



Missouri Livestock Symposium

Every year around the first weekend in December, the Missouri Livestock Symposium takes over the Kirksville Middle School. This event is sponsored by the University of Missouri Extension office and features a trade show, educational programs, supper on Friday and lunch on Saturday (both of which are free), and great entertainment. The trade show kicked off Friday evening at 4 pm. Booths filled the entire gymnasium at the middle school with a wide range of vendors present. Just a taste of the businesses there include U.S. Cellular, Pfizer, Missouri Beef Industry Council, MFA, Inc., Green's Weld-

ing and Trailer Sales, and MU Commercial Ag Program, just to name a few. The tradeshow also ran throughout the day on Saturday. At the heart of the symposium, however, are the speakers, many of whom are nationally renowned, including Dr. Temple Grandin from Colorado State University. The symposium consisted of 8 different categories of speakers: horse, beef cattle, sheep, meat goats, forages, stock dogs, wildlife & conservation, and around the home. The Truman State Ag Department's very own Dr. Glenn Wehner was among the speakers with a presentation titled, "Meat buying Tips-Things Every-

one Should Know." The symposium finished off the night with a concert by the Bellamy Brothers. Many students had the privilege to attend not only the concert, but the trade show and speakers as well, and gained a lot of agriculture information from the experience.



Picture: A group of Truman students pose with the Bellamy Brothers. Compliments of Hillary Schowe.

GlobeMed Trivia Night

GlobeMed hosted a trivia night on Tuesday, November, 27 in the Student Union Building. A group of agricultural science, agricultural business, and equine students along with agricultural professor Dr. Michael Seipel and Equine professor Emily Costello

participated in this event along with eight other teams. Students Kaitlyn Sullivan, Carl Duncan, Andrew Green, and Laura Cooper along with Seipel and Costello earned third place honors at the trivia contest. The entry fee for this event was \$18 per team

and the proceeds will go to achieving GlobeMed's fundraising goal to purchase a satellite dish for a rural birthing center in Haiti. For more information on the GlobeMed Program, visit their website: <http://www.globemed.org/>

Haunted Corn Maze Follow-Up

Sigma Alpha's corn maze had another successful turnout last month. The organization sponsored the event at the University Farm the last weekend in October. Over 800 people went through the haunted corn maze this year. Other organizations such as Alpha Gamma Rho, Truman Wrestlers, and the Anthropology Club along with other agricultural students volunteered their time to help out with the event. For the Fun of It, a local business in Kirksville, donated masks to Sigma Alpha to help with the event.

Truman State Chapter of Collegiate Farm Bureau

Truman's Farm Bureau organization got into the Halloween spirit with a canned food drive. Members of this year's Farm Bureau went door to door at residences around the Kirksville area to collect canned food items which were donated to the Salvation Army. This event was a success for the group and they were very pleased with the generosity of Kirksville residents. On Wednesday, November 7th, a discussion meet was held by the group. The topic for this discussion meet was "What is the public perception of the family farm and how does that perception impact future agriculture policy decisions?" There were three judges present for the meet and four contestants. The winner of the

discussion meet was Katie Jennings. Katie competed at the state contest held during the Missouri Farm Bureau Annual Meeting at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri on December 2. If anyone is interested in joining the Farm Bureau organization they can send an email to TSUCFBMO@yahoo.com



Alumni Profile: Tim Birkel

The spotlight of this month's alumni profile is Tim Birkel, class of 2004. Upon graduating from Truman, Tim received his Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Science with a Business Emphasis. After leaving Kirksville, Tim went on to get his Masters of Business Administration in August, 2006 from Park University. Currently, Tim is working for an Australian-based company, Nufarm, Inc, which is a global

manufacturer of agricultural turf and specialty chemicals. The company's headquarters are in Chicago, IL, but he is allowed to work in the comfort of his own home in Smithville, MO. Tim's title at Nufarm is U.S. Herbicide Product Manager. He feels that his degree has helped him considerably by giving him

"You don't have to be a genius to be smart, but you must have a good work ethic and show your employer that you will do what it takes to get the job done." ~Tim Birkel

a good base in his primary area of study, and the liberal arts gave him even a wider area of competency. Tim's piece of advice to every college student is to take advantage of internships. He says, "Many of them have been influential in my career development and helped open doors for me when I graduated."

Student Profile: Carl Duncan

Carl Duncan is a senior agriculture science major at Truman. Throughout the last four years, Carl has been involved with working at the University Farm where he has also been a resident for the past three years and is currently an SA at the farm. Carl is also a member of Delta Tau Alpha, the agricultural honor society at Truman. After graduating this spring,

Carl wants to work for an agronomy based company. He said his dream would be to go back and take part in his family's farm. Carl said his favorite part about his experience at Truman has been living at the University Farm.



From the “Easy Chair”

The End is Near

It's hard to believe that another semester has passed and finals week is here once again. To all students, good luck with final exams, safe travels, and happy holidays.

Missouri Livestock Symposium

The Missouri Livestock Symposium (see article on page 1) is a great example of what initiative and collaboration can accomplish. In its brief seven-year history, the Symposium has become the premier producer-focused educational event in Missouri. The Symposium is planned and conducted by an all-volunteer committee consist-

ing of farmers/ranchers, educators, and agriculture/natural resource professionals. The committee is co-chaired by Garry Mathes and Bruce Lane. Truman participates in the Symposium with two faculty members on the planning committee, by printing pocket-sized herd record books to publicize the symposium, and by having a booth in the trade show. More information and the dates for next year's symposium are at <http://missourilivestock.com>.

Student Research Opportunities

Conducting research as an undergraduate is a great way to explore an area of interest as well as to develop skills and experience that will pay off in graduate

school or a future career. Students can apply now for Summer research stipends for 2008. Deadline is Feb. 8. More information on this and other internship and employment opportunities is on the website (agriculture.truman.edu) under “News & Events”.

Congratulations

Congratulations to AGSC senior Sheila Rustemeyer, one of 62 Truman students selected for recognition in *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* for their outstanding academic achievement, character, leadership, and service. Great job Sheila!

Strips-N-Sticks Beef Jerky Company

In this issue we feature another of the Senior Ag Practicum project groups, Strips-N-Sticks Beef Jerky Company. According to their mission statement, Strips-N-Sticks “is a student operated enterprise dedicated to producing locally raised, high-quality beef products, including jerky, snack sticks, and premium steaks available to the local community for those concerned about animal welfare and their family's health.” The finished product will be the result of a lot of hard work by

the nine seniors. Two steers from the University farm will be taken to Special D Meats in Macon, MO, to be slaughtered and quartered. The group will complete the rest of the project themselves. This includes cutting all

Strips-N-Sticks sells ground and whole muscle jerky at a premium price for a locally-produced product. Contact them at strips_n_sticks@hotmail.com

of the meat, drying it as necessary, packaging it, and selling the finished product to the Truman community as well as the Kirksville community. The group is selling a wide range of beef products, including premium steaks, ground jerky and whole muscle jerky. The steers will be ready by the middle of February with sales beginning in early March.

Any questions or order requests can be emailed to strips_n_sticks@hotmail.com

Fall Semester At A Glance

