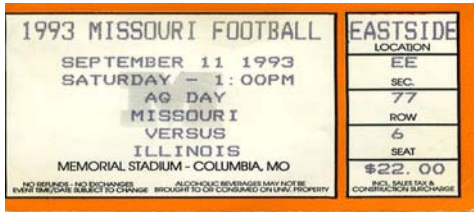




# On the Road to Ole Mizzou

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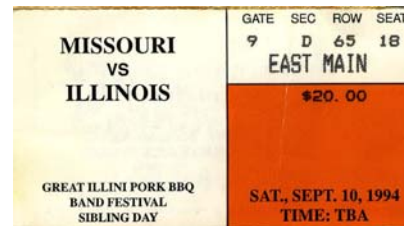


On a picture perfect day in Columbia, Mizzou opened the season on a high note soundly defeating Illinois 31-3. Jeff Handy led the Tiger offense for 365 yards, and the defensive performance was the best since Bob Stull took over in 1989. From the east side of the stadium, we watched the goal posts come down. Missouri

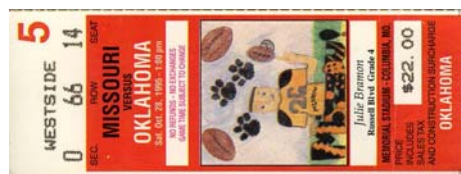
<b>Sept 11, 1993</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Illinois</b>	<b>3</b>
Attendance	48,427
Season: 3-7-1	

coach Bob Stull had reason to believe that things were beginning to gel for his team, a team that would finish the season 3-7-1 and mark the end of the Stull era. There's talk among some Missouri boosters of moving to the Big Ten Conference.

In 1994 we ventured to Champaign with hopes of reliving the glory of last year's manhandling of the Illini. The day started with J. Lacopo blowing his one assignment of bringing a barbecue grill, and things went downhill from there. In what was touted as a "border war", turned out to be a massacre with the Illini using a stifling defense led by future pros Dana Howard and Simeon Rice. When we failed to gain a first down going into the 4th quarter, the Illini fans started to derisively chant, "No First Down, No First Down" With a defiant in-your-face, we gained our one and only first down of the game with 3:39 to go, and finished the day with +22 yards rushing. First year coach Larry Smith summed up the day pretty well, "There really wasn't any phase of our team out there that was worth anything. It was all completely worthless and useless, every bit of it." This game would tie a school record for consecutive road losses at 17.



<b>Sept 10, 1994</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Illinois</b>	<b>42</b>
Attendance	64,305
Season: 3-8-1	



Howard Schnellenberger and the 23rd ranked Sooners came calling in Columbia to meet freshman quarterback Corby Jones. Missouri would lead this game, 9-7, with seven minutes on the clock. But Oklahoma would convert a third and 4 on their own 28 for a touchdown and the final score of the day.

<b>Oct 28, 1995</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Okla (23)</b>	<b>13</b>
Attendance	37,614
Season: 3-8	

The Missouri defense outplayed the Sooners all day, but the offense could only muster 3 field goals. Quarterback duties were split between Jones and Brandon Corso.



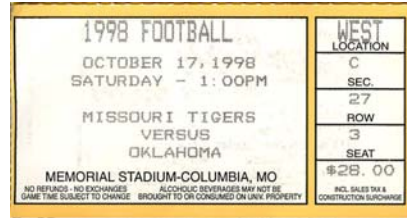
In the first season of the Big 12 and a homecoming game, Mizzou beat the Cowboys, 35-28, in the first overtime game in school history. Corby Jones, Brock Olivo and Ron Janes would have a good day running the option. Jones ran for 193 yards to set the Missouri rushing record for a quarterback and passed the 2000 yard mark for his career. Brock Olivo scored the winning touchdown in the first overtime period.

<b>Oct 26, 1996</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>35 (OT)</b>
<b>Okla St</b>	<b>28</b>
Attendance	37,879
Season: 5-6	

Ricky Williams and the Longhorns came calling in 1997. Williams rushed for 235 yards in a losing effort. With the running game dominating, Texas inexplicably shifted to a passing attack in the second half and Ricky was spotted on the sideline firing up a fatty. Quarterback Corby Jones had his best game of the year with Brock Olivo and Ernest Blackwell in the backfield. Blackwell made news for going over the 1000 yard mark for his career. He would again make news in 2004 in St. Louis for shooting his 9 year old stepdaughter and being killed in a police standoff. 1997 would be Missouri's first winning season and first trip to a bowl game in 14 years. The Tigers would lose 35-24 to Colorado St. in the Holiday Bowl and finish the season ranked 23rd. Larry Smith was picked as Big 12 Coach-of-the-Year.

<b>Oct 18, 1997</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Texas</b>	<b>29</b>
Attendance	48,451
Season: 7-5	

Homecoming 1998 would mark the first time that Missouri would defeat Oklahoma since 1983 – 12 straight losses, including a 77-0 drubbing in 1986. The offense would sputter most of the game, but were aided by a solid defense led by DE Justin Smith. Missouri would finish the season ranked 23rd and make a trip to the insight.com Bowl and record a 34-31 victory over West Virginia. In that game, Junior quarterback Marc Bulger went 35 for 51 and 419 yards for the Mountaineers.



<b>Oct 17, 1998</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Okla (20)</b>	<b>6</b>
Attendance	61,586
Season:	8-4



In the first ever trip to Columbia for the Red Raiders, Texas Tech would gain +9 yards rushing, with their only score coming on a fumble return. The Tigers ground it out with Zain Gilmore rushing for a school record 45 carries and the defense played a stellar game. Following the game, J. Warren being the nice guy that he is, aided a young lady in distress out of the mud and came home with crusty jeans for his effort.

<b>Oct 30, 1999</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Texas Tech</b>	<b>7</b>
Attendance	52,982
Season:	4-7

From the south end zone, we enjoyed a loss to the hated Jayhawks - it don't get much better than this. In a miserable offensive showing, Missouri averaged 0.4 yards-per-carry on 26 carries to net 10 yards rushing. The high point of the day was that threatening rain never materialized. Losing to Kansas on Homecoming would hasten the departure of 7th year coach Larry Smith. After the game, J. Mugan regaled a tour bus of lady senior citizens with his manhood, and was overheard to say, "If you've got it, flaunt it."



<b>Oct 14, 2000</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Kansas</b>	<b>38</b>
Attendance	61,794
Season:	3-8

In 2001, first year coach Gary Pinkel brought a pro-style offense from the U. of Toledo. Fragile quarterback Kirk Farmer started the game and was replaced by Darius Outlaw when Farmer would suffer a lower back strain. Farmer would incur numerous injuries in his career including a broken clavicle, broken leg, torn knee ligament, a toilet paper cut, and a finger broken during an after-hours-party fight. Tailback Zack Abron had a good day rushing, going over 100 yards for the third straight game. Justin Gage was held to two receptions for 14 yards. Texas QB Chris Simms and a talented receiving corps handed Missouri their 42nd straight loss to a top 10 team.

<b>Oct 27, 2001</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Texas (7)</b>	<b>35</b>
Attendance	51,123
Season:	4-7



Brad Smith started at quarterback as a redshirt freshman for our first night game (6:00 p.m. start). Smith would have a record breaking night, and the 3rd ranked Sooners needed a fake field goal and perfect pass from the defensive end placeholder with 6:33 left to escape Faurot Field. J. Mugan set a game and career record for going three times between Reactor Field and I-70.

<b>Oct 5, 2002</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Okla (3)</b>	<b>31</b>
Attendance	60,578
Season:	5-7

Sheryl Crow, a 1984 MU graduate, served as Grand Marshal for Homecoming 2003. In an epic display of offense, Brad Smith would set Missouri records for quarterback rushing yards (291), yards-per-carry (15.3) and touchdowns (5) and would go over the 5000 yard mark for his career. After this whoopin' of Texas Tech, Missouri would enter the AP poll at 21st. We would end the season with a trip to the Independence Bowl, losing to Arkansas 27-14. On the way home, a crossover accident with fatalities would leave us parked on I-70 for an extended period and cause extreme distress to Mugan's bladder.



<b>Oct 25, 2003</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Texas Tech</b>	<b>31</b>
Attendance	60,192
Season:	8-5

The production of Brad Smith and the tight end duo of Martin Rucker and Victor Sesay enabled Missouri to jump to a 17-0 lead only to collapse mightily. Missouri would lose this game on a 28-yard field goal with 49 seconds left. A costly mixed-signal between the bench and Smith in the 4th quarter with the score tied and facing third-and-4 resulted in Brad Smith handing off to 3rd string tailback Beau Viehmann. Immediately following the football game, the Paige Laurie Sports Arena would host its first basketball game. Back at the St. Charles commuter lot, the day was capped off with an entertaining game of bumper cars.



<b>Oct 23, 2004</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Okla St (22)</b>	<b>20</b>
Attendance	66,133
Season:	5-6

In the latest installment of paving paradise to put up a parking lot, Reactor Field was graveled since last we were here and a \$10 parking fee was being collected. Terry F. graciously arrived early to secure parking spots and patiently waited for a call on his cell phone – a phone that had no service. After consulting with Columbia's finest at the stadium entrance, Jay W. decided to forego the trouble of actually entering the stadium and instead chose to watch the game in the parking lot with his newfound Husker friends. Senior Brad Smith came back from the worst game of his career the week before (when some fans were calling for his replacement with Chase Daniel), to his best performance with 480 yards of total offense to break yet another Missouri record. Missouri wins 44-24, the identical score as two years previous when Nebraska was last whooped in Columbia. As in 2003, the goal posts came down.



<b>Oct 22, 2005</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Nebraska</b>	<b>24</b>
Attendance	60,641
Season:	7-5



In a break with tradition, a 12 passenger van was rented for the day to provide transportation for all. Jake and Terry choose to not participate in the fun; they did however provide some potent Screwdrivers and Bloody Marys at the first rest stop. For the first time since 2001, we see someone besides Brad Smith start at quarterback

– sophomore Chase Daniel from Southlake Carroll HS in Texas. After passing for 5 touchdowns the week before against Murray State, Daniel decided to run against Ole Miss and was the leading rusher in the game with 89 yards on 13 carries. The Missouri defense played a solid game holding the Rebels to a lone score following a fumbled punt return late in the second quarter. Missouri would end the season with a 39-38 loss to Oregon State in the Sun Bowl.

<b>Sept 9, 2006</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Ole Miss</b>	<b>7</b>
Attendance	51,112
Season:	8-5

An unfortunate misplacement of the tickets by the organization committee resulted in the need to get replacements at the will-call window. The Reactor Field parking lot filled up before we made it there, and as Terry F. neglected to bring his side arm, he was unable to secure us a spot. We found a space at a private residence on Providence Road that worked out quite well. The Tiger defense defied logic to hold the No. 1 offense in the country to just 10 points – 40 points below their season average, and intercepted Graham Harrell four times, sacked him 3 times and stopped 4 of 7 fourth-down conversion attempts. Mizzou finished the 2007 season winning a school record 12 games, the Big 12 North, the Cotton Bowl, and with a final AP ranking of fourth. Chase Daniel finished fourth in the Heisman balloting and Jeremy Maclin became the first Mizzou freshman to win consensus first-team All-American honors.



<b>Oct 20, 2007</b>	
<b>Mizzou (15)</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Tex Tech (22)</b>	<b>10</b>
Attendance	63,396
Season:	12-2

Once again, we visited our friends on south Providence Road for four hours of tailgating fun - preceding a 7:00 p.m. kickoff. What was anticipated to be a shootout between two teams among the highest scoring offenses in the county, turned out to be more of a misfire. Chase Daniel, looking out of sorts all night, threw three interceptions and was at the helm for his first three-and-out possession of the year. Mr. Automatic, Jeff Wolfert, had a field goal blocked and also missed a 52-yarder. A capacity crowd and a national ESPN audience saw national championship and Heisman



Trophy hopes fizzle. In what could have been a dramatic come-from-behind victory with three minutes to go and 65 yards to cover, Daniel threw his third interception of the night. Mizzou drops to No. 11 and Oklahoma St. jumps to No. 8 following this game. We finish the season winning the Big 12 North for the second season in a row, and record an overtime win in the Alamo Bowl against Northwestern. Six Tigers are drafted into the NFL: Jeremy Maclin, Ziggy Hood, William Moore, Chase Coffman, Colin Brown and Stryker Sulak. Chase Daniel signs with the Redskins as a free agent, is cut preseason and signs with the Saints practice squad.

<b>Oct 11, 2008</b>	
<b>Mizzou (3)</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Okla St (17)</b>	<b>28</b>
Attendance	68,349
Season:	10-4

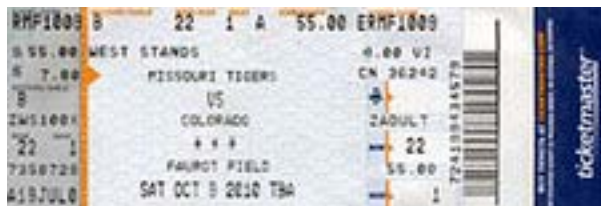


**Oct 2009 UPDATE – Good News!** The long lost tickets from the 2007 season have been recovered. The Organization Committee reports that the tickets were recovered from underneath a “mountain of crap” in the basement of the committee chair.

On a nice November day, we make a pit stop in Wentzville for egg frittatas and tomato juice at the home of our gracious hosts, Terry and Gwynne. Once again, we park at our favorite house on S. Providence Rd., and Fritz tells us that this is his last semester at Mizzou (insert frowny face). But .... his sister will be attending Mizzou next year and will probably be parking cars at the house (insert happy face). Krauss and the Mugans take a walk across campus to the Old Heidelberg and are disappointed by the waiting line that stretches out to the columns. Back at Faurot Field, our tickets are in Sect. A, next to the visiting Baylor fans – both of them. We watched a game which featured: Mizzou being favored by 14 points, Baylor playing a freshman quarterback who started the year as a third stringer, a Baylor team which had zero running game, and a Missouri team which hadn't scored a second half touchdown since Sept. 25 against Nevada and the result was a dismal home loss to the lowly Bears and again no touchdowns scored in the second half. This would be only the 3<sup>rd</sup> road victory for Baylor in 55 Big 12 contests going back to when the league formed in 1996. Blaine Gabbert looked nothing like the prodigy he appeared to be in the early season. We finish the 2009 season with a loss to Navy in the Texas Bowl.



<b>Nov 7, 2009</b>	
<b>Mizzou</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Baylor</b>	<b>40</b>
Attendance	65,298
Season:	8-5



Once again, we make a stop in Wentzville for refreshments before hitting the road in our Thrifty rental van with the whole gang. We attempt to park at our favorite house, but we don't arrive early enough for a parking spot for the 6:00 p.m. game. We make a U-

<b>Oct 9, 2010</b>	
<b>Mizzou (24)</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>0</b>
Attendance	62,965
Season:	10-3

turn on Providence Rd. and wind up at the Phi Delta Theta fraternity house back lot, where not even the fetid remnants of a dead bunny rabbit can spoil a grand afternoon of tailgating fun. Mizzou blocks two kicks, gets a safety and pulls a successful fake punt to keep Colorado scoreless. Following the 2010 season, Colorado defects to the Pac-10 and Nebraska moves to the Big Ten. Blaine Gabbert and Aldon Smith announce their intentions to leave Mizzou for the NFL following a 27-24 loss to Iowa in the Insight Bowl. A casualty of the afternoon is the loss of one of Forinash's antique folding chairs.