

# Musician aims to surprise

**Glen Velez seeks to expose his audience to world music and the tambourine's versatility**

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When music professor Mike Bump heard percussionist Glen Velez perform for the first time more than 20 years ago, he said it was a life-changing experience that opened him up to the realm of world music.

Now, Bump said he hopes Velez's April 3 concert at Truman State featuring various tambourine and percussion techniques will provide the audience with the same surprising and life-changing experience he had.

Bump said Velez's performance, which took two years to fund-raise and plan, is part of a larger trend of incorporating world music into Truman's music programs.

At 7 years old, Velez began taking percussion lessons from his uncle and, during the 35 years since then, he said he hasn't stopped learning new techniques for playing his specialty instrument — the tambourine.

The tambourine is one of the world's oldest instruments and Velez said he has studied tambourine techniques originating around the world. He said he has developed an expertise of styles from various cultures including Asia, Africa and India. He will perform these styles and more during his concert at Truman.

Velez said he hopes people who attend his concert will be surprised by the various rhythms and melodies tambourines can produce.

"People are always surprised by all the possibilities that can come out of the tambourine," he said. "We have such a stereotype about this instrument in the West because we haven't seen all the possibilities, but it's just like a vio-

lin or piano or any other instrument."

While tambourines rarely are used in popular music, Velez said world music has become a popular trend during recent years. He said he does his part to spread this type of music by teaching and performing throughout the country.

Bump said this trend has come to campus during the past few years.

The music department's curriculum has begun to incorporate more international music courses, including Mexican, Asian and Turkish percussion studies. Next fall, Bump said Truman will have a new World Music band, which will be Truman's first international student music group on campus.

Bump said the Truman percussion ensemble also is performing a percussion concert, which features world music and styles of playing inspired from other countries. This concert is April 10, just one week after Velez's concert. While the timing was not planned, Bump said it is another way the music department is incorporating world music.

Velez said his music is his hobby, job and passion. Essentially, music is his whole world. He said it even brought him and his wife together.

When Velez was a guest lecturer in New York, Lori Cotler was a professor in one of the classes in which he lectured. A colleague paired them up and they started performing music together, Cotler with her voice and Velez with his drums. Eventually, the two started dating, married, and now Cotler often accompanies him when he performs.

While Cotler will not be at Velez's performance at Truman, Bump said the concert is something everyone should consider attending because it will be an experience unlike other Truman concerts.

"He is going to rock the campus," Bump said. "It is going to be like nothing else we've had in the 12 years I've been here."

**Guest Percussionists**  
**Glen Velez**  
**8 p.m. April 3**  
**Ophelia Parrish**  
**\$5 donation**



Submitted photo  
Musician Glen Velez plays one of his tambourines. Velez is scheduled to perform selections of world music at Truman on April 3.



Rose Sparks/Index  
Junior Daniel Schake places a screen print on a T-shirt Monday afternoon at his house. Schake's T-shirts are meant to highlight Kirkville through a positive and humorous approach. Below, Schake holds and stands in front of his creations.



## Wearing Kirkville apparel with pride

**Daniel Schake cultivates Kirkville pride through handmade apparel**

BY EMILY BATTMER  
Staff Reporter

As the saying goes, New York City is the city so nice they named it twice, but junior Daniel Schake thinks Kirkville is a lot nicer — its residents just don't treat it that way. Schake got the idea to replicate the "I love NY" T-shirt design and made it into "I love KV." That's when he decided to start a business screen-printing T-shirts.

Schake, owner and creator of BumFuk NoWear, said his newly created website sells midwestern, small town pride merchandise with the hope of improving people's attitudes toward Kirkville. Many of his designs still poke fun at Kirkville, but he said they do so in a way that's sophisticated.

"A lot of people, Truman students especially, just trash this place," he said. "They say, 'I can't wait to get out of here,' and leave every weekend."

Schake said he thinks college students are stressed and look for something to blame, and it's easy for them to blame Kirkville. "I'm just sick of people com-

plaining," he said. "I like people dealing with their issues directly."

Schake said he has traveled a lot and has lived in five places from New York to Germany, but said Kirkville is the nicest. He said the town is better than most people give it credit for, but through his new business screen-printing T-shirts, he hopes to change the negativity and encourage students to embrace Kirkville as a place of which they can be proud.

His T-shirt designs also extend beyond Kirkville to Macon and Edina. Just about any place except Chicago, Kansas City or St. Louis can be included, he said.

Schake does all the printing, web design, delivering and mailing, but he said he always is accepting ideas from friends.

"I've done it by myself this far, but I want people to submit ideas and stuff," he said. "I want it to be a community effort."

Schake said he is working on 10 orders, and has received a lot of positive feedback. He said the response is encouraging, because screen-printing is a new process for him. He said he enlisted the help of senior Laura Wellington, Printmaking Club president, to help teach him about the art form.

Wellington said she started working with Schake at the beginning of the semester and

taught him screen-printing.

Despite his limited knowledge of printmaking, she said she thinks the project is viable because screen-printed T-shirts are such a popular commodity and they aren't difficult to market.

"I thought at first it was a little odd that he wanted to start a business in something he had no experience in, but he picked it up fast," she said. "He seems to have the business experience and the confidence to carry it through."

Schake's willingness to dive into something completely new comes as no surprise to his friend, junior Jennifer Crall.

"When he gets an idea he needs to run with it completely," she said. "He has a really different sense of humor."

Crall described Schake as "quirky," and said his unusual sense of humor helps influence his T-shirt designs. He works hard to run a business while being a full-time student, Crall said.

Crall said she thinks the business has potential, especially if Schake can market to local high school students. She said many of her friends, even ones who aren't Truman students, have looked at Schake's website and agree his designs are funny.

"It's exciting and I'm willing to help him if he gets a lot of sales," she said.

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