



A sign on the Quad on Friday reminds students of the waste that partying creates.

Andrea Hewitt/Index

TRASH | Trash from St. Patrick's Day parties hangs around the Quad to persuade students to recycle, some question alcoholic containers

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 spective students generate a lot of excitement.

Lessing said one thing students can do to cut down on waste from parties is to avoid the popular but non-recyclable red plastic cups that many parties provide and instead to drink straight from the can. Providing a cans-only recycling bin at parties also can reduce

the large amounts of trash these parties produce, Lessing said.

Lessing said that although some people who provided materials for the display were not very receptive to recycling, many of the houses he visited already had recycling bins for their parties.

Lessing said the project was partially inspired by the new Kirksville recy-

cling service that goes into effect April 1. In a letter recently sent out to Kirksville residents, the Kirksville City Council explained the features of the new service, which includes curb side bins for trash and recycling. Lessing said he had heard concerns about the \$1.80 increase in waste management fees. As a result, students set out a table on St. Patrick's

Day with information on the new policy and how recycling should be done.

Lessing said off-campus students should take their recyclable goods to the Truman recycling center at the south end of campus or utilize Kirksville's free curb side recycling service.

"It's not hard," Lessing said. "It's just getting out of laziness."

GUILTY | Television producer Steven Marshall faces 7.5 years in prison for child pornography, Kirksville Regional Computer Crimes Unit assists with arrest

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to supervision for life after release.

The undercover detective posed as an adult male in a chat room Jan. 19, 2009, and Marshall sent images to the detective and contacted the detective again in March 2009, according to a press release from the U.S. Department of Justice.

A subpoena issued to the Internet provider revealed Marshall as the screen name's user, and the detective determined Marshall was the person behind the messages and images being sent, according to the release.

The Little Rock Police Department searched Marshall's home and found 35 pictures and 10 videos of child pornography on numerous pieces of computer equipment, along with Internet chat conversations dating back to 2005, including one chat session in which about 400 images were received, according to the release.

Marshall must undergo intensive sex offender therapy, register as a sex offender and forfeit his computer equipment, according to the release.

"As a result of the collaboration between federal and local law enforcement, Steven Marshall was sentenced to a significant federal prison term with no parole," said Jane Duke, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, in the release. "We are so very fortunate to have valuable law enforcement partners like the Kirksville Regional Computer Crimes Unit and the Little Rock Police Department involved in Project Safe Childhood. When we work with one another as Project Safe Child-

hood contemplates, we become a force multiplier to protect our children on the Internet."

Cherith Beck, public information officer with the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, said the Kirksville Regional Computer Crimes Unit was essential to the case.

"They were obviously the ones who originated the case, started the contact, communication and then brought the case to light," Beck said. "There was some serious Internet crime."

Tim King, deputy chief for the Kirksville Police Department, said the Kirksville Regional Computer Crimes Unit is part of the Kirksville Police Department and also serves 13 counties in Northeast Missouri. The Kirksville Regional Computer Crimes Unit has been in place for more than five years, he said. The unit's task force is also one of several members of the Missouri Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) throughout the state, King said.

There is one full-time employee and four part-time employees working in the unit lab, he said. Work in the lab is done with forensics, online chatting to gain evidence and searching for the predators online.

"Our mission is to respond to and deal with Internet crimes against children," King said. "Basically you're talking about crimes that deal with predators who are online trying to entice kids to meet up with them, take off with them or just to have sex with them either online or in person."

King said the unit has been very

successful, helping make arrests locally and nationally, along with making referrals to other agencies and ICACs for further investigation.

"Not everything, obviously, happens right here in Kirksville, and we can't travel all over the country, ... [but] we can send [nonnative cases] to the ICACs in those states, and then they'll follow up with them," King said.

Because the computer crimes unit serves 13 counties, the unit is also used for cases when smaller departments don't have the proper equipment or when other officers need support, he said.

"Our mission is not to take over their case, and we don't come back and prosecute their cases, but we go and assist them with search warrants, and subpoenas and processing the computers to get the evidence ... and then we hand that all to them," King said.

He said benefits of the Kirksville Regional Computer Crimes Unit can be seen via the arrests made in Kirksville. Before the unit was established, the primary units were in Kansas City and St. Louis, making investigations for these cases less convenient.

Project Safe Childhood was another agency that played a part in Marshall's case. PSC was launched in 2006 as a Department of Justice program that seeks to solve the rapidly growing problems of "technology-facilitated sexual exploitation crimes against children," according to the PSC Web site.

The number of prosecutions has greatly increased with PSC, with a 33 percent increase in the year 2006, according to the site.

DISMISSED | Judge Russell Steele drops Rodgerson's last charge, councilman relieved

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[Judge Steele] went ahead and dismissed the case."

Farwell said it is uncommon for a judge to dismiss a case, and he was satisfied with the outcome.

Rodgerson said that although he had hoped for the motion to go through, he was prepared to go to trial, where he thought the issue would be settled in his favor.

Rodgerson said the charge was concerned with a comment he made to a Kirksville police officer involved in the case in which he said the constitutional rights of the family involved had been violated. Rodger-

son said he preceded the comment by introducing himself as a city councilman.

Rodgerson said he thought he was charged because his comments were understood as an attempt to use his political position to his advantage.

"That was not my intention," Rodgerson said. "My intention was to identify myself [to the police officer]."

Rodgerson, whose term as councilman ends in April, is seeking re-election and said he hopes the case will not affect his chances at re-election. He said he is glad the legal issues are finished so that he can look to the future.



Photo courtesy of Rebecca McClanahan's office
 State Rep. Rebecca McClanahan, D-Kirksville, spoke about the budget last Friday at the State of the District.

BUDGET | Local politicians outline state budget cuts, present program funding plans

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ed drop in revenues during the first two months of this year. He expects a total cut of \$500 million before he signs the bill in July after it has passed the House and the Senate, according to the press release.

McClanahan said the budget problems in Missouri are relatively small compared to other states. McClanahan said that with St. Louis and Kansas City as two very different cities, Missouri has a very diverse economy that doesn't depend only on agriculture and is therefore more stable in case of a crisis. McClanahan also said Missouri still has the lowest corporate tax in the U.S. and is therefore very business friendly. Shoemyer said that all this and the fiscally conservative government in Missouri during the last decades are the main reasons why Missouri kept its AAA bond rating, in contrast to Illinois, where the current problems were financed through bond sales. Shoemyer said that Missouri will only have to go through these few rough years and won't have to pay off debt for the next 50 years.

Both said the cuts that come will be much bigger than usual, and sectors that are usually out of the debate will be investigated for saving potential. One of these fields is education, where subsidies for pupils attending private schools will be cut back. Shoemyer said the Access Missouri Scholarships sometimes paid students attending private institutions twice as much as students at state universities.

The funding for the Foundation Formula, which distributes government money between different school districts, is uncertain. McClanahan said it is in the budget now, but no cuts were made to back up the \$87 million that the Foundation needs, and so it is likely that some of it will be cut further in the process.

McClanahan said the Parents as

Teachers program, which provides parents with child development knowledge and parenting support, is being looked into again, and although it is gaining support throughout the state, it might have some of its funds cut.

The Career Ladder program, which rewards top educators by providing them with incentives, a salary supplement and a career advancement program, is even more endangered and will be cut and reconsidered, McClanahan said.

Another idea was to reduce the student transportation cost. This would also help the environment, as the plan involves less bus usage. Instead, the children who live near the school will be picked up by a student "walker" who walks with them to school. McClanahan said she had doubts, however, about whether this could be implemented in rural areas like Adair County where most pupils have a longer distance to travel.

"The good thing about it all, if there is any, is that we really shift the few resources to where they are most needed," McClanahan said. "It makes us decide on what is important and what isn't."

McClanahan said she is concerned about the cuts in the health system, especially in institutions that provide care for the uninsured and mental institutions. She would like to see a reduction in tax credits, which make up \$700 million of this year's budget.

Shoemyer said he thinks the state also has to consider new sources of revenue. One example he named was the taxation of mobile phones, as many people disconnect their landlines and therefore do not turn in revenue that was used for 911 services.

The second proposition was an Internet sales tax, which is supposed to be organized nationwide now.

"No one taxes these people," Shoemyer said. "That is \$100 million of revenue not collected."

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