



News Release

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WESTERN RESPONDS TO FIRE IN STUDENT'S ROOM IN THE LIVING LEARNING CENTER

St. Joseph, Mo. —Feb. 27, 2005— Late Sunday afternoon, Feb. 26, a fire in a room in the Living Learning Center at Missouri Western State University triggered the sprinkler system, and the St. Joseph Fire Department to respond. No one was injured in the fire. The fire, started by a candle in the student's room, was contained in that room. Water from the sprinkler system damaged some rooms on the first and second floor of the southeast wing of the hall.

Western's primary concern is the students' safety. In this situation the detection of the fire and response of the sprinkler system worked as intended to minimize the damage of the fire. All students were temporarily evacuated from the Living Learning Center as the electrical system was checked and the sprinkler system reset. During this time the cafeteria opened and served pizza and fountain drinks to the students. Sixty-two students with water damage in their rooms were moved to other rooms in the hall.

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Missouri Western State University is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The university offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.

