

**BIG MAN**

Junior forward makes the most of American opportunities



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The University's student-produced newspaper

**AN EYE-OPENER**

Student gauges the benefits of LASIK surgery



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Thursday, January 24, 2008

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Kirksville, Mo. 63501

## Drunken Dobson intruder charged

BY NATHAN BECKER AND JESSIE GASCH  
Index Staff

A Baring, Mo., man is in jail on a \$75,000 cash-only bond after passing a night monitor and entering two females' room in Dobson Hall early the morning of Jan. 20.

Andrew Couch, 21, has been charged with Class B felony burglary and Class D felony attempted

deviate sexual assault in connection with the incident. His preliminary hearing was set Wednesday morning for Jan. 30.

Dobson Hall Director Stephanie Chrissotimos said the night monitor on duty followed security procedures.

"About four o'clock in the morning on Sunday, a male entered the building through the night monitor area," Chrissotimos

said. "The night monitor did ask to see an ID. The man said he didn't have an ID because he wasn't a Truman student."

After the night monitor refused him entry, Couch told the night monitor he was going to meet a friend. The night monitor again denied entry to Couch, who then passed the desk and turned the corner to the stairs anyway, Chrissotimos said.

"The night monitors, we don't require them to chase after anybody or put themselves in physical harm," Chrissotimos said. "But what we do require of them [is] to contact [the police] immediately. As soon as Couch passed the night monitor, the night monitor did call 911."

She said the night monitor provided central dispatch with a detailed description of Couch at 4:02

a.m. When DPS officers Tami O'Haver and Dexter Brookhart arrived at the scene, they began searching for Couch around the perimeter of the building. A communication mixup between the night monitor, central dispatch and the patrolling officers led Brookhart and O'Haver to believe Couch had left the building, Chrissotimos said.

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Andrew Couch

Charged with felony attempted deviate sexual assault, burglary



## Candidate Kuhns

Mark Hardy/Index

Todd Kuhns, Web services manager for ITS, discusses his bid for a spot on City Council in his office Wednesday morning.

## Truman Web wizard, others race for seats

BY DIANE POELKER  
Assistant News Editor

Nine Kirksville residents have entered the race for City Council, and three will emerge victorious when the ballots are counted in April.

As of 5 p.m. Tuesday, nine Kirksville residents have announced they will run for three Kirksville City Council seats. One candidate, Todd Kuhns, represents both the community and the University.

"I'm a really big fan of the city," Kuhns said. "There are relatively few people for three positions — I thought that was troubling, so I considered doing my part and stepping up for service to a community that I really like."

Kuhns originally arrived in Kirksville by way of Truman. He graduated with a degree in communication in 2000. After marrying his wife, Bich, also a Truman alumna, the two moved to

Japan to teach English to high school students. However, Kirksville's charm and a job offer from Truman's ITS department ultimately won Kuhns back.

"We had just come back from overseas, ... and [my wife and I] looked at each other and said, 'Wow, move back to Kirksville, that would be pretty cool,'" Kuhns said. "I found that if you spend a lot of time in this town, it really starts to grow on you."

Kuhns said he's not just Truman-centered. He said Kirksville as a whole has been like a second home to him. He grew up in a military family that moved often, but in Kirksville he said he found a community through his involvement as

a news reporter at KIRX, KTUF and KRXL, all local radio stations.

"In the summers, it was two of us [reporting]," Kuhns said. "I was going to all of the City Council meetings. I was going to all of the school board meetings. I was going to court. I was interviewing business people and going around the community, and so coming back here to Kirksville I really had a strong base of friends in the community already that I knew, so it was easy for me to settle back in."

Since moving back to Kirksville nearly three years ago, Kuhns said he has been an active community member serving on

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"I've found that if you spend a lot of time in this town, it really starts to grow on you."

Todd Kuhns  
Web Services Manager

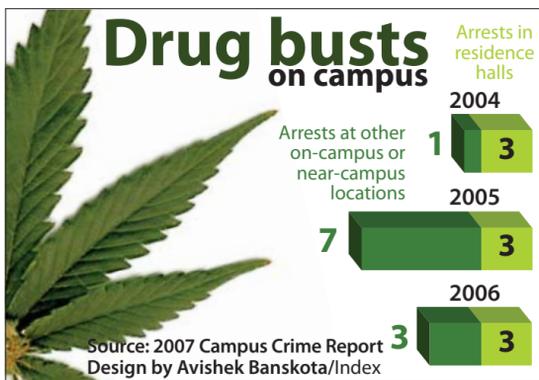
## DPS finds pot in room

BY JULIE WILLIAMS  
News Editor

Three students were arrested Thursday night in Dobson Hall on multiple charges involving drugs and alcohol.

Freshmen Jake Long, John Hatcher and Stephen Little were taken into custody, and charges distributed among the three included possession of up to 35 grams of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, purchase or attempt to purchase or possession of liquor as a minor and possession of an altered driver license, according to documents from the Department of Public Safety.

Long also currently has pending charges of assault on a law enforcement officer, burglary in the first degree, minor visibly intoxicated, resisting or interfering with arrest and property damage in the second degree, according to court documents. He was suspended from the football team in August following those charges, according to the Aug. 30 issue of the Index.



Dobson Hall Director Stephanie Chrissotimos said student advisers were walking through the building Thursday night when they smelled a distinct odor, and because they were unsure what it was, they called her and another hall director on duty.

"We smelled it and believed it was marijuana, and so at that point whenever we have that kind of suspicion, we are to call DPS, which we did," Chrissoti-

mos said.

Sgt. Chad Whittom of DPS said two officers were dispatched to the scene after receiving the call from Dobson. He said they then also requested a canine officer from the Adair County Sheriff's Department to come to the residence hall.

"Once we got there, we determined which room it was coming from, made contact with the

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## Student struck by car



Reporting by Heather Turner, Photo by Mark Hardy/Index  
Officer Nathan Selby of the Department of Public Safety said two pedestrians were crossing Patterson Street in front of Grim Hall when one person was struck by a car last night at about 6 p.m. At the time, he said there was no information on the extent of the person's injuries until she could be hospitalized.

## Dixon focuses on budget, enrollment in address

BY JULIE WILLIAMS  
News Editor

The kids are all right, and the University is too.

President Barbara Dixon delivered the first-ever State of the University address to a crowd of University and community members last Thursday, reporting that Truman is solid and on financially stable ground. During her address, Dixon outlined several areas where the University is concentrating its

energy on internal improvement and also ways in which Truman and Kirksville affect each other.

Chief among Dixon's list of improvements was finding ways to attract more students to Truman. She said the lowest enrollment numbers came in 2003, but she thinks that downturn has stopped.

"We have our challenges, and enrollment is one of them," she said.

In an effort to pinpoint why

students choose to come to Truman, Dixon said the University contracted a national consulting firm called Art and Science to conduct an 18-month study on enrollment. The firm identified a number of challenges for Truman, which Dixon said include a greater number of and more sophisticated competitors, the demographics of high school students, a millennium generation that wants it all and the location and perception of rural.

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**Keyless Entry**

Daniel Glossenger argues for card-access system on residence hall doors.



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**Roe v. Wade**

Local organizations use yard signs, forums to raise abortion awareness.



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**Classroom Culture**

Foreign language professors mold culture into curriculum.



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**WEATHER**

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunny	Wintery Mix	Mostly Sunny
High 19 Low 10	High 31 Low 28	High 37 Low 26