

## Greek Week starts with excitement



Adam Antor/Index

Top left, sophomore Bianca Kliethermes gets a boost to see the action from sophomore Garrett Klingaman. Top right, sophomore Greg Scheetz and freshman Stephen Nelson get into the spirit of the festivities. Middle right, sophomore Taylor Thompson and senior Dan Stewart add to the enthusiasm. Bottom, students involved with Greek Life fill Pershing Arena. Greek Week kicked off with Opening Ceremonies on Monday in Pershing Arena.

## Business offers prom alternative

**Christian prom offers fellowship for high school students of all faiths**

BY KASIE GARCIA  
Staff Reporter

A local Christian business is giving high school students an opportunity to embrace their faith while taking part in a high school tradition — prom.

Faith-Knowledge-Strength Training, a Christian-based personal training studio, is hosting a Christian Prom for all Kirksville High School students and their parents Saturday. The Christian Prom will occur at the FKS Training Studio on East Shepherd Street in Kirksville.

FKS co-owner Veeve Holtz said the event should be a good alternative for students who are unable or uninterested in attending their high school prom. The evening will include worship, scripture, pictures and fellowship and will conclude with a performance by the Matt Shipman Band, a group started by a former Truman State student Matt Shipman. Senior Conrad Schottel will speak and junior Kaitlin Stump will be the Master of Ceremonies.

Veeve said the inspiration for the Christian Prom came from a similar event she attended during high school. While the event mainly is being hosted for students, it also gives students an opportunity to thank their parents by celebrating the end of the school year together. Veeve said she hopes the Christian Prom will provide an environment for students to “live loud” and remember what God has blessed them with. Even though the event is being hosted by a Christ-centered company, Veeve said the Christian Prom is unaffiliated with a specific denomination of Christianity.

“All denominations are welcome,” Veeve said. “We are all the body of Christ.”

This welcome includes those who are not Christian.

Veeve and her husband Nate Holtz, FKS co-owner, hope students are able to have fun and have fellowship while being treated as equals.

Nate’s anticipations for the Christian Prom are that students and parents have a good and wholesome environment to experience prom without some of the negative stigmas that sometimes accompany it, such as drinking, sex and having to look perfect. While the event will be an alternative to the traditional high school dance, the event is not anti-prom, Nate said.

One of the exciting aspects for the Christian Prom is the collaboration among many different people and groups, Nate said. Nate and Veeve said the Hamilton Street Baptist Church and Chi Alpha are just two of the organizations that have joined FKS Training in the planning of this event. Nate said he is excited to see people from all different backgrounds come together to celebrate the high school students and parents of the Kirksville community.

Stump said she is looking forward to meeting the students and parents from the community as the MC of the event. Stump said she also is excited to see the girls wearing their dresses. The evening will provide a relaxed and friendly environment, and the goal is for students to take new friendships away from the event, Stump said.

“I hope that people are able to worship together and make friendships that last,” Stump said.

Nate and Veeve said they are excited to see how the night unfolds. Veeve said she wants to continue the event throughout future years and even has a few new partnerships and ideas to help improve the atmosphere and attitude of the future Christian Proms hosted by FKS.

The theme for the night is “Celebrating the Brightest Star.”

The prom will begin at 6 p.m. and costs \$35 to attend.

# Fiddlers gather to share folk music

**Student shares stage with long-time fiddler during old-fashioned jam session**

BY JUSTIN GUNTERMAN  
Staff Reporter

When people attend concerts, it’s not often they get to play along with the performer. However, students will have the opportunity to take their fiddle to the stage with long-time fiddler Howard Wight Marshall during the Old-Time Fiddle Jam Session presented by the Folklore department and Truman State bookstore April 17.

English professor Adam Davis, Missouri Folklore Society officer, said Marshall is a premier fiddler and folk architecture expert, which is why members of the folklore department are hosting the event. Marshall has written numerous folk-related books, including “Vernacular Architecture in Rural and Small Town Missouri: An Introduction,” along with a book about the many fiddling styles throughout Missouri. He will sell and sign

copies of his book, “Play Me Something Quick and Devilish,” during the show.

Davis said he hopes people come to the show, regardless of whether they play along or not, to see the appeal of folk music.

“Folk music is very far from the culture of recorded music, with its notions of single correct or authorized or original versions — each and every performance is an original, is ‘the’ original,” Davis said.

He said perhaps he is most excited to see what sophomore Richard Shewmaker has planned. Davis said Shewmaker, who is accompanying Marshall on his violin during the show, has known Marshall for a long time. He said he’s interested to see what Shewmaker will do.

“Here’s a common misunderstanding — folk music [is] not like a photocopy, the same thing, generation after generation,” Davis said. “That could only produce progressively poorer and more distorted reflections of an original. Rather, the essence gets handed to a new generation, and those younger folk make it new, adapt it, transform it to their own times and purposes.”

Shewmaker said he is excited to play with his longtime mentor Marshall. Shewmaker said he has been playing the fiddle, Missouri’s state instrument, since he was 14. He has performed at square dances and fiddle contests since he began playing. He said he has only performed at a few “jam sessions” so he is excited to participate during the upcoming event. He said his performance history is keeping him from being nervous.

Shewmaker said the jam session is open to anyone who wants to listen or play along for free. He said the people participating don’t have to be skilled musicians to play along. Anyone is welcome to play their violin during the show and they can contribute to a new generation of fiddling. Even if people don’t want to play along, Shewmaker encourages everyone to come and listen.

The event will take place from 5 to 7:30 p.m. April 17 in the Alumni Room of the Student Union Building. Shewmaker encourages everyone to give it a chance, promising plenty of fun, especially for music fans.



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