

# Students seek affordable hairstyles

**Despite business discounts, Truman students disagree on barber shop choices**

BY LAURA PRATHER  
Features Editor

Junior Justin Rolwes doesn't let just anyone touch his hair.

In fact, up until last week there was only one person he would let cut his hair: Franco.

"He's Sicilian," Rolwes said. "He charges a lot, but it's worth it."

Rolwes said he always has gone home to St. Louis to get his hair cut, but last week he gave in and tried out a Kirksville hair establishment. Out of the dozens he had to choose from all over town, he said he finally found himself in the chair of Razor's Edge Salon, but it took him quite a bit of searching to get there.

"I went to Pages [of Looks], and they couldn't get me in," Rolwes said. "I went everywhere around town, and they couldn't get me in. My hair is way too long to cut it [myself] or have anyone I know do it."

After putting his hair on the line, he said he got a pretty good haircut, the service was better than he expected, and he even got a deal on the price.

"They only took cash there," Rolwes said. "I didn't know that. I usually just pay with a credit card. It was \$12, but I only had \$10 in my pocket. ... She kind of cut me a break and said, 'Just give me the \$10. That will be fine.'"

Overall, he said it was a good experience, and maybe now he will get his hair cut in Kirksville more often.

Unbeknownst to many students, several salons across town give student discounts.

SmartStyle, which is located inside Wal-Mart, and Pages of Looks are two businesses that offer price reductions in hopes of increasing their

student clientele.

"We have regulars," SmartStyle salon manager Jessica Byrn said. "It's pretty sporadic, though, because college students tend to fly by the seat of their pants."

SmartStyle gives a 10 percent student discount on all products and services, which range from cuts, perms, color, up-dos, styling and even facial waxing, Byrn said. Hair cuts start at \$12.95, making it \$11.65 with the discount, she said.

"I don't really know how many people actually know we're here," Byrn said. "You wouldn't believe the kids that don't even know we're inside Wal-Mart. So I don't know how well they take advantage of it."

Byrn said two advantages that SmartStyle has is that it is open seven days a week and they only accept walk-in customers. Since there are several stylists working during

one shift, the wait time is minimal.

Alicia Kuchinski, Pages of Looks hair stylist, said the business offers students \$3 off hair cuts, which include a shampoo, cut and style. Women's cuts start at \$21, and men's cuts start at \$18 before the discount, she said.

"We get a lot of first-time callers," Kuchinski said. "Usually they are recommended from all of our clients."

Kuchinski said 75 to 80 percent of her clients are Truman students.

She said she likes that Pages gives a student discount because she remembers what it was like to be a college student.

In addition to the discount, Pages of Looks passes out coupons to students that can be redeemed as \$1 or \$5 off any purchase, she said.

Offering student discounts can also help increase the clientele of surrounding businesses, Kuchinski said.

"If they're coming downtown to get their hair cut, they might walk around more," she said. "They come in here asking questions, ... and we

recommend other places to go in town."

But not everyone can afford or feel comfortable getting their hair cut in Kirksville.

Rolwes said he will sometimes cut his friends' hair to help them save a couple of bucks.

"They have really short hair, and we have trimmers at our fraternity house," he said. "You just kind of shave it. Anybody can really do it. I don't charge anything. It's just doing it for a friend."

Junior Rebecca Bahrmassel said she and most of her friends always make a special trip home to get their hair cuts.

"I don't really trust the small-town places to do a good job, and my hair is kind of hard to cut," she said.

Senior Rachel Hart said she usually goes home, too, but would try out a local salon to take advantage of the student discounts.

"I don't always get my hair cut all the time," she said. "I shaved it for St. Baldrick's a couple years ago so I just need to get it out for a very long time."

## There's no write way to keep in touch with friends, family

**Connecting with far-away friends can be an exercise in creativity and technology**

BY JACKIE GONZALEZ  
Assistant Features Editor

E-mails, phone calls and instant messaging are not the only ways to communicate with friends back home.

E-cards are a cute, fun way to remind your friends that you care. At Web sites like Hallmark.com, you can send a variety of flash-based, animated cards at little to no cost.

Another idea is using webcams during instant messaging chat sessions. Webcams allow users to see who they're interacting with online. There also are cameras that come with a built-in microphone so you can both speak to and see each other through the computer.

Freshman Ivan Lenov said he uses a webcam to video-chat with his parents on a daily basis.

"I like using a webcam because I can see whoever I'm talking to," Lenov said. "It's just so much more personal that way."

Most chat programs allow users to video-chat through their server for free.

For someone who doesn't have friends in other countries or don't have a long-distance phone plan, Skype could be a beneficial program.

Skype is a service that allows users to make calls to anywhere in the world from their computer. Service fees vary, but if both users have Skype, the calls are always free. There also is an option for video calls, which are free as well.

Building a personal Web page, blog or Myspace page also can allow students to keep friends and family aware of what they have been up to. Although typically these pages are free, one can purchase a customized domain name from Web sites like Google for about \$10.

Snail mail also is a classic option to show friends you care. For example, you can send a "message in a bottle" to a friend for under \$2 in shipping charges.

Just grab an empty plastic bottle and

fill it up with a bit of sand. Then write a note on a small scroll, insert it and send.

According to the U.S. Postal Service Web site, the options are plentiful for what you can send through the mail.

Just take it to the post office and they can send it for you, within reason.

Freshman Sarah Dierker said she has considered mailing a notebook to a friend.

"I've heard of people that would send journals back and forth to each other," she said. "But I'd probably be too busy to ever send it back."

Care packages also are a neat way to keep in touch with friends on other campuses.

Freshman Haley Eisenberg said she plans on making one for a friend at Missouri State University.

"I'm going to take pictures to show my friend things I've been doing, print them and put them in a care package with some other things," she said.

Postcards also are an affordable and personal way to say hello. At 26 cents per card to mail, postcards are quick to send and can become a creative souvenir for one's wall.

Postcards also can be created by using a collage of photos or magazine cutouts and sticking them onto pieces of card stock.

After gluing the cutouts onto the cards, laminate the cards with clear tape to prevent them from falling apart prior to arrival.

"I took a postcard and decorated it with glitter glue and just really flamboyant things," sophomore Teel Gordon said. "I said it was from a secret admirer."

Stores such as Target also sell talking postcards, which allow the buyer to record a message for the desired recipient prior to mailing. Upon receiving the card, the recipient can then play the message as many times as they'd like — or re-record a message and send it back.

While the options are plentiful, it does not take hours on end to be creative. It's the thought that counts, after all.

**"We have regulars. It's pretty sporadic, though, because college students tend to fly by the seat of their pants."**

Jessica Byrn  
SmartStyle Salon Manager

## Accepted or rejected?

Appliance dos and don'ts in residence halls — and how some rules differ at schools across Missouri

**APPROVED**

- electric blankets
- lava lamps
- can openers
- food hydrators
- iced tea makers
- indoor holiday lights

**DENIED**

- convection ovens
- crepe makers
- electric woks
- sun lamps
- fondue pots

At the **University of Missouri - Columbia**, candles — even those that are not lit — are subject to confiscation. Students also are asked to leave their George Foreman grills at home. Although on-campus Truman students may not have popcorn poppers in their rooms, residents at **Northwest Missouri State University** may legally pop their corn. Immersion coils and space heaters will be taken if found in the rooms of **University of Missouri - Kansas City** students.

Sources: Residence Life Web site, umkc.edu/housing, nwmissouri.edu/reslife, reslife.missouri.edu

Photo by Alex Boles/Index  
Design by Jessie Gasch/Index

## GADGETS | Pre-approved appliances can be used to make healthy, satisfying meals

Continued from Page 9

"I can't ever recommend somebody using that as staples of their diet, because it's incredibly unhealthy," he said. "It's just so much better for you, and at times it's even more convenient to walk down to the square and just grab something."

Although some students might see cooking and eating healthy as a challenge, Rowlett said he doesn't find it difficult.

"It's a little bit to get used to in the beginning, but in my opinion it's just as easy to cook and eat healthily on campus outside of the cafeterias as it is to eat unhealthily," he said. "It's just a matter of being mindful of it."

Rowlett said the residence halls make it easy for students to cook by providing kitchenettes as well as cooking equipment.

"There's really not anything that you need that you can't find," he said. "You can check out baking pans and muffin pans and stuff like that."

Director of Residence Life Andrea O'Brien said that, in general, the residence hall kitchens are a good resource for students.

"I know that the ovens, stoves and microwaves that we do provide ... are very heavily used," she said.

Residence Life also provides a list of approved appliances for student use in the dorms, although approval can vary depending upon which hall a student lives in, O'Brien said.

Students living in West Campus Suites and Missouri Hall can now bring their own microwaves as opposed to renting a microfridge because those dorms have been renovated.

"The buildings that have not yet

been renovated — they were built in the 1960s and the electrical capacity of those buildings is pretty much equivalent to what was used in the 1960s," she said.

When choosing which appliances are OK for student use, O'Brien said many factors are taken into consideration.

"We consulted with DPS for fire safety and with facilities not just for electrical usage but also for cleanliness-type issues," she said. "Most of the reasons are mostly because they're a fire hazard or a few of them are because they can be incredibly messy."

Although some appliances are not available for use, students like Combs continue to cook for personal reasons.

"It's a comfort," Combs said. "It reminds me of home."

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