



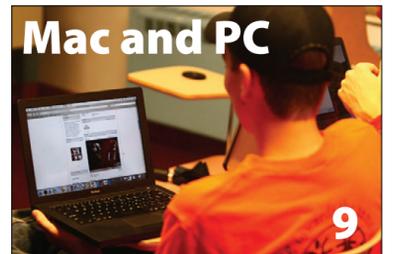
**Soccer** 15

Women's soccer defeats Nebraska-Omaha for the first time ever at home.

# TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY INDEX

The University's student-produced newspaper

www.trumanindex.com



**Mac and PC**

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Truman students weigh benefits, pitfalls of two popular operating systems.

Thursday, September 13, 2007

Kirksville, Mo. 63501

## Birth control goes online

BY DIANE POELKER  
Assistant News Editor

Students seeking campus health care might find expanded services, but staff changes and high cancellation rates could leave appointment-seekers on-call.

The Student Health Center has revised its birth control policy. Students must now order and pay for birth control online rather than in person, cutting down on lines and long wait times.

"The birth control program has grown by leaps

and bounds," said Brenda Higgins, director of the health center. "[Before, students] had to wait in long lines ... It became very inconvenient."

Since its inception two years ago, the health center birth control program has grown to include about 345 students. Higgins said that because of Missouri state pharmaceutical laws, prescription pick up times are limited, often crowding the health center and restricting other services.

"Because of the pharmaceutical laws in the state of Missouri, birth control can only be distributed when the physician is in house," Hig-

gins said. "Our physician is in [only] four hours a week. What we came up with over the summer ... is an online program where students could order their birth control."

Although students must order and pay for birth control pills online, Higgins said the health center is not a substitute for a pharmacy. Students seeking a prescription must come in for an exam or to meet with a physician and discuss previous medical records.

"Legally, we are not a pharmacy, we are a  
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## Local lawyer still awaits arraignment

BY JULIE WILLIAMS  
News Editor



Thomas Oswald

A local attorney awaits trial after being arrested last month on charges of statutory sodomy.

Thomas Oswald, 82, was arrested Aug. 25 after the Kirksville Police Department received a report from the parents of

a juvenile referring to sexual acts that had occurred between their son and Oswald, according to a probable cause statement from officer Rich Harden.

Deputy chief Tim King said the report prompted an investigation of Oswald that is ongoing.

"If we have a report, then we start an investigation," he said.

King said no similar reports regarding Oswald have been received since the initial report was filed.

According to the probable cause statement, Oswald had been involved in sexual contact with the juvenile, 15, for a year. Beginning in August 2006, Oswald showed the juvenile Disney movies at his home, but that escalated to sexually explicit materials and acts, according to the statement. When a search warrant was executed at Oswald's residence, all materials referred to in the report were located.

"All the items found were in locations where [the juvenile] told officers they would be," according to the statement.

Adair County Sheriff Leonard Clark said Oswald was released from jail Aug. 26 on a \$25,000 cash-only bond. He said the Adair County Sheriff's Department is not involved in the Oswald investigation.

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## State aid program hits snags



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index  
Interim Financial Aid Director Sue Neely discusses the new Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program, which affects nearly one-fifth of Truman students.

BY MARIAH BOHANON  
Staff Reporter

Gov. Matt Blunt has repeatedly said that education is important to him, and this resonated with students when he visited the University last March to promote a new plan for distributing financial aid.

Blunt said the Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program would increase state funding for student grants and scholarships by millions of dollars and be much simpler to apply for than competitive scholarships or student loans.

Because of the program, the number of students at the University receiving need-based financial aid from the state has risen from 175 students last year to 1,090 students currently.

For the Access Missouri program, the state implemented an easy application process with clear guidelines on how to qualify for grant money. Students had to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the deadline of April 2, after which the state would determine the individual's eligibility based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

The system was created to replace the state's two former aid programs, the Charles Gallagher Student Financial Assistance Program and the Missouri College Guarantee Program, which had more complex rules for eligibility.

The state initially projected that Access Missouri would be able to provide eligible students with a maximum award of \$2,150. After the bill to create the program

passed in May, the state sent award projections to colleges throughout Missouri with figures that were less than the original maximum amount.

Sue Neely, interim financial aid director, cautioned that though the maximum award given is less than originally expected, it's important to understand that the award of \$2,150 was a state amount. After the FAFSA deadline, it was discovered that 15 percent more students qualified for the Access Missouri grant than the budget could support with the maximum award established at \$2,150, Neely said. Thus, the projections received by Truman's financial aid office in June indicate a maximum

award amount of \$1,350 and a set minimum amount of \$1,000, depending on a student's EFC.

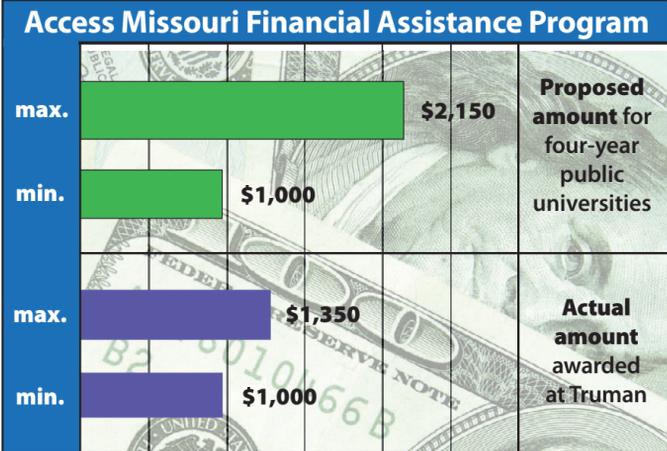
"When dealing with financial aid, there's never enough to go around," Neely said. She emphasized that as soon as the state had received the required FAFSA information, administrators were honest with both colleges and students about the amount of grant money available.

Freshman Craig Harkness said that he knew very little about Access Missouri until he logged onto TruView and discovered that the grant was listed in his account. He said that he was grateful to receive the award, even after learning that the original amount he was qualified to receive had been decreased by several hundred dollars.

Harkness acknowledged  
**Please see MONEY, Page 7**

"When dealing with financial aid, there's never enough to go around."

Sue Neely  
Interim Financial Aid Director



Design by Dylan Herx/Index

## Expanded bill promises new jobs

Kirksville administrators look to increase rate of employment

BY CHRIS BONING  
Assistant News Editor

Employment and the local economy are on the rebound following recently signed state legislation and the expansion or creation of new local organizations.

Gov. Matt Blunt signed House Bill 1 on Sept. 4 to expand his already-successful Quality Jobs Initiative. Blunt created the initiative in 2005 to boost the number of jobs and economic growth in Missouri, according to a press release. HB 1 will increase the budget of the initiative, which already has generated 85,000 jobs, from \$12 million to \$40 million.

Jessica Robinson, press secretary for Blunt, said the additional money in HB 1 came from leftover funds

### How the Quality Jobs Initiative Works

1. The government allows qualifying employers to withhold a portion of employee taxes or pay for a limited time.
2. The employee continues to receive credit for taxes withheld from funds.
3. The surplus money is used to foster partnerships between businesses and support from the community.



Source: Missouri Senate

Design by Dylan Herx/Index

from other programs. Phil Tate, director of job creation for Kirksville Regional Economic

Development Incorporated, said that through the expansion of Blunt's program, Kirksville now is eligible to

receive funds that will in turn go to any company that moves here. The city has applied for \$2.4 million, he said.

Tate said other incentives in the form of tax credit programs and reimbursement for relocation expenses are also available for businesses on the move.

Tate said he has spent the past five months trying to persuade an out-of-state company to add another location in Kirksville. He declined to name the company but said it would generate about 100 high-paying jobs.

Tate said the funds generated from HB 1 now will contribute to the discussion process between K-REDI and the prospective business.

"Signing that legislation was very important to Kirksville — that's the bottom line here," he said.

The unemployment rate in  
**Please see JOBS, Page 7**

## Smoke ousts West Campus residents

Air conditioning glitch causes evacuation of Suites, some students go to other locales

BY JULIE WILLIAMS  
News Editor

A faulty fan belt left several students living in the West Campus Suites out in the cold Monday night.

A fan belt in an air conditioning vent inside the residence hall malfunctioned at about 9 p.m. Monday night, filling the hall with smoke and causing students to be evacuated.

Jimmy French, West Campus Suites hall director, said student advisers asked all students to leave the residence hall and that the evacuation went smoothly. He said students were told it would be awhile until they were allowed back into the building. Students had the option of going to other residence halls to wait, which French said he thinks some students might have done because he noticed some were in bathrobes and had wet hair. Students were allowed back in to West Campus at about 11 p.m.

"I e-mailed students the following day about a number of things," French said. "One was the fire alarm, explaining to the residents what happened. The residents found out within 24 hours."

Junior Rachel Breland said the evacuation was pretty calm and that at first she thought it was just a routine fire alarm.

"They had one planned this week anyway, so it kind of worked out," she said.

Breland said she couldn't smell the smoke or see anything coming from the building while waiting outside Monday night. She said she faintly smelled something inside the residence hall, but most other people she talked to didn't smell anything at all.

Senior Kelly Charrier said the evacuation wasn't so bad aside from the sounding alarm and flashing lights inside the residence hall.

"I waited for around 30 minutes, then went to the SUB," Charrier said.

John Mounsey, coordinator for facilities and process design for Residence Life, said there  
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### INSIDE | this issue

#### Tackling Alcohol

Columnists debate merits of beer-friendly Truman football games



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#### Quick Listen

For on-the-go news junkies, the Index now offers overviews by podcast



See www.trumanindex.com

#### Can't Beat It

New release by Ben Harper and band is all about quality



See Features, Page 12

#### WEATHER

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Showers
High 63 Low 38	High 65 Low 51	High 75 Low 61