Stress-relief aids math education

BY CANANDRA McCARTY
Staff Reporter

The idea behind the new math program, called Stress-relief aids math education, is to provide students with a relaxed and non-threatening atmosphere in which they can study mathematics. The program was designed to help students who may be anxious or intimidated by math classes. It involves the use of calming techniques and materials to help reduce math anxiety. However, the success of the program may vary among students, as some may find it helpful while others may not. The program is currently being implemented at Truman State University.

Non-traditional students embrace education

BY MICHELLE MARTIN
Staff Reporter

Coming back to college at age 42 isn't an easy feat for many, but Susan Presley says she's managed to do it.

“I think I really got an advantage being in a class at Truman,” Presley said. “I am so glad I came back,” Presley said. “I have all the advantages of being in a class where the students are respectful that way because of my age.”

However, the transition wasn’t always easy. “When my mother went back to school at 42, it was a lot different for her than it’s been for me,” she said. “… You have your priorities changed, your therapists just don’t have,” Brombaugh said. “There’s a lot more responsibility with math is more important than getting a good grade.”

Presley, 47, who dropped out of school after her sophomore year, is now leasing for the Society of Professional Journalists. She previously attended the University in the early 1980s.

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Although Presley is about twice the age of most students at Truman, she has found that being older has helped her in the transition. “Yeah, I definitely have trouble taking tests,” Jones said. “I understand the stuff, but when it’s just in front of me, I have to know what to do at a time.”

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However, interacting primarily with the Truman younger generation can be quite a different experience. “I have a problem with math, and that’s why I’m here,” Jones said. “I think I take things a lot more seriously now than when I was 18,” she said. “… You tend to care more about the stuff you do.”

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