



MIDDLE OF THE PACK

Reuck leads team in final season

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101 years of excellence

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Krueger recovers from heart attack

BY STEPHANIE HALL
News Editor

Interim President Darrell Krueger suffered a minor heart attack and underwent surgery to unblock an artery Sept. 14. He will receive another stint to unblock a second artery on Monday.

"The doctor said on Monday [Sept. 14] that I had a heart attack, but he didn't know if it was today, that day, or the day before that — a week or two weeks," Krueger said.

Krueger got out of the hos-

pital Sept. 14 and returned to work last Friday.

Krueger said Sept. 12 he played golf with Provost Troy Paino and experienced some pains during the game. He went to a doctor on Monday, who immediately directed him to Boone Hospital Center in Columbia.

"I had a 90 percent blockage in one artery, which they are going to do next Monday, and a 95 percent blockage in the other one they had done [last Monday]."

Krueger said he attributes

his healthy eating and exercise to his survival. He said he has already begun exercising again by walking more than three miles.

Krueger said he has had amazing support from the administration and the students during his ordeal.

"Thank you for your prayers and good thoughts, and I'm looking forward to the next nine and a half months of service to [the students]," Krueger said. "I love the students here. They are fabulous."

Provost Troy Paino filled in

for the president while Krueger recovered. Paino said it was easy because of the close relationship he and Krueger maintain.

"We work very closely together," Paino said. "He intentionally includes me in most conversations about what's happening in the University, even things that don't directly report to me. I mean things like athletics and student affairs. I stay involved and know what's going on, and he's been very good about that, so in that Please see HEART, page 7



Amy Vicars/Index

Interim President Darrell has recovered from a minor heart attack that was diagnosed Sept. 14.



ON THE ROAD

Highway 63 bypass construction rolls on

BY TAWANDA KANHEMA
Staff Reporter

As bulldozers pound the ground to pave way for construction of the Alternate 63 highway project, questions linger on how businesses in Kirksville will cope with significantly reduced traffic.

Project construction of the project started two months ago when contractor Brass Construction cleared the land and built a two-lane box bridge near the exit at Baltimore Street, just north of Kirksville. Jim Woodard, a supervisor at the site, said the project likely will be completed in summer 2011.

Alternate 63 will branch off from Baltimore Street at the northern edge of Kirksville for approximately 8.5 miles and reconnect with Baltimore Street at the southern edge. This will cut out most of the business stops in the city, including gas stations.

When students leave town for school breaks, Kirksville's retailers,

restaurants, fast food outlets and hotels rely heavily on tourism and retail business generated by the town's position as a stopover along Highway 63.

Preston Kramer, project manager for Alternate 63 at the Missouri Department of Transport (MoDOT), said there has been some opposition to the project, but comments received from the community show that less than 10 percent of the local population opposes the project.

Businesses willing to cope

Alisa Kigar, current executive director of the Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce, said there was a general consensus among businesses that they could cope with the impact of the bypass.

The Chamber of Commerce conducted a survey of its members' positions on the bypass. The survey showed most businesses were not opposed to the bypass.

"We were surprised by the Please see BYPASS, page 7



Krista Goodman/Index

Construction for the Highway 63 bypass began two months ago. The project is estimated to cost \$31 million for the 8.5, mile stretch of road.

National unemployment rate reaches 26-year high at 9.7 %

BY CHRIS DREW
Staff Reporter

Truman avoided the loss of more than five million dollars in funding this school year through stabilization funds provided from the national government to the state of Missouri. With the national unemployment rate at a 26-year high of 9.7 percent, however, funds might be running a little low by next year.

"The unemployment rate affects the revenues for the state," Interim President Darrell Krueger said. "So unemployment has a direct impact on the University."

Although the state unemployment rate is less than the national average at only 9.4 percent, the state still expects a decrease in state revenue of about 5.6 percent this year, from \$1.12 billion last year to \$1.06 billion this year. The state's collections from sales tax is down 4.9 percent this

year, and their collections from income tax is down 5.2 percent.

"Fifty percent of our funding comes from the state," Truman State Budget Director Dave Rector said. "When unemployment is up there's less revenue from income tax and people are buying less so there's less money from sales tax."

Truman received level funding for this fiscal year, but the state has told Truman to plan for a decrease in funding of 5.5 percent, or about \$2.5 million next year, Rector said.

A new budget task force committee of students and faculty has been assembled to develop and plan for these cuts in funding. Truman has an edge on some campuses because of the preparation made for cuts last year, Rector said.

"We're going to have to find ways to generate revenue and cut back on costs," Krueger said.

This could involve a combination of cuts, tuition increases and new revenue sources, such

ON THE RISE

Unemployment rates:

National: 9.7 percent

State: 9.4 percent

Adair County: 7.9 percent*

*did not change from last year

as opening the campus to summer camps. This would affect not only Truman and its students, but also the economy of Kirksville — an economy the University contributes more than \$100 million to annually, said Krueger.

"We would worry about huge cuts, but we do not foresee that," Phil Tate, director of job creation for the City of Kirksville, said.

There are four legs to the economic base of Kirksville: Truman, A.T. Still, manufacturing and the health care industry. This combination gives Kirksville a diverse economy that has helped Adair County maintain a 7.9 percent unemployment rate, Tate said.

"That doesn't help that 7.9 percent," Tate said. "But it's allowed us to do better than a lot of [other] communities."

Kirksville man sentenced to 30 months for fraud

BY JESSICA RAPP
Managing Editor

A Kirksville resident and former business owner was sentenced last Friday to 30 months in federal prison for fraud.

Neal Jackson, 61, pleaded guilty in June to defrauding 23 local individuals by convincing them to invest in a defunct business through a Ponzi scheme.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew Schelp said Jackson realized in 1990 that his own business, Gestalt Group Ltd, wasn't going to be successful. Since then, Jackson maintained a scam that convinced individuals that GG Ltd. was

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