

96 HOURS

BASEBALL, FOOTBALL AND FRIENDS

SEPTEMBER 2022

I visited St. Louis in September for a long weekend to visit friends and attend the Missouri versus Kansas State football game in Manhattan, KS. While I was in St. Louis, I got a chance to also attend a Cardinals game. Here is how I spent my 96 hours.

CARDINALS GAME



I arrived Thursday morning from Chicago. My friend and I



went straight to Busch Stadium from the airport, as the first pitch was scheduled at 12:25 pm. We did get a chance to visit Ball Park Village for a little bit and checked out the



Cardinals store. The game featured a milestone: Adam Wainwright (STL pitcher) and Yadier Molina (STL catcher) tied the record for 324 starts as a battery (pitcher and catcher).

Their streak started in 2007. The previous record was held by Mickey Lolich and Bill Freehan of Detroit Tigers (1963 – 1975). Also, the game featured



Albert Pujols, who is chasing Alex Jeter (696 home runs) for the fourth spot for the number of career home runs. Unfortunately,



Pujols didn't hit a home run at this game. During the game, we found the only vendor in Busch Stadium that sold Busch Light, and we made a toast to a late friend with his favorite beer. The Cardinals didn't win this game, but we enjoyed the outing to the ballpark.



View of the Arch from the Stadium

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI



On Friday, we started our trip to Manhattan, KS and stopped in Columbia to visit the campus of University of Missouri. Columbia is 120 miles west from St. Louis on I-70. The University of Missouri, the oldest land grant University west of the Mississippi, was founded in 1839. The university was the first

university established in President Thomas Jefferson's Louisiana Purchase territory. The original University architects used some of President Jefferson's design from the University of Virginia. A tribute to President Jefferson can be found in [Francis Quadrangle](#).



Source for Jefferson statue picture: <https://www.waymarking.com/gallery/image.aspx?f=1&guid=e9a6a546-82eb-48ed-b6c7-551e3c6030fc&gid=3>



An interesting feature is that the portion of the University known as the White Campus was developed with Neo-Gothic architectural style buildings built with white limestone. The White Campus houses the College of Agriculture (picture

to the left). On the opposite side of the University, the Red Campus was developed with neoclassical architectural buildings built with red bricks. The Red Campus houses the College of Engineering. Jesse Hall is also part of Red campus (picture on the right). In Red Campus, you will find the columns. The columns supported the Academic Hall that burned in 1892. The columns were the only structures left after the fire since they are built with limestone.



Buildings in White Campus



Memorial Union from front of the library



Memorial Union from White Campus



Stewart Hall

Buildings in Red Campus



Columns and Jesse Hall in background

Picture By VoyagerMU, CC BY-SA 3.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=52742438>



Jesse Hall dome



Jesse Hall entrance



Walkway outside Jesse Hall,
 looking towards the Shack site

Missouri's campus is very beautiful and is worth exploring.

Other sites on campus

Mort Walker, the creator of the Beetle Bailey comic strip, graduated from the University of Missouri in 1948. In his comic strip, Walker mentioned a local bar called *The Shack*. The bar used to be across the street from Jesse Hall and a couple of buildings down from the corner of Maryland and Conley Avenues. The old shack had many carved initials in it. The former bar is commemorated by a sculpture of [Beetle Bailey](#) drinking a beer while sitting on a carved table. The University demolished the whole block to make way for a new alumni center and traditions walk. The new Shack, located in Brady Commons, is called *Mort's in the Shack*, and has some nostalgic feel to it with carved initials and graffiti on the wall.



Middlebush Hall, old home building for Business and Public Administration School.



Walkway towards Brady Commons and bookstore

An institution for students is the [Heidelberg](#) restaurant, which is right across the street from Middlebush Hall. It opened in 1963 and is called the Berg. Over the years, this has become an informal meeting place to discuss class projects, meet friends, and make new acquaintances. We walked by the Heidelberg, and, from all appearance, it seems that it continues to be a popular spot. Another spot popular with students and non-students is [Shakespeare Pizza](#) on Elm Street, just northeast of campus.



FOOTBALL GAME – MANHATTAN, KS



Manhattan is about 360 miles west from St. Louis and about 120 west from Kansas City on I-70. Prior to 2012, Missouri and Kansas State had played football against each other for 97 years and had been in the same conference (Big 6, Big 7, Big 8, and Big 12). The annual event was discontinued when Missouri left for the Southeastern Conference in 2012. Since this year's game didn't go Missouri's way, the all-time win loss record stands at 59-34-5 in Missouri's favor.



KANSAS CITY BARBEQUE

Kansas City is known for its barbeque, so when we were in Kansas City, we had some barbeque. I must admit I watch BBQ pitmaster and like BBQ. We went to two different restaurants. [Jack Stack Barbeque](#) – Freight House location. The location is across from KC's Union Station. Parking is free for restaurant patrons. The barbeque was everything I expected it to be.



Sign outside the restaurant



Building around Jack Stack Restaurant

The second restaurant we went to was [Gates BBQ](#). They have various locations in K.C., and we went to the Independence location on East US Highway 40. In this restaurant, you order your food and take it into their dining room. I had some ribs, and those ribs were some of the best ribs I have had. Presidents Clinton and George W. Bush have eaten at a Gates BBQ restaurant.



I really liked both restaurants I visited and would go back next time I visit Kansas City. Now, when I watch the BBQ pit masters, I can relate to pitmasters cooking KC style BBQ.

BREWERIES

On my trip, I visited two breweries, one in Manhattan and one in St. Louis. The brewery in Manhattan is called [Manhattan Brewing](#)



[Company](#) and is located a block down from the courthouse. It has a good atmosphere, and we finished watching the Mizzou/K-State game here since it was raining, and we had couple of delays because of

lighting in the area. We were not ready for the rain and didn't bring any rain gear. It seems to be a popular destination.

The second brewery I visited was in St. Louis called [Schlafly Bottleworks](#) at its Maplewood location. Schlafly is the largest independent craft beer in St. Louis, after all, St. Louis is home to Anheuser-Busch. Schlafly is another good brewery that I would recommend visiting. Schlafly also has a location in St. Louis's Lambert International Airport Terminal C in case you need a beer before a flight back home.

FINAL THOUGHTS

What a great trip! We did a lot, saw a lot, and had great BBQ and beer. It was good to see my friends again and appreciate my friend's hospitality and willingness to drive all over mid-America. If you make the trip to state of Kansas there are other sites that intrigued me: Topeka, the state capital (capitol dome in picture to the right), [Lindsborg](#), dubbed "Little Sweden", and [Lecompton](#), territorial capital of Kansas.





I-70 west bound between Topeka and Manhattan in Kansas

P.S. For baseball fans, Pujols moved into fourth place in career homeruns at 697 in the next game after the game we attended.