

**SWIM UNIT**

Brothers team up for success in the pool

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Kirkville, Mo. 63501

# Storm troopers

Students make united effort to petition for Gov. Jay Nixon's budget proposal



Amy Gleaves/Index

Junior JoEllen Flanagan encourages students Tuesday to write letters to their legislators. Student Senate is hosting a letter writing campaign so that students can voice their opinion about why Nixon's budget proposal would benefit their educational experience.

**When:** Wednesday Feb. 25  
**Where:** Jefferson City, Mo.  
**Why:** To campaign for Nixon's level funding

BY KELLY KIESEL  
 Staff Reporter

A storm is brewing at the state capital. Student Senate President senior Lizz Esfeld and other Senate members are working on a campaign called "Storm the Capital," in which students travel to Jefferson City to lobby in support of Gov. Jay Nixon's higher education budget recommendation. "It is an experience for students to see their legislators at work, and also has the dual purpose of legislators being able to see Truman students and what they represent," Esfeld said.

Starting this Saturday, Feb. 7, one or two lobbyists from Jefferson City, including State Rep. Rebecca McClanahan, D-Kirkville, will host lobby meetings and will train students to lobby effectively. "It will be the beginning of what is going to be a long-term campaign on Truman's behalf from students," Esfeld said. The session will be recorded to teach students who couldn't be present at the first session. Other training dates are Feb. 16 and 23, leading up to "Storm the Capital" Wednesday Feb. 25. "The idea from our standpoint is to put a face to a name," Esfeld said. "Show what we are now as Truman students and present our



Amy Gleaves/Index

case in the form of people." Between 25 and 30 students attend the event each year. Esfeld said she hopes to see at least 100 students attend this year. Senate has sponsored practices for the campaign in past years, and it will be even more critical for students to show up for fiscal year 2010, she said. "With the budget situation, it really makes it important that we

# Pershing upgrade halted by governor



BY MARGARET HOOPER  
 Assistant News Editor

Plans to renovate Pershing Building were put on hold last week when Missouri public colleges and universities received a letter stating that MOHELA did not have enough money to pay for all the university projects that are expecting funding. Sam Minner, dean of the school of health sciences and education, said construction projects at universities across the state were reevaluated. Some projects were already finished or approved to continue and others were placed under review or canceled altogether. The Pershing Building project is under review, but Minner said the time frame of the review was unspecified and the state will not reimburse the University for any work done on the project after the letter was received. "Based upon the information presently available, continued funding for this project may not be forthcoming," Minner said, reading from the Jan. 27 letter. The letter came just as plans for the renovations were being finalized. Minner said the University's last meeting between faculty and the architectural firm before construction began was canceled because of the announcement. "We were down to the level of soliciting faculty and staff and student input on finishes, paint, flooring, what color the wood should be — I mean, that level — so all of the other large decisions have been made," Minner said. "We were, I would say, 99 percent done with the planning." Although no time frame for the evaluation was given, Minner said he does not expect to hear anything more until after Congress decides the fate of President Obama's stimulus package. He said even if the legislation passes, predicting how much of that money might funnel through the state to Truman is a guessing game. "If it does pass at whatever level, it's impossible to know how much of that money will be coming to this state and it's impossible to know how the decisions are going to be made about who's going to get whatever flow-through money we receive," Minner said. Despite the setbacks and uncertainties, Minner said he thinks Nixon understands

# Library could extend to 24 hours, change floor plans

Proposals to improve some functions of the library will be presented to Interim President

BY BLAISE HART-SCHMIDT  
 Staff Reporter

Discussions are in progress to make Pickler Memorial Library more convenient 24 hours a day. Students and faculty are discussing possible changes to Pickler Memorial Library's layout, as well as a proposal to keep the library open at all times. Junior Tom Hogan, co-chair of the Student Technology Improvement Committee, said the inspiration for these changes came from a visit to Kansas State University. "One of the really slick things that we saw at K-State [was that] they have a 24-hour library — the whole building is open all of the time," Hogan said. Hogan said that in addition to extending library hours, the layout might be modified by

moving the computer labs from the third floor to the first floor and moving the bound periodicals upstairs or to storage facilities in Columbia. "What do a lot of people go to the library for? Just to print something off," Hogan said. "They have to run all the way up to the third floor, run to get to the printer, run all the way down, and that's not very practical. Part of a plan like this would put those resources the people use the most in a very central and easy to access location." Richard Coughlin, dean of libraries and museums, said he wants to make the library more convenient for students. "We're thinking about consolidating some of the service desks so that we could give better service for things like reference, computing and printing," Coughlin said. Adding a café to Pickler might also be a possibility, Coughlin said. "Last fall we made a proposal for funding for the Parents Council to put a café in the copiers section and in ... the browsing section," Coughlin said. "It wasn't approved for funding, and we're thinking of resubmitting it."




Krista Goodman/Index

Junior John Messina and junior Gerard Erker work on a project on the library computers Tuesday night. Erker pulled an all-nighter the previous night but couldn't stay in the library. He needed a computer because his crashed, he said.

Coughlin said the ideas are only discussions and there is no set timeline or budget for the proposed changes. Senior Cody Sumter, co-chair of STIC, said the committee is working on a report due to Interim University President Darrell Krueger Feb. 9 that includes its opinions about what the

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**No tax for Kirkville**



Columnist Andrew Kindiger says residents cannot handle new tax

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**Delivery decline**



The future of the mail carrying system remains unclear

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**All eyes on Andrew Kling**



Kling works to bring an exiled Russian pop star to Truman

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**WEATHER**

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mostly Sunny High 48 Low 31	Partly Cloudy High 52 Low 45	Partly Cloudy High 56 Low 30