

# Department shifts halls

**Science division spends winter break moving into the Magruder Hall addition**

**Alan Reininger**  
Assistant News Editor

Professors in the science division probably didn't expect to spend winter break moving boxes.

Scott Ellis, dean of science, said the campus planner and the architect made the decision that the building was ready for occupancy early in December 2005.

Roger Festa, professor of chemistry, said he and other science faculty members began moving into the Magruder Hall addition Dec. 12 and continued to work through the majority of the winter break.

Festa said he was annoyed by the decision to move in during winter break.

"The decision was ill-advised and mean-spirited," Festa said.

Festa said the other faculty members were not fazed by the decision. Others were angry about it, such as those who already had made travel arrangements for the break and had to rearrange their plans at the last minute, including airplane tickets.

"It cost a lot of people money, and it caused a lot of emotional upheaval in their lives," Festa said.

He said the move caused no major problems among the science faculty, and everyone has successfully relocated.

"We did it because we are professionals," Festa said. "We can take it."

Festa said the move interrupted his plans for the winter break, including his correspondence and professional work, writing

letters of recommendation and planning for the spring semester. With the moving process, he said he worked 10 to 14 hours a day to catch up. However, he also said he did not have to pack, move and reset up a laboratory as several of his colleagues did.

"We were to not plan on being away except for a few days around Dec. 25," he said.

He said the science division attempted to work with faculty schedules during break.

"You don't want someone packing for you, and you especially don't want someone packing our equipment and glassware in the teaching labs and your research labs," Ellis said. "That's something you have to do yourself. In the grand scheme of things, we are 90 percent delighted."

Ellis said the construction process is nearly complete.

"We've moved into everything we are going to move into," Ellis said. "We're using everything we have planned to use, except for the planetarium."

Ellis said funding for the unfinished planetarium probably would come from the capital campaign process.

Ellis said the Physical Plant assisted the science division with moving into the Magruder Hall addition.

"The heroes of the move were the Physical Plant," he said. "Several faculty members who rose to the occasion in physics and agriculture helped to move the stuff over."

Plumbing, electrical and carpentry work was performed during the move-in process, he said. Offices were supplied with used furniture from previous years and had to be set up while the Physical Plant installed shelves, Ellis said.

Ellis said various parts of the new ad-



**John Gering, assistant professor of biology, and junior Chrystal Detweiler converse in the newly renovated section of Magruder Hall on Wednesday afternoon.**

Adam Kabins/Index

dition still need completion, including checking for water leakage, mechanical soundness issues, some furniture for laboratories, cracks in the concrete flooring and fixing the old elevator. He said the noise from the ventilation system is interrupting lectures.

"The airflow problem right now is No. 1 on my list of problems to be solved," Ellis said. "It's making it very difficult to teach in our lecture rooms."

He said satisfaction would be closer to 100 percent once the airflow problem in the classrooms has been fixed.

The computer network system has not been fully set up yet, Ellis said. He said the company is working on fixing the bugs in

the system, specifically in Magruder Hall's four high-technology classrooms. He said that despite the late start, the company has been working hard during the last two to three weeks to finish the majority of the work before classes started.

"They had to wait for all the construction details to be done," he said. "That wasn't deemed done until the fall semester was ending."

Ellis said that in addition to the computer network, the furniture companies had to wait until after the construction companies had finished before moving in furniture for the classrooms and laboratories.

Agriculture was added to the science division during the University restructuring

that occurred in the mid-1980s, but this is the first time that all four disciplines have been housed in the same building, Ellis said.

Senior K.C. Rowe, a biology and psychology double major, said she is glad to have her science classes in Magruder this semester. She said she had her lecture for Organic Chemistry I in Barnett Hall last fall.

"Our classroom in Barnett had leaky tiles, so we had trash cans around the room collecting the water," she said.

She said she is looking forward to the completion of the cyber café in Magruder Hall. She said she is impressed by the new additions.

"It's like a shopping mall of learning," she said.

# Police charge two local teens for firing air rifles

**Sadye Scott-Hainchek**  
Assistant Head Copy Editor

Police charged two Kirksville teenagers with a misdemeanor after their air rifles might have set a car on fire Sunday.

Scottwell C. Calloway, 18, and Cyle C. Kelly, 17, allegedly were shooting at aerosol cans near an empty car at 4:40 p.m. Sunday, according to the police report.

Because the two teenagers were charged with the discharging of air rifles in the city limits, a court will set the fine, Sgt. Steve

Farnsworth of the Kirksville Police Department said. He also said the case probably will not proceed much further.

"I don't think much is going to happen just because the victim doesn't want to pursue anything," he said.

Although the car caught on fire, Farnsworth said he could not confirm the cause. Both he and Battalion Chief Randy Singleton of the Kirksville Fire Department said the cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Singleton, however, said the car didn't contain anything flammable.

"We know there was nothing in the vehicle that should've caught the vehicle on fire," he said. "There wasn't a battery in the vehicle that I'm aware of or anything like that, like an electrical shorter or anything."

Singleton said the fire was extinguished about three minutes after the fire department arrived, and the car remains where it was last Sunday. It was one among many at Fred's Wrecker, a towing service located at 1602 N. Walnut St., Farnsworth said.

An employee of Fred's Wrecker first no-

ticed the flames. Kirksville resident Ronald Vandyke, who lives across the street from Fred's, said he called the shop owner, Fred Scott, after seeing the burning car.

"I just happened to glance out the window and see it," Vandyke said. "I thought the main shop was on fire. ... There was a big old ball of smoke and flames."

Scott said he called the fire department after receiving Vandyke's phone call at his home and went to the scene himself. He said he did not own the car, a Dodge being used for parts.

"It was a neighbor's car here, staying at the same residence that mine's at," he said.

The owner's name did not appear in the police report, Farnsworth said.

Police also are investigating the connection between this incident and a possibly related case, Farnsworth said. A man informed police Monday that he was shot in the back with what he thought was an air rifle while walking west on Filmore Street on Saturday night, Farnsworth said.

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**Tuesday** Trivia Contest Coming Soon!  
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Ladies Night: Well drink and pitcher specials  
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Happy Hour: 4 to 6 p.m. and 12 to 1 a.m.  
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