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the all state

The voice of Austin Peay State University students since 1929

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Senator shares environmental concerns



MATEEN SIDIQ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Senator Rosalind Kurita spoke to a room filled with listeners. The event had originally been postponed due to snow in January. The event highlighted many issues related to global warming and the need to increasingly move toward 'green' energy. Kurita opened up explaining what she was doing to increase energy efficiency and then went into a question and answer session with the audience.

Senator Kurita presents green energy initiatives

By JAKE DAVIS
Staff Writer

State Sen. Rosalind Kurita, speaker pro tempore of the Tennessee General Assembly, came to speak in the Sundquist Science Complex Fri., April 12.

Kurita, a democrat, discussed partisan politics, the future of green energy in Tennessee and at APSU and ways to fight the effects of global warming.

"Every issue really does have two sides," Kurita said.

The senator spoke for a few minutes about what she was doing to help increase energy efficiency, then allowed students to lead the discussion by asking questions.

In the question and answer session, the Tennessee state lottery excess funds were discussed.

What to do with these funds is a big question in Nashville right now; Kurita proposes that they should be used for education and green energy in schools.

Kurita wants to "create a healthier learning

environment for students and protect the environment at the same time."

Students and faculty came for a chance to talk with Kurita and enjoyed free pizza. APSU's President Timothy Hall attended, along with members of the Young Democrats and students interested in science. Those attending enjoyed the points Kurita brought up.

"She said a lot of great things; green energy is something we need to look for. It is not only something that can help us, but help consumers in the long run," said Adam Haynes, a sophomore political science major and the president of the Young Democrats.

Student Organization to Advance Renewable Energy (S.O.A.R.E.) sponsored the event. Senior Jessica Cameron, the outgoing president of the group, introduced Kurita and was very happy with how the event progressed.

"I was ecstatic about what she said; she talked about exactly what we wanted her to say," Cameron said.

Kurita encouraged all of the students present to take action for the cause of green energy.

"It's not a hope, a wish or a could you. It's a 'lets do it,'" Kurita said.

The senator also explained the differences between partisan viewpoints on the issue of lowering standards for the lottery scholarship as the "difference between a mother's love and a

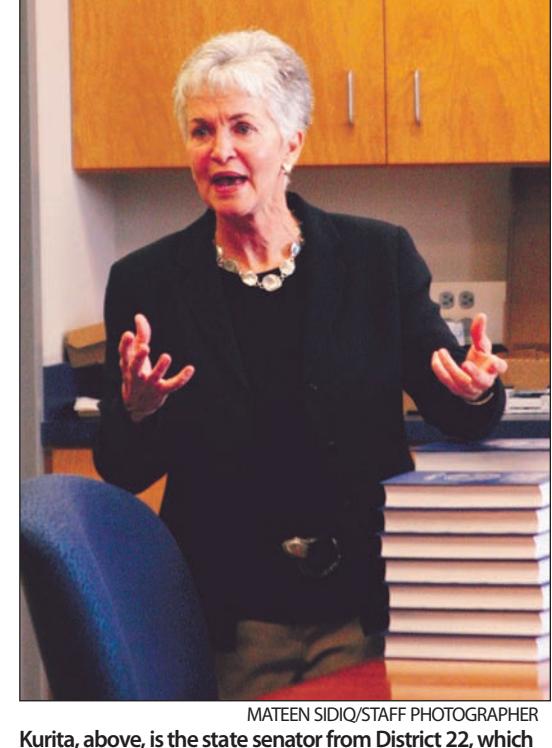
father's love." The democrats "mothers" want everyone to succeed, while the republican "fathers" want students to work hard for the money.

Many topics and issues directly affecting Tennesseans and APSU students were discussed at the event, with much active participation from the group of students and faculty at the meeting. In this time of partisan politics, Kurita made one belief very clear in the meeting: "I believe we are our brother's keepers." ♦

Rosalind Kurita, state senator

- Democrat from Clarksville. Represents District 22 which encompasses Cheatham, Houston, and Montgomery Counties.
- Currently the Speaker Pro Tempore of the senate.
- Graduated from the University of Arkansas with a B.A.
- She is a registered nurse and a businesswoman.
- Named the 2004 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Human Resource Agency.

- From www.legislature.state.tn.us



MATEEN SIDIQ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Kurita, above, is the state senator from District 22, which includes Clarksville, Montgomery, Cheatham and Houston Counties. She is currently serving in the 105th state general assembly.

Millions reserved to renovate campus over summer

By NICOLE JUNE
Staff Writer

This summer, APSU's campus will be the site of a number of construction projects. According to Mitch Robinson, vice president of Finance and Administration, and Manny Ballen, acting director of the Physical Plant, these projects fall into two categories: General campus projects and housing projects.

One of the major projects is campus-wide paving. Several streets are on the target list, including residential areas. The West Avenue parking lots will be paved with new permeable concrete for slopes that are prone to flooding and rainwater runoff problems. Eighth Street will get new sidewalks, and decorative light posts will be installed as well. The Foy Fitness and Recreation Center parking lot will be resurfaced. These paving projects will cost an estimated \$1.4 million.

On Castle Heights, Parham Drive, and Marion Street, several houses are scheduled to be demolished.

"They are not suitable for keeping and have many environmental and health code issues," Robinson said. These issues include lead paint and asbestos. The houses are not considered

"They are not suitable for keeping and have many environmental and health code issues."

Mitch Robinson, vice president of Finance and Administration



historic. "The cost would be astronomical to bring these houses up to code," Ballen said.

The lots will be converted into "green space," meaning they will become either gravel lots or patches of grass left open for future campus expansion. The project will cost around \$120,000.

The campus steamline will also be replaced this summer, at an estimated cost of \$2 million. "We have to finish it before the students come back after the summer," Ballen said.

Several emergency telephones, or blue lights, will be installed in parking areas around campus, similar to the one located near Blount and Harned Hall, at a cost of \$100,000. Also, three smoking shelters will be built on campus. The shelters will cost an approximate total of \$40,000.

Also, three student kiosks will be built around campus to provide bulletin board space for

students. They will be lighted for convenience and will cost around \$50,000 together. Renovations in the McReynolds building will also begin, and are expected to cost about \$1.7 million.

"We will hopefully start this summer," Robinson said, "but the project will definitely not be completed by the end of the summer."

A new building for the Fort Campbell Center is in the works and will continue construction this summer, though Robinson estimates that it will not be completed until November. The building will cost about \$4.7 million.

The Sundquist Science Complex will be receiving a new computer cluster, or "supercomputers," as described by Robinson. They will be primarily used by the physics department and will cost an estimated \$50,000.

Housing projects include an \$80,000 refurbishment of Home Court Apartments, which may not be complete by the end of summer.

Blount and Harrell Hall will undergo remediation.

Robinson said this is a continuation of improvements, mostly due to a mold problem discovered a few years ago in Blount Hall. The

project will also include mechanical alterations and will cost about \$40,000.

Architectural corrections will be made to three of the Hand Village complexes. These corrections involve removing brick to repair faulty workmanship that resulted in water leakages. The cost for the project is the responsibility of the architect and construction company who built the structures.

Housing sprinkler systems will be installed in Blount and Sevier Hall and the Two Rivers Apartments. The cost has not been calculated. Also, Meacham Apartments will undergo heating, ventilation and air conditioning replacement. This will cost about \$35,000.

Residents in Blount Hall commented on the summer construction projects.

"I like that they're doing construction on the pavement to prevent flooding problems," said Djannin Shannon, freshman biology major. "The kiosks sound interesting, but I'm worried about vandalism problems, and I don't feel that they're absolutely necessary right now. There are pros

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Features

Lonestar headlines
Rivers & Spires



FYI

♦ Finals week starts April 25

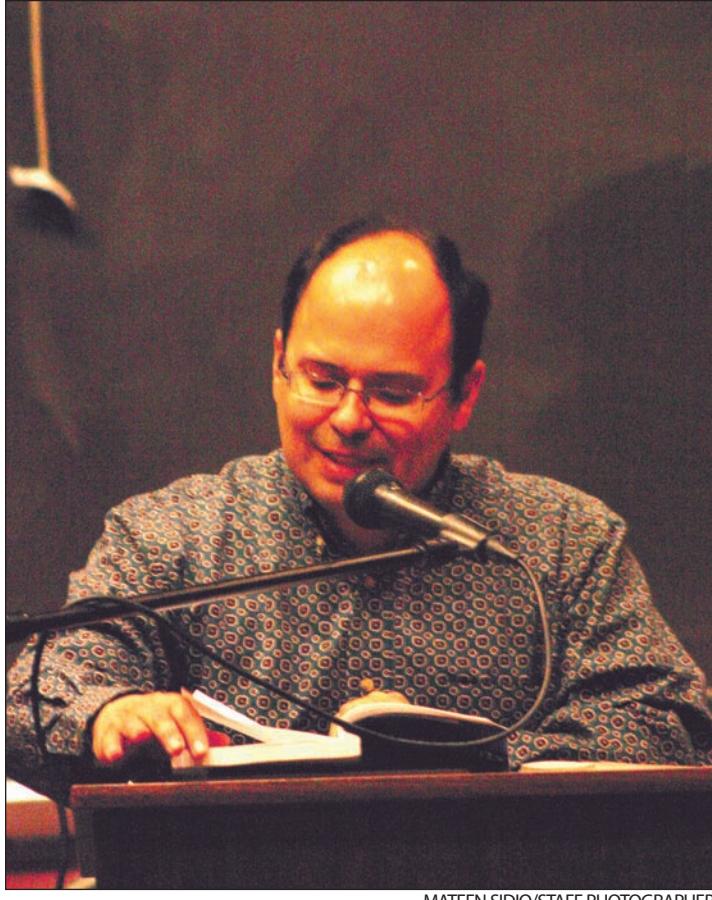


Online

Randall speaks on how scriptures have justified war

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Aragón amazes



MATEEN SIDIQ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Francisco Aragón, above, reads selections from his poetry book "Puerta del Sol" Thur., April 10, in Gentry Auditorium. The event was hosted by APSU's Center for the Creative Arts. Aragón lived in Spain for 10 years where he studied Spanish literature and taught English.

Summer: funding from numerous areas

From Page 1

and cons concerning this project."

Alyssa Ruffino, a freshman pre-veterinary major, believes the emergency blue light telephones are a great idea.

"As a woman who has to walk alone on campus at night, I would feel much safer with more of these poles around," she said.

"Some more green space would be nice to see as well, rather than the old, dilapidated houses. I'm also glad the

mold problem in Blount Hall has been addressed, and as a resident I hope that will not be a problem in the future."

Robinson said the university is currently looking for someone to fill the management position to handle the summer projects. Funding for the projects will be provided by campus access fees, state capital maintenance funds, telephone renewal and replacement funds, campus operating funds, state school bonds, campus-operating plant funds, and auxiliary renewal and replacement funds. ♦

SGA: WEEKLY ROUNDUP

Fees, trays, Castle heights

By TINEA PAYNE
Assistant News Editor

Joe Mills, director of Housing and Residence Life, and Joe Lachina, director of Dining Services, spoke at the Wed., April 9, Student Government Association senate meeting.

Mills addressed concerns regarding the housing pre-payment enforced during the spring semester.

Mills said campus housing has moved to a new system in which students will no longer pay the \$100 housing deposit. He said the housing pre-payment would make paying housing fees easier and help residents save money.

As of this semester, new students will pay a \$200 pre-payment to reserve rooms for the 2008-2009 academic year; current residents will pay \$100 to complement the \$100 housing deposit previously paid. The \$200 will later be deducted from the overall housing rent.

Sen. A.J. Wolfe asked Mills about the fee and stated students who cap out on scholarships and grants will not be refunded.

Housing rent was another topic addressed. Mills said the culprit for the rent increase is due to students who reserve rooms and fail to claim them during check-out times. He said an average of 75 students make reservations and do not claim them by the start of the semester.

It was also revealed that the wireless Internet throughout the dorms would be expanded. Mills said wireless expansion for the entire campus would cost approximately \$450,000 and would take three to four years to install in each dorm. He said the expansion would not cause an increase in rent. All dorms currently have wireless Internet access, but it is limited to the dorm lobbies.

Mills also said housing was approved for a \$30 million project on Castle Heights where 400 students would reside. The dorms would be built double-occupancy style, with a single bathroom and no living space. Each floor would have a lobby, study room and rooms for other campus and residential needs. Preference for housing will be given to new freshman students.

The new dorms rent will be between \$2800 to \$3000 annually and are scheduled for completion by Fall 2011.

'Trayless' dining, 'Project Clean Plate' meets goals

Chartwells Dining services announced last week that Tues., April 15 would be "Trayless Tuesday" a trend followed by many university dining services across the nation.

Lachina discussed how dining without the use of trays would be "more environmentally friendly" and promote healthier eating habits. He said the change would help campus dining conserve chemicals, water and electricity and help generate less waste.

Tony Douglas, manager of Pulse on Dining, said the shift to trayless dining is "more the norm on college campuses." ♦

Next Meeting

The next SGA meeting will be held 12:20 p.m. Wed., April 23 in University Center Room 305.

Good Morning APSU

Your Community

Fundraising opportunity

APSU Athletics is looking for an organization to usher during the 2008 Governors football season. The chosen organization will be compensated for working all APSU home football games. Interested organizations should contact Pamela Fears at 221-7904 for more information.

Peer mentor with HCC

An upper level Spanish major that would like to be a peer mentor for the Hispanic Cultural Center? Mentors will be paired with an incoming freshman students and lend help academically and socially. Contact Andrea Palomaki at 221-6645 for stipend and requirement details. Interviews will be conducted soon.

"Putting Him/Her Through" banquet

Student Life and Leadership will have the first annual "Putting Him/Her Through" awards banquet on Fri., April 18. Non-traditional students are eligible to nominate an individual on campus that has helped them succeed throughout their college career. Nominations are due Fri., April 4 in University Center Room 211. Contact Tinsley Hembree at 221-7043 for more information.

Whitewater rafting trip

Join Adventure Recreation for whitewater rafting on the Ocoee River on Fri., April 18 to Sat., April 19. Departure will be Friday evening and will return to APSU Saturday afternoon. The trip costs \$75 with meals and transportation provided. Non-APSU students must provide own transportation. Registration ends Fri., April 4 and limited to nine participants. Contact Jasin Wills at 221-6978 for more information.

Plant the campus red

Volunteers are needed for the annual campus beautification project on Sat., April 19. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. in McCord parking lot. After planting, a cookout will be held in the University Center Plaza. Students and faculty can register individually or in teams. Participants who pre-register will receive a free T-shirt, water bottle and lunch. Contact Rachel Vinson at 221-7352 for more information.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security internship

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center has a 12-week internship program offered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for graduate students or seniors who plan to go into a career in law enforcement. Application deadline is Fri., May 9. Contact Beth Hoilman at 221-7881 for more information.

LSAT Help

There will be LSAT representatives from the Princeton review from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thurs., April 17 in UC 310. This is a free information session open to all students who want help preparing for the LSAT test. This is sponsored by the APSU Pre-Law Society.

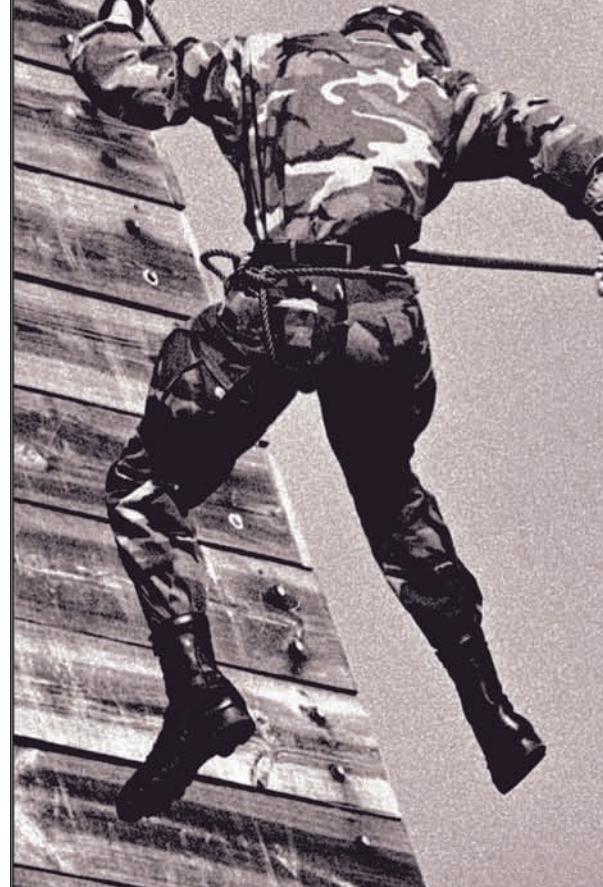
The All State is accepting applications for all positions for the Fall 2008 semester. Positions include:

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Assistant features editor
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Assistant sports editor
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Staff photographers
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Business manager**

For an application or more information, please contact The All State office at 221-7376, Morgan University Center Room 115 or theallstate@apsu.edu. Application materials are due April 21.

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Purchase of 'green' toilets questionable

Editorial Roundup

THE ISSUE:
APSU is going to install new eco-friendly toilets across campus.

OUR TAKE:

It shows APSU is thinking of the environment, but there are other issues to consider.

In the next six to eight months, APSU will begin the long, arduous process of replacing every toilet on campus with a more eco-friendly model.

The toilets currently being utilized at APSU use four gallons of water upon every flush, while the new toilets would only use at the most, 1.6 gallons of water.

The All State believes that revamping campus toilets is a step in the right direction, but question the necessity of the move.

The funding for these new toilets

comes from the \$10 renewable energy fee that students have been paying since fall 2007.

TAS questions the wisdom in spending student money on a venture that is not necessarily needed, or practical for the time at hand.

APSU is not situated in a desert region. Tennessee is known for its lakes and rivers, making it highly unlikely that there will be a water shortage in the near future.

TAS would like to point out that there are other environmental issues facing the university at this time that

require more attention.

If APSU is attempting to create a "green" campus, developing a more extensive recycling program should become a top priority as well.

As of right now, the university has few recycling bins and most of these bins are strictly for paper. Plastics should be included as well, due to their lack of decomposition.

APSU should also consider the amount of energy being generated by nonrenewable sources, and should work toward developing more eco-friendly sources such as solar panels

and wind turbines.

Despite this, TAS sees the university's "green" remodeling as a step in the right direction. Even though water conservation isn't exactly a pressing issue, it still shows that APSU is attempting to make positive strides toward promoting the environment.

Other steps have also been taken at the APSU farm, such as the development of bio-diesel fuel, a small windmill and a small solar panel. TAS suggests that the university implement these progressive moves on the main campus. ♦

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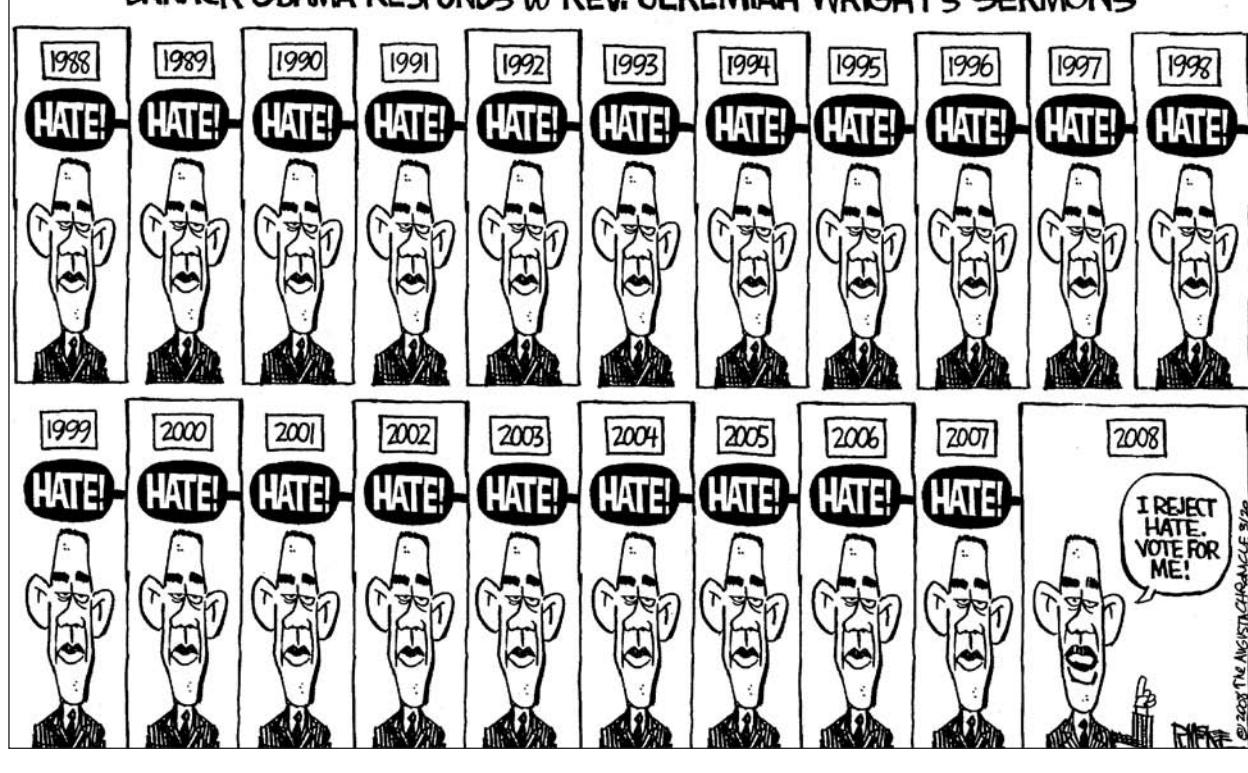
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Think of those who've put you through ...

Non-traditional students set out on a wild and fulfilling journey when they decide to return to college.

Like Dorothy on the yellow brick road, we meet up with many different characters who speak to our hearts, giving us courage, imparting wisdom and helping us maintain our course. There is a new award that pays tribute to some of our biggest cheerleaders, the same ones who knew we could do it even when we might have not been too sure ourselves.

According to the Web site for Student Life and Leadership the criteria for the award is as follows:

"For the first time this year, non-traditional seniors will be able to recognize family members, teachers, advisors, friends, and others who have given them support and assisted them in reaching graduation."

"This support might have been in the form of encouragement, financial assistance, child care, personal sacrifice or other tangible efforts to assist the student during the time they were enrolled at APSU."

"If the non-traditional student's nominee is selected to receive this honor, the student and their nominee will be given the opportunity to attend the banquet where the nominee will be awarded with the Putting Him/Her Through Award."

Now, anyone who knows me would not be surprised to hear that I wrote my acceptance speech for my Academy Award when I was five, so it would stand to reason that this would be no problem. But as a non-traditional student, I owe more than one favor to one person, and there are no little people to thank, only supporting players in an ensemble cast titled, "Holy Cow, You Did It Before You Were 40!" Something my mother-in-law was sure would never happen, bless her heart.

Personally I would find it hard to single out one person.

As I think back to the infancy of my college career I remember the babysitter I hired for my children. To this day, I would gladly pay her the same amount as a brain surgeon, and also throw in the hazard pay she so richly deserved. She patiently waited for my financial aid to come in so that she could get paid. She also prayed for me every day. Believe me, I needed prayer. Never once did she send a guy named Vinny to my house as a warning while we waited for the beloved check

that was in the mail. She also had a magical talent for getting my 3 year old to take a nap. I'm not sure how, but I think the technique resembled Steve Irwin rubbing a crocodile's belly to lull it into complacency. Ah, good times.

My husband has been the epitome of patience and support. He would tell you himself, but the reception on his cell phone from Iraq is less than stellar. He is not just defending our personal freedoms, he is protecting my right to have a dream and pursue it. He believes in everything I am, and also that I can do anything.

Like any other student my parents have been a huge source of support. The fact that they never say, "I told you so" about my second go at college is a relief. They know any investment or support they give ensures I will do everything within the scope of my power to send them on a "thank you for giving birth to me" cruise to Mexico as soon as I land that dream job.

Lastly, any girl can tell you it's her very best girlfriends who sustain her in times of stress and strain, which usually rears its ugly head the last week of the term or on any day ending in "y."

My girlfriends know their role and for that no thanks could ever express how much I truly appreciate them. They are the ones who make sure they have bail ready if necessary and if nothing else will remind you how fat you look wearing Department of Corrections orange when you are having one of those days. They have excellent timing, drawing you back from the edge at the right moments.

My first year of college my friend, Amy, who also had her own family, did my laundry more than I did. She always made certain I had copious amounts of chocolate on hand. Only once did she make the huge mistake of thinking chocolate rice cakes qualified as "chocolate" and always had a real chocolate bar on hand after that. She was the best handler a girl could ever ask for.

If you are a senior or even a freshman you may not have stopped to think that there might be others besides yourself who have helped drape that robe around your shoulders or place that mortar board on your well-educated head. By no means do I make light of our hard work we have earned this moment, but the Putting Him/Her Through Award is a great opportunity to take stock and remember with fondness and gratitude your supporting cast. ♦

Sunny Peterson is a senior communications major and non-traditional student. She can be contacted at speterson16@apsu.edu.

Music is the art of today

On Sat., April 12, I had the privilege of attending the first show at The Coup, a new music venue located at 819 Crossland Ave. As I sat there listening to the bands, I thought about a topic that has been floating around in my mind for the past few weeks.

It seems to me that music, and not literature, is

the artform of my generation. The whole world may be a stage as Shakespeare put it, but it seems to me that various artforms have had their periods of "center stage" in different historical periods and cultures.

At first, I thought that because 99 percent of my friends are musicians, my perception was probably skewed. Still, it strikes me as pretty telling that there's an MTV for music and not an LTV for literature. You can get hundreds of people to pay to hear local bands, but I wouldn't try charging people to hear a local poet read his or her poems or to hear a local author read an excerpt from his or her new novel.

Fun fact: In Jonathan Swift's time, there was a real problem with book piracy and "Gulliver's Travels" was often pirated, but, as annoying commercials remind us, it's music piracy that is the problem now.

So what happened? When you consider the difference between pirating the work of Swift and the work of Soulja Boy, I think that any honest person has to wonder if our culture in general is degenerating and just getting dumber. Are the makers of "Idiocracy" right?

As early as 50 years ago, C.S. Lewis talked about "a lowering of metaphysical energy" in young people. Fifty years ago, he also talked about the modern world's mounting war on silence via radio and other means.

In Kurt Vonnegut's "Harrison Bergeron," the intelligent characters are constantly subjected to loud and jarring noises in order to keep them from thinking too much. You can't help but wonder if "Yahhh, Trick, Yahhh!" isn't serving a similar purpose and preventing its listeners from any real thinking.

These days, it's hard to go anywhere without hearing music. Is our culture cognitively crippling us by this constant bombardment of music? Are we getting dumber because more people would rather hear Britney Spears than Shakespeare?

I do think that the average attention span is shortening at a frightening rate, but it seems to me that the main problem of the preference of music over reading isn't so much that people prefer something dumber so much as they prefer an art form that's more abstract. It seems to me that so-called "abstract" art in visual art is also currently in fashion. The problem, again, is that I think my peers and I are rapidly losing our appreciation of clarity and order. People who can really argue (rather than just quarreling) are few and far between.

I do think that current music culture contributes to this muddled state of affairs, and I do think that there's something of a war on silence. Coupled with the obsessive emphasis placed on psychological "adjustment" and the importance of "interaction," it seems much less likely that people find any time to just sit, think and sort things out. With our iPod headphones on and on our way to shows and parties, we're swept about like the lovers in the second circle of Dante's "Inferno." All confused and full of emotion and energy, but never finding any real rest or resolution.

With their emphasis on spontaneity and music, I hate to think of the "best minds of my generation" ending up burnt out like Beat poets. If we don't start finding time to slow down and just shut everything out for a while, then an unhappy ending does seem likely.

Still, I don't think it's a foregone conclusion, and about music, I agree with I.A. Richards when he said that things cease to be demons when they cease to be gods. I do think that we can find a "difficult balance" between the short, quick party/music world and the ordered, quiet world of thought/reading. Starting at their next show on April 19, I look forward to spending a lot of my summer seeing shows at The Coup. The rest of my generation is going to do, I guess, what it's going to do, and the bands will play on. ♦

Kevin Scahill is a graduate English major and can be reached at kscahill14@apsu.edu.

Please stop the beatings

Back in the day being bullied seemed more simple, and less lethal than today. If the target of the bully was clever, a bit fast and could avoid the bathroom during school hours, he, and increasingly, she, could survive to face another bus ride to school.

Today's world for a teen is far more surreal, far less easy to confine to any one school hallway, locker or bathroom. No, the character of today's bullying is more calculated, lethal

and "me" driven than in years past. And it all can be witnessed on the most dominant enabler of instant ego gratification and exhibitionism ever — YouTube. Or, as the mother of one of the latest victims of brutal bullying violence recently declared, "YouTube is the antichrist for children." But I do not come to bury YouTube or MySpace, nor to blithely sing their praises, so a little background is necessary.

A little over a week ago in the town of Lakeland, Fla., six teenage girls between the ages of 14-17 and two teenage boys, age 17 and 18, attacked and beat a 16-year-old girl for nearly 30 minutes. The victim, Victoria Lindsay, 16, suffered a severe concussion, serious injuries to her skull and eye sockets, numerous bruises and cuts and is still sporting deep, black eyes.

Apparently, Victoria, a cheerleader at Lakeland High School, made some remarks that her attackers took umbrage at, and apparently being unaware that the human race has actually developed more options than just physical violence as a way to handle, well, anything, beat her savagely.

At this point you may be thinking, okay, this is a nasty incident of bullying, and sadly, bullying has long been a staple in our society. What's new? True. However, the reason the beating took 30 minutes was that it seems the attackers actually paused during the beating to ensure proper camera angles. The reason? Well, it seems these eight teenage thugs were killing two birds with one high-tech stone. They were filming the entire beating so they could download it on YouTube.

Apparently, several were so excited after the beating there was chatter about the YouTube "going viral" and that this vicious, calculated beating could make them Internet stars. Good to see America is still the land of dreamers and opportunists.

The media response has been swift. In true tabloid-style coverage, anchors from the right to left coast have been emoting how vicious and graphic the beating is and how it "pains them so" to show it, and then of course, show it they do. Over and over again.

Commentators, pundits, psychoanalysts and self-proclaimed child development experts have all pointed fingers at several causal factors like the age old cheerleader/unpopular girl jealousy, emotional immaturity, lack of impulse control, not enough supervision, the breakdown of the nuclear family, "acting out" and teen rebelliousness gone too far, and lest we not forget, MySpace.

Wait, how could such an innocent, Internet tool be even partially to blame for this crime? Well, it seems the victim posted some comments on her own MySpace page that the attackers did not like, and so, a combustible mix of instant gratification, world wide exposure and the apparent lure of being seen as gangsta girls was just all too intoxicating for the underage teens to pass up the chance to take a swig of this volatile psychic brew.

Sheriff Grady Judd, who arrested the suspects said he hoped this case would raise awareness about the incredible desensitizing power the Internet has on young people's views of violence. How often do we hear attackers engaged in this type of violence state how surreal it was, or how much it felt like they were in a video, like someone else was actually delivering the mindless, brutal blows against the victim?

Of course, the counterarguments, including many of the well over 700,000 comments posted on YouTube to this beating, point out that MySpace and Facebook aren't to blame, it's just a few sick or twisted teens that make everyone else on these sites seem criminal or perverted. Remember, as some have said about guns, MySpace doesn't beat or kill. People do.

But should we hold MySpace as an accessory to the crime in this instance? In addition to this being a wonderful network where teens and college students can "get to know" each other via electronic interaction, is it dangerous? Is MySpace a potent tool for finding out others information, feelings, details, lifestyles, that can wind up getting people beaten, molested, or worse?

Browse on virtually any MySpace or Facebook account and the names and faces may change, but the terrain starts to become familiar, a voyeuristic heaven, electronic peeping, except in many cases the window and curtains are drawn open for you.

Here I am at the mall, here's my wild spring break pics, the inevitable drunken pose for the camera, the predictable "middle finger" gesture, some cute pics of the family back home, the puppy, the roommate, the significant other, my prom night out, see how easy you and I can get to know each other with a few clicks, it's like we've been friends for years. Voyerism and exhibitionism, "Let's meet for a coffee sometime ... sure, u sound nice, r u in a relationship?"

Bullying, it's an age-old nightmare for many kids in our country, maybe around the world. Now it's truly gone high-tech and global. Is this simply a case of kids will be kids, just watch what you post online? Or is it there something more insidious, more deeply disturbing about this new generation of tech-savvy MySpacers and more significantly, some of their fellow MySpacers who watch and wait for the chance to get brutally even?

The irony? Because of the gag order, our band of teen thugs who sought celebrity and instant ego gratification, the chance to be gangsters, apparently aren't able to see just what all the fuss on YouTube is about. Pity. Maybe they'll make friends with a cellmate who can smuggle in a new "iPhone" with instant Internet access.

What next, fight clubs where boys and girls can randomly beat on one another while having it filmed on a cell phone then excitedly race home and see what internet stars they are as their "video" gets downloaded? That's right, sorry, those already exist. And the gap between the evolution of high tech and the evolution of humans continues to yawn to the size of the Grand Canyon. Wanna be my e-friend? Just don't invade my space.♦

Dr. Rabidoux is a professor of political science. He can be reached at rabidoux@apsu.edu

Candidates black out race, gender

Many have argued that Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton's battle to be the next potential president is evidence that America has moved to a post-race, post-gender society. On the contrary, how these candidates have addressed these issues, and at what lengths, suggest otherwise. Contrary to many accusations of playing identity politics, Obama and Clinton have left the issues of race and gender relatively untouched on their campaign trails.

Obama and Clinton didn't get to the position where they are today by talking about the two distinguishing features that set them apart in the history of American politics — race and gender.

For Obama to address the issue of race, he would likely be accused of playing the "race card." And this would potentially upset a chunk of the vote he needs to win the nominee, white people. After all, Obama has been winning states like Idaho, North Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin, Vermont, Wyoming, Minnesota, Maine, Colorado and

Alaska. And the snow on the ground ain't the only thing that's white in these states. Obama's candidacy highly depends on the white vote as whites make up three-fourths of the population, as reported by the last census.

Further, the same principle applies to Clinton. If she were to highlight gender issues and seek to remedy them, she'd likely be accused of playing the "gender card." And Clinton needs another large chunk of the vote in order to gain the nominee, men. (Side questions: What kind of cards are race and gender? And when in America has being a woman or being nonwhite been a trump factor?).

Censorship. Let's talk about it. Because Obama is dependent upon

factors are equal, race remains significant. And plenty of studies are out there to prove this. When variables such as class, gender, age, education, work experience and criminal records are controlled, race remains an influential factor in terms of discrimination in schools, the workplace, housing and other unmentioned areas. (For those interested in these studies check out: Joe Feagin, Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, David Embrick, Thomas Shapiro, Robert Bullard, Douglas Massey, Marc Bendick, Marianne Bertrand, Sendhil Mullainathan and Devah Pager).

However, Obama has yet to make any such argument. But this may not be because Obama, himself, doesn't share these views. He probably knows that constructing any such argument would potentially make a lot of white people uncomfortable and end his presidential run.

For Clinton, she has also played it politically safe when it comes to addressing gender. But to her credit, Clinton introduced a Senate bill entitled the Paycheck Fairness Act of 2007. This policy aimed to help bridge the gender gap in earned income disparities. However, it dwindled and never reached a debate.

Otherwise, when Clinton addresses social issues she tends to downplay gender inequality in areas like health care and education and focus on general access and availability to all people. While general access and availability to all people is a noteworthy approach and needs to be talked about, gender inequality in these areas is another noteworthy issue worthy of attention. But gender inequality is an issue that remains in the periphery of Clinton's political dialogue.

However, Clinton's lack of attention toward the issue may not be representative of her political stance. Like Obama, Clinton can only say so much. Too much gender talk may leave her labeled as a man-hating feminist and potentially alienate the male vote.

Another problem emerges from the political dialogue Obama and Clinton have engaged in. These candidates talk of race and gender as issues in themselves, which they are, but it's problematic

"Obama and Clinton have left the issues of



relatively untouched on their campaign trails."

the white vote and Clinton the male vote, this drastically alters what issues they talk about and how they talk about them.

For Obama, he's played it politically safe when it comes to addressing race. To his credit, he has persistently connected the past to the present by stating that today's racial gaps are rooted in the legacies of slavery and Jim Crow. This was among one of his central themes in his "A More Perfect Union" speech, or as some call it, his "race speech." However, a statement like this isn't any statement that deviates from what previous democratic nominees have said. John Kerry, Al Gore and Bill Clinton all made similar statements on their presidential campaign trails.

If Obama were to set himself apart when it comes to acknowledging race, he would have to pose a different argument. Perhaps it would be an argument that addresses a fuller picture of race relations in America. This argument would not only acknowledge the problems rooted in the past but address the ongoing discrimination that maintains and widens the racial divide. It would be an argument that distinguishes racial inequality from all other inequalities. It would be an argument that states when all

to isolate race and gender from other interrelated issues. For Obama and Clinton, race or gender gets talked about in one speech or debate, then remains largely ignored in the next few speeches and debates. Talking about racial and gender equality under these circumstances fails to provide any depth to which these problems reside. This approach skims over the root causes of racial and gender inequalities because it does not give any context for these problems. This dialogue does not incorporate racial and gender equality into interconnected issues of political representation, health care, the justice system, education access and attainment, poverty, accumulated wealth, income disparities, unemployment, among others. Until this dialogue is altered, these problems don't look to be improved.

In closing, the 2008 democratic presidential race demonstrates how far America has come in making strides toward racial and gender equality. But more importantly, it demonstrates how far America still has to go.♦

Kasey Henricks is a two-time Southeast Journalism Conference award-winning writer. She serves as Editor in Chief and can be reached at jpk.henricks@gmail.com

Australian couple defies taboo for love

They say they are in love, and by all appearances, appear to be so. Sure, at 61 he may be more than twenty years older than she is at 39, but as the late R&B singer Aaliyah crooned, "Age Ain't Nothing but a Number." They live together, along with their nine-month-old daughter and her two children from a previous relationship, and are, as he said, "a normal, happy family like any man would be with his wife and children." John and Jennifer Deaves are also more than

just a happy couple. They are father and daughter, which means that John is both the father and grandfather of their child.

John separated from Jennifer's mother when Jennifer was just a baby, but after only a few weeks of being reunited 30 years later, John and his daughter Jennifer began having a sexual relationship. I am sure on hearing this story, or watching the news clips

showing the couple cuddling and

smooching, most people had the same reaction as I did, which was "ick!" Their community and family are appalled, as was the Australian judicial system that put them on probation and banned them from having sex in the future. But as Jennifer points out, they are consenting adults and they aren't hurting anyone, so why is it anyone's business?

This raises an interesting point. Although incest between immediate family members is an almost universal cultural taboo, if the family members in question are consenting adults why is it illegal? After all, there are a lot of things which society disapproves of, such as adultery, which are perfectly legal. Even bi-racial marriage was at one point considered immoral and illegal in many states. Obviously, the "ick" factor cannot be used to determine the legality of human action, as it varies wildly from person to person, and in addition seems tied to its historical context. Generally, it seems that our criminal laws are imposed to discourage people from harming other people, which leaves incest between consenting adults in a curious predicament.

In his Pulitzer Prize finalist book *The Blank Slate*, linguist Steven Pinker discusses the perplexity of "moral dumbfounding," the idea that something, even if you can't explain it in rational terms, still "feels" wrong. A group of researchers conducting a psychological experiment gave test subjects a few scenarios in which there was no

real "victim" but which the test subjects also found disagreeable. Some of the scenarios were culture specific, such as the following: A family's dog is hit by a car and dies. The family then cuts up the dog's body, cooks it and eats it for dinner.

Most Americans would say this scenario registers pretty high on the "ick" scale. However, as Pinker points out, there really isn't anything immoral about this scenario because no one is being harmed, and the categorization of animals for eating and animals for not eating vary from culture to culture. However, for the subjects in the experiment, those arguments were beside the point. "People have gut feelings that give them emphatic moral convictions, and they struggle to rationalize the convictions after the fact," writes Pinker.

One of the main arguments against incest is that children born from such unions have a higher risk of genetic defects from inbreeding. Ironically, Jennifer and John Deaves had another child before their daughter, a child that died as an infant from a congenital heart defect.

However, even if the Deaves were unable to have children, I have no doubt that people would still be disgusted and horrified by their relationship. Conversely, if two unrelated people have children with genetic defects, there is no law preventing them from having more children.

It seems that besides an appeal to personal religious conviction, there is really no good argument for making incest illegal. In fact, in several countries, including France, Japan, Argentina and Portugal there are no laws against incest when it involves consenting adults, even though incest is still a cultural taboo. In Sweden, siblings who share only one biological parent can request special permission to get married.

I know what you're thinking: "Ick." Even so, I can't find any valid reason to criminalize the practice of incest between consenting adults. Viscerally, I can't help but feel repelled at Jennifer and John Deaves' lifestyle. But aside from my instinctual reaction, I have a hard time articulating what is wrong with what they are doing when I try to take an objective viewpoint. After all, there are a lot of things I disagree with personally, but I disagree with denying people their civil liberties even more. Incest between consenting adults might disgust us, but criminalizing something that isn't victimizing anyone is an even bigger crime.♦

Tanya Ludlow is a graduate English student and is the Assistant Perspectives Editor. She can be reached at tudylow14@apsu.edu.



Tanya Ludlow

Mock trial begins session on freedom of speech

Editor's Note: The following events are fictional and not based upon any real events.

By KIMBERLY SHUEL
Staff Writer

Just how far does free speech go? This is the question the mock trial is attempting to answer. The trial began Tues., April 8, at 9:30 a.m.

The free speech incident occurred at All American State University (AASU). Once FBI agent DiSalvo arrested two suspected terrorists more evidence was uncovered and the trial began.

The trial opened with the prosecution stating records of wiretaps on the defendants, O'Hare and Christianson's apartment. Some recorded conversations read, "Hey by the time they [FBI] get there, we'll be long gone."

The conversations, the prosecution argued, made clear the intent to set off a bomb. They also brought up the evidence found in the defendants' apartment which included bomb-making materials and a bomb-making book.

The charges stated were: Acts of terrorism (U.S. code 18), civil rights intimidation, violation of free speech zone, assault and carrying and possessing weapons. The defendants re-entered a plea of not guilty.

In the prosecution's opening statement, they told the court they wanted punishment to be no less than 10 years and no more than 15 years in prison. They believed the defendants were still young and could change their lives.

Evidence was brought before the court to prove that the protest was well calculated. Exhibit A was a flyer for the protest that included date, place and time for the event. This flyer had been passed around the campus of AASU.

Exhibits B and C were picket signs the prosecution told the court proved that the defendants' group, "Holy Land Avengers," was not a peaceful organization. One of the signs read "Repent all sinners."

The prosecution argued that O'Hare and Christianson carried weapons and bomb making books on campus. Exhibits D and E consisted of the firearms found in the defendants' apartment.

Next, the defense opened with what they believed the prosecution was really after. They stated that the prosecution was not taking care of constitutional values and limiting the freedom of the American people. The defense argued that all evidence was circumstantial, and that in fact, most of the evidence proved how peaceful "Holy Land Avengers" really are.

Exhibits A and B were again, the picket signs. However, the defense's evidence displayed messages such as "Pray today." Exhibits C and D were papers the defendants had written on that the defense argued proved support of troop safety.



Students observed the mock trial court proceedings Thurs., April 10. The final court date will be Thurs., April 17.

overseas.

The prosecution called to the stand, FBI agent DiSalvo. The defense then told the court they had requested FBI records on the agent and had not yet received them. The court ordered the prosecution to retrieve those records by Thurs., April 10.

While on the stand, DiSalvo stated he had been an agent for 15 years acting as a field operative. He said he believed the "Holy Land Avengers" were a group of extremists, and they were already in numerous violent protests. DiSalvo told the prosecution he believed the defendants were involved in a terrorist group.

Wiretap conversations were discussed next. Feb. 10, 2007, O'Hare was recorded saying, "How do the numbers look? We need more radical students."

Feb. 1, 2007, she was recorded saying, "The information on the bomb making?" And Feb. 7 she was recorded saying, "Let's do it then," while Christianson responded, "Yeah, it'll be a real blast."

During the protest the defendants were shouting chants such as "Death to tyrants," and "Judgment day will come!"

He stated for the court that when he informed O'Hare that the protest was unlawful she started to walk away.

When he went after her she launched towards him. Injuries occurred, and DiSalvo was cut on the face. Next, a video tape of the protest was shown for the court.

The defense then questioned DiSalvo. When

asked what his definition of a terrorist was DiSalvo said "Anyone that tries to bring down the government."

The defense tried to argue that O'Hare and Christianson did not know DiSalvo was a FBI agent. However, he stated for the court that he had announced his name and title several times while walking to the crowd.

A second witness was then called to the stand, Tim Bannister, a special agent in the FBI. Bannister was called to serve the warrant on the defendants' apartment.

When the defense wanted to argue that Bannister had carelessly served the warrant, they asked if anyone was even there to receive the warrant. Bannister said he served the warrant Feb. 26 at 4:15 p.m. to the defendants' roommate who was present. The warrant was then shown to the court.

After the court reviewed the warrant, a third witness, Mary Stubblefield, was called to the stand. She said she had been the defendants' roommate from October 2007 to February 2008. Stubblefield told the prosecution O'Hare and Christianson attempted to recruit her for the organization.

"It was not just a group that was discussing opinions," Stubblefield said. "I saw drugs, weapons and bomb-making books in the apartment. It made me uncomfortable."

The prosecution showed Stubblefield a flyer from "Holy Land Avengers." She recognized the flier as it had also been in the apartment.

Stubblefield told the court there were always people going in and out of the apartment, and that at times she was not the only one living with the defendants. She said that after living there for about two weeks, she found a gun by the dining room table.

The defense asked Stubblefield what she did around the apartment since she didn't pay rent. They asked questions that lead in the direction that they believed she had never really stayed there.

One reason was why she never moved her mailing address, or why she had stayed so long when she felt uncomfortable there. Stubblefield said she had just never changed her mail from her parent's house, and that she stayed because she had nowhere else to go.

At 11 a.m. the court adjourned. The prosecution was reminded to bring the FBI files on agent DiSalvo on the next court date, Thurs., April 10.

Trial part two on April 10 allowed enough time for the prosecution to wrap up its case. Policewoman Heather Brooks was called to the stand. Brooks arrested Christianson. She testified that she arrested Christianson because she lunged at DiSalvo and was attempting to interfere with the arrest of O'Hare.

DiSalvo was then called to the stand again and spoke of his brother. His brother died in Iraq and the funeral was interrupted by protesters led by O'Hare.

Next Riley Weaver, weapons expert, described the protest scene and evidence as appearing a terrorist group. Defense Lowe cross-examined Weaver and stated that anyone could retrieve terrorist materials. "Does that make you all terrorists?" Lowe said.

Prosecution then called a student to the stand that felt his civil rights had been violated at the protest. He said he "should be able to speak out and not fear death as the protesters chanted 'Death to non-believers'."

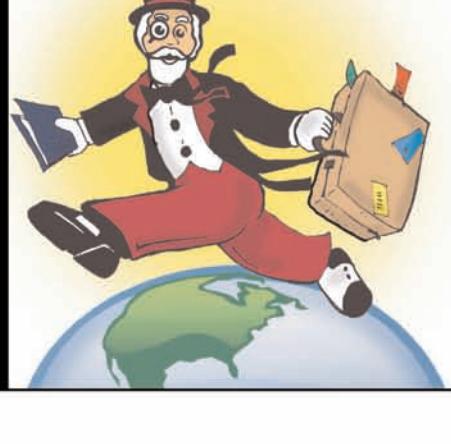
The trial resumed Tues., April 15 at 9:30 a.m. in UC room 303. The verdict will be Thurs., April 17 at the same time and location.

The Mock trial has attracted much attention. APSU President Tim Hall and professor Patricia Ferrier's news writing class observed the Thursday trial session.

Professor Greg Rabidoux has also received questions from Maine, Georgia and New York from people following the trial through online coverage. They are asking questions and sharing their opinions on the issues the trial has raised.

Everyone is welcome to attend the trial. It concludes Thursday, at 5:30 p.m. in UC room 300. All questions can be directed to Rabidoux at rabidougx@apsu.edu. ♦

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Hispanic Cultural Center Spotlight



Chaney
Lyna
Bonilla

Chaney Lyna Bonilla, born in Washington, D.C. of Puerto Rican and Ecuadorian heritage, grew up in a military family. From Germany to Pennsylvania, Chaney lived in various places around the world, eventually moving to Clarksville at age 10.

After moving once more during high school and starting college, Chaney decided to transfer to APSU. Currently a senior majoring in Spanish and minoring in business, Chaney plans to graduate in December of 2008. She is interested in pursuing a career in bilingual management or coordination of Hispanic events.

Chaney is the current vice president of the Pi Nu chapter of Sigma Delta Pi honors society. "The experience I have had with being an officer with Pi Nu has helped me in so many ways. It's enabled me to overcome my shyness and become more outgoing. I think that is what has made me want to look into event planning. It's just so much fun."

The reason Chaney decided to become a Spanish major was to be able to communicate with her Spanish-speaking relatives in Puerto Rico and Ecuador. "I want to be able to keep in touch with them and be able to pass on my heritage through the language."

Chaney continues to be involved with the Hispanic Cultural Center (HCC) by volunteering for and attending HCC events. She is an active member of Gamma Beta Phi National honor and service organization and was influential in the organization of the 2008 Spanish Language Festival.



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Lonestar headlines Rivers & Spires

By RACHAEL HERRON
Staff Writer

Lonestar entered the country music scene with their debut song "Amazed." Since then, they have taken audiences by storm with their songs of family and romance.

Since Richie McDonald left the band in November, Lonestar has added a new front man and has changed direction with their music.

"We have been better than we have ever been in a lot of ways," drummer Keech Rainwater responded when asked about where the band was headed that they added new front man, Cody Collins.

"Cody is a very soulful, great looking and has great stage appearance," Rainwater said. "He has the sex appeal."

Rainwater also pointed out how with Collins in the group their musical performance has undergone a major change. Having Collins around has allowed Lonestar to "go in a different direction," Rainwater said.

Collins will help Lonestar connect with a younger crowd. Since their music revolves around the genre of romantic country mainstream, Collins delivers romance on a "youthful" level.

"Amazed" is where they started. "We are going back to that time and moving forward," Rainwater said. The advantage is that they can "Sing songs from Cody's heart." It reflects on young relationships.

This, in turn, will build a new fan base. "Young



CONTRIBUTED BY WEBSTER AND ASSOCIATES PR

Lonestar performs at Rivers & Spires Sat., April 19, on the Public Square Stage at 9 p.m.

people mean young record buyers," Rainwater said.

For those who like the older Lonestar, don't worry. They will still be playing the songs that McDonald made so appealing, but Collins does "make them his own," as Rainwater put it.

Lonestar has been working on six new songs as well as preparing for a video shoot that takes place this week. "Let Me Love You" is the song they will be singing upon a rooftop in Nashville. The interesting thing is that the video will only be shot at night.

Lonestar is set to headline Sat., April 19 at 9 p.m. for Rivers & Spires.

"We did play at Kickers before we got a record deal," Rainwater recalled. Lonestar also had one of their first photo shoots in Clarksville. "It was at a torn down building by railroad tracks."

Check out new front man Cody Collins and Lonestar at the Rivers & Spires. ♦

Movies YOU SHOULD BE WATCHING

Jackson's premier movie effort not 'Bad'

By DUSTIN KRAMER
Art Director

To preface this review, I have to say that this column has never really existed to enlighten the masses of great films that define the art of cinema. It's existed in an attempt to inform this community of some really interesting movies that one might want to check out.

While the next review may not be of a film that highbrow film critics would consider "high culture cinema," I certainly feel like it deserves the attention I'm about to give it.

Long before the Oscar's were invaded by a freak show of hobbits, dwarves, elves and Elijah Wood, director Peter Jackson shot on many weekends over four years to create his premier cinematic effort, "Bad Taste."

"Bad Taste" released in 1987, is a low-budget sci-fi-splatterfest about a small but fictional town in New Zealand that gets invaded by aliens that want to harvest the simple townspeople for an intergalactic fast food chain.

"Bad Taste," released in 1987, is a low-budget sci-fi-splatterfest about a small but fictional town in New Zealand that gets invaded by aliens that want to harvest the simple townspeople for an intergalactic fast food chain.

The first comparison one may draw is between this film (and Jackson's next two, "Meet The Feebles" and "Dead Alive") and the early films of Sam Raimi (i.e. The Evil Dead trilogy). As expected, the gore is creative, over-the-top and frequent, but Jackson's payoffs show more cleverness and are down-right gorier than Raimi's have ever been.

The bad makeup and special effects are worn with a badge of honor, as they should be. This is a film that will keep you laughing for its entire 91-minute runtime.

Who would have thought that little ol' cult filmmaker Peter Jackson would go from making splatter films about aliens, puppets and zombies to picking up more than a few Academy Awards for crafting Tolkien's Middle Earth for the screen? Follow your dreams, kids. Crazier things have happened.

While not the "Citizen Kane" of the 80's, "Bad Taste" is seriously a movie you should be watching. ♦

Epic statement moves 'Jean de Florette'

By TANYA LUDLOW
Assistant Perspectives Editor

Although I enjoy quirky character studies, or movies focused on a narrow vein of human experience, once in a while nothing will satisfy my movie cravings like a good epic: A monumental testament to the human spirit, large in their scope and impact, sure to give one a serious case of the sniffles.

Of course being kind of a self-proclaimed movie snob, I am not about to fall back on tired favorites like "Braveheart" and "Gladiator" — that would be too easy. "Jean de Florette" and its sequel "Manon of the Spring" fulfill the requirement for something "big," and as an added bonus, they are French films, so watching and talking about them will make you appear to be cultured as well.

These multigenerational epics that chronicle the monstrosity of human greed, the struggle of man against man, man against nature and man against God, are set in a paradoxically small

town in Provence. A dry and dusty land, water is at a premium, and the plot is centered on a piece of farmland that has its own spring.

When the owner of the land dies, a powerful man in town, César Soubeiran, wants land and its spring for himself. Instead, the land is inherited by a hunchbacked tax collector from the city, Jean de Florette, played by Gérard Depardieu, who decides to return to the country with his family and attempt a quiet existence raising vegetables and rabbits.

Jean is ostracized by the villagers by both his status as an outsider and his deformity, and is easy prey for César, who pretends to befriend him while at the same time sabotages his efforts at farming. As the devastating events of "Jean de Florette" unfold and spill over into "Manon of the Spring," the story comes full circle like a Greek tragedy.

Although each film stands on its own merits, after you watch "Jean de Florette" it will be impossible not to watch "Manon of the Spring." ♦

Remember when . . .

Topics that were highlighted in past issues of *The All State*



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Communication Department sponsors 'Special' project

By LOIS JONES
Senior Photographer

The third annual Special Olympics pledge drive was held at the Red Barn Sun., April 13. From 2 to 8 p.m. during the scheduled pledge time, things were hopping.

Prior to the bands performing, John Moseley and Caroline Sawyer, along with the Channel 99 crew and volunteers, got things ready.

Backdrops were set, cameras in place and the line up ready to go. A lot is involved in a pledge drive. Volunteers included students from the communication department, Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority, Sigma Chi fraternity and Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. Sponsors included Cumberland Electric of Montgomery County, Reptiliacs owned by the communication department's secretary Sherry Koontz-Howell and her husband, Donnie Jenkins and Wynne, Michael's Pizza and Mid-South Plumbing.

Bands played and interviews took place at the

event. A slide show of Special Olympic events with pledge information ran during the downtime when the bands were changing. Bleachers were in place for those that showed up to lend their support. Some stayed the entire time; others came for as long as they could. All were glad they were there.

One of the spectators was Emily Giles and her 3-year-old son, Lee. Giles, a life-skills teacher at Montgomery Central High School, has a class of special needs students. Previously a physical education teacher, Giles went back to school to get her special education certificate to teach this class.

Years later she had a child who is diagnosed with Angelman syndrome. Only a couple of children in the entire Montgomery County School system have this syndrome, according to Giles. The syndrome causes a seizure disorder, growth and achievement delays with some things never able to be fully achieved. Last year at the

pledge drive, Lee was not walking; this year he is.

The pledge drive is important to Giles for several reasons. With her kids at school, Giles said, "It makes it possible for my students to participate in the events without having to come up with fees." There are event fees at the Special Olympics games that are taken care of by the money donated to the Special Olympics Foundation. As far as the impact of the pledge drive on her, it is personal.

This was her second pledge drive. She likes going to the events and attending the pledge drive with her son. "The kids get him," Giles said, about how the other kids at the drive are with her son. "They don't wonder why he can't do things."

At the end of the pledge drive the donations had reached \$1,650. Pledges are still being taken at the Web site, <http://pledgedrive@apsu.edu>, and T-shirts are also available for five dollars. Those that attend the pledge drives know the benefits provided by the Special Olympics. They also see the familiar faces of



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Volunteers and olympians support the 3rd Annual Special Olympics pledge drive last Sun., April 13.

some of the kids that participate — Michele, Bobby, Justin, Nathan and Ricky to name a few — and their parents. One day it will be Lee Giles. That is a day that Emily Giles is looking forward to. ♦

Kitterman's 'The Baker's Boy' debut's after intensive effort

By DAVE CAMPBELL
Managing Editor

Professor of English and creative writing Barry Kitterman is set for the release of his first novel "The Baker's Boy," a project more than 10 years in the making. The novel is being published by Southern Methodist University Press in Dallas, Texas, and can be found for sale on Amazon.

Like the character in the story, Kitterman has also worked for the Peace Corps in the past but says not to let that fool you into thinking this is an autobiography. Kitterman tells *The All State* that the story is a work of fiction.

"I guess every time a book gets written, it's a unique experience," Kitterman said. "The books I want to read have taken a bigger toll on the writer [and] I lived with this one a long time."

TAS: What is the story about?

Kitterman: A man named Tanner Johnson is faced one day with the reality that his wife is going to have a baby. He's close to 50 years old, and his wife's pregnancy triggers a lot of old fears that have been following him around for years. He was a Peace Corps volunteer 30 years before, and his experiences in Belize have haunted him ever since. So the story's set in two places — Tennessee and Belize — and two times — something pretty close to now, and an earlier time, say 30 years ago.

TAS: How long have you been working on this project?

Kitterman: I worked on this book for about 10 years. I can't say for sure. It's hard to say when a



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/FEATURES EDITOR
Barry Kitterman reads a poem at bread and words in Nov. 2006.

project officially begins, so years later a person looks back and tries to remember when the first words were typed onto the page. But I remember working on it late one night and waking up the next morning to the damage caused all through town by the tornado of '99. So I've been at it that long, at least.

TAS: What inspired you to write this story?

Kitterman: I've been asked this question before, and it's a fair question, but a hard one for me. I write as well as I can, as much as I can. I think about the people I've met and the places I've been, and I try to tell stories about all of it. Then somebody takes a look at the work, and

they make some suggestions, and I go at it again. When it finally gets finished, I wouldn't know where to begin in talking about what made me tell the story the way it has come out. It's a process, and it takes a long time.

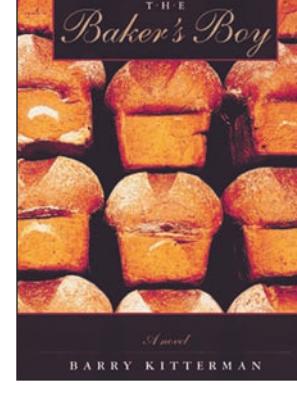
TAS: What kind of a novel is the "The Baker's Boy?"

Kitterman: It's a work of fiction. A reader might understandably be tempted to read it as autobiographical in some ways, but that would surely lead a person astray. The parts that look like they are autobiography are totally made up, and the characters are amalgamations of people I knew and people I imagined. A couple of my old friends are going to see bits and pieces of themselves in the book, and they're going to be mad as hell, because they're going to say that never happened. And they're going to be absolutely right. It's fiction.

TAS: What future projects would you like to pursue?

Kitterman: I'm working on a collection of stories. And I'd like to start on a new novel, but it's not ready to talk about. I wrote a play which was done as a staged reading at the Roxy about two years ago, and I'd love to do more of that.

TAS: What other published work have you written?



Kitterman: I have published my short stories in literary magazines around the country (*The California Quarterly*, *The Carolina Quarterly*, *Cutbank*, *Flyway*, *The Chariton Review*). I've published nonfiction and poetry as well, some book reviews. "The Baker's Boy" is my first published book.

TAS: What do you enjoy writing more — poetry or fiction and which will you continue to pursue more?

Kitterman: Poetry will always be something I turn to at odd hours. I love reading through a literature anthology and finding a poem by someone who everyone thinks of primarily as a fiction writer. Like finding a poem by Ray Carver. I'd love to write one poem in my life that is up to the level of the poems Blas [Falconer] and Dave Till have been writing. No, I think I'm primarily going to always be a fiction writer. But who knows. Life is strange.

TAS: What story has had the largest impact on your career, or what made you want to write?

Kitterman: The stories of Andre Dubus, Flannery O'Connor, Raymond Carver, Alice Munro. Novels by Wendell Berry, Harper Lee. I love Cheever's stories, and Melville's "Bartleby." There's so much wonderful stuff out there to read. ♦



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- Singer Sumac 53 It'll curl your hair
- West or Faith 55 Salamander
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- Drop a brick 59 Actor
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- 22 Seedy spot 63 Investigate
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- 27 Flynn of films 72 "Dawn" ("73 song")
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- 51 Bound bundle 137 Wine word
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- 109 Hawaiian coffee 175 "Da — Ron Ron" ('63 hit)
- 110 Reservation 176 How-to part
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CollegeInsider.com names Wright Ohio Valley Conference MVP



Senior point guard Derek Wright prepares to make one of his career 487 assists. Wright was named MVP of the OVC by CollegeInsider.com.

By MARLON SCOTT
Sports Editor

CollegeInsider.com named APSU senior point guard, Derek Wright, the Ohio Valley Conference's Most Valuable Player.

CollegeInsider.com is noted for its content such as the Coach Corner and the Mid-Major Top 25, in addition to being a popular source for college sports information and a widely-used networking tool.

According to the Web site, Bill Self, head coach of the 2008 NCAA Champion Kansas Jayhawks, said, "With such diversity of features, CollegeInsider.com is perhaps the most unique Web site in the industry."

This season, the staff of CollegeInsider.com were

impressed with the play of Wright.

From Dominguez High School in Los Angeles, Calif., Wright finished his four-year career as Govs' point guard this season with several honors.

Considered the heart of the Govs by many, Wright broke two APSU records. He is now the all-time single-season steals leader with 89 and the career steals leader with 228. Wright was third on the team averaging 11.4 points per game this season. He made the second most 3-pointers on the team with 53 and averaged 4.7 assists per game.

Wright dished 165 assists this season, ranking him sixth best in APSU history. His career total of 487 assists ranks him third all time. Wright was also named

second team All-OVC after helping the Govs earn their second consecutive OVC title. In the three OVC tournament games he averaged 11.7 points, five assists and two steals.

One of Wright's most memorable performances was against Southeast Missouri Tue., Jan. 29. In this triple-overtime loss, Wright scored 43 points with seven steals. It was one of three games that week in which he averaged 21.5 points, 5.3 assists and three steals.

As a result of his performance in the three games, he was named OVC Player of the Week and Copies in a Flash Athlete of the Week.

Wright has played 131 games. He is tied for most games played in the OVC and APSU with teammate Todd

Babington.

He started 34 of his total 114 games this season. The total ranks him second all-time in games started at APSU and fourth in minutes played.

All the numbers and records are proof of his consistent play for APSU. However, there are many intangible contributions he has made to the Govs which also make him worthy of several honors.

Wright was the only APSU player named for one of their awards.

CollegeInsider.com also announced other OVC awards including Lester Hudson of UT-Martin as Player of the Year. Donnie Tyndall of Morehead State and Bret Campbell of UT-Martin were named as Coaches of the Year. ♦

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UFC fighter teaches martial arts at Foy Center

By GINGER MCQUISTON
Staff Writer

Ultimate Fighting Championship fighter Brad Morris made an appearance at APSU Fri., April 11, after traveling 26 hours from his home country of Australia. He taught a free jujitsu class in the Foy Fitness Center.

Morris holds a brown belt in Japanese jujitsu. He has also trained in Brazilian jujitsu, wrestling and boxing. His UFC record stands at 10-2.

Junior psychology major, John Stephens, showed up early Friday afternoon, excited to have the opportunity to train, even for a short amount of time with a great fighter.

"Jujitsu has always fascinated me, how you can isolate and manipulate body parts. You can use it in self-defense ... if you're in a bad situation. You can get into the sport of it or use it to get into shape. [Jujitsu] is like physical chess and at the same time you can get a really good workout," Stephens said.

The students who attended received more than they bargained for. Morris demonstrated several submissions fans of the UFC and mixed martial arts have seen on television. Students watched Morris execute arm and leg bars, ankle and knee locks and neck cranks. Morris said he liked to use neck cranks as a diversion. It forces his opponent's hands up and then he is able to get a submission.

Morris explained why he taught the jujitsu class. "It's to gain a greater understanding of how the body works, the biomechanics involved, a little bit more fitness and hopefully a greater appreciation



of the sport and what it takes to compete," Morris said.

Being a UFC fighter is not an easy task. Morris trains rigorously, twice a day, five days a week, to stay fit and fighting ready. Outside of sparring, which is his main source of conditioning, he also competes in strongman events and repeatedly flips tires weighing anywhere from 660 to 920 pounds.

When Morris takes an uphill jog, he wears a 45-pound vest and drags a 60-pound tire behind him. That is on a light jog. He has also pushed a car up a hill as training.



(MMA) fight in September of 2002. He is the current Warriors Realm Heavyweight Champion. He has held the Kumite (Australian) Heavyweight title. This month he will be making his debut in the UFC.

He is scheduled to fight 6-foot-1-inch, 240 pound Cain Velasquez Sat., April 19, in UFC 83. Velasquez was a two-time All-American wrestler at Arizona State University. It will be the first UFC event ever held in Centre Bell, Canada.

Most of the 11 fights taking place in the event will be broadcast live on Pay-Per-View. ♦

ALL PHOTOS
CONTRIBUTED

Far Left: Morris poses with intramural sports staff member and UFC fan, Rick Ross.
Left and Bottom: Morris demonstrates his ground skills during a class Fri., April 11 in the Foy Fitness Center. Morris is a brown belt in Japanese jujitsu. He has also trained in Brazilian jujitsu.

OPINION

Jones travels with pep band



as a new addition on the bus and made me feel welcome.

I like the perspective of this photo. Shooting from the front of the bus to the back, I get the perspective that the bus goes on forever. It was a big bus, but not that big. It was night, so there was not a lot of light, just the running lights and my flash. Candid photos are hard to do because once the flash goes off the first time then everyone looks your direction. This one is kind of a mix. The pep band knew I was taking pictures. They kept chatting with each other while looking my direction and smiling at me.

They are used to me taking pictures of them because I do it at both basketball and football games, often standing right in front of them. It makes it easy to turn around and take a shot of them doing their thing. Halftime would not be the same without them nor would the basketball timeouts.

Those who pay attention at a basketball or football game will not only see the Pep Band, but also the cheer, pom squad, Sports Information crew and the Channel 99 crew.

Much more goes into making games a fun event to attend than most people realize.

As a photographer for *The All State*, my job is to "get the picture." I have to see everything and then try to capture it on film. I like shooting the "extras" at an event. Sometimes those are the most fun pictures, just like this one. ♦

Trouble on the road: Govs, Lady Govs get chewed by Bulldogs, Lady Tigers



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Coach Gary McClure huddles with his team. The Govs had a long weekend in Birmingham, Ala. They were swept by the Bulldogs 3-5, 1-6 and 7-5. The sweep puts the Govs in a five-game losing streak.

Bulldogs sweep Govs

By JACKIE FURLONG
Staff Writer

A great deal was expected of the APSU Govs baseball team during their weekend matchup against the Samford Bulldogs at the Joe Lee Griffin Field in Birmingham, Ala., Sat., April 12. The Govs were going into Birmingham after losing to both Vanderbilt and Tennessee. But they had executed a three-game sweep in their last Ohio Valley Conference series against Morehead State Sat., April 5. Any hopes of bouncing back against the Bulldogs were shattered early when the Govs lost the opening doubleheader of the series 3-5 and 1-6.

Both teams were expected to make each pitcher battle for the win. The Govs' offense has the third best batting average in the OVC. They have five players batting over .300. Rafael Hill, hitting .375, leads the team. The Bulldogs have the second best batting average in the OVC. Samford has six players with a batting average of .300 or better, with Michael Marseco, hitting .398, leading the team.

In the first game, the Govs' starting pitcher, Stephen Huff (3-4), allowed five hits and one run, until he was pulled in the top of the seventh. His

replacement, David Vicini (0-3), came into the game with two on and one out. Vicini threw one pitch to the Bulldogs' designated hitter, Michael Rutledge, and Rutledge sent the ball sailing over the left field fence for three RBIs. Vicini was immediately replaced by Jake Brisbin (1-1), who completed the game, but was unable to make the save. The Bulldogs' starting pitcher, Joseph Stephens (5-0), stifled the Govs until the fifth inning when they plated two runs from four hits. Stephens did not allow any more hits until the ninth inning. The Govs tacked on another run from two hits. It was not enough for the win, however, and Stephens' earned the win, maintaining his perfect record.

Vicini's pain continued in the second game of the doubleheader. The Bulldogs plated runs in every inning except the fifth. Vicini threw five strikeouts but allowed six runs (four earned) from nine hits. Trent Hill (4-2) picked up the win allowing only one run from six hits. Matt Kole was the only Gov with multiple hits in the game. He went 2-for-3 at the plate.

The Bulldogs completed the sweep with a 7-5 win the next day. The sweep caps a five-game losing streak this week. The Govs' (15-18, 5-7 OVC) losses dropped them to seventh in the OVC. Conversely, the Bulldogs (21-11, 9-2 OVC) are sitting comfortably in first place. ♦

Lady Tigers shut out Lady Govs twice

By MARLON SCOTT
Sports Editor

If the Lady Govs' season so far were a reality series, the title would be "Missed Opportunities." In three close games against the Tennessee State Lady Tigers beginning Sat., April 12, the Lady Govs were able to walk away with only one win, losing the series 1-2. After winning game one, 4-2, they were shut out in games two and three, 0-2 and 0-1.

In game one of the series, the Lady Govs were behind 2-1 with two outs and one runner on first at the top of the seventh inning when sophomore infielder Beth Carr smacked an RBI triple into centerfield to tie the game 2-2.

The score would remain tied until the ninth inning. With two outs and the bases loaded, Lady Gov freshman Tiffany Smith hit a single to centerfield that brought in two more runs. The Lady Govs' defense helped junior pitcher, Ashley Elrod, retire the Lady Tigers' next three batters and win the game 4-2. Elrod (6-10) pitched the whole game allowing two runs (unearned) from six hits.

Game two was a pitching duel between the Lady Govs' Meagan Williams and the Lady Tigers' Lauren Weber. The game remained scoreless until the bottom of the sixth inning.

Williams (0-13) walked the leadoff batter. An error let the next batter reach first and the leadoff advance to third. Two batters later, Lady Tiger designated hitter, Melanie Cruz, hit a two-RBI single into left field. The Lady Govs were unable to rally in the seventh and lost the game 2-0.

Weber (4-3) earned the win with two strikeouts, no walks and no runs from four hits. Williams pitched a great game but did not get her first win of the season. She threw four strikeouts, walked five and allowed two runs (one earned) from three hits.

Game three was not pretty for either team. Both teams combined for eight total hits. But it was the Lady Tigers that got the clutch hits to plate one run in the bottom of the sixth inning for the 1-0 win.

Lady Tiger second baseman, Jennifer Gregory,

LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Freshman Tiffany Smith scoops up the ball and gets ready to fire it back infield. Smith hit the game-winning two RBI single in game one against TSU.

placed herself in scoring position with a shot to the gap in right-center. Her teammate Tamara Perkins followed up with a RBI single to centerfield that turned out to be the game-winner.

Lady Gov catcher, Daniella Hooper, tried to start a seventh inning Lady Gov rally. She opened their at bat by hitting a double to the right-center gap. But two pop flies and a strikeout left Hooper and one other walked batter stranded.

Elrod (6-10) put in her second day of work at the mound, allowing one earned run from five hits with two strikeouts.

Amanda Vaught (11-18) picked up the win with three strikeouts and no runs from one hit.

The Lady Govs drop to 7-26, 3-13 OVC while the Lady Tigers improve to 15-26, 7-11 OVC. Sat., April 19, the Lady Govs travel to Richmond, Ky. to face OVC opponents Eastern Kentucky in a three-game series. ♦