

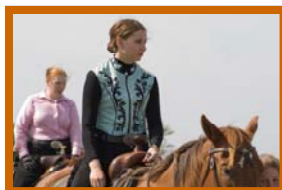


Upcoming Events:

- *Corn Maze* October 25-28
- *Nov. 26, 12:30 Biodiesel Seminar*, Leon Schumacher

Equestrian Team Show

The Equestrian Team of Truman State University hosted their annual IHSA stock show on September 29 and September 30. The show consisted of 26 dif-



ferent classes between the two days with 7 different schools represented: Blackhawk College, Augustana College, Iowa State University, Missouri State University, Northwest Missouri State University, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale,

and Truman State University. Truman had 19 competitors that collectively placed 3rd on Saturday and 4th on Sunday. The top riders for Truman included Lauren Wilson who received Reserve High Point Rider on Sunday, Kate Miluski, 2nd place on Saturday, Jamie Harrity, 2nd place on Saturday, Kelsey McFarland, 2nd place on Sunday, Samantha Dever, 2nd place on Sunday, and Whitney Mahsman, 1st place on Sunday. The Equestrian Team of Truman also has a hunt team that also travels on the weekends to compete at regional schools such as Kansas State University, Northern Illinois Univer-

sity and Washington University. Overall, the show was a success. A lot of hard work was done by every single member of the team both before the show and during. The team would like to say an extra thank you to Bill Kuntz and the farm crew for all of their help in getting the farm ready and playing such a crucial role in hosting the show.



Haunted Corn Maze

Sigma Alpha, the professional agricultural sorority, is once again sponsoring a haunted corn maze taking place at Truman's University Farm. The tagline for this year's event is "Welcome to the Insane Asylum." The haunted corn maze will

open Thursday, October 25, and will run from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. It will be open again on Thursday and Friday, the 26th and 27th, from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. Then on Sunday, the 28th, it will be "Kid's Day," where kids get in free if they wear a

costume. The admission for the corn maze each day is \$3 per person.



Summer Internship Profile By: Catie Burke

For 13 weeks in summer 2007 I had an internship working for Monsanto at a research farm in Kihei, Maui; while in Hawaii I worked under a group called Assay that was responsible for the genetic quality of all the corn grown in Hawaii. We would individually tag all of the plants that would need to be sampled, and then sample them to see if the gene of interest was present in the corn. It was a great learning experience for me to be able to work at a winter nursery site, and also just to live in a place where I knew no one. It is quite an experience to get off a plane and get picked up by someone you do not know, and go meet the person who you are living with for the next three months that you have never met. As a pre-vet student, having an internship in crops has made me re-evaluate what the future might hold. If given the opportunity for an internship that is outside of your emphasis or even your major, take it. It can never hurt to broaden your horizons.

From the “Easy Chair”

“Never regret. If it's good, it's wonderful. If it's bad, it's experience.”

--Victoria Holt

On a recent Monday, four Agricultural Science students presented a seminar on their summer internship experiences. Each student not only described and showed pictures of their internship site but also reflected on the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that they had gained or refined through the internship. The lessons learned varied from the technical (artificial insemination technique in swine) to the practical (effective supervision of a work crew) to the downright exotic (what is the pre-

ferred technique for removing watusi dung from a zoo paddock?). While not all of the reported experiences were “good”, all were instructive.

In each case, it was clear that the student had not only had fun but had learned different things, and in different ways, than in a typical college class. Internships do not replace but provide an invaluable complement to the traditional curriculum. An internship can provide new skills and knowledge, build connections valuable in a future career or graduate school, reaffirm the student’s choice of a major and future career, or in some cases, change a student’s

planned career focus. For all of these reasons, we strongly encourage students to make an internship part of their undergraduate experience and provide options for students who wish to earn academic credit for their internship experience.

Alumni readers of this newsletter may offer or know of internship opportunities that would be of great value to our students. Let me know about them and I will pass the word along to students. You can contact me at mseipel@truman.edu or 660.785.4316.

--Michael Seipel, Department Chair

Spring 2008 Registration Begins

Registration for the Spring 2008 Semester began for the seniors on Monday, October 22. Many seniors feel relieved now that the registration for their last semester is complete. Juniors, sophomore, and freshman should pay attention to the course offerings in the agriculture department for next spring. Many ag classes are offered every other year, so it is necessary to pay attention to when

those courses are offered. Classes open in spring of even years include:

- AGSC 218 Intro to Horticulture
- AGSC 322 Animal Health
- AGSC 410 Soil Conservation
- AGSC 414 Agricultural Policy
- AGSC 429 Domestic Animal Behavior

There are also two special animal science classes being taught next semester:

- AGSC 306 Sheep Production, taught by Dr. Marshall
- AGSC 306 Livestock Evaluation taught by Dr. Wehner

Good luck registering and don’t forget to talk to your advisor well in advance to make sure you’re on track for graduation!

Collegiate Farm Bureau

Farm Bureau held their first meeting of the year last week. Farm Bureau President Cale Plowman was very excited about the increase in membership this year as it was much improved from past years. Farm Bureau’s goal is to educate the Truman community about agriculture in the state of Missouri as well as the United States. The first event for the group will take place on Halloween where members will be going door to

door throughout the Kirksville community, collecting canned food items which will be donated to Adair Foods. On November 7th, a discussion meet will be held in Magruder Hall. The topic for this discussion meet will be: **“What is the public perception of the family farm and how does that perception impact future agriculture policy decisions?”** All students are welcome to join Farm Bureau to learn more about agriculture.

*Collegiate Farm Bureau
Meetings: Wednesdays, 7 pm*

University Farm Tours



The University Farm has been busy this fall with several activities. The Heartland Task Force recently sponsored a Mother/Son Stampede. Mothers around the area were able to bring their sons out to the farm and partake in several fun games and activities. Monies raised from this event will go to help the Victim Support Services. Along with this event, several ag students participated in giving tours of the University Farm to local first graders.



Bulldog Biodiesel

Each year, the ag department seniors take the ag practicum class. This is the capstone experience that each ag student must have before graduating. This year, there are 3 different project groups in the class. Their businesses include: TSUDs, a soap-making company, Strips-N-Sticks Beef Jerky Company, and Bulldog Biodiesel. Each newsletter, we will feature a different group. This month, we are reporting on the operations of Bulldog Biodiesel. According to their mission statement, *“Bulldog Biodiesel is a business that recycles used vegetable oil and*

turns it into a useable fuel. Our goal is to eventually recycle all of Truman’s Campus oil for use in campus vehicles. In doing this we will be saving the environment and money.” Along with the chemistry department, environmental studies and any other interested persons on campus, they have begun the first step in the production of biodiesel: collection. They will eventually have collection points at each university hall kitchen. The second step

*Agriculture Practicum Class
Profile: Bulldog Biodiesel*

is to filter the oil and the final step is to convert the waste vegetable oil into biodiesel. In order to process the oil, a special processor is needed. The long-term goal of Bulldog Biodiesel is to eventually support the Truman State University campus with the biodiesel made from waste vegetable oil produced right here on campus. In order to make this project a success, the group is looking for sponsors/financial support at this time.

Student Profile: Sheila Rustemeyer

Sheila is a senior Agricultural Science major with an emphasis in Animal Science. She grew up on a cattle farm on the outskirts of Jefferson City, Missouri. She has been involved in various organizations throughout her college career including the Pre-Vet Club of which she is the president, Delta Tau Alpha of which she is the secretary, Truman’s Cattle Show Team, Farm Bureau, and intramural sports. Sheila also works at the University Farm as well as the Assessment and Testing Department at Truman.

Sheila says she is especially interested in cattle and processing. In her free time, she likes to read and work with animals. Thinking back on her experience at Truman so far, Sheila said her favorite memories are from working with cattle for the Cattle Show Team, working at the University Farm with such great people, the meats class she took last year, and the fun times she spends every day in the “Ag Corner” in Magruder Hall. Sheila also said, “The agriculture at Truman is something I’ll never forget. I’ve devel-

oped so much more understanding of people and agriculture through my experience here!”

