

Slam poet entertains students



Lindsey Borgna/Index
Anis Mojgani performs at the poetry slam hosted by the Student Activities Board on Sunday night. Mojgani is the two-time National Poetry Slam Champion and the winner of the International World Cup Poetry Slam. His two books are 'Over the Anvil We Stretch' and 'The Feather Room.'

Cape Air advertises through air show

BY MEGHANN SHIPMAN
Staff Reporter

The fourth annual Kirksville Regional Air Festival on Sunday was another advertising opportunity for the airline Cape Air, which is in danger of losing subsidies from the federal government if it does not keep its boarding numbers up.

Sandra Williams, Chamber of Commerce executive director, said the federal government gave Cape Air subsidies as part of a grant program. Last year, the subsidies were in threat of being removed if Cape Air did not raise their boarding numbers, she said.

"We would be at a great disadvantage if we didn't have an airline," Williams said. She said businesses looking for a town to establish trade need transportation, and not having a commercial airline might discourage economic development.

Cape Air Director David Hall said the airline has surpassed the goal of increased ridership, but needs to keep the momentum going to continue at the airport.

Load capacity this year is at 50 percent, up from 31 percent last year and higher than the goal of 41 percent set by the airline, he said.

"I hope this momentum will sustain the ridership," Hall said. "Next year we probably won't have as much [money] to do this with."

He said St. Louis Lambert Airport contributed \$5,000 to help the airport, but he does not anticipate that help to continue because boarding has increased.

Hall said the airline has been advertising in radio, television, newspapers and on an airplane pull that carries an advertisement through the air behind the plane.

Randy Smith, Kirksville Regional Air Festival coordinator, said Cape Air was one of the main sponsors this year. Hall said that altogether, Cape Air gave about \$7,500 to sponsor the air show.

Cape Air's advertising campaign caught the attention of Kirksville resident Shelly Baillargeon, who attended the air show.

"I saw an airplane flying an advertisement about Cape Air," Baillargeon said. "I've never ridden Cape Air, but it definitely made me want to."

Questions raised about evolution

BY HUONGTRAN
Staff Reporter

A controversial lecture Monday night attracted an audience, but not the anticipated controversy.

The Church of Christ Ekklesia Campus Ministry, a Truman organization, invited Michael Houts, NASA Nuclear Research Manager, to campus to deliver a lecture titled "Evolution is Religion, not Science."

"The title has been a bit provocative," said Barry Poyner, communication professor and Ekklesia adviser, a few days before Hout's visit to campus. "In fact, we've had a number of posters stolen or removed."

Houts argued in his lecture that while science is observable, testable and repeatable, evolution is not. He said he normally speaks at churches and this is the first time he delivered the speech on a college campus. He said he wanted to encourage young people to think and consider a new viewpoint.

Poyner said an A.T. Still student told him he wanted to tear down the poster advertising the lecture. Anticipating conflict, Poyner asked the Department of Public Safety to send an officer to the event in case of an ugly scene.

A DPS officer was at the event but did not need to intervene at any point.

Houts said he thought the stolen posters were the reaction of a small group of people, and most people still would be excited to hear the lecture and exchange ideas.

"It's kind of self-fulfilling because they had to be interested to come to the talk to start with," Houts said.

Anthony Kirk, a freshman political science major, attended the lecture. He said he expected to learn an overview of the faith element that goes into evolution and science.

"Even if I may disagree with him in a few points, I think he is a very intelligent guy and definitely, for the most part, he is able to back up what he's claiming," he said.

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