

Agricultural Science Newsletter



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Home on the Range at the Kindness Ranch

Agriculture majors Ann Adams (Bunker Hill, IL), Kimberly Kruse (St. Louis, MO), and Emmanuel Camarillo (El Paso, TX) decided to do something different with their winter break. Instead of going home and hanging out they headed out west! They traveled to Hartville, Wyoming which is about 100 miles from Cheyenne. Ann, Kim and Emmanuel received internships at the Kindness Ranch. The Kindness Ranch is a sanctuary for research animals. The ranch takes care of these animals and rehabilitates them. Kim, Ann and Emmanuel all enjoy working with animals. Emmanuel says, "anyone can really rehabilitate any animal but one has to first understand the animal before they can help it." Kim says, "I really enjoyed working at the Kindness Ranch. I have considered a career in animal rehabilitation and this was a great opportunity to see exactly what that entails."



Above: Emmanuel Camarillo helps trim a sheep's hooves. Ann Adams takes care of a cat, in the cat yurt. Kim Kruse works with a horse at the Kindness Ranch

Truman Alums Elected to Missouri Veterinary Medical Association Offices



Upcoming Events!

- NATIONAL AG WEEK IS MARCH 15-21ST

Professor Susan Guffey attended the 2009 Missouri Veterinary Medical Association annual meeting held the weekend of January 22-24. At the meeting two Truman Alumni were elected as officers. Bruce Whittle (attended Truman 1987-1990) was elected president and Dana Gillig (attended Truman 1991-1994) was elected to vice president. Mary Green another Truman alum was selected as the MU representative to the MVMA. While at the meeting Professor Guffey met up with other Truman alums, including Amy Arel Susan Els, Gerrad Knopf, Catherine (Zivnuska) Webb, Jenny Sandler, & Kristin Otten. Their general consensus was that vet school is very tough, but they love it. They thought they got an excellent preparation at Truman.

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Missouri Livestock Symposium



Jon Anderson, at the symposium
Photo by Suzanne Pitts

On Dec 5th and Dec 6th Kirksville hosted the Missouri Livestock Symposium held at the Kirksville Junior High School. The symposium allows people from across the state to come together and attend sessions given by experts in their field. The symposium included topics on sheep, equine, cattle, meat goat, and forage production,

stock dogs, renewable resources, around the home topics and youth in agriculture. The symposium included a trade show that displayed many agricultural vendors, associations, products and programs. Both Dr. Wehner and Dr. Seipel serve as committee members for the symposium. Several students from the agriculture department

helped with the event by acting as room facilitators and working at booths during the trade show. Suzanne Pitts (Kirksville, MO) a sophomore agriculture student won tickets and was able to meet this years entertainment Jon Anderson.

Bulldog in Denver!

On January 6-12, 2009 Cassie Robertson (St. James, MO) exhibited her Gelbvieh heifer at the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado. The show was at the National Coliseum in Denver. She and her heifer MISS Brezzy won first place in her class. During the open show in January 12th they placed 3rd out of 8. Cassie says, "it was awesome because we were up next to the 'big breeders.'" MISS

Brezzy is a balancer female which is a Angus X Gelbvieh cross." Cassie is a sophomore and she is majoring in Animal Science. She has been showing cattle since she was eight years old. She says, "My dad showed when he was growing up and I always loved being around cattle. I did get out of showing cattle for about 5 years when my family moved from Indiana to

Missouri. It was hard to bring the show animals with us. I still own a farm back in Indiana which was our family farm for many years." Cassie is active in Sigma Alpha, serving as Rush/sisterhood chair, St. James FFA, AGJA (American Gelbvieh Junior Association), Cattle Show Team and she plays volleyball.



Alumni Profile: Tracy Barfield

Tracy Barfield graduated from Truman in 1998. She received a degree in Agriculture Science with an emphasis in Animal Science. While at Truman she was involved in Sigma Alpha, Horse Judging Team, Horseman's Association and Yearbook. After graduating she took a position as a regional sales associate with Diamond V and moved to Iowa. She currently works for the United Soybean Board where she is Feed Utilization Director, involved in research and promotion. She manages several million dollars worth of programs and has been able to switch gears and go with a little background. It's challenging and fun, but not for the faint of heart. Tracy is married and she and her husband have a son. Her favorite memories of Truman were of the classes and professors. She also lived at the University Farm and really enjoyed her time there. Her advice for current students looking for careers in agriculture after graduation is to send out as many resumes as you can and not be afraid of sales!



Bioenergy Conference Held at Truman

On December 5, 2008, Truman hosted the Bioenergy Conference. This conference highlighted the recent trends in energy prices and policy and the importance that American agriculture will play in future energy sources. The conference addressed the impact of biofuels, and the impact of food availability, food prices and the possible environmental impacts of developing these new sustainable energy sources. The conference was open to anyone interested in sustainable energy. Speakers for this event included: Dr. David Bransby (Auburn Univer-



sity), Dr. John Hay (University of Nebraska), Dr. Jack Juvik (University of Illinois) Dr. Gregg Johnson (University of Minnesota), Roger Korzenberg (MO Dept. of Natural Resources), Dr. Hank Stelzer (University of Missouri). Thomas Feighny, J.D. (Underwood Attorneys and Counselors at Law; Amarillo, Texas), Thomas Suffield (Cedars Capital, LLC; Houston, Texas) Steve Flick (Flick Seed Company/Missouri Bioenergy) and bioenergy consultant Bill Belden (Prairie Lands Bio-Products, Inc.) . Conference organizer Michael Seipel, chair of the Truman Agriculture department said, "Farmers, landowners, and young people entering agriculture need current and accurate information to help direct agriculture's role in our energy future. This conference brought together a set of bioenergy researchers, consultants, entrepreneurs, and financiers to provide the information. Students Kelsey Witte (Williamsburg, IA) and Lisa Busalacki, (St. Charles, MO) assisted the planning committee with identifying and compiling resource materials for the conference and were on hand the day of the conference to assist with logistical details and participate in the educational sessions. Lisa says, "The Bioenergy conference presented not only learning opportunities to those interested but a powerful message that a positive movement toward sustainability is in current and active upward progression."

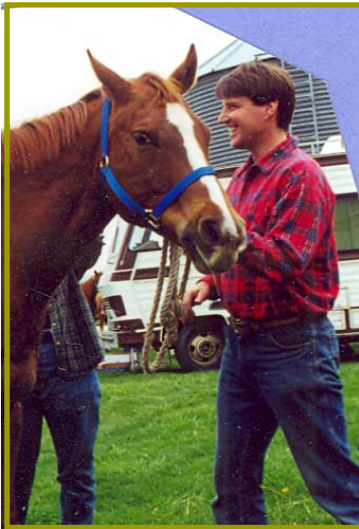
Student Profile: Casey Davis



Casey Davis is a freshman from Blue Springs, Missouri. He is double majoring in Agriculture Science with an emphasis in business and Economics. He would like to pursue a career in grain sales. Casey is a member of Alpha Gamma Rho and is currently serving as the Rush/Recruitment. Chairman He works with his family on their hog operation in Blue Springs. In his free-time Casey enjoys hunting and motor cross sports.



Horseman's Association: A look back



"Where does the corn go?"
Dr. Mark Campbell cowboys up.

"Hey there buckaroos!" Yes, it's
everybody's favorite cowboy-
geneticist Dr. Tom Marshall!



Partying like it's 1999!

How many of these Truman Alumni can you name? (answers at bottom of page)

From the Easy Chair

How time flies! It is hard to believe that one-fourth of the spring semester is behind us. Many activities continue apace here at Truman. Faculty member Emily Costello recently represented the department at the Missouri Equine Expo in Columbia; Dr. Glenn Wehner and members of the Cattle Show Team are headed off to the Iowa Beef Expo; Sigma Alpha is busy with spring rush; Collegiate Farm Bureau is preparing for a food drive for Food Checkout Day in February and member Andrew Green is headed to Sacramento, CA to represent Missouri in the National Collegiate Discussion meet at the Young Farmers and Ranchers Conference; Truman will have a booth at the NEMO Ag Show in Kirksville; and Dr. Mark Campbell is preparing for Truman's hosting of the area Science Olympiad. Equestrian Team continues its busy practice schedule with the

next show scheduled for February 28 in Manhattan, KS. Nine team members have already qualified for regionals, with several others very close to qualifying. The recession has impacted Missouri's tax revenues as it has the general economy. We expect some decline in funding levels for next year, though the outlook is brighter than it was one month ago, before Governor Nixon's budget proposal was released. This month we welcome Leann Botkin as the new writer/reporter/editor for the Ag. newsletter. Leann is a junior Ag. Science major from Salisbury, MO. She attended Moberly Area Community College for one and one-half years before transferring to Truman in Spring 2008. Leann is majoring in Ag. Science with a specialization in Ag. Business and a minor in

Communications. She plans to pursue a career in public relations or marketing with an agricultural company. You may remember from the December 2008 newsletter that Leann received her American FFA degree at the National FFA Convention last November.

Finally, we would love to hear from alums or any other friends of the department. You can view or submit alumni information or find faculty contact information at the website <http://agriculture.truman.edu>.

Correction: The December 2008 Ag Newsletter story on the Cattle Show Team contained an incorrect spelling of the last name of team member Heidi Scheall. Heidi is the daughter of Truman alumna Marty (Bruce) Scheall and her husband Gary, of Fulton, MO.

Horseman's Assn. members circa 1999 L-R: Jenn Scott, Liz Hicks, Christina Truesdale, Jenny Brann, Allison Carr, Tara Weeks, Chris Alford