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Leaks halt heat in dorms, offices



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR



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Above: The crosswalk between Killebrew and Miller halls on Drane Street was excavated to expose the ruptured steam line Nov. 1. Repairs are estimated to be finished by Nov. 7, according to the Physical Plant. The Tennessee Board of Regents has budgeted \$2 million to APSU for repairs to the faltering steam system that was installed roughly 40 years ago.

Left: The initial hole dug by the workers began a few feet away from Ellington. In the process to find the leak the workers continued toward Drane Street until they discovered the leak. The workers had to remove one street light in order to prevent it from falling into the hole.

Plans are under way to fix deterioration of old steam line

By JARED COMBS
Staff Writer

A crew has dug to expose and repair a ruptured underground steam line between Miller and Ellington halls.

"It reduced the service (heat) that we can distribute to various buildings," said Manny Ballen, Austin Peay State University Physical Plant director.

According to Ballen, the ruptured line is only the most recent failure of the steam distribution system.

"We've had steam issues before," Ballen said. "All you have to do is walk around and you'll see the plumes of steam all over the place."

According to Ballen, the steam poses no health risk and is only an aesthetic problem.

"It has to do with age," Ballen said. "We get a lot of problems like that." As the campus ages, new problems develop for the Physical Plant.

"The budget has increased for maintenance," said David Lemon, general campus maintenance supervisor. "But as far as infrastructure repair, in the 10 years that I've been here, we haven't done any."

The majority of APSU's infrastructure, including the steam distribution system, was



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Crews began digging Oct. 31 to gain access to the rupture in the steam line which supplies heat to five buildings.

installed when the corresponding buildings were constructed.

"That line is about 40 years old," Ballen said. "As I understand, some of the lines have been repaired many times."

It was initially assumed that work to repair the ruptured segment of the steam distribution system would affect heating in the Miller, Ellington, McCord, Cross and Rawlins buildings for only one day, according to an e-mail sent out

by the Physical Plant. The Dunn Center and Killebrew would suffer from the heat loss until Nov. 7.

The leak was not located Oct. 31, and as of Nov. 1 heat had not been restored to any of the seven buildings.

The rupture in the steam was located under Drane Street, which was closed Nov. 1 for further inspection and repair of the failed steam line.

Lemon said the pipe should have been delivered Nov. 6. "It will take a couple, maybe three, days of welding to repair and we should be up Friday or Saturday (Nov. 9 to 10)," said Lemon.

According to Ballen, the current rupture is not the only problem with the steam line, but a larger scale repair of the system is in the works.

"The problem is being taken care of. There is a TBR project that's underway," Ballen said. "An engineer has been designated for the project and it should be kicking off next year to replace a lot of the defective steam lines."

TBR has budgeted \$2 million to APSU to repair the steam distribution system.

The money will be used to replace all defective steam lines.

"We're going to focus on the worst parts of the campus," Ballen said.

The rupture comes after a water leak Oct. 20 that dispelled nearly 30,000 gallons of water per day until it was discovered Oct. 31 and isolated.

The leak was caused by a failed flexible coupling between two segments of the eight-inch water line.

A total of 372,400 gallons of water was lost before the problem could be isolated.

See Steam, Page 2

PRESIDENT HALL LISTENS

Students to sound off with President Hall



By TINEA PAYNE
Staff Writer

Whether he's holding meetings with staff and administration, spending time with his family or playing racquetball at 6:45 on Monday mornings, President of Austin Peay State University, Timothy Hall, keeps his plate full. This semester—his first—has been filled with meetings, conferences and his involvement with the campus community.

As a continuation of his myriad meetings with faculty and staff, Hall has included two listening meetings this November.

The first of these meetings will be the Student Government Association Campus Talk to be held at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 8 in Clement Auditorium. Hall will later host a listening meeting geared toward Fort Campbell students Nov. 19 at the APSU Center at Fort Campbell from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in Room 257.

SGA Campus Talk will include Hall, Dean of Students Greg Singleton, Associate Vice President and Chief Student Affairs Officer, Sherry Byrd, and the SGA Executive Committee.

The two meetings will provide an

open forum for students at both main campus and Fort Campbell to voice concerns with Hall about campus changes and needs.

Hall said he expects students to talk with him about campus concerns.

Hall portrayed the upcoming listening meetings as a way to help familiarize himself with APSU.

"I want [students] to talk about where Austin Peay ought to be going, about opportunities [students] think we ought to be seizing and particular challenges we ought to be confronting," Hall said.

Upon his arrival at APSU, Hall said that he noticed that the campus was the "right size" for him. He referred to APSU as a campus that is large enough to offer many programs, yet small enough for students and faculty to connect.

"I liked the culture," Hall said. "This is [an institution] where students come first." Christin Gardner, 18, a freshman accounting major, found Hall to be an approachable and campus-oriented person. Gardner said she would attend the SGA Campus Talk with her concerns regarding campus activities and the Morgan University Center.

"I heard that they would be moving

the pool tables to the Foy (Center). Students won't be as willing to go to the Foy (Center). This is supposed to be the University Center for the students," Gardner said. "They're trying to make the UC more 'business-like.'

Gardner, a campus resident, said that APSU needs more events to keep students on campus, especially on weekends.

"If there [are] more things to do, students will stay here," Gardner said.

Gardner also mentioned the need for campus dining variety.

"The cafeteria should have healthier food. I try to eat healthy but it's like I'll just eat [unhealthy] here," Gardner said. "It's the same thing."

Jonathan Briggs, 20, a sophomore, commuter at APSU, also noted the large number of students that leave campus on weekends.

"Why do you think students go home on weekends?" Briggs said in regards to the lack of campus events. "There's nothing to do here." Hall said that Student Life and Leadership is working

See Hall, Page 3

McMillan bids adieu to Governor, headed to APSU

By MARC WALLS
Staff Writer

Austin Peay State University announced that former State Representative and adviser to Gov. Phil Bredesen, Kim McMillan, would become the new executive director of community and business relations, effective Nov. 12.

According to an APSU press release, McMillan's duties as executive director include "leading Austin Peay's external relations throughout the region and among the statewide higher education community."

According to an article previously published in the *Tennessean*, the position will carry a salary somewhere between \$78,500 and \$114,900 annually.

For the past year McMillan, a Knoxville native and resident of Clarksville since 1992, has served as the senior adviser to Tennessee Gov. Bredeson.

McMillan boasts an impressive political career that began in 1994 in the Tennessee House of Representatives.

She was re-elected five more times over the next decade to represent the state's 67th District.

In 2002 McMillan became Tennessee's first female house majority leader and assumed the position on the governor's staff after opting not to seek re-election in 2006.

McMillan did not indicate her intended length of stay or a possible return to politics, where many considered her one of the top Democratic hopefuls for Governor in 2010.

McMillan's political success came at a time when she experienced great personal success as well.

A University of Tennessee graduate and a Law School

See McMillan, Page 3

Perspectives



Features

New host of "The Price is Right" is the right choice



Sports

Lady Gov's Basketball preview inside



Online

Go online and listen to *The All State Headlines* podcast



FYI

♦ Classes are out for Veteran's Day, Nov. 12
♦ Don't forget to look for coverage of International Night at www.theallstate.com

Steam: fix coming



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR
A leak on Oct. 20, caused by a failed water-line coupling, resulted in the loss of 370,000 gallons of water.

From Page 1

"We had so many events it took us a while to find the leak," Lemon said. "But we finally did and isolated the problem."

The steam distribution system and the recently discovered water leak are not the only parts of APSU's infrastructure causing problems. A power failure Oct. 8, due to an overheated junction box on Drane Street near Miller Hall, interrupted power to the Browning, McCord, McReynolds, Ellington, Miller, Rawlins, Killebrew and Cross buildings.

The power outage was repaired within hours but a complication with repairs to the junction box caused a subsequent power failure to computers in the APSU information and technology department.

"We survived through the first power outage using our generator," said Charles Wall, director of the office of information and technology. "It wasn't until commercial power was being restored that the computers went down."

According to Ballen, the electrical failure, like the steam line rupture, is a symptom of APSU's aging infrastructure.

These emergency problems come in addition to scheduled renovation of several buildings on campus. Renovations of the Rawlins dormitory is another issue of age being tackled by the Physical Plant.

"There were masonry and structural defects that needed to be addressed," Ballen said. Archwood, Ellington, Marks, Browning and many other buildings across campus are also undergoing renovations to varying degrees.

"We're doing a lot of sidewalk work," Ballen said. "As a matter of fact we'll be replacing about 6,000 feet of sidewalk within the next couple of months."

The \$2 million dollars allotted to APSU by TBR is specifically for repairs to the underground steam distribution system.

"There are a lot of other projects that are going on here that the college requests money from TBR for," Ballen said. "If we get it or not depends on what the state decides." ♦

Piñatas, people for Muertos festivities



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
The Hispanic Cultural Center sponsored the Day of the Dead Nov. 2. The event featured a Piñata burst and announced the winners of memorial contest. Sigma Phi Epsilon won and Alpha Sigma Alpha was the runner up.

SGA: WEEKLY ROUNDUP

SGA withdraws first resolution

By TINEA PAYNE
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association held their Oct. 31 meeting in the Morgan University Center, Ballroom C.

Marc Bady, chief justice, discussed the Student Tribunal plan to establish an honor creed at Austin Peay State University.

According to Bady, the honor creed would be a one page formal extension of the Student Code of Conduct, possibly for the 2008-09 school year.

"[The honor creed] is a way of saying that we uphold [students] to a high standard," Bady said.

Reports, announcements

Secretary Chris Drew discussed advertisement of the SGA Campus Talk, to be held at 5:30 p.m., Nov. 8 in Clement Auditorium.

Drew mentioned making an outreach to campus housing in addition to the main campus.

Vice President R.J. Gossett said that G.H.O.S.T. (Greater Halloween Options for Safe Trick-or-Treating) was "a

tremendous success for our community."

Gossett said that the turnout was larger than ever.

President Bryan Huffman announced the winning organizations for G.H.O.S.T. First place was History Club, followed by Del Square Phi (Physics Club) and Xi Epsilon Mu (Chemistry Club).

Gossett nominated Senators Daniel Maurer and Patrick Conwell for the Internal Affairs Committee, responsible for dealing with disciplinary action within SGA.

Maurer was elected to committee on majority vote by secret ballot.

Online registration bill

Senator Elizabeth Boom motioned to withdraw a resolution to place greek party registration online. The senate agreed with the withdraw of the resolution. Senator Tinsley Hembree announced a new leadership program called G.O.L.D. (Govs Opportunities for Leadership Development) sponsored by Student Life and Leadership that will begin in January. The next SGA meeting will be held Nov. 7. ♦

Good Morning APSU

Your Community

Food drive

The S.I.S.T.E.R.S. UNITED is currently accepting food, canned goods, paper good, and the like for battered women and children in need. All donated items can be delivered to the African American Cultural Center. The food drive will end Nov. 14.

Crime Log

Austin Peay State University crime log includes any arrests and dispatch call-ins. As mandated by Tennessee law, the crime log is updated within 48 hours of an incident and available for public inspection any time during normal business hours.

September

- Sept. 21, 8 p.m., Hand Village, vandalism
- Sept. 23, 9:45 p.m., Library, simple assault
- Sept. 25, 4:30 p.m., Burt lot, vandalism

October

- Oct. 1, 7 p.m., Sevier lot, vandalism
- Oct. 1, 7 p.m., Sevier lot, vandalism
- Oct. 4, 9:50 p.m., Clement, indecent exposure
- Oct. 4, 10:12 p.m., Intramural Field, simple assault
- Oct. 11, 12:16 a.m., Killebrew, minor possession of alcohol, arrested: Sara Newman of 44 Bloomfield Cove, Jackson
- Oct. 11, 4:45 p.m., Dunn Center, theft of property
- Oct. 11, 9:15 p.m., Dunn Center, theft of property
- Oct. 13, 12:30 p.m., Trahern, theft of property
- Oct. 17, 11:35 a.m., Harned, assault
- Oct. 23, 2:32 p.m., Emerald, simple possession, arrested: Kaitlin B. Kersey of 371 Patrick St., Clarksville
- Oct. 24, 7:06 p.m., Foy Fitness and Recreation Center, theft of property
- Oct. 28, 1:55 a.m., Meacham, minor possession of alcohol, arrested: Brittney M. McLay of 1328 Nir Shriebman, LaVergne; Keosha C. Lowe of 3207 Old Madisonville Road, Hopkinsville, Ky.; Camellia R. Davis of 1455 Sugarloaf Mountain Road, Seymour; Mateen F. Ivan Sidiq of 1805 Long Ave., Nashville
- Oct. 28, 2 a.m., Meacham lot, vandalism
- Oct. 29, 3:51 p.m., Meacham, simple assault, arrested: Jessica E. Wiley of 2165 Rock City St., Nashville
- Oct. 31, 2:30 p.m., Rec. Center, theft of property

CONGRATULATIONS
★ **TO OUR 2007 ★**
GREEK WEEK WINNERS

1ST PLACE
SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY

2ND PLACE
SIGMA PHI EPSILON FRATERNITY

3RD PLACE
ALPHA DELTA PI SORORITY

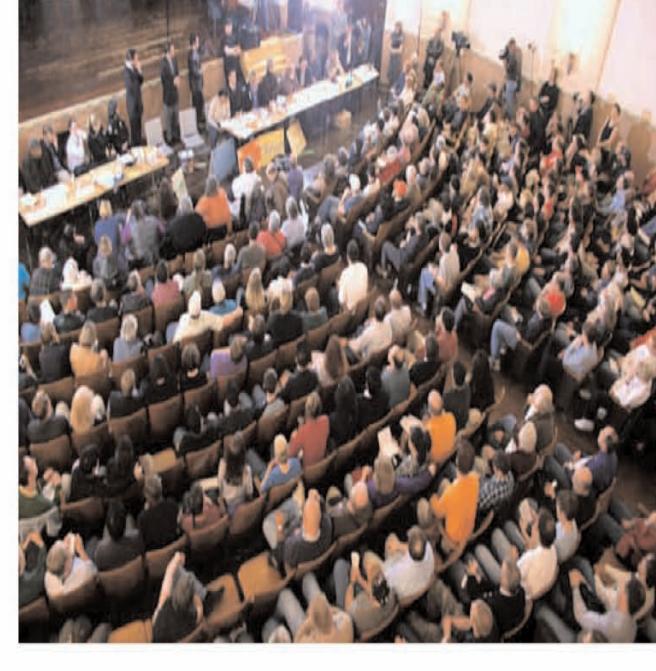
For complete week results and award winners,

visit www.apsu.edu/sll

Campus Talk

Sponsored by SGA

Thursday, November 8th, 2007 @ 5:30p.m.
UC Ballroom A



- Have concerns about your campus?
- Questions about university policy?
- Get answers...voice your concerns...BE HEARD!!!

IN ATTENDANCE WILL BE THE FOLLOWING:

Timothy Hall, APSU PRESIDENT

Dr. Sherry Byrd, ASSOCIATE VP and CHIEF STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICER

Gregory Singleton, DEAN OF STUDENTS

YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT Association EC OFFICERS

Hall: talk to voice concerns

From Page 1

to provide opportunities during weekends for students that live on campus.

"Student Life and Leadership is looking for ways to serve students," Hall said. Although the campus community tries to implement more events for students every semester, some students, like Bethany Rowson, 20, a sophomore nursing major, and Angela Yonts, 19, a freshman history major, don't have the time to participate due to their busy lifestyles, juggling college and work.

Rowson and Yonts both said they would not be attending the SGA Campus Talk due to work obligations.

"We have jobs," Yonts said. "It's not that we want to [work], we have to." Rowson, who is married and lives one hour away, said she doesn't have time to participate in campus events.

However, Rowson said that she would have wanted to live on campus to get the "real college experience."

Hall also mentioned adding free bulletin boards for students to post information and putting kiosks, sponsored by SGA, around the UC for students to better communicate with each other.

"I want to make it easier for students to communicate together without going through official channels all the time," Hall said.

When asked about the time frame that changes would be made, Hall responded that change would be gradual.

"I think [students] will see changes as we go along," Hall said. Minor changes have already been made, according to Hall.

Promoting student voices in the listening meetings is one of the changes he mentioned. Before he arrived at APSU, Hall held several leadership positions at the University of Mississippi, where he was the London Study Abroad director, associate provost and executive director of a law school campaign. He also coordinated the first ever orientation program, supervising nearly 2,000 students.

Hall said that the campus changes are not his efforts alone. They are combination of hard work from faculty, staff and students who are already familiar to the campus community.

"As we go forward there are things that we can only accomplish if we do them together," Hall said. "I'd be a fool if I think I knew more than the people that have lived here, worked here and studied here." ♦

Scholars dig Winters' island

"I wanted to point out that Salamis has been neglected by archeologists."

Tim Winters, professor



By ELIZABETH BRUCE

Assistant Online Editor

Timothy Winters, of Austin Peay State University's department of languages and literature, recently spoke on a lecture circuit for the Archeological Institute of America.

The organization holds an annual lecture series with only six speakers per year. Winters was invited to Tucson, Ariz. where he spoke about a project he's currently working on.

"I wanted to point out that Salamis has been neglected by archeologists," Winters said.

According to Winters, Salamis, an island off the coast of Greece, is still an untapped territory archeologically and because of this, no published work about it exists. His lecture, entitled "Neglecting the Riches: The Archeology of Salamis," was intended to inform members of the lack of research that has been done in the past on the island, and the amount of work that still needs to be done.

Winters has visited and explored most, but not the entire island. While there, he found what he described as wonderful sites for archeological exploration—nearly 25 to 30 by his count.

Salamis figured largely into Athenian life and politics. It was the site of a naval battle in 480 B.C. that was a turning point in the Persian Wars, Winters said.

The island was also home to Euripides, the author of "The Bacchae" and other historically significant literature.

The lecture went well for Winters and he considers it a success.

"The room was filled to overflowing. [It was] well-attended," Winters said.

Winters has submitted a proposal for publication based on his findings, A Source Book on the Island of Salamis, to the University of Texas Press.

As of Nov. 2, Winters has yet to hear from the publisher.

"Greece is not overlooked, there is plenty still to do and Salamis is a good example of that. It has a large amount of archeological material associated with it," Winters said.

Winters will lead a group of students through the study abroad to Italy and Greece. For more information on study abroad, visit: www.apsu.edu/winterst/abroad.htm ♦

McMillan: reputation is "solid"

From Page 1

graduate, McMillan has built a successful law firm in Clarksville with her husband, Larry.

Timothy Hall, APSU President, called McMillan's reputation "solid" and "successful."

Hall added that having McMillan will "benefit the University and larger

Kim McMillan (D)

- Elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives representing the Clarksville area in 1994.
- Was re-elected five times.
- Was the first woman in Tennessee history to serve as House Majority Leader.
- Has served on the Finance, Ways and Means Committee and the Budget Subcommittee

Source: <http://www.nashvillepost.com>



FILE PHOTO
McMillan will assume her duties as the director of community and business relations Nov. 12. She has been considered the top candidate for governor in the 2010 election.

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Program returns with new group

By TANYA LUDLOW
Assistant News Editor

After a five year hiatus due to lack of funding, the Presidential Research Scholars Program has been approved. Professor of chemistry and Presidential Research Scholar Committee Chair, Rebecca M. Jones, said that the unique nature of this research scholarship is to provide valuable research experience for undergraduates.

"The idea is to promote collaboration between students and faculty and to promote new ideas and increase the scholarly work here on campus," Jones said. "The university has never had a program like this."

Jones added that the scholarship is designed for the "maximum amount of flexibility" for undergraduate winners in determining how they will spend the \$3,000 research scholarship.

Four scholarships were awarded for the 2007-08 cycle: two to biology students, one to a student in the physics and astronomy department and one in art.

The program is meant to promote independent research and creative activity with scholarly merit, and the only requirement is that the applicant be a full-time undergraduate student at APSU with the support of a faculty member who is willing to serve as a research mentor.

The 2007-08 cycle winner Joseph Vazquez, a senior chemistry major, has mostly used the scholarship money to buy materials for his research into the effects of bee venom on the bacteria that causes Lyme Disease.

Vazquez said that there has been little research in this area, and that his research so far has been promising. He has discovered that the active component in bee venom, melittin, will kill Lyme Disease bacteria in a test tube, and he is currently working on live trials with mice.

"We are hoping it kills the bacteria, [in the mice]," Vazquez said. There is currently no cure for Lyme Disease and Vazquez said he hopes that his research will be helpful in the research for a cure.

Vazquez is applying to Vanderbilt Medical School and said that the Presidential Research Scholar Program not only allows him to conduct cutting edge research, but is also a prestigious accolade.

"It's the highest scholarship you can get as an undergraduate," Vazquez said.

Jones is hoping that the further funding and publicity will increase the scope of the program in the future. She said that the application process has been streamlined and is fully electronic, and would like to see undergraduates from all academic disciplines, not just the "hard" sciences, apply.

"That's why we have an interdisciplinary committee," Jones said. "I'd love to see students apply in the social sciences, history, English ... I'm excited about all sorts of research. That's why I'm a scientist."

Applications for the 2008-2009 cycle are due Jan. 31, 2008. For questions regarding application procedures contact Presidential Research Scholars Committee Chair Rebecca M. Jones by e-mail at jonesr@apsu.edu or call at 221-7415. ♦

WORLD BRIEFS

French connected with kidnapping

PARIS (AP) — A journalist who accompanied French charity workers charged with kidnapping 103 African children, criticized the group's methods Oct. 5. His documentary showed the workers making little effort to verify the youngsters were orphans from Darfur.

But Marc Garmirian defended the charity's intentions, saying its members were convinced they were evacuating orphans from the Darfur conflict in western Sudan. Other aid workers who interviewed the children last week said most of them had been living with adults they considered to be their parents and came from villages along the Chadian-Sudanese border.

Seventeen Europeans, including nine French citizens, were arrested in Chad on Oct. 25 when the Zoe's Ark charity was stopped from flying the children to Europe.

Seven of them, Garmirian, two other journalists and four Spanish flight attendants, were released Sunday and flew home with French President Nicolas Sarkozy, who met with Chad's president.

North Korea dismantles reactor

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea was expected to begin disabling its nuclear facilities Oct. 5, marking the biggest step the communist country has ever taken to scale back its atomic program.

The North shut down its sole functioning nuclear reactor at Yongbyon in July, and promised to disable it by year's end in exchange for energy aid and political concessions from other members of talks on its nuclear program: the U.S., China, Japan, South Korea and Russia.

Disabling the reactor at Yongbyon, north of Pyongyang, would mark a further breakthrough in efforts to convince the North to scale back its nuclear program. The country conducted its first-ever nuclear test in October of last year.

"By [Oct. 5] morning, they will begin their work" U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill said in Tokyo on Saturday, referring to the U.S. team that arrived in Pyongyang last week.

Lawyers arrested in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Police fired tear gas and clubbed thousands of lawyers protesting President Gen. Pervez Musharraf's decision to impose emergency rule, as Western allies threatened to review aid to the troubled Muslim nation. Opposition groups put the number of arrests at 3,500, although the government reported half that.

Musharraf, who took power in a 1999 coup and is also head of Pakistan's army, suspended the constitution on Saturday ahead of a Supreme Court ruling on whether his recent re-election as president was legal. He ousted independent-minded judges, put a stranglehold on independent media and granted sweeping powers to authorities to crush dissent.

The attorney general called Monday for the polls to be held on time, but Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz left open the possibility for a delay.

Under intense pressure from the United States and other Western allies to hold elections as scheduled in January, Musharraf said Oct. 5 he would relinquish control of the military and return the country to "the same track as we were moving" but he gave no indication when the vote would take place. ♦

OUR TAKE

Fixed tuition system can help ease burden

Last year the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia approved a plan called "fixed for four" which fixed tuition rates. That is, whatever amount an incoming freshman pays for tuition, that amount would stay the same in the following semesters. This tuition guarantee helps increase graduation rates, as many students sometimes drop out because insufficient financing.

The George Washington University, for instance, has a similar program. Their system stipulates that students will pay fixed tuition rates for a total of 10 consecutive semesters.

With tuition rates on the rise, this convention seems more appealing and can provide a possible solution to the financial burden of many students. Tennessee's colleges should consider similar alternatives to ease the financial burdens facing many students.

These burdens have been made aware to us by an organization called The College Board and its national survey. According to the report, Tennessee's tuition rate rose higher than the inflation rate and household incomes. The rate, recorded at eight percent from last year, about two points higher than the southern average of 6.2 percent.

With its spot in the higher rates of the southern states, Tennessee is not fairing as well as most of the other states of the South. As a response to rising tuition, there has been a sharp increase in private (non-federal and state) loans taken out by students. According to the office of Financial Aid, Austin Peay State University students borrowed \$347,393 in private loans for the 2003-2004 academic year; in a span of just four years, this amount

has more than doubled to \$823,428. And that's only counting Fall 2007.

We find this figure very sobering and believe that this growing trend is harmful in a country already rife with debt. Though federal aid such as the Pell Grant consistently increases, the sharp increase in private loans for college students suggests that the federal aid is not keeping up with demand.

Luckily, Congress has passed legislation, such as the College Student Relief Act of 2007, and introduced others that will lower interest rates on federal loans and implement a loan forgiveness option for students who seek work in non-profit organizations or public service. We think that in addition to federal efforts, the Tennessee Board of Regents should follow Georgia's example and implement a system for fixed tuition. This would be especially helpful to non-traditional students.

As more people continue to enroll and the standard-of-living continues to rise, so will tuition rates. We believe that this increase will make it harder for many of APSU's students; however, the majority of the burden will fall upon non-traditional students, who are not eligible for the HOPE lottery scholarship.

A fixed tuition system could help these students bare the growing financial requirements.

These trends and its implications remind us that those of us with scholarships should be ever diligent in maintaining the necessary GPA. As college becomes more expensive, a sudden loss of your aid could very easily put a definitive end to your collegiate career. ♦

Students are consumers

First of all, I would like to start this article by saying that I have the utmost respect for the entire faculty and staff here at Austin Peay State University, especially to those whose classes I attend.

Education is one of the biggest investments students will ever make. At APSU, the cost for tuition alone is nearly \$3,000 per semester for undergraduate work.

Multiply that by eight semesters and you get about \$24,000 for tuition. Add to that the cost of your books, shoes, room and board, transportation, liquor, lingerie, the party bill and more shoes, and you end up with somewhere in the ball park of about \$120,000 for your first

bachelor's degree. I hope you're not wasting that on a Bachelor of Arts in basket weaving; the market is down right now.

Not too long ago, I was told by a member of our higher education system (not anyone from APSU) that, "You pay for a seat in a classroom, not an education." That has bothered me ever since. While it is true that we students are responsible for doing our part to learn, I hate to think that any member of our university would believe they don't owe us a quality product. After all, education is big business. They have a product to sell and we are the consumers who buy it.

At first I wanted to rip APSU's Blackboard program apart in this article for some minor glitches in the program that affect an online class I'm taking. I just couldn't do it though. The level of quality has improved so drastically over the previous class I took through Blackboard, that I am impressed. The program is easier to navigate, there are far fewer glitches and the organization of the entire program is better. I might actually buy another class from Blackboard.

I think we should all look at our classes as though we are buying a product. The books, the professors and the equipment should all be top of the line. Notice I didn't say "state of the art." That's because "state of the art" is three isles up and on your right. It costs a little more but is darn well worth it. Then of course, there is the generic aisle.

What if we could buy an education like we buy groceries instead of getting a packaged deal? Why couldn't we shop around until we found just the right amount of humanities or mathematics? What if we could buy some ripe astrophysics from Colorado or fresh business law from New York or maybe even a little salted Spanish from Mexico City? Wouldn't it be cool if we could also choose the amount of work that went into a class?

"Yes, Mr. Cooper, our music theory class does come in three flavors now. Would you prefer a major's quality course, a minor's level class or just the general educational requirement? What's that? Yes sir, there is a difference in price."

Students would only have to pay for their level of passion about a subject. If you love everything to do with art you could take the major's quality course and learn the obscure things like who painted the most oranges in the years between A.D. 1200 and A.D. 1293 in

northern Italy, in the rain. Or if you loathe art you could take the general educational requirement and learn about the colors of the rainbow.

This would be a great benefit to the instructors also. They could teach at the level of the class's passion. If the students don't care, the professors won't have to work as hard on that class as they would on the major's class. And if all the students in the major's class are highly passionate about that subject, imagine the quality of education that professor could provide.

The student could fill their educational experience cart with an education that was tailor-made just for them. Educational money would be more adequately spent according to individual educational needs. The art major wouldn't waste time learning facts about algebra that they will never use and forget in six months. The English major could spend increasingly precious time studying their literature instead of how liquid performs in zero gravity.

I think we should all look at our classes as though we are buying a product. The books, the professors and the equipment should all be top of the line. Notice I didn't say state of the art."

I have to say that I am lucky in some aspects. As a contractor and carpenter, I am constantly using the algebra we were forced to take along with high school geometry. The classes in speech, government, politics and sociology help me be a more effective and profitable service provider. While all the rest, I store away somewhere until I need it for an idea, a story, a novel or just about anything else a wordsmith can use to make a buck.

The next big revolution in education, however, may need to be education at the drive through.

"May I take your order, please?"

"Yes, I'll take two of the three humanities, please, and a side of geophysics. Oh! And can I get one of those little thingy-bobs with the sugary frosted biology on it? Yeah, I love those."

It has been said that our educational system has fallen behind the rest of the world. If this is true, it is how we define our educational system now and in the future that will determine if we rise back up or continue to fall. If we consider our system as nothing more than "paying for a seat in a classroom," the system will continue to decay. Yet, if the administrators of our systems of higher education become more aware of the student as the consumer, then we have the best chance to rise to the top again. If not, our needs for fast, affordable and precise education could overtake the educational system's ability to serve us. ♦

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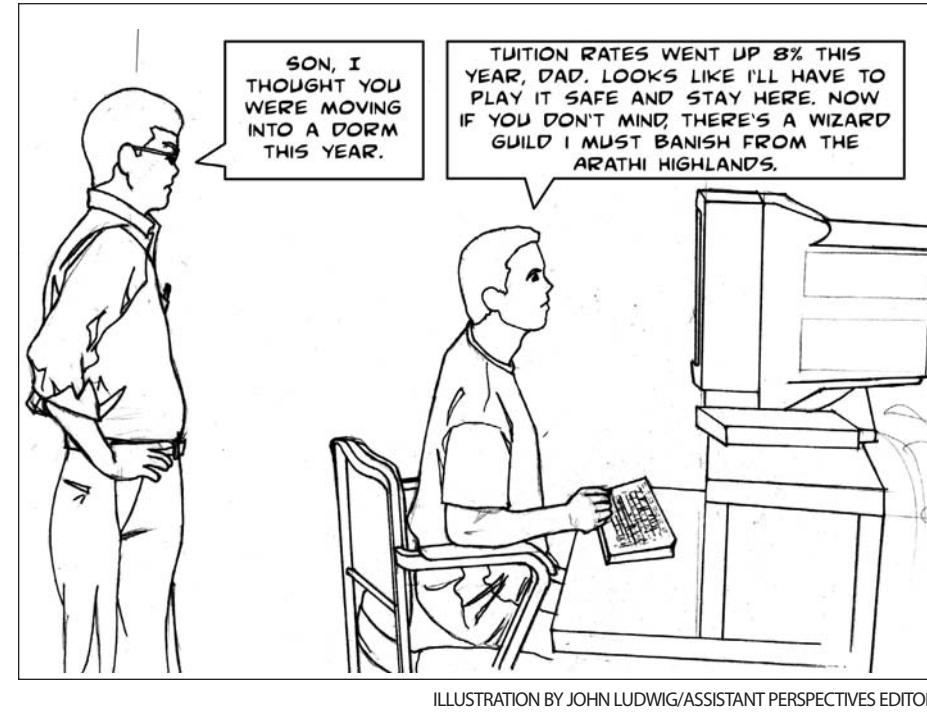


ILLUSTRATION BY JOHN LUDWIG/ASSISTANT PERSPECTIVES EDITOR

Help keep Web neutral

If you care about your Internet experience, heed my words. It is best to insure that nothing infringes the Web's freedom, fairness and neutrality by reacting to any such infringement. I refer to Net neutrality. While there is no single agreeable

definition, the concept has to do with whether all content on the Internet should be treated equally. Internet Service Providers (ISPs) want to prioritize content, creating a tiered system in which content providers would be forced to pay premiums for faster and/or unimpeded speeds. Right now there is no legislation that prevents ISPs from doing this.

Attempts to pass laws to protect the Internet have failed. In June 2006 the House of Representatives rejected the proposed bill for Net neutrality by a 269-152 vote. The proposed bill then passed to the Senate Commerce Committee, who rejected strict Net neutrality rules the following month. There's a Net neutrality bill called the Internet Freedom Preservation Act (S.215) before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. Unsurprisingly, most of those who openly oppose S.215 are Republican and those in support are Democratic; however, there are still a large number of senators who have not taken a stance on either side.

The current state for legislation is

discouraging. The Bush administration, with its illegal wiretapping, has done much to stigmatize the idea of close government regulation. Even the Federal Communications Commission, itself, has little interest in monitoring against potential discrimination.

Many lobbyists opposing Net neutrality have argued that broadband Internet is a competitive market and that phone and cable companies have the right to charge for faster speeds just as the postal service charges more for over-night packages.

Those same lobbyists contend there has been no evidence of discrimination by ISPs, and therefore no laws are necessary. While S.215 is before the Senate committee, I urge you to tell your senators to approve the bill so that it may go before the full Senate for review. It's not too late to secure the Web before anything dramatic unfolds.

A local example of Net neutrality

Let me expand the concept for clearer understanding. When using a computer hooked into Austin Peay State University's network, the Tennessee Information Infrastructure (TNII), which provides our Internet, has the capacity to monitor activity, discriminate and even block content.

If TNII wanted to discriminate against an anti-abortion Web site, it could restrict the bandwidth allowable for that site, thereby creating longer loading times for the site. What's more, it could just block the anti-abortion site and other sites altogether.

Suppose TNII not only slows down the anti-abortion site but Google as well. So now that Google has been slowed, or discriminated, suppose that TNII tells Google that if they pay a premium, the administration will commit more bandwidth for Google's content, giving it faster loading speeds.

Now apply this concept to big telecommunication companies (telcos) that provide your Internet at home.

So suddenly not only does it matter how much you spend on your broadband, your Internet experience depends also on how

much the sites you visit spend. Suppose YouTube partners with Comcast, but not AOL. Suddenly, everyone who has AOL instead of Comcast is streamed slower video because AOL did not pay the premium.

You have no control over this. This is not fair to you. The only option you would have for improvement is to move to Comcast. This is not reasonable when we still don't have a large enough market of ISPs.

But hey, let's not forget that ISPs contest they will up hold current FCC regulations and will not engage in unfair practices. It's funny how the ISPs say that. Last month the Associated Press reported that Comcast was impeding online subscribers from sharing files. In other words, they were discriminating content. This is why we should not take the chance that ISPs are going to continually play fair with the Internet.

Both sides of the Net

Republicans and like-minded lobbyists have affirmed the cons of heavily regulating the Internet through Net neutrality laws. They say that it will discourage innovation and make companies less willing to invest in networks bogged down with monitoring. They also argue that it would slow the spread of broadband in a country already behind in broadband availability, not just regionally but also in variety. Most importantly, they claim that heavy regulation may require taxation to provide the resources to do so.

Democrats and lobbyists in support of Net neutrality, such as Google and eBay, have heavily publicized the harms of allowing ISPs to prioritize the data they pipe to consumers. ISPs may become the gatekeepers of the Internet. The development of a two-tiered system may occur in which content providers would have to compete to keep their content running nominally. Furthermore, this two-tier system would prevent small business upstarts from thriving. The rich stay rich, and the poor stay poor.

Hidden in all the politicking, however, Net neutrality is about one argument: Who should pay for the overhauling the Internet needs? With the advent of new protocols and high-quality data, the Internet is becoming congested, increasing the burden of ISPs, which is why they want to prioritize content. ISPs want this to shift the financial burden of keeping the Net functional onto the Web sites we visit. The argument is that if they aren't allowed to, the burden will be shifted to us, the consumers. But make no mistake, regardless of who pays to upgrade the infrastructure of the Internet, whether it's the telcos or the content providers, they will find a way to pass the bill down to the consumer.

I happened to e-mail Senator Bob Corker over two months ago. I asked him what his stance on Net neutrality was. To my surprise, he replied back. Sadly, his answer was merely a restatement of what S.215 was about, and he remained neutral on the topic. Corker just reassured me that if S.215 should come before the full Senate, he will take into consideration my concerns regarding this legislation.

Both of our Tennessee senators are Republican, and because he hasn't openly rejected the idea of the bill, I'm hoping that he can be persuaded along with Senator Lamar Alexander. That is why I urge all of you to take sometime to write your congressmen and women to implement Net neutrality. The more people who write in approval of it, the more influence the public will have to persuade them to take the right action. Let's provide the security the Internet needs from potential monopolization by ISPs. ♦

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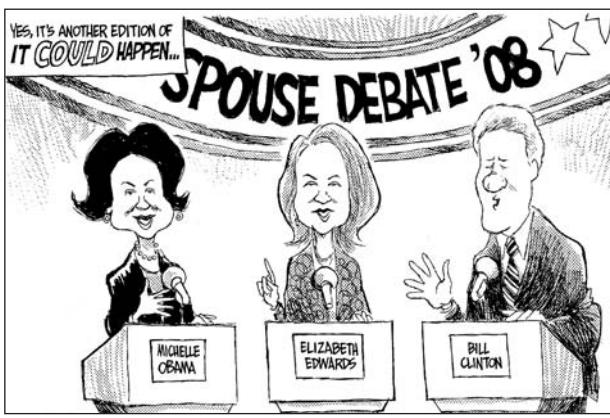
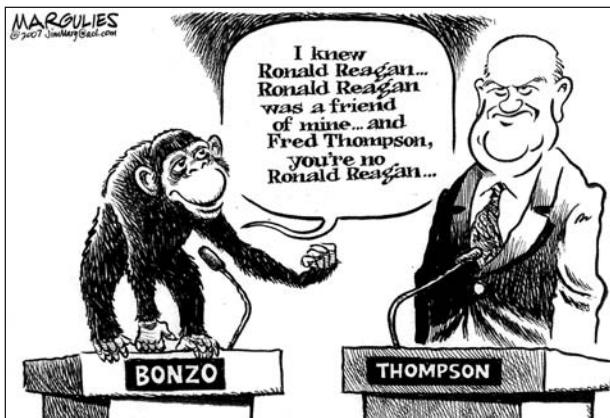
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What is it that smells so bad?

Ever go to a buffet and not know what to choose because it all looked so mouth-watering, belly-growlingly tempting? Well, there were so many juicy items in the news recently I couldn't settle for just one serving. And, before you ask if I've made up any words so far ask yourself this first, did you hear the one about Fred Thompson and the drug dealer? Seems the private jet on which "Good Ole' Boy" Fred flies across the country, belongs to a private businessman with a shady past, as in drug-dealing criminal record. Shoot, it sure was simpler when Fred drove around the great state of Tennessee in his red pick-up truck. Like they say, if you surround yourself with dogs, even high-priced ones, there's bound to be some stink somewhere.

Speaking of dogs, Duane "Dog" Chapman, the real-life bounty hunter on the A&E television channel got himself leashed by network suits recently. Seems the "Dog" repeatedly referred to his son's girlfriend, who is black, with the "N" word in a taped phone conversation with his son.

Chapman apparently tried to talk his son out of continuing to date the young lady but also claimed he has nothing against black women. And bounty hunters never break the law. There's that stink again, where's my bottle of Febreze when I need it?

Manhunt 2, the video "game" is out to thrill, chill and give hours of fun for the whole family. The game is about two killers who escape from an insane asylum and then (of course) go on a killing spree. It was originally rated "adults only," then the makers of this lovely little time-waster blurred out certain scenes to "earn" an "M" for Mature audiences rating (ages 17 and up). Hackers recently, well, hacked into the game and unblurred the scenes. The socially conscious geniuses behind this game insist the "M" rating should remain. Let's see, do you sell anything stronger than Febreze, sir?

Sometime ago I predicted in this column that Don Imus, the fired "shock jock," who made the "happy headed hot" comment, would return soon enough to the airwaves and thrill his fans with more blinding insight, wit and the engaging humor that nets him upwards of \$10 million a year. Sure enough, Imus will be back on the air with WABC this coming December (Hey, just in time for Christmas) with a morning show that, according to his new employers, will be the Imus we've come to love, and he'll be "stealing" \$5 million to \$8 million annually with this new five-year deal. You say I would now need a pesticide? Well, how much will that cost me?

Truth looks different to different people. A wise man once told me: "For every way of seeing, there's a way of not seeing." Viewing the social world is like looking at a multidimensional object. How an object appears depends on where a person stands. A different vantage point shifts the entire image. Journalism is much of the same. News is simply a narrow account of the complex social world. Each account is not a full description, but merely an introduction to the world as that person or group sees it. It's a one-dimensional view for a three-dimensional world.

An alternative approach to journalism would be to admit these limitations. Admit that there is no all-encompassing method to presenting the news. Acknowledge that the social world is complex, and a five-minute news presentation or 500-word article cannot include all of the contributing factors as to why certain events occurred the way that they did. Confess these shortcomings, but commit to aggressively striving for truth with an open-mind.

Journalists should strive for a profession rooted in fairness and accuracy. The media must commit to considering more than "both sides of a story." Traditional ways of thinking must be revised. No longer should it be acceptable to believe that two versions of a story are the only versions out there. Instead, journalists should ask: "What questions am I missing?" Much consideration should be given to the knowledge that remains unknown. The alternative approach to news could start with what is not known, not what is. Journalists should disclose what factors may have influenced or motivated their way of viewing an issue or event. Generally when individuals admit an interest in an issue or event, reasons exist for

South Carolina Democrats recently flexed their party official muscles and showed just how much of a sense of humor they had by refusing, through a 13-3 vote, to allow funnyman Stephen Colbert access to their state ballots in his heavily-hyped "presidential" campaign. Seems these South Carolinians felt that even though Colbert anted up his \$2,500 filing fee that he (Colbert) was just "really trying to use South Carolina Democrats as suckers to further his comedy routine." Two observations, 1) Everything Colbert does is intended to further his comedy routine and 2) We all get played for suckers every day or guys like Imus wouldn't have a job. Besides, Colbert isn't the first "funnyman" to run for president, a guy named Pat Paulsen used to make this a regular routine every four years. The big difference? Paulsen was a whole lot more sincere and a whole lot more underpaid.

Meanwhile, some states like Maine and Minnesota (maybe we'll just start with those states that start with the letter "M") are trying to close the existing loopholes which deny public access to those teachers who have been booted from teaching due to sexual misconduct. I am as much a "right to privacy" lawyer as the next barrister, but then I am also all for a parent's right to know just whom is using such laws as a shield to hide their sexual misconduct from the light of day as they hop from school to school and prey on our children. Let's join the "M" states and ensure that such teachers, apparently close to 60 in Tennessee, have no place to hide. Don't make me use my newly purchased can of pesticide.

Finally, two stories that are a bit more easy on the nose though may make one scratch one's head. Actress Jane Seymour, a "Dancing with the Stars" contestant has recently admitted to getting plastic surgery on her eyes and lips, Botox on her forehead, liposuction and breast implants. Okay, not too startling though a bit pathetic. The twist? Seymour apparently said her breast implants were "extra small" and had to be "specially ordered." Maybe all that dancing has made her a bit dizzy. I know I'm feeling a bit nauseous. And confused.

And last, but certainly not least, the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston recently named its newest addition, a baby giraffe, "Sox" in honor of the Boston Red Sox, winners of the World Series. "Sox" is of the Massai giraffe subspecies and will grow to be among the tallest land animals known to the planet. Outside of zoos these giraffes are only known to inhabit East Africa. Seems baby "Sox" was born right after the Red Sox game one victory against the Rockies but officials didn't want to publicly name her until after the series in case they might jinx the real Sox and bring back the "Curse." Now those are true fans. Trust me. At least I can breathe again, the stench seems to have lifted. The wall must come down. ♦

Greg Rabidoux, J.D., Ph.D. is a professor of law and can be reached at rabidoux@apsu.edu

Goodbye 'fair and balanced'; hello biased, but honest

Anytime human judgment is involved, unbiased opinion is not possible.

News is about presenting information. Behind every piece of information is an agenda. Contrary to what Fox News would like its audience to believe, it is not "fair and balanced." And no, the token liberal co-hosting "Hannity & Colmes" isn't fooling anyone. And for those liberal-minded people out there, MSNBC isn't much worse. Having conservative Tucker Carlson host his own show doesn't cover up or balance out MSNBC's liberal bias.

Let's speak truth about objective reporting in the complex social world: It's not possible. For every piece of information, there's a choice to present that information and how to present it. Partial realities describe the content presented by newspapers, magazines, TV and other media outlets. Everyone has a bias, including journalists.

Forming a bias cannot be avoided. Things like experiences, interests and norms shape the way individuals think. And journalists bring such backgrounds to their job everyday.

To truly accomplish objective reporting, the world would have to be ideal. That is, ways of seeing would have to be the same for everyone. Objectivity is a state that occurs only when people have the same interests and experience base. Everyone would have to have the same point of reference. Everyone would have to possess the same logic. Everyone would need to have the same expectations. Such an environment leaves no room for dissenting

opinion. Only in this ideal world could journalists consider all angles of a story.

Truth looks different to different people. A wise man once told me: "For every way of seeing, there's a way of not seeing." Viewing the social world is like looking at a multidimensional object. How an object appears depends on where a person stands. A different vantage point shifts the entire image. Journalism is much of the same. News is simply a narrow account of the complex social world. Each account is not a full description, but merely an introduction to the world as that person or group sees it. It's a one-dimensional view for a three-dimensional world.

An alternative approach to journalism would be to admit these limitations. Admit that there is no all-encompassing method to presenting the news. Acknowledge that the social world is complex, and a five-minute news presentation or 500-word article cannot include all of the contributing factors as to why certain events occurred the way that they did. Confess these shortcomings, but commit to aggressively striving for truth with an open-mind.

Journalists should strive for a profession rooted in fairness and accuracy. The media must commit to considering more than "both sides of a story." Traditional ways of thinking must be revised. No longer should it be acceptable to believe that two versions of a story are the only versions out there. Instead, journalists should ask:

"What questions am I missing?" Much consideration should be given to the knowledge that remains unknown. The alternative approach to news could start with what is not known, not what is. Journalists should disclose what factors may have influenced or motivated their way of viewing an issue or event. Generally when individuals admit an interest in an issue or event, reasons exist for

that interest. Providing such information would better inform audiences of what lens an issue or event is being looked through.

Journalism with an admitted bias opens the door for accuracy in reporting. Such an approach would spawn endless debate. But this type of debate may be exactly what the public needs. After all, this question and verify-everything approach serves democracy as a better method of holding government accountable. For example, it would have benefited the American public if the so-called "liberal-news media" would have lived up to its reputation prior to the invasion of Iraq. If the media hadn't been consumed with the "Shock and Awe" campaign that showed America flex its muscles with close-up images of tanks and fighter jets, journalists might have stopped to ask: "Is Iraq a threat to America? Does Iraq have weapons of mass destruction? Is Iraq connected with Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida?" An admittedly biased media outlet could have benefited America at such a time.

Honesty is perhaps the most-needed quality when dealing with issues or events that involve uncertainty. The media operates with limitations. But an approach that asks fellow journalists to add to the conversation of news serves as a better model of media. The need for fact-checking works best when the presented information is assumed to be false until proven true. Constant verification is a good thing.

Perfect media will never exist. But committing to foundational pillars in journalism is the first step to creating a more perfect media — a media that's fair and accurate, but limited by its inherent shortcomings. Oh yeah, and the wall must come down. ♦

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Hillary's campaign rings up a 'no sale'

"Anyone who is capable of getting themselves made president should on no account be allowed to do the job."

—Douglas Adams, British author

change for women and that now we have the chance to witness the first ever, "first spouse" in the White House. Still, when the individual chosen to represent that symbolism does not define his or her intentions well, how can we expect to acknowledge him or her as a valid sign of change? Asked another way, should we elect a woman or even a non-white individual to the presidency just because of the statement it makes alone? Of course not.

Hillary's motives are increasingly as clear as her opposing statements on Iraq. Her advocacy and vote for the war and current poor attempts at detachment from these earlier positions should not be lost on the American public. What is clear is something we can all understand. She's a sellout. She plans on averting war with Iran through "aggressive diplomacy," a blatantly ignorant contradiction in terms that tries to win both sides in its rhetorical purpose.

Diplomacy with intentions of considering war as an option is not diplomacy at all. We might ask Clinton how she plans on "dealing with Iran" as a press release on her Web site states so vaguely. The double-speaking political machine that she is, there is no doubt that she will market her campaign to the highest bidder and sell away any remaining integrity to corporate America.

Who will be helping her to the top? Her chief campaign strategist, Mark Penn, is the guy that's been cranking the gears for the Clintons since '95. With his polling firm, he helped push the Clintons further to the right and ensured that the Clinton dynasty grew tentacles extending to a plethora of major corporations like Microsoft and Texaco. Think, the Democratic Karl Rove.

As the June article of "The Nation" pointed out, Hillary's progressive claims will be hard sold to her corporate ties and vice versa. A true progressive, however, Ralph Nader said that he might run if Hillary gets the nomination. Here's hoping that a true progressive makes a major move in the coming months. Here's hoping that the public sees through the lies and votes its conscience next time around, whether the candidate has 43 percent in the polls or four percent.

There is a looming presence that needs to be scared off in this country. It is the overwhelming bipartisan status of our elected officials that separate us from other voices: those that are honest, rational and ethical. If people truly wanted a change rather than a familiar face or name, they would vote their conscience and demolish the state of bipartisan politics.

The wall must come down. ♦

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*the corner
that
counts*

The following statistics are compiled from a crime summary prepared by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

Reported Crime at APSU in 2006

2: reported incidents of forcible fondling.

29: reported incidents of assault offenses.

13: reported drug/narcotics violations.

12: reported liquor law violations.

contribute your own numbers that count to allstate.perspectives@gmail.com

The above information is attributed to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

www.tbi.state.tn.us

Sleep issues a nightmare

By AIMEE THOMPSON
Staff Writer

Everyone's seen them. They're everywhere: the library, the University Center, Harned Hall, virtually any dark and quiet place.

They can be identified by their slumped shoulders and their oddly twisted necks. Oftentimes, their faces are contorted with horrific expressions, which draw both stares and smirks from those who pass by.

They are students, more specifically, sleep deprived students. While the recommended amount of sleep for people in their early 20s is nine to 10 hours, many college students are lucky to pull in seven.

In the collegiate world, sleep often takes second place to studying, social activities and even TV. Many people are proud of the fact that they can "pull an all-nighter." It seems as though nearly all college students at some time or another will have to pass on sleeping to finish a project or study for a test. The question is if it's really worth to skip on sleep?

According to Bradley Mossbarger, a psychology professor at Austin Peay State University, it does more harm than good. "Studies have shown that getting sleep before a test increases a person's performance," Mossbarger said. "When you don't get enough sleep, your body doesn't function as well. You might have memory lapses, and find it hard to concentrate. Things might not come as quickly to mind."

Seth Williams, a senior in communications at APSU, can relate to that. "I stayed up from 10 a.m. one Sunday to write a paper, and didn't go to bed until 5 p.m. the next day," Williams said. "The rest of my week was shot, I couldn't focus, and I felt like I had the flu. It affected my other classes also."

"Studying all night doesn't really solidify the information," Mossbarger said. "A lack of sleep tends to wash out any material you've put in." The



Sophomore Delaron Banks catches forty winks on one of the couches in the Sundquist Science Building.

best thing to do, according to him, is to study in short concentrated amounts and get a full nights rest before a test. "You'll feel better the next day and will have better memory function, too," he said.

The importance of sleep is often overlooked because most people see it as a waste of time. The fact is, the body needs sleep in order to function at its best.

There are four stages of sleep, and each one is accompanied by varying levels of brain wave activity recorded by an encephalogram (EEG).

The final level of sleep is accompanied by rapid eye movement (REM), and it is during this level that dreams occur. It is believed that sleep allows the brain to secure memories and information that have been gained during the day.

"By not getting enough sleep, you short change the way your mind works," Mossbarger said.

"There have even been cases where sleep deprivation has proven fatal. These cases are very rare, and occur only when a person is kept from any type of sleep, but it can still happen."

Using caffeine to stay awake is also a bad idea, because it can keep people from falling asleep when they need to. "Stimulants interrupt normal relaxing brain activity," Mossbarger said. "It's like keeping a car on high idle with the gas pedal down. You run out of gas more quickly and don't really get anywhere."

However, some students argue that to get the recommended amount of sleep, they would have to sacrifice their social lives and even their grades.

Sean Peterson, a graduate student, said, "Sleeping that much is too large a percentage of your day. It would only be possible if you don't want a social life."

Williams agrees. "I would only have enough time to go to school, do my homework and then go to sleep immediately. I have other things to do."

Although getting enough sleep can be hard, most students agree it is a necessity in order to do well in school.

"Businesses look at your college GPA, so your grades and the choices you make are important," Williams said. "You're at school, and you can spend your money the way you want, but you didn't sign up for a Carnival cruise." ♦

Tips for better sleep

- Try to get into a regular routine. Erratic bedtime = erratic sleep time.
- Start a calming activity before bed, like reading (for leisure only), take a bath, a walk. These will give your body cues to slow down.
- Don't exercise or eat right before bed.
- Reserve your bed for sleeping only.
- If your mind is running in circles, take some time and write down all the worries and thoughts to get them out of your mind.

Game shows continue to win audiences

By PATRICK ARMSTRONG
Assistant Features Editor

Since the creation of TV, viewers have wanted to enjoy the experience of being on TV but never get the chance. A classic family format, the game show, provides the opportunity for a person to have their 15 minutes of fame.

In the '40s, the first TV game shows appeared in the homes with "Blind Date" and "Stop the Music." The '50s brought about the classics such as "The Dating Game," "Jeopardy!," "Let's Make a Deal," and "The Newlywed Game."

One noteworthy game show that made its debut Nov. 26, 1956 became the longest running game show in television history, "The Price is Right."

According to the History of The Price is Right Web site, (www.game-shows.chris-place.com), Bill Cullen first hosted "The Price is Right" from 1956 to 1965 through its first decade.

This early version was played the same way it is today except for one feature. They had a weekly contest for home views to mail in their bid on a showcase and the winner became a contestant.

In September of 1963, "The Price is Right" moved to ABC until a talk show called "The Young Set" took its place Sept. 3, 1965.

The legendary game show was brought back by CBS Sept. 4, 1972 with host Bob Barker. Everything was revamped and once a week there was a prime time show with host Dennis James.

The show doubled its 30 minute time limit giving it the new slogan, "The Fabulous 60-Minute Price is Right," Nov. 3, 1975, while adding the showcase showdown and the big wheel.

"The Nighttime Price is Right" lasted from Sept. 9, 1985, to Sept. 5, 1986, with host Tom Kennedy. Then Sept. 12, 1994, a third syndicate was added called "The New Price is Right" with Doug Davidson, from "The Young and the Restless."

This version was more modernized with different camera angles,

a bigger budget and a new way to do the showcase show down. It lasted until Jan. 27, 1995.

In 1998, "The Price is Right" celebrated its 5,000th show and renamed CBS Television City's Studio 33 to The Bob Barker Studio. Despite hosting the show for 35 years and winning the Daytime Emmy Awards 17 times, Barker announced his retirement Oct. 31, 2006 that his last show will be in June 2007.

With this huge announcement, fans from all over flocked to the studios and waited in line for days to try to be in the studio audience. Bob Barker signed off June 15 with his same line, "Help control the pet population. Have your pets spayed or neutered. Goodbye everybody."

The search was on for the next host of "America's Favorite Game Show" and they picked Drew Carey to succeed Barker. Carey stared in "The Drew Carey Show" and also currently hosts "Power Of 10."

The 36th season premiered Oct. 15 with a new set design and revamped music. The show was brought back with old logos, a call back to the retro feel of when it first began. Carey seems to be more laid back while doing his own thing: not trying to be like Barker.

He also gets very enthusiastic with contestants in contrast to Barker's style. "The Price is Right" seems to have gone back to old classic game show style with Carey and although it may be different then when Barker hosted. This change should not detract viewers from watching it.

If interested in attending a taping of "The Price is Right," go to "The Price is Right" Web site, (www.cbs.com/daytime/price/tickets/).

If you do plan on attending a taping make sure that you are prepared to arrive early. The line starts forming at least three hours before ticket processing, and unless you arrive in time to wait your turn, you might not have a chance of hearing your name being called to "come on down." ♦



Many people feel that Drew Carey's outgoing, enthusiastic personality have revitalized the classic game show "The Price is Right."

E-relationships going strong

By MARSEL GRAY
Staff Writer

Facebook, MySpace, eHarmony.

What do these three Web sites have in common? Each Web site allows users the ability to chat and message friends, family and to meet new people.

A popular trend seen more and more these days is to connect with people from online social networking Web sites and then interact with them in the real world.

While there are serious risks involved, many people are finding new friends, boyfriends, girlfriends and even spouses online.

There are many factors that have led to the rise in the popularity of the online social networking Web sites. The most advantageous factor was the creation of the Internet. The Internet has managed to bleed its way into every factor of society, and now has even consumed both networking and romance.

Another factor is the constant need to maintain a busy lifestyle. According to a 2006 BBC article, entitled "Love on the web" current societal pressures have pushed people into maintaining such busy lives they have so little time for traditional dating.

Freshmen Shea Natterstad said, "It's a good way to meet people. It is easier to talk to people online."

Truth be told: Many people are meeting online, or meeting again, as is the case of Ashleigh Sommer, a 22-year-old from Clarksville, Tenn. Sommer began chatting with her significant other on MySpace in November 2005.

She had previously worked with him at Wal-Mart, yet both hadn't the courage to speak to each other. In December of 2005 they went on their first date, and the couple was married a year later. Obviously, had there not been the Internet connection, this relationship would likely not have happened.

Yet, with every good reason for online socializing, there exists a reason against it. Indeed, online socializing does pose

serious and dangerous risks. A USA Today article published earlier this year entitled, "Stalking definitely a problem" for women at college," stated there has been an increase in the rise of stalking since many students post their schedules on their profiles and dorm rooms.

Some situations are worse than others. Back in 2006 a 16-year-old tricked her parents into obtaining a passport, only to then fly off to the Middle East to meet a man she met off MySpace, according to FoxNews.

The risk of sex offenders is another serious problem that has come about since the creation of such Web sites. Due to their easy access and limited censorship, sex offenders can easily create profiles and socialize like everyone else. However, there are some Web sites attempting to block registered sex offenders from having access to their Web site and the accompanying services.

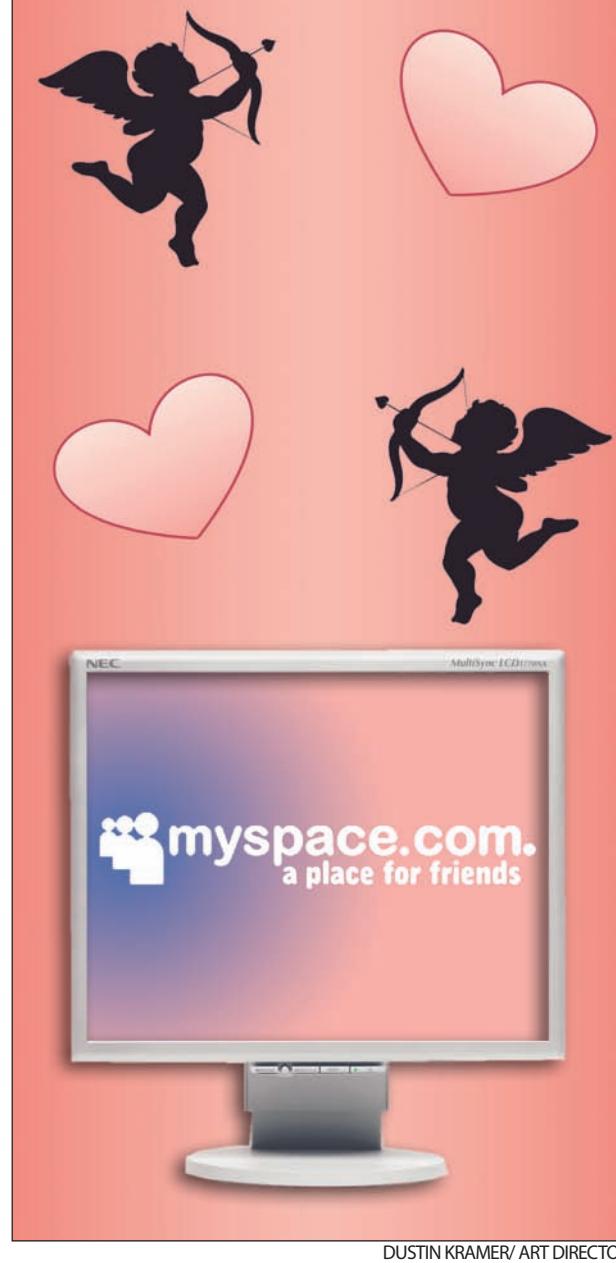
Even with all the risks, many people are still finding online social networks to be a healthy and good part of life. Said Delaron Banks, sophomore, "It gives people a good opportunity to meet, if not for relationships, than networking."

Until a new and easier method is created, online social networks will continue to grow in both wealth and popularity as the desire for interaction and networking grows. ♦

Online Dating Facts & Stats

- More than 20 million visit at least one online dating service a month.
- More than 120,000 marriages a year are from online dating.
- An estimated three million people in 2003 paid for an online dating service listing.
- It is estimated that in 2008 the financial growth of online dating will reach \$642 million.

Source: <http://www.onlinedatingmagazine.com>



Many people have found love using an Internet site. Sites such as MySpace and eHarmony provide the perfect forum for people to network, whether they are looking for friendship or romance.

DUSTIN KRAMER/ART DIRECTOR

Movies YOU SHOULD BE WATCHING

Movie asks hard questions

By TANYA LUDLOW
Assistant News Editor

I'm in a Marxist sort of mood. Maybe it has something to do with this war that seems to have ground the public into a sense of helpless apathy, and pundits and politicians into raving talking heads with lots of opinions and no answers.

Or maybe I'm just annoyed at a certain mutawwa — a religious police force — who is so bent on enforcing the campus tobacco fatwa outside of Harned Hall. At any rate, I'm in the mood for a call to action, or at least a good movie.

Speaking of intolerant ideologies, Judy Davis plays a character in "Children of the Revolution" who is one of those single-minded zealots that inspires both admiration for their dedication and not a small sense of loathing.

In this alternative history flick she plays a member of the Australian Communist Party who is so enthralled by Stalin that she writes him a letter every week. He invites her to the Kremlin.

There are shenanigans. What can I say, some women just melt for a luxurious moustache.

She becomes pregnant, and the father of her child is in question (I did say shenanigans in the plural.)

The movie focuses on her son and his rise to power in Australian politics. As the truth of his murky parentage comes to light, he faces a terrifying existential dilemma.

Along the way, the viewer is treated to a remarkable dark comedy co-starring Geoffrey Rush and Sam Neill, and if the fact that F. Murray Abraham plays Stalin doesn't intrigue you, frankly I don't know what will.

The idea of predestination is at the forefront. Are we born the people we are destined to be?

Or do we become who other people think we are?

But really, maybe the most important principle raised in the film, is why do people take themselves so damn seriously? ♦

'Pupil' teaches lesson

By DUSTIN KRAMER
Art Director

Obsession is a funny thing — not humorous, just interesting.

The fact that the mind can be so devoted to something that it literally becomes entranced is not only fascinating, it's frightening. Obsession has taken on many forms in literature and film, from "Romeo & Juliet" to "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" to Darren Aronofsky's "Pi."

The topic is vast and universal and when executed with proficiency, can shake one to their very core. "Apt Pupil" is a film that, to say the least, executes the topic of obsession with proficiency.

"Apt Pupil," directed by Bryan Singer, tells the story of Todd Bowden, a 16-year-old high school student played by Brad Renfro who becomes very interested in the Holocaust (as it is being taught at his school) and begins to study the subject relentlessly.

One day, while riding the public bus, Todd recognizes an old man portrayed by Sir Ian McKellen as Kurt Dussander, a Nazi commandant he saw in one of his Holocaust texts.

Todd follows Dussander home, discovering that the man is going by the name Arthur Denker, as noted by a sign on his door. Confident that he knows his true identity, Todd knocks on the door and greets the man as Kurt Dussander, which he, of course,

blatantly denies.

After submitting multiple pieces of evidence proving that Todd knows who he really is, Dussander admits that he is, in fact, the Nazi in question.

The film follows Todd's descent into his own morbid obsession of gaining knowledge of the "real" Holocaust, the Holocaust that his school won't teach him.

Todd's pervasive digging and prying into this past world of oppression and death begins to summon the demons that made Dussander the Nazi he once was.

A scene in which Todd gives Dussander a gift illustrates this well. Todd gives Dussander a Nazi uniform, not unlike the one he once wore, albeit a higher rank, and orders him to march in place, throwing the infamous Nazi salute.

What begins as an act of humoring the boy turns into something far more frightening. Dussander begins shouting in German, slamming his open hand against his chest and launching it into the air, gaining speed as he marches in place.

When a frightened Todd begs him to stop, a winded and sweating Dussander says, "Boy, be careful. You play with fire."

An effective and chilling piece of overlooked cinema, "Apt Pupil" delivers on all fronts. This is definitely a movie you should be watching. ♦



MATEEN SIDIQ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Above (left), students enjoy some friendly jousting at the Gladiator Games.

Campus Happenings

Hispanic Cultural Month, Gladiator Games and One Night Stands have kept campus hopping.



JENNY WALLACE/FEATURES EDITOR



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR



MATEEN SIDIQ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Above, October was filled with activities sponsored by the Hispanic Cultural Center in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. Food, salsa dancing, crafts, lectures and bursting piñatas were just some of the activities that were held on campus.

Austin Peay State University Housing/Residence Life and Dining congratulates the half-time winners

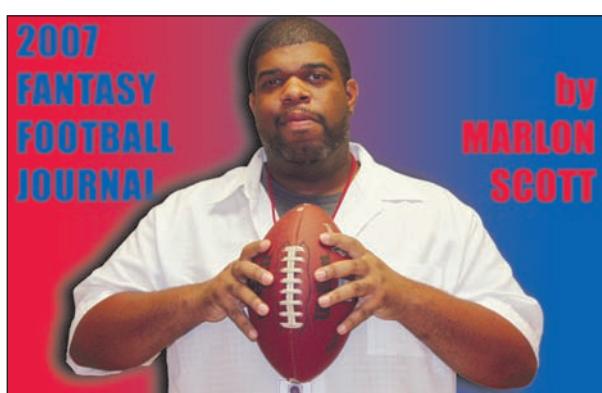
2 iPod winners

From left to right: Kim Morrow, Lakita Wilson, Dr. Sherryl Byrd, Mary Carnahan, Dennis Blanchard, Caleb Roberts, Joe Mills, Terry Hicklen, Sue Fort.



Photo by Lois Jones/The All State

2 \$500 scholarship winners

OPINION**The long bumpy road to 7-3**

I walked all over the "door mats" (Team 8) as I predicted last week to be 91-57. I would be more sympathetic, however, the manager of the "door mats" failed to replace quarterback Matt Hasselback, who has a bye this week, with the healthy and active quarterback on his bench, Chad Pennington.

There are several legitimate reasons which could explain why the substitution was not made, but Team 8 has only won one game this season. They do not get the benefit of the doubt.

After wiping off my shoes to become 6-2, I looked forward and realized my week nine opponent is at the top of the west division, Team 3 (6-2). I finally have a worthy opponent.

When I examined Team 3's roster, the first thing that caught my eye like bright-yellow hazard lights was Tom Brady and Terrell Owens. The over 2800 yards, 30 touchdown throwing Brady and Tony Romo's favorite wide receiver with 556 yards and five touchdowns, Owens. I cross my fingers and hope Derek Anderson and Wes Welker have big games this week.

With Marion Barber and new addition, Kevin Jones, I believe I have the edge over Team 3's running backs, Shaun Alexander and Earnest Graham.

Unfortunately, Jerricho Cotchery is facing the Redskins secondary this weekend with a new quarterback. I picked up Kevin Walter for a temporary boost. But he and Joe Jurevicius are not favored against Calvin Johnson and Joey Galloway on Team 3. I got the better tight end with Tony Gonzalez and the Kickers are a coin flip. It is going to come down to defense.

Ironically, Team 3 has picked up my old defense, the Chargers. Experts think they will feast on the Vikings, whose passing game is pathetic. I hate the experts, especially when they are right.

Currently, the Titans occupy the GridironGovs defensive slot. They are facing a Carolina team who is shuffling three injured quarterbacks to finish games. Available in free agency is the Redskins defense. They had a bad week against the Patriots, but everyone has a bad week trying to stop the Patriots.

This week the Patriots are taking on the Jets which reports have indicated will be starting with a new quarterback. (Translation: Fresh meat being tossed to a hungry secondary looking to bounce back. Yummy.)

Which defense is going to be the key to beating Team 3? Do I even have a chance against a team with Brady?

For the week 8 and 9 full results log on to www.theallstate.com♦

Double OT victory for Govs

By MARLON SCOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

In a double-overtime thriller, the Austin Peay State University Govs defeated the Southeastern Missouri University Redhawks 34-31 for their third Ohio Valley Conference win in a row.

The win guaranteed the Govs' first winning season since 2002 and was also the Govs fifth OVC game this season decided by three points.

Running back Chris Fletcher eclipsed the 1000-yard mark with 30 carries for 162 yards and three touchdowns.

Sophomore quarterback Gary Orr started the game but struggled and was replaced in the fourth quarter after completing just 8-of-17 for 94 yards.

Senior quarterback Mark Cunningham completed 4-of-12 for 43 yards including the game winning touchdown pass for the Govs.

"The reason I went to Mark is that I didn't think Gary, and Gary is going to be a good quarterback, there was no management of the game," said Govs head coach Rick Christopel. "I thought we lost some rhythm and I wanted to go back in there and let our guys get settled down, and [Cunningham] has got that calming factor."

After a muffed kick off return by the Redhawks, the Govs took possession of the ball on the Redhawks' nine-yard line. Fletcher rushed into the end zone for a 7-0 lead 10 seconds into the game.

Redhawks quarterback Houston Lillard threw an 18-yard touchdown pass to Miles Edwards later in the first quarter to tie the game. The Govs' defense smothered Redhawks running back Elton Peterson, limiting him to 80 rushing yards in the game.

"I think the key to the ball game is that we stopped the run," Christopel said. "They made some good throws. They had to do that. They could not run the football with any kind of degree of success and that is what made the difference for us I think."

Govs linebacker Chris Haynes blocked a 40-yard field goal attempt by the Redhawks. Defensive back Kevins Buckley recovered the ball after the block and ran 67 yards for a touchdown which tied the game 14-14 at halftime.

Haynes finished the game with seven tackles. Freshman Ricky Thomas, replacing starting linebacker Kit Hartsfield led the team with 10 tackles.



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Filling in for sophomore starting quarterback Gary Orr in the fourth quarter, senior quarterback Mark Cunningham completed 4-of-2 for 43 yards and the game winning touchdown pass in overtime.

With 7:06 left in the game, Govs defensive back Ladarius Davis intercepted a pass from Lillard and ran it back 40 yards. This was the sixth game in which the Govs' defense

intercepted a pass. Two plays later, Fletcher dashed 25 yards to give the Govs a 21-14 lead.

On third down and 17 with 2:06 left in the game, Lillard delivered a 40-yard strike to Edwards for a first down. On the next play he connected with Edwards again for a 25-yard touchdown pass that tied the game 21-21.

Lillard completed 17-of-31 for 265 yards and four touchdowns in the game. Edwards caught eight receptions for 131 yards and three touchdowns.

The Govs dodged a bullet when Redhawks kicker Doug Spada missed a 39-yard field goal attempt to win the game.

In overtime, the Redhawks' defense experienced "Déjà vu" when Fletcher broke another 25-yard touchdown run on the Govs' first play in overtime.

The Govs defense had the same feeling when Lillard threw his third touchdown pass to Edwards and forced the game into double-overtime.

After holding the Redhawks to a field goal, the Govs lined up needing a touchdown to win the game.

Concentrating on stopping Fletcher, the Redhawks took the bait when Cunningham

made the play action fake. Cunningham then threw a beautiful pass to (player position) Daryl Miller in the end zone for the win.

"This was a hard win for our kids," Christopel said. "I am proud of Mark Cunningham and I tell you who else I am proud of, I usually don't give out game balls, but I gave out three game balls today. I gave one to Chris Fletcher. I gave one to Mark Cunningham and I gave one to our defense."♦

The Govs play their last game at home Saturday Nov. 10 against current OVC leaders Eastern Kentucky (7-2, 6-0 OVC).

Eight seniors will be playing their last home game and will be recognized on Senior Night. The seniors include:

- Chris Fletcher
- Mark Cunningham
- Josh Hackett
- Brandon Hufstetler
- Garry McReynolds
- Duncan Williams
- Kevin Carter
- Adam Shockley

The annual "Help an Elf" Program is now underway!

Applications are now being accepted for:

The Help an Elf Program

The deadline for submitting applications is Monday, November 19, 2007.

This program is designed to assist APSU students to provide holiday gifts for their children.

Recipients of the holiday gifts will be children of APSU students who meet the income requirements and are enrolled in 12 hours or more. This program is limited to students who are not participating in any other on-campus or off-campus holiday gift programs.

Applications are available in the Office of Student Affairs located in the University Center, room 206.

All applications are confidential. Priority will be given to first-time participants of this program.

For more information please contact

The Office of Student Affairs

221-7341 or 221-6570

2007-08 LADY GOVS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Lady Govs want respect from OVC



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

The Lady Govs' who were picked to finish ninth in the Ohio Valley Conference believe they are a better than what the preseason polls predict. They have five seniors who would like to graduate with a winning season including, Ashlee McGee, Megan Anderson, Amber Bacon, Kellea Reeves and Keri Reese. McGee and Reeves are the only two returning starters, Bacon and Reese provided productive minutes off the bench. All five seniors are now familiar with head coach Carrie Daniels' system. In her second year Daniels has high expectations and believes that the chemistry of the team will work to their advantage. The Lady Govs' first game will be Fri. Nov. 9 against Chattanooga at home.

By MARLON SCOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

The Austin Peay State University Lady Govs basketball team has five players returning as seniors this season and they are looking for some respect.

In the 2006-07 basketball season, Amber Bacon, Ashlee McGee, Kellea Reeves, Keri Reese and Megan Anderson were members of the Lady Govs team picked to finish eighth in the Ohio Valley Conference preseason polls.

At the time, they had lost their leading scorer and most active rebounder. In addition, they were playing under a new head coach, Carrie Daniels, and learning how to execute her system.

This year, the seniors make up five of six returning players from last year, including two starters. They know Daniels' system, what Daniels expects from them and have several talented new players ready to follow their lead.

The rest of the OVC is not impressed. The Lady Govs were picked to finish ninth in the preseason poll.

Starting point guard, McGee, is ready to

change their minds.

"We know we are competitive and we know who we are," McGee said. "Every year we come out on top, disappoint people, upset people and make them realize that we are focused and have talent."

McGee started in 23 games last year and averaged 7.8 ppg. Beside her draining threes at every opportunity was

Bacon. Bacon had the highest three point shot percentage last year, .362, and averaged 9.8 ppg.

She plans to increase that percentage this season in an active leadership role.

"Me and Ashlee are going to work our butts off like every year, but especially this year because it is our last year," Bacon said. "I am not going to hesitate to shoot threes this year. I am putting it all out there

with no regrets."

Filling the gap at forward left by Alicia Watson (9.9 ppg) will be Anderson.

Anderson is recovering from off-season surgery, but is more than ready to compete with her teammates.

The Lady Govs finished last year's regular season 10-19, 9-11 OVC. Most of their success came when their "big girls" in the middle had strong games. The 6'3" Reese and 6'2" Reeves want to provide a consistent powerful presence on the inside this season.

Reeves quietly led last year's team in points scored with 281 (9.7 ppg). Last season Reese played in 25 of 29 games, averaging over three rpg and finishing with a .397 field goal percentage.

"Every year we come out on top, disappoint people, upset people and make them realize that we are focused and have talent."

Ashlee McGee



"We are going to go out with a bang this year. I hope everybody is ready for us," Reese said. "We are going to put on a show."

The chemistry between the returning seniors and the new faces on the team has Daniels excited. In her second year, she is confident her team will represent APSU well.

"I think the biggest difference that our staff has seen is the chemistry of the team," Daniels said. "They have really just clicked and gelled together. The chemistry is unbelievable and the attitude of the team is great. These girls have a sense of something to prove and I think they are one a mission. These five seniors, they are determined." ♦



Positive chemistry an advantage for Lady Govs

By MICHAEL YOUNG
Senior Staff Writer

It has been three years since the Austin Peay State University women's basketball team has clinched a birth into the NCAA Tournament. It has been just as long since the Lady Govs' dynasty and domination of the Ohio Valley Conference ended — abruptly.

From 2001-04, the Lady Govs were the epitome of a dynasty.

It began with an OVC Tournament Championship in 2001 despite not winning the regular season. This

earned the team's second NCAA Tourney appearance in school history. But the win was a sign for things to come with the program winning two regular season championships (2002-03, 2003-04) along with three more consecutive conference tournament championships (2001-04).

"They were a dynasty and I wanted to be a part of a winning program," said junior transfer, forward April Thomas. "I, obviously, didn't get to come here but I went out to [Chattanooga], which is a top junior college program, and I wanted to come back to a competitive Division I program when I left."



Lady Govs head coach Carrie Daniels is definitely familiar with success at APSU. As a player, Daniels was a part of the program's first ever birth into the NCAA Tournament in 1996, where the Lady Govs won both the regular season and tournament championships.

"To start with, when I first arrived at Austin Peay, it was in a rebuilding year," Daniels said. "That final year, when we won the regular season and the OVC Tournament, it was unbelievable. I think that being a part of the rebuilding years and then to end off my career with a championship was a dream come true for any athlete."

Daniels' experience can only help in her efforts to rebuild a program that was lost for the past three years following the team's dynasty years. Over that period, the Lady Govs are 33-50 in the regular season and 0-2 in the OVC Tournament, failing to reach the tournament in 2004-05 while losing in the first round the other two years.

In Daniels' second year at the helm of the women's basketball team, the Lady Govs are again a toss-up on whether or not the team can be competitive enough for an OVC title.

But try telling that to senior guard Ashlee McGee.

"If anything, I think this team has better chemistry than all the other teams I have been on," McGee said. "In the past, we have been



tight on the court mostly but that was it. With this team, on and off the court we are very close and we all work together. We just have great chemistry."

They key word McGee uses is chemistry. It is the same word Daniels used to describe the team in which she played in 1996 when the team won it all. The 2007-08 Lady Govs return five starters this season along with newcomers Thomas, West Virginia transfer Janay Armstrong, who will join the team in December, and highly proclaimed freshman Ashley Herring.

April Thomas and Armstrong can be expected to be immediate impacts for APSU, with both having strong collegiate experience. Herring, on the other hand, is a recruit whose talent can be limitless.

"We have a freshman that is very special and has the talent to become a great player here if she continues to work hard," Daniels said. "Ashley Herring has a lot of talent and I think that by the end of her career you'll be able to put her in the category with Brooke Armistead, Ashley Haynes and Gerlonda Hardin as one of the best that's played here."

The direction of the Lady Govs' return to glory is still a work in progress. According to Daniels, it requires a continuously strong years of recruiting and dedication from the team. However, the upcoming season looks to be a step back into the winner's column. ♦

Clarksville native returns home, ready to make impact

By MICHAEL KELLUM
Sports Editor

Things have come full circle for junior forward April Thomas.

She had a successful basketball career at Northeast High School. She led her team to repeat district 10-AAA regular season and tournament titles. She was also named *The Leaf Chronicle* All Area player of the year as both a junior and senior.

Thomas finished her high school career as the Eagles all time leading scorer with 1,246 points. Afterward she accepted a scholarship to Chattanooga State Community College.

She continued her promising play at Chattanooga State despite an early setback. She missed most of her freshman season and the first part of her sophomore year with a knee injury. Thomas worked hard through the injury and was named on the 2006-07 Tennessee Junior and Community College Athletic Association All First team.

"Nothing is guaranteed," Thomas said. "You can



"I wanted to come back home because my family hasn't been able to see me play the past two years."

April Thomas



get hurt at any time so I might as well go hard and hope it doesn't ever happen again."

Thomas led her team to the championship game of the TCCAA tournament averaging 9.7 ppg and 9 rpg.

When Thomas' season ended she found herself looking for a school to play basketball and realized she was a little home sick. APSU seemed like the perfect medicine for Thomas.

"I wanted to come back home because my family hasn't been able to see me play the past two years," Thomas said. "I thought it would be exciting for them to see how much I have improved since high school."

Lady Govs head coach Carrie Daniels welcomed Thomas.

"We found out about April and saw the talent that she had," Daniels said. "We are thrilled to be able to bring her back to Clarksville and to Austin Peay, we just wish we had her for more than two years."

Picked to finish ninth in the Ohio Valley Conference preseason poll the Lady Govs are looking to prove their critics wrong and Thomas is thinking big.

"I see OVC championship banners everywhere," Thomas said. "I'm excited about this season because everybody is

getting along. I think we are going to be really good this year."

Daniels is excited that Thomas will be able to play in front of her family again while sharing her talents with the Lady Govs.

"If you have a talented local kid you want to keep them at home," Daniels said. "She is a very versatile player. She is strong down low, great footwork and can shoot the three. When you look at the high school program she went through, she has been well coached. I have no doubts that she will fit right into this system."

Thomas has been back in Clarksville for a short time and is already feeling like APSU is where she belongs.

"My teammates have been great," Thomas said. "They talk to me and help me with plays and make sure my spirits are high so that I can keep going and learn everything."

While Thomas is still making transitions to the Lady Govs program, she has learned that the saying "Home is where the heart is" is a true statement in her situation.

"All my parents talk about is the team, our chemistry and how we do things together," Thomas said. "Things are falling in place when we play and we are going to show people we are better than ninth place." ♦