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Football Announces 2009 Recruiting Class

Tigers Sign 25 Standouts To Latest Group

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Columbia, Mo. – Twenty-five standout student-athletes have signed a National Letter of Intent (NLI) to attend the University of Missouri and play football for Head Coach Gary Pinkel, as announced today.

Mizzou is coming off a second-consecutive 10-win season (going 10-4 in 2008) for the first time in school history, and that success has helped the Tiger coaching staff assemble a recruiting class which ranks among the nation's top-35. Both Rivals.com and Scout.com recruiting services had the Tigers' 25-man class ranked 35th in the country, as of Wednesday morning.

The top-35 ranking marks the third straight year that Mizzou's signing class has rated that high nationally. Mizzou's previous seven classes rated, according to Rivals: 29th in 2002, 28th in 2003, 29th in 2004, 39th in 2005, 47th in 2006, 33rd in 2007, and 24th in 2008.

Mizzou fared very well in-state, as it signed 10 of the Missouri's top players, including five-star blue-chip tight end Sheldon Richardson, who was the state's top-rated player.

The Tiger coaching staff also continued its outstanding work mining the pipelines of Texas, as it signed seven Lone Star State student-athletes, including *Parade* All-American tailback Kendial Lawrence of Rockwall.

According to the Rivals.com rankings, Mizzou's 2009 recruiting class rates ahead of 42 other schools that participated in bowl games during the 2008 season. Just a handful of the other bowl teams from last year that Missouri bettered include: Clemson (36th), Oregon (37th), Minnesota (38th), Wisconsin (41st), Utah (42nd), Kentucky (44th), Arizona (48th), Georgia Tech (49th), Oregon State (52nd), North Carolina State (53rd), Iowa (61st) and Boston College (67th), among many others.

"We've got a great group of young men in this class who are excited to be Missouri Tigers and who we feel will help us continue to improve our program," said MU Head Coach Gary Pinkel. "That's the key, you have to keep moving forward, and we feel good that this group fits our needs and our vision to do that," he said.

Scout.com Midland Recruiting Manager Baron Flenory says:

"Missouri has built a wall on the state border, as they did an exceptional job of keeping the state's top talent home. Five-star Sheldon Richardson out of St. Louis is as athletic of a kid, at any position, that you will find in the entire country. Furthermore, Richardson has the potential to be an instant-impact player. He is a huge get and with that said, the Tigers did not stop there. After securing the state, they made their presence felt in the Lone Star State where they nabbed All-World running back Kendial Lawrence of Rockwall-Heath, and though he is diminutive in stature, he is gigantic in ability," Flenory added.

Following is a roster and biographical sketches for each of MU's 25 signees...

2009 MIZZOU FOOTBALL RECRUITING CLASS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Wt.</u>	<u>Hometown (High School/Jr. College)</u>
Tavon Bolden	LB	6-2	210	Houston, Texas (Aldine HS)
Donovan Bonner	DB	6-2	230	Dallas, Texas (Lincoln HS)
Justin Britt	OL	6-6	270	Lebanon, Mo. (Lebanon HS)
Brayden Burnett	DL	6-3	240	Southlake, Texas (Carroll HS)
Adam Burton	LB	6-2	235	Lee's Summit, Mo. (West HS)
Jaleel Clark	WR	6-5	210	Allentown, Pa. (Parkland HS)
Blaine Dalton	QB	6-1	190	Blue Springs, Mo. (South HS)
Marvin Foster	DL	6-2	265	Fort Worth, Texas (North Crowley HS)
Chris Freeman	OL	6-8	350	Trotwood, Ohio (Madison HS)
Ashton Glaser	QB	6-2	210	Springdale, Ark. (Springdale HS)
Jarrell Harrison	DB	6-2	210	Las Vegas, Nev. (Palo Verde HS/CC of San Francisco)
Mark Hill	OL	6-6	260	Branson, Mo. (Branson HS)
Kendial Lawrence	TB	5-9	185	Rockwall, Texas (Rockwall-Heath HS)
Jack Meiners	OL	6-6	305	St. Louis, Mo. (Chaminade Prep)
T.J. Moe	DB	6-0	190	O'Fallon, Mo. (Fort Zumwalt West HS)
Ty Phillips	DL	6-3	250	East St. Louis, Ill. (East St. Louis HS)
Sheldon Richardson	TE	6-4	275	St. Louis, Mo. (Gateway HS)
Michael Sam	DL	6-3	230	Hitchcock, Texas (Hitchcock HS)
Alex Sanders	TE	6-5	220	Springfield, Mo. (Glendale HS)
Jasper Simmons	DB	6-1	205	Pensacola, Fla. (Washington HS/Hutchinson CC)
Kerwin Stricker	WR	6-2	195	Washington, Mo. (Washington HS)
Joshua Tatum	LB	6-1	235	Oakland, Calif. (McClymonds HS/CC of San Francisco)
L'Damian Washington	WR	6-4	180	Shreveport, La. (Green Oaks HS)
Matt White	DB	6-0	180	Dallas, Texas (Keller HS)
Andrew Wilson	LB	6-4	230	Peculiar, Mo. (Raymore-Peculiar HS)

BREAKDOWN BY STATE

Missouri (10) – Britt (Lebanon), Burton (Lee's Summit), Dalton (Blue Springs), Hill (Branson), Meiners (St. Louis), Moe (O'Fallon), Richardson (St. Louis), Sanders (Springfield), Stricker (Washington), Wilson (Peculiar)

Texas (7) – Bolden (Houston), Bonner (Dallas), Burnett (Southlake), Foster (Fort Worth), Lawrence (Rockwall), Sam (Hitchcock), White (Dallas)

Arkansas (1) – Glaser (Springdale)

California (1) – Tatum (Oakland)

Florida (1) – Simmons (Pensacola)

Illinois (1) – Phillips (East St. Louis)

Louisiana (1) – Washington

Nevada (1) – Harrison (Las Vegas)

Ohio (1) – Freeman (Trotwood)

Pennsylvania (1) – Clark (Allentown)

TAVON BOLDEN

Fr., LB, 6-2, 210, Houston, Texas (Aldine HS)

(First name is pronounced tuh-VON) ... Fluid athlete who runs well and who projects at several different positions, and could play on either side of the ball ... ESPN.com ranks him as the nation's No. 64 prep safety prospect, and says he has all of the tools to be a very good college defender – size, speed, agility, ball skills, range and instincts ... That outlet also says he shows toughness and aggressiveness on run support ... Was a 1st-Team All-District selection as a senior in 2008 after he had 30 tackles and a fumble recovery ... Also averaged just under 25 yards on kickoff returns ... Also played a little receiver, and had 4 catches in 2008 for 123 yards and 2 touchdowns, good for a whopping 30.8 yards per catch average ... A good all-around athlete who has also lettered for his school in the sports of basketball and track and field ... High school coach – Bob Jones ... Parents – Thomas & Carol Bolden ... Interested in studying architecture at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as playing basketball ... Chose Mizzou over Oklahoma State, Boston College, California and Houston, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Brian Jones.

DONOVAN BONNER

Fr., DB, 6-2, 230, Dallas, Texas (Lincoln HS)

Ball-hawking defender who made his mark at Dallas' Lincoln high at safety ... ESPN.com says he displays great break on the football and reacts well to the pass as an active free safety, and that he possesses soft hands, snatches the ball out of the air and is a real running threat once he makes the pick ... Won 1st-Team All-State and All-District honors as a senior, as he accounted for 91 tackles in 2008, to go with 23 pass break-ups and 7 interceptions (two of which he returned for touchdowns), playing on a defense which led the state with 24 interceptions ... As a junior in 2007, tallied 32 tackles and grabbed 5 interceptions and was named a 1st-Team All-District selection ... Is also a multi-year letterwinner in basketball for his school ... High school coach – Jerry Sands ... Parents – Timothy Cunningham & Lashanda Bonner ... Interested in studying criminology at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as sports, socializing and talking on the phone ... Chose Mizzou over Nebraska, Wisconsin, Kansas State, Kansas, Miami, Minnesota, and Colorado State, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Bruce Walker, who he says is the funniest guy in the world.

JUSTIN BRITT

Fr., OL, 6-6, 270, Lebanon, Mo. (Lebanon HS)

A self-described lifelong Mizzou fan who is an athletic lineman with a frame that projects very well at the college level ... Played on both sides of the line of scrimmage for Lebanon High School, and starred on offense at left tackle ... Is ranked as the No. 19 overall prospect (any position) in Missouri, according to Rivals.com, and is ranked by ESPN.com as the No. 86 offensive tackle prospect in the nation ... ESPN.com touts him as having good mobility and foot agility and a large wing span which helps in pass protection ... Was a 1st-Team All-State pick in 2008 as an offensive lineman, as well as taking home 1st-Team All-District and All-Conference honors ... Starred at left tackle for a high-powered offense that racked up nearly 5,200 yards of total offense and threw for nearly 3,300 yards ... Allowed only one sack in 2008 in 434 pass attempts ... His team was regional champs in 2008, and won a state playoff game for only the second time in school history ... A good overall athlete who was a three-year letterwinner in the sports of football, wrestling and track ... Placed 6th at the state wrestling championships in the

heavyweight division in 2008, and has attended Mizzou's wrestling camp in the past ... Was district heavyweight champion in 2008, adding to a pair of conference titles he won in 2007 and 2008, and he stands 25-0 during the current 2009 season ... High school coach – Will Christian ... Parents – Chris & Kelly Britt ... Interested in studying in the School of Education at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as weightlifting, sports in general, and beating everyone at football on X-Box 360 ... Chose Mizzou over Kansas State, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Barry Odom ... Has been a big boy from day one, as he was weighed in at 11 pounds, 8 ounces at birth.

BRAYDEN BURNETT

Fr., DL, 6-3, 240, Southlake, Texas (Carroll HS)

Highly-sought after defensive end prospect who received over 25 scholarship offers from around the country ... Starred at tradition-rich Southlake (Texas) Carroll High School, which produced former record-setting Tiger quarter Chase Daniel and current offensive lineman Mike Prince ... Is listed by Rivals.com as the No. 22 strongside defensive end prospect in the nation, and is also the No. 77 overall prospect (any position) out of the state of Texas ... ESPN.com says he is a sound football player with good quickness off the ball with solid lateral movement and good recognition skills ... Tallied 65 tackles, with 15 sacks, 3 fumble recoveries and 1 forced fumble in 2008, while scoring 2 defensive touchdowns for the Dragons ... Earned 1st-Team All-District and All-Area honors as a senior, and was also named a 2nd-Team Class 5A All-State defensive end selection ... Had 57 tackles as a junior, including 17 tackles for loss and 12 sacks, while being named 1st-Team All-District and All-Area ... Lettered on the Dragons' 2006 team which won the 5A state championship as well as the mythical national championship ... Has also lettered in track as a shot-put specialist ... High school coach – Hal Wasson ... Parents – Paul & Jeri Burnett ... An outstanding student who was a 1st-Team Academic All-State selection in 2008 ... Interested in studying business finance at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as fishing and playing ping pong ... Chose Mizzou over California, Wisconsin, Arizona State, Michigan State, Kansas and Colorado, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Dave Steckel.

ADAM BURTON

Fr., LB, 6-2, 235, Lee's Summit, Mo. (West HS)

A punishing defender with a nose for the ball who comes from a football family and has dreamed of playing for his homestate school ... Rivals.com has him ranked as the No. 14 overall prospect (any position) in the state of Missouri ... ESPN.com ranks him as the nation's No. 41 overall inside linebacker prospect ... Scout.com ranks him as the nation's No. 44 middle linebacker prospect ... ESPN.com says he is a tough, physical inside run stuffer who fills his middle rush lanes with great strength and power ... Was an all-conference performer as a senior in 2008, as he amassed 58 tackles, including 7 tackles for loss and 3 quarterback sacks, while also recovering 1 fumble in 7 games ... Also lettered in basketball multiple years at Lee's Summit West ... High school coach – Royce Boehm ... Parents – Steve & Mary Anne Burton ... Interested in studying nutrition and fitness, or physical therapy at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as working out and driving and working on his car ... Chose Mizzou over Nebraska, Michigan, Michigan State, Kansas State and Army, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Andy Hill.

JALEEL CLARK

Fr., WR, 6-5, 210, Allentown, Pa. (Parkland HS)

Big wide receiver target who many people feel is a sleeper with a huge upside, who flew under the radar until late in the recruiting game, largely due to the fact that his team featured the run game most prominently ... Is ranked by Rivals.com as the No. 16 overall prospect (any position) out of the state of Pennsylvania ... ESPN.com ranks him as the nation's No. 40 prep wide receiver and calls him a very good prospect with the upside to develop into a great college receiver ... Scout.com has him rated as the nation's No. 59 wide receiver and says he runs crisp and precise pass routes and has exceptional hands who has no fear going over the middle and who is also a very solid blocker ... Was a 1st-Team All-Conference selection each of the last two years on both sides of the ball, earning the distinction in 2007 and 2008 at both wide receiver and defensive back ... Was a 1st-Team All-State pick in 2008 as a defensive back, while he also caught 34 passes for 502 yards and 5 touchdowns ... Selected to play in the prestigious 2009 Big 33 All-Star Football Game to be played this June ... As a junior in 2007, was a 1st-Team All-State selection and was the Allentown Morning Call's Player of the Year, after grabbing 51 receptions for 785 yards and 10 TDs ... Also returned punts and had 4 return TDs in his career ... Is a standout on the basketball court, and as a junior won team MVP honors and 1st-Team All-Conference (15 points and 8 rebounds) ... High school coach – Jim Morgans ... Parents – Joseph & Arlene Stimpfl ... Interested in studying business at Mizzou in the University's esteemed College of Business ... Lists hobbies as X-Box 360 and hanging out with friends ... Chose Mizzou over Penn State, Pittsburgh, Illinois, Boston College, West Virginia, Stanford and Minnesota, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Dave Steckel.

BLAINE DALTON

Fr., QB, 6-1, 190, Blue Springs, Mo. (South HS)

One of the top quarterback prospects in the country who led his team to a state title and another title game appearance in his three years as a starter ... Was a December graduate of high school, and is already enrolled in classes at Mizzou for the spring semester, and will take part in winter conditioning and spring practice with the Tiger program ... Rated as the No. 12 dual threat quarterback prospect in the country by Rivals.com, and also weighs in as the No. 6 overall prospect (any position) in the state of Missouri by the same outlet ... Scout.com ranks him as the nation's No. 18 overall quarterback prospect, and gives him four stars on their rating system ... ESPN.com calls him a fierce competitor, who is fundamentally sound with a quick release, good accuracy and able to make nice pre-snap reads ... Won the 2008 Simone Award, a prestigious award given annually to the top prep player in the Kansas City area, for his play that featured 2,335 passing yards and 24 touchdowns, while rushing for 1,164 yards and 14 touchdowns as the Jaguars went 11-3 and reached the Class 6 title game – an impressive feat, considering that he was the only returning starter on his team's offense from the previous season ... Threw for 224 yards and 3 touchdowns in title game against Hazelwood Central, and moved his team downfield in the closing moments for a potential game-winning score, but a penalty and a sack ended the drive as the Jaguars fell by a 25-20 score ... Had 1,423 passing yards and a stellar 18-to-2 touchdown-to-interception ratio as a junior in 2007 ... Led team to state title as a sophomore starter, throwing for 1,491 yards and 23 touchdowns against just 8 interceptions, while running for 467 yards and 7 scores ... In 2006 state title game, led team to dominating 41-7 win over Christian Brothers College to cap a perfect 13-0 season ... In the game, tried only 8 passes, but completed 7 of them for 116 yards and 4 touchdowns ... That would equate to an unheard of single-game NCAA quarterback rating of 374.3 ... High school coach – Greg Oder ... Parents – Jim & Tammy Dalton ... Interested in studying business ethics ... Lists hobbies as playing X-Box and hanging with friends ... Chose Mizzou over Florida State, Iowa and Tulsa, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Andy Hill.

MARVIN FOSTER

Fr., DL, 6-2, 265, Fort Worth, Texas (North Crowley HS)

Standout prep defensive end who could move to the interior on the defensive line at the college level ... ESPN.com says he displays good quickness off the ball and that he has a good motor and is a very high-energy player who is a solid tackler ... Won co-MVP of District 3-5A as a senior for his play that included 74 tackles, 22 tackles for loss and 6 quarterback sacks from the defensive end position ... Also named a 2nd-Team All-State defensive end as a senior, as well as earning Academic All-State honors ... Had 67 tackles, 13 tackles for loss and 4 quarterback sacks as a junior, and 1st-Team All-District honors that year ... Was named the district sophomore player of the year in 2006 as he made 56 tackles, 11 tackles for loss and 3 quarterback sacks ... High school coach – Mike Papas ... Parents – Marvin & Cynthia Foster ... Father played football at TCU, and older brother, Marquay, played football at the University of Houston, and has played in the NFL for the Miami Dolphins and New Orleans Saints ... Has been a straight A student since beginning public schooling, and has been on his school's honor roll all four years ... Interested in studying kinesiology at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as bowling, video games and reading ... Chose Mizzou over Oklahoma State, Texas A&M, Stanford, TCU and Baylor, among others ... Lists the family-like atmosphere and the town of Columbia as primary draws to the Mizzou campus ... MU primary recruiting coach – Dave Steckel.

CHRIS FREEMAN

Fr., OL, 6-8, 350, Trotwood, Ohio (Madison HS)

A late get in the recruiting process for Mizzou who gives the Tigers one of the biggest and most highly-coveted offensive line prospects in the Midwest ... Was a bit of a late bloomer on the recruiting circuit, due to the fact that he was a basketball player primarily and didn't come out for football until late in his junior year in high school (played in only one game as a junior after being recruited to join the football team by the team's quarterback, after seeing him workout one day) ... Basketball skills have helped give him good footwork, which helps make him full of potential for growth as a developing talent ... Rivals.com ranks him as the No. 40 overall prospect (any position) out of the state of Ohio, and as the nation's No. 56 offensive tackle prospect ... Scout.com ranks him as the nation's No. 34 offensive tackle prospect ... ESPN.com lists him as the nation's No. 48-ranked offensive tackle prospect, and calls him a skyscraper with very powerful hands who is a perfect fit for a spread offense ... Earned All-Conference honors as a senior as he continued to learn about the nuances of offensive line play in his first full season on the gridiron ... High school coach – Maurice Douglass ... Parents – Mike & Tisha Freeman ... Had numerous scholarship offers from which to choose, and eventually chose Mizzou over Colorado, Florida, Nebraska, Michigan, Oregon, West Virginia, UCLA, Wisconsin, Tennessee and Oklahoma, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Cornell Ford.

ASHTON GLASER

Fr., QB, 6-2, 210, Springdale, Ark. (Springdale HS)

Highly-touted dual-threat quarterback prospect who was a January enrollee into Mizzou, and will participate in 2009 spring drills when they begin March 10th with the first practice ... Ranked as the No. 8 overall prospect (any position) in the state of Arkansas by Rivals.com, and is also Rivals' No. 21 dual-threat quarterback prospect in the nation, while ESPN.com lists him as their No. 42 overall quarterback prospect in the country ... ESPN calls him a big-time sleeper who is very savvy in and outside of the pocket and who has the physical skills needed to be a

productive quarterback at the college level ... Directed the No. 1 offense in the state of Arkansas as a senior in 2008, throwing for 3,169 yards and 31 touchdowns, while also rushing for 351 yards and 17 more scores in a spread system much like Mizzou's spread attack ... Was the Arkansas Offensive Player of the Year in 2008, adding to numerous all-state, and all-conference honors as well ... Earned all-state and all-conference honors as a junior in 2007, as he threw for 2,595 yards and 23 touchdowns, while rushing for 788 yards and 13 scores ... Lettered as a punter as a sophomore in 2006 season, and had a solid average of 45.0 yards per kick ... Was an accomplished soccer player who was an all-state performer in the sport each of his freshman, sophomore and junior years in high school ... High school coach – Kevin Johnson ... Parents – Sean & Carin Glaser ... Interested in studying chemistry at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as working out, playing golf and playing X-Box ... Chose Mizzou over Arkansas, Auburn, Kansas State and Oklahoma State, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – David Yost.

JARRELL HARRISON

Jr., DB, 6-2, 210, Las Vegas, Nev. (Palo Verde HS/City College of San Francisco)

One of the top junior college defensive backs in the country, who comes to Mizzou along with City College of San Francisco teammate Joshua Tatum ... Was a December graduate of CCSF and has enrolled at Mizzou for winter semester, making him eligible to participate in winter conditioning and spring practice ... Has two years to play two at Mizzou ... Took a medical redshirt in 2007 at CCSF and burst onto the scene in 2008 as he had 118 tackles and 5 interceptions while winning 1st-Team All-Conference honors as a safety ... Began his junior college career at Reedley (Calif.) Community College, which he attended for one year before transferring to CCSF for the 2007 season ... Was a quarterback primarily in high school, and also played defensive back ... Named the Southern Nevada offensive player of the year as a senior in 2005, as well as a 1st-Team All-State cornerback, as he had 729 passing yards with 11 touchdowns, to go with 683 rushing yards and 13 touchdowns, while adding 62 tackles and 2 interceptions on defense ... Led his team to the Class 4A state championship game, and planned to attend his hometown school of UNLV before going the junior college route ... Was a two-sport standout in high school, lettering in both football and basketball ... Junior college coach – George Rush ... High school coach – Darwin Rost ... Mother – Lynnette Harrison ... Lists hobbies as watching ESPN, anything to do with sports, and PlayStation ... Chose Mizzou over North Carolina State, Arizona, Arizona State and UNLV, among others ... Listed the family atmosphere and the great educational programs as main reasons for choosing to attend Mizzou ... MU primary recruiting coach – Matt Eberflus.

MARK HILL

Fr., OL, 6-6, 260, Branson, Mo. (Branson HS)

Outstanding overall athlete who comes from an athletic family, and played offensive tackle and defensive end for Branson High School ... Rated by Rivals.com as the No. 18 overall prospect (any position) out of the state of Missouri ... Helped lead Branson to the playoffs for the first time in 13 years as a senior in 2008 ... Was named 2nd-Team All-State as an offensive lineman, and also took home 1st-Team All-District and All-Conference honors there, as well ... Won honorable mention All-District acclaim and was 1st-Team All-Area as a defensive end in 2007 ... For his career on defense, registered 102 total tackles and 14 tackles for loss ... Also a standout track and field athlete for his school who is the school record-holder in the discus event ... High school coach – Steve Hancock ... Parents – Troy & Susan Hill ... Father is 6-foot-8, and his older brother, Steven, is a 7-footer who played basketball for Arkansas ... Interested in

studying business management at Mizzou ... Is a member of the National Honor Society ... Lists hobbies as riding four-wheelers, weight lifting, hanging out with friends, and playing ping pong ... Chose Mizzou over Kansas, Arkansas and Wyoming, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Barry Odom.

KENDIAL LAWRENCE

Fr., TB, 5-9, 185, Rockwall, Texas (Rockwall-Heath HS)

(First name is pronounced KEN-dull) ... A late recruiting get for the Tigers who, as a Parade All-American is one of the most highly-regarded running back prospects in the country ... Rivals.com lists him as the No. 16 running back prospect in the nation, as well as the No. 49 overall player (any position) in the state of Texas ... ESPN.com calls him a natural runner who displays great patience through the hole with great vision and feel for the cutback who should excel in a spread attack such as Mizzou's ... Won 1st-Team All-State and district offensive MVP honors in 2008 as he rushed for 2,681 yards and a whopping 43 touchdowns while he helped lead his team to a 13-1 record and the school's first-ever district championship ... His team was actually 13-0 in games in which he played, but he was unable to go in the Class 4A state quarterfinal game due to an injured shoulder ... Had an amazing three-game stretch in November when he ran for yardage totals of 365, 242 and 261 yards in consecutive games, while getting 5 touchdowns in each of those games ... Had 1,734 rushing yards and 25 touchdowns as a junior, and won 2nd-Team All-State and 1st-Team All-District honors for his play in 2007 ... High school coach – Mickey Moss ... Parents – Kendrick & Hortencia Lawrence ... Interested in studying management in the esteemed College of Business at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as football, track, family, friends and shopping ... Chose Mizzou over Arizona, Kansas, Southern Mississippi, Louisville, Mississippi State, Houston, SMU and Iowa State, among many others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Bruce Walker.

JACK MEINERS

Fr., OL, 6-6, 305, St. Louis, Mo. (Chaminade Prep)

(Last name is pronounced MINE-ers) ... One of the most highly-coveted offensive line prospects in the region who starred at tackle for Chaminade Prep in the St. Louis area ... Was one of the first in-state prospects to commit to Mizzou during the spring of 2009 ... Rated by Rivals.com as the No. 11 overall prospect (any position) out of the state of Missouri, and ESPN.com lists him as the nation's No. 28 offensive tackle prospect, as well ... ESPN.com says he is a big and powerful lineman who could play either tackle or guard in college, and is someone who is a very effective blocker in all phases of offensive line play who demonstrates solid techniques and really works to sustain blocks ... Was a team captain as a senior in 2008 and was named to various All-State, All-Metro and All-Conference teams based on his play as he helped clear the way for an offense which rushed for nearly 3,000 yards on the year ... Earned 2nd-Team All-Conference honors after a solid junior season in 2007 and was an honorable-mention all-conference performer as a sophomore in 2006 ... Is an avid weight lifter who holds all of his school's records, and has a combined squat, bench and power clean total of 1,275 pounds ... High school coach – Doug Taylor ... Parents – John Meiners & Kathy Kulig ... Interested in studying business administration at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as weight training, nutrition and sports ... Chose Mizzou over Kansas, Kansas State, Notre Dame and Wake Forest, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Cornell Ford.

T.J. MOE

Fr., DB, 6-0, 190, O'Fallon, Mo. (Fort Zumwalt West HS)

Outstanding athlete who was a standout quarterback at Fort Zumwalt West High School, putting up eye-popping numbers as a true run-pass threat ... Could move over to the defensive side of the ball at the collegiate level, where he projects as a safety ... Ranked by Rivals.com as the No. 32 athlete in the nation, and is listed as the No. 5 overall prospect (any position) in the state of Missouri as well ... Scout.com lists him as the nation's No. 50 prospect at the safety position ... Named the Missouri ESPN Rise Gatorade football player of the year as a senior in 2008, when he amassed 2,557 passing yards (31 touchdowns) and added a whopping 2,029 rushing yards (30 touchdowns) ... ESPN.com says he is an athlete who runs very well and who has very good acceleration and versatility ... Other honors he took home in 2008 included Old Spice Player of the Year, St. Louis Metro Offensive Player of the Year, 1st-Team All-State as both a quarterback and an all-purpose back, as well as being the Gateway Athletic Conference Player of the Year ... Had 1 interception and 2 fumble recoveries playing defense in 2008 ... As a junior, was named 1st-Team All-State again as both a quarterback and all-purpose back, as he had 2,326 passing yards with 17 touchdowns, and added 1,497 rushing yards and 25 touchdowns ... Was a 1st-Team All-District wide receiver as a sophomore, catching 50 passes for 380 yards and 2 touchdowns, while also throwing for 501 yards and 5 touchdowns and rushing for 348 yards and 3 more scores ... An outstanding overall athlete who also lettered three years in basketball for his school ... High school coach – Paul Day ... Parents – David & Becky Moe ... A 4.0 student who is very involved in his church, and has participated in mission trips to Mexico and also to Kentucky ... Interested in studying information technology at Mizzou ... Chose Mizzou over Wisconsin, Kansas, Wake Forest, Louisville, Iowa and Indiana, among others ... Listed his relationship with the Tiger coaching staff, plus the allure of playing for his homestate school as primary draws to Mizzou ... MU primary recruiting coach – Cornell Ford.

TY PHILLIPS

Fr., DL, 6-3, 250, East St. Louis, Ill. (East St. Louis HS)

Ranked by Rivals.com as the No. 20 overall prospect (any position) out of the state of Illinois, and also as the nation's No. 74-rated defensive tackle prospect ... Had a big senior season at East St. Louis High school that earned him recruiting attention, as he collected 108 tackles and 17 quarterback sacks and 1 interception while splitting time at both defensive end and tackle in 2008 ... Won All-State honors for his play in 2008, as his team rolled to a 13-1 record and claimed a state championship ... Was selected to play in the Offense-Defense All-American Bowl all-star game in January, played in Myrtle Beach, S.C., where Scout.com said he was the most impressive player on the West squad, saying he had a constant motor with excellent technique ... Spent his first three years of high school at Belleville East, but transferred to East St. Louis prior to his senior year, after his family moved ... Was a three-year starter on the gridiron at Belleville East, earning 1st-Team All-Conference honors as a junior and 2nd-Team All-Conference honors as both a sophomore and freshman ... High school coach – Darren Sunkett ... Parents – Adrian Simmons & Sandra Phillips ... Interested in studying medicine at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as football, basketball and baseball ... Chose Mizzou over Illinois, Nebraska and Kansas State, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Cornell Ford.

SHELDON RICHARDSON

Fr., TE, 6-4, 275, St. Louis, Mo. (Gateway HS)

One of the most highly-coveted athletes to come out of the state of Missouri in awhile who could star on either side of the ball at the collegiate level ... An incredible athlete, especially for his size, he was a dominant defensive lineman and tight end in high school, and at 6-foot-4 and 275 pounds, even returned some kicks ... Ranked by Rivals.com as the No. 4 overall player (any position) in the nation, as well as being the No. 1 defensive tackle prospect in the country, while checking in as the No. 1 overall player (any position) in the state of Missouri, with a five-star rating ... Scout.com lists him as the nation's No. 1 defensive tackle prospect, as well as the nation's No. 15 overall player (any position) ... Played in the prestigious U.S. Army All-American Game in San Antonio, Texas, where he made big impressions with his play in practice and the game, where he had a sack, a hurry and a tackle for loss as a defensive tackle ... Recently named as a 2008 EA Sports 1st-Team All-American ... Had 88 tackles and 19 sacks in 2008, while adding 7 fumble recoveries, 5 forced fumbles and 1 interception ... Scored 6 defensive touchdowns on the year, as well, while adding 27 receptions for 541 yards and 8 touchdowns at the tight end position ... Lettered in basketball and baseball as well as participating in track ... High school coach – Melvin Walls ... Parents – Michael & Zelda Richardson ... Interested in studying criminal justice at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as working out and X-Box 360 ... Chose Mizzou over a slew of nationally-prominent programs, just a few of which include Miami, Fla., Oklahoma, Florida, USC, Tennessee, Iowa, Kansas State and Minnesota ... MU primary recruiting coach – Cornell Ford.

MICHAEL SAM

Fr., DL, 6-3, 230, Hitchcock, Texas (Hitchcock HS)

A great addition to the Tiger recruiting class who gives MU outstanding athleticism and football IQ, who projects at several different positions ... ESPN.com ranks him as the No. 75 overall defensive end prospect in the country ... ESPN.com calls him a good football player who is heady and is very good at using his hands and keeping separation, and is someone who has a good motor and is a solid tackler ... Won 1st-Team All-District honors as a senior in 2008 as a defensive end, and also as an offensive lineman, and he was also named All-Houston metro as a defensive end ... Helped lead his team to a 7-3 record in 2008, and to the 2A state playoffs, where they reached the second round before being ousted ... Was a 1st-Team All-District pick as a junior on both lines, as well, and took home 1st-Team All-District defensive line honors as a sophomore and freshman, additionally ... Also lettered in the sports of track and powerlifting, in addition to his football exploits ... Has qualified for state powerlifting championships in the past ... High school coach – Gary Carney ... Parents – Michael & JoAnn Sam ... Interested in studying sports medicine at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as fishing, hunting, pursuits that help him to enjoy life ... Chose Mizzou over Arizona State, Colorado State, Houston and Iowa State, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Craig Kuligowski.

ALEX SANDERS

Fr., TE, 6-5, 220, Springfield, Mo. (Glendale HS)

Athletic tight end prospect who projects to be a nice fit in Mizzou's spread offense ... Graduated early from high school, and is enrolled at Mizzou for the current semester ... Had his senior season cut short by a knee injury, and he is working through the rehabilitation process with MU's training staff and hopes to be ready prior to the start of fall camp ... Ranked by Rivals.com as the No. 15 overall prospect (any position) in the state of Missouri, and as the nation's No. 47

tight end prospect ... ESPN.com lists him as the nation's No. 44 tight end and says he has a huge upside with an ideal frame for growth and added strength who has soft hands and natural feel for reading coverage and finding soft spots in the secondary ... Despite missing half of his senior season, still was named 1st-Team All-Conference as a wide receiver, with 650 receiving yards ... As a junior was a 1st-Team All-State pick as he had 71 receptions and 1,127 yards and 12 touchdowns ... Also participated in basketball and track at Glendale High School ... High school coach – Joel Heeman ... Parents – James & Lynelle Sanders ... Interested in studying in Mizzou's School of Business ... Lists hobbies as hunting and playing guitar ... Chose Mizzou over Kansas, Iowa, Kansas State and Vanderbilt, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Barry Odom.

JASPER SIMMONS

Jr., DB, 6-1, 205, Pensacola, Fla. (Washington HS/Hutchinson Community College)

An athletic, physical safety who was a two-year starter at safety for Hutchinson Community College who can challenge for playing time immediately at Mizzou, but who will have three years to play two if desired ... Ranked by Rivals.com as the No. 51 junior college prospect (any position) in the nation ... ESPN.com says that he has good instincts and a knack for getting himself into the right place at the right time and that he does a good job of keying and diagnosing plays who is very aggressive and is a great hitter who enjoys separating receivers from the ball ... Had 86 tackles and 18 pass break ups as a sophomore at Hutch, and earned 1st-Team All-Conference honors as a result as he helped the Blue Dragons reach the playoffs after winning just 2 games his first year ... Served as a team captain in 2008, and also returned a kick 91 yards for a score, while catching a touchdown pass of over 40 yards, as well ... Averaged over 33 yards per kickoff return ... As a true freshman in 2007, had 62 tackles, 8 pass break ups and 1 interception while he also blocked 2 kicks on special teams units ... In high school, was a team captain as a senior and earned 3rd-Team All-State and 1st-Team All-Area honors as a safety, as he amassed 123 tackles, 4 interceptions and 2 quarterback sacks in 2006 ... Tallied 81 tackles and had 5 interceptions as a prep junior, while adding 50 tackles and 3 interceptions as a sophomore ... Junior college coach – Rion Rhoades ... Was a three-sport standout at Booker T. Washington High School, as he lettered in basketball and track in addition to his football days ... High school coach – Chet Bergalowski ... Parents – Terry & Katrina Simmons ... Interested in studying in the College of Business at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as basketball and church activities and is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes ... Chose Mizzou over Oklahoma State, Arizona, Kansas State, Mississippi and Memphis, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Andy Hill.

KERWIN STRICKER

Fr., WR, 6-2, 195, Washington, Mo. (Washington HS)

A big-play wideout with a good combination of size, speed and strength who has a big upside and room for growth due to his athleticism ... Was an early commit to Mizzou, as he pledged to the Tigers in February of 2008, prior to the end of his junior year in school ... Rated by Rivals.com as the No. 10 overall player (any position) in the state of Missouri, and as the nation's No. 89 wide receiver prospect ... Scout.com lists him as the No. 75 wide receiver prospect in the country, as well ... ESPN.com calls him physically ready to make the jump to the collegiate level, and that he is a strong bodied receiver who shows good concentration in traffic and can absorb the big hit over the middle while still tracking the ball ... Was a 1st-Team All-District and All-Conference performer as a wide receiver each of his junior and senior seasons at Washington High School ... As a senior, had 27 receptions for 670 yards and 10 touchdowns ... Junior season stats included 25 catches for 520 yards and 10 touchdowns ... Is a standout

track and field athlete as well, as he won the state title in the 300-meter hurdles in 2008 and was 4th in the 110-meter hurdles in the same meet ... Took 2nd in the 300-meter hurdles and 4th in the 110-meter hurdles as a sophomore, after placing 8th in the state long jump finals as a freshman ... High school coach – Jeff Duncan ... Parents – George & Lisa Stricker ... Interested in studying Computer Science at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as sports, hanging out with friends and watching movies ... Chose Mizzou over Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas and Kansas State, among others ... MU primary recruiting coach – Cornell Ford.

JOSHUA TATUM

Jr., LB, 6-1, 235, Oakland, Calif. (McClymonds HS/City College of San Francisco)

Potential instant-impact player who is listed as the No. 12 overall junior college player in the nation (any position) by Rivals.com, playing the linebacker spot ... Listed as a four-star linebacker prospect by Rivals.com and by Scout.com ... Has two years to play two at Mizzou, and is enrolled in winter semester classes, and thus will participate in winter conditioning as well as be ready for spring ball when practice begins in March ... Comes to Mizzou from City College of San Francisco along with fellow defensive teammate Jarrell Harrison ... Helped turn Harrison onto Mizzou during his recruiting process ... ESPN.com says he is a very physical linebacker with a nose for the ball, and that he moves well in traffic and can make plays from sideline to sideline, while being comfortable dropping into zone coverage and making plays in space ... Initially attended USC out of high school, but transferred to CCSF after taking a redshirt at USC during the 2006 season while he was rehabbing a knee injury suffered in high school ... Was tabbed a 1st-Team JUCO All-American for his play at CCSF in 2008, when he amassed 120 tackles and added 15 tackles for loss, 7 quarterback sacks, 7 pass break ups and one interception that he returned 93 yards for a touchdown ... Was rated as the No. 95 overall player in the nation (any position) out of high school in 2006 by ESPN.com, and as the No. 7-rated outside linebacker prospect in the nation by the same outlet ... Junior college coach – George Rush ... High school coach – Alonzo Carter ... Parents – Shelly Tatum & Brenda Frazier ... Interested in studying either business or communications at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as collecting vintage Nike sneakers, taking Bikram yoga, watching movies and weightlifting ... Chose Mizzou over USC, Oregon, Arizona, Arizona State, Marshall, Kansas and Houston, among others ... Listed MU's family atmosphere, as well as the honesty of the recruiting process by the MU coaches as primary attractions to Mizzou ... MU primary recruiting coach – Matt Eberflus.

L'DAMIAN WASHINGTON

Fr., WR, 6-4, 180, Shreveport, La. (Green Oaks HS)

Rated by Rivals.com as the No. 51 overall prospect (any position) out of the state of Louisiana ... Emerged late in his high school career on the recruiting scene ... Won 1st-Team All-District honors as a senior in 2008 after he caught 53 passes for 1,064 yards and 12 touchdowns on offense, while grabbing 4 interceptions on defense as a team captain ... Had one massive game where he caught 6 passes for 257 yards and 3 touchdowns, which earned him statewide player of the week honors ... Was named the offensive MVP at the inaugural Sportsman's Paradise All-Star Game in Louisiana played in January ... Took home All-District honors as a defensive back in 2007 as he grabbed 7 interceptions during his junior season ... An outstanding all-around athlete who starred for Green Oaks in both basketball and track ... Was District champion in the 200-meters as a junior ... High school coach – Stephen Dennis ... Has excelled despite having lost both of his parents ... Is one of four boys in the family (he's the second youngest) who live together taking care of each other ... Interested in studying pre-law at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as basketball, talking about football with his family and friends, and

playing catch with his younger brother ... Chose Mizzou over Nebraska, Minnesota, Louisiana Tech and Tulsa, among others ... Says that the feel he developed with the Tiger coaches was a main draw, as well as the chance to play in Mizzou's prolific spread offensive attack ... MU primary recruiting coach – Barry Odom.

MATT WHITE

Fr., DB, 6-0, 180, Dallas, Texas (Keller HS)

Versatile athlete who starred as a safety at the prep level, and who could play a number of positions in college ... Won team MVP honors as a senior for his season that included 58 tackles and 7 interceptions ... Also earned 2nd-Team All-State honors as a safety in Class 5A, and took home 1st-Team All-District honors on the field, while earning Academic All-State mention for his work in the classroom ... Was a two-time team captain ... Ended his prep career in style, as he made a season-high 10 tackles and grabbed 2 interceptions to help lead his team to a 21-13 win over Fossil Ridge, that sewed up a 7-3 season for Keller ... Notched 46 tackles and 2 interceptions as a junior, while making 40 tackles and grabbing 2 interceptions as a sophomore during the 2006 season ... Solid all-around athlete who has also lettered in basketball and track for his school ... High school coach – Kevin Atkinson ... Parents – Edward & Roslyn White ... Outstanding student who is a member of the National Honor Society ... Interested in studying in the College of Engineering at Mizzou ... Lists playing video games as his primary hobby to relax ... Chose Mizzou over California, Boston College, TCU and SMU, among others ... Lists the facilities at Mizzou, as well as the general campus atmosphere, and the engineering school curriculum as major drawing points to MU ... MU primary recruiting coach – Dave Steckel.

ANDREW WILSON

Fr., LB, 6-4, 230, Peculiar, Mo. (Raymore-Peculiar HS)

Highly-touted linebacker prospect who keeps the pipeline of talent coming to Mizzou from Raymore-Peculiar High School, which has recently produced Tiger standouts Chase Coffman and Derrick Washington ... Known as an instinctive play-maker at the linebacker position who runs well and can cover sideline-to-sideline ... Was a December graduate of high school, and is enrolled for the current semester at Mizzou, and will take part in winter conditioning drills as well as spring practices when they start up March 10th ... Ranked by Rivals.com as the state of Missouri's No. 13 overall prospect (any position) and as the No. 69 linebacker prospect in the country ... Scout.com lists him as the nation's No. 18 outside linebacker prospect ... ESPN.com has him as an inside linebacker prospect and lists him as the nation's No. 44 prospect there ... Was named the Missouri Class 5 defensive player of the year, after notching 146 tackles for Ray-Pec, which went 11-2 in 2008 and were runners-up in the state title game ... Also won the Buck Buchanan Memorial Award for most outstanding linebacker/lineman in the Kansas City area ... Had 129 tackles as a junior, with 17 tackles for loss, 3 ½ quarterback sacks, four forced fumbles, two interceptions and one fumble recovery and earned All-State, All-Metro, All-Conference and All-District honors ... Played defensive end as a sophomore in 2006 as Ray-Pec won its third straight state title, before he moved to middle linebacker for his last two years ... High school coach – Tom Kruse ... Parents – Jay & Stacy Wilson ... Father Jay played linebacker at Mizzou from 1980-83, winning All-Big Eight honors in 1983, and he left MU holding the school's career tackles record, with 323 (he now ranks 12th on the list) ... Interested in studying business management at Mizzou ... Lists hobbies as fishing and reading ... Chose Mizzou over Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas, Kansas State, Colorado State and Northwestern, among others ... Mizzou's family atmosphere in the football program was a big selling point for him ... MU primary recruiting coach – Andy Hill.