

New carrier promises better airport service

Air Choice One takes Air Midwest's place in flight

BY JOHN MOENSTER
Staff Reporter

On July 28, Air Choice One took over as the new air carrier for Kirksville Regional Airport.

In January, the previous carrier, Air Midwest, notified Steve Bell, Kirksville community service director that it wanted out its two-year contract with the airport.

"We believe that [Kirksville is] Air Choice One's number one priority right now," Bell said. "So far we have been very impressed, and the company has been

very consistent."

Bell said Kirksville currently is the only city that Air Choice One is providing commercial service to.

David Hall, Airport Director, said the new carrier now will sponsor two round-trips a day from Lambert-St. Louis International Airport to Kirksville Regional Airport. Previously, with Air Midwest, round trips went through Kansas City.

Hall said he expects service to be more dependable and reliable.

"We're anxious and excited for passengers to try the new carrier," he said.

Truman alumnus Kevin Kerr, said he has used Kirksville Regional Airport about three times dur-

ing the past few years to come back from Oregon for events such as Homecoming. Kerr said he is undecided about whether or not he'll be using the airport again this year.

"I'm probably going to try and meet up with some people and drive, but I may end up taking a plane anyway," Kerr said.

Kerr said Air Choice One's Web site only recently has been set up and that he has had some difficulty researching flights in the past month.

Hall said Air Choice One has signed a two-year contract with the U.S. Department of Transportation to provide service at Kirksville Regional Airport.

LIBRARY | Costs pending for damages to bottom floor

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during the middle of the night during the storm had a few options for book restoration, but because of the mass amount of floating reading material, they only hand dried a small number of books, Blansit said.

Freeze drying books, a restoration alternative that requires high-quality paper to be effective, proved too expensive, he said.

"We had to work quickly, so we decided to not attempt that with any of them," Blansit said. "Basically from the time something like that happens, anything you do like that for restoration has to be done in a 48-hour period or the mold will grow too much."

The lost books included titles from different sections of the entire collection. Blansit said the library's Mobius system will help make up for the books it's lacking.

A.T. Still is working to make the bottom floor accessible to students and faculty, but Blansit predicts it will take awhile to pick up the pieces. The carpet, electrical and network wiring and the wooden paneling on the bottom shelves suffered significant damage, he said.

The University has not received a statement from the insurance company as to how much it will cost to make repairs, said Adrian Anast, vice president of communications and marketing. ATSU President Jack Magruder said he estimates the cost in damages to reach \$1 million.

"It has a bad impact, but we got the library open and running again, which is good," he said. "But we're going to evaluate what's needed, and what's available, and we'll accommodate that for students and faculty."

INQUEST | Still no charges for Gleason after deliberation

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or manslaughter, but death by felony doesn't coincide with a proper sentence.

Kim Lebaron, executive director of Victim Support Services in Adair County, was present during the inquest and said the coroner's inquest, in this case, comes with layers of complications, particularly because it hasn't been applied in such a long time.

"I believe it's because the coroner's inquest is an antiquated system," she said. "What's allowable in the coroner's inquest has to go along with what our current day laws are."

Adair County Prosecuting Attorney Mark Williams

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Kim Lebaron
Executive Director of Victim Support Services in Adair County

stated in an Aug. 12 press release that, in the state of Missouri, paperwork must be filed "that gives notice to the defendant of the charges against them" to properly begin a criminal case. This paperwork was not filed, according to the release.

The case dates back to May, when Gleason made a 911 call and told the dispatcher she had shot someone in her home and that she didn't know if he was alive or dead. Gleason and Johnson had a history of domestic violence that led Gleason to file a restraining order

against Rogelio Johnson, said deputy fire chief Ray Jagger, who testified during the inquest.

This case is the first time that the Castle Doctrine, which states that a homeowner has the right to kill anyone who illegally enters his or her home, has been applied in Missouri. It is unclear as to whether the jurors fully understood the implications of the doctrine, Jagger said.

According to Sgt. Tom Rohm of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Gleason's job with the sheriff's department prompted the highway patrol to perform the investigation at the scene and present evidence during the inquest.

The coroner said that to further avoid bias, he sought private counsel from St. Louis lawyer Michael Flynn. Noe said a coroner's inquest has no boundaries that keep him from seeking advice. The prosecuting attorney presents the evidence during the inquest in a way that is unbiased and purely factual. Noe said he thinks Williams had a conflict of interest in the case.

A concession between Noe and Williams allowed an additional lawyer to sit in on the trial and prompt Williams to ask the witnesses questions that he thought

were necessary.

Emily Gleason, daughter of the defendant and Adair County deputy, said that even with the initial attempts to avoid bias in the case, a decision for how to proceed took three months. She said she thinks the prosecuting attorney did not have a conflict of interest.

"A lot of the public thinks otherwise, but [Jackie] and the prosecuting attorney never worked together," she said. "He never defended her on anything, and they never did any court cases together."

She added that a budget of \$20,000 in county taxes was allowed for hiring the attorney.

Williams stated in an Aug. 15 press release that the coroner wanted the inquest to be "a fair, complete and impartial process" but that on Aug. 14, he received "credible information that one of the jurors predetermined the case." Later that afternoon, Noe's attorney sent a press release that addressed Williams' claim.

In the Aug. 12 press release, Williams stated that he "promptly dismissed the case in a fashion that allows for charges to be filed at a later date."

"It is my opinion that Adair County potentially had civil liability exposure if Ms. Gleason were to be arrested on an invalid warrant," Williams said in the release.

Williams could not be reached for comment.

Co-Op Revamped



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index

Renovations to the Bike Co-Op workshop are almost in place for the new year. Students can bring their bikes to the Co-Op to make repairs or trade parts.

FIELD | Team looks at new venues in case field is not completed in time

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time. He said the school is looking at possible neutral sites near Kirksville.

With the floor in Pershing Arena damaged beyond repair, the volleyball team found a new home with the Kirksville school district. Wollmering said that using the high school's field isn't a likely option for the football team. For one thing, the high school and colleges have different size goal posts. Wollmering said the biggest deterrent to playing at KHS is that he doesn't want Truman responsible for tearing up the field.

"We could tear up their field for the rest of the year," he said. "... One bad game in the mud, you know what one bad game in the mud can do [to a grass field]."

A new draining system needs to be finished before the field can even begin to resemble an actual playing surface. Once all the new drain pipes are in place, Wollmering said

a rock base needs to be put down before the actual Astro-Turf Gameday Grass 3D can be installed.

Drainage pipes from Florence St. used to run directly under the track and through the middle of the game field. With the renovations, the draining system was rerouted to go under the visitingsidelines, on the north side, so as to not impact the field. Wollmering said the new drainage system is supposed to last for 100 years.

"We've had this old storm draining system under our field for however many years that probably should have been replaced a long time ago," he said.

The city of Kirksville also installed a new sewage pipe un-

der the field. City Planner John Buckwalter said the city completed its work on time and is not responsible for the field not being ready.

Despite the delays, Wells said the budget has not changed.

The University's Board of Governors approved about \$1.2 million dollars to fund the project, and Wells said that money is locked in place via a signed contract.

Wollmering said that at this point he still would like to see the Bulldogs start their 101st football season on a brand new field but he knows it's not up to him if the field gets done or not.

"I've driven by every day for the last 90 days hoping that it would be done," Wollmering said. "At this point, we can't really control it."

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Jerry Wollmering
Director of Athletics

FLOOD | Damaged buildings will prove expensive for University

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are covered by insurance and that he does not expect athletic fee money to be used for repairs.

Across the street in Magruder Hall, electric controls in a mechanical room will need to be replaced, Physical Plant director Karl Schneider said. He said the estimated cost is about \$10,000. The damaged controls operate pumps and valves in the mechanical room, he said.

Pipe insulation in the steam tunnel underneath the building also must be replaced after being ruined by floodwater, and Schneider said the estimated cost for that replacement is about \$11,000.

Added to costs in Magruder is equipment in a plant physiology research lab used by John Ma, assistant professor of biology.

"I have two balances that stopped working after the

flood," Ma said.

The balances are not new, but Ma said he thinks it will cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000 to replace them.

Biology Department Chair John Gerring said another faculty member reported damage to their computer keyboard, and some reptile holding cages were harmed by water also.

Gerring said no classrooms or labs have been shut down as a result of the water.

Ophelia Parrish suffered the most minor damages of all buildings. Schneider said some rainwater caused a section of drywall to get wet but that it dried out on its own and will not need to be replaced. He said a few ceiling tiles in a room next to the printmaking studio on the second floor will require replacement but that the tile is not very expensive

and the work will be done by Truman employees rather than being hired out.

"It's probably just a matter of less than \$100," Schneider said.

Even though Franklin Street between Normal and LaHarpe Streets — which covers a large chunk of campus — was reported as being one of the hardest hit areas, Schneider said there was not any significant damage done to the grounds. He said a few picnic tables at Red Barn Park were washed down the creek and have not yet been retrieved, but this is nothing of significant cost.

Also among the damages to the grounds is a drive that leads to the University Farm that was partially washed out. Schneider said a cost estimate has not come in for that damage.

Additional reporting by Blake Toppmeyer.



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