA '12, has been with the team since 2016 and is now the assistant director of partnership strategy. Tricia Teschke, BJ '10, joined the Clippers in 2019 as the director of marketing and brand strategy.

In November 2019, the Clippers sent nine participants — including Unrau, Rasch and Teschke — to New York for an NBA women's leadership conference. That's where the trio discovered they



had Mizzou in common, Teschke says.

Rasch and Teschke collaborate at least once a week on projects, and Rasch and Unrau serve on an internal committee devoted to diverse hiring practices. While talking shop, they can also discuss their alma mater. "I've been on the West Coast since 2008, and a lot of times when I tell people I'm from the University of Missouri, I might as well say Mars," Unrau says. "So it's kind of cool to have people in the workspace who are Mizzou grads."

— Joe Walljasper, BJ '92

A Sporting Chance



As the publisher of PowerMizzou, a popular website for MU sports fans, Gabe DeArmond has a big megaphone to share his opinions. But during a summer of racial unrest that began with Eric Garner's death, words felt inadequate.

He wanted to do something tangible. DeArmond, BJ '98, started exploring the idea of starting a scholarship that would support MU minority students who are interested in the field of sports journalism. After looking into the details, he sent an email explaining his plan to 35 fellow sports-writers and sportscasters who graduated from Mizzou.

"My original pie-in-the-sky goal was to raise \$25,000," DeArmond says. "I had commitments for that amount of money in like three days. People just said, 'This is a great idea. I'm in.'"

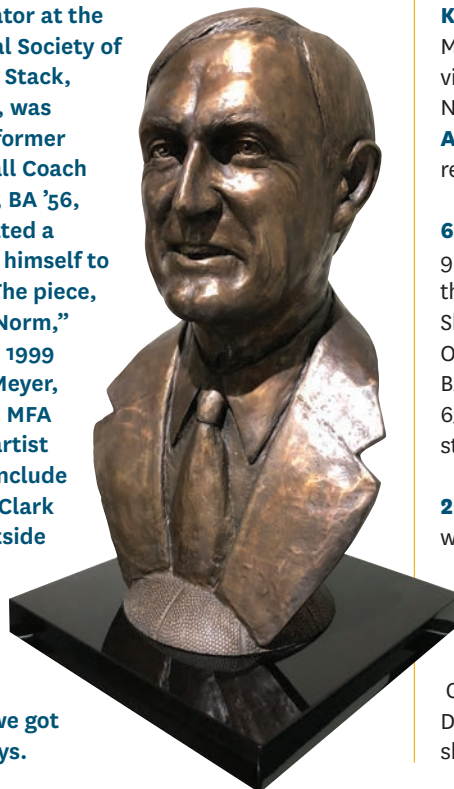
He started getting pledges from people he didn't even know, as the email was forwarded through the network of J-School alumni known fondly as the Mizzou Mafia. The endowed PowerMizzou Journalism Alumni Scholarship, which will be awarded annually, has received pledges of more than \$53,000. Each year, one recipient chosen by the School of Journalism will receive a stipend equal to 4% of the scholarship fund, whose total will grow over time. The recipient also will get the opportunity to work as an intern for powermizzou.com.

"My original email specifically said that we're all sitting here saying that we want to do something. Well, let's do this," DeArmond says. "Let's give back to the place that basically gave all of us our start and help someone else get their start." — Joe Walljasper, BJ '92

† PowerMizzou website publisher Gabe DeArmond started a scholarship for minority students pursuing sports journalism.

THE STUFF OF LEGEND

As the art curator at the State Historical Society of Missouri, Joan Stack, BA '88, MA '92, was thrilled when former Tiger basketball Coach Norm Stewart, BA '56, M Ed '60, donated a bronze bust of himself to the museum. The piece, titled "Coach Norm," was created in 1999 by Sabra Tull Meyer, BA '49, MA '79, MFA '82, a prolific artist whose works include the Lewis and Clark monument outside the Capitol in Jefferson City. "Not only did we get one Missouri legend; we got two," Stack says.



Scoreboard

3: Postseason saves by **Pete Fairbanks**, ENGR '15, whose relief pitching helped the Tampa Bay Rays advance to the World Series, where they lost in six games to the Los Angeles Dodgers

4: Consecutive stops at the 1-yard line the football Tigers defense made in the squad's **45-41 victory over defending national champion LSU** Oct. 10. It was the first victory in the tenure of Coach Eli Drinkwitz.

20: Years between **Keyon Dooling's** last game playing basketball for then Coach Quin Snyder at Mizzou and his hire by Snyder as a player development coach for the NBA's Utah Jazz

37: Points scored by senior outside hitter **Kylie Deberg** in the Mizzou volleyball team's victory over Arkansas Nov. 4. That tied **Paola Ampudia's** 2009 school record set against Kansas.

62: **Peter Malnati's** 9-under-par score in the third round PGA Tour's Shriners Hospitals for Kids Open Oct. 11. Malnati, BA '09, shot rounds of 63 or better in three straight PGA events.

2025: The year Mizzou will host the men's and women's **NCAA Cross Country Championships** at the Gans Creek Cross Country Course. It will be the first Division I NCAA championship ever held in Columbia.



Hiking to the End of Ice

Beth Peterson grew up wanting to be a wilderness guide. But now, instead of leading gaggles of trekkers, her beautifully written essays escort readers through the exotic and fragile landscapes of Norway's glaciers.

Beth Peterson was supposed to be a wilderness guide. That was the plan, anyway, insofar as a high school senior can conceive of the future. She would spend her life outdoors, hiking and climbing and unlocking the natural world for scores of curious campers. But the path quickly forked: The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire didn't offer much in the way of outdoor leadership, so she studied advertising instead. And when she tried again at Wheaton College, pursuing her master's in 2004, the program folded.

For a moment, the path seemed to vanish altogether, overgrown with the brambles of academia. But on a lark, she enrolled in a creative writing course. She read Baldwin. Montaigne. Didion — she *loved* Joan Didion. She feasted on the essay — the form itself — with a hunger previously unknown. Perhaps, she began to realize, she hadn't wandered so far after all. “The idea of being able to write your life, write your experiences, write other people's experiences, do research, get out — I just found that so compelling,” says Peterson, PhD '14.

At the same time, she'd fallen in love with Norway. She'd already spent a few summers in her ancestral homeland, climbing and guiding and forgetting — for just a few months — the “uncertain attempts at navigating a career and life and relationships,” she would later write. And in that period, hardly a blink of an eye in glacial time, she'd witnessed a new lake melt from Jostedalbreen, the largest glacier in continental Europe. She wasn't naïve; she wasn't blind to a warming planet. But suddenly, climate change was knocking on the door, a direct threat to a landscape she'd grown to love.

“When I saw the glacier, it was just *huge*, and I thought, ‘This is a landscape that needs to be preserved. It's important. It's beautiful.’”

And now, reading this genre her teacher called “creative nonfiction,” she began to sense the possibilities. She began to understand the essay as a venue for curiosity, for an adven-


ture in form and function, for confronting this glacial lake, expanding every year, and how small — how powerless — she felt in the face of a warming planet. A way to shepherd the skeptical into new territory.

“There's only so much I can do,” she says. “But I felt like writing — this makes sense for me because if people could connect with the landscape, if they can connect with me, if they can connect with the narrative, perhaps they'll start to believe or think about these huge environmental issues in new ways.”

Already equipped with multiple degrees, she experimented briefly with careers in teaching and publishing before enrolling in the Master of Fine Arts program at the University of Wyoming in 2007 to study creative nonfiction. It was there, in Laramie, that Peterson truly began to wrestle with the craft. She read her first braided essay, Maureen Stanton's “Laundry,” marveled at how the different narrative threads built upon and spoke to one another. She wondered if the form might work for a story of her own, a story still percolating from her time in Norway.

Hiking with friends on Jostedalbreen, each of them tied together, she'd noticed a tiny brown lemming frozen beneath the ice, then several more. And just moments later, she fell into a crevasse, “like ice in a glass,” she would later write, her body dangling from the rope like a fishing lure. She wondered if there wasn't some connection to be made between the lemmings and the fall, a method of braiding one with the other to make sense of both.

She used the resulting essay in her application to the University of Missouri, where she enrolled in the doctoral program for literature and creative writing in 2009. Visiting writer Nick Flynn, author of the critically acclaimed memoir *Another Bullshit Night in Suck City*, suggested she expand the essay further, teasing out a thread on Walt Disney. Author



Maureen Stanton, now her professor, suggested she expand another on the Atomic Age. Before long, she'd revised and published "Glaciology," the first essay included in her debut collection, *Dispatches from the End of Ice*, released last year via Trinity University Press.

"We went back and forth over the metaphoric energy around that for her essay," Flynn says, "and I'm very glad it has made it into the world."

Comprised of 14 exploratory essays, each one unique in its form and juggling multiple narratives, *Dispatches from the End of Ice* probes the meaning of loss from both a personal and environmental perspective. Along the way, in often lyrical prose, she introduces readers to a panoply of historical, mythical and scientific oddities: a giant chasm Norwegians called "Ginnungagap" where life supposedly began, a scheme to solve the United Arab Emirates' freshwater shortage by towing a massive iceberg from Antarctica, the search for Sir John Franklin's missing ship near Baffin Island in 1848 and the discovery of his shipmates' cairns over a decade later.

"The book is the result of rigorous and relentless curiosity," writes poet Kate Northrop, a friend and former professor at Wyoming. "It's beautiful."

Today, Peterson lives in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she teaches creative writing and book editing at Grand Valley State University. She is researching her next collection of essays, loosely focused on space and a parent and a friend's cancer. The central question of that new book is, "Does what's out there matter in light of what's happening now and here?"

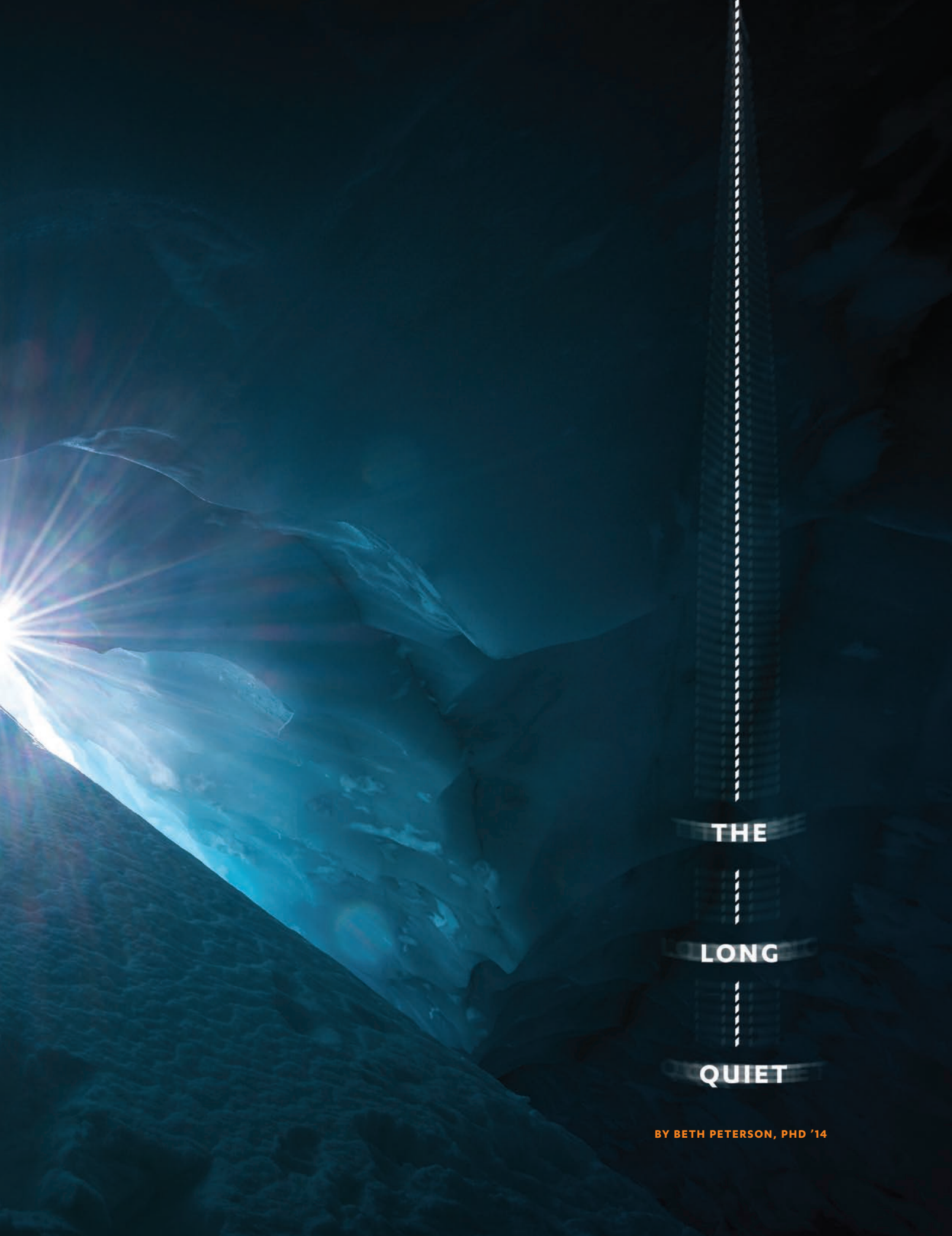
"I love creative nonfiction, in part, because I can get out and do the boots-on-the-ground work," she says. "The immersive nature makes it exciting."

Deftly ushering her readers through the crevasse, beyond the glacier, back in time and across the page, perhaps Beth Peterson is still a wilderness guide after all. — *Carson Vaughan*

← A wilderness guide at heart, Beth Peterson hikes along a lake formed from glacial melt near Turtagrø, Norway.

How does
it feel to
**tumble into
a crevasse,**
and what
goes through
a hiker's
mind while
**dangling
from a
safety rope,**
hoping to
see the sun
again? In this
excerpt from
*Dispatches
from the
End of Ice,*
**author Beth
Peterson**
shepherds
us across
ice caps and
their cultural
terrain.





THE

LONG

QUIET

BY BETH PETERSON, PHD '14



IT'S QUIET ON THE GLACIER — and not the good kind of quiet. It's the long quiet — the quiet that splits you open, leaves you flayed.

I try yelling.

“Matt —”

“Adam —”

“Lydia —”

“Help —”

Nothing. Only low rumblings in the distance and the faint sound of water running, probably rainwater or melted snow, dripping through thin tears in the ice, pushing downward, drips becoming streams, streams becoming wide rivers of glacial runoff, pouring down the base of the mountain, splitting into the glacial valley, cascading into the fjord and then the Atlantic Ocean.

When my eyes adjust to the semidarkness of the crevasse, I size up the hole. I'm hanging midway between parallel walls of raw ice, thick and slanted and buckling in places. There's an overhang two stories above; I see the outline. Shards of snow crack off it every few minutes, fall past me or onto my back and arms. Somewhere above the overhang, there's a shaft of sky. Beyond this, the only thing I can make out clearly is a thin blue line, edging the glacial walls many stories below.

IT WAS THE SUMMER of the lemmings: the fourth year in the four-year cycle of boom and bust, massive population explosions then sudden and devastating dives; in the course of a few months, sometimes weeks, Norwegian lemmings fall off cliffs; they walk into rivers; they climb onto long sheets of ice and sun themselves to death. In a single area, populations swoon from several thousand to near-extinction.

No one knows exactly why this happens. Some scientists say that the Norwegian lemming deaths are caused by the early thaws, then late spring freezes that melt the tunnels, that put the lemmings on the top of the ice, bare and exposed. Lemmings burrow, create long, low caverns beneath the upper layers of snow. When the snow melts early, they can freeze in a single cold morning. Others say that it's a stress mechanism: There are too many animals in one place, and in their sprint to get away from one another, they run off cliffs,

they dive into deep pools of water, they expose themselves to the elements.

In the 1960s, scientist W.B. Quay suggested that in the every-few-year combination of bursting lemming populations and increased temperatures, something inside the lemming's brain becomes unbalanced. Abnormal deposits begin to show up in their blood, and the lemmings begin to move at a frantic pace. These deposits shut off normal responses of the animal's brain until the lemmings can't eat, can't dig, can't reproduce, can't do anything but move in frenzied circles, in large groups, until they exhaust themselves to death. “It is mass hysteria,” wrote Ivan T. Sanderson in 1944, in the *Saturday Evening Post*, of a summer of the lemmings. “There is no turning back. These timid, retiring animals have lost all their natural sagacity.”

I DIDN'T KNOW about the lemmings that day on the glacier, but I'm not sure it would have mattered if I did. All summer my friends and I had been eager to get onto the glacial ice. I'd hiked there once before, but it was the first time for most of my friends, and none of us was from Norway or from places with similar topography. We were driven — it seemed — by the idea of traversing a private plane of ice, of finding ourselves in a landscape that was both swelling and drifting off-center at the same time. Plus, this would be our first chance to do real, technical climbing: lurching across 5-foot-wide crevasses, scrambling up and down nearly vertical surfaces, inching over hollow ridges of ice, past deep wells of water, a thousand feet below.

We got up early that day, took the first bus and arrived at the glacier before breakfast. It was clear, dry, and sunny and mostly cloudless that morning. Unlike the rest of Norway — wet and green — the high glacial mountains are dry, cold, austere: brown grass plains flattened by heavy snows giving way to sharp angular slopes and broad block fields of jagged rocks. When there's no snow or rain or fog, you can see the backside of several summits in the distance, snow crusting over their ridged outlines, then dropping five or six thousand feet to broad rocky valleys. Beyond the tall mountains, miles of high plains and lesser peaks, gray and muted — even in the summer sun — seem to stretch straight to the sea.

Unlike some other sections of the glacier, this one took more work to get to; after we got off the bus, we hiked, for some time, down a single-track trail, over cold knee-deep streams and long washes of mud, before we made it to the perimeter of the glacier, the place where hundreds, maybe thousands, of feet of compressed snow met rock.

At the edge of the ice, our guide, Matt, took a rope out of his backpack and the other six of us began putting on our gear. Then we began hiking: sinking knee-deep in snow, yanking a leg out, finding some tenuous sense of balance and repeating. The snowfall was recent, had come late to Norway that summer. Snow's always riskier than ice, especially on glacial summits like this one, summits that had an early thaw, then a late last storm, hiding the crevasses — long, low cracks — that spread like a graph up the mountain.

By an hour into the hike, sweat and snow had already soaked through my gloves and the cuffs of my pants. It had become rhythmic: Our boots sunk into deep snow, then we climbed out of it and then sunk back in and we climbed back out, stopping between the sinking and climbing only to relash on the metal crampons that were made for ice, not unsteady surfaces.

We were finally heading out of the first snowfield — toward the larger ice forms at the top of the glacier — when I noticed it: a brown spot on the ground, just to my left. It was too dark and even-shaped to be mud and too far from the trailhead to be a rock or a patch of dried grass. I stopped, and the guy behind me — a lanky 20-year-old —

stopped, too. “Are you all right?” he called to me. When I didn't answer, he walked up to where I was standing. I pointed to the spot: “Look at that.” He looked for a moment and then crouched down and kicked at the brown spot with the toe of his leather boot, cracking the thin layer of ice that was covering it.

Underneath the snow and ice was a small, frozen animal: a lemming.

IN THE 1950S, Walt Disney's *White Wilderness* became the first documentary to film the lemmings' dramatic deaths. The climactic scene taped hundreds of lemmings “migrating toward mass suicide” in Alberta, Canada, brown and white bodies falling, sliding, scrambling over the northern Canadian terrain in a frantic pack. They pushed down and up and into one another, all tracking a single lemming in front, until they reached a high cliff. The leader jumped: flew gracefully through the air toward the water. Then the rest jumped, and hundreds of lemming bodies, all on tape, were raining into the Arctic Ocean.

Except that 1958 wasn't the year of the lemmings. And it wasn't an ocean; it was a river, and the filmmakers had paid 25 cents

I'm
hanging

midway
between

parallel
walls

of
raw ice.



per lemming, gathered hundreds of them, put them in cardboard boxes for keeping, then onto a spinning white turntable, which they angled up and down until they got the camera shots, and then they pushed those lemmings to their deaths, off the turntable, toward a long, low cliff angling into the water. Some people say they see the lemmings hesitate when they watch that movie, that they stop slightly, for a second, before they jump.

Norwegian lemmings are the only lemmings whose populations fluctuate randomly, who die in such massive sweeps that they almost don't come back. Collared lemmings, the type of lemmings that live in Canada, in the United States, in most of the places other than Norway, don't live in packs and they hardly ever migrate.

WE WERE GRADUALLY making progress up the mountain — following the shallow recessions of each other's footsteps straight through the hard glare of the high alpine light — when all of sudden, without warning, I felt it: a sharp jerk on the rope.

I looked up just in time to see our guide, Matt — 10 feet in front of me — stumble slightly and then lose his balance altogether, his small frame hurtling straight into the snow. He swung his arm out, grasped for the rope and threw his yellow backpack behind him. Still, a second later both his legs were gone, plunged in waist-deep.

I stopped, as did everyone else behind me. The snow had been wet all day, but it was the first

Five minutes.

I feel nothing.

nothing except my right leg

pounding like it has a heartbeat.



time any of us had slipped in beyond our knees. "Are you OK?" I called to Matt from behind, holding one hand on the rope and kneeling to feel the ground myself. It was firm, solid, virtuous: an Illinois cornfield in winter, a Wyoming road in the middle of March.

In one smooth step, Matt leaned forward, yanked his legs out of the snow and righted himself. He brushed his pants off, then bent down and jammed the metal handle of his pickax into the snow a few times, the way he had done every few minutes along the way — shallow holes, concentric circles — mapping our path up the glacier. He picked up his backpack and started ahead.

"Walk," Matt called back to the rest of us, still standing.

I adjusted my backpack and gloves and then I walked on, veering wide of the hole where Matt's leg had sunk, just past the path of circles he'd made with his ax. At first, the path was fine — steady walking — but as I got to the final circle, the snow suddenly felt wrong, strangely light and loose, less like an icy corridor and more like a frosted-over creek at night.

Realizing what was happening, I threw my body forward, but I was too late. One of my feet started slipping, and then the other, and then I was gone.

INITIALLY SCIENTISTS BELIEVED the Norwegian lemmings' cycles were tied to the cold. In this thinking, the lemmings' migrations were an effort to get away from cold. The theory made sense: The mosses lemmings eat freeze in ice; the thin layer of snow where they dig tunnels and nests cakes over, hard, forcing them to find lower ground. But then, in the 1990s, biologists began to notice an unexpected phenomenon. Despite rising temperatures, the lemmings' population peaks were falling. Plows were no longer scraping dead lemmings off the roads, and there were no longer lemmings' carcasses at the edges of rivers, contaminating water supplies.

Biologists began to say it wasn't the cold but the heat that is a problem. In cold weather, the snow's consistency stays relatively constant; the lemmings can camp out below the snowpack, tunneling in deep and eating everything around them. When winter temperatures are too high — spiked by man-made emissions, greenhouse gases and fossil fuels, the same rising temperatures that crack ice, fracture glaciers, create crevasses — it's then that the snow melts and frozen water floods the lemmings' tunnels until they collapse, drowning some, forcing others to freeze to death, suspended between snow and ice.





FIVE MINUTES. I feel nothing, nothing except my right leg pounding like it has a heartbeat. The tip of my ax is dark and wet, and there's some blood gathering around my sock; my pant leg is torn from the ax; one metal crampon hangs off my ankle. Otherwise I'm fine, or numb; I'm not sure. I'm sweating and shaking, and I don't want to take off my gloves to see whether the tips of my fingers have begun to turn blue.

I heard it first, before I felt it — the weight of my backpack and my body and the fall — snapping hard against the single knot that held me. I lurched, the rope burning against my legs and my waist as my body moved forward and the rope yanked backward, careening between one wall of ice and another. But then, as suddenly as it began, it stopped: I stopped, faceup, hanging in midair. And then it was quiet.

It had been quiet ever since — and more than anything, more than the distance I'd fallen, more than the thin rope or the overhang, it was the quiet that worried me. Needing to do something — anything — I decide to swing the rope I'm hanging from back and forth in hopes of gaining momentum and wedging myself against one of the walls.

I hold the rope close to my chest with one hand and begin unleashing things from the side of my backpack with the other: some food, a couple of bottles of water. One at a time, I shed things into the dark below me. When there isn't anything left to drop, I rehearse the plan in my head and pick a spot on the wall that I'll aim for. I swing back and

forth three times before I decide to go for it. I grab the rope harder, bend my knees to my chest and then hurtle toward the wall in front of me, slashing my ax above my head.

I'm too far from the wall to get any traction, to make meaningful contact; I hit the ice, hard, but I bounce off it as a slab of wall breaks and barely misses my back and falls into the darkness below.

I watch it drop, then I put one hand just under the knot and stretch my other arm straight out to keep my balance. I don't move; I don't yell. I just hang there shivering, wondering, if I wait long enough, whether the high canyon walls will come together like stairs, will lift me.

ALMOST IMMEDIATELY following Disney's death in December 1966, rumors began to circulate that he had been "frozen alive," his body stored alternately in Disneyland or in Glendale, California, in a large vault, on ice, until some day in the future when scientists could medically resuscitate him. Later some of Disney's biographers suggested that he had volunteered to become America's first cryonics patient, meaning his just-dead body would have been injected with antifreeze, cooled to the temperature of liquid nitrogen — negative 321 degrees — and stored in a body bag in a capsule, in "suspension." Disney's family and friends strongly refute this, though they concede that he was perpetually anxious about his inevitable demise.

It wasn't just Disney, of course. *White Wilderness* was filmed at the height of the Atomic Age, a



↑ Beth Peterson, center, hiked with friends on the edge of the largest glacier in mainland Europe, the Jostedalsgreen ice cap in western Norway.

← A small, mouse-like rodent, opposite page, that lives in Norway's tundra, the lemming is the subject of a widely popular myth.



mere 10 years after Little Boy and Fat Man were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. For the first time in history, it seemed, it was possible to annihilate the entire human race in just a few swift blows. “I realize the tragic significance of the atomic bomb,” President Harry S. Truman wrote in a 1945 statement to the American people. “It is an awful responsibility which has come to us. ... We thank God it has come to us, instead of to our enemies, and we pray that He may guide us to use it in His ways and for His purposes.”

Death had become a feature of the American national psyche; weapons of extermination had become gifts, products of American industry and ingenuity. Photos and video footage of the victims — flash-burned by radiant energy released in heat and light — were classified, hidden. Yet the effects and fallout of the atomic bomb were felt around the globe from Tibet to Greenland and even to Norway’s glaciers. In fact, the advent of the atomic bomb changed glacial dating. It was at this point that scientists began to date glacial accumulation and recession by studying radioactive fallout conferred in two layers from the 1951 and 1963 atomic bomb tests.

“Our films have provided thrilling entertainment of educational quality,” insisted Walt Disney of his collection of nature films, including *White Wilderness*, “and have played a major part in the worldwide increase in appreciation and understanding of nature. These films have demonstrated that facts can be as fascinating as fiction, truth as beguiling as myth.”

THE MYTH OF THE lemmings took off: newspaper comics, commercials, video games. In his 1976 children’s book *The Lemming Condition*, Alan Arkin tells the story of a young lemming named Bubber who is the only lemming to question the plans to jump into the sea. “What do you think it’s going to be like?” Bubber asks an adult lemming, Arnold. “How should I know?” Arnold responds . . . “radiating peace, calm and disdain.”

In a 2008 bid for the U.S. Senate, Oklahoma candidate Andrew Rice took the myth even further, using the lemmings scene from *White Wilderness* in his advertising campaign. “Washington politicians,” the ad’s narrator says as the brown lemmings begin moving through brown grass and over rocks, “are a lot like lemmings. They follow their party, even if it’s over a cliff.”

I SHOULD HAVE been prepared; we prime ourselves for accidents out there, practice clotting wounds, treating frostbite, splinting bones with long, narrow hemlock branches. In my wilderness guide training, we rushed into cold rivers and let ourselves go, into the thrashing current, so someone else could throw out a rope and feel what it’s like to save somebody, or to not try hard enough and to watch a person begin to drop, down, into the shimmering deep.

I should have been prepared, but I was not. I hadn’t banked on seeing the lemming. How could I? I would ask myself later, more as an excuse than a question. When I saw the lemming

that day on the ice, it didn't look stuffed, like I would expect from the dead or the dying, or breakable, like a paperweight or a pool ball. Shorter than a field mouse but thicker, it was light and wet, like an infant still in fluid, and trembling — though that may have been the wind, or me, pressing up against it, shivering. Its eyes were dark, but its ash-brown hair was caked in a thin layer of snow.

I crouched down next to the lemming, as soon as I realized it was an animal — not some dirt or a rock or piece of trash or something else someone had left behind on accident, dropped from a pocket, out of a backpack, never recovered — and touched it lightly with my glove. It shook slightly. I didn't know what to do: to cover it back in snow, to warm it, to wrap it in a hat or jacket or my bare hands, to see if it might be revived.

I did none of these things. "Walk," Matt yelled back to the rest of us. The whole line was stopped by this point, waiting for me as I looked at the lemming. Behind me, my friend Adam hiked a few paces back to his place in the rope line and pulled the rope tight between us. I stood up, too, dusted the snow off my pants and gloves, and then I moved on, leaving the lemming lying in the snow, exposed.

As I began walking up the glacier, though, I saw another brown spot to my left — dark, even-shaped, just below the ice — and then there was another brown spot just ahead of me. Soon there were half a dozen brown spots lining the path, breaking through the surface. We were surrounded by dead lemmings, shaggy, gaunt and encased in ice.

IN 2006 — partway through my first summer in Norway — a team of scientists, under the leadership of Ohio State glaciologist Lonnie Thompson, set out to analyze one of the world's most remote glaciers, the Himalayas' Naimona'nyi glacier, by collecting ice samples from the infamous 1951 and 1963 radioactive fallout layers.

Thompson — who is renowned for having spent more time than any other living soul at over 20,000 feet — expected some change in the glacial ice. Patagonia glaciers, after all, had retreated almost 1 kilometer in the prior two decades, Swiss glaciers had lost 500 meters in the prior three years, and five Norwegian glaciers had receded over 100 meters each in just the prior year. At 25,000 feet — looming above the world's highest plateau — Thompson and his team assumed rightly that the ice would likely not be the same as when it had last been measured.

What they didn't expect was that the atomic fallout layers would be completely gone, that there — in the center of the universe, the place

"Get me out of here," I yelled up.

"We're working on it," Adam called back.



that Hindus call the devatma or god-souled land — all that ice would have already melted.

SOMETIME LATER a friend would ask me why, after that day on the glacier, I began to care so much about the lemmings. What he meant to ask, I think, is why — those days in Norway and then even once I had moved home — I got obsessed with lemmings, why I taped color photographs of lemmings on the wall and why I talked about lemmings when we were scraping paint from the back of the house and when we were lying, stretched out slim, in separate seats on the city bus. I checked out a small stack of rodent books, underlined important phrases in life-cycle field reports, but I never did answer his question.

You see, whatever Disney's reasons — if he had them — for perpetuating it, the myth of the lemmings became big: bigger than *White Wilderness* and bigger than a ploy against collective bargaining or an admonishment about the perils of groupthink. The story of the lemmings, it seems, came to offer a measure of control, a reverse moral where rugged American individualism alone plays the trump card against the terror of death's long edge.

But there is no trump card. What I'd like to tell my friend now is this: I once imagined myself constructing an alternate life in Norway: painting houses, buying groceries at the local shop, walking along the green coastline, watching the early morning light sweep up the cool wet night. It would have been a measured life, a controlled life, and not a real one. There is no night in the summertime in Norway, though sometimes the afternoon light, all at once, is blinding.

THAT DAY on the glacier, I heard Adam first, then Lydia, both muffled.

"You're OK."

"We've got you."

"Get me out of here," I yelled up.

"We're working on it," Adam called back, again muffled.

A few moments later there was a sharp pull on my waist, and then snow was falling around my shoulders, chipping off the open side of the crevasse and sliding down in sheets as my friends Adam and Steve yanked the ice-caked rope over the edge of the hole. Suddenly, the rope and my backpack and my body began to lift, one arm's length at a time, up toward the light and the others' voices and the long plane of ice and snow above. **M**

About the author: Beth Peterson, PhD '14, published Dispatches from the End of Ice (Trinity University Press, 2019).

A DOCTOR FOR DIVERSITY

Mentorship was at the core of Dale Okorodudu's Mizzou experience.

Now he runs national programs to encourage diversity in medicine through mentoring.

BY SARA BONDIOLI, BA, BJ '05

Now in his third year of medical school, Abdoulie Njai is living out his dream of becoming a doctor. But he still remembers the tense and uncertain stretch he spent applying to medical schools and how he'd sometimes feel stressed and burned out. When those moments arrived, he'd recharge and recommit to his mission with help from videos by an organization called Black Men in White Coats. Last year, he got to meet the physician at the heart of those motivational messages: Dale Okorodudu, BS '06, MD '10. "Seeing that he graduated from the same medical school where I am really inspires me," Njai says. "It makes me want to use my platform as a Black male who's going to be a physician to do the same thing. I want to make sure that I'm reaching back and trying to pull up other people like me."

Okorodudu's Black Men in White Coats outreach and Diverse Medicine nonprofit aim to do just that. They use mentorship programs, youth summits and speaking engagements to guide and support young people from underrepresented communities into medical fields where they're desperately needed.

"To make sure no one is neglected, you need to have representation from all demographics of society in the various fields of medicine," says Okorodudu, a pulmonary and critical care doctor at the Dallas VA Medical Center. For example, a diverse group of doctors brings patients a range of ideas, experiences and understanding. Representation is also important behind the scenes because "research will get done in areas relevant to the people doing the research," he adds.

This is a calling for Okorodudu, observes one of his longtime mentors, David Fleming, now a senior scholar in MU's Center for Health Ethics. "He is undaunted in his pursuit of making our profession more inclusive, for both our patients and colleagues who serve them. I think he'll have a tremendous influence over the years."

Okorodudu saw firsthand the lack of diversity in his field with his first-year medical school class, which included just one Hispanic and five Black students — two men, three women. Research he saw when starting his programs backed this up, with multiple reports showing medical school applications from Black men had declined over the past 40 years even as applications from other underrepresented groups had increased. Since then, Okorodudu has seen the numbers of Black men in medical schools stay steady or increase slightly. In Mizzou's incoming medical school classes, the percentage of underrepresented minorities has increased

from 6% in Okorodudu's 2006 class to 17% in 2020.

Okorodudu, now an assistant professor of internal medicine at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, tackles the problem from many directions beyond videos. He has written books for adults and children that encourage pursuits in medicine and emphasize support through mentorship. Between in-person summits and online platforms, his work has touched thousands. His latest project is a documentary to increase awareness of the lack of Black men in the field.

The energetic doctor recalls that some of his first experiences with mentoring came while an undergraduate at Mizzou. He found a lifelong mentor in Ellis Ingram, now an emeritus associate professor of pathology. That relationship led him to an "eye-opening" experience participating in the Caleb Project and Science Club, a program Ingram runs that provides mentorship from medical students to youth in Columbia. "Mentoring others allowed me to see the joy in watching others grow," Okorodudu says. "It provided a servant leadership perspective that I never had before that."

Ingram also played a key role in Okorodudu's decision to stay at Mizzou for med school. He recalls Ingram taking him on a tour of the medical school while he was an undergraduate: "Toward the end of it, we were in the dean's office, and Dr. Ingram said, 'Hey, this is Dale Okorodudu. He's gonna be a med student here one day.' That just gave me hope to say, 'Wow, somebody wants me to stay here.'"

Okorodudu found other mentors through an undergraduate research program — then known as EXPRESS — under the Office of Undergraduate Research Director Linda Blockus, PhD '00. The program landed him in the research lab of Troy Zars. "They fulfilled the dream that I had of college, the good times," Okorodudu says of Blockus and Zars. "I was getting exposure to people from the medical school through the program as well. The network you get to build is important, so that definitely helped my decision to stay at Mizzou."

Blockus also played a role in solidifying Okorodudu's relationship with his now-wife, Janai [née Marbury], BS '06. Janai first noticed him when he spoke at an event Blockus organized, and they spent a lot of time together through the EXPRESS program. "He's got the passion," Blockus says, "that he somehow makes time to do this while being a full-time physician and a very involved father with his three kids." **M**



"Seeing that he graduated from the same medical school where I am really inspires me."

— Abdoulie Njai



Dr. A. Okonofua, M.D.



GENOMICALLY SPEAKING

Randall Prather builds a renowned research center using swine as models in human health studies.

BY DAVID LAGESSE, BJ '79

There are pecking orders when it comes to farming. Take pigs versus cows. Many cattle ranchers could never see themselves slopping hogs for a living.

So Randall Prather, whose veterinarian dad was at the cutting edge of cattle breeding, as a young student told a professor he wasn't interested in his swine-science class. "Why would I take it? I was never going to work with a pig," says Prather, 61, now a Curators' Distinguished Professor of Animal

Sciences at Mizzou's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Because you need the course to graduate, replied the prof, also his adviser at Kansas State University.

"I took the class," Prather says.

Good thing — it's pigs that made his career.

And what a career. Under Prather's leadership, Mizzou has built research and teaching programs in swine reproduction and genetics that have earned international acclaim. Scientific breakthroughs have spurred a steady flow of grants, collaboration with other universities, and awards and visibil-

ity. Prather leads an MU lab of some 15 to 20 researchers and students, manages a center that provides custom-designed pigs for other labs, and has helped train leading international investigators.

Along the way, Prather also works on cattle. But it's his swine research that led to a series of prominent "firsts." He started by being the first to clone a pig, and then cloned others ...

- with genes altered for human medical research, including pigs that glow.
- with organs that may be suitable for transplantation to humans.
- that make their own healthy omega-3 fatty acids.
- as models for cystic fibrosis, a life-threatening human disease.
- with immunity from several deadly diseases, notably PRRS, a costly respiratory ailment.

So yes, Prather concedes, "Working with pigs is probably the best professional thing that ever happened to me."

That's because, and here's a key to Prather's success, pigs are a lot more like humans than cows. Swine grow to a size that's comparable to people, with organs and systems that function and operate in a manner remarkably similar, considering pigs oink and walk on four hooves.

In turn, that opens a fount of research funding in human biomedicine for what are agriculture labs at Mizzou. Pigs make great models for studying human disease, treatments and medical devices, and one day might be a source for transplanted organs.

Meanwhile, biomedicine draws a lot more support — dollars — than traditional animal science, which in the case of pigs might focus on tastier, cheaper or even healthier bacon. We people like good food, but we spend a lot more chasing good health, explains Kevin Wells, an associate MU professor in the agriculture college.

Happily, a lot of what's learned through biomed research also can apply to animal and plant sciences, says Kristin Whitworth, a scientist who helps manage Prather's lab and the center for custom-designed pigs, the National Swine Resource and Research Center.

In genetic modification, for example, "While the goals may be different, the techniques are identical, whether it is biomedical or ag-related," she says.

Prather's success with biomedicine and animal sciences is the sort of cross-discipline collaboration that the university wants to encourage with its NextGen Precision Health initiative. The cutting-edge facility under construction on the MU campus will house health researchers from an array of specialties including engineering, medicine and animal sciences.

OUTSTANDING IN HIS FIELD

Prather has built a research program known worldwide, including in a Munich lab led by Eckhard Wolf, who speaks highly of his Mizzou colleague and competitor.

"Dr. Prather is a world-leading authority in assisted reproduction techniques in swine," Wolf writes in an email. Prather has used those techniques "very successfully for basic and applied research in the biomedical and agricultural sciences."

The lab's expertise in animal science and biomedicine draws a variety of research to Mizzou. A leading cystic fibrosis investigator at the University of Iowa, for example, grew impatient at the inability to learn much from mice — which had been genetically modified decades ago as CF study models.

As mammals with internals much different from humans, mice had limited value in understanding cystic fibrosis. The inherited disease degrades human pulmonary and digestive systems, often causing premature death. Doctors wanted to understand the course of the illness by studying animals with lungs and guts more like humans.

"We began to look around at what species might be a good model," says Michael Welsh, the Iowa medical investigator. Right about that time, Prather published a paper on successfully genetically engineering pigs, which had been notoriously difficult to perform.

Welsh phoned Prather, who agreed they might modify and reproduce pigs that include the genetic flaw behind cystic fibrosis. Their collaboration led to a groundbreaking example of how pigs can model human disease.

Scientists have made great progress in treatments for most patients who suffer from cystic fibrosis, but some don't respond well, Welsh says. "It's understanding that last 10% where we think the pig could be invaluable."

OPPORTUNITY SQUEALS

So was there an aha moment that made Prather a fan of the pig and led to his success? Not really. It was more a matter of jumping on an opportunity, back when he was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Wisconsin. The only guy at the laboratory who worked with pigs left, opening a gap in research.

"People were fighting over the resources for cattle, and there weren't enough to go around," Prather says. So he made the switch.

"Take advantage of the situations you're given," Prather likes to tell aspiring scientists.

The young researcher then landed his own grant at Wisconsin, funding that he brought along when taking a job at MU in 1989. Initially, Prather focused on early-stage embryology for pigs, developing a process that enabled in vitro fertilization. In vitro essentially means fertilizing eggs in a test tube; scientists take eggs from a sow, fertilize them and develop them with Prather's method before implanting them in a female pig. Prather-led teams have further improved the culturing and implanting of in vitro eggs, with insights applicable to human reproduction.

Prather's early research "formed the basis for much of the animal model work that is now considered fundamental to human health and fertility," according to Chandra Madramootoo, former Dean of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at McGill University, a top international research institution.

Able to successfully fertilize, culture and implant embryos, Prather teams then modified the genetics of the in vitro offspring, another breakthrough. They also learned how to freeze those embryos for shipping around the world. Under Prather's leadership, MU in 2003 established the National Swine Resource and Research Center where scientists can order the embryos or cells of pigs with any of dozens of genetic modifications.

Last year, the team's work in pig genetics earned a major federal endorsement with an \$8.6 million grant to establish a new research hub, the Swine Somatic Cell Genome Editing Center, to help develop biomedical treatments for human diseases. Prather will co-lead the center with Wells, who says the five-year grant could be extended — and help build an infrastructure that will for years solidify MU's leading role in animal-based, biomedical genetics research.

TRANSPLANTING IDEAS

There's another piece of advice that Prather offers future scientists: Be open to working with others, especially if they're smart and creative. Iowa's Welsh came to him with the idea for a cystic fibrosis pig. Wells brought numerous notions about genetic manipulation, as did Whitworth. A Kansas State University professor brought expertise in a deadly pig disease.

"Most of the projects that I work come from somebody else's idea and not mine," Prather says.

The partnership between Wells and Prather has proven particularly productive for Mizzou, combining their different per-

So was there an aha moment that made Prather a fan of the pig and led to his success? Not really. It was more a matter of jumping on an opportunity.



sonalities and work styles — as well as Wells’ genetic expertise with Prather’s in embryology and cloning.

Wells brings added creativity, they agree, while Prather also shines with his organizational skills. Wells wants to focus on asking questions and finding answers, while Prather is better at writing the grant proposals and sharing the results in academic papers. “He has personal deadlines for everything, and he gets everything done,” Wells says of Prather. “Randy has an incredible, uncanny ability to focus on goals.”

Whitworth, who came to Prather’s lab as a graduate student some 25 years ago, agrees: “He’s the most organized person I’ve been around.”

HOME NOT HALLWAYS

Not that Prather is a workaholic. He talks of the importance of work-life balance. An early arriver at the lab, he’s consistently home for dinner — because he has planned time for his family, as well. He sort of has to, having raised seven children with Jamie, his wife of more than 40 years.

He’s not likely to hang in the hallway telling jokes. “When I’m at work, I stay focused on work,” Prather says.

Still, once engaged in a chat, Prather comes across as affable, quick to laugh. Which is good, because his omega-3 pigs became fodder for a comedy piece by *The Daily Show’s* Jon Stewart, “What are we doing to pigs?” As Stewart reported, “The first thing we’re doing to pigs this week is to make them healthier — for us to eat.”

“I thought it was hilarious,” Prather says. His only complaint was that, in the same piece, Stewart gave credit to a Taiwanese lab for creating transgenic porkers that glow under

special lighting. “We were the first to do that, years earlier.”

The genes that cause pigs to light up provide a tracking mechanism to ensure a researcher’s gene editing has landed in the right tissue. That’s the type of tool that the new somatic cell center will develop for biomedicine, funded by the National Institutes of Health in a nationwide push toward editing genes to prevent and cure disease.

Although biomedicine helps fund his work, Prather’s heart remains in agriculture. His lab’s development of the omega-3-rich hogs was followed by a pig designed to resist a deadly respiratory disease. Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, or PRRS, costs American farmers as much as \$800 million a year. Prather-led teams have applied the same approach to several other costly swine diseases.

Now, getting PRRS-resistant or Omega-3-rich hogs to market is another matter, as regulators have been cautious about approving genetically altered animals for food production. But it shows how the money and experience afforded by biomedical research can help in agriculture, Prather says.

In the middle of all of it remains the pig — which has helped shape his career, advance biomedicine and map future agriculture. “The pig,” Prather says, “has enabled us to get things done.” **M**

About the author: David LaGesse, BJ ’79, is a former reporter for U.S. News & World Report and the Dallas Morning News.



The Rights Stuff

Fifty years ago, Congresswoman Martha Griffiths introduced an Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution — an amendment that would ensure protection of women’s rights. But that was only the beginning of her fight. **BY TONY REHAGEN, BA, BJ ’01**

On Aug. 10, 1970,

Rep. Martha Wright Griffiths stepped onto the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives looking to pick a fight. She had just spent more than a month chasing resistant congressmen up and down the halls of the Capitol, collecting the 218 signatures necessary to move the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) out of committee and into the House for debate. The measure would ensure equal treatment under the law for Americans regardless of gender. She knew that this was just the latest campaign in a war that had been raging for centuries. “Mr. Speaker,” she said, addressing the entire chamber, “this is not a battle between the sexes, nor a battle between this body and women. This is a battle with the Supreme Court of the United States.”

At stake was an amendment that would provide women the country’s clearest judicial standard and strongest legal defense against sex discrimination. Griffiths, BA ’34, had been preparing for this battle her entire life. When she graduated from high school in Pierce City, Missouri, in 1930, her mother feared that, without further education, her daughter would forever be dependent on whoever would be her husband. So, her mother worked extra odd jobs to save for Griffiths’ tuition to Mizzou. There, Griffiths earned a bachelor’s degree in political science. She also met and married Hicks G. Griffiths, a fellow aspiring law student. He had been accepted to Harvard Law, but because the Ivy League law school didn’t admit women, the couple opted for the University of Michigan Law School.

Hicks would go on to become Michigan Democratic Party chairman, but he put most of his support behind his wife, encouraging her to run for public office. She lost her first bid for a seat in the state House of Representatives in 1946 but came back to win two years later, launching a career in public service that would span six decades. “She was unafraid of politics,” says Peverill Squire, political scientist and Hicks and Martha Griffiths Chair in American Political Institutions at Mizzou. “She was willing to put herself out there at a time when it was not easy to do that for a woman. She was running at a time when few women ran for office. They didn’t have much in the way of encouragement to run, and you really had to believe in yourself.”

Confidence was not something Griffiths lacked, at least not outwardly. She lost another election in 1952, this time for Detroit’s seat in the U.S. Congress. Two years later, she again avenged the loss, becoming only the second woman from Michigan ever elected to the House. Over the next 20 years, Griffiths made a name for herself as a straight-talking firebrand who stood up to male colleagues. In 1962, she became the first woman ever appointed to the powerful Ways and Means Committee. She helped ensure protections for women were included in the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, and she never shrank from addressing gender discrimination. In one memorable incident, when a major airline fired a flight attendant on grounds that she was engaged to be married, Griffiths confronted the airline’s personnel manager about insisting that his “stewardess be young, attractive and single.” She drove the point home: “What are you running, an airline or a whorehouse?”

She is best known for her work on the ERA. Starting in 1923, a variation of the amendment had been introduced in every session, but it was always held up in committee where it died. In 1970, Griffiths filed a discharge petition, a little-known maneuver, which, when signed by the majority of House members, forced the proposal out of committee and onto the floor for debate. The House passed the ERA that year. The Senate approved a version of the amendment two years later, sending it to the states for ratification. But by the time the deadline expired, only 35 states had ratified the amendment — three shy of the three-fourths required to get it into the U.S. Constitution. A 38th state, Virginia, finally passed the amendment in early 2020 — a victory that, for the moment, is only symbolic.

By then, Griffiths had left Congress to spend time with family. In 1982, she became lieutenant governor of Michigan, a post she held for 10 years, before retiring. She died in 2003. “She was still fierce and fearsome,” says Julie Wilford-Gold, who worked for the Michigan Senate majority leader, across the hall from Griffiths’ office in the state Capitol. “We were all in awe and truly intimidated. She was in her mid- to later 60s, but she was still sharp as could be. We knew that she had been way ahead of her time.” **M**

About the author: Tony Rehagen, BA, BJ ’01, has written for GQ and the Columbia Journalism Review.



THE GREAT 58

BY AARON MERMELSTEIN, BJ '72



MIZZO



WINTER 2021

Despite that “byline” thingy, the REAL person writing this twaddle is Andy Moore. Yes! Andy Moore!! And I — Andy Moore — am a rock and roll disc jockey on a red-hot playin’-the-hits and rockin’-the-oldies radio station at the University of Missouri! YES!!! YES!!!! I’m a fast-talkin’, quick-witted, absolutely heeeeeeeeeee-LAR-ious wise-crackin’ hipster who knows what’s happening and is in on what’s gonna happen next, who knows what’s hot and knows who’s not! But stay with me now because in the light of the moon (audible sip of coffee) we’ll go UNNNNNNNnnnnnnderground (echo fades: “UNNNNnnderground ... UNNderground ... underground”) ... whole albums without interruption ... (audible puff of cigarette) ... maybe one artist for an hour ... or some “experimental” or a little jazz ... deep dive into the deep cuts you won’t hear anywhere else ... ‘cause it’s not about me, my friends, oh, no ... (quietly) ... oh, no ... shhhhhhhhh ... on the Andy Moore show, it’s all about “The MEEEEEE-YOUUUUUUUU-sicccccc” (echo fades: mee-**youuuuu**-siccccc ... mee-**youu**-sicccc ... me-you-sicc)

Just so you know, I said all of that **out loud**, all in one breath and in italics!

Oh, wait.

No, I didn’t.

I’m not a rock and roll disc jockey.

I’m not Andy Moore. I’m not any Moore.

I’m not any more.

But I *was*, by golly. I **was**.

During the brief but boisterous life of KCCS, students in a basement studio spun the platters that kept dorm-dwellers on top of pop music.

Our intrepid — and yes, nostalgic — DJ has the call.

Almost 50 years ago (I sigh), I was a disc jockey at KCCS.

The Great 58. On-campus radio. Student radio. Owned by students. Run by students. With a students-only audience. And the DJ that I was once upon a time gave himself the radio name Andy Moore.

And even when I was Andy Moore, I knew in my brain and in my soul that I wasn't by any means the italicized-idealized radio superstar described up there on top. Nope. Not even close. I was just a college kid more dedicated to campus radio than my GPA.

So when the editor-type person of this magazine foolishly assigned me to write "a personal memoir about KCCS, a wistful in-my-own-words essay overflowing with charming nostalgia, poignant reminiscences and sidesplittingly witty anecdotes" (though my memory is blurry about his *exact* words), my first reaction to the assignment was powerful. But at my age, acid reflux isn't all that unusual. My second reaction was that long overwritten paragraph above, EXACTLY as you see it, in italics and with the effective and affective mood-setting ellipses included.

You see, despite the passage of nearly FIFTY YEARS (I sigh again), the *instant* Mister Editor-type person even *mentioned* KCCS, in my memory and in my spirit, I **BECAME** the rock and roll DJ described in the opening paragraphs all over again (even though I was never that guy in the first place)! ***I BECAME ANDY MOORE AGAIN!!! As I type this, I AM A.M.!!!! ANDY MOORE IS A ROCK AND ROLL DISC JOCKEY ON KCCS, THE GREAT 58!!!!!!***

Even though I'm not.



Shoeboxes and Broom Closets

KCCS was "on-campus radio" at Mizzou. That is, *parts* of "on-campus" — university dormitories only. No other buildings, no Greeks, nowhere

off campus. The station began in 1963 when enterprising students started broadcasting from the only space they could get, a broom closet. It died in 1973 in facilities larger than a broom closet but not much spiffier.

I was lucky enough to be at KCCS from my freshman year, 1968–69, until I graduated in 1972. I worked all four years as a disc jockey and also served as chief announcer, music director and station manager. Call me a rose-visionsed romantic if you want, but I believe that by the time I arrived at KCCS the station had matured to the best, most creative, most significant time in its history. And although I personally hadn't matured much whatsoever, I know for a rose-colored fact it was definitely my best time.

The station was owned by the Independent Residence Halls Association and located in the basement of Pershing Hall, the same level as the laundromat and snack bar, so there was always a slight "linty" scent in the air, mingling with the aroma of French fries.

The station's AM radio signal went through telephone wires from the studios to a shoebox-sized transmitter in the basement of each dorm. Those magic shoeboxes shot a wimpy signal up into electrical wiring, metal piping and, presumably, orthodontia of the residents themselves so that the building itself became a gigundo transmitter broadcasting that just-barely-north-of-totally-powerless signal on the 580 frequency. Because of all that technological in-a-shoebox witchcraft, the station was called a "carrier current" station. The pioneering group that created the station named it KCCS as a bizarre abbreviation for the questionable "Kampus Carrier Current Station," a decision I hope they deeply regret even to this day.

Originally, the station broadcast from 3 p.m. to midnight, playing a variety of music including pop, folk and classical mixed with news and patter. Those early days featured quiet "study music" from 7 to 10 p.m., then show tunes and quiet "into the night" music until nighty-night-sleep-tight-don't-let-the-bedbugs-bite signoff, though I am by no means implying that university dormitories were infested with bedbugs.

But by the late '60s, the world and radio had both changed. The student audience the station played to wasn't interested in show tunes or "study music" so, nighty-night be damned, KCCS evolved into a rocker that pumped out the hits from 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. seven days a week. It was a friendly-not-shouting, tight-format, no-dead-air, top-40-and-album-cuts (mostly) format in the image of the best stations in the country, theoretically.

Talent in all areas was exceptional and dedicated, from DJs to reporters and newscasters, sports people and record librarians. It even boasted a station meteorologist, a student majoring in climate science. The station did have some DJs as well as news and sports people who had trouble figuring out what all those buttons and the microphone did. Student radio.

As would be expected for Mizzou, the news department was huge, effective and efficient, with newscasts at :28 and :58 after the hour and 15-minute "monster newscasts" at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., all filled with original reporting and tape actualities. The sports department broadcast play-by-play of Missouri baseball games.

Occasionally, KCCS broadcast old-timey radio serials be-

PREVIOUS SPREAD: Aaron Mermelstein, BJ '72 — once known as DJ Andy Moore — prepares to drop the needle on Steppenwolf's greatest hits LP. Before KCCS hit the airwaves in 1964, dorm students had few choices — Hickman High School sports or a top 40 channel from Little Rock, Arkansas, which played what KCCS' first station manager, Ed Wilsman, called "high school country rock and roll."





Over 50 student volunteers took part in KCCS operations. Jobs included program director, station manager, sports director, business manager, chief announcer, electrical engineers and disc jockeys. In the first full year of production, KCCS, found at 580 on the dial, was on air 18.5 hours a day and covered major campus events.

cause they were classics and also because they were cheap or free. Every Halloween we'd air Orson Welles' 1938 *War of the Worlds* and inevitably get calls from students who were creeped out by the Martian invasion. Certainly, that broadcast is still magnificent, though the "we're scared" calls always made us suspect some sort of liquid or herbal mood alteration may have been involved. But I ask you, just how likely would that have been for the late 1960s or early '70s?



Greasers, Daddy-Os and Cool Cats

So there we were, pumping it out 19/7. And people listened. Because radio was king. In those ancient days, dorm rooms didn't have telephones, and almost nobody had a television. But *everybody* had a radio. Even students with stereos listened to radio to know which records to buy.

We didn't have ratings or fancy-schmancy data collection, but we had the request/contest line, and it stayed busy. When DJs gave records to the eight-thousandth caller, they got eight-thousand calls (though my memory is blurry on the exact number of calls required to win).

One jock offered up some giveaway records to the first woman who showed up at the station wearing a swimsuit. In the dead of winter. More than a few showed up, all wearing winter coats over their bikinis. Admittedly, nobody approves of



The Independent Residence Halls Association housed KCCS in two small offices in the basement of Pershing Hall, near a lounge and a laundromat, which staff remember as a constant source of noise. KCCS stood for Kampus Carrier Current Station. When it launched the No. 1 hit was "Can't Buy Me Love" by the Beatles.

that kind of stunt in the 21st century, but in 1970 or thereabouts, it happened. More than once.

The station had listeners when it wasn't even on the air.

One night, I was working/loitering/piddling around the station after the 1 a.m. signoff and after the power to the studios was turned off. But another guy needed to work in the production studio and turned the juice back on. For reasons

At colleges and universities everywhere, the athletes — the jocks — are always the biggest celebrities on campus. But that night, we were the biggest celebrities at Mizzou because we were jocks on KCCS radio.



Milt Schwartz, BJ '66, JD '69, in the KCCS broadcast studio circa 1964. Schwartz launched MU's first dorm radio station with his Baker-Park Hall roommate Ed Wilsmann, BS BA '67, and was the station's first general manager. Schwartz died in 1996.

still unknown, other than there was an electrified radio station in front of me, I put a record on the turntable, opened the microphone and intro'd the song as if it were a normal part of any broadcast day. But because the station had signed off **and no one was listening**, I added "and this is the Great 58, on the air at a special time **for all you damn dormies.**" Whipsmart clever, right? And I made it up all by myself, right there on the spot!

The phone rang.

The caller said he kept his radio on overnight so the sign-on DJ would wake him at 6 a.m. He stressed his heavy displeasure with my description of him and his housemates, especially **on the "damn dormie"** radio station. When I told the morning DJ the story, he laughed and confessed he was terrified of that *exact same guy* and *all the other* keep-the-radio-on-all-night guys, fearing their fury if he was late for his shift and missed their wakeup. For readers who used KCCS as a

literal clock radio, we were happy to serve. At least the morning guy was. No way I personally would have gotten up that early.

Extraordinary proof of listenership came in 1971 at the culmination of '50s Week when the greatest hits of classic rock and roll were mixed into the playlist. To give '50s Week a rockin' finale, the station planned a sock hop in Pershing Lounge, just outside the station front door. We had no idea whether anyone would come.

Jaws dropped when greasers, chicks, daddys and miscellaneous cool cats *packed* Pershing Lounge, many dressed like the cast of *West Side Story*. Both gangs.

Hundreds and hundreds packed the space, *millions* maybe (though my memory is blurry on the exact attendance), bopping and jiving with the kind of abandon and decadence predicted at the dawn of rocking around the clock. KCCS disc jockeys hosted, doing heeeeeeeeeee-LAR-ious patter for the crowd, running games and dance contests, giving away all the junker records we could find, and digging everywhere for more. Even the news and sports staff took the stage and finally got the recognition they deserved.

On that one night and in that one room, with a live, in-the-flesh audience dancing and having fun to our radio signal, the KCCS staff actually became celebrities. At least we felt like celebrities, even if we were just volunteer student DJs at the on-campus carrier current radio station. At colleges and universities everywhere, the athletes — the *jocks* — are always the biggest celebrities on campus. But that night, *we* were the biggest celebrities at Mizzou because we were jocks on KCCS radio.



Paul is Dead, Long Live Paul

I can't write a "personal memoir/essay" about KCCS and omit the live broadcast of Paul McCartney's death.

In the winter of 1970-71, decades before conspiracy theories became an industry, a story appeared in the newspaper reporting outrageous rumors circulating in Europe that mysterious

“clues” in Beatles songs and on album covers hinted Beatle McCartney had died. Not only that — conspiracy of conspiracies — he’d been replaced by an EXACT lookalike, who sounded EXACTLY like him, moved, spoke, walked, breathed, went to dentist and cleaned the cat box EXACTLY like him, too. I tore the article from the paper so Andy Moore could discuss it on the air.

I was working the 9 to 11 p.m. shift, and the 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. jock came into the studio to say hello about a half-hour before his show. He said he’d also seen the article, and we joked about it on the air. Then curiosity took its natural hold. We started talking more seriously about the “rumors” and the alleged “clues:”

For example, play “Revolution 9” backward — yes, *backward* — and a strange voice says, “Turn me on, dead man.”

And at the end of “I Am the Walrus,” someone plainly says, “I buried Paul.”

Or that, on the *Abbey Road* cover, the Beatles walk across the street with each playing a character. John wears white, so he’s the minister. Ringo wears black like the undertaker. Then comes *barefoot* Paul, which obviously makes him the corpse — plus, the left-handed McCartney holds his cigarette in his right hand, an imposter!! And last comes George, dressed like a gravedigger, etc., etc., etc.

We played “clues” on the air and searched for more. Audience calls came quickly as listeners found clues we never would have discovered. We put all the callers on the air, some with findings incredibly far-fetched and some fabulously uncanny. There was enormous energy and a great sense of spookiness. Our one phone line was flooded. There were a gazillion credible clues (and my memory is *not* blurry on the exact number).

We discovered the station didn’t have the *Magical Mystery Tour* album, so one of the newsmen brought us his personal copy, breathlessly reporting that our show blasted throughout his dorm and that there were groups everywhere passing around albums and sharing “clues.” It seemed that almost everybody had turned on the live “turn me on, dead man” show. We noted the 1 a.m. signoff time but plowed ahead until 3 a.m. And the calls kept coming.

Nobody can say for sure, but we always felt that “Paul Is Dead” night was the most-listened-to night ever for KCCS. It demonstrated an incredible synergy between KCCS and our audience. We needed them, and, once and a while, we gave them what they wanted. Maybe even more than once and a while.




Of Pies and Plastic Bags

As you would expect from any endeavor filled with college students, KCCS was bursting with the unlimited creativity of tremendously talented smart-asses at the peak of their wisecrack postadolescent prime, cranking it out before the long, perilous descent into adulthood.

KCCS was a commercial radio station, and although ads were a source of income for the station, their creation was a creative opportunity far more important than money. I don’t remember the advertiser, but a crowd of us were struggling

over the greatest technological challenge ever: creating the sound of someone being hit with a pie. It must’ve been a momentous selling point because we tried so many ways to solve the problem, including hitting someone in the face with a shaving cream pie, which actually wasn’t a remotely useable sound effect whatsoever. Ultimately, we discovered that water in a plastic bag — not too much, not too little — dropped to the countertop from exactly the right height — not too high, not too low — at precisely the correct distance from a microphone — not too ... you get it — sounds plenty like pie striking face. So, the commercial could proceed. This pie-face discovery was the kind of groundbreaking innovation that made The Great 58 even greater and enhanced the station’s significant historic legacy to the world.

But creativity wasn’t just for hire; it came from everywhere and everyone and at every opportunity. When the Woodstock soundtrack came out, its un-airable cut was “The Fish Cheer,” in which

 **Pat Bridgman, BJ '68**, the station’s first news director, checks the clock during a newscast. Each afternoon, a newsroom volunteer was assigned to buy the first copy of the *Columbia Missourian*, which informed the 5 o’clock news.



CAMPUS RADIO



Exclusive, on-campus radio where your message is heard by Columbia's largest college audience. 100 Pershing Hall Call 449-9500 or 9595

COLUMBIA'S TOP 10 December 5-11

- 1 HOLLY HOLY—NEIL DIAMOND (UNI)
- 2 Down On The Corner/Fortunate Son—C. C. (Fantasy)
- 3 Raindrops Keep Fallin'—B. J. Thomas (Scepter)
- 4 Leaving On A Jet Plane—P. P. & M. (Warner)
- 5 Someday We'll Be Together—Supremes (Motown)
- 6 Undun—Gues Who (RCA)
- 7 Elenor Rigby—Aretha Franklin (Atlantic)
- 8 Heaven Knows—Grass Roots (Dunhill)
- 9 The Lord Must Be In New York City—Nilsson (RCA)
- 10 Evil Woman—Crow (Amaret)

KCCS FUTURE 5

- No Time—Gues Who (RCA)
- Listen To The People—Zager & Evans (RCA)
- Mr. Limosine Driver—Grand Funk Railroad (Capitol)
- With Me My Love—Thomas & Richard Frost (Imperial)
- Wasn't Born to Follow—Byrds (Columbia)

KCCS FEATURE ALBUMS

- Volunteers—Jefferson Airplane (RCA)
- Let It Bleed—Rolling Stones (London)
- Bangor Flying Circus—Bangor Flying Circus (Dunhill)
- It's Not Killing Me—Michael Bloomfield (Columbia)
- Elvis At Vegas—Elvis Presley (RCA)

*DENOTES RECORD HEARD FIRST ON KCCS

ANGLES AND PULSATES
EGACAMPUS, 11 PM-1 AM
THE GREAT 58



CLOCKWISE: KCCS Studio A in the basement of Pershing Hall circa 1969. • A KCCS music survey from the week of Dec. 5-11, 1969, created by then music director Aaron Mermelstein. The pink sheets were distributed free on campus and in the establishments of advertisers. • KCCS staffers catalog new records circa 1967.



Country Joe McDonald bellowed the strongest of all four-letter words, one letter at a time, each letter echoed back by hundreds of thousands of voices. With great craft, it was re-edited, repurposed and reordered to spell out K (“KAY!!!!”) C (“CEEE!!!”) C (“CEEE!!!”) F (“ESSSSSSSSSSSS”) — because with a little reverb and the mystical power of suggestion, the letter F sounds unmistakably like an S on the radio. We had a perfect sounder of our call letters as cheered at the greatest music festival in history.

KCCS
On-Campus Radio
580

Salamis and Superheroes

But maybe the most successful single hunk of KCCS creativity was *Schwadaman*, a daily comedy superhero “radio serial.” The show carried that name because its superhero character was Schwadaman, who possessed no superpowers or powers of any sort. Or heroics. And relatively little character, for that matter. Schwadaman’s requisite sidekick was named Ho Chi Minh, a name that was, as they say, ripped from the headlines.

Meanwhile, as *Schwadaman* aired on KCCS, by totally and fantastically implausible coincidence, the chancellor of the Columbia campus was John Schwada. It was a tumultuous time at Mizzou, one of war and anti-war.

Chancellor Schwada was at the figurative center when demonstrations erupted on campus in 1970 (all of which were covered more than admirably by the ever-professional KCCS news department, by the by).

But *Schwadaman* never **ever** brought up what was happening on campus, and Schwadaman never even mentioned Chancellor Schwada because *Schwadaman* didn’t reflect current events, wasn’t political, wasn’t social commentary and wasn’t biting satire. All *Schwadaman* and Schwadaman were was funny and silly and sophomoric. In the series finale, “Schwadaman and the Big Salami,” Schwadaman ends up aboard a NASA rocket (spoiler alert: The rocket was the “big salami”) to save the secret formula of the show’s sponsor Nerf, “Breakfast of Chimpanzees — also a mild detergent.” (Spoiler alert: Schwadaman and Ho Chi save it.)

And *Schwadaman* was immensely popular, largely popular at least. Pretty darn popular. We got constant phone calls asking when the next episode would air. Students (mostly boys, of course), quoted Schwadaman and especially Ho Chi Minh, for whom the eponymous Schwadaman was usually just the straight man. We considered selling T-shirts.

What *Schwadaman* was, most important of all, was *naughty*. It seemed dangerous for a character named Schwadaman to even exist at Mizzou at that time and on “campus radio.” We all felt it was something subversive that the station *got away with*, and although it seems silly to call it one now, back then it felt like a *revolutionary act* and that plotless, pointless, apolitical smart-assery was



Two student volunteers conduct a newscast in KCCS Studio B, the production studio, circa 1972. At times, students could walk down the halls of every dorm and hear the KCCS signal. “On warm days, you could hear it through the open windows,” recalls station manager **Ed Wilsman**.

Schwadaman's greatest attribute.

We never knew if Chancellor Schwada knew of the series, and we wondered whether he would have been angry or pleased if he did. Or wouldn't have cared at all. We asked the same questions about Ho Chi Minh.

About this same time, there was talk of trying to establish an over-the-air FM station. As station manager, I opposed this because I worried the FCC-issued license would go to the University of Missouri board of curators instead of students. Frankly, I feared the adult supervision. I worried that, if the curators held the station license, nothing seditious like *Schwadaman* would ever be allowed again.



New Call Letters, New Generation

KCCS ended in 1973, when the 10-watt, over-the-air KCOU-FM (named after — sheesh — the Columbia airport designation), signed on and a whole new era of student radio began. Despite my fears of the FM license going to the board of curators, the group that put KCOU-FM on the air miraculously and laudably kept the license in the hands of students and the Independent Residence Halls Association.

KCCS stayed on the air for a time, but, because it was a carrier current station, it was never federally licensed. So, when a station in Oregon requested the call letters, the FCC granted the request. KCCS became KACK, which sounds more like a comic strip cat with a hairball than a radio station. But the magic shoeboxes ultimately went silent, and the old station finally faded into the wiring of the dormitories forever.

In the 1990s, “financial considerations” required that KCOU ownership transfer to the Missouri Students Association, and the license was reassigned to — TA-DA!!!! — the board of curators.

I think of carrier current KCCS often, whenever I hear music from that era via modern streaming or satellite technologies. I can still intro a record, though (I sigh), not as well as I did 50 years ago, as if I could do it well then. Nor can I do it with the same passion as then, no matter how hard I try (again

I sigh — and it's a big one this time).

Many KCCS people stayed in radio, broadcast journalism or management. Some KCCS news people went to newspapers. Others went into PR or advertising, joined the family business, or did whatever it was they intended to do before they got involved in what was, for them, just a fun extracurricular.

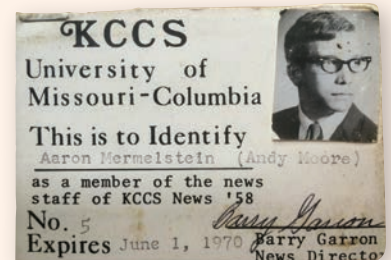
With the exception of Schwadaman, I've left all the names out of this little essay extravaganza because, with the passage of time, my mind is blurry on just who did what. And I actually believe that, though there were definitely egos at KCCS (see: this piece that you're reading in this magazine right now), I believe everybody did everything for the good of the station and not for ourselves as individuals. And besides, I probably made most of this up anyway.

I suspect I'll hear about any mistakes or outright lies here via the official Facebook page for old KCCS people (not that there are any young KCCS people now), where we make fun of each other and reminisce about exactly the kind of campus radio baloney I've already over-reminisced about here. And inevitably — because it's the only name they know me by — someone will call me Andy.

YES!! Andy Moore!! And I — Andy Moore — am a rock and roll disc jockey on a red-hot playin'-the-hits and rockin'-the-oldies radio station at the University of Missouri! M

About the author:

After KCCS, Aaron Mermelstein, BJ '72, had a long career in local and network TV news, did a bit of newspapering, some syndicated radio and other media miscellanea. His 2013 novel, Octopus' Garden, begins on the KCCS “Paul is dead” night and goes far beyond. He was never a disc jockey again.



Tell us about a favorite song, concert or KCCS memory from your college days. Email mizzou@missouri.edu.



TBA Order

Can Jeremiah Tilmon's performance elevate Mizzou's basketball squad?

BY MARK GODICH, BJ '79

Friday morning practice has just concluded, and Jeremiah Tilmon has graciously agreed to sit for a phone interview. He is cordial and overly polite. His boundless enthusiasm comes through over the phone. But Tilmon, the Missouri senior post player, has places to be, and when the conversation is over, he will head directly to the cold tub for an invigorating soak.

Don't read that the wrong way. Tilmon, all 6-foot-10 and 260 pounds of him, is in what he calls the best shape of his career, and that is great news for Mizzou basketball. Because for all you're rightfully going to hear about the team's dynamic guards, these Tigers will probably go as far as Tilmon can take them.



ZACH BLAND

“It’s a big year for him because if he’s an all-SEC first- or second-team guy, then Missouri is most likely an NCAA Tournament team,” says ESPN analyst Jimmy Dykes. “In terms of experience, body, all that stuff, he can anchor his team as well as anybody in that league on both ends of the floor.”

That statement speaks to how far Tilmon has come in three college seasons. Sure, he arrived on campus in the summer of 2017 as a heralded top-50 recruit, a player who was bubbling with energy and flashed an effervescent smile. But Tigers strength and conditioning Coach Nicodemus Christopher also recalls a player who could be described in a three-letter word: raw.

“It was as simple as that,” Christopher says. “Physically, he was raw. On the court he had some skill, but he was raw. Even from the standpoint of learning to be a man, it was a blank slate.”

Indeed, from the very beginning, Tilmon showed flashes of what made him such a coveted recruit — 14 points and seven rebounds in his college debut alone, the first game of the short-lived Michael Porter Jr. era. But with success came frustration: adjusting to the college game, understanding the commitment required of a scholarship player, learning how to battle for the first time against opponents his size, if not bigger. Although he averaged a respectable 10.1 points and 5.9 rebounds, he was on the floor for just 24.2 minutes per game. Foul trouble became an issue that carried over to his sophomore year — he fouled out of 10 games in each season — and his junior year was interrupted by a foot injury. “Sometimes I get a little too physical,” Tilmon says now. “I need to be more mentally strong.”

For Coach Cuonzo Martin, Tilmon’s development can be summed up in one word: maturity. “When you come in at 18, it’s different than when you’re 22,” Martin says. “It’s a different life experience, understanding, being battle-tested, battle scars — all those things we gain through our trials and tribulations. We learn from them and gain wisdom over time.”

And that explains why the Tigers are so high on Tilmon, why they have never stopped believing, why he is so pivotal to their success in 2020–21. For all of the tribulations he experienced over his first three years — and there were plenty — he never stopped grinding, never complained, never quit seeking answers.

“He has really grown,” Christopher says. “The biggest credit to that goes to his willingness to learn. Jeremiah is a very vocal guy, so he doesn’t hold anything in. Just sitting down with him, the way he sees the game, the way he sees life, the conversations we’re able to have, you really see there are some things he didn’t understand fully that he gets now.”





opportunity to see how officials were calling things.

“It keeps him from getting a quick foul in the first 2½ minutes,” Dykes says. “It buys three or four minutes for him from a mental standpoint.”

In addition to Tilmon, the Tigers will lean on guards Xavier Pinson, Dru Smith and Drew Buggs, a graduate transfer from Hawaii. Pinson and Smith fueled the late-season surge last winter, combining for 34.9 points per game during a 5-4 closing stretch after putting up 18.4 points over the first 23 games. Buggs will primarily run the point, freeing up Pinson and Smith to do their thing: attack the basket and hunt 3-point shots off of penetration. That should help spread the floor for Tilmon to operate inside.

The key is being able to finish. When he went through the NBA Draft process this summer, Tilmon heard a familiar refrain: Make point-blank shots, convert the and-one chances, improve his rebounding, run the floor as a trailer and then score with an emphatic dunk or by knocking down the occasional 3-pointer. Yes, Tilmon has at least a yellow light from Martin to launch from deep.

Mitchell Smith was a sophomore when Tilmon arrived on campus as a wide-eyed 18-year-old. They were two young guys, both learning their way around, following the leads of their older teammates. Now Smith, who is also a senior after taking a medical redshirt, sees a totally different individual — on and off the court.

“When JT walks around now, he acts like a grown man,” Smith says. “He’s found himself. He knows what kind of man he wants to be. He’s learning more and more every day.”

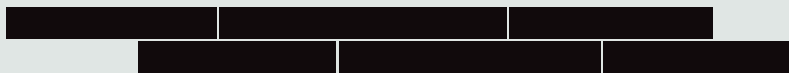
The energy, desire and mindset have spilled over to the weight room. As Christopher notes, every coach likes to have a surrogate in the locker room, a player who can echo the head man’s words, police teammates and lead by example. It’s no different in Christopher’s domain.

“He holds his teammates accountable,” he says of JT. “It makes it even easier for him because he loves the energy part of it, the grind of it, the hard work. He’s telling me, ‘Hey, Coach, I need to see more weight on [a teammate’s] sheet.’ He’s even holding me accountable. He puts a little pressure on me to be a better coach.”

Now, about the fouls. Turns out a foot injury that sidelined Tilmon for nine games during the heart of the SEC schedule last season may have been a blessing in disguise. Because if he has the big senior season those in the program are expecting, we may look back on what transpired upon his February return as a major reason. He came back to a team that was playing its best ball of the season, and Martin understandably saw no reason to shake up the starting five. So Tilmon willingly came off the bench, and he did so effectively. Over his last four games, he averaged a modest 7.3 points and almost five rebounds. Most important, he never collected more than three fouls in a game, this while averaging 22.7 minutes over his last three games. Tilmon has never lacked for enthusiasm, maybe to a fault. Perhaps being on the bench for the start of games gave him the

“In terms of experience, body, all that stuff, [Tilmon] can anchor his team as well as anybody in that league on both ends of the floor.”

— ESPN ANALYST JIMMY DYKES



More than anything, however, the Tigers need Tilmon to do the dirty work. The ball screen has become all the rage in college basketball, and he not only will be asked to set solid screens for his teammates

and roll to the basket but also to defend against the same on the other end. That means avoiding the silly fouls — setting a moving screen or reaching defensively.

“Opponents are always going to drag Jeremiah Tilmon into a ball screen,” Dykes says. “He’s going to have to be a terrific ball-screen defender, coverage-type guy. He doesn’t have to be 18 [points] and 10 [rebounds]. If he’s a 12-and-8 guy, that bodes really, really well for Missouri.”

So does having a roster that returns everyone except for graduated big man Reed Nikko. Old is good in college basketball, especially in the wake of an offseason that was curtailed by COVID-19. “This year, more than any other year, old is going to win,” Dykes says. “Missouri is just as experienced as anyone out there. Old should win, especially early.” So far, so good. By press time, the Tigers had pounced to a 5-0 record and entered the Associated Press national rankings at No. 16 after beating No. 6 Illinois 81-78 in the annual Braggin’ Rights contest Dec. 12.

Jeremiah Tilmon is old now, the father of a 4-year-old boy, three years removed from that raw arrival on campus. Wiser, too. He has evolved into a leader, a player whose heart has never been questioned and a guy teammates feed off of and is universally loved in the program.

“This year I feel like we’ve got a way better team, a way different connection,” Tilmon says. “I’ve been in this locker room for four years. The connection with the guys we have now has never been this real. It’s never been this authentic.”

With those parting words, Tilmon is on his way. The cold tub is calling. As is one final season. **M**

About the author: Mark Godich, BJ ’79, is a senior editor at The Athletic.

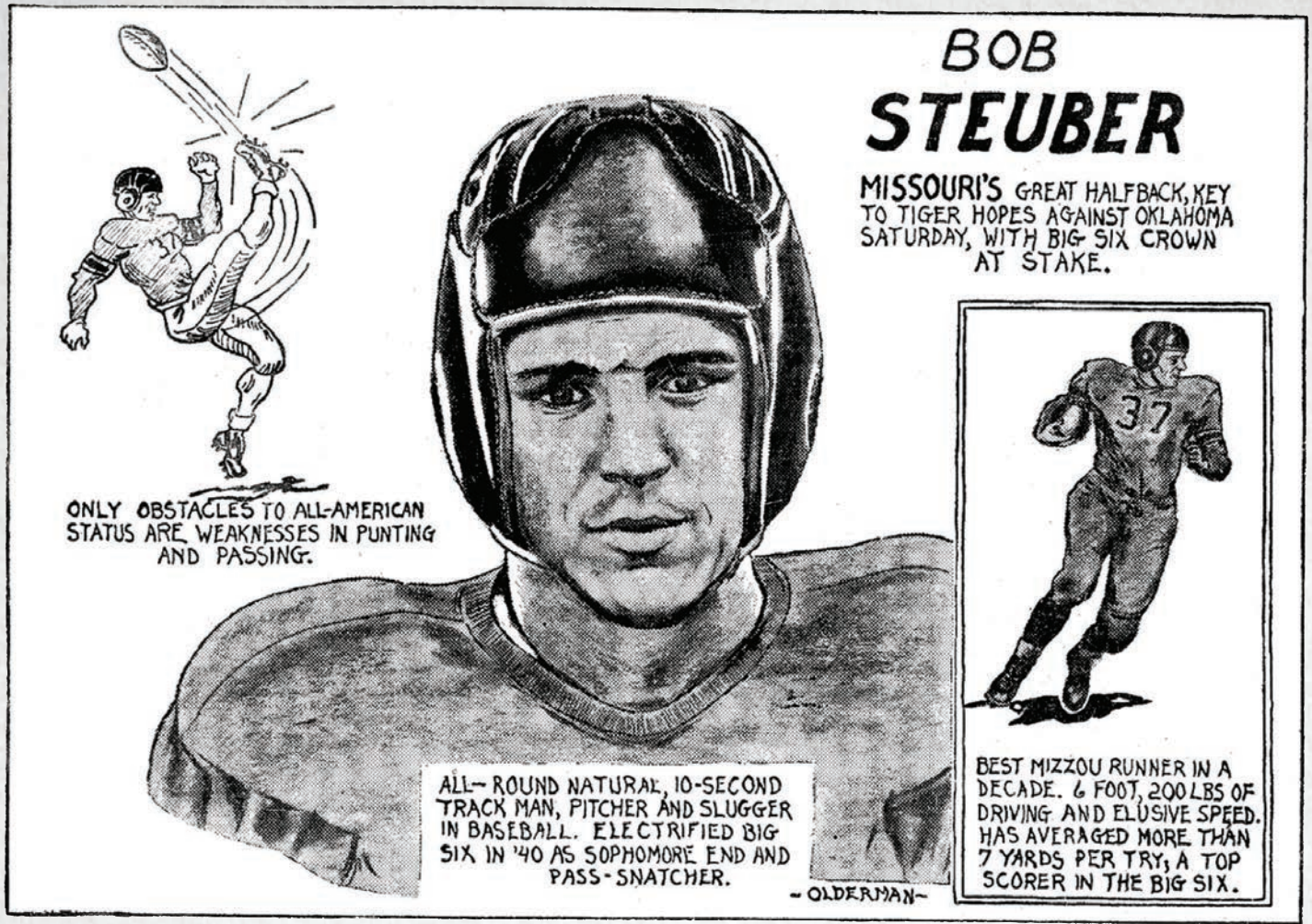
Double Threat

MURRAY OLDERMAN WAS A RARE CARTOONIST-WRITER

Page 43

By Tony Rehagen, BA, BJ '01





In 1941, Murray Olderman was a junior at Mizzou, working at the *Columbia Missourian*.

But unlike so many journalism students who came before or after, Olderman, BJ '43, was neither typing out the text of a story nor was he scanning his camera roll for the best photograph. He was drawing a cartoon — a sketch of MU's star running back, Bob Steuber, BS Ed '48. It would be the first of Olderman's drawings to be published but far from the last.

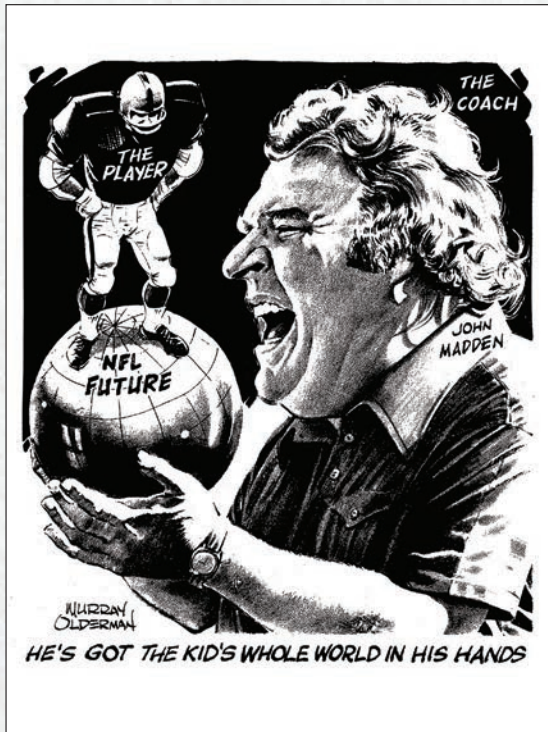
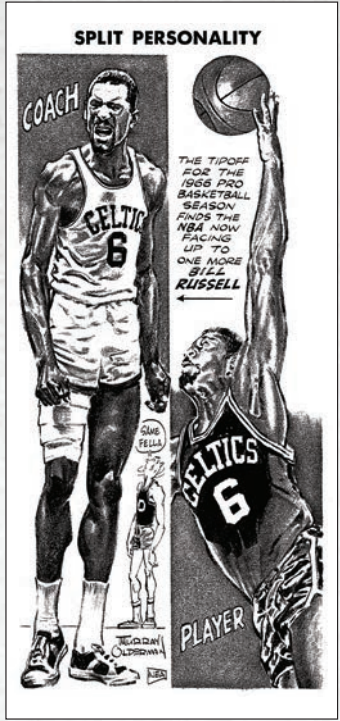
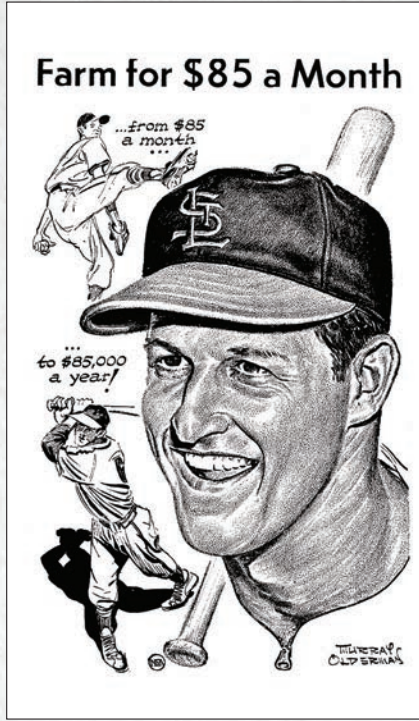
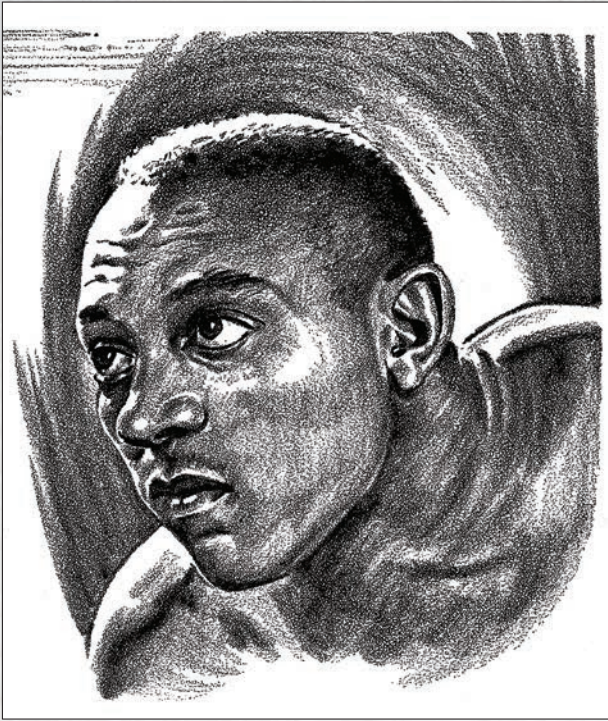
Over the next 60 years, Olderman became one of the nation's most prominent sports cartoonists, syndicated in as many as 750 newspapers between the 1950s and 1980s. He also wrote columns, features and books. He died in June at age 98. "Murray Olderman was a legendary cartoonist who was among the few who could both draw and write with an equal amount of skill and technique," says Robert Tornoe, staff writer and cartoonist for the *Philadelphia Enquirer*. "He was also among the last of a dying breed of sports cartoonists who — despite their popularity — were downsized in an age of consolidation or replaced by wire photos."

Olderman's father worked in New York's garment district in the 1920s. On the bus ride home, he picked up newspapers that others had left behind, and the young Olderman would go

straight to sports sections and try to imitate the cartoons. He toiled around with the medium during his years at Mizzou, but after graduation, he was sidetracked by World War II, where he interrogated Nazis as an intelligence officer until 1947. Upon his return stateside, Olderman had short stints at *The Sacramento Bee* and *The Minneapolis Star* before the Newspaper Enterprise Association enlisted him to draw a daily sports comic strip in 1952.

Through the years, Olderman experimented with different styles and approaches, ranging from caricature to romanticism and satire to goofiness. Most of his work tried to depict athletes as they truly were — at least to him. "In portraying these people, most of the time I couldn't help but emphasize their heroic qualities, often romanticize them," Olderman wrote in his memoir.

Even after photography and color print nudged him and his fellow artists off the sports page, Olderman still believed that cartoons could communicate ideas unlike any snapshot or computer graphic. As he told the *Missourian* in 2017: "You can deliver a point of view with some pungency." **M**



† In the early 1940s, Olderman was a rare student journalist-cartoonist honing his craft at the *Columbia Missourian* with editorial sports drawings about Mizzou standouts such as **Bob Steuber**, opposite. After a detour through Europe during World War II, Olderman returned to the U.S. and became a renowned syndicated sports cartoonist for the Newspaper Enterprise Association. He covered and captured the world's great athletes, including, clockwise from top left, Olympian **Jesse Owens**, Cardinal great **Stan Musial**, basketball Hall of Famer **Bill Russell**, tennis legend and gender rights activist **Billie Jean King**, football coach **John Madden**, and football star and personality "**Mean**" **Joe Greene**.

The *Mizzou: Our Time to Lead* campaign was successful, raising over \$1.4 billion. But success goes far beyond monetary goals. The truer measure of

Leading

success is in the lives changed — the students, faculty, staff and alumni who lead today and are preparing to lead tomorrow. These are their stories.

the Way



SALUTING A **RECORD-BREAKING** CAMPAIGN

Mizzou put a stake in the ground when it set an ambitious goal and plotted the course for the historic campaign we just completed. The alumni, students, faculty and staff of this incredible institution declared with one voice: It's our time to lead!

And you did just that. The support of our alumni and friends allowed us to reach new heights. All told, the campaign raised \$1.4 billion, thanks to the generosity of more than 176,000 donors.

Your giving sparked four signature centers, increased our endowment and provided critical resources for student success, campus renaissance and research excellence. Scholarships funded through this campaign touched the lives of more than 3,100 students.

We couldn't have done it without you, our alumni. Your support of Mizzou throughout the record-setting campaign has set us up to continue our legacy of world-class education and cutting-edge research for years to come. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible during my time as vice chancellor of advancement.

Since arriving here in August, I've come to recognize the true meaning of the phrase Mizzou Made. The quality people that this university attracts are what move Mizzou forward. Billion-dollar campaigns don't get to that level without an institution worth investing in, engaged alumni, generous partners and top staff. I'm fortunate to work directly with many of these people in the Office of Advancement. I want to thank my predecessor, Tom Hiles, and the advancement team, whose efforts made the campaign successful.

The promise of a bright future is why I'm so excited to have joined the University of Missouri family at this moment of transition and opportunity. We accomplished a great deal during the last campaign, but we're far from resting on our laurels.

Now that we have celebrated our success, it's time for the next challenge. We will continue working hard to provide new possibilities for our students, resources that will allow our researchers to change lives for the better and so much more. Your support combined with the caliber of people and facilities on this campus can change the world.

We look forward to completing projects such as the NextGen Precision Health research facility and the new Sinclair School of Nursing building. We continue striving to provide access and opportunity for students of all backgrounds as well as top-flight resources for our brilliant researchers.

Together, we are Mizzou, and I'm happy to be a part of the family. M-I-Z!



Jackie Lewis
VICE CHANCELLOR
FOR ADVANCEMENT



“The promise of a bright future is why I'm so excited to have joined the University of Missouri family at this moment of transition and opportunity. We accomplished a great deal during the last campaign, but we're far from resting on our laurels.”

CAMPAIGN IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

\$1.41 Billion

TOTAL RAISED

JULY 2011

CAMPAIGN DURATION

JUNE 2020

\$1.3B

CAMPAIGN GOAL

9%

OVER CAMPAIGN
GOAL

176K

TOTAL
DONORS





Oregon Alumni Blaze a Trail of Service

Deb Diers was never much of a rah-rah alumna. The 1974 J-School graduate worked in radio and ad agencies in Nevada, Oregon and Kansas with little involvement in MU alumni activities. She moved to Detroit in the late 1980s and found herself in charge of a local group of Tigers, who gathered mostly for football watch parties. When she retired and moved back to Portland, Oregon, a few years ago, the Mizzou Alumni Association urged her to stay in touch. That's when she met Katelyn Entzeroth.

Entzeroth is a 2017 graduate in finance who had always been involved and whose passion for Mizzou was contagious. "She was this enthusiastic young woman, and I was an old broad who had all this time," Diers says jokingly. "We hit it off."

Together they revived the Oregon Trail Tigers, the Portland-area alumni chapter that had gone dormant. In just a matter of months, the group was about 50 Tigers strong. They do much more than just hang out and watch sports (though they do that, too). For 2019 Mizzou Service Day, they volunteered to plant trees with Friends of Trees. They held a

book drive for the Children's Book Bank. They helped Lift Up Portland, an area food bank, buy monthly food boxes for seniors and people with disabilities. They provided lunches to furloughed federal workers who were working without pay. Even during COVID, members donned masks and went out to pick up trash in the community. Diers says it gives them a sense of pride. And even though half the time people who spot her working in her Tiger gear don't know what M-I-Z means, occasionally she'll hear some passerby in the know reply "Z-O-U!"

↑ Members of the Portland-area alumni chapter pitch in locally in Mizzou's name.

CAMPAIGN IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

14,000+

Volunteerism: In the campaign's final year, a record **14,292 Tigers** shared their time and talent with boards and chapters.

FAY PUT STUDENTS FIRST Nancy Fay never forgot what it was like to be a student at Mizzou. Even though she earned a Bachelor of Medical Science in 1969, she knew that students today, as then, were stressed and didn't always take care of themselves. That's why Fay began hosting a free breakfast for students at the School of Health Professions every finals week. "She served the food herself, and the students adored her for that," says Kristofer Hagglund, dean of the school. "She was always first in line to volunteer for events that would help students." Fay was also active with the Tiger Quarterback Club and the school's alumni group. She credited Mizzou with launching her career as a medical technician and her relationships formed there with building her Mary Kay cosmetics business. She also valued the landmarks, traditions and people on campus, which she visited until she died in September 2019. "All of us in health professions miss her," Hagglund says. "At the end of that semester, we looked for her at our breakfast. We knew she was with us in spirit."



MOST-ly Science

In an increasingly complicated world, politicians regularly face crucial, science-based decisions. The problem is that many policymakers aren't scientists. And they don't usually have access to reliable resources where they can quickly gather information when they need it. Now, thanks to three Mizzou graduate students, Missouri lawmakers do. Launched in Jefferson City in fall 2020, the Missouri Science and Technology (MOST) Policy Initiative places five postdoctoral fellows in a range of science and technology backgrounds with the Missouri Legislature. The fellows assist legislators with research when writing bills and help them weigh the potential benefits and drawbacks of pending legislation. MOST is largely supported by a grant from the James S. McDonnell Foundation. "Scientists are frustrated that there isn't more science in the policy discussion," says Rachel Owen, PhD '19, program director and co-founder along with fellow Tigers Mike Hendricks, MA '16, PhD '19, and Hallie Thompson, BS '11. "We don't want to just communicate science for science's sake. We believe that informed legislators will be able to help people in Missouri."



Helping Missouri Farmers

Since 1914, MFA and the University of Missouri have teamed up to support agricultural education and research. In that time, Missouri agriculture has evolved from horse-drawn harvesters to airborne drones patrolling fields as they monitor temperature, soil and plant conditions, fertilizer use, and more.

To keep progress plowing forward, MFA Oil Company, MFA Incorporated and the MFA Foundation have endowed a new chair position in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. The MFA Chair in Agribusiness is an upgrade of the professorship MFA created in 2015.

“Through scholarships and other programs, MFA sends a lot of students to MU,” says Joe Parcell, who was the first MFA Professor of Agribusiness. “This will allow us to attract the best talent to the faculty, as well.” The new position is just one of many ways MFA supports Mizzou. It offers scholarships, donates to and sponsors 4-H and FFA.

MFA Oil Company also gives to the College of Business, including in-kind gifts, such as buying the Missouri Mule Team a new truck. But the new MFA Chair in Agribusiness, which started Jan. 1, 2021, will enable CAFNR to further the university’s land-grant mission with people vital to Missouri — its farmers.

↑ MFA extends its tradition of supporting Mizzou through an endowed chair in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

PROTÉGÉ PAYS IT FORWARD

Being a mentor is a funny thing. The job description is literally to help others, to offer them guidance and support. But often the mentor ends up being the one feeling rewarded through the experience. At least that’s what happened with Kieran Chang.



Chang graduated from the MU College of Engineering in 2019, but while he was still an undergrad, he volunteered with AVID, a mentoring program in the College of Education. He and other Mizzou students traveled to Columbia-area schools to prepare middle school and secondary students for college. And the experience meant so much to Chang that he wanted to continue giving back even after he graduated. “The most rewarding thing was that the students clearly appreciate that you’re there,” Chang says. “High school and middle school kids can get distracted, but they were present when we were there.”

That’s why Chang, now a business solutions consultant in Pennsylvania, has pledged a donation to establish an endowment for AVID. The unrestricted gift can be used to market the program throughout campus to students outside the College of Education, like him, for transportation to and from the schools, or any other costs that need to be met. Chang’s gift also stands as an example that anyone of any age can make an impact and give back in a meaningful way.

Endowment 101

Since 1888, endowments have benefitted MU students, faculty, facilities and programs.

Think of an endowment gift as a savings account from which only the interest is withdrawn each year. By preserving the original gift amount, the interest can forever fund student scholarships, faculty research or whatever the donor chooses. Endowments grow over the long run to keep up with the cost of tuition, salaries and research. The minimum amount to establish an endowment is \$25,000, which can be given in installments for up to five years. MU collects the earnings for each endowment in a distribution account. Each year, 4.5% of the fund's value is spent according to the donor's wishes.

\$25,000 endowment



\$1,125 scholarship every year (4.5%)

\$100,000 endowment



\$4,500 scholarship every year (4.5%)



DID YOU KNOW?

In 1888, the first endowment at MU, the James S. Rollins Scholarship Fund, is established with \$6,000. Today, the fund is worth about \$235,000.

MIZZOU GIVING DAY Since 2017, Mizzou's Office of Advancement has held an annual 24-hour giving event featuring donor challenges and matching gift opportunities. The first Mizzou Giving Day raised over \$8 million, and it has since grown to \$13 million coming from 4,095 donors in 2019. **Save the date:** Mizzou Giving Day 2021 begins at noon on March 10. Social media challenges and hourly contests will award bonus funds to MU programs, with sponsors offering additional donations and matches. More: givingday.missouri.edu

CAMPAIGN IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

30

Endowed positions created for named faculty chairs, professorships, fellows and scholars

306

Additional funds created

101%

Increase in the endowment reaching \$1,177,573,000 in January 2020



Engineer-pioneer

When Sharon Langenbeck started at Mizzou in 1971, she was one of just 13 women enrolled in the entire engineering program and the only one in mechanical and aerospace engineering. Role models were nonexistent. No women were there to guide Langenbeck's start in the profession, and her male counterparts had no exemplars for how to behave around a female colleague. Professors and male students questioned if she was there to find a husband. Although she was easily singled out, all she really wanted was an opportunity to prove herself. "I had to learn to blend and adapt to be successful," says Langenbeck, BS ME '74, MS '76, PhD '79.

She certainly adapted. Langenbeck went on to earn a doctorate in mechanical and aerospace engineering from Mizzou before embarking on a stellar career at Lockheed-California Co. and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.



↑ Sharon Langenbeck, above and top, has helped pave the way for women in engineering.

But she never forgot what it felt like to be singled out and held to a separate standard. And she knows that, although women have made great strides in engineering, they are still a minority in the field. That's why she decided to endow not only a chair but also a fellowship in support of women in mechanical and aerospace engineering at Mizzou. "Women still don't have a lot of role models in engineering," she says. "I hope the fellowship provides the same opportunity I had so these students can focus on their degree, not be worried about the financial aspects, and know that there is someone who recognizes their potential and believes in them."



MAPPING LAND AND CULTURE ALIKE The Venable Collection of 163 single-sheet maps and 79 bound atlases, some from as early as the 16th century, is a cartographer’s dream. But you don’t have to be interested in studying old maps to appreciate the trove of rare materials, a gift-in-kind from Gary Venable, BS EE ’72, MS ’73, and his wife, Janet, on the fourth floor of Ellis Library. They are touchstones, freeze-frames of worlds gone by, representative of the history, sociology, philosophy, geography and political science of their time. They were created using feats of contemporary mathematics, exploration and engineering. Many are inscribed with writing for linguists and etched with cartouches of people for students of fashion. Perhaps above all, they are works of art for artists, designers and any academically undecided student to stop, ponder and appreciate.

DONOHEW GIFT PROMOTES DIVERSITY ON AND OFF CAMPUS

Ken Donohew and his wife, Ellen Kippel, have long been backers of Mizzou, both in terms of financial and moral support. Donohew, a third-generation Tiger with a 1967 degree in industrial engineering, was particularly proud of the students taking a nationally publicized stand against systemic racism in 2015. So, in 2019, when Donohew and Kippel established the \$1.4 million Major General Jack N. Donohew Fund for Diversity and Inclusion in Engineering in honor of Donohew’s father, it was important to the couple that the effort extend beyond campus. They found the answer in MU Extension, 4-H and soccer.

Missouri 4-H Soccer for Success is an after-school sports program geared toward Latino children and families in the Kansas City area. Middle schoolers engage in physical activity, nutrition education and mentorship using

bilingual programming. And as these young athletes reach eighth grade, they transition into Juntos 4-H, a college readiness program that helps Latino families bridge the gap to higher education. The children also learn traditional 4-H leadership skills, preparing them for life after school.

Promoting inclusion through the soccer program is just one facet of the Donohew Fund. The gift has also supported the formation of an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Council, which will help MU Extension focus on diversity in its programming and incubate new ideas for inclusion. Other possible future uses include 4-H Extension efforts geared to urban areas of Missouri and the Missouri College Advising Corps, which places recent MU graduates in high schools to advise students on preparing for college.





THE ENDURING POWER OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Mizzou’s goal of opening its doors to all who aspire to higher education springs from its mission as a land-grant university. Scholarships support that mission by bringing in students whose talent and diverse backgrounds raise the bar for faculty and students alike, says Jim Spain, vice provost for undergraduate studies. The money raised for scholarships will give recipients a chance to pursue their dreams while offering their classmates a richer, more challenging education, Spain says. “In many cases, gifts come from alumni donors who benefitted from the kind of assistance that they’re now able to provide.”

† An \$80,000 scholarship helped Cole Bredehoeft, above left, defray the massive debt of medical school. Top right: Michael DePriest and Barbara Braznell

Funding Future Physicians

Cole Bredehoeft fondly recalls a pivotal moment during medical school as one of shock and disbelief. In 2017, he learned he received a Michael D. DePriest, MD, and Barbara A. Braznell Endowed Scholarship. The award covers tuition and expenses for one medical student in every other incoming class. For Bredehoeft, the scholarship covered his third and fourth years, totaling over \$80,000.

“It blew my mind given how much medical school costs,” says Bredehoeft, BS ’14, MD ’19. Growing up in Green Ridge, Missouri, he was introduced to health care by his mother, a family practice nurse who treats a range of conditions. Now a resident in internal medicine and pediatrics at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and Nationwide Children’s Hospital, his gratitude for the scholarship extends beyond its financial support.

“With the cost of medical training, sometimes people are driven by that number looming over their heads,” he says. Students wind up choosing higher-paying surgical specialties, despite a national shortage of primary care doctors. For Bredehoeft, the scholarship allowed him to focus on what he is passionate about.

Michael D. DePriest, MD ’80, has always appreciated how Mizzou’s medical school allowed him to achieve his dream of becoming a doctor. He and his wife, Barbara Braznell, BA ’76, JD ’85, created the scholarship to ease the burdens that make medical school even more difficult now than in the past.

“We are about halfway to our goal of funding one student for each medical school class,” DePriest says. “I really owe the medical school quite a debt for setting me on the right path.”



Champions of Change

For Jim and Cathy Brazeal, racial diversity is a defining attribute of a great university. It's a belief that runs deep. When Jim was in seventh grade, his hometown of Springfield, Missouri, implemented the Supreme Court's *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision, and it changed his world. Working side by side with Black classmates for the first time, he got to know them as friends rather than relying on stereotypes. Decades later, in 2004, Jim, BA '67, MBA '69, and Cathy created the Brazeal Honors College Endowed Diversity Scholarship. The award supports students from underrepresented groups with a full academic scholarship, including funds for study abroad and research or artistry programs.

"Getting the scholarship was really powerful for me," says Olivia Flagg-Bourke, a senior majoring in English. "I got to do research my first year here, which is incredible. It has really helped me narrow down what I want to do with my life."

Recipients attend regular meetings and events, including trips to civil rights landmarks and museums. They also participate in interviews that help select future Brazeal scholars. "These students have a pretty important role and a pretty important say," according to J.D. Bowers, director of the Honors College. "What we're looking for is the typical honors student in some ways but also a student who has the ambition and drive to be part of a tight cohort."

The Brazeals lend the scholars support by hosting dinners and offering networking opportunities, including a mentoring program with alumni. "We've had an opportunity to get to know these young folks and observe their progress over the years," Jim says. "It has enriched our lives greatly."

For Flagg-Bourke, the scholarship has given her a strong sense of belonging at Mizzou. And her role in bringing others who look like her into the fold has perhaps been the most gratifying aspect of all.

↑ Olivia Flagg-Bourke's sense of belonging at MU stems in part from her scholarship.
 ↓ Jim and Cathy Brazeal



"We've had an opportunity to get to know these young folks and observe their progress over the years. It has enriched our lives greatly."
 — Jim Brazeal

CAMPAIGN IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

\$3.5 million

IN STUDENT SUPPORT



Lizzy's Legacy

When law student Carley Johansson applied for the Elizabeth Westbrooks Memorial Scholarship, she saw herself in the description: hard-working, vivacious and passionate about the law. She learned that Elizabeth Westbrooks, JD '10, supported civil rights, women's rights and conservation and knew they would have been friends.

"I wanted to apply, not just for the monetary value but also for the value of carrying on that legacy," says Johansson, who received the \$1,250 scholarship last fall for her second year of law school.

In 2017, after landing her dream job in legal ethics, Westbrooks died on her 33rd birthday from a cardiac episode. Parents Elaine and Mike Westbrooks started the scholarship, which, through generous donations from Elizabeth's friends and colleagues, exceeded the \$25,000 needed to live on in perpetuity.

"The scholarship has given us great satisfaction," Elaine says. "It has given us a channel to help us deal with our grief."



NEW SIGNATURE CENTERS

Universities create knowledge. Then what? “At the end of the knowledge chain are people who are transformed as a result of that knowledge,” says Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Latha Ramchand. Mizzou’s signature centers help convert the university’s expertise into solutions for society. Created as part of the \$1.4 billion *Mizzou: Our Time to Lead* campaign, the Novak Leadership Institute and Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy join the Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders and the Donald W. Reynolds Journalism Institute, which were elevated to signature status during the campaign.

CURIOSITY AND CIVILITY

Democracy is messy, and unpacking its complex philosophical foundations in this country as well as its global context can generate strong feelings. In this time of deepening political division, the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy is teaching students how to disagree well.

Led by ideologically diverse faculty, the institute unites historians, political scientists, lawyers, journalists and public policy scholars who are interested in the same kinds of questions, “even though they’re not necessarily coming to the same answers,” says institute Director Justin Dyer. “One of the things that we’ve tried to do is model for our students civil discourse and disagreement on fundamental questions that face our society. It’s not political. It’s a serious intellectual project about American political thought and history.”

Faculty members teach classes on the history of American law and the constitutional debates. They host lectures on the women’s suffrage movement, political moderation and the Missouri Compromise. They publish books on Lloyd Gaines’ fight to end

segregation and church-state relations as part of a monograph series, *Studies in Constitutional Democracy*, at the University of Missouri Press. And they encourage students to form a scholarly community exploring connections between the ideas and events of the American founding and the state of today’s constitutional democracies around the world.

In fall 2020, the institute partnered with the College of Arts and Science to add a bachelor’s degree in constitutional democracy as well as a residential college, allowing first-year students to live in Wolpers Hall and take courses together with Kinder Institute faculty. Other undergraduate programs include a competitive academic fellowship program, opportunities to study abroad at Oxford and a Washington, D.C., internship program.



← Justin Dyer directs the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy.

ILLUSTRATION: SHUTTERSTOCK; DYER: MICHAEL CALI



INCREASING IMPACT

When Connie Brooks walks from her office to the coffeemaker, it's not unusual for the clinical psychologist to run into a speech-language pathologist or occupational therapist. "We have this 'bump-ability' factor," says Brooks of the Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders.

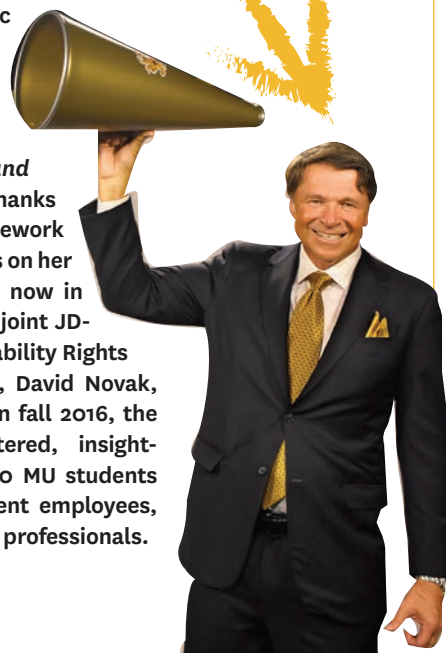
It's key to what makes the Thompson Center a national leader in clinical service, training and research. With 15 clinical subspecialties, the center offers coordinated care to families, interdisciplinary training to students and collaborative research opportunities to faculty. "These are families that have kids with complex needs, and the way to serve them well is to not be in a silo," Brooks says.

With the prevalence rate of autism increasing — it jumped from 1 in 166 children in 2005 when the Thompson Center opened to 1 in 54 children today — the center continues searching for ways to increase the number of families it can serve. In recent years, it has launched a graduate program teaching applied behavior analysis, a mainstay of autism treatment, and broadened its training of diagnosticians statewide. In fiscal 2020, the center performed 551 evaluations, treated 3,773 patients across 13,034 visits and trained 8,551 health professionals.

THINKING BIG

Before leaders can inspire others, they have to know where they are going. So, Step One for students in the Novak Leadership Institute's core strategic communication and marketing-based leadership courses is to set a big goal. But Lillie Heigl, BA, BJ '18, didn't have just one big idea. She wanted to get accepted to law school *and* a public affairs master's program. Thanks to lessons she learned from the coursework and conversations with fellow students on her leadership development team, she is now in her final year at Syracuse University's joint JD-MPA program and a legal intern at Disability Rights International. The program's eponym, David Novak, BJ '74, would be proud. Established in fall 2016, the institute has provided human-centered, insight-driven leadership training to over 300 MU students and more than 3,000 state government employees, higher education leaders and business professionals.

↑ David Novak's gift launched a leadership institute.



CAMPAIGN IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

4

Signature centers and institutes with \$10+ million endowments



BETTER JOURNALISM

In January 2020, the publisher of the *Northeast Kansas City News* walked into a local coffee shop, and before the barista could hand him a cup of joe, she complimented him on changes to the paper's social media presence. Just three days prior, MU journalism student Greta Serrin, BJ '20, had arrived, bringing with her a fresh perspective on social media. She introduced the staff to a social media management platform and taught them how to make posts more conversational, resulting in a 700% increase in weekly profile visits to the newspaper's Instagram page.

The Potter Digital Ambassador program, which sends J-School students to small community newspapers around Missouri for a week, is just one way the Reynolds Journalism Institute is strengthening journalism's future. Launched in 2004, RJI supports fellows who develop ideas for better journalism, houses students and faculty who conduct experiments in new media, and funds research on how to ensure journalism continues its critical role in democracy. "RJI has become the go-to source for new ideas and strategies that will help journalism get better faster," says Executive Director Randy Picht, BJ '80.



BRICK-AND-MORTAR BOOSTERS

“We are changing the way we look at our campus infrastructure,” says Gary Ward, vice chancellor for operations and chief operating officer. “The *Mizzou: Our Time to Lead* campaign has never been about buildings. First and foremost, it’s been about supporting the teaching and research mission of the university. It’s been about adding value to the institution by creating an environment where students can get a great education and a great experience, whether it’s in the classroom, the lab or at a sporting event. And — oh, by the way — all this happens in facilities.”

When Don Walsworth steps out of his role as CEO of one of the nation’s largest yearbook publishers and commercial book printers to stroll through the new Memorial Stadium South End Zone Facility, he feels a mixture of pride and appreciation. “You can’t help but think how far Mizzou athletics have come,” he says.

Walsworth, BS ’57, and his wife, Audrey, BJ ’56, have helped make that happen with donations totaling more than \$25 million. When a major gift was needed to fund the new South End Zone Facility, the Walsworths stepped up. “I was convinced that, for the university to compete at a high level for the championship of the SEC, we had to have facilities comparable to or better than other schools,” he says.

The south end zone addition has raised the profile of MU

sports, locally and nationally. No one driving on Stadium Boulevard can miss the immense scoreboard-videoboard spanning the width of the building. The complex encompasses well-appointed locker rooms, a sports medicine facility with hydrotherapy pools, strength training rooms, offices, as well as 1,254 club seats and 16 suites where fans can enjoy the action.

Don and Audrey have supported the university in other significant ways. Don has served on the University of Missouri board of curators and on various MU boards and committees. Both he and Audrey enjoy serving occasionally as guest lecturers. Looking forward to when the pandemic subsides, they are starting a fund to help Trulaske College of Business students to study in developing nations.



SOUTH END ZONE



SINQUEFIELD MUSIC CENTER

If walls could talk, the new **Jeanne and Rex Sinquefeld Music Center** would be singing arias. The 47,000-square-foot School of Music building, which was made possible by a lead gift from the Sinquefelds, provides students and faculty with classrooms, 26 practice rooms, 13 computer lab stations, and rehearsal spaces for large and small ensembles. Previously, instruction and performance facilities were scattered across campus in spaces not designed for music. Spacious as an art museum, the building pleases the eye as well as the ear. The art of design and the science of acoustic engineering have been seamlessly melded in this \$24 million structure.



NEXTGEN PRECISION HEALTH

When completed on Oct. 19, 2021, the **NextGen Precision Health building** will become the centerpiece of the University of Missouri System's most extensive medical research initiative. As the first new dedicated research center in 16 years, the five-story facility will serve as a new home for teams of scientists, clinicians and faculty from across disciplines. Their goal? To improve health care throughout the state and world by translating fundamental research into new medical treatments and devices. Designed for interdisciplinary collaboration, the building's laboratories will feature an open concept design to encourage interaction between research teams. The building will also contain classrooms, clinical spaces, state-of-the-art imaging equipment, computational processing resources and facilities for pilot-scale manufacturing. Funding the nearly \$221 million project — the largest in the history of MU — requires a portfolio of sources including gifts from individuals, state and federal funds, and entrepreneurial agreements with industry partners.

CAMPAIGN IMPACT
BY THE NUMBERS

\$155
MILLION

IN FACILITIES
SUPPORT

ALL-IN ALUMNI



CAMPAIGN IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

176k

TOTAL DONORS

DONORS FOR STUDENTS

Mark Wilkins, right, and **Gary Smith** established the Georgeanne Porter Endowed Scholarship, named in memory their friend and longtime admissions director at MU. As a student, Wilkins, BA '90, worked for Porter, MA '79. Smith, M Ed '65, Ed D '71, was her colleague.



Jim, BS '73, MS '76, PhD '81, and **Melanie Liu** established the Liu-Him Memorial Scholarship in honor of Jim's inspirational grandfather, whose journey through poverty instilled in him a deep appreciation of education. The scholarship has supported more than 100 students.





MICHAEL CALI

Pam, Bus '84, and Randy, BS Acc '84, Oberdiek are regular faces at Mizzou events, from tailgates and board meetings to fundraisers and Zoom calls.

Don't ask Randy and Pam Oberdiek to try to calculate how much time they've spent volunteering for Mizzou. Between 20+ years of meetings for the Kansas City chapter and national governing board of the Mizzou Alumni Association (MAA), case competitions and guest lectures for the Trulaske College of Business, and 150-mile drives from Platte City to Columbia and back, the hours add up to more than they can count.

But so do the unforgettable moments they've experienced along the way. Like the time they got to hear Curators' Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences George Smith talk about winning the Nobel Prize. Or the time they ate dinner with SportsCenter anchor John Anderson, BJ '87. Or the time they tailgated with Tiger quarterback Chase Daniel's mom in The Grove at Ole Miss.

"You get so much more than you give," Pam says. And for a couple of high school sweethearts and first-generation college students from rural Missouri, the university had already given them a great deal. "I grew up in the suburbs of a town of about 200 people," jokes Randy, who was raised on a farm outside of Farley. Scholarships helped cover their tuition, and their education laid the foundation for their careers — Randy at the CPA firm BKD and Pam at Hallmark. "If you want to improve people's lives, I think the way you do it is through education," Randy says.

So, in the mid-1990s, when one of Randy's business associates asked the couple to help out at a Kansas City alumni chapter picnic that raises money for scholarships, they said yes. "Randy is very much an academic at heart, and Pam is just as passionate about education," says Vairam Arunachalam, director of the School of Accountancy. "They both have a deep appreciation for the academic values and mission of our great university." The Oberdieks kept saying yes until, eventually, Pam became MAA president and Randy chair of the Finance Committee. Pam received one of the association's 2020 Tiger Pride awards.

Randy says one thing just led to another. Pam says there might have been beer involved. MAA Executive Director Todd McCubbin, M Ed '95, says it's their small-town values: "They have a high say/do ratio. When they say they're going to do something, they get it done. They're there for people. They're all in."

When a loved one passes away, they make a memorial gift to the university in their honor, resulting in donations to forestry, accounting, nursing, music, the hospital and athletics. When the football and men's basketball teams play, they're in the stands, even in freezing weather in Ames, Iowa, (which is why some people mistakenly believe they have a son on the team) and even on weeknights (which is why some people mistakenly believe they live in Columbia). And when business students need internships, they help place them at their companies.

Owing to the pandemic, it's been a while since either Oberdiek has been in Columbia — "We're having withdrawals right now," Pam says — but they're still at Mizzou meetings via Zoom. Pam just wrapped up her service as a member of the *Mizzou: Our Time to Lead* campaign cabinet, and both Oberdieks are on advisory boards — Pam for the Crosby MBA and Randy for the School of Accountancy.

"You don't always know which one of us is going to show up," Randy says. "But somebody will."

A Vasey Academy scholarship was a financial lifeline for **Jean Whitley** during a difficult time. As an alumnus, Whitley, BS Acc, M Acc '17, gives back through the scholarship that gave him so much. Hear his story at tinyurl.com/Vasey.





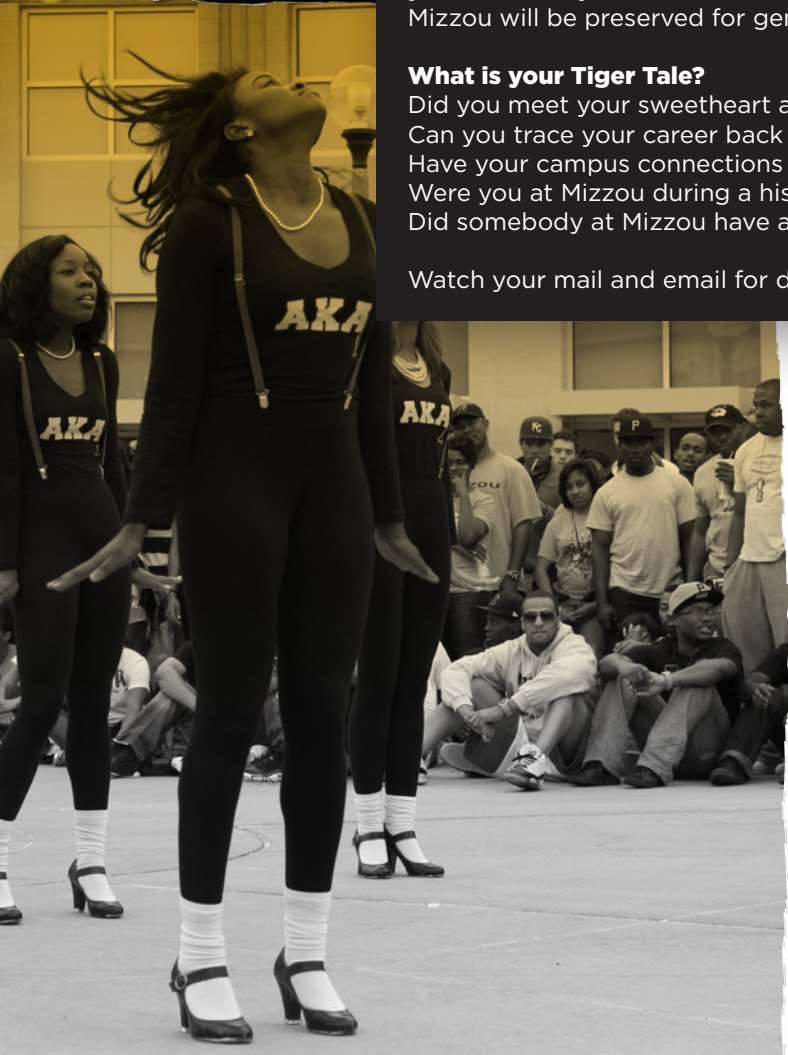
SHARE YOUR TIGER TALE

The Mizzou Alumni Association is teaming up with Publishing Concepts LP in early 2021 to collect stories from alumni to create a unique oral history archive, uniting Mizzou alumni across generations, careers, geography and life experiences. We invite you to share your memories, ensuring that the rich history of Mizzou will be preserved for generations to come.

What is your Tiger Tale?

- Did you meet your sweetheart at Mizzou?
- Can you trace your career back to a defining moment?
- Have your campus connections turned into lifelong friendships?
- Were you at Mizzou during a historical moment?
- Did somebody at Mizzou have a significant impact on your life?

Watch your mail and email for details on how to participate.



Mizzou Alumni Association
VERIFICATION OF ALUMNI DATA
123 Reynolds Alumni Center, Columbia, MO 65201



FIRST-CLASS MAIL

IMPORTANT ALUMNI VERIFICATION NOW DUE
Please Call 1-800-000-0000 Today


**MIZZOU
ALUMNI**
ASSOCIATION

Sample A. Sample
Class of YYYY
123 Any Street
Any Suite
City, ST 12345-6789

*A hardbound and digital book featuring the Tiger Tales and a selection of Mizzou branded merchandise will be offered for sale as part of this historical project. However, no purchase is necessary to participate.



MARCH
10-11

Noon - Noon CT

Show the world what Tigers can accomplish in just 24 hours. Together, we can make anything possible.

MIZZOU
GIVING DAY

givingday.missouri.edu



Honoring Mizzou's Finest

Sheryl Crow, BS Ed '84, LHD '11, is a nine-time Grammy Award-winning singer and songwriter. Her latest album, *Threads*, debuted on Billboard's Top Country Albums Chart at No. 2, and she has sold more than 50 million albums worldwide. Crow has stayed true to her Midwestern roots. Her lyrical storytelling has reflected her identity, and her seamless shifts between pop and country genres have helped earn her a global fanbase. In 2015, her on-campus performance raised funds to update the School of Music's facilities. A major part of that renovation, the Sinquefeld Music Center, opened in early 2020.

Richard D. Kinder, BA '66, JD '68, did not end up a politician, as his classmates might have predicted. Instead, he channeled his aptitude for leadership into business. Kinder is co-founder and executive chairman of Kinder Morgan Inc., one of the largest energy infrastructure companies in North America. The company transports as much as 40% of the natural gas consumed in the U.S. His endowment gift of \$25 million to MU in 2015 established the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy. Four years later, an additional \$10 million gift funded degree programs in constitutional democracy and Atlantic history and politics.

Since 2016, the Mizzou Hall of Fame has highlighted alumni who have exhibited excellence in their field. MU inducted four alumni to the 2020 Mizzou Hall of Fame class during a virtual ceremony on Oct. 16.

More: [Mizzou.com/HallOfFame](https://mizzou.com/HallOfFame)

William V. Morgan, BA '65, JD '67, is co-founder and retired vice chairman and president of Kinder Morgan Inc. The energy infrastructure company, which started in 1997 with 175 employees, now owns an interest in or operates about 83,000 miles of pipelines and has approximately 11,000 employees in North America. He retired from Kinder Morgan in 2003 after helping build the company into a market leader. Morgan and his wife, Sara, BA '66, support charitable causes including the School of Law's Veterans Clinic, which helps veterans navigate the complex legal challenges of receiving the disability benefits they deserve.

Gus T. Ridgel, MA '51, ScD '96, was one of nine Black students admitted to the University of Missouri in 1950. In 1951, he became the university's first Black graduate degree recipient. He is the eponym of the Gus T. Ridgel Fellowship, established in 1987. To date, this fellowship has supported over 500 underrepresented minority students at Mizzou as they pursue their postgraduate education. After earning a doctorate from the University of Wisconsin, he dedicated his career to higher education. Ridgel was serving as senior adviser to the president of Kentucky State University when he died on Aug. 1, 2020.



2020'S TAKEAWAYS

What. A. Year. A time when way too many sentences started with, “For the first time in living memory ...!”

First and foremost, I hope this message finds you safe and healthy. My heart goes out to those affected by the pandemic or the myriad other challenges of 2020. As the year draws to a close, here are a few Mizzou-specific observations.

Our students have learned to roll with the punches. From this past spring's seniors whose final semester on campus was cut short to those who lived a very unusual student experience this fall, they've battled through and taken the situation in stride. They've masked up, socially distanced and washed their hands endlessly, all while fulfilling their academic responsibilities. Their resilience and generally positive outlook have been inspiring. I have no doubt this group will make Mizzou stronger.

Our interconnectedness took on new meaning and importance. With technology and a large dose of resourcefulness, we discovered new ways of engaging in relevant and purposeful communication. These remote contacts can occur more often now than in times past. There is a goodness to that. Absent the rush of travel and in-person activities, I've noticed more. The Mizzou family has boundless impact. Our extraordinary moment in history has made me more aware of these stories — some of which you see in these pages — and more grateful for the new ways we can come together from here on.

Our campus misses you. We are blessed with one of the world's iconic college landscapes. It's designed to be enjoyed by students, faculty and staff. Alumni revere it. Campus is a vibrant place, but less so these days without you. My walks to The Heidelberg or Shakespeare's just aren't the same, even though the food is still amazing. As for our grand tradition of Homecoming, although I give us an A for creativity, it just wasn't the same this year without throngs of alumni and their families spilling into every corner of campus and Columbia. I'll never complain about predawn parade prep again!

We mailed this issue of MIZZOU magazine to those who are Mizzou Alumni Association members or contributors to the *Mizzou: Our Time to Lead* campaign (or both). I hope you like what you see. If you are not part of the association, please consider joining to receive future issues. Thanks for all you do for Mizzou!

TODD MCCUBBIN, M ED '95

executive director, Mizzou Alumni Association

Email: mcccubint@missouri.edu

Twitter: @MizzouTodd

Class Notes

1940

★ **G.M. Witherspoon Jr., BS BA '43**, of Gunnison, Colo., celebrated his 100th birthday Oct. 29, 2020.

★ **Thomas G. Brown, BS Ag '49, MS '59**, and ★ **Mildred Brown, BS Ed '50, M Ed '74**, of Columbia, Mo., celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary June 11, 2020.

1950

★ **George Anderson, BA '52**, and his wife, Eleanor, of Gowrie, Iowa, celebrated their 68th birthdays and 68th wedding anniversary.

1960

★★ **William Trogon, BA '61, MA '62, PhD '73, BJ '78**, of Columbia, Mo., wrote *O America: Discovery in a New Land* (University of Missouri Press, 2020).

Jeffrey Churan, BS CiE '63, of Chillicothe, Mo., received The Missouri Conservation Commission and MDC's Master Conservationist award.

★ **William Trowbridge, BA '63, MA '65**, of Lee's Summit, Mo., wrote *Oldguy: The Complete Collection* (Red Hen Press, 2019).

★★ **James C. Sterling, BJ '65**, of Columbia, Mo., and ★ **Kerry D. Douglas, BA '68, JD '70**, of Bolivar, Mo., wrote *The CMH Story: From Dreams to Reality and Beyond* (Donning Co. Publishers, 2020).

Bill Brown, BJ '69, of Cypress, Texas, wrote *Sportscasting 101* (Brown, 2020).

1970

★★ **Carol Miller Frevert, BSN '71**, of Kansas City, Mo., was named Raytown Citizen of the Year by the

Kansas City Area Truman Heartland Community Foundation.

★★ **Gary Sosniecki, BJ '73**, of Lebanon, Mo., wrote *The Potato Masher Murder* (The Kent State University Press, 2020).

★ **Cheryl Spencer Templeton, BS Ed '74, M Ed '78**, of Wildwood, Mo., retired after 47 years as a business education teacher.

★★ **Steven A. Beebe, PhD '76**, of San Marcos, Texas, wrote *C.S. Lewis and the Craft of Communication* (Peter Lang, 2020).

★ **Harold “Bud” Epps, BS Ed '76, M Ed '82**, of Independence, Mo., was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.

Jacques Natz, BJ '77, of Jersey City, N.J., is general manager of Altice USA's News 12 Networks.

Sara Ann Cole-Misch, BJ '79, of Bloomfield, Mich., wrote *The Best Part of Us* (She Writes Press, 2020).

★ **Sandra Etz Wysocki, BJ '79**, of Pewaukee, Wis., is publisher of *MKE Lifestyle* magazine.

1980

★★ **Col. Roderick M. Cox, BA '81, MA '82**, of Leavenworth, Kan., was inducted into the University of Missouri ROTC Hall of Fame.

Linda Newberry-Ferguson, BSN '81, of Milwaukee, Wis., is CEO of The Village at Manor Park Healthcare and Community Living.

★★ **Carol A. DiRaimo, BS Acc '83**, of Lee's Summit, Mo., is a member of the board of directors for QDOBA Mexican Eats.

Jeanne McCaherty,

MS '83, of Long Lake, Minn., is the first woman chairperson of the Renewable Fuels Association.

★ **Elizabeth McGowan, BJ '83**, of Washington, D.C., wrote *Outpedaling the Big C: My Healing Cycle Across America* (Bancroft Press, 2020).

Jeffrey C. Smith, BES '83, of Kirkwood, Mo., is chairman of the board of Midland States Bancorp Inc.

David Goeckeler, BS, BA '84, of San Jose, Calif., is chief executive officer at Western Digital Corp.

Jack Bamberger, BJ '85, of New York is chief commercial officer of Amobee.

★ **William M. Corrigan Jr., JD '85**, of St. Louis was appointed circuit judge for the 21st Judicial Circuit by Gov. Mike Parson.

Velma McBride Murry, MS '85, PhD '87, of Franklin, Tenn., is a member of the National Academy of Medicine.

★ **Frank H. Sanfilippo, BS Acc '85**, of Sunset Hills, Mo., is chief financial officer for Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale P.C.

Kenneth Lee d'Entremont, MS '86, PhD '93, of Sandy, Utah, wrote *Engineering Ethics and Design for Safety* (McGraw-Hill Education, 2020).

★ **Gary T. Kacich, BS Acc '87**, of St. Louis is chief financial officer for Catholic Charities of St. Louis.

Linda Lorelle, MA '87, of Houston was named one of "Houston's 20 Most Influential People" by *Modern Luxury Houston* magazine.

Ed Vandeven, BS Acc '87, of St. Louis is chief finan-

cial officer for Gardner Capital.

Keesha-Lu Abrahams Mitra, JD '89, of Bloomington, Ill., is vice president counsel in the law department at State Farm.

1990
David Boland, BS Acc '90, of Dallas is chief knowledge officer at Ogletree Deakins.

Ryan Cuba, BS BA '90, of Chesterfield, Mo., is chief merchant of Schnuck Markets Inc.

Lauren Chelec Cafritz, MA '92, of Bethesda, Md., wrote *Breath Love* (Warren Publishing, 2019).

Greg Jones, BS BA '92, of Columbia, Mo., is senior vice president and relationship manager of Central Trust Co.

Pat Ryan, BS HES '92, of

Overland Park, Kan., is a financial adviser with Prospera Financial Services Inc.

★★ **Robin Means Coleman, MA '93**, of Evanston, Ill., is vice president and associate provost for diversity and inclusion and chief diversity officer at Northwestern University.

Binky Jones, BS Ed '93, M Ed '95, of Glendale, Ariz., is a senior vice president at ChanceLight Behavioral Health, Therapy and Education.

Christopher D. Jones, BS ME '93, of Middleton, Wis., is chief financial officer and senior vice president of finance for Nortech Systems.

Mireille Zieseniss, BJ '93, of Islamabad is the spokesperson for the U.S. Embassy in Pakistan.

Jason Gorden, BS CoE



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Mizzou Alumni Association Board of Directors consists of 23 individuals who serve as an important alumni voice. Their leadership and governance are key to implementing the policies and programs that make Mizzou stronger. Recommend fellow Tigers qualified for these positions by **March 1**. Also, keep an eye out for forthcoming nomination deadlines for the association's Faculty-Alumni Awards.

More: mizzou.com

INTRODUCING 2 NEW WINES ON THE ROSTER

MIZZOU®

VINTAGE

Legacy RED & WHITE

This season two new, dry wines join the lineup! Look for MIZZOU Vintage wines at your local retailer & online at MIZZOUVINTAGE.COM.

Cheers, TIGERS!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

LES BOURGEOIS VINEYARDS



OFFICIAL WINERY OF
MIZZOU ATHLETICS



I had hip surgery in high school.
I had hip surgery in college.
I had to give up running, lifting, cycling and volleyball.
I had enough giving up.



Then, I had surgery at Mizzou BioJoint® Center.



HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR MOM, DAD, & GRAD

THE BEST TECH STOCKING STUFFERS

From upgrading their home office and remote learning experience to having a smarter wrist. TigerTech has the best Apple® tech gifts.

Take advantage of Apple® educational pricing as an alumni.

themizzoustore.com/t-tigertech



FOR THE DIE HARD MIZZOU FAN

Alumni Association members save **10%**
FREE SHIPPING on all orders \$99+

themizzoustore.com

Staying Strong

Living with an incurable disease isn't stopping Ed Rapp, BS BA '79, from seeking new challenges, making a mark on the world and inspiring others.

Almost five years ago, after being diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease, Rapp retired as a group president for Caterpillar Inc. Using his leadership skills and global business experience, he created Stay Strong vs. ALS, an organization that raises funds for research and assistive technology for patients. He also took on a new role, heading the advisory board of Answer ALS, the largest and most comprehensive study of the disease in history.

Rapp credits faith, family and his Midwestern upbringing for his positive attitude. "None of us will be defined by the adversity we face," he says. "We will all be defined by how we respond, and I'm just pushing for a passing grade."

Rapp has been a longtime supporter of the Trulaske College of Business and its students. In addition to giving generously to the college, he serves on the Trulaske Dean's Advisory Board and as a mentor in its Heartland Scholars Academy, which provides services and financial help to first-generation rural students.

Although he has reached the highest echelons of the corporate world, Rapp has never forgotten his upbringing in the small Missouri town of Pilot Grove or the value of his years at MU. "With Caterpillar, I've lived on four continents, traveling to more than 100 countries. The gateway to all of that was my education at Mizzou." — Jack Wax, BS Ed '73, HES '76, MA '87



'94, JD '00, of Blue Springs, Mo., is senior counsel at Erise IP.

Alexander Garza, MD '96, of St. Louis is incident commander of the St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force, which was created to combat COVID-19.

Angelette Prichett, BGS '97, MSW '01, M Ed '19, of Jefferson City, Mo., is associate dean of academic student services at William Woods University.

Nathan Maki, BS IE '98, of Seattle is a patent partner at Kilpatrick Townsend.

Nancy Vasto, MHA '99, of Addison, Texas, is chief compliance and privacy officer at MPOWERHealth.

2000 Morgan Mundell, MPA '00, of Jefferson City, Mo., is president and CEO of American Council of Engineering Companies of Missouri.

Steve Kellerman, BS CIE '01, of Nashville is vice president and U.S. chief



BECOME A FRIEND OF *Mizzou Botanic Garden*

- Help keep our campus beautiful.
- Annual membership, \$25
- Lifetime membership, \$1,000
- Tribute Tree, \$2,500 or more
- Tribute Bench, \$5,000 or more

Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



Mizzou Botanic Garden
University of Missouri

For more information: (573) 882-1830 or garden.missouri.edu

GLOBAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

MEET MISSOURI SOLUTIONS

More than a building.

Our game-changing, statewide commitment to finding solutions to society's greatest health challenges.

Right here in Missouri.

Right here at Mizzou.



NEXTGEN
PRECISION HEALTH

See Missouri solutions in action:
[PRECISIONHEALTH.UMSYSTEM.EDU](https://precisionhealth.umsystem.edu)

REMEMBERING

THE PASSING OF YE OLDE ED

Steve Shinn loved working at Mizzou but hated days filled with meetings. The intrepid reporter couldn't very well hunt down a story from inside Jesse Hall. And as editor of MIZZOU magazine's predecessor, *Missouri Alumnus*, Shinn believed it was his duty to report on all things Mizzou. "In quiet protest, he would attend meetings wearing a Mickey Mouse tie," recalls editor emerita Karen Worley, BJ '73. Known by his readers as Ye Olde Ed, by his staff as a stickler and by all as a family man, Shinn died Sept. 7, 2020, in Lubbock, Texas, at age 91.

Born in Kirksville, Missouri, Shinn, BJ '50, MA '71, cut his teeth at newspapers and corporate publications before taking the top spot on the alumni magazine masthead in 1967. For nearly a quarter century, he and Office of Publications and Alumni Communication staff produced the primary informational medium for alumni. The magazine was to be "accurate, credible, engaging and fun," says Worley, who worked with Shinn from 1980 until he retired in



1991. He expected staff to pitch interesting and important story ideas, and he formed a group of nationally respected journalists and PR professionals who critiqued each issue.

"Steve knew the role alumni play in supporting a

flagship university like Mizzou and how critical they are to its future," says Chris Koukola, who retired in 2014 as assistant to the chancellor for university affairs. "Alumni cannot help you unless they are well-informed about how the university is doing, not only the achievements but an honest portrayal of the challenges, too."

"After all," Shinn wrote in 1979, "the *Missouri Alumnus* is the world's only magazine whose primary concern is Mizzou."

— Kelsey Allen, BA, BJ '10

marketing officer at Nissan Motor Corp.

Matthew Noce, BA '02, of St. Louis is a member of the International Association of Defense Counsel.

Stacey Putnam Ross, BA '02, of St. Charles, Mo., is director of communications and marketing for the Economic Development Council of St. Charles County.

Rowena Amelung, BS CiE '03, of Fenton, Mo., is director of business development for McCarthy Building Cos. Inc.

★ **Ben Arnet, BJ '03**, of Columbia, Mo., is sports director at KOMU 8.

Amanda Auer, BJ '03, of St. Louis is vice president of development at Seneca Commercial Real Estate.

Thank you for your support of Columns Society through the *Mizzou: Our Time to Lead* campaign!

For more information about the Columns Society or your personal giving, please contact **Tim McLaughlin** at 573-884-2355 or mclaughlint@missouri.edu



giving.missouri.edu/columns-society

IT'S OUR TIME TO LEAD

COLUMNS SOCIETY

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS



=



IN SUPPORT OF



\$246M
SCHOLARSHIPS



\$153M
CENTERS



\$267M
ENDOWMENTS

*Endowed scholarships are reflected in both category totals.

Larinee Dennis, M Ed '03, of Hannibal, Mo., is vice president for academic administration and dean of faculty at Hannibal-LaGrange University.

★★**Larry Franke, MA '04**, of St. Louis retired July 10, 2020. He was reference librarian in the History and Genealogy Department at St. Louis County Library.

Emily Allinder Scott, BS BA '04, of Dallas is chief transformation officer and senior vice president of BayCare Health System.

Justin McBrayer, MA '05, PhD '08, of Durango, Colo., wrote *Beyond Fake News: Finding the Truth in a World of Misinformation* (Routledge, 2020).

Heidi Miget, BA '05, of St. Peters, Mo., is senior vice president of marketing for Midwest BankCentre.

Elizabeth Graff, BJ '06, of St. Louis is director of business development for Ross & Baruzzini.

Randal Burd, M Ed '07, of Ironton, Mo., wrote *Memoirs of a Witness Tree* (Kelsay Books, 2020).

Michael Gardner, BS Acc, M Acc '07, JD '10, of St. Louis is CEO and president of Gardner Capital.

Angela Leininger, BS Acc, M Acc '08, of Kansas City, Mo., is a senior manager at BKD.

2010 Marie Kerl, MPH '10, of Fulton, Mo., is chief medical officer at VCA Animal Hospitals.

Kyle P. Steele, M Ed '11, of St. Louis wrote *Making a Mass Institution: Indianapolis and the American High School* (Rutgers University Press, 2020).

Ross Gordon, BS Acc, M Acc '12, of Chesterfield, Mo., is an assistant controller with Green Courte Partners, LLC.

Joe Palumbo, JD '13, of St. Louis is an associate attorney at Carmody MacDonald PC.

Debra Korte, PhD '17, of Urbana, Ill., is the first director for learning innovation and e-learning in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois.

Lillian Pogue, BJ '18, of Chicago is assistant director of development for the College of Business and the Richard C. Adkerson School of Accountancy at Mississippi State University.

Weddings

Matthew Dahlke, BS BA '09, M Ed '11, and **Lauren Cox, BS BA '10**, of Lincoln, Neb., Oct. 5, 2019.

Births

Sean Dobbins, BS ChE '12, and **Jennifer Bristowe Dobbins, BS HES '19**, of Wichita, Kan., announce the birth of Henry Patrick, Nov. 4, 2020.

★★**Christian Badger, BS BA '06**, and Priya Mathew Badger, of Chicago announce the birth of George Cherukara, Aug. 26, 2020.

Faculty Deaths

★**C.J. Bierschwal Jr., MS '56**, of Springfield, Mo., Oct. 17, 2020, at 97. He was a World War II veteran and taught veterinary medicine at MU for 34 years.

Michael Budds, of Columbia, Mo., Nov. 20, 2020, at 73. He was a professor at MU for 37 years and in 2019 donated \$4 million to the MU School of Music to create the Budds Center for American Music Studies.

Deaths

★★**Roy Moskop, BJ '42**, of Dallas June 11, 2020, at 98. He was a member of Kappa Sigma and served in the U.S. Army.

★★**Harry "Bud" Ball Jr., BS Ag '43**, of Carrollton, Mo., Oct. 10, 2020, at 101. He served in the U.S. Marines. He and his wife owned and operated A & B Hardware for 37 years.

★**Seymour Topping, BJ '43**, of New York Nov. 8, 2020, at 98. He was a senior *New York Times* editor and top Pulitzer Prize administrator.

Carol Brewer, BA '44, of Washington, D.C., Aug. 11, 2020, at 96. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta.

★**Marion L. Guffey, BS BA '47**, of Columbia, Mo., Oct. 14, 2020, at 96. She was a member of Chi Omega and

The smart way to consolidate your debt



Get a customized low-rate loan* tailored to consolidate credit card debt, save on interest, and make your financial goals a reality.

- Rate discounts available**
- No pre-payment penalty
- Affordable monthly payments

See if you qualify:

freedomplus.com/mizzou
844-731-0869

MIZZOU ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

freedomplus

*Subject to credit approval; terms apply. Cross River Bank and MetaBank, N.A.; Member FDIC are the lenders of the loans offered. **Adding a co-borrower with sufficient income; using at least eighty-five percent (85%) of the loan proceeds to directly pay off qualifying existing debt; or showing proof of sufficient retirement savings, could help you also qualify for the lowest rate available.

IF YOU HAVEN'T HEARD ...

New charitable gift annuity rates are available.

Current rates for one person range from 3.9% to 8.6%, depending on the age of the recipient.

The Office of Gift Planning and Endowments is available to answer your questions. We look forward to seeing you again in person but we are here to help until then. Thank you again for your commitment to Mizzou's mission.

The information in this advertisement is not intended as legal or tax advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney or tax advisor. References to tax rates include federal taxes only and are subject to change. State law may further impact your individual results. Annuities are subject to regulation by the State of California. Payments under such agreements, however, are not protected or otherwise guaranteed by any government agency or the California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association. A charitable gift annuity is not regulated by the Oklahoma Insurance Department and is not protected by a guaranty association affiliated with the Oklahoma Insurance Department. Charitable gift annuities are not regulated by and are not under the jurisdiction of the South Dakota Division of Insurance. The University of Missouri does not issue charitable gift annuities in the state of Tennessee.

New Rate Charts (effective July 1, 2020)

One Recipient		Two Recipients	
AGE	NEW RATE	AGE	NEW RATE
60	3.9%	60/65	3.7%
65	4.2%	65/70	4.0%
70	4.7%	70/75	4.3%
75	5.4%	75/80	4.9%
80	6.5%	80/85	5.8%
85	7.6%	85/90	7.1%
90+	8.6%	90/95+	8.4%



THE TRUMPET AND THE PICCOLO

It was winter 1992, and Jenny Tyrrell was in a quandary. A Marching Mizzou trumpet player had asked her out, but she already had a ticket that night for Verdi's opera *Aida*. It had set her back \$22, a fortune for a piccolo player on a music scholarship. Besides, watching him solo at rehearsal had confirmed her impression that trumpet players are way too cocky.

But the trumpeter in question, John Keely, recalls feeling far from confident when he asked Jenny to sit with him at practice. "I'm not one to break the ice easily," he says. Nevertheless, they soon landed at a table in Jesse Hall's basement snack bar, a popular hangout in the '80s and '90s. The ice definitely broke.

"We didn't have cell phones back then," says Jenny, BHS '01, M Ed '12, now a faculty member teaching respiratory therapy at Mizzou. "So, he called me up after I got home and asked if I wanted to go to a party."

They agreed to meet after *Aida*. But sitting through an opera about a princess thwarting the advances of an army general wasn't resonating for Jenny. "I was antsy," she says. "After the first or second act, I left to find him."

Three years later, on the heels of a successful audition for the U.S. Air Force Band, Jenny enlisted. But before departing for Lackland Air Force Base, she signed up for something else. "I knew that we needed to make things more official," says John, BS BA '95, now senior associate director of admissions at Mizzou. "I guess the ring did the trick."

June 17, 2020, marked John and Jenny Keely's 25th wedding anniversary. Daughter Sarah, the oldest of their three children, is a freshman following in her parents' footsteps, playing French horn for Marching Mizzou. — Nancy Yang, MA '83

taught personal appearance and modeling at Stephens College for 30 years.

★**Harriet Maddock, BS Ed '49**, of Metamora, Ill., June 13, 2020, at 93.

★**James Hanley Dailey, BS BA '50**, of Independence, Mo., June 3, 2020, at 93. He served in the U.S. Air Force.

★**H. Haynes Farmer, MA '51, PhD '55**, of Westport, Conn., April 24, 2020, at 93. He served in the U.S. Navy.

★**Gus T. Ridgel, MA '51, DS '96**, of Frankfort, Ky., Aug. 1, 2020, at 95. He was a U.S. Army veteran and the first Black MU graduate.

Oliver "Ollie" Dressel, BS ChE '52, of St. Louis June 20, 2020, at 89. He served in the U.S. Army.

Early Donald Scott, BA '52, of Salisbury, N.C., Sept. 21, 2016, at 88.

★★**James E. Creed, BS Ag '54, DVM '61**, of St. George, Utah, Nov. 8, 2020, at 87. He served in the U.S. Air Force.

★**Sanford Goldman, BS BA '54**, of St. Louis March 18, 2020, at 87. He was a member of Zeta Beta Tau and served in the U.S. Army.

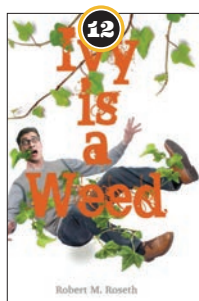
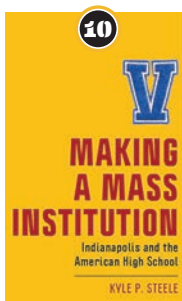
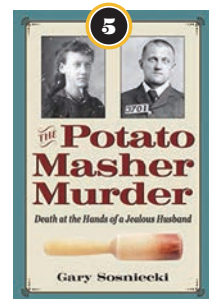
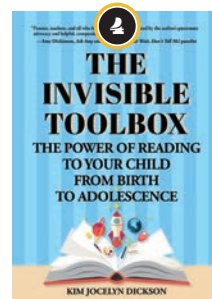
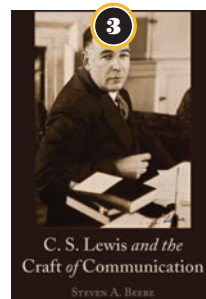
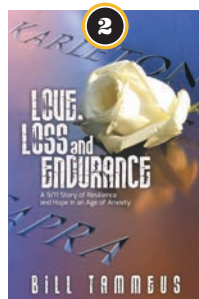
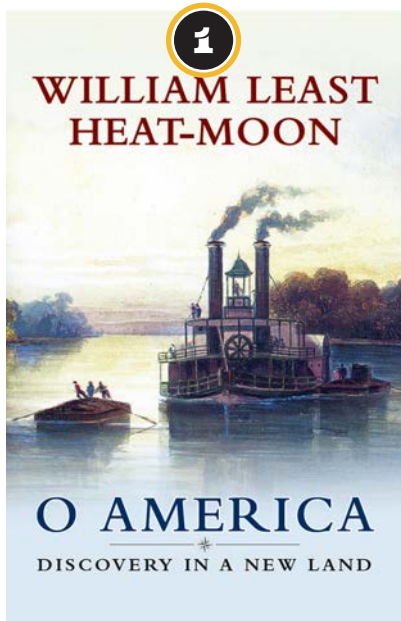
★**Jean Ohlhausen, BS Ed '54**, of Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 16, 2020, at 89. She was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha.

★**Charles Kircher, BS EE '55**, of Grove, Okla., May 1, 2020, at 86. He served in the U.S. Air Force.

★**C. Kelly O'Neill, BJ '55**, of Honolulu April 4, 2020, at 87. He was a member of Sigma Chi and served in the U.S. Navy.

★★**C. Robert Scott,**

ALUMNI BOOKSHELF



Writers Rack Up New Titles

Mizzou alumni keep banging out the books. To be considered for coverage, mail your book published in 2020 or scheduled for 2021 to Dale Smith, MIZZOU magazine, 810 Greenwood Court, Columbia, Missouri 65203.

1 *O America: Discovery in a New Land* by William Least Heat-Moon, BA '61, MA '62, PhD '73, BJ '78 (University of Missouri Press, 2020)

2 *Love, Loss and Endurance: A 9/11 Story of Resilience and Hope in an Age of Anxiety* by Bill Tammeus, BJ '67 (Front Edge Publishing, 2021)

3 *C.S. Lewis and the Craft of Communication* by Steven A. Beebe, PhD '76 (Peter Lang, 2020)

4 *The Invisible Toolbox: The Power of Reading to Your Child from Birth to Adolescence* by Kim Jocelyn Dickson, BS Ed '78 (Mango, 2020)

5 *The Potato Masher Murder* by Gary Sosniecki, BJ '73 (The Kent State University Press, 2020)

6 *Love and War* by Robert Huddleston, BS PA '49 (Austin Macauley, 2020)

7 *Memoirs of a Witness Tree: Poems* by Randal A. Burd Jr., M Ed '07 (Kelsay Books, 2020)

8 *How Bronwen Got Her Smile Back* by Bronwen Elizabeth Madden, BA '98 (Bronwen E. Madden Consulting, 2020)

9 *The CMH Story: From Dreams to Reality and Beyond* by Kerry D. Douglas, BA '68, JD '70, and James C. Sterling, BJ '65 (Donning Co. Publishers, 2020)

10 *Making a Mass Institution: Indianapolis and the American High School* by Kyle P. Steele, BA '08 (Rutgers University Press, 2020)

11 *The Best Part of Us* by Sally Cole-Misch, BJ '79 (She Writes Press, 2020)

12 *Ivy is a Weed* by Robert M. Roseth, MA '76 (Robert M. Roseth, 2020)

13 *Sportscasting 101* by Bill Brown, BJ '69 (Brown, 2020)

14 *Beyond Fake News: Finding the Truth in a World of Misinformation* by Justin McBrayer, MA '05, PhD '08 (Routledge, 2021)

15 *Outpedaling the Big C: My Healing Cycle Across America* by Elizabeth McGowan, BJ '83 (Bancroft Press, 2020)

All About Students

Brandon Common wasn't internally motivated to be successful in school growing up. An African American lit course at MU changed all that. Reading *The Souls of Black Folk* and *Up from Slavery* inspired Common to take ownership of his learning, and seeing a Black man at the front of the classroom — former MU Professor Jeffrey Williams — gave him something to aspire to. He joined the Zeta Alpha chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, among other culturally based student organizations, and started to take pride not only in himself but also in lifting up the students around him.

When Common, BS Ed '06, discovered he could make a career out of advocating for students — “I can work on college campuses forever?” he recalls thinking incredulously — he earned a doctorate in educational organization and leadership. It wasn't easy, and the imposter syndrome was real. Of the roughly 54,000 people who earn doctorates each year, only 5.4% are Black. But that's why Common persisted — to



ask questions about campus climate, educational inequality and the experiences of students of color in higher education.

In spring 2021, Common will help a different set of student Tigers thrive as Louisiana State University's new associate vice president for student affairs and dean of students. He doesn't want to be known as Dr. Common, though. “I don't go around touting my accomplishments or using million-dollar words when I speak,” he says. “I hope I can be present on campus and conduct myself in a way that makes students say: ‘There goes Brandon. He's there to help us be successful.’ ” — *Kelsey Allen, BA, BJ '10*

BS BA '55, of Sikeston, Mo., Sept. 3, 2020, at 87. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta and served in the U.S. Navy.

★★ **Paul Pautler Sr., BS BA '56, BJ '59**, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., April 10, 2020, at 86. He served in the U.S. Army.

★ **John P. Williams, BS BA '56**, of Leawood, Kan., March 27, 2020, at 85. He served in the U.S. Air Force.

★ **Dub Carlton, BS Ag '57**, of St. Louis June 17, 2020, at 84. He was a member of Sigma Nu and served in the U.S. Navy.

★★ **Duane Kelly, BS Ed '57, M Ed '59**, of Prairie Village, Kan., May 22, 2020, at 85. He taught science and ecology at Northeast High School for 31 years.

★ **Claude “Eddie” Rich-**



Get out of debt*. Get on with your life.

Let us help you save money and make real progress on your credit card debt! No loan required.

- Get your **personalized debt plan**
- Make **one low, monthly program payment**
- Become **debt-free** sooner

Get your free debt assessment:
freedomdebtrelief.com/umissouri
 855-300-1013

*Subject to terms & approval.

ards, **BS BA '57**, of West Plains, Mo., March 7, 2020, at 84. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and served in the U.S. Army.

★**Loren Thompson, BS Ag '57, MS '67**, of Independence, Mo., July 30, 2020, at 93. He served in the U.S. Air Force.

★**Frank Berweiler Jr., BS ChE '58**, of Springfield, Mo., June 9, 2020, at 83.

★**Russell Boone, M Ed '58**, of Maryland Heights, Mo., Sept. 11, 2020, at 99. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II as the resident musician in charge of training drum majors in band directing and training bands in military ceremonies and parades.

★**Robert Byrd, BS BA '58**, of Louisville, Ky., June 1, 2020, at 84. He served in the U.S. Army.

★★**William Luft, BS BA '58**, of Creve Coeur, Mo., July 6, 2020, at 83. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a CPA for over 50 years.

★★**Janice R. Martinette, BS Ed '59**, of Grandview, Mo., Oct. 27, 2020, at 82. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta. She taught kindergarten and was a substitute teacher for over 30 years.

★**James Baker, BA '60**, of Kansas City, Mo., April 17, 2020, at 81. He served in the U.S. Army.

★★**Alma Marshall, BS Ed '62**, of St. Louis March 19, 2020, at 82.

★★**Barbara L. Wright, M Ed '63**, of Tulsa, Okla., June 3, 2020, at 80.

★**George L. Gille, BS Ag '64, MS '67, PhD '70**, of Maryville, Mo., Sept. 30, 2020, at 78. He was a mem-

ber of Tau Kappa Epsilon and a professor of agronomy at Northwest Missouri State University for 33 years.

★**Linda Kathryn King, BS Ed '64**, of Surprise, Ariz., Sept. 7, 2020, at 79.

★**James Landwehr, BS BA '64**, of Jefferson City, Mo., June 26, 2020, at 78. He was a member of Kappa Alpha Order.

★★**James Burch, BS BA '65, MA '66**, of Kirkwood, Mo., June 8, 2020, at 76.

★★**Charles Ferguson, BA '65, JD '68**, of Hartsburg, Mo., April 1, 2020, at 76.

★★**Philip A. Witte, BS Ag '67, MS '71**, of West Alton, Mo., June 19, 2020, at 75. He was a member of Alpha Gamma Rho and served in the U.S. Army.

★★**Douglas Parr, BS Ag '68**, of Overland Park,

Kan., July 8, 2020, at 78.

★**Linda M. Wiggins, BS HE '68**, of Blue Springs, Mo., Sept. 10, 2020, at 73.

★**Terry A. Cark Jr., BS BA '69**, of Lenexa, Kan., July 12, 2020, at 73. He was a member of Delta Sigma Phi.

★**Linda Jo Foster, BS Ed '69**, of Columbia, Mo., May 28, 2020, at 71.

★**Julius "Jules" Kemmling, BS Ed '69, MBA '71**, of Wildwood, Mo., June 17, 2020, at 74. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta.

★**Ben F. Weir Jr., BJ '69**, of Columbia, Mo., Oct. 31, 2020, at 73. He was a member of Kappa Alpha Order and served in the Missouri National Guard.

★**Michael W. Bennett, BS ChE '72**, of Breckenridge, Mo., Oct. 5, 2020, at 70. He was a member of

Beta Theta Pi and ran a dental practice for 40 years.

★★**Ellen Barocas, BJ '73**, of Overland Park, Kan., Feb. 26, 2020, at 69.

Frank William Morris, BS ChE '73, MS '75, of Columbia, Mo., Aug. 28, 2020, at 71.

★**Michael Cunningham, BS BA '74**, of Nashville July 6, 2020, at 68.

★★**Alan Lee Mader, BA '74**, of Saint Charles, Mo., March 29, 2020, at 70.

★★**Frederick Ward, BHS '74**, of Lake St. Louis, Mo., March 21, 2020, at 80. He served in the U.S. Army.

John Stanley Burke, BS Ag '75, of Houston Sept. 3, 2020, at 67.

★★**Frank Foster Sallee, BS BA '78, JD '84**, of Jamestown, R.I., Feb. 17,

The Mizzou Alumni Association is grateful for the support of our partners, whose contributions help sustain and enhance our programming and traditions.

Please join us in thanking the following 2020 MAA sponsors:



Interested in becoming an MAA sponsor?

Visit mizzou.com/sponsorship for ways to boost your business and brand, while Making Mizzou Stronger at the same time.



MIZZOU
OFFICIAL SMOKEHOUSE OF
MIZZOU ATHLETICS

BURGERS' - SMOKEHOUSE -

PROUD PARTNER OF
MIZZOU ATHLETICS

Serve at your Easter table
or send as a birthday gift
to your favorite Tiger
Fan - guaranteed to taste
great for every occasion!



*All prices include normal
delivery in the contiguous
48 U.S. States.



**FREE
SHIPPING***

SMOKEHOUSE.COM | 800-624-5426 | 32819 HWY 87 SOUTH CALIFORNIA, MO 65018

RIDE WITH TIGER PRIDE!



Show your pride every day with the ultimate fan accessory!

Proceeds from plates support student scholarships.

ORDER TODAY AT MIZZOU.COM/PLATES

Texas-based Tigers can purchase Mizzou Texas plates. Check out the link above!

MIZZOU ADVERTISING INDEX

Bank of America	2
800-932-2775	
Burger's Smokehouse	78
smokehouse.com	
Champion	79
champion.com	
FreedomPlus	72
freedomplus.com/mizzou	
Freedom Debt Relief	76
freedomdebtrelief.com/missouri	
Les Bourgeois	66
missouriwine.com	
Mizzou Advancement	63, 71, 73
giving.missouri.edu	
Mizzou Alumni Association	77, 78, C-3
mizzou.com	
Mizzou MBA	C-4
business.missouri.edu	
Mizzou Store	68
themizzoustore.com	
MU Botanic Garden	69
gardens.missouri.edu	
MU Health Care	67
yesmakesitpossible.com	
NextGen Precision Health	70
precisionhealth.umssystem.edu	
Publishing Concepts, LP	62
publishingconcepts.com	

To advertise in MIZZOU, call MAA at 573-882-6611

2020, at 64. He practiced law for almost 25 years.

Alice M. H. Burke, M Ed '81, of Columbia, Mo., Feb. 13, 2020, at 95.

★★**Reggie Hopwood, BS BA '83**, of West Memphis,

Ark., June 7, 2020, at 59. He was a pilot for over 40 years.

Harold Francis Best, PhD '86, of Oregon, Ill., June 6, 2018, at 76.

Becky Collet, MSW '86, of Rolla, Mo., March 28,

2020, at 78.

★**Robert Sanders, BS BA '89**, of Centennial, Colo., September 2020 at 53.

★**Zachary Mason, MBA '19**, of Springfield, Mo., July 25, 2020 at 31.

DEGREE DESIGNATIONS 101*

Bachelor's degrees:

BS Acc, accounting
BS Ag, agriculture
BA, arts
BS BA, business administration
BS Ed, education
BFA, fine arts
BS FW, fisheries and wildlife
BGS, general studies
BHS, health sciences
BS HE, home economics
BS HES, human environmental sciences
BJ, journalism
BS Med, medicine
BSN, nursing
BS, science
BSW, social work

Bachelor's degrees in engineering:

BS ChE, chemical
BS CIE, civil
BS CoE, computer
BS EE, electrical
BS IE, industrial
BS ME, mechanical

Master's degrees:

M Acc, accounting
MS Ag Ed, agricultural education
MA, arts
M Ed, education
MS, science
MSW, social work
MPA, public affairs

Doctoral degrees:

PhD, doctorate
EdD, education
JD, law
MD, medicine
DVM, veterinary medicine

Did not graduate:

ARTS, arts and science
BUS, business
EDUC, education
ENGR, engineering
JOURN, journalism



*For a more detailed list of current degrees, visit catalog.missouri.edu/degreesanddegreeprograms.

FAN GEAR OF THE WEEK



Rivalry Threads
 Ladies V-Neck Tee
 Available at Target

Champion
 Unisex Crew Sweatshirt
 Available at Sam's Club

Champion
 Unisex Hoodie
 Available on Costco.com

Russell
 Ladies V-Neck Tee
 Available at Walmart

Classroom as Stage

Picking a career is often a one-time choice. Not many of us follow Ralph Waldo Emerson's advice to trust one's intuition and try a multitude of enterprises.

But Brad Korbesmeyer did. He was able to radically switch career lanes, from restaurant executive to a professor of playwriting — thanks to luck, a supportive spouse and the confidence that a Missouri J-School education taught him to write.

Growing up in St. Louis, Korbesmeyer, BJ '76, rarely thought about what he might become as an adult. At Mizzou, he started in broadcasting, then switched to a major in advertising, where he studied under Professor Frank L. Dobyns Jr. As class president, he gave a comic speech at graduation, which included a gentle ribbing of Dobyns. The enthusiastic reception boosted his determination to write. He began his working life devising blurbs for a St. Louis film company, then became a copywriter for United Van Lines, a job that quickly turned tedious. "I got bored creating pamphlets on how to pack your china and houseplants," he says.

Like thousands of writers, he wanted to create sitcoms for Hollywood. But unlike most others, he and his wife, Teresa, left their jobs in Missouri and drove to Los Angeles to follow that dream. They had no contacts and little familiarity with California. They ended up in a seedy motel in Burbank because they remembered Johnny Carson's mentions of the suburb.

"Teresa knew she could be a secretary, I knew I could write, and we had six months of money saved up," he recalls. To supplement their savings, he summarized legal documents and wrote training manuals for Winchell's Donuts, a subsidiary of Denny's Inc. He began moving up the human resources ladder at the restaurant conglomerate but kept writing at home as his job got more demanding.

The "ham in me" prompted him to take a nighttime acting class. Rather than search for monologues and scenes, he decided to write his own. Every Tuesday night, he would find a spot at the public library and write screenplays. It was a necessary outlet, he says. "I had a stressful corporate job, and I needed to still be a writer."

He spent months perfecting a clever play, *Incident at San Bajo*, a seven-character drama about residents of a trailer park who escape death by buying a potion from a mysterious con man. In 1988, Korbesmeyer entered the one-act in the nation's biggest new play competition, the Humana Festival in Louisville, Kentucky. He won, beating out some 1,700 other entrants and changing his life forever.

His play was given a staged reading, published and later had more than 80 productions and was adapted into an opera. On the strength of the play, he won a full ride to the graduate program in playwriting at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. After graduation, he and his wife and two children moved again to unfamiliar territory, to Oswego, New York, on the shores of Lake Ontario. He was hired for a one-year appointment to teach



playwriting at the State University of New York Oswego.

Twenty-nine years later, he is retiring from that university, having taught playwriting, screenwriting and theatrical literature to thousands of students and having served as associate dean and interim dean for graduate studies.

Teaching turned out to be the right fit for Korbesmeyer. If he ever reads the enthusiastic compliments about him on the Rate My Professors website, he would blush. Some examples: "The definition of how teaching is done properly." "He is inspirational, affable, and knowledgeable." "By far the best professor I've ever had."

Korbesmeyer returns the affection. "I love the stage of the classroom," he enthused. "You're giving a mini play every day."

Optimism and confidence allowed him and Teresa to make bold moves through their life. "I know how important it is to get a positive word at crucial moments," he says. "I've tried to pass that along to my students. They need the self-assurance to find the work that's right for them. It can be a wild journey."

— Margaret Engel, BJ '73

THE PERFECT GIFT FOR YOUR FAVORITE TIGER

Mizzou Alumni Association memberships come with more than discounts and exclusive merchandise – they're a passport to lifelong networking and career-building opportunities, no matter where your favorite Tiger goes in life.



GIVE THE GIFT THEY'LL LOVE

mizzou.com/giftmembership | (573) 882-6611

MIZZOU  ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION TM

MIZZOU

University of Missouri Alumni Association
Donald W. Reynolds Alumni Center
Columbia, MO 65211

Address change? Update at mizzou.com/update or call 800-372-6822.

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 123
Fulton, MO 65251

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



A NEW CROSBY MBA COMING FALL 2021

As the world of business evolves, so does business education. The next evolution of the Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business arrives in fall 2021, with the launch of the reimagined Crosby MBA program. Applications will open in spring 2021 for the fall 2021 entering class. Stay tuned for details!

Additional master's degrees offered at the Trulaske College of Business

**MS IN
BUSINESS**
100% online

execMBA
75% online
25% on campus

MS FINANCE
100% online

**MASTER OF
ACCOUNTANCY**
100% online
or 100% on campus

Take the next step >> trulaskemasters@missouri.edu
573-882-2750 | business.missouri.edu/gpo



Robert J. Trulaske, Sr.
College of Business
University of Missouri