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**Just the Facts
will be closed
Monday, May 27 in
observance of
Memorial Day.
Publication will
resume Tuesday**

Lourdine Florek
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Team make impact on residents with message, strength

Feats of strength will be combined messages of inspiration and inspiration as TEAM IMPACT comes to Hoopeston.

The Texas-based group breaks down barriers with their audiences by breaking bricks, ice and performing other feats, said even organizer Beth Thrasher. Mixed with their performances are Christian testimony and motivational messages for young people.

The group is performing Wednesday through Sunday night at the McFerren Park Civic Center. Suggested admission cost is a \$2 donation at the door, Thrasher said.

TEAM IMPACT is billed as a group of "world class athletes who use feats of strength to convey a world class message," Thrasher said.

The group is made up of 27 members which are divided into smaller groups that travel the world. Three members and a manager are in Hoopeston for the performances, Thrasher said.

Performances include such acts as lighting ice on fire and then breaking it, as well as breaking baseball bats, bending steel bars, smashing full pop cans and tearing two-inch thick telephone books.



Press photo

Barry Handley of TEAM IMPACT demonstrates his strength in this photo provided by the organization. Members of the team will be in Hoopeston through Sunday.

Thrasher, who saw a similar performance in Villa Grove, said members "roll up a frying pan like it was a piece of paper and blow up hot water bottles like a big balloon until they bust."

Different feats will be performed each night so residents are encouraged to attend more than one performance. "Every night is a different show," she said.

TEAM IMPACT formed about two years ago, started by former members of the Power Team. "Due to integrity reasons, I was told, they broke off and formed TEAM IMPACT," Thrasher said.

Along with nightly performances at the civic center, the team will also make appearances at area schools. They are scheduled to perform for John Greer and Honeywell schools on Thursday afternoon, where they will demonstrate their strength and talk about academic excellence, respect for authority, peer pressure, maintaining high standards, teen pregnancy, suicide, violence, gang participation and bring an anti-drug and alcohol message to students.

On Thursday and Friday mornings, the team will

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Briefly

Vacation Bible School

The East Lynn United Methodist Church will hold vacation Bible school from 6:30-8:30 p.m. June 3-7. It is open to children ages four through eighth grade and will feature games, crafts, songs, snacks and Bible

See IMPACT on other side

Impact continued from other side

be at Maple School where they will read to students. The message for the younger students will be "here you can be this big tough guy and you can read, too," Thrasher said.

Friday afternoon, TEAM IMPACT will be at Milford Grade School and the team is expected to help kick off Hoopeston's baseball season during opening ceremonies Saturday. One team member will preach Sunday at Westside Church of the Nazarene.

Performances are being sponsored by the Westside Church of the Nazarene, First Church of the Nazarene, East Lynn United Methodist Church

stories.

Street sale

The Hoopeston Multi Agency will host a street sale from 8:30 a.m.-noon Saturday at East Penn and First Ave. The sale will include furniture, lamps, baby items,

and Prairie Green Church of Christ.

Additionally, the Circuit Riders, the Danville chapter of the Christian Motorcyclists Association, helped with set-up for the event and will have displays of literature and Harleys at the civic center. Team members will work out at Iron House Gym, which has donated their facilities, Thrasher said.

In order to provide the performances, organizer had to pay half the team's airfare, pay for any materials not donated and pay for advertising, Thrasher said. However, not enough money has been raised to cover the expenses. "We're still in need of some financial support," she said. "We're still coming up short a little bit."

Anyone who would like to donate may call Thrasher at (217) 283-9335 or Westside Church of the Nazarene, 283-6568.

Volunteers are also needed to help set up, especially Friday night when many people will be

Police News



A 49-year-old Hoopeston man reported Tuesday that someone scratched the paint of his 1998 Hyundai while it was parked in the 200 block of East Main.

A **Mongoose bicycle** taken from a garage in the 800 block of East Seminary was found and returned to the owner Tuesday.

Weather



Cloudy, windy today. High 76. Tonight, mostly cloudy, chance of showers. Low 58. Tomorrow, chance of morning thunderstorms. High 68, low 55.

For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston Weather Line** at (217) 283-6221.

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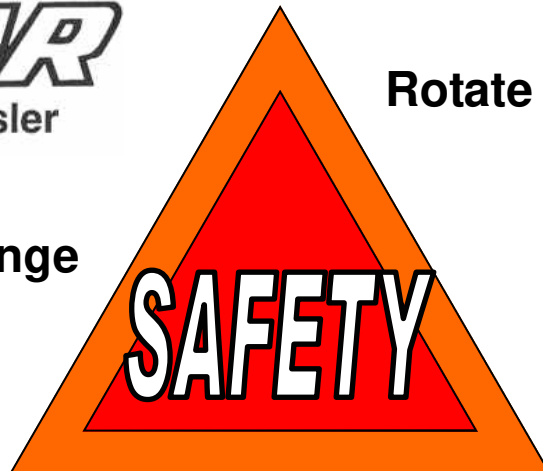
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