



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index

Kirkville received a grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to make playgrounds, like the one shown above at P.C. Mills park, handicap accessible.

**PARK** | A grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund allows Kirkville to build handicap accessible equipment at two Kirkville parks

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P.C. Mills and Memorial Parks will not be the first playgrounds in Kirkville with handicap accessible equipment. At Brashear Park in December 2008, one wheelchair transfer platform, a crawl tube and ground-level play equipment were installed, Smith said. Wheelchair transfer platforms are raised decks that provide access to crawl tubes, slides and other playground activities to children who are able to move independently out of their wheelchairs.

The city of Kirkville won two \$35,000 grants from the Land and Water Conservation Fund this year, for a total of \$70,000. The LWCF

is a matching-grant program, which means the federal funds only cover a percentage of the money needed for the playground projects. For each of the playground projects, \$35,000 from the LWCF represents only 45 percent of the \$79,000 total projected cost. For each project, the city of Kirkville will pay the remaining 55 percent, a projected \$44,000.

"We'll pay it through cash and in-kind donations," Smith said.

The LWCF is a federally funded program in the National Parks Service division of the U.S. Department of the Interior that provides grant money to state and local govern-

ments to go toward outdoor recreation land and purchases recreation land owned by the national government, according to the National Parks Service website.

Each state decides how to use LWCF money through state agencies. The Missouri Department of Conservation administers LWCF grant money. This year in Missouri, more than \$600,000 was distributed to eleven projects statewide, said Renee Bungart, spokesperson for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Last year the grant fund was larger, with \$770,000 distributed to thirteen projects statewide, Bungart said.

The majority of grants are awarded to playground improvement and athletic field renovations, according to the DNR website.

Since the LWCF Act went into effect in 1964, the annual budget has varied widely, with a record high in 2001 of over \$1 billion, partially because of President Clinton's Land Legacy Initiative, to lows in the 1960s below \$100 million, according to a 2005 report from the Department of the Interior budget office.

Both Memorial Park and P.C. Mills Park were originally developed in the late 1970s with the assistance of LWCF funds, according to this year's grant

applications written by Cherie Bryant. Funding for the LWCF spiked dramatically in the late 1970s, according to the DOI report.

"Actually, the majority of our neighborhood parks were developed initially with Land and Water Conservation Funds," Smith said. "LWCF helped fund the new skate park that's at North Park, as well as the amphitheater at Rotary Park."

The national LWCF budget is approximately \$480 million, up from a little more than \$300 million in 2009, and the requested amount for 2011 is up from this year's total at \$620 million, according to the DOI.

**CONCERT** | SAB will bring Jack's Mannequin and Relient K as acts for the fall concert

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especially with how the economy is anymore," Pace said. "Performers are putting a disclaimer in their contract that we can't release their performance fees anymore because sometimes we can get them for a really good value and they might not do that same performance fee at a difference school or venue. They just started this the last two or two-and-a-half years, and it's in almost every contract now."

**PROVOST** | President Paino decides not to hire a permanent provost until after the 2010-11 academic year

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A new provost would not start until January 2012 at the earliest, and possibly not until July 2012.

Paino said that with the administration concerned with the budget situation, there will not be enough focus placed on the search at this time.

"I'm confident," Paino said. "After we've made some of the tough decisions — by probably April or May we will have made those tough decisions — we will have prepared the University for next year. Then we can start focusing our attention on the search for the next provost."

Paino said the postponement will not lead to Coughlin's permanent appointment as provost.

Coughlin said this announcement will not majorly affect the provost's office or how its business is conducted.

"I think it was a good decision because sometimes when you do a national search and its not successful — especially a fairly high-level search like a president or a provost — you want to back off for a little while before you restart it, because a lot of work goes into it."

Coughlin said it might be beneficial to wait until more fiscal decisions are made before hiring a new provost, because applicants wouldn't necessarily understand the inner workings of the University.

"I do have an understanding of this university because of my time here," Coughlin said. "I do think that's

useful as you go through a time of fiscal crisis."

Coughlin said he didn't think concerns of paying a provost's salary was the driving factor in waiting to hire a permanent VPAA.

"Any time you don't fill a position means you have funds that can be used for something else, but I don't think that would be the driving factor," Coughlin said.

Rector said the provost is very involved in academic budget discussions, which makes up approximately 70 percent of the general operating budget.

Asking someone new to enter into the middle of a budget crisis and make cuts would be difficult, Rector said.

"I think that having someone who

has been at the University for quite a few years and understands how things are connected is going to be helpful," Rector said.

Rector said \$150,000 is budgeted for the provost's salary this year. However, Coughlin, as Interim Provost, receives his salary for dean of libraries and museums plus an additional fee for his duties as Interim Provost. Coughlin makes \$138,000 for both duties. Coughlin made \$114,124 as dean of libraries and museums in 2009-10, according to the Official Manual of the State of Missouri.

The salary of a provost depends both upon the candidates qualifications and the salaries of provosts at comparable universities.

**ITS reports problems with Internet and TruView**

BY ANDREA HEWITT  
News Editor

The last few weeks, freshman Cong Do has found himself frustrated with his occasional lack of Internet and TruView access.

During September, Truman had several Internet outages because of problems by their provider, MOREnet.

Hank Niederhelm, director of infrastructure at MOREnet, said there have been several issues that have led to outages.

"I know one was caused by a fiber cut," Niederhelm said. "That means the wire from the telephone company to the campus was cut in half. When it's cut in half, you don't have any connectivity. It happens from street repair when people dig too deep or don't know where the fiber is going."

Other cases reported were when the wires were on telephone poles and people shot them while hunting or dump trucks snapped them while dumping their load, he said.

He said other issues were caused by scheduled maintenance by MOREnet's vendor. Sometimes when maintenance is scheduled, the vendor does not alert MOREnet, so they can't alert the campus.

"Vendors always have to do maintenance to repair equipment or upgrade equipment and do stuff like that," Niederhelm said. "There will be maintenance in the future, but at this point they haven't told us there will be any maintenance plans."

All documented problems with Internet, TruView and cable are available at its.truman.edu/servicenotes.

Jim McNabb, technical director of information technology services, said MOREnet "might have been a little less dependent than the last couple years."

He said Truman has looked into purchasing Internet from another source but no decisions have been made yet.

"We pay about \$45,000 a

year for Internet service on campus, and that gives us a 100 meg connections which is shared by everyone here," he said.

"We're interested in seeing what new options are available this fall — the MO broadband initiative may bring us some new options. Kirkville, from what we can tell, presented a very strong application from Google Fiber, and that's supposed to be awarded this fall."

McNabb said there was

also a problem with TruView last Tuesday because a log file filled up the system. He compared it to a personal computer's hard drive becoming full. The system was restarted and the problem was fixed.

As a result, ITS is exploring ways to fix the log so it will not reach its limit again, he said.

"When you try to focus and start it and it's not working and that's the only thing you have to do — it gets pretty frustrating," Do said.



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