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Missouri: What You Need To Know (http://www.secdigitalnetwork.com/NEWS/tabid/473/Article/228828/missouri-what-you-need-to-know.aspx)

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By: Sean Cartell
SEC Digital Network



COMPLETE MISSOURI COVERAGE AT THE SEC DIGITAL NETWORK

- Tiger Tracks: Missouri Joins The SEC (http://www.secdigitalnetwork.com/NEWS/tabid/473/Article/228830/tiger-tracks-missouri-joins-the-sec.aspx)
- Missouri-SEC Connections: A History (http://www.secdigitalnetwork.com/NEWS/tabid/473/Article/228901/missouri-sec-connections-a-history.aspx)
- Homecoming Tradition Traced To Missouri (http://www.secdigitalnetwork.com/NEWS/tabid/473/Article/228829/homecoming-tradition-traced-to-missouri.aspx)
- Missouri To The SEC: The Dortch Report (Basketball) (http://www.secdigitalnetwork.com/NEWS/tabid/473/Article/228827/missouri-to-the-sec-the-dortch-report.aspx)
- Missouri To The SEC: Barnhart's Take (http://www.secdigitalnetwork.com/NEWS/tabid/473/Article/228826/missouri-to-the-sec-barnharts-take.aspx)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Missouri became the Southeastern Conference's 14th member. To familiarize yourself with important facts related to the Tigers' athletics tradition, here is a quick rundown of what you need to know about Missouri athletics.

- Founded:** 1839
- Enrollment:** 32,415
- Nickname:** Tigers
- Colors:** Old Gold and Black
- Mascot:** Truman The Tiger (a Bengal tiger named after former U.S. President Harry S. Truman)

Previous Conference Affiliations: Missouri Valley Intercollegiate Athletic Association (1907-1928); Big Six Conference (1929-1964); Big Eight Conference (1964-1996); Big 12 Conference (1996-Present) – north division

Sponsored Sports:

Men: Baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, swimming and diving, track and field, wrestling
Women: Basketball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, volleyball

National Championships:

- o Baseball: 1954
- o Men's Indoor Track and Field: 1965

Traditions:

Truman The Tiger

The nickname "Tigers," given to Mizzou's athletic teams, traces its origin to the Civil War period. At that time, plundering guerilla bands habitually raided small towns, and Columbia people constantly feared an attack. Such organizations as temporary "home guards" and vigilance companies banded together to fight off any possible forays.

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The town's preparedness discouraged any guerilla activity and the protecting organization began to disband in 1854. However, it was rumored that a guerilla band, led by the notorious Bill Anderson, intended to sack the town. Quickly organized was an armed guard of Columbia citizens, who built a blockhouse and fortified the old courthouse in the center of town. This company was called "The Missouri Tigers."

The marauders never came. The reputation of the intrepid "Tigers" presumably traveled abroad, and Anderson's gang detoured around Columbia.

Soon after Missouri's first football team was organized in 1890, the athletic committee adopted the nickname "Tiger" in official recognition of those Civil War defenders. Their spirit is now embodied in the MU mascot - "Truman the Tiger." The Tiger was named Truman in 1984 because of a contest held by the cheerleaders. Previously MU had two mascots, a male and a female, but neither had an identity.

This contest was held on campus, over a period of a few weeks, to develop a name for the Tiger mascot. The winner, a student, submitted the name Truman (after Missouri-bred President of the United States Harry S Truman). The name stuck and has been popular ever since.

In 1986, the Tiger mascot design caricature, image, material, and color was in need of an upgrade. Jack Lengyel, Dick Tamburo, and Joe Castiglione sought a way to improve the overall personality of our mascot, Truman.

A design was submitted to the manufacturer for production. (Some financial help was provided by local restaurateur Dick Walls.) The new mascot made its first appearance at the Missouri-Utah State football game in 1986.

Courtesy of <http://www.mutigers.com/trads/mascot-football-traditions.html>
(<http://www.mutigers.com/trads/mascot-football-traditions.html>)

Official Mizzou Ring

Gaining in popularity, the Official Mizzou Ring is a symbol of accomplishment at the university. Upon completion of 60 hours of study, students are eligible to receive their rings in an annual ceremony.

Courtesy of <http://www.mizzou.com/s/1002/index.aspx?sid=1002&gid=1&pgid=322>
(<http://www.mutigers.com/trads/mascot-football-traditions.html>)

Homecoming

The Homecoming tradition was started at Mizzou in 1911, when the MU football coach and Director of Athletics, Chester Brewer, invited alumni to "come home" to Columbia for the annual football game against the University of Kansas.

Mizzou still boasts the largest student-run Homecoming in the nation. The annual events include a parade, blood drive, talent competition, tailgate, and many more.

Courtesy of <http://www.mizzou.com/s/1002/index.aspx?sid=1002&gid=1&pgid=322>
(<http://www.mizzou.com/s/1002/index.aspx?sid=1002&gid=1&pgid=322>)

The Columns

The traditional symbol of the University of Missouri is the row of six Ionic columns. The Columns once supported the portico of Academic Hall, the first building erected on campus. Academic Hall was built between 1840 and 1843 from plans drawn by A. Stephen Hills, designer of the Missouri State Capitol.

It consisted of a domed central section of three stories with two wings and housed both educational and administrative facilities. Brick for the building was fired on campus. Limestone for the Columns was obtained from the nearby Hinkson Creek Valley and was hauled to the building by ox-drawn carts.

On Jan. 9, 1892, Academic Hall was destroyed by fire and the Columns were all that remained. In August 1893 the Board of Curators voted to remove the Columns, considering them not only unsafe but unsightly. However, supporters of the Columns rallied to their defense, and after inspection showed the foundations were safe, the Board voted to retain them in December 1893. Now the Columns stand as a beloved part of MU's campus.

Courtesy of <http://www.missouri.edu/about/history/columns.php>
(<http://www.missouri.edu/about/history/columns.php>)

Missouri Athletics Web site: www.mutigers.com
(<http://www.mutigers.com>)

Notable University of Missouri Former Students (Non-Athletes)

- John Anderson, sports broadcaster
- Skip Caray, sports broadcaster
- Sheryl Crow, musician
- Dennis Dodd, sports journalist
- Pat Forde, sports journalist
- Jim Lehrer, broadcaster
- Lisa Myers, news broadcaster
- Brad Pitt, actor
- Richard Richards, Astronaut
- Mort Walker, cartoonist
- Sam Walton, Wal Mart
- Tennessee Williams, playwright

What Is The State of Missouri Known For?

- State Nickname: Show-Me State
- Known as "The Gateway to the West"
- Birthplace of U.S. President Harry S. Truman (Independence, Mo.)
- Winston Churchill's "Iron Curtain Speech" (Fulton, Mo.)
- Mark Twain's Boyhood Home (Hannibal, Mo.)
- Eastern Starting Point of Pony Express (St. Joseph, Mo.)
- Crossroads of Country Music (Springfield, Mo./Branson, Mo.)
- Barbecue (Kansas City, Mo.)

Got a question for the sec? Send it to secfeedback@xosdigital.com (mailto:secfeedback@xosdigital.com).



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