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8 fired in round of terminations

By Austin Horn
 The State Journal

The new administration at Kentucky State University carried out a wave of terminations in the wake of former President M. Christopher Brown II's resignation.

Brown departed amid concerns raised by regents and just before Gov. Andy Beshear authorized a Council on Postsecondary Education-led review of the school on Tuesday, July 20. Acting President Clara Ross Stamps was appointed to replace Brown on the same day.

Two days later, six employees were fired without any reason stated in their termination letters from Human Resources Director Candace Raglin, according to a State Journal open records request for terminations carried out the same week that Brown resigned. Two more were terminated from their roles last Friday.

SEE FIRED A10

KSU by the numbers

When Dr. M. Christopher Brown II stepped down as president of Kentucky State University last week, the financial status of KSU had been called into question. However, Brown's tenure was also marked by improving university performance metrics, including increases in enrollment, retention and graduation rates.

Brown entered KSU at a time of high scrutiny. In 2016, the year before his arrival, the school was at the tail end of a years-long decline in enrollment that had led to drops in tuition revenue and other financial struggles. The situation prompted state legislators to pass House Bill 303, which implemented more



By Clara Ence Morse
 Contributing writer

SEE NUMBERS A10

Thompson 'just getting started'

By Austin Horn
 The State Journal

The man charged with leading a full review of Kentucky State University amid questions about finances, recent Board of Regents resignations and the resignation last week of former President M. Christopher Brown II says he has a vested interest in seeing the school come to thrive.

After all, he was for 10 months the interim president.

"My goal — as someone who really loves Kentucky State and who has a vested interest as a citizen, an African American, a former interim president and now the head of higher ed — is to make sure that Kentucky State remains a strong, viable and valuable institution to the state," Council on



Thompson

SEE THOMPSON A10

Several state agencies say no to mask mandate

By Linda Younkin
 The State Journal

Gov. Andy Beshear issued a new mask mandate Wednesday.

Several state agencies aren't going along with it.

Beshear's mandate calls for all state employees to wear a mask while working indoors around other people re-

gardless of their COVID-19 vaccination status.

Also, anyone who goes into a state building must be masked whether they are fully vaccinated or not.

The mandate went into effect Thursday, but there are elected officials who have no intention of complying.

SEE MASK A12

SJ to appeal for Bradshaw letter, city response

By Austin Horn
 The State Journal

At the Frankfort City Commission's July 12 meeting, after spending an hour and a half in closed session, the board voted unanimously to send a letter to Kentucky Capital Development Corp. President/CEO Terri Bradshaw.

Neither the letter nor Bradshaw's

message to which it responded has been made public despite State Journal open records requests to the city and KCDC.

It is unclear what the letters contain.

The State Journal plans to appeal both organizations' decisions to withhold the records to the state attorney

SEE APPEAL A12

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