

INDEX EDITORIAL

4

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OUR VIEW

Presidential search requires smart choices

As journalists, we are always searching for something, whether it is a lead, a source or the facts. Since we are so practiced at searching, we'd be remiss not to put in our two cents for the most important search of the year here at Truman: The search for our next president.

The search continues this fall for Truman's next president (see story, Page 1) who will replace Interim President Darrell Krueger, and we don't think it is enough to find someone simply with a college degree, administrative experience and all the right credentials. Truman isn't like other schools. We're special. We need a special president.

First, we need a president with the visibility of Interim President Krueger. From attending football games to eating lunch with students in Centennial Hall, Krueger can be seen around campus, actually interacting with students. Because our school is small, we need a president who comes out of the office to mingle, because students are the reason for the job. Plus, interacting with students can only garner goodwill and popularity for our future president.

Our future president should also have Krueger's availability. His openness toward students shows us that it's important to him to keep students informed of the goings on of his office. We need a president who responds to student e-mails, invites students to come to the office and talk and is open to talking with University's media outlets.

We want our president to understand all levels of the

University hierarchy, which means our selection would be someone who not only has been an administrator, but a professor as well. This experience can only help the president understand and work toward meeting the needs of everyone, including students, professors and administrators.

We also need a president who has experience in a Trumanesque atmosphere. We want a candidate who has spent years working as an administrator at a small school and a small town. Someone who understands the pressure the University puts on students academically and the pressure that students put on themselves. Someone who comes not from a large school where it is impossible to build personal relationships with students, but from a small school where students and administrators know and appreciate each other.

Our new president must also be able to help the University cope with the financial woes of our time. Because Truman is a public school, we are at the mercy of the state government, and funding always will be difficult. Donations are always helpful for projects, and the president must be able to hob-knob with Truman's finest alumni for donations.

We hope that our future president, whoever he or she might be, will possess many, if not all, of the qualities we support. The University president is the leader of our institution. Let us hope the Board of Governors selects a leader as highly regarded as this University.

Let the search begin.

CORRECTIONS

To submit corrections or to contact the editor, please e-mail index@truman.edu, call us at 660-785-4449, or send a letter to Index, 1200 Barnett Hall, Truman State University, Kirksville, Mo. 63501.

CARTOON

By Alex Boles



Letters to the Editor

Turf fiasco demands investigation

I have been reading with great interest your articles about the turf installation at the stadium. In fact, I was at your facility back in May and noticed that the project still wasn't completed.

As a person who has worked in the synthetic turf industry, I can tell you that this type of "disaster" rarely happens, but when it does, a little thing called "liquidated damages" becomes key.

In this case, General Sports Venue missed their completion deadline by a ridiculous amount of time, and worse, it doesn't seem like there is any news of how much the University assessed in the way of damages. During my visit to the field, I could still see evidence of the subgrade not being corrected, areas where there was no rubber infill at all, and worse, in approximately two dozen areas from one end to the other, I checked the depth of the rubber infill, and I couldn't find one measurement that showed more than one inch of rubber in place. That might not seem like a big deal to the average person, but turf is supposed to have a minimum of two inches of rubber in it just to be safe, according to the folks at GSV.

Why isn't someone investigating this problem? The methods used to determine hardness of a playing surface should be incorporated into an investigation of this installation and the installers should be held accountable for their sloppy work.

Mike Jones

Housing ordinance merits more debate

With reference to the dissenting letter from mathematician Garth and Geographer Smith in disagreement with the healthier number of anti-gay housing discrimination ordinance, the following observations need to be placed on the counter-record to their twosome assumption of what they label a non-individualist 'morality', communally on their part, as if superiorly to the rest of us on this planet.

One, all over the world, not just Kirksville, local councils are healthily placing on the record their better version of community progress than these two gents appeal dubiously to what they call centuries old sanction. Here, for example, in my homeland Sussex where I am on working research break, even the Conservative party in control of Brighton council have upheld we Labourites predecessors' anti-homophobia insistence in housing policy, by insistence all homeless officers get training in gay counseling stances on the streets.

Secondly, and finally, both academics live in a world of the blind

conceptually, when they assert that we who support the ordinance uphold only a selfish gratification coarseness. I ask them: if a landlord chooses, voluntarily, to go 'public morality' by letting their properties for individual gain, isn't that profit and gratification? And should not, therefore, the local community council feel entitled to stop them being bigoted in denying fair roof over a gay, bi, female or black student under greater cost necessity than per se richer than? So stop the preachy airs in the name only of age-old prejudice, please you two gents. We have just as much moral right on our community anti-discrimination side as you do. I write as the brother of a gay man who would be homeless by your non-protective anti-ordinance doctrine if it was backwards returned to by rural communities like Kirksville.

Lary Iles, Kirksville resident

Tennis player deserves recognition

I am very disappointed that there was not a story before school ended over a women's tennis player that received a unanimous vote to the all-MIAA team.

Kelsey Kuykendall was unanimously selected at No. 6 and had a record of 26-4. The amount of coverage on her was minimal all year, she by far had the best season on the team and was repeatedly overlooked because she played No. 6 singles. Regardless of where she played she is an underclassmen that received all-MIAA honors and had an amazing record. She was undefeated in conference.

I am writing in the hopes that she will be given the recognition she deserves.

Camden Stockton, student

Editor in chief welcomes new students

Welcome to the beginning of the greatest four years of your life. And welcome to the Index.

I'm Blake Toppmeyer, the Editor in Chief of the Index. The Index is the University's entirely student-produced weekly newspaper. Normally, we publish on Thursdays of every week. This week we bumped up our publication to Saturday with the intention of providing freshmen with a freshmen-oriented issue.

Every week, you can find our publication at news bins throughout campus. (Don't worry, we won't deliver the paper to your door every week. That was a one-time deal). We also distribute our newspaper at several local businesses, or you can read us online at www.trumanindex.com.

If you're a freshman reading this column right now, I'm impressed. I

remember my Truman Week being filled with house activities and movie nights. And I'm sure you all have a full slate of exciting plans — and probably a little school work — scheduled for the next few days.

But while I'm impressed, I can't say I'm too surprised if you're a freshman reading this. Truman students traditionally have a thirst to be in the know.

That's where we, the Index, can help you. As you can probably tell already, keeping Truman students, faculty and administration as well as the Kirksville community informed on the happenings on campus and in town is very important to our staff.

We understand that most students don't have the time to attend every Board of Governors meeting or every Student Senate meeting. And not every student has the opportunity to interview the University's president or director of athletics on a regular basis.

But don't feel like you have to attend every campus meeting or consistently talk with the campus brass to stay informed. We'll try to help you out in that area.

I'll make you a deal. If you consistently pick up the Index on Thursdays throughout the year, we'll make every effort to give you the scoop on the week's news.

I understand, however, that not all Truman students are news junkies. That's OK because the Index provides you with much more than hard news. If you're a sports fan, flip to our third section. As a former Index sports editor, I guarantee you won't find more in-depth coverage of Truman athletics anywhere across the country.

Or maybe you like those "feel-good" stories or opinion columns. We've got you covered there too, in our TruLife and Opinions sections.

Regardless of what you like, the Index will try to bring it to you every Thursday.

But for us to truly know what stories interest you, we could use your help with a little feedback. Always feel free to e-mail us story ideas at indextips@gmail.com or you can e-mail me directly at bwt259@truman.edu.

And don't hesitate to write us a letter to the editor. See something in our publication that you disagree with? Let us know about it. Read a story that brightened your day? We never turn down a nice thank-you letter. You can either make letter submissions on our Web site or drop them off in our office at Barnett Hall 1200.

Thanks for lending us some time out of your Truman Week, and here's to hoping you spend a little time snuggled up in bed with the Index each week or poring over our newsprint at lunch every Thursday.

Blake Toppmeyer, Editor in Chief

INDEX

Serving the University community since 1909

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Letters Policy

The Index welcomes letters to the editor from the University community. Letters to the editor are due by noon the Monday before publication and become property of the Index. Submissions are subject to editing, must contain a well-developed theme and cannot exceed 500 words except at the discretion of the Editorial Board. All letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, signed by at least one individual and include a phone number for verification. The Index does not publish anonymous letters to the editor. Letters to the editor also may be submitted by e-mail at index@truman.edu or on our Web site at www.trumanindex.com. Include the words "letter to the editor" in the subject line of the e-mail. No individual may submit more than one letter a week.

Editorial Policy

The Index is published Thursdays during the school year by students at Truman State University, Kirksville, MO 63501. The first copy is free, and additional copies cost 50 cents each. The production offices are located in Barnett Hall. We can be reached by phone at 660-785-4449. The Index is a designated public forum, and content of the Index is the responsibility of the Index staff. The editor in chief consults with the staff and adviser but ultimately is responsible for all decisions. Opinions of Index columnists are not necessarily representative of the opinions of the staff or the newspaper. Our View editorials represent the view of the Editorial Board through a majority vote. The Editorial Board consists of the editor in chief, managing editor, news editor, copy chief and opinions editor. The Index reserves the right to edit submitted material because of space limitations, repetitive subject matter, libelous content or any other reason the editor in chief deems appropriate. Submitted material includes advertisements and letters to the editor.

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