

Electricity goes out

A storm caused power outages on early Saturday morning

BY SHIHARA MADUWAGE
Staff Reporter

Sleeping in on weekends is a favorite pastime for many. However, last Saturday the workers at the Physical Plant were not that lucky. The campus and many parts of Kirksville experienced a blackout due to a power failure.

Tim Baker, assistant director of the Physical Plant, said the power outage was due to the failure of an insulator, which provides electricity for most parts of the town.

"An insulator had deteriorated and had allowed high voltage," Baker said. "As the insulator was burning up, for about 10 minutes, the power of one leg of the system was reduced greatly. Finally, it shorted to the ground hard enough that it tripped out the main circuit breakers in most of Kirksville."

He said the University experienced a blackout early Saturday morning from about 5:45 am to 5:55 am. Locally, however, the power was out for about four hours.

"It was around 10:30, 11:00 before the power here was 100

percent back to normal," Baker said. "During that time, we had several blinks and flickers as [the electricians] were working on the line, switching things around."

Baker said that during a blackout there is nothing the University can do, because the emergency generators are only powerful enough to start the fire alarm system.

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of the University's systems," Baker said. "It would cost millions of dollars. ... We are not quite big enough to pay for something like that."

The major problem the Physical Plant encountered was the fire alarm systems in Centennial Hall and Violette Hall. Baker said the two fire alarm systems went off unnecessarily when the backup batteries

ran down.

He also said he received a report from the housekeeping staff of Missouri Hall that the emergency light might not have turned on correctly, a problem that they would be investigating.

Emily Haupt, interim assistant director of Residence Life, said the power in all dorms except West Campus went out.

"West Campus Suites are on a different system, so they did still

have power," Haupt said.

Haupt said that, in such a case, Residence Life makes sure that the emergency lights are switched on, the fire systems are running and they respond to any residents' needs.

"The people who are on duty just make sure that the emergency systems are running," Haupt said. "At that point most of the students were asleep and did not know that it had happened, so there was not a lot of things to respond to."

She said the backup generators started in all the residence halls except Missouri Hall and that they were looking into why those failed.

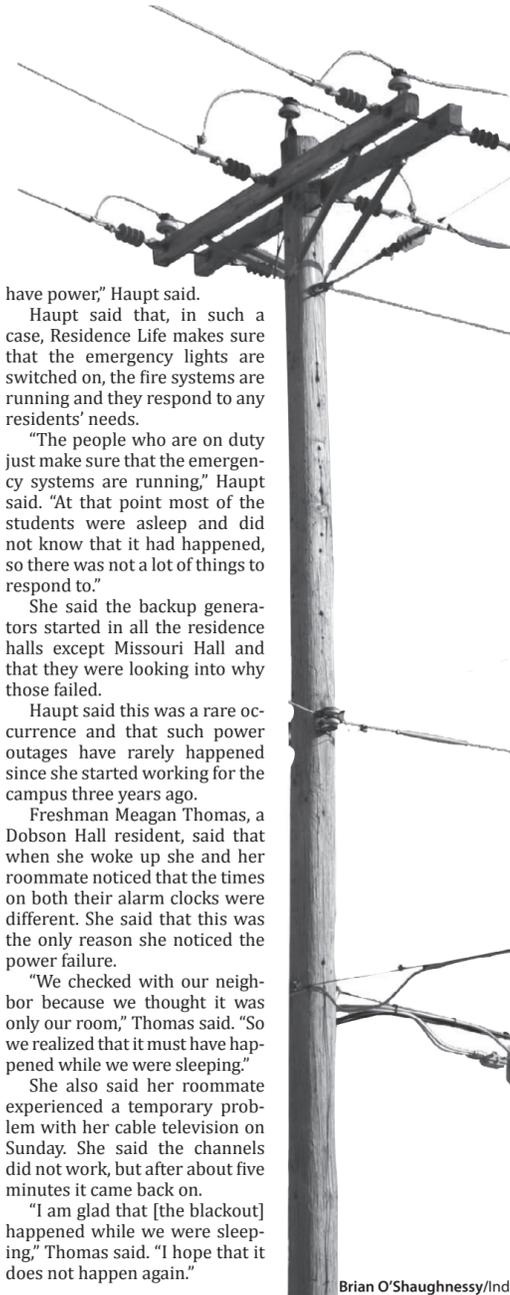
Haupt said this was a rare occurrence and that such power outages have rarely happened since she started working for the campus three years ago.

Freshman Meagan Thomas, a Dobson Hall resident, said that when she woke up she and her roommate noticed that the times on both their alarm clocks were different. She said that this was the only reason she noticed the power failure.

"We checked with our neighbor because we thought it was only our room," Thomas said. "So we realized that it must have happened while we were sleeping."

She also said her roommate experienced a temporary problem with her cable television on Sunday. She said the channels did not work, but after about five minutes it came back on.

"I am glad that [the blackout] happened while we were sleeping," Thomas said. "I hope that it does not happen again."



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index

NEWS | In Brief

McClanahan sponsors contest

State Rep. Rebecca McClanahan, D-Kirksville, is sponsoring the fourth annual District 2 Photo Contest for local artists. This year's theme is Vitality and Resiliency: People of North Missouri, and photographers of all ability and experience levels are encouraged to submit entries.

The top photographs in both adult and youth divisions will be selected to hang in the Representative's Capitol Office, and all photographs entered will hang in the Kirksville Art Association's gallery for public viewing from March 1 to 31. Entries must be submitted by Feb. 26. For more information, call toll free 1-866-845-5738.

Students can appeal parking tickets

If students, faculty or staff think they unfairly received a parking ticket, they can file for an appeal through the Parking Appeals Committee. Appeals must be made within 14 days of receiving the ticket, and must be unjust, unwarranted or stem from extenuating circumstances such as a medical emergency.

Appeals can be made on the Department of Public Safety Web site. The Committee will review the appeal and will either uphold the ticket, lessen the ticket, or dismiss the ticket altogether. However, appeals will not be handed out without just cause. For more information, contact the Parking Appeals Chair Michael McGill at Michael.mcgill@truman.edu

Truman receives \$1.2 million grant

The National Science Foundation awarded Truman a five-year grant for \$1.2 million, meant to attract more undergraduates to the University's science and mathematics degree programs. The award will support Truman's work with local community colleges to help prepare students to earn degrees in science and math.

Willie Taylor hosts pageant

Alpha Phi Alpha, SUB After Dark and the Funds Allotment Council will host the performance of Willie Taylor 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday in the Student Union Building Georgian Room. Taylor is from MTV's Making the Band "Day 26." He will host and perform at Miss Black and Gold Scholarship Pageant. Admission is \$7 and \$2 of each ticket will go to Haiti relief efforts.

HALO sponsors dance lessons

The Hispanic American Leadership Organization will sponsor the first of four Latin dancing fiestas from 8 to 10 p.m. Friday in the SUB Down Under. Students can learn Salsa, Merengue, Bachata and Cumbia. The next three will happen on February 2 and March 26 in the SUB Georgian Room C 2108 and April 16 in the SUB Down Under.

SRC accepts research abstracts

Abstracts for the Student Research Conference are due at 5 p.m. Feb. 12. Abstracts can be submitted online at src.truman.edu. The conference will take place April 13. For more information, contact the Office of Student Research at osr@truman.edu or 660-785-4455.

Student Senate | In Brief

- Student Senate passed a resolution to fund Truman at the Capitol.
- Student Senate passed a money motion in the amount of \$150 for the spring retreat.
- Student Senate passed a money motion in the amount of \$150 for the Greek Service roundtable on Feb. 9.
- Student Senate passed a resolution in recognition of Cody Sumter, student representative to the Board of governors.

DPS | Reports

- 1/23 **Sophomore Catherine Taylor received a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.**
- 1/22 **Freshman Samuel Johnson received a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.**

ITS warns against Limewire

BY DAN WARNER
Staff reporter

Students who use illegal file-sharing software on the Truman network might be putting themselves at risk for University sanctions or worse.

Freshman Briana Keller said she received an e-mail from Information Technology Services in November warning that her Limewire was engaged in illegal activity. Keller stopped using Limewire immediately, but she said she received another e-mail from ITS during Winter Break warning her of the same issues.

"It was just confusing because ... I had never heard of this beforehand," Keller said.

This time, she responded by removing the software from her computer.

Keller said she is not alone in being warned, and that many others in her hall also received similar e-mails.

Jim McNabb, Information Technology technical director,

said ITS issues these warnings when outside groups, such as the Recording Industry Association of America, contact Truman to alert them of illegal uploading activity on their Internet Protocol (IP) address.

"Right now, the law is such that the downloading of copyrighted material is not illegal," McNabb said. "What is illegal is being a distributor—sharing it back to the rest of the internet cloud."

McNabb said peer-to-peer networks, such as Limewire, often do not explain to users upon installation that they will upload the user's files to the Internet while allowing the user to download other files. These files will continue to upload even while the program is not in use, such as in Keller's case. He said there are ways for users to configure these programs on their own so that they do not share files, but still allow for downloading. ITS does not monitor student or faculty Internet activity on the Truman network, McNabb said, but

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Are you breaking the law?

The Recording Industry Association of America defines music theft as:

- ▶ Illegally uploading or downloading music online
- ▶ Online businesses that encourage users to break the law
- ▶ Manufacturing mass numbers of selling counterfeit CDs

Design by Cameron Ballentine/Index

once an outside group sends Truman a legal injunction regarding illegal activity, ITS traces illegal files to whoever uploaded them.

"If you're going to use peer-to-peer clients and you want to make sure that they're not illegally uploading to the Internet, you can contact the ITS service center and our people would be happy to check out your machine and make sure it's not sharing things," McNabb said.

"My advice [to students] would be to be informed about the software you're using, and make sure you're not uploading all of your music files ... exposing yourself to illegal activity,"

McNabb said.

He also urged students to consider the ethical problems behind enjoying an artist's work without giving them due credit.

David Hoffman, assistant dean of student affairs, said the violators, as well as the University, could face lawsuits from the entertainment industry if illegal activity persisted and ITS did not work to stop it.

Hoffman said that if a second violation occurred after the warning, a hearing would take place to decide consequences. He said repeated offenses could lead to suspension and loss of network services.

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2:00–5:30 pm at The Crossing, 810 E Shepard Avenue, Kirksville

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