

## ETHANOL | Bill might repeal ethanol mandate

Continued from Page 1

different scenario today. ... Ethanol has turned out to be part of a bigger problem."

Dethrow said constituents from his district have approached him with concerns ranging from the use of ethanol in small, two-cycle engines to poorer gas mileage in their automobiles and the rising food prices.

"I'm hearing complaints from moms back in my district who shop at the local grocery store who are concerned about anything that drives up the cost of food, and this is a piece of it," he said.

Ashley McCarty, director of public policy for the Missouri Corn Growers Association, said the inclusion of ethanol in gasoline isn't directly connected to escalating prices of food.

"No additional corn is being consumed from the 10 percent ethanol standard, ... so I do not think you can connect [ethanol-blended gasoline] to having an impact on the price of food," she said.

McCarty said she thinks decreasing food transportation costs through the savings of biofuels outweighs any influence that higher corn prices might have on the price of food.

She also said the rising price of corn — which rocketed from \$2 a bushel in January 2006 to \$4 a year and a half later to about \$6 today — can be attributed largely to the recent slide in the value of the U.S. dollar, which causes other countries to want to buy American grain because it is cheaper.

Dethrow said he agreed that other factors contribute to inflated corn prices, but he stressed that ethanol is the one piece of the puzzle that can be changed locally.

"Don't blame everything on ethanol, but it's the only piece of the problem we have any control over in Missouri," he said.

McCarty said she doesn't see a grudge between corn farmers, who are thriving on higher corn prices, and livestock producers, who have to spend more on food to raise their animals. She also said only one independent livestock producer who wanted to repeal the mandate came to the legislative hearing last week.

"You did not see a groundswell of support to repeal the ethanol standard from any livestock group," she said.

McCarty said she thinks any livestock-corn price problems will be resolved when the market eases out and livestock producers won't have to pay as much for feed.

"I think you will see these discussions subside after these markets level out over

the next several months," she said.

Dethrow, a former livestock producer, said he thinks there is a bit of a rift between the two agricultural groups but that there are bigger issues at hand.

"They've always depended on each other for many years," he said. "There is a difference of opinion on how our grain should be used. ... I think the bigger question is not a division among grain and livestock. I think the bigger question is, do we use ethanol to make fuel instead of food?"

Independence from foreign oil is another benefit of the 10 percent ethanol blend, McCarty said.

"If a terrorist group fires rocket-propelled grenades at an oil tanker in the Straits of Yemen, we're not seeing the same price reactions as other parts of the world are and other parts of this country are," she said.

An independent study commissioned by the MCGA projects that the 10 percent ethanol requirement will save Missouri drivers about 10 cents per gallon this year and about \$54 per driver each year for the next 10 years.

Some are concerned, however, that less-efficient ethanol causes drivers to get fewer miles to the gallon, Dethrow said.

"We started seeing reports of those mileage issues [when ethanol was introduced into gasoline]," he said. "... [People are] more aware of that as gas goes up, up, up."

Terry Reynolds, a salesman at Sydenstricker Farm & Lawn in Kirksville, said he thinks oil companies are the ones responsible for the recent inflation of prices.

"When you get \$110 oil, you get \$6 corn," Reynolds said. "When you get \$50 oil, you have \$3 corn."

Sydenstricker sales manager Bill Frazee said he agreed, noting that until more recent gas price hikes, corn prices steadily ranged from \$2.50 to \$3 a bushel for about 20 years.

"Ethanol's getting a bad rap," Frazee said. "When oil started going up, everything else started going up. I guarantee you get oil down to \$50 again, and food prices will be back to where they were."

Dethrow said the bill to repeal the mandate has support but that it will be difficult to get movement on it this late in the session.

"We'll just wait and see what happens through the summer and in the fall when we come back for next session in January ... and see what the attitudes of people are out there, and how much we learned, and be able to discuss more of the costs and benefits of ethanol," he said. "... We'll just see how people out in the real world react."

**"Don't blame everything on ethanol, but it's the only piece of the problem we have any control over in Missouri."**

**Mike Dethrow**  
State Representative

## St. Baldricks



Senior Stephen Barnes and sophomore Justin Vilbig shave junior James Collins' head for St. Baldricks on Saturday. Students and faculty participated in the program as part of a fundraiser for cancer research.

## ILLNESS | Tuberculosis case prompts health center to administer testing for students

Continued from Page 1

She said the ACHD recommended close contacts undergo testing first, such as roommates and suitmates.

"[Then] we go the next level down, just to make sure we're not missing anyone, which would be day-to-day contacts, such as classroom contacts," she said.

Lou Ann Gilchrist, dean of student affairs, said the University had discussed TB testing prior to this case.

"About the same time that we learned that this person was being tested for TB, we were talking about a policy that will actually identify those people who are at higher risk, and they will be tested before the beginning of the fall semester, beginning this year," Gilchrist said.

Gail McCurdy, epidemiology specialist for the Adair County Health Department and to 11 other counties, said slow-growing bacteria cause tuberculosis. When these bacteria exist in a person's lungs, they can be expelled through coughing, sneezing or even singing, she said. Another person then can breathe in the bacteria. The bacteria can be transmitted in other ways, but McCurdy said there are very few typical exposures from a public health perspective.

Tuberculosis occurs in two forms, a latent TB infection and active TB disease, in which the bacteria can be transmitted, McCurdy said. In the latent infection, which happens very frequently, the bacteria may be present in the body but cannot be transmitted, she said.

McCurdy said skin testing, one of the simplest, least invasive and most sensitive tests available at this time, can identify individuals who have the bacteria in their bodies, but it does not identify from whom the bacteria came.

"If I'm exposed to [the bacteria] today and I actually get it in my body, and it sits there, there is a 5- to 10-percent chance that I will go on to develop the disease [in my lifetime]," McCurdy said.

She said those whom skin tests identify as actually having the bacteria in their bodies should follow up with their health care provider to find out if it is appropriate to seek treatment. People involved in known exposures through close contact situations should undergo testing, McCurdy said.

"We wouldn't want to test the whole campus because we know there was one person on campus who had it," she said.

McCurdy encouraged students to contact the health center or the Adair County Health Department with concerns or questions about TB.

"Everyone who was involved in this situation identified their part exactly when they should have done it, and every one of the students who were supposed to be helping out with getting us information were cooperative," McCurdy said. "That's exactly what we need in this situation. The people are getting what they need and the information they should have so they can follow up appropriately."

McCurdy said the incidence of active TB disease in the United States started to drop in about 1994 and has continued this trend. She said TB is not a high-risk problem in the U.S., and if health care providers identify a latent TB infection, antibiotics can reduce the risks of developing active TB disease.

There were 13,779 TB cases reported in the U.S. in 2006 (4.6 cases per 100,000 persons), according to the Centers for Disease Control Web site (cdc.gov). This "rate was the lowest recorded since national reporting began in 1953," according to the Web site.

## STRUCTURE | Department chairs, administrators, Faculty Senate work to smooth reorganization obstacles

Continued from Page 1

administration, and their thinking is 'It's done, it's implemented,'" he said. "I suppose the flow chart is implemented, I suppose the structure is implemented, but there still is an awful lot of work that needs to be done in order to make that implementation work and run on a day-to-day basis."

Ralph Cupelli, assistant to the provost and vice president of academic affairs, also acknowledged that this year has been a learning experience for department chairs because this is their first run-through for many new duties. He said there have been few problems along that line, however. From the administrative perspective, Cupelli said he thinks the reorganization went very well.

"We've only had the reorganization committee meet once to talk about issues, so that's a sign that things were fairly smooth on the implementation side," he said.

Cupelli said that despite having had few meetings, Gary Gordon, vice president of academic affairs, asked the committee to remain on standby in case other issues come up that might need to be addressed. He said the committee might meet

again during the summer.

Cupelli said that at this point, all the planned reorganization changes have been implemented, and the only possible adjustments remaining would be to analyze secretarial support and how that should change with the creation of departments.

Terry Olson, department chair and professor of economics, was a member of the restructuring committee that came up with five restructuring proposals for faculty members to vote on early in the spring 2007 semester — including the option to leave the structure as it was — before

compiling a report for University President Barbara Dixon. He said Dixon ultimately was responsible for selecting the current reorganization plan.

Olson said he doesn't foresee the restructuring committee reconvening to discuss the positives and negatives of the plan's implementation because that is

the responsibility of Gordon's committee. But he said the topic of implementation still surfaces in Senate meetings from time to time.

"One of the things in particular they want answered is how much this cost," Olson said. "... We haven't gotten that information, although I think we probably will at some point."

Olson said Senate also recently discussed the issue of faculty representation on the body and that until a new plan is created that is tailored to the new organization, existing members are locked into their positions. He said the Senate's governance restructuring committee presented its recommendations at the last official Senate meeting, but some questions still need to be voted on.

"It looks like that's not going to be finally resolved until sometime in the fall at least because not only will Faculty Senate have to vote on that, but

there are provisions in place for having a faculty-wide referendum on how the new representation system would work," Olson said.

Also on the table for the Senate are guidelines for tenure and promotion that fit the system of colleges and departments, although Olson said that was to be discussed regardless of the reorganization.

"In reading the different standards, I think there was a decision that within some units, like the college of arts and science in particular, there was possibly more disparity in what some of those standards were than might have been ideal, and so then there was going to be some work on trying to standardize some of those criteria a little bit," he said.

In his role as department chair, Olson said he counts greater budget transparency and greater autonomy in setting budget priorities at the department level as benefits of the new structure.

Scott Burt, department chair and associate professor of biology, said he can see many positives of the reorganization. He said that even though the lines of communication in the University structure still need

a little work, he thinks the reorganization has been effective in getting departments talking not only with administrators but also among themselves.

"We meet every week as a group, the chairs do — or with the deans, and sometimes with the vice president as well," Burt said. "I've come to know what other departments are struggling with, what their challenges are, what their successes are."

Burt said he thinks some confusion still exists in the departments about what responsibilities lie where, but that he has seen a lot of patience from every level of the new structure.

"I think the change is positive, and even though there's some bumps in the road, we're headed in the right direction," he said.

Senior Jordan Kimbrell said she saw just one effect of the academic reorganization last semester when she had a different professor for a class because the professor she signed up for was promoted to the department chair position. She said she doesn't have to do much paperwork, so that aspect is not a concern for her.

"It's really not affected students as far as I can tell," Kimbrell said.

## AWARD | Math professor named Educator of the Year

Continued from Page 1

back for additional courses with Guffey.

Stevens also nominated Guffey for Educator of the Year. She said she was hoping he would win this year because she would not be able to nominate him again after graduating.

"I know that going into his office, I've seen his previous nominations from previous years, and I can't help but think, 'How has he not gotten this award already?'" Stevens said.

Students submitted online nominations this year for 92 instructors. Professors then had to accept the nominations and submit course syllabi and an essay to the Educator of the Year committee. Committee members are students from Student Senate, the Pershing Society and Phi Kappa Phi. The list of nominees was whittled from 34 professors to 12 semifinalists. The list then was narrowed down to six finalists.

University President Barbara Dixon said the nominating process is special because the decision is entirely up to the student committee.

"I'm really impressed that the students go to such lengths that they do to try to honor the faculty," Dixon said.

Senior Greg Wisa, Educator of the Year committee member, said it is gratifying having professors submit essays to members to read and consider.

"We had to go through and read 34 essays on different professors and figure out 12 of them that were better than the rest," Wisa said.

Guffey also was awarded the Professional Leader in Education by the Rotary Club of Kirksville two years ago and recently was nominated for a Golden Apple award.

Still not sure **WHERE** you want to live next school year?

Check out our places!  
Century21 still has several houses listed and ready to show. Call Tracy at 660-665-5678 for more information.

**KENT'S KAGES**

NORTH PARK BALLFIELD COMPLEX  
NORTH HWY 63  
KIRKSVILLE, MO 63501  
(JUST NORTH OF WAL-MART, TURN AT ICE HOUSE)

660-342-2811  
WWW.KENTSKAGES.COM

5 TOKEN OPERATED BATTING CAGES - BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

16 DITCHES PER TOKEN	RENT-A-KAGE RATES
1 TOKEN - \$1	1/2 HR \$15 PER CAGE
6 TOKENS - \$5	1 HR \$25 PER CAGE
25 TOKENS - \$20	

SPRING HOURS: APRIL 12 - MEMORIAL DAY  
MON-FRI 4-8 PM  
SAT-SUN 12-6 PM

SUMMER HOURS: MEMORIAL DAY - LABOR DAY  
MON-FRI 3-9 PM  
SAT-SUN 12-6 PM

GREAT FOR PRACTICES, PARTIES, OR JUST FOR SOMETHING FUN TO DO IN KIRKSVILLE. COME VISIT US AND DON'T FORGET TO CHECK US OUT AT WWW.KENTSKAGES.COM FOR SOME MONEY SAVING COUPONS.