



Chris Tharp/Index

Workers continue construction of Highway 36 on Wed. Highway 63 begins to split into a four-lane highway just north of La Plata, Mo., located about 13 miles south of Kirksville. This section of highway construction is expected to be completed by Oct. 7.

# Local highways gain lanes

**Kyle Hill**  
Staff Reporter

Road projects increasing four-lane highway access to Kirksville are proceeding steadily.

Construction crews are placing the finishing touches on two new lanes to Highway 63 south of Kirksville. Jeff Gander, Missouri Department of Transportation resident engineer, said that barring any delays, the 21-mile stretch will open to traffic Oct. 7.

A similar project in Randolph County adds two new lanes to Highway 63 from Moberly to Jacksonville. The \$31.8 million project includes an interchange just north of Moberly.

"At this point, everything's on schedule," Gander said. "We're fighting the dust and dry weather."

With funds generated by the passage of Amendment III last November, resurfacing in Macon was completed in June, and a new surface for Baltimore in Kirksville is near completion. MoDOT resident engineer Phil Sandifer said the last stripes should be painted by next week.

The two projects were part of the Smoother Roads Initiative, which funds resurfacing projects on major highways.

"[The initiative] made the surface a lot smoother and the stripes more durable," Sandifer said. "It should make travel through Baltimore Street smoother and safer."

Two more projects funded by Amendment III are still in the planning stages, which will eventually connect Kirksville and Moberly with a four-lane highway. MoDOT area engineer Dennis Brucks said bids

should be awarded by spring 2007.

Amendment III funds will contribute to a long-awaited project south of Kirksville. Voters in five northeast Missouri counties approved Proposition 36B, allowing a one-half cent sales tax increase to help pay for the addition of two lanes on Highway 36 from Macon to Hannibal. When completed, Highway 36 will be four lanes from St. Joseph to Hannibal and provide a second contiguous four-lane route between Kirksville and St. Louis.

"Everybody's excited about it," Frank Withrow, Macon County economic development director, said. "[The voters] know that the economic growth of the area is tied to transportation and infrastructure."

The tax itself passed last April in four of the five counties designated

as the Highway 36 Transportation Development District. The August vote removed the dissenting county, allowing the tax to take effect in the remaining four.

Even though Truman is 35 miles north of Highway 36, Withrow said students should feel safer driving home on a four-lane highway than a two-lane highway.

"Four lanes are always better than two lanes, and that makes the University a little more user-friendly for some students," Withrow said.

Melody Chambers, co-director of admission, said the University should benefit from the road improvements.

"Anything that makes it more convenient and safer to travel makes Truman State a more viable option for people to consider and to enroll," Chambers said.

## NEWS | In Brief

### Bike racks moved to campus perimeter

This summer, the Physical Plant moved bike racks from locations throughout the University campus to areas on the edge of campus.

Bikers are asked to use only the provided racks to store their bicycles. They are not to attach bicycles to light posts, campus fencing or rails.

### Competition increases for textbook sales

For 20 years Truman State University Bookstore has been providing students with textbooks.

Barnes and Noble Booksellers owns the Truman Bookstore, located in the Student Union Building, and until two years ago Patty's Bookstore was the only competition.

A third competitor, Pricemonk.com, which launched on Dec. 1, 2003, as a way for students to exchange books online and has now increased to online supply companies. The Web site searches more than 20 Web sites for textbooks.

"Our mission [at Pricemonk.com] is to provide the lowest prices for college students," Michael Ravenscraft said.

Pricemonk.com also finds the lowest prices for movies, music reading books and videogames.

Steve Pennington, manager of Truman State University Bookstore, said in the coming spring semester Barnes and Noble Booksellers will provide a way for students to search for the books they need online.

The books can either be shipped directly to their house or dormitory, or they can be boxed up in bookstore for students to pick up.

"The whole Internet market for books is a competitor," Pennington said. "We are updating our Web site so we can stay competitive."

### Emily Kiddoo named as the Student Representative to Board of Governors

Governor Matt Blunt selected sophomore Emily Kiddoo to replace Emily Dunn as the student representative to the University's Board of Governors.

She is from Memphis, Mo. and will serve a two-year term as a non-voting member.

### Kirksville City Council meets Aug. 22

The City Council will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at the City Hall council chambers.

City Hall is located north of campus off Franklin Street and directly south of the city square.

The council meets regularly on the fourth Monday of the month, and all meetings are open to the public.

For more information, visit [www.kirksvillecity.com](http://www.kirksvillecity.com).

### John Fraire begins duties as associate vice president for enrollment management

Fraire began work at the University on July 18. He recently finished a six-month research project with the New Latino Visions theater Company in Kalamazoo, Mich.

He has served in numerous admissions positions, and he worked as dean of admissions for Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich.

In addition, he worked as the director of admission at Brooklyn College/City University of New York, in New York, N.Y. and as director of undergraduate admissions at Pace University in New York, N.Y.

He obtained his B.A. degree in government, and his M.A. in administrative planning and social policy from Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass.

He is currently working on his Ph.D. in history at Western Michigan University.

Fraire is a published playwright and has been involved in professional theatre productions for over 10 years.

### Student Activities Fair will be Aug. 31

More than 200 campus organizations will be represented Wed Aug. 31 on the University Quadrangle.

The fair starts at noon and will end at 4 p.m.

## DPS | Reports

- 8/02 Report of a bicycle theft from Baldwin Hall.
- 7/17 Report of theft from Kirk Building.
- 7/16 Report of theft from Pickler Memorial Library
- 7/14 Report of rape.
- 7/12 Report of theft from Magruder Hall construction area.
- 7/11 Report of vandalism at Baldwin Hall.
- 7/11 Report of theft from Magruder Hall.
- 7/10 Senior Daniel Mooney was issued a Missouri Uniform Summons and Complaint for Minor in Possession of intoxicating liquor.
- 7/9 Sophomore Kyle Grinstead was issued a Missouri Uniform Summons and Complaint for Minor in Possession of intoxicating liquor.
- 7/8 Senior Katherine Martinek was issued a Missouri Uniform Summons and Complaint for Minor in Possession of intoxicating liquor.

# FACT facilitates first-year adjustment

**Grace Mattie**  
Staff Reporter

Starting college and living alone can be a highly stressful time, yet FACT makes students feel right at home.

FACT, or the First-Year Activities Coordinating Team, comes together at the start of every school year and plans a full week of activities for Truman Week so newcomers can meet new people and feel better acquainted with the campus before classes start.

"I think FACT came about just to have something for the incoming students instead of just throwing them into classes," said sophomore Amanda Hoylman, head of the FACT Band Fest committee.

Although FACT is involved only during Truman Week, members of FACT must come back the Wednesday before Truman Week in order to get everything ready before the students' arrival that next Sunday.

"Yeah, we only do stuff at Freshman Week," said Rebecca Martin, senior FACT member. "But we as a team have training sessions at the end of the preceding year and come back early."

One of the services FACT offers is moving in the new students.

"We're the ones with the signs that help parents know where to go," said Kayla Medley, senior FACT member.

FACT members also are responsible for making themselves available to all new students.

"It's pretty much an all day job," Martin said. "In our interviews they really stressed that we're role models, and we need to be able to be sociable with all the parents and know the campus really well so that we're somebody to come to."

Other than traditional activities like the ice cream social and dance, what really makes this year different is the theme: Saturday Night Live.

"Everything is from a Saturday Night Live skit," Martin said. "The theme for the ice cream social is 'Lay off me, I'm starving' because it's from a Chris Rock skit."

## Nightly FACT Activities

Night	Time	Event	Place
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9 p.m.</b>	<b>Ice Cream Social</b>	<b>The Mall</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>9:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Dance</b>	<b>The Mall</b>
	<b>9:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Friend Finder</b>	<b>Ryle Hall</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9 p.m.</b>	<b>Movie</b>	<b>The Quad</b>
	<b>9 p.m.</b>	<b>Field Events</b>	<b>Rec Center</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9 p.m.</b>	<b>Mystery Theatre</b>	<b>SUB Georgian Rm</b>
	<b>10 p.m.</b>	<b>Karaoke</b>	<b>SUB Activities Rm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9 p.m.</b>	<b>Dance</b>	<b>The Mall</b>
	<b>10 p.m.</b>	<b>Open Mic</b>	<b>SUB Down Under</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9 p.m.</b>	<b>Comedian</b>	<b>Baldwin Theatre</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Bandfest</b>	<b>The Quad</b>

Other thematic activities include the dance "The Night at the Roxbury," the movie "Wayne's World," field day at the rec center, a new activity titled "Pump You Up" and "Truman Night Live" karaoke, another new activity.

"We totally get it so we hope that they do too," Medley said.

Another difference this year is that one of the dances is going to be put on by the Panhellenic Council, the governing body of campus social sororities.

Other than a few tweaks, all of the activities are similar to previous years.

"You really stick to what works on something like this," Martin said. "Incoming students, they need something that we're going to be good at, like dances, where they are going to meet a lot of people."

In keeping things the same, there will be two Murder Mystery Theaters this year due to the

significant turnout last year.

"They said it was a huge hit," Martin said. "People were saying that they loved it."

Statistics from the previous year help FACT decide which activities to keep and which to can.

"We look at the year before and ask if it went well," said Hoylman. "Since you're getting new people in every year, it's not like they're going to know it."

FACT will wrap up Truman Week with the Band Fest on Saturday.

"FACT's goal is to give incoming students some clean fun so that they have something to do in the evening beyond going to the parties," Martin said. "We provide them with other entertainment."

Junior Sara Logan said students will go to parties regardless of the activities that FACT will produce, yet by the end of the week she thinks everyone will feel more comfortable with college and be ready to start class.

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