INAUGURAL SEC FOOTBALL SEASON IN PHOTOS

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN
The Columbia Missourian’s photo department dedicated a team of photojournalists and photo editors to capturing images from Missouri’s inaugural SEC football season for both home and away games. Photo editor Timmy Huynh provides a glimpse into the behind-the-scenes work of this team.

Photo coverage during SEC game days was a team effort with six staff photojournalists, three photo editors and countless copy and print editors contributing. In the early afternoon, we would have three staff photojournalists out photographing tailgates. In addition to the usual shots of people enjoying themselves before the game, we also produced several multimedia pieces.

Three and a half hours before kickoff, I would meet with the three other game-day photographers in the newsroom. At that point, we’d distribute cameras, lenses and other equipment and hand out press passes. I would brief them on who the key players in the game were and what to watch for out on the field. We’d drive over to Memorial Stadium together and then unpack in the press box. I’d walk the photographers down to the field to get their sideline access and then let them loose for about an hour and a half to capture photos from tailgates.

When they got back to the press box, I’d download their photos while they got a quick bite to eat and got their gear ready to shoot the game. About 30 minutes before kickoff they would head down to the field to shoot pre-game photos.

Four minutes into the game, I would run down to the field to grab the memory cards from our lead football photographer and run back up to the press box to select photos and edit them before transmitting the photos for a live photo gallery on ColumbiaMissourian.com. I would go back down to the field to grab memory cards after the first, second and third quarters, editing the photos as quickly as I could when I was back up in the press box. I was usually too impatient to wait for the elevators going down, so I would routinely run down more than eight flights of stairs to get to the field level. After the game ended, the photojournalists would come up and hand off their last batch of memory cards.

When I finished picking out photos between card runs, I would provide brief caption and identification information before sending the photos to the newsroom. The two editors in the newsroom would write a complete caption before toning and sending the photos off to the web and print desks.

Although the football team’s performance in the inaugural football season didn’t meet fans’ expectations, I feel that our photographic coverage both online and in print was stellar. This book is a compilation of the best of that work.
WHAT’S INSIDE

Columbia prepares for the SEC
Home Cookin’
This is how we do it in the SEC
Georgia vs. Missouri
Missouri vs. South Carolina
Vanderbilt vs. Missouri
Alabama vs. Missouri
Kentucky vs. Missouri
Missouri vs. Florida
Missouri vs. Tennessee
Missouri vs. Texas A&M
IT’S OFFICIAL

Missouri officially joined the SEC on July 1, 2012. A member of the SEC East Division, Missouri found new conference foes in Georgia, South Carolina, Vanderbilt, Florida, Tennessee and Kentucky.

Southeastern Conference Commissioner Mike Slive, left, and MU Chancellor Brady Deaton celebrated the formal announcement that Missouri will join the SEC on Nov. 6, 2011, at the MU Student Center.

NICK MICHAEL
Missourian
COLUMBIA PREPARES FOR THE SEC
MAKING THE JUMP

Columbia was looking forward to football like never before. Stadium changes, new uniforms, highly-touted recruits and lofty expectations were all part of the shift to the SEC.

KILE BREWER
Missourian
Blackberry Exchange employee Mickey Moulder talks with store owner Laura Wilson about setting up the front window display on Aug. 29, 2012. The store put out its MU apparel in preparation for the start of football season. JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
HOME COOKIN’
GAME DAY FUN

With SEC fans — known for excessive tailgating and passionate fandom — descending upon Faurot Field, the Tiger faithful were forced to up their game. It could be argued that game day eating and socializing became more popular than ever before.

Bella Sherwood, 6, Jason Stringer, 8, and Ben Davis, 8, play football prior to Missouri’s game against Vanderbilt at Faurot Field on Oct. 5, 2012.

JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
BRIDGET MURPHY/Missourian
A time-lapse video shows the activity in and around Memorial Stadium during a home football game.
THIS IS HOW WE DO IT IN THE SEC
SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

Conference road games allowed Missouri fans to witness what tailgating is like in other SEC cities. “Football is kind of king,” South Carolina fan Amanda Heckert said.
THIS IS HOW WE DO IT IN THE SEC

Gamecocks fans tailgate prior to Missouri’s game against South Carolina at the farmer's market tailgate area in front of Williams-Brice Stadium on Sept. 22, 2012, in Columbia, S.C. JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
GEORGIA VS. MISSOURI
A HUMBLING EXPERIENCE

September 8, 2012

41 Georgia (2-0, 1-0)
20 Missouri (1-1, 0-1)

Faurot Field (Columbia)

“You can’t make the kind of mistakes we made in games like that and survive.”

— Gary Pinkel, Missouri head coach

Georgia quarterback Aaron Murray drops back to pass against Missouri on Sept. 8, 2012, at Faurot Field.
Missouri quarterback James Franklin watches the football bounce away following a hit by Georgia's Jarvis Jones. STUART PALLEY/Missourian
ROAD WOES
September 22, 2012

31 South Carolina (4-0, 2-0)
10 Missouri (2-2, 0-2)

Williams-Brice Stadium (Columbia, S.C.)

“I think it was evident that we were a little stronger than Missouri.”

— Steve Spurrier, South Carolina head coach

South Carolina running back Marcus Lattimore looks for running room during the second half of his team’s game against Missouri on Sept. 22, 2012, in Columbia, S.C.

JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
Quarterback James Franklin attempts to pass during the first half of the Missouri-South Carolina game. JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
VANDERBILT VS. MISSOURI
A SHOCKING DEFEAT

October 6, 2012

19 Vanderbilt (2-3, 1-2)
15 Missouri (3-3, 0-3)

Faurot Field (Columbia)

“We are brothers in there, we’re just frustrated that our hard work’s not paying off right now.”

— Kip Edwards, Missouri cornerback

Missouri offensive lineman Elvis Fisher squats during his team’s game against Vanderbilt on Oct. 5, 2012, at Faurot Field.

JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
Tailback Jordan Wade and offensive lineman Trey Foster run out of the tunnel before the start of Missouri’s game against Vanderbilt on Oct. 6, 2012. JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
ALABAMA VS. MISSOURI
Missouri player Jimmie Hunt is tackled by Alabama players during the second quarter of their game Oct. 13, 2012, at Faurot Field.

EMMA KESSINGER/Missourian

October 13, 2012

42 Alabama (6-0, 3-0)

10 Missouri (3-4, 0-4)

Faurot Field (Columbia)

“That is maybe the best football team I’ve ever seen.”

— Gary Pinkel, Missouri head coach

EMMA KESSINGER/Missourian
Alabama receiver T.J. Yeldon jumps over cornerback E.J. Gaines for a 16-yard run during the first quarter of the Missouri-Alabama game on Oct. 13, 2012. STUART PALLEY/Missourian
KENTUCKY VS. MISSOURI
“You can be 100 percent in practice and everything, but there’s nothing like playing against SEC competition.”

— Corbin Berkstresser, Missouri quarterback
Missouri kicker Andrew Baggett prepares to kick while T.J. Moe holds the ball during the first quarter against Kentucky on Oct. 27, 2012.

BENJAMIN HOSTE/Missourian
LAST-SECOND LOSS

November 3, 2012

14 Florida (8-1, 7-1)

7 Missouri (4-5, 1-5)

Ben Hill Griffin Stadium (Gainesville, Fla.)

“Gators gonna win...”

— Troy Coleman, Florida fan

Missouri fans sit in the stands during the second half of the Missouri-Florida game Nov. 3, 2012, at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium in Gainesville, Fla.

STUART PALLEY/Missourian
Missouri running back Kendial Lawrence runs the ball during the first half of the Missouri-Florida game on Nov. 3, 2012. STUART PALLEY/MISSOURIAN
FOUR OVERTIME THRILLER

November 10, 2012

51 Missouri (5-5, 2-5)

48 Tennessee (4-6, 0-6)

Neyland Stadium (Knoxville, Tenn.)

“It was just a good feeling. It felt like a team victory where everyone did their part and did it well.”

— James Franklin, Missouri quarterback

Missouri quarterback James Franklin runs the ball against Tennessee on Nov. 10, 2012, at Neyland Stadium in Knoxville, Tenn.

JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
Missouri quarterback James Franklin runs the ball toward a pack of Tennessee players. JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
Missouri tailback Marcus Murphy stands on the sideline during the first half of his team's game against Texas A&M on Nov. 24, 2012, at Kyle Field in College Station, Texas.

JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian

DISAPPOINTING END

November 24, 2012

59 Texas A&M (10-2, 6-2)

29 Missouri (5-7, 2-6)

Kyle Field (College Station, Texas)

“It was kind of the perfect storm in the wrong way.”

— Gary Pinkel, Missouri head coach

JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
Missouri tight end Eric Waters battles for extra yards against Texas A&M. JAIME HENRY-WHITE/Missourian
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