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Two seriously injured, survive crash

BY JACKIE KINEALY
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Two men are in fair condition after they sustained serious injuries in a car crash early Friday morning and were transported to University Hospital in Columbia, Mo., according to the hospital.

A third passenger is in stable condition at Northeast Regional Medical Center, according to the hospital.

The Kirksville Police Department responded to a call at 1:49 a.m. Friday about a single-car accident in a ditch behind Allied Bank at McPherson and Baltimore streets. An ambulance arrived on the scene at 2 a.m. and

transported all five passengers to Northeast Regional Medical Center.

From there, an ambulance transported the two men with the most serious injuries to the trauma center in Columbia about two hours later, said Larry Burton, chief administrative offices for the Adair County Ambulance District.

The Kirksville Police Department determined the 2008 Dodge carrying five men was traveling east on McPherson Street and crossed Baltimore Street into the bank parking lot without stopping. The car hit a curb, went airborne and landed in the lower lot. It hit a curb again, went airborne for a second time and ended on its side in a ditch behind the bank, according to the police report.

Police are waiting for blood test results to determine whether alcohol was involved, he said.

The night of the accident, Truman alumnus John Hussung was driving home on McPherson Street from working a shift at the Dukum Inn when he saw a man on the side of the road waving his arms.

Hussung said the man seemed frantic, so he pulled over and followed him to the edge of the Allied Bank parking lot where he saw a car wedged sideways in the four-foot wide ditch.

"Once I saw where the car was I thought 'This is pretty serious,'" he said.

All five passengers were out of the car, he said. It was dark behind the building, but Hussung said he could tell that two of them men

were seriously injured while the other three seemed mildly injured and were in shock.

"They were having a hard time communicating because they were so upset," Hussung said.

The snow that started falling Thursday night had increased and was coming in sideways, which made the scene more chaotic as Kirksville Police Department and Adair County Ambulance District worked to help the victims, Hussung said.

Hussung said he had trouble sleeping that night, and the memory of the accident left him upset for days.

"The frustrating thing for me is I don't know how they're doing," he said. "If all those guys end up being more or less OK, it's a miracle."

DPS looks for drugs in dorms

BY PHILIP ZAHND
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Five students' rooms were searched for marijuana this past weekend.

Public Safety Director Tom Johnson said the Department of Public Safety received an anonymous tip last week that the smell of marijuana was coming from rooms in West Campus Suites, Ryle, Dobson and Centennial Halls. Other than a minor in possession of alcohol arrest, no other charges were made.

He said none of the students denied the DPS officers access to their rooms, even though they could have.

"We just went to specific rooms, knocked on the door, introduced ourselves, told them why we were there and asked permission to come in and search and we came in and searched," Johnson said.

Although DPS has used drug dogs previously, they did not during this search.

"We're not going to call in a dog unless we're pretty sure that we've got something that we're looking for," he said.

Johnson said DPS does not schedule random drug searches and that drug searches typically occur two or three times a semester as a result of complaints, anonymous tips or DPS reporting suspicious smells in the halls.

"We're not going to come visit somebody unless we have a good reason to do that," he said. "I wouldn't want somebody coming to my house saying 'I want to search your house for drugs just because I can.'"



Feds bust rhino tusk ring

FBI follows illegal rhinoceros ring trail to Lolli Brothers Livestock Market in Macon

BY ASHLEY JOST
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A Macon livestock business is embroiled in a federal investigation into illegally traded rhinoceros horns.

Jim Lolli of Lolli Brothers Livestock Market and former Macon Police Chief Scott Ziebarth both appear in the investigation's federal court documents, but have not been charged in connection to illegal activity that has led to seven arrests in California.

Eighteen months ago, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service launched a federal investigation into illegal rhinoceros horn trade after receiving information of wide-spread poaching in South Africa, Edward Grace, deputy chief of law enforcement for the USFWS, said.

One of the primary charges for each arrested persons is the violation of the Endangered Species Act, according to the USFWS affidavit.

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See page 7 for a timeline of the federal investigation

Senate leaders will not re-run

BY PHILIP ZAHND
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After almost of a year in office, juniors Ryan Nely and Mike Polwort decided to not re-run for the president and vice president of the Student Association.

Nely said that when he decided to run for office last spring, he told his running mate and roommate he did not plan to run for reelection if he became president.

"The nature of the student voice is changing every year," Nely said. "It's going to be more beneficial for the student body as a whole to have a chance to kind of get some new voices and faces on the discussions with the administrators."

Nely told Polwort during the elections that he would support him if he decided to run for president. Polwort said he never considered running for the job because of the potential he has seen in his colleagues.

"I have seen future presidents in multiple members," Polwort said. "If they want to run, I don't want to stop them from running, because I believe they will be spectacular presidents."

Nely and Polwort plan to return as voting senators next year. Polwort, who was new to Senate this year, said this has been a major



NELY

learning experience. In addition to learning parliamentary procedure and how Senate operates, he said he learned how to interact with administrators as a student government member.

"The notion that we are being taken seriously and they are looking at us professionally in what we are doing and they respect it," Polwort said. "I'm proud of that. And I like that we have set that tone."

Nely said he is proud to have helped expand the use of grants to student organizations and introduce sponsorships, which

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Students lobby for funding at capitol

BY ANDI WATKINS DAVIS
Staff Reporter

The recently announced budget cuts to higher education affected this year's Truman State students' annual trip to Jefferson City.

About 20 Truman students visited the capitol Wednesday to meet with state legislators and to lobby for higher education funding as part of the annual Truman at the Capitol event Student Senate sponsored.

The goal is to gather a group of Truman students to lobby for important issues said Drew Paulman, Student Senate External Affairs chair. Participating students spoke to senators and representatives from their home districts about issues affecting them.

The main discussion topic was the budget cuts that will affect Truman during the next year, Paulman said. Student Senate asked participants to address two specific points when meeting with legislators.

The first point had students lobbying to keep as much money in the higher education budget as possible, Paulman said. The second involved how the state gives funding to higher education institutions. Students lobbied for a funding formula

that is based on performance, he said.

Students also were able to address issues they personally think are important, but Student Senate provided a set of general guidelines for the topics addressed in the meetings with the legislators, Paulman said. Student Senate decided which issues were lobbied for at the event, and passed a resolution stating those points, Feb. 26.

Ryan Nely, president of the Student Association, said one of the goals of the event is to provide names, faces and personal stories to state legislators so they understand how the budget cuts will affect real people. The hope is they will remember those things when they are debating future budget cuts, he said.

Nely said it also was an opportunity to show legislators that higher education is important through the behaviors and ideas of Truman students visiting the capitol.

"I want to use this as an opportunity to express to them the fact that it is difficult for us, but instead of complaining about it we're trying to be innovative, we're trying to lead," Nely said. "I want to project to them the idea that Truman's the one that's going to be the leading innovator here."

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