



Kelsey Vaughn/Index

Dan Green, evangelist from the Kirksville Church of Christ, records a radio show for 107.5 FM on Monday.

107.5 airs religion

Radio station gives religious organizations opportunity to broadcast show on Sundays

Rebecca Easterwood
for the Index

This year on the fourth floor of Dobson Hall, 107.5 is letting religious voices be heard on Sundays.

Barry Poyner, professor of communication and adviser to the campus Church of Christ fellowship Ekklesia, said giving airtime to religious organizations provides more diversity to campus. Poyner said the only organization to jump on board so far is Ekklesia.

"I really think that religious life is probably a neglected area of media focus at Truman," Poyner said. "I think Christian groups ought to take advantage of trying to interact with the culture around them."

Poyner and Dan Green, evangelist for the Kirksville Church of Christ who lives in the Ekklesia house, are the DJs from 4 to 5 p.m. The first Sunday they read scriptures and played Christian music live was Sept. 11.

Green said he and Poyner have many ideas for the future, such as having theatrical readings of the scripture, Bible quizzes, counseling opportunities and possible readings of C.S. Lewis' "Chronicles of Narnia" series. Also, they said they welcome anyone

who would like to help. Poyner said if it was possible, he would like to make this an opportunity for media internships.

Religious groups are under the same rules and regulations as any student wanting to broadcast, said junior Greg Bellville, station manager for 107.5. According to the station's Web site, anyone interested in air-time must apply, sign a contract, go through a training process and be responsible for at least one hour per week.

"They gave us a solid 30 minutes, I think, of training," Green said.

Bellville said the training process included rules and teaching them how to use the equipment.

He also said it was OK if the organizations discussed scripture, but he said the station leaders did not want the organizations condemning people and "bringing down fire and brimstone."

Bellville said allowing religious programming to broadcast on campus radio stations might bother some people.

"There are going to be things in the world that [people] don't like all the time in the media," Bellville said. "And if [people] don't like it, [they] can complain, which

people do all the time. But some things are just going to be there."

Poyner said he and alumnus Sean Bagniewski, former station manager at 107.5, had a conversation about the station having religious programming. Bellville said Bagniewski brought up the idea of giving religious organizations airtime at a management meeting last semester. Bellville said the directors liked the idea and sent press releases to each religious organization's mailbox on campus. Bellville said it helped with the variety in the station.

"They wanted the opportunity, and they had not been given the opportunity, and we wanted to give it to them," Bellville said.

Though this new development of 107.5 has possibly opened its station to more listeners, Bellville said this was not a move of competition with KTRM.

"We've got no beef with [KTRM]," Bellville said. "The goal, I think, of both of our radio stations is the same thing: to offer something for Truman students to enjoy when they're not freaking out over Truman work."

Senior Claire Maryniak, station manager for KTRM, said 107.5 having religious programming was not a threat. Maryniak said she did not see it affecting the number of KTRM listeners.

"I really think that religious life is probably a neglected area of media focus at Truman."

Barry Poyner
Professor of Communication and Adviser of Ekklesia

Relocated racks frustrate some student cyclists

Rachel Gehner
for the Index

During the summer, the Campus Environmental Advisory Committee decided to move Truman's bike racks out of high pedestrian traffic areas to the outer areas of campus.

Karl Schneider, director of the Physical Plant and chair of the environmental advisory committee, said the committee was looking for ways to both keep pedestrians safe and increase the number of bike commuters on campus.

He said they thought that would have a positive effect on the environment by encouraging less car use.

Although Schneider said he and the committee were the driving force behind the decision to move the racks, he contacted a number of other organizations, including the President's Office, the Department of Public Safety, Campus Planning and Student Affairs before the decision was finalized.

Schneider said he also wrote an e-mail to last year's Student Senate president in hopes the students would learn about the move.

"The administrators that I talked to were in agreement that we should move the bike racks out toward the perimeter of

campus," Schneider said. "We'd see how that went for the first year, and refine that after time."

He said he was aware before the move was finalized that the new locations would be less convenient to bike commuters, but the main concern of the committee was to keep bikes out of high pedestrian traffic areas.

Schneider said he hasn't heard any direct complaints from students, but he knows that students favored the old locations more than the new ones.

Graduate student Alexis McGeahy said she has ridden her bike to school for the last two years, and the move has made getting to class less convenient.

"Especially in Baldwin and McClain [halls]," McGeahy said. "I couldn't even find the bike racks there for the first couple of days, and then I looked down from the bridge one day, and there they were."

McGeahy said the new placement makes bike commuting more difficult because commuters have to ride out of their way to park their bikes and then walk

back to the entrance of the building.

"McClain's the worst," McGeahy said. "You have to ride all the way around the building to find some place to park."

Tom Johnson, director of Public Safety, said he understands what the environmental committee is trying to do and thinks they have good ideas.

"There have been a couple times when people have just whizzed on by me on a bike, and I didn't even know they were there until they were gone," Johnson said.

The laws regarding bike use on campus require students to walk their bikes on the sidewalks and park the bikes on bike racks rather than on stair railings, light poles and trees.

Senior Matt Kettmann said he is not impressed by the way Public Safety is handling bike regulations on

campus.

"I didn't even know that we weren't supposed to ride our bikes on sidewalks," Kettmann said. "Why aren't there people ticketing for that, instead of giving us tickets for parking in the wrong places?"

Johnson said he doesn't want it to

"You have to ride all the way around the building to find some place to park."

Alexis McGeahy
Graduate Student

Residents fear loss of room retention rights

Concerns about squatters' rights surface as Missouri Hall renovations loom

Mandi Sagez
for the Index

With a new residence hall under construction, Missouri Hall scheduled for renovation and the future of squatters' rights undecided, confusion about housing renewal is developing among students.

Squatters' rights is the term used for residents who choose to live in their present room again the following fall semester.

Some students in Missouri Hall are concerned about their squatters' rights being in jeopardy.

Andrea O'Brien, director of Residence Life, said they still are weighing their options for squatters' rights.

"Doing away with students' squatters' rights is an option that we've thrown out there," O'Brien said. "The reason is because we have students living in Missouri who are planning to return, so we'll eliminate squatters' rights just for them, or we'll eliminate it across campus as a whole."

O'Brien said Missouri Hall will not be taken off-line until it's certain that the new residence hall will be ready to open.

"The new hall is expected to go online next fall, so it should be open then," O'Brien said. "The plan is that Missouri Hall will be renovated first. That should go off-line next summer."

Sophomore Jessica Lufkin, a Missouri Hall resident, said she agrees with the idea of suspending squatters' rights for everyone.

"That just makes sense because then you don't have people from Missouri [Hall] complaining," Lufkin said.

Lufkin said she disagreed with the idea of Missouri Hall residents receiving special rights.

"I think they should ... just have the lottery and whoever gets the new dorms gets them," Lufkin said. "I think that would be easiest."

See Features Page 13 for more coverage of the Missouri Hall renovations.

Sophomore Lindsay Alexander, Lufkin's roommate, said she also agrees with suspending squatters' rights.

She said she thinks that Missouri Hall residents should receive better odds of living in the new residence hall.

"The people being put out are Missourians, so it's not Ryle Hall that's having their dorm taken away," Alexander said. "It's us Missourians, so if anything, we don't get the dorm that

we want. It's got to be fair for everyone. But if anybody should get the upper hand, it should be the people losing their [squatters'] rights."

However, the roommates said they agreed students appreciate squatters' rights for many reasons.

Alexander said that although the rooms all are technically the same, most rooms have odd juts that come from the walls, so students know what will fit in a certain room.

"We know where the couch will fit," Alexander said. "Even six more inches that's taken up and the desk might not fit quite right."

Lufkin added that some students like squatters' rights because they keep the same address for the next year.

Freshman Brian Bentele said he is unsure of how Residence Life is going to handle the housing situation next year.

"I've heard that the upperclassmen that live in Missouri Hall get first dibs on living in the new dorm, so I guess they would go by credit hours, and they're renovating [Missouri Hall] to make it a freshman dorm," Bentele said.

As soon as Residence Life reaches a decision about keeping or suspending squatters' rights, it will inform students of the changes being made, O'Brien said.



Lisa Margetis/Index

Sophomore Steven Nast rides his bike past several bike racks outside of Violette Hall on Tuesday afternoon.

come to that. He said he hopes that if people understand and know about rules, there will be voluntary compliance.

He said he doesn't want to have to start impounding bikes that are parked illegally because cutting the locks off would cause property damage, he said.

Johnson said the tickets that Public Safety uses include bike violations that

would result in a five-dollar fine, but they aren't used very often.

"Any violation of the bike laws could cause students to incur a fine," Johnson said.

The bike regulations for campus can be found on the DPS Web site <http://police.truman.edu/parkingservices/park-Serv.asp>.

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