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Mayfield quits teaching post at UNO

Questions arise about grant money

BY DAVID HAMMER

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Fresh off a 10-nation tour and facing a federal investigation into his handling of public library donations, Grammy-winning trumpeter Irvin Mayfield has resigned as a professor at the University of New Orleans.



Mayfield



Meanwhile, WWL-TV — which reported in May that Mayfield and his business partner, Ronald Markham, had changed the rules of the foundation supporting the city's public libraries to steer at least \$863,000 to their Jazz Orchestra — has found archived city documents indicating that the Jazz Orchestra took a portion of a \$125,000 grant for organizing the grand opening of the Mahalia Jackson Theater for the Performing Arts and used it to pay its musicians for a Jazz Fest concert and for recording the album that won Mayfield his Grammy.

Before he resigned from UNO, Mayfield had been making \$63,000 a year to teach two courses and head up the school's New Orleans Jazz Institute.

That institute has no relation to Mayfield's New Orleans Jazz Orchestra, a private nonprofit, but NOJO's director of programming, Stephanie Mayne, also received a \$45,000 salary from UNO to serve as Mayfield's university assistant. That's more than some professors make.

UNO Dean of Liberal Arts Kevin Graves said both Mayfield and Mayne resigned voluntarily last week, two weeks before fall classes were to begin. Graves said the university did not pressure them to resign, even though the cash-strapped university has suffered millions of dollars in forced cuts.

Government watchdog Rafael Goyeneche has questioned whether the school could afford Mayfield's salary.

Mayfield, who does not have a college degree, has been teaching a humanities class called "New Orleans as Discourse" as well as a music class. Seven students had signed up for the humanities class but nobody had registered to take the music class,

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a kiss for good luck



Advocate staff photos by ELIOT KAMENITZ
Bertha Coleman gives her son, Carl Coleman Jr., a kiss on the head as she drops him off on the first day of school at Lake Forest Charter School on Monday.

Many students went back to school Monday. At Lake Forest Charter School in New Orleans, 620 students began the day with an assembly in the gym for the Pledge of Allegiance, singing of "You're a Grand Old Flag" and flapping their arms like an eagle, the school's mascot.



ABOVE: Tyronne Hayes hauls in his school supplies.



RIGHT: Students say the Pledge of Allegiance in the gym before school starts.



Jefferson council OKs hospital deal

Firm had reduced final offer by \$25M

BY RAMON ANTONIO VARGAS

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The Jefferson Parish Council voted Monday to accept a reduced offer from LCMC Health to lease West Jefferson Medical Center.

Officials also publicly addressed a pair of recent controversies that have sprung up around efforts to lease the parish-owned hospital: questions about the level of detail in the invoices of a consultant advising the parish on the deal, and hefty bonuses that were given to two executives at the struggling Marrero hospital.

According to the new terms approved Monday, LCMC will pay the parish at least \$200 million over 45 years, down from its previous offer of at least \$225 million.

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Associated Press photo

Police stand near a suspect in a parking lot after gunfire during a protest on the anniversary of the death of Michael Brown on Sunday in Ferguson, Mo.

Ferguson back on edge after protests

BY JIM SALTER
and ALAN SCHER ZAGIER

Associated Press

FERGUSON, Mo. — Ferguson was a community on edge again Monday, a day after a protest marking the anniversary of Michael Brown's death was punctuated with gunshots and police critically wounding a black 18-year-old accused of opening fire on officers.

Police, protesters and people who live and work in the St. Louis suburb were bracing for what nightfall might bring following more violence along West Florissant Avenue, the same thoroughfare that was the site of massive protests and rioting after Brown was fatally shot last year in a confrontation with a white Ferguson officer.

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