



Biking: 101

Bike maintenance requires a few tools and a desire to learn

Students who bring their bikes to Kirksville can prevent bike theft and ensure their safety by learning to obey the biking rules of the road.

Kalen Ponche
Features Editor

Sophomore John Estes has a small bike shop in his bedroom closet. Estes keeps wheels, frames, inner tubes and other bike parts in his apartment where he builds older bikes he gives away. A self-taught bike expert, Estes said it was easy to learn basic bike repair and maintenance.

"They're fairly simple machines," Estes said. "So once you have somebody show you it or fool around with it, you can figure it out on your own." Estes began bike building in high school when he started fixing up old frames from his garage.

"You see one bike in the trash, and the next thing you know, you have a lot of bikes in your house," Estes said.

Estes said a few basic tools such as a plastic tire lever and some Allen wrenches are enough to fix simple problems.

"It's fairly easy [to make repairs] if you're into it," he said.

Lesson 1: Basic Maintenance

Although Kirksville does not have any bike shops, students do not have to travel all the way to Columbia to get their bikes repaired.

Todd Guess, service manager at Cyclextreme Bicycle Warehouse in Columbia, Mo., said bicyclists could easily learn to do work on their own bikes. He said that although bikes that are ridden frequently should get a tune-up once a year, most basic bike maintenance is easy to do.

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Campus Bike Theft

The number of bike thefts from Jan. 1, 2005 to Sept. 5, 2006.

Active Cases: Cases in which police are pursuing follow up.

Inactive Cases: A case that is not being actively pursued until new information is received.

Closed Cases: Cases which are sent to the prosecutor or cases where the victim refuses to press charges.

Unfounded Cases: Police investigation determined no crime took place.

Source: Sgt. Chad Whittom, a Department of Public Safety officer, Campus Crime Logs

Design by Lindsay Koski/Index

Community bike program pauses to make repairs this fall

Group hopes to find space to create a workshop to be used for storage and bicycle repair

Kalen Ponche
Features Editor

The Community Sharing Bike Program will take the semester off to address problems, graduate student Cassie Phillips said. Phillips, who started the program last spring, said the program had problems with the bikes and needed to be reorganized.

About 200 students registered for the program and were able to check out the bikes through the residence halls. Student organizations paid \$10 to sponsor a bike and paint it bright yellow with their names in purple. The bikes Phillips acquired for the program were old. As the semester progressed, their condition deteriorated, she said.

"It's frustrating when you get on a bike that's too small or the brakes aren't working

properly," Phillips said. "The biggest thing is that I don't want people to lose faith in the program."

Phillips said they will spend this semester making repairs to the bikes they currently possess.

"We had very few people who had mechanic skills," she said. "Even if we could identify what the problem was, there were no places to get [the bikes] fixed."

Sophomore Zia Luehrman participated in the program last spring and said she had difficulties with the bikes she borrowed.

"My friend and I, we were going to go ride downtown, and I actually picked one bike that worked fairly well, but she selected a bike that the chain had come off of," Luehrman said.

Although she was able to bring her own bike to school this semester, Luehrman said she is glad to hear the program will be back up and running.

"To have access to the program is wonderful," she said. "I know a lot of people

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Chris Tharp/Index

One of the bikes from the Community Sharing Bike Program rests upside down outside the Student Union Building. Graduate student Cassie Phillips, program organizer, said the wheel was removed for repairs.

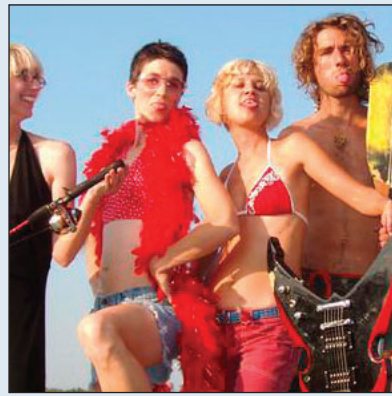
Around The Ville

Friends of the NRA Banquet
Fans of Charlton Heston unite and wildlife beware. The annual Kirksville-area National Rifle Association benefit is Saturday. Call Raymond Sweet at 660-665-5776 for more information.



5:30 p.m. Saturday
NEMO Fairgrounds

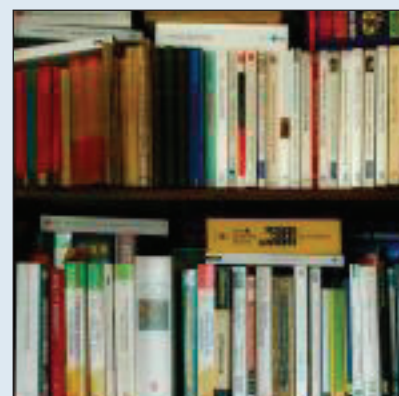
HappyAss Concert
After a brief hiatus for guitarist Robyn Becker's successful thumb surgery, local music legend HappyAss is returning to the stage to support pop group The Melismatics and Alice.



8:30 p.m. Friday
The Dukum Upp
\$5 at the Door

Library Book Sale

Browse a variety of used paperbacks and hardbacks and walk home with your arms full of the educational or entertaining texts. All proceeds will benefit the Pickler Memorial Library.



10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sept. 20 and 21
Pickler Memorial Library