

Former white supremacist speaks out

BY JACKIE KINEALY
Staff Reporter

Truman students will have a chance tonight to talk with a former white supremacist and hate group member turned FBI informant.

Tom Martinez will be on campus to speak against the growing hate movement and to raise awareness of its recruitment tactics by sharing his experiences as a member of racist organizations and his decision to leave the subculture of white supremacy.

Amnesty International and Students for Social Change are co-hosting Martinez tonight at 7 p.m. in the SUB Georgian Room B.

Martinez's message to encourage vigilance against hate groups and hate speech comes at a time when hate groups in the United States are on the rise.

The number of hate groups in the United States increased 54 percent from 2000 to 2009, according to a report released in February 2009 by the Southern Poverty Law Center, a non-profit civil rights organization.

"We want people to know these things are still happening," said junior Morgan Tucker, president of Amnesty International. "I really want people to become aware of white supremacy within the country, because definitely since racism has become less socially acceptable it's gone underground,

but there's still a lot of criminal activity committed by these organized groups."

Martinez said the white supremacist movement may not be as obvious today as it has been in previous decades, but it is still a strong presence.

"We don't see the Klan because of the tag they have today, but from what I see it's the same type of movement and the same type of propaganda as the Klan used," he said.

Karen Aroesty, regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of Missouri and Southern Illinois, said the recent economic downturn has contributed to the nationwide rise in hate groups.

"When you look at formal, organized hate movements, often you're talking about activity that is a response to something else," Aroesty said. "There's this sense that the economy's bad, I've been working hard but I've not been doing any better, it must be someone else's fault. Who can I blame? I can blame immigrants, I can blame people who are different than I am, and I can blame people who I have bias against generally anyway."

Aroesty said white supremacy groups sometimes use mainstream conservative issues like immigration reform to draw people into their organizations.

"Regular people can have very strong conservative and differing opinions on immigration reform and not have anything whatsoever to do with



Krista Goodman/Index

Students watch the film "Brotherhood of Hate" Monday evening in Violette Hall. The film was screened as a supplement to Tom Martinez's presentation on hate groups that will be given tonight.

white supremacy, but white supremacy and organized hate groups can be really good at using that as a tool to get people in," she said.

Martinez was a member of well-known hate groups including the Klu Klux Klan, the National Alliance (a neo-Nazi organization) and the violent white nationalist group The Order at different points in his life.

In the 1980s, after becoming involved in the neo-Nazi

movement and organized crime, Martinez decided he wanted out and started working as an FBI informant to take down The Order.

In the 26 years since, Martinez has been speaking at high schools and colleges and in front of other groups to raise awareness of hate groups and how they recruit members by explaining what attracted him to white supremacy as a young man.

Board funds community projects

BY KAITLIN DAVIS
Staff Reporter

Seniors JoEllen Flanagan and Mandy Love could see the wheels turning in each other's mind after viewing a presentation given by Baillie Cloyd, Center for Student Involvement staff member, in the spring of 2009.

Believing that all students should have the ability to serve their community, they left determined to provide students with a way to receive funding for service projects.

Together they created the Service Board, an organization that aims to provide organizations and individuals with funds to perform service projects within the community. The Board accepted applications for the first time this past week for students and organizations to apply for funding for the Spring 2011 semester.

Flanagan, student adviser for the Board, said she had a vision to create a service council in the form of an extension of Student Senate. With the help of Cloyd, current staff adviser for the Board, Flanagan said her vision was able to become a reality.

"Cloyd had done a lot of research and told me we should do more of a service board with the capacity for it to turn into a service council once the Service Board has become more concrete and stabilized," Flanagan said. "We went ahead and proceeded in that direction, and my role along the way has been to help [Cloyd] charter the Service Board and find it funding for its first year."

Flanagan said Senate gave the Board a \$1,000 grant in spring 2010 to get started. She said the Board then decided

to take applications to fill the rest of the Board and put out posters and posted information on its website.

"We had open applications for at least a month at the beginning of this semester," Flanagan said. "We just tried to get the word out. In particular, we started e-mailing all the service organizations because we figured they would be the most interested."

The Board currently has 11 members and a faculty, staff and student adviser, and modeled its structure after the Funds Allotment Council.

"We looked at a lot of different things about the FAC, like their application process, deliberations, hearings and very strict guidelines to funding," Flanagan said.

Cloyd said the Board has approximately \$1,200 available to distribute for the spring semester.

"One thousand two hundred dollars may not seem like a lot, but in relation to a service project, it can make a huge difference, especially if we are not the group's only source of funding," Cloyd said.

She said the Board plans to split the \$1,200 among multiple groups, depending on the number of applicants and the quality of their projects.

"We had about 12 different groups show up to the informational meetings that were on October 18 and 28, which is really great," Cloyd said. "Hopefully we can give away the full \$1,200, assuming they are viable projects."

Cloyd said the application outlined the aspects they were looking for in projects to fund. She said they are looking for projects that are going to impact the community.

Cloyd said funding for the projects

has also come from donations from alumni.

"The biggest thing right now is finding more money so we can continue and fund more projects in the future," Cloyd said. "We're going to be operating from year-to-year basis and having to find funding to make this happen."

Love, the chair of the Board, said the organization has created an extra position this year for someone to research future sustainable funding for the Service Board, including grants.

"We feel the response has been great and students are really excited, so hopefully we can provide more funding to them next semester," Love said.

Love said hearings will take place today and Friday. She said that after reviewing the applications, the Board will meet with applicants to answer any further questions. They then will deliberate and vote Sunday and Monday. She said they hope to notify the groups who receive funding by Wednesday.

Love said that when she voted on a project she looked for a thought-out plan with a detailed budget outline. In terms of the project itself, she said she wants to see how it will serve the community.

Love said the Board will also work with the Service-Learning Advantage program so any group receiving funding will also get the service learning advantage documentation done.

"We have five project liaisons that will work with funded groups to make sure they are carrying out their project in the best way possible and that, through the service learning advantage program, it will go on their co-curricular record as well," Love said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Senate to celebrate cultural diversity

Student Senate is sponsoring World Diversity Night from 5:30 to 9 p.m. tonight in the SUB Georgian Room C. The event will include food and multicultural performances. A Bollywood film will be screened.

TSODA to hold recital

The Society of Dance Arts will present a dance recital from 7 to 9 p.m. tonight and Friday in Baldwin Auditorium. Admission is free.

Workshop aims to prevent suicide

The "Question, Persuade, Refer" workshop will take place 10:30 a.m. Friday in the SUB Georgian Room B. The workshop will be directed by University Counseling Services staff, who will train attendees in basic suicide prevention. The workshop is part of Mental Health Awareness Week.

Safe Zone to address GLBT issues

Faculty and staff members are invited to attend a Safe Zone training program from 1 to 2 p.m. Friday in the SUB Georgian Room A. The program will train faculty and staff in gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues to develop a supportive and informative community for students. The event is coordinated by University Counseling Services.

Possibility Alliance offers tours

The Possibility Alliance in La Plata will conduct tours of its sustainable community from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday. The tour will address organic gardening, non-electric living and alternative building, among other features.

Group educates on Hispanic culture

The group Latinoamericano Dance Company will perform from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday in the SUB HUB. The event will feature dances from a variety of Hispanic cultures. Admission is free. The event is sponsored by Sigma Lambda Gamma, the Multicultural Affairs Center and Student Senate.

Panel addresses Middle East peace

Faculty from the social sciences department will discuss the ongoing peace process in the Middle East at 7 p.m. Monday in Violette Hall 1010. Professors will present statements and field questions from the audience. The event is sponsored by the Political Science Student Association as part of International Education Week.

Presidents will get pie'd

Students can donate money to have their favorite student organization president hit in the face with a pie from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. today and Friday in the Student Union Building. The pieing will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday in the Missouri Hall Chariton Room. Proceeds will be split between the organization whose contestant receives the most donations and Alpha Phi Omega, which is sponsoring the event.

CRIME REPORTS DPS & KPD

11/7 Junior Jonathan Hamilton was issued a Missouri Complaint and Summons for a noise violation.

STUDENT SENATE IN BRIEF

- Student Senate appointed freshman Allison Lammer as associate senator.
- Student Senate passed a resolution in the amount of \$1,900 for Truman at the Capitol.

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