

# Gambling makes its way to Kansas

By Tommy Castor  
Staff reporter

For years, Kansans have flocked to nearby casinos in Oklahoma to experience the thrill of gambling. Thanks to lawmakers in Topeka, residents in Kansas may soon have gambling in their own back yards.

After nearly 15 years of failed legislative measures to expand gambling, a bill to allow slot machines at various dog and horse tracks across the state was recently approved.

The bill also allows for large destination casinos to be built in four locations, including one in either Sedgwick or Sumner County.

Governor Kathleen Sebelius signed the expanded gambling bill on April 11, and the prospect of gambling has generated mixed reactions from

lawmakers and voters alike.

Rep. Ed Trimmer, D-Winfield, voted for expanded gambling in Kansas.

"We have casinos in Oklahoma not more than 15 miles away. Any problems from gaming are already facing Cowley County and I haven't noticed a huge public outcry because of the Oklahoma casinos," Trimmer said.

"With gaming in Kansas, we can now keep some of the revenue in the state. We will also have money for treatment of gambling addiction which we do not currently have with casinos in Oklahoma, Missouri, and Colorado."

Steve Rankin, professor of religious studies, said, "We [the church] are opposed to gambling, state run gambling and things like that. The

main reason is much like the church's view on drinking. There is a significant social cost to people's lives that dramatically counterbalances any benefit the state or the public world might get from taxes based on gambling."

Rankin says gambling is not an open and shut case.

"Here is what complicates this picture. I think there is a parallel. Some people are alcoholics and they cannot and should not drink one drop of alcohol. Some people can drink without any problem. There's no compulsive behavior there. Some people can take their 50 bucks or 100 bucks and gamble and not have a problem with it."

According to Trimmer, it is a personal choice to spend money at a casino.

"If people feel gaming is immoral then they have a perfect right to stay away from the casinos. For those who favor gaming, they should have the right to participate if they so choose," Trimmer said.

Gambling is a big issue to voters with a proposed casino to be on the Sedgwick County ballot Aug. 7.

"I feel that gambling is a good thing for people who know how to handle it."

Pablo Godbey, religion and philosophy senior, said, "I don't think that many people, though, know how to handle the effects of gambling. People see the greed in easy money and a lot of times it is hard to stop."

Pahri Hafez, communication senior, said, "I don't really gamble much. I think it is fine as long as gamblers play smart, but I also know

that gambling can be a drug and users need to be aware of that."

The expansion of gambling also has a potentially large financial payoff for the state.

"The projection is that the State of Kansas would see from \$200 to \$250 million a year in revenue from expanded gaming," Trimmer said.

"That could go a long way to providing health care, education, building maintenance for colleges and universities, and property tax relief."

According to Rankin, it is wrong for the state to tax expanded gambling.

"In order for casinos to be profitable, most of the people have to lose money, and for the state to tax that, it's almost parasitic and predatory," Rankin said.

"The rationale is to pump the money into the school system. That just seems stupid and wrong to me. I'm more bothered by the state getting a break off of it."

With gaming soon making its way into Kansas, many different issues, including the social cost, will be on the minds of voters.

"Gambling is attractive to many people because they are exciting, high-stakes games that turn real life into fantasy," Godbey said.

"You may win some money but you are more likely to end up broke than winning that jackpot. Many people end up hurting their families and their pocketbooks."

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## Assignments cause reaction

By Katie Allender  
Entertainment editor

After students found out their housing assignments for next fall, there were some minor irritations about them.

The process begins with writing down your top seven living arrangement choices and submitting them to the Residence Life office.

Students are then placed in housing depending on their priority scale and how many violations they may have.

However, students with no violations and a high priority scale don't always get into the rooms they chose.

Omari Head, director of residence life, assigns rooms based on a priority scale. Each student's cumulative grade point average is multiplied by their credit hours at Southwestern. That number is then divided by the number of people wanting to room together.

The outcome, or average, is your priority scale. Those with the higher score will get first choice on housing assignments.

"This is done to give priority to those who've been at Southwestern the longest," said Head.

He said it is a way to reward those who've been here longer and have the best grades.

Head tries to place everyone in their first preference if they are eligible. If they aren't eligible or their first choice is filled, he moves to the second choice and so on.

Head said, "I'm not into bumping students out of spots." He said you'll just go to your next priority and that you won't get put in a build-

ing if you didn't put it down. There were 37 students who didn't get into their first priority.

Head said if openings occur, those on the list will be notified if they want to be moved.

Natalie Snow, elementary education sophomore, listed her top seven choices in order of Warren, Shriwise, Honnors, Sutoon, Reid, Cole and Broadhurst. She was placed in Shriwise.

"I don't like that I didn't get into my first choice and I'm kind of mad because I thought I would," said Snow.

"I wanted to live in Warren bad." Snow thinks this happened because she only had two other roommates and there would have just been three of them instead of four.

Snow said she wishes residence life would have just put her in with someone because she cannot afford to live in Shriwise by herself. However, housing does not do this.

Tony Marolf, digital imaging freshman, has been assigned to his third choice as well, Shriwise. His first two were Reid and Honors. "I really just wanted to get into Reid," he said.

"I'm a little sad I guess, but it's not really that big of a deal. I just want to live in Reid as soon as I can."

Marolf signed up for a four person room in Reid with three other freshmen. He said, "The fourth person couldn't room in Reid because he just transferred so he had basically no credits (from Southwestern)."

He said another reason is because they were all freshmen.

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## Tri-Beta hosts mud volleyball



Photo by Amanda Smith/Collegian photographer

Cordairo Hansen, mathematics and business administration junior, returns the serve during the mud volleyball scrimmage last Friday while Michael Stolze, biology senior, and Daniel Walker, pre-med freshman, look on.

## Students remain in town over summer

By Anthony Cook  
Staff reporter

By the time the calendar hits May, most students are ready for summer break. Winfield is often the last place on their minds. However, some students are opting to stay in town over the summer.

There are several reasons for staying.

Bryant Andrews, business management junior, said, "I'm going to stay here and work out with the rest of the football team. I want to learn the new system from the new coach. I think we have about 20 to 25 football players staying. Basically everyone is staying unless they have a job opportunity they can't pass up."

Cordairo Hansen, mathematics junior, said, "I am planning on staying in Winfield this summer to take summer classes and continue working at Nieves'. Also, I live only 15 minutes away, so I will be close to home."

Kimberly Lowery, communication junior, said, "I want to experience life away from home for the summer."

Warren Apartments will be open for students who wish to stay on campus. Lowery and Hansen plan to stay in their apartments over the summer.

Others are lining up houses in the Winfield area.

Andrews said, "Brandon Jackson, Lin Roberts, and I will be staying in either Silverwood Apartments or in a house in Winfield. We haven't decided yet."

Work will take up part of the schedule.

Lowery said, "I will be working at KSOK radio in Ark City. I don't know how many hours I will be working but I am looking forward to it."

Even with fewer people on campus, those staying said they believe they will stay busy and that boredom will not be a problem.

Andrews said, "There are quite a few different people staying to work on their sport. There are softball girls staying and basketball players staying. I think there will be plenty to do."

Lowery said, "I have several friends who reside in Winfield. I will probably hang out with them. Working and hanging out will take up my time. There is going to be a radio day camp for prospective students held on campus that I am going to be helping out with. It's really going to be pretty busy this summer."

They will still find time to make it home to see their family.

Andrews said, "Every weekend I don't work I will be going home. I only live two hours away."

Hansen said, "I will probably go home ever other week or so to see them."

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## Organizations venture out of country for service projects

By Vincent Putera  
Staff reporter

Eighteen students involved in the discipleship program will be traveling to Costa Rica for a mission trip. Ashlee Alley, director of discipleship and coordinator of campus ministry, is leading the group. They will be building classrooms and working with children.

Meanwhile, 30 students in the leadership program are scheduled to fly to the Dominican Republic.

Cheryl Rude, director of leadership studies, and Brent Inkelaar, graduate assistant, are leading the group. The group will be split into smaller groups upon arrival and will be working with schools, churches, and hospitals.

Both the leadership and the discipleship teams are leaving on May 8 and will be back on May 17.

"It is good to see a group of college students give of their time and effort to serve others," said Jennifer Edwards, business sophomore. "And

it's also a great time to bond with the rest of the team and to experience new things."

Other students travel to foreign countries in smaller groups or on their own. Three students from the education program are heading to China to visit local schools and orphanages. This group will be led by Nili Luo, professor of early childhood education.

"I think it's going to be one of the greatest and most meaningful things I have ever done and maybe

will ever do in my life," said Marci Bartow, early childhood education junior. "We might even get to work with children that have HIV."

"It's a two week trip to my country. We'll get to see the education system in China and we'll also stop by at my hometown where I was raised," said Luo. Luo and her students are leaving May 24 and will be back on June 6.

Hilary Mawia, pre-med junior is going to intern with World Vision, an international non-government or-

ganization fighting poverty. Mawia is an international student from Myanmar.

"I'm very excited. Aside from being able to see my family again, I will be exposed to the medical needs and health issues of my country, which is an amazing opportunity for me as a pre-med student," said Mawia.

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## Ghost of Helen Graham haunts Christy Hall's Little Theatre

By Anthony Cook  
Staff reporter

It's not uncommon to find stories of ghosts haunting colleges. A simple Google search will bring up anything from a fraternity house haunted by a founding member to a school library occupied by several deceased drop-outs.

Southwestern College has its own tales.

An alleged ghost lives in the basement of Christy Administration Building in the little theatre that is

her namesake.

Helen Graham graduated from Southwestern in 1919. She returned three years later to serve as a member of the faculty. She taught for 41 years, until her retirement in 1963.

Graham established the theatre's longest running traditions. She initiated the annual Christmas play "Eagerheart." Graham also was a member of Campus Players from its inception in 1919.

Unexplained incidents have occurred in the little theatre. Graham is considered the reason behind this.

Tabatha McMullen, English sophomore, said, "I spent a lot of time in the theatre last year. Sometimes we would be sitting in the little theatre and the lights would start to flash on and off for no apparent reason. Another time a light just fell from the ceiling for no reason. It just always seemed like there was some sort of presence."

Megan Whitaker, theatre senior, said, "I've never actually seen a ghost, but I have heard strange noises from time to time. Odd things have happened when her name has

accounting freshman, said, "I think that people want to make themselves see a ghost. I have heard lots of stories, but I have my doubts they actually happened. They want to make themselves hear things so they can be a part of the stories."

Abram Rankin, undeclared freshman, said, "Theatre majors and those involved in theatre are naturally going to have a creative mind. Because of that I think people dream some of these stories up. Plus, it's an old building. Weird noises are a part of the territory."

There are as many doubters as there are believers in the Helen Graham ghost. Still, the believers aren't anywhere close to changing their minds. McMullen said, "I definitely believe Helen Graham is still in the little theatre. It might be her spirit or ghost or whatever, but I know that her presence is still around. I've been a part of too many spooky occurrences to not believe."

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