

SUSPECT |

Police suspect Truman male in connection with the graffiti

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cannot release any information about the student while the investigation is ongoing. Shears said the comment left April 6 on the Kirksville Socialite blog, led by senior Casey Millburg, and a letter to the editor e-mailed to the Index helped the police track down the suspect, but they do not have enough evidence at this time to press charges. He said he doubts they will make a warrant for arrest before school is out, and he thinks there could be more people involved. Graffiti left on seven school buildings and the Kirksville armory April 4 was removed by physical plant workers and volunteers April 7.

HARASSMENT | After repeated break-ins and a note left in a student's car, DPS increases patrol in campus parking lots

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into, we did find something in the car that could lead us to the person," Shears said. "We will have some fingerprint evidence, hopefully." Shears said the victim reported a harassment charge April 28, after a note was found in her car. Shears said this was the first note that had been officially reported, but he said he thinks there might have been more. Shears said he thinks there is a definite connection between the three incidents. The note also was sent off for fingerprint analysis. "We're taking it serious[ly]," Shears said. "We have it classified as harassment, now bordering on the line of a stalking case," Shears said. "We're trying to collect information, trying to build a stalking case."

The student's car was parked in the BNB lot during each break-in. Shears said DPS is taking extra precautions and making more rounds to the residence hall parking lots. "We are doing some stepped-up patrols, extra patrols," Shears said. "We usually direct patrols, usually do the whole campus but make a special point to [do residence hall] parking lots especially." David Hoffman, assistant dean of student affairs, said the conduct code contains harassment and theft, but the punishment varies. He said the punishment could range anywhere from probation to expulsion, depending on the severity of the crimes. "We have had this happen in the past ... usually it is relationship-related," Hoffman

said. "Don't over-characterize us as a campus, but it's not like it doesn't exist." BNB Hall Director Stephanie Chrissotimos, whose Residence Life staff helps monitor the parking lot, said she was aware of the incident, and the staff is working to beef up security. "As far as security, [residence halls] do collaborate with DPS all the time within every situation on campus," Chrissotimos said. "As far as our staff goes, we do rounds inside the building, and they also check outside the building especially when they're locking doors and stuff, keep an eye out, [for] what's happening around the perimeter." As previous hall director of Dobson Hall, Chrissotimos said she doesn't think car break-ins have increased this year.



DOG | Fraternity mourns for dog as cause of death is still questioned.

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assumed Lucy had escaped the Loft, they searched for the dog and called the Humane Society, Animal Control and other local shelters. Missy Decker, manager at the Adair County Humane Society, said she received phone calls daily asking about the dog. "We actually had a couple of our volunteers saying, 'Have you seen this dog?'" Decker said. "One had a picture on her cell phone, so we were able to see what the picture looked like if she got loose or showed up from Animal Control."

animal suffocating itself. Hruska said members of the fraternity are mourning the loss of Lucy. "There's a lot of anger and upset feelings because Lucy was, for the most part, a fraternity dog, and almost everybody liked her," he said. "She was just a little puppy."

Hruska said Phi Sig is seeking legal action such as a civil case against Sig Ep on charges of gross negligence and recklessness. He said he thinks Lucy was either choked or strangled. "She was an intelligent dog, and there's no way she got her head stuck in a chip bag and suffocated," Hruska said. "She was a smart dog. She was only seven months old. She knew how to sit, how to speak, how to shake, she was learning how to roll over, and I've seen her try to reach in to chip bags like that before, and she can't get it on as tight as it was." Hruska said he doesn't think any Phi Sigs have provoked Sig Eps. "We recently put up a privacy fence, trying to quell any animosity between the two groups," he said. "I know on our side we're trying to stop [any rivalry]." Hruska said he has not had contact with any Sig Eps, but if anything, he would like them to apologize. Sig Ep President Lawrence On declined to comment. Aaron Granger, director of marketing communications at the National Sigma Phi Epsilon headquarters, said the incident was an accident. "The incident was just a tragic mistake with no [malicious] intent," he said. David Hoffman, assistant dean of student affairs, said neither party has filed any complaints with the Student Conduct Code. There were no statements made about the incident at Wednesday's Interfraternity Council meeting. Members of the Kirksville community also are feeling the effects of the incident. Kirksville resident Matt Pisani, who lives on E. Washington Street, said he noticed the glass door to his apartment building was vandalized Sunday morning. "I went to walk my friend's dog that I was dog-sitting for the weekend, and when I came back someone had written 'dog killer' on the glass door," he said. Pisani said he and three other residents live in the building, which is about three doors down from Farquhar's residence. He said he didn't see anything written on Farquhar's door. "I was just really confused over the whole thing," he said. "I didn't know if someone was [mad] at me for having a dog or that they were naming me as a dog killer, which I am not. I'm a huge lover of animals. I was really confused."



Senior Andrew McCall speaks at the forum held Monday. The panel discussed Ashcroft's career and the process behind choosing behind choosing a commencement speaker.

ASHCROFT | Faculty and students speak at forum discussing Ashcroft speaking at graduation and receiving an honorary degree.

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and our way of doing things," Guffey said. "It is going to take some conversation to do that." Guffey said this is rather new for the University. "We have a start," Guffey said. "I think there may well be some suggestions for changes, [but] where the suggestions go and how exactly we choose to proceed with those has not been part of the campus conversation yet." Sophomore Chris Steinauer, a member of the panel, said the students at the forum amazed him. "It really got the ball rolling on some other things to share our discontent," Steinauer said. "This has been completely run by a very organized group of dissatisfied students." Steinauer organized a petition against Ashcroft's honorary degree and graduation speech. The petition received more than 300 student and faculty signatures. Senior Andrew McCall, member of the panel, said he was encouraged by the outcome

of the forum. "I really feel like this man does not in any way represent the values we ostensibly hold," McCall said. "I think this University is above what is going on right now." McCall said their best plan would involve holding up newspapers instead of applauding during Ashcroft's speech and his reception of the degree. "We want to find a strategy that will demonstrate our disagreement while being respectful of the accomplishments of every one of those graduates and their families for putting them through a Truman degree," McCall said. Future plans for the process of selecting someone for an honorary degree were discussed at the forum. "There have been a lot of proposals concerning how the process should be changed in general," McCall said. "What the students have been most concerned about is addressing the immediate situation of a week

and a half from today." McCall said of the proposed ideas was to have both the Student and Faculty Senate vote on the proposed honorary degrees rather than just the Board of Governors. Graduating senior Nicole Sharp spoke during the discussion. "I am surprised about the overall lack of communication about this decision before it was made," Sharp said. "This isn't what our campus supports and goes against what I want to do with my life." Sharp said she was embarrassed about the speaker situation. "The values of the University and the things that are stressed in Residence Life, the classroom, the mission statement and recruiting are not being supported at the end of the year," Sharp said. "The congratulation to the seniors — the people that have gone through this the last four years and supported and maintained this ideal and developed this community that Truman students as a whole support so very much — are being sent off with such a contradictory figure." Graduating senior James Lang, former president of the College Democrats, said he thought the forum went well. "I understood the grievances

of everybody, and I shared those grievances," Lang said. "This was botched from the beginning — there were systematic errors in how this was put together. The unfortunate thing is that this is how it's going to be. There's no changing it." Lang said he is interested in what Ashcroft has to say. "I think we've done what we had to do," Lang said. "While there is a need for an appropriate response to protesting the symbol that Ashcroft is and his relationship to this University. It needs to be done with the thoughts and considerations of the entire class itself." Graduating senior Sally Hertz also spoke during the discussion. "I felt that the people who came represented a good diversity of views of why Ashcroft should not receive an honorary diploma and for many people also why he should not speak," Hertz said. "It would have been even more interesting had there been more pro-Ashcroft people there." Alumnus Steve Baldwin had strong feelings against awarding Ashcroft a degree. "For the last 28 years, I've been washing toilets and cleaning vomit, but nothing has disgusted me more than giving [Ashcroft] a degree," Baldwin said.

"We need to be looking down the road a little bit as far as what the seriousness of the problem is."
Jerry Nolte
State Representative

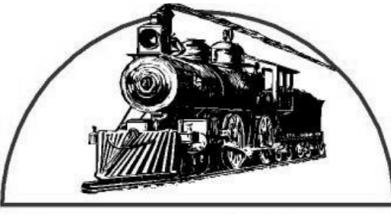
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