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Truman State University 101 years of excellence

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The University's student-produced newspaper

Kirksville MO, 63501

Paino prepares for presidential forum

BY ELIZABETH KOCH Staff Reporter

Provost Troy Paino is the sole finalist in Truman's presidential search, but the search is not officially over yet.

There was an additional finalist but that finalist decampus for an interview.

Paino said he is qualified

man and has a wide variety

1:30 p.m. for students and 3:30 p.m. for staff, faculty Kirksville residents Jan. 21 in Violette Hall 1001. At the forums, Paino

skimming the decade

president and for Truman's future. He will also discuss the experience he's had that makes him well-suited

Paino said he's looking

The presidential selection committee received 66 applications for the position. After narrowing the list to five finalists, the committee invited two finalists for an on-campus visit. Paino accepted the

No other applicant was





Debbie Masten

Masten loses appeal for new trial

BY BLAISE HART-SCHMIDT **News Editor**

After losing an appeal in federal court on Monday, former Kirksville mayor Debbie Masten will remain in jail.

Masten's attorney Aaron Smith had filed a motion for a new trial, but Federal Judge Carol Jackson denied the motion. Masten was not present at the hearing.

When Smith filed the motion for a new trial in November, he said the government had suppressed the original surveillance video of Masten leaving the bar, which included exculpatory evidence.

Smith declined to comment after Jackson's Monday ruling.

Masten was convicted of arson in 2007 for intentionally setting fire to the bar and restaurant she owned, Too Talls Two Eatery and Spirits, on Jan. 1 2005. She was sentenced to 63 months in federal prison, a \$2,000 fine and two years supervised probation.

Masten is at a women's prison in Pekin, Ill., and is scheduled to be released in April 2012.

State drops one charge for Rodgerson

BY JESSICA RAPP Managing Editor

City councilmember and Southside Baptist Church pastor Aaron Rodgerson celebrated a dismissal of one of two charges relating to the case of Nathaniel and Elisabeth Burns' child.

The state dropped the class A misdemeanor last Friday, clearing Rodgerson from accusations that he failed to report abuse or neglect of the child as a mandated

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"I was obviously thrilled to become a finalist and very honored to be in this position," Paino said. "The fact that I was the only finalist was surprising."

for the position because

clined the offer to come to he's passionate about Truof past experience.

Forums will take place will discuss his plans as for the position.

forward to the forums to discuss issues for the first time.

selected for an on-campus Please see PAINO, page 7



Provost Troy Paino



BY BLAKE TOPPMEYER Editor in Chief

Truman

Plane crashes outside Kirksville (Oct. 19, 2004)

for Kirksville and

Thirteen people lost their lives when a plane crashed four miles southwest of Kirksville. The flight, American Connection 5966, was a commuter plane en route from St. Louis to Kirksville Regional Airport. Two passengers survived the

Several of the victims were affiliated with A.T. Still University and were flying into Kirksville to attend an upcoming workshop.

The National Transportation Safety Board, which investigates plane crashes, determined pilot error — including unprofessional behavior and fatigue — to be the cause of the crash, according to the NTSB's accident report.

Former Kirksville mayor convicted of arson (May 17, 2007)

Former Kirksville Mayor Debbie Masten was convicted of arson for setting fire to the bar she owned, Too Tall's Two Eatery and Spirits. Prosecutors argued that Masten set fire to the bar on Jan. 1, 2005, because it was operating at a loss.

Masten received a 63-month sentence. She later appealed the decision, but the ruling was upheld. Masten's attorney Aaron Smith filed a motion in November seeking a new trial, but that motion was denied earlier this week.

Masten, who was Truman's volleyball head coach from 1985-96, continues to serve out her sentence at a women's facility in Pekin, Ill. She is scheduled to be released in April 2012.



Barbara Dixon announced her resignation in September 2008 after serving as Truman's 14th president. Dixon's resignation ranks third on the Index's top 10 stories of the decade list.

Dixon resigns (Sept. 19, 2008)

Barbara Dixon shocked the University community when she announced her resignation in September 2008. She stepped down from her post a month later and was replaced by Interim President Darrell Krueger. Dixon became Truman's 14th president in 2003, replacing Jack Magruder.

The specific reasoning for Dixon's resignation has never been determined. Dixon said only that she and the Board of Governors came "to the conclusion that we need to

agree to disagree." The day after she stepped down as president, Dixon began a yearlong stint as consultant to the Board.

Dixon told the Index in November that the Board assigned her only one task during her 12 months as consultant — she completed a budget report advising the University on how it could save money. She received \$215,050 for her consultant work.

Carbon monoxide kills seven local residents (Dec. 17,

Carbon monoxide claimed the lives of seven Kirksville residents, including two children, after a van was left running in a garage connected to the home housing the seven victims.

A police investigation of the incident found no foul play or criminal wrongdoing and that the van was responsible for producing the toxic gas.

In response to the deaths, the Kirksville City Council passed an ordinance in January 2007 that requires carbon monoxide detectors in Kirksville residences with heat sources that burn fossil fuel or have an attached vehicle garage. The ordinance went into effect in September 2007.

City passes smoking ban (April 3, 2007)

The setting of Kirksville dining and nightlife changed when local voters supported a smoking ban that made bars and restaurants smoke free. The smoking ban passed by a

margin of almost 700 votes. Several restaurant owners expressed their displeasure with the vote, saying the smoking ban would hurt business.

City Council approves sale of land in Hazel Creek watershed (Dec. 20, 2004)

In a controversial decision, the Kirksville City Council voted 3-2 to sell 426 acres of land in the Hazel Creek Lake watershed for \$400,000.

Hazel Creek Lake is a main source of

city drinking water.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources did not support the council's decision, and the land sale caused many local residents to become concerned with the quality of their drinking water. A month after the council voted to sell the land, about 500 Kirksville residents gathered at a meeting urging the council to reconsider the sale. The council did not waver on its decision.

Tornado devastates city (May 13, 2009)

Less than a week after Truman students completed their finals last spring, a tornado rolled through Kirksville that brought major damage to the city's north end.

Two Adair County residents were killed in the storm, and there was another fatality in neighboring Sullivan County. The tornado also caused damage to businesses such as Jim Robertson's car dealership and many houses in Lakeside Estates.

The National Weather Service estimated the tornado's winds to be between 80 and 110 mph. Truman's campus endured little damage from the tornado.

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Sigma Tau Gamma president calls for organizational 'culture change'

BY BLAISE HART-SCHMIDT **News Editor**

Sigma Tau Gamma president Mike McKenzie said in a written statement Wednesday that his fraternity "now recognizes that the organization has needed a culture

change for some time."

The members of Sigma Tau Gamma are enduring the sanctions given to them by the Student Conduct Board last month following several violations of the Student

Conduct Code. The conduct board fin-

ished reviewing an incident Dec. 9 that occurred in April 2009 and found the fraternity in violation of four alcoholrelated provisions of the The board extended Sig Tau's probation to Dec.

31, 2014. The sanctions state that

Sig Tau will not be allowed to host any event with alcohol until Jan. 1, 2011 and cannot host any events with alcohol at the fraternity house until after the probation has ended in 2015, according to the report. Until then, the organization must

submit a list of events for the semester to several Truman administrators and their national charter at the beginning of every semester. The national office must approve these events, and any events not on this report would violate their probation.

The fraternity must also undergo several risk management exercises. ficers and members of the risk management committee must complete Training for Intervention Procedures by Jan. 29, and new Please see SIG TAU, page 7

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