



Name Change

July 1, 2006 marks anniversary of Truman name change

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The University's student-produced newspaper

Dollars & GPA

Scholarships and grades affect teams performances

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Kirkville, Mo. 63501

Elections bring new members, issues to Senate



Angela Crawford
Senate President

Kyle Hill
Staff Reporter

Two student mandates assumed their roles in Student Senate at Sunday's transitional meetings.

Junior Angela Crawford took her seat as president as she and all nine Bulldog Party candidates were elected in last week's elections. With 1,390 voters, Crawford beat sophomore Brandon Large, the Student Coalition for Change candidate, by more than 500 votes.

Crawford said her win indicates that students agree with her issues.

"That tells me that students want to see a variety of ambitious but achievable goals for next year," Crawford said.

However, students voted by an equally wide margin on measures brought forward by petitions supported by senator junior Josh Kappel.

Kappel, who received the most votes of the 14 candidates for 12 senator-at-large positions, also claimed victory with students supporting provisional membership in Missouri Students United! and voicing strong opposition to the University's parental notification procedure for drug

and alcohol violations.

Kappel said it shows students' opposition to the University invading their family lives.

"Sometimes it's not in the [students'] best interest to do that," Kappel said. "They need to talk to the students to set that policy."

Lou Ann Gilchrist, dean of student affairs, said she saw the issue's rejection as affirming her office's current procedure.

"The only time we notify parents is in cases of safety," Gilchrist said. "I thought the resolution was a little bit odd."

Gilchrist said that during conduct board meetings, students are asked if they have contacted their parents.

Gilchrist said the procedure is not a policy written and approved by the Board of Governors, and much confusion exists.

"This is based on an assumption that we have total control," Gilchrist said. "Since [the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act], we can be more liberal in how we apply it."

Gilchrist said she receives an equal number of complaints from students who think the procedure

is too strict as well as those who wish the University would increase enforcement.

"We've chosen to take the moderate road to respect a student's developmental needs but also respect their safety," Gilchrist said.

The referendum asked students if they believed that the University should contact the parents of students who violate the University's drug and alcohol policy but whose lives are not in danger or are not repeat offenders.

The question came about when
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Phil Jarrett/Index

Senior Heather Porter talks on her cell phone Wednesday outside of the Student Union Building. Some Cingular users might be in danger of losing their plans as a result of minimal service in the Kirkville area.

Cell service stops

Cingular clients could lose contracts because of lack of coverage

Nathan Becker
Assistant News Editor

From a company whose ad slogan is "raising the bar," Cingular customers such as junior Katie Keaven might soon experience something unexpected: no service.

Keaven and other Cingular Wireless users in Kirkville will see their contracts canceled soon because they don't make enough calls in the Cingular network, which is not present in Kirkville.

"I got a text message from them in late March or early April,

and they said to call them or else my contract would be terminated," Keaven said.

The call informed Keaven that Cingular was going to cancel her contract because the company determined it wasn't making a profit from users like her because it had to pay another company to give them service in Kirkville.

Meg Frainey, director of public relations at Cingular, said the terms of agreement a user signs at the beginning of his or her contract outline that at least 50 percent of a user's minutes must be on the Cingular network. Cingular began reviewing user accounts this spring for about a three-month billing period to determine whether users were in violation of these terms.

Users who are in danger of cancellation will receive a letter and a text message from Cingular, Frainey said.

Frainey said Cingular would eliminate the early termination fee and, in some cases, other fees as well. Keaven said she will be reimbursed for the cost of her phone and activation.

"We're working with customers one-on-one to make the transition as easy as possible, and when they've recently had costs like that, absolutely, we're doing some reimbursement," Frainey said.

Cingular has no concrete plans to build a tower in Kirkville, Frainey said.

"Truman State is a very important area for us, so we were

looking at it, but we don't have a firm plan yet that we can share," Frainey said.

Sophomore Garrett Boatright said he was able to work with Cingular and keep his service.

"There were three things that I could have done: You could have canceled the contract completely, you could cancel your contract and keep your phone, and the third option was to limit your cell phone to use only the Cingular network, and that's what I had to do," Boatright said.

He said his phone now is set to pick up only the Cingular network, which limits his coverage.

"Sometimes I have service, sometimes I don't," he said.

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Faculty might nix ACT requirement

Julie Williams
Staff Reporter

Prospective students might not have to fret about a run-of-the-mill ACT score jeopardizing their acceptance into Truman.

Some faculty and staff at Truman are discussing the removal of the ACT requirement for admission, said Sam Minner, dean of the division of education. Even though the decision to remove the ACT requirement still is in the preliminary discussion stage, Minner said it is a controversial matter on campus.

"Some faculty seem to believe that by possibly eliminating this requirement or making it optional for students, that that might result in lowering the standards here," he said. "I think there is some possibility of that, but I think that it's actually quite minor because ... there is no interest in doing that. Our curriculum wouldn't change, our standards in our classes wouldn't change, so I just don't see that."

In addition to faculty members, some students also are troubled by the possibility of removing the ACT requirement. Junior Liz Gallaher said she is worried that lowering admission standards for Truman would hurt the University.

"I would be concerned about the reputation of the school maybe not being maintained if the standards were lowered," Gallaher said.

The average ACT score for the freshman class in fall 2005 was 27.4, and the mid-range ACT score was 25 to 30, according to the Office of Admission.

Of the 1,452 students in the freshman class, 30 percent of them received Bright Flight scholarships, meaning they scored in the top 3 percent of all Missouri students on the ACT or SAT, according to the Truman admissions Web site.

Minner said he doesn't see a

need to be overly concerned about the University's academic reputation because hundreds of other colleges whose reputations rival or exceed Truman's have seen benefits by making the submission of an ACT score optional.

Minner said the discussion at Truman is part of a national conversation about the wisdom of requiring standardized tests like the ACT and SAT for important decisions like admission. He said the publishers of the test have admitted to a correlation between a student's socioeconomic status and his or her score on the test.

"We want to identify students who are academically capable," he said. "By the same token, we want to do that as well and as carefully as possible."

More than 730 colleges and universities in the United States already have made the ACT or SAT score optional for admission, according to www.fairtest.org, the Web site for the National Center for Fair and Open Testing. These schools report that they are pleased with their results and that making standardized test scores optional has resulted in "a more diverse student body and a high level of academic quality," according to the Web site.

Minner also said he thinks removing the ACT requirement could help increase enrollment at Truman.

"Obviously if we had a couple of hundred additional students, we might not have to be doing all these things we're doing," Minner said.

John Fraire, associate vice president of enrollment management, said eliminating the ACT requirement could help the University achieve other goals.

"If we can increase enrollment, that would go a long way to helping meet our goal of the 16:1 ratio," he said.

Fraire also said he could not
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Discovery Channel celebrities hit campus

Ashley Williams
for the Index

No myth will be safe on Truman's campus.

The Student Activities Board will bring Jamie Hyneman and Adam Savage, hosts of the Discovery Channel's popular television show MythBusters, to campus for a presentation at 8 tonight in Pershing Arena. MythBusters has tackled many myths, such as if a singer truly can break glass and if it is possible to save one's life by jumping in a falling elevator, according to discovery.com.

Senior Tyler Patterson, SAB's

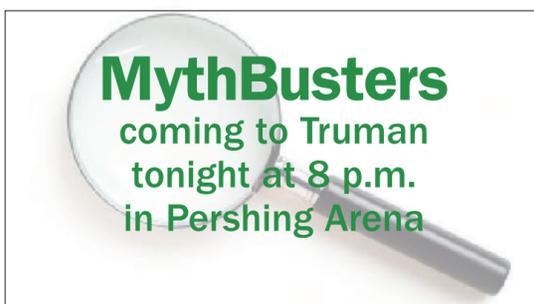
MythBusters event chairman, said MythBusters should appeal to a different audience than many campus events.

"This falls into 'edutainment,' which is a cross between entertainment and education," Patterson said. "A lot of the time we bring speakers that are solely entertainment, ... and you see a lot of education speakers from campus organizations."

He said it is unique for SAB to host an event that combines the two.

"We're really excited to be bringing a different event," Patterson said.

Sophomore John Sumner said he



has been a fan of the show for two years. Although he said he is an avid fan, his fanaticism is not extreme.

"I don't think I'm a nut job," Sumner said. "I'm not one of those people that would put a hat or a shirt on that says 'MythBusters.' I wouldn't even know where you would get one."

However, Sumner said he is

looking forward to the event despite one worry of his.

"Hopefully we don't get to just see them in the act and not realize what they're doing at all," he said.

Junior Drew Spiegel, chairman of SAB's special events committee, said arranging the MythBusters event turned into a

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Students should beware of signs of alcoholism

Kyle Bybee
for the Index

Lois F., a part-time employee of Alcoholics Anonymous in New York, said she knew she had an alcohol problem when her roommate moved out.

"She pretty much just moved out [without warning]," Lois said. "I knew my drinking was making it hard for her to stay sober, but I wasn't expecting it."

Lois said she suffered from side effects from drinking, such as blackouts, that made it difficult for her to keep friends and affected her job.

"I was a teacher at the time, but I knew I wasn't doing a top

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SPECIAL REPORT

job, particularly days on when I was very hung over," Lois said. "I would do anything to keep the kids quiet all day."

Lois said she recognized her problem and went to Alcoholics Anonymous. She has been sober for almost 34 years.

Although policies at Truman regulate punishment for alcohol use on campus, no simple policy can regulate the signs of

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INSIDE | this issue

Tolerance is a Virtue

Columnist Josh Fenton says readers should respect all beliefs, even those of cults.



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A Helping Hand

Part three in a series of three looks at services that aid Kirkville's homeless.



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Quad Swordplay

Club practices art of swordplay on campus, invites all to join.



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THIS WEEK | weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Showers	Showers	Showers
High 67 Low 52	High 60 Low 50	High 60 Low 49