

HOME LOSS

Women commit 20 turnovers in loss to Mo. West

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Celebrating 100 years as the University's student-produced newspaper



HANDS ON LANGUAGE

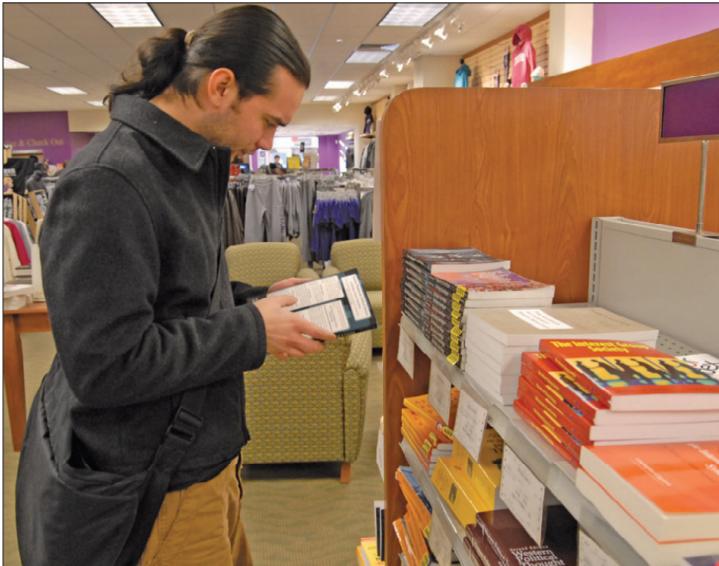
A bilingual option for Truman students

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Thursday, January 15, 2009

www.trumanindex.com

Kirkville, Mo. 63501



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index
Senior Paul Blesz visited the University Bookstore Tuesday afternoon to pick out books for his Political Science class, Political Parties. Blesz is a Political Science and Philosophy Major.

University committee to examine book costs

BY JOHN MOENSTER
Assistant News Editor

Every student's to-do list for this week included an expensive item: buying textbooks.

In an e-mail sent to the student body Tuesday concerning pending budget cuts, Interim President Darrell Krueger stated a task force has been formed to investigate ways to reduce the cost of textbooks.

Junior Lizz Esfeld, Student Senate president, said she noticed the outrageous costs associated with textbooks while serving as academic affairs chair last year. Esfeld said she dislikes the fact that students sometimes

have to pay more than \$500 for books.

"You can go online and find deals sometimes," Esfeld said. "But there really aren't many alternatives for textbooks. ... Students shouldn't have to put up with this."

Esfeld said that in the past, Student Senate tried to combat the problem by hosting textbook swaps and endorsing textbook transparency legislation that requires professors to know and inform students of how much the textbooks for their courses will cost. Although the issue isn't new, she said she thinks it recently has gained leverage with the administration because of the fore-

casted budget cuts. Esfeld said she heard different ideas about lessening the cost of books such as renting or downloading textbooks.

According to an article in The Kansas City Star, about 4,000 of Northwest Missouri State University's 6,500 students will be using electronic textbooks this semester. It is estimated that the campus could save an estimated \$400,000 a year. A pilot program took place in the fall where a few classes were issued Sony eReaders, a device about the size of a paperback book that is able to download and store multiple books.

Northwest Missouri State
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Budget crisis

Students react to proposed fee increase

BY MARGARET HOOPER
Assistant News Editor

An e-mail from University President Darrell Krueger Tuesday afternoon confirmed the rumors students have been hearing: The state of Missouri will be making large cuts into higher education appropriations, and students will be asked to make up the difference.

Junior Elise Bush said that right now she has a full-tuition scholarship and works to pay her living expenses. She said she understands why the school needs to raise more money, but worries about the extra expense.

"I didn't even want to open the e-mail, because I didn't want to know," Bush said. "At this point, I can't imagine students voting for it."

Bush said she wants to hear more about the increase before deciding how she will vote.

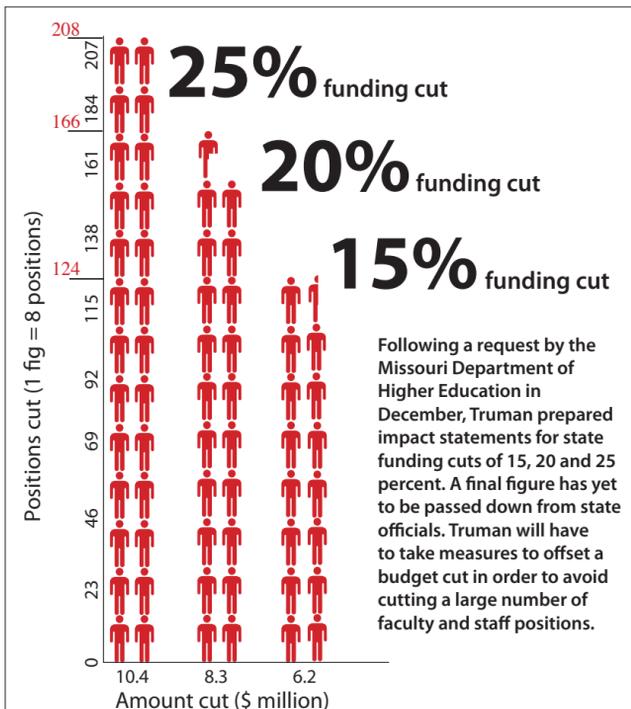
Freshman Alex Kaizer said he expected the increase. Without additional funding Truman would be forced to cut faculty and possibly even majors, he said.

"Truman wouldn't be Truman and I'd have to go back to Iowa," Kaizer said. "I plan on voting for [the increase] because I don't see how we can fund Truman without it."

Cody Sumter, student representative to the Board of Governors, said that at the end of last semester no one was anticipating such large reductions in funding.

"As a worst case scenario, we were expecting a cut of around five percent,"

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Possible Alternatives

Fee	Tuition Increase of 15%
\$33 per semester hour -Equates to \$495/15 hrs -Generates approx. \$5.5 mil.	MO residents > \$485/sem Non-resident > \$848/sem -Generates approx. \$3.5 mil. after scholarship/ discount allowances

Source: budgetinfo.truman.edu, Design by Antionette Bedessie/ Index

Masten seeks new trial

BY JULIE WILLIAMS
Editor in Chief

The discovery of extended surveillance footage might mean a new trial for former Kirkville mayor Debbie Masten.

Masten was convicted in May 2007 of setting fire to her bar, Too Tall's Two Eatery and Spirits, Jan. 1, 2005. Aaron Smith, the Columbia-based attorney now representing Masten, filed a motion for a new trial in U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri, Jan. 6 that is based on newly discovered evidence and possible violations by law enforcement officials. Prior to Smith's motion, Masten appealed her case in August 2007, but the appeal was unsuccessful.

In the motion, Smith argues that the government suppressed the original copy of a video surveillance tape obtained from the Adair County Detention Center showing activity around Too Tall's the night of the fire. Smith also wrote that the original tape contains additional exculpatory evidence not included in the copy of that tape provided by the government, more specifically images of "another unidentified individual at the scene who could have started the fire."

"Both cameras depict a 'ghost-like' image walking westbound on Missouri Street towards the front entrance



Debbie Masten

Lopez receives 11 months

El Vaquero owner sentenced in U.S. District Court following plea agreement signed in October

BY JULIE WILLIAMS
Editor in Chief

A former Kirkville restaurant owner received an 11-month prison sentence last week for Social Security fraud after entering a guilty plea in Oct. 2008.

Neftali Lopez, former manager and co-owner of El Vaquero Mexican restaurant, faced 42 counts of conspiracy to defraud the United States, aggravated identity theft, Social Security fraud, harboring, false attestation and false statement for hiring individuals that he knew to have entered the U.S. without authorization, according to a press release issued by the U.S. Attorney's office for the Eastern District of Missouri.

"Mr. Lopez was involved in a conspiracy to use fraudulent Social Security numbers for the employment of undocumented workers at the El Vaquero restaurant," U.S. Attorney Catherine Hanaway stated in the release.

Lopez accepted a plea agreement Oct. 8 and entered

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University launches new fundraising program

University Foundation begins raising money to offset possible student fee

BY MARGARET HOOPER
Assistant News Editor

Worried that the proposed fee increase of \$33 per credit hour could be detrimental to some students who are already struggling to pay for school, the Truman State University Foundation has begun a fundraising effort called Investing in Students.

The initiative is designed to offer \$1,000 to support Truman's neediest students. To date, the initiative has raised \$100,000 — enough to pay 100 students' fees, if the current measure passes.

University President Darrell Krueger and his wife, Nancy, launched the initiative with a gift of \$30,000. Krueger said that although he believes the fee is necessary to preserve Truman's quality of education, he acknowledged that some students would not be able to acquire an additional \$1,000 to put toward school expenses. He said he would like to see faculty and staff



donate to the fund as a way to demonstrate their support for students.

"I'm hoping that we can get 100 percent of our faculty and staff to contribute," Krueger said.

Regina Morin, associate vice president
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Art vs. Porn

Columnist Whitney Fay thinks nude and naked are different things.



See Other Voices, Page 5

Lead Law

New regulations have local thrift store owners confused



See News, Page 6

"La Chica Rubia"

Columnist Kelly Schute warily travels beyond the border.



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WEATHER

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
High 5 Low 0	High 24 Low 19	High 33 Low 25