

## Greeks practice for lip sync



The Beanie Babies team consisting of multiple sororities and fraternities practices their dance routine on Tuesday in the SUB Activities Room. The Greek Week lip sync competition begins on April 8.

Adam Antor/Index

# SAB to network

Truman State SAB plans to build network between nearby colleges' activities groups

BY ANNA GRACE  
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Cost-cutting led the Truman State Student Activities Board to network with other colleges on its own terms.

Truman SAB members are traveling to Missouri State University in Springfield, Mo., this weekend to watch the preparation and the event, College Humor Live, sponsored by the Missouri State Student Activities Council, sophomore SAB member Liz Marler said. She said SAB used to attend a national conference where artists would perform for student boards and the boards could then book events, but Truman SAB members stopped attending because of the high cost.

"We were looking for something more localized to create relationships with other colleges," Marler said.

Marler said of the six SAB committees, Communication and Development is traveling to Missouri State. She said the goals for the trip are to create relationships, share ideas and discuss events, as well as ask questions about the operation of Missouri State's Student Activity Council.

Marler said Truman SAB is planning a meeting with Drury University as well, as part of their goal to pioneer a network between activities councils at nearby colleges.

Junior Kevin Kickham, Truman SAB Communications and Development Committee Chair, said the trip should help SAB progress. He said the trip will give SAB a glimpse into new ways of advertising, how a different organization works and a chance to get feedback from another board.

Missouri State was chosen as a college to visit for its nearby location and because, out of other college activities councils researched, Kickham said it seemed to have a different set up than Truman's board. Differences included different committees and positions, he said.

Kickham said the event they will attend and help with is College Humor Live, a performance by the people behind the website College Humor. He said it is an event similar to what Truman would host in Baldwin Hall, and attending the event will give SAB ideas for making their own events run more smoothly.

Kickham said what the committee learns during the trip can be used to revitalize the set up of the activities board and reorganize the layout of committees and positions. He said networking on the trip might open up the possibility of "block booking," which is when a performer travels and gives more than one performance in a location, which makes far away acts cheaper to hire.

He said he was excited for the trip and to see how other people work.

"We're making an effort to revitalize events and make them fresh and new," Kickham said.

Senior Nick Elliott, Missouri State's Student Activities Council President, said he was excited when Truman contacted him about visiting. He said Truman SAB emailed him, wanting to come to either a meeting or an event. Because meetings occur Tuesdays or Thursdays, Elliott said Truman SAB decided to come to events, one of which was College Humor Live, the big humor act of the semester. He said there would be more members available to chat during that time.

Elliott said Student Activities Council has heard about Truman SAB and likes how it is run. He said SAC has changed how students attained membership, and this was the first year students had to apply to be members, as opposed to volunteering. Because Truman uses this membership structure, Elliott said they seek advice for addressing small problems they are facing with the change.

# Student prepares for summer of service

BY ANNA SELLE  
Staff Reporter

For many Truman State students, summer is an opportunity to make money at a part-time job, build résumé credentials with internships, take classes online to get general requirements out of the way or to spend some time decompressing after the strenuous school year. However for sophomore and Pi Kappa Phi member Taylor Thompson, this summer lends an opportunity to be a part of a project supporting people who live with disabilities.

The Journey of Hope is a cross country bike ride to raise awareness and funding to support people with disabilities, said Greg Powell, Pi Kappa Phi philanthropy chair. The ride starts in either Seattle, San Francisco, or Los Angeles and ends in Washington D.C. Each of the riders raises \$5,000 for Push America, which was founded by Pi Kappa Phi during 1977 with the goal of helping people with disabilities.

Thompson will play a supportive role in the Journey of Hope, Powell said. Instead of participating in the actual race, Thompson will be one of 28 crewmembers, following along with the other riders throughout the race in a van to provide assistance if a rider is wounded or unable to complete that day's leg of the race. Thompson also will ensure that the bike riders are properly nourished and

hydrated throughout each day.

Thompson will be heading from Seattle to Washington, D.C., from May 27 to Aug. 10 and will be driving with another Truman Pi Kappa Phi member, sophomore Adam Haththorne, he said.

As a crewmember, Thompson said he also will participate in various service projects along the way, attended by all participants of the Journey of Hope. These projects will serve people throughout America currently living with disabilities or special needs.

"Every stop the team makes in their respective city will have a friendship visit, an interaction or event with a local organization that serves people with disabilities," said Andrew Matznick, a Journey of Hope veteran and Push America Team Services Director.

"It could be anything from playing wheelchair basketball to having a cook-out or a dance with the people in the local community with disabilities."

Matznick helps to oversee the training and fundraising processes of the participants of the Journey of Hope. A main component of this job is helping the team members generate fundraising ideas, and to ensure that the members are meeting their monetary goals.

Not only do the participants of the Journey of Hope have an opportunity to spend time serving and getting to know the members of the communities they'll

visit along the way, but they also have the chance to provide the organizations they serve with monetary grants to use for their programs and to help serve their constituents throughout the year.

"People with disabilities face many challenges everyday that you and I cannot imagine," Thompson said. "One of the most tragic barriers is a lack of understanding by our society. A simple message of empathy and acceptance is all it takes to break down this barrier, and I have committed myself to spreading this message this summer."

To be a crewmember, Thompson is only required to raise \$2,500. However, Thompson made a personal goal to go above and beyond the basic requirements of participation to raise \$3,000 for the project and to support the grants provided the organizations Thompson and other Journey of Hope participants will be working closely with over the course of their journey, nearly half of his individual team's fundraising goal of \$6,500.

Currently, Thompson is more than halfway to reaching his personal goal, having raised more than \$1,600. The deadline is fast approaching and he will need more help in the coming month in order to achieve his final goal by May 17. For support, he's looked to the students of the Truman community, family and friends, and others who have the desire to spread awareness about the needs of individuals living with disabilities throughout America today.

## INDEX Classifieds

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### For Rent

**For Rent:** Wagner Enterprises rental properties are available for 2013-2014 lease. New units with one to four bedrooms are all within two blocks of campus! Complete with washer/dryer in each, all electric, central heat and air, private parking and maintenance staff. For more information, call 660-341-5538 or visit [www.wespaces.net](http://www.wespaces.net)

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### Miscellaneous

**Answers to Ultimate Questions:** What is your worldview? Speaker: Kevin Williams from Manchester, England. March 25, Monday, 7:00pm to 9:00pm in VH 1000. [lakeroadchapel.org](http://lakeroadchapel.org). [illbeonest.com](http://illbeonest.com). Hosted by Scriptural Knowledge Institute.