

# THE ALL STATE

NEWS

OPINION

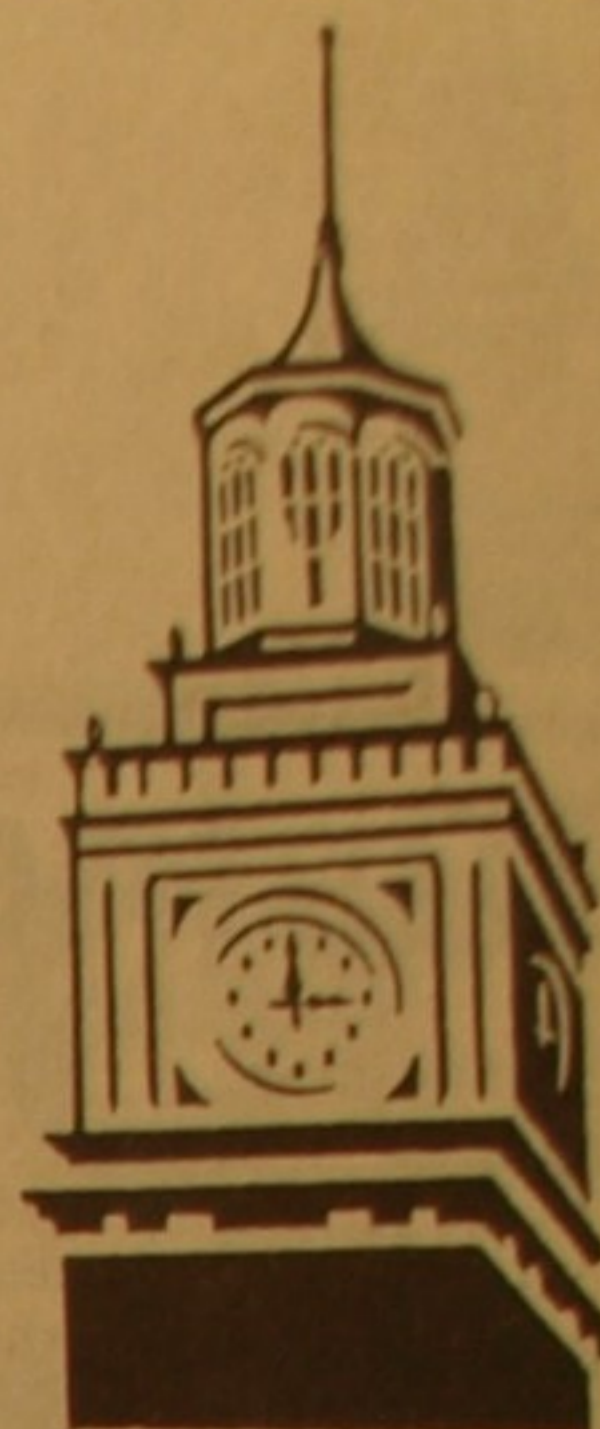
FEATURES

SPORTS

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March 7, 2001



## OVC CHAMPS

### Lady Govs upset Tech, move on to NCAA tourney

By T.J. Lusk  
Sports editor

NASHVILLE — Finally, they'd had enough. For 13 straight games, they'd been knocked down, pushed around and, ultimately, beaten every single time by Tennessee Tech. But Saturday, the Lady Govs finally balled up their fist, took a big swing, and knocked out the conference's biggest bully in the season's biggest game. And after withstanding a last-second Tech shot attempt, Austin Peay was left the last team standing in the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament, claiming a stunning 65-63 win over the heavily favored Golden Eaglettes. The third-seeded Lady Govs (17-13) earned their

first NCAA Tournament berth since 1996, and also avenged last year's loss to Tech in the finals. "Unbelievable is the word that comes to mind," said Austin Peay head coach Susie Gardner, who got her first win over Tech. "I really don't think anybody here thought we would win this game. This is a very special moment for our program." Top-seeded Tech, coming into the game with a 24-5 record, was the clear-cut favorite to win the tournament. Only the most rabid Austin Peay fan might have predicted a Lady Govs win. Case in point: The Golden Eaglettes outscored Austin Peay by a combined 56 points in their two regular-season wins. Even the Lady Govs

themselves couldn't quite believe what they'd just accomplished. "They've pretty much killed us every time we've played them," said sophomore guard Paige Smith, who scored 16 points against Tech and was named to the All-Tournament Team. "Beating them really hasn't sunk in yet." "It's huge," said sophomore Brooke Armistead, who scored 12 points and was named Tournament MVP. "I can't explain it right now. I still can't even believe it." One reason Austin Peay's players may have seemed so disoriented afterwards is because they had to play out their hearts and souls, down to the last player on the bench, in order to knock off mighty Tech.

"Everybody contributed today," said senior forward Jocelyn Duke, who finished with 10 points and six rebounds. "We knew that in order for us to beat Tech, everyone would have to play at the top of their game, and we did. Everybody did what they had to do to get the job done."

Astoundingly, Austin Peay never trailed after the 16:42 mark of the first half. Over and over, Tech stormed back, coming dangerously close every time to reclaiming the lead.

But each time they did, the Lady Govs found a way to somehow keep them at bay and stay out in front.

They played their best game of the season, but even after such an outstanding display, the Lady Govs had to weather a last-second shot attempt by the two-time OVC Player of the Year, forward Janet Holt.

Holt caught the ball at the top of the key and drove the lane with under five seconds remaining, but senior post player Felicia Dowell — who had an excellent game defensively and on the boards — harassed her into an awkward jump shot that clanged off the back of the rim and bounced away as time expired.

Gardner said that the sight of Holt with the ball in her hands with time wind-



photo by Tammy Sparks

The Lady Govs celebrate their OVC tournament championship as Janet Holt's last-second shot misses the mark and time expired. The Golden Eaglettes, who owned Austin Peay in two regular-season games, fell to the Lady Govs, 65-63, in the championship game.

ing down was almost too nerve-racking to watch.

"I don't really know what happened on that play," Gardner said, smiling. "I probably had my eyes closed praying at the moment. We were blessed on that play."

And that's just the way things seemed to go for Austin Peay against Tech. For instance, the Golden Eaglettes set an OVC record the previous day in the semifinals against Tennessee-Martin, racking up 19 3-pointers in their blowout win.

However, Tech could manage only one 3-pointer against Austin Peay.

But Holt still had a monster day, totalling 34 points and 11 rebounds on her way to making the All-Tournament Team. "When you deny their 3-point shooters, something's got to give," Gardner said. "And that was Janet Holt. She almost took the whole team on her shoulders."

She may as well have done just that, as no other player on Tech's roster scored more than six points. "Austin Peay had their

game today and you just have to give them credit," Holt said.

To advance to Saturday's final, Austin Peay defeated Morehead State 71-63 on Friday.

In that game, Armistead led all scorers with 26 points.

"I felt it was a good team effort," Gardner said of the Morehead game. "We made big plays, and we shot incredibly from the free-throw line. That was the difference."

But it's games like the one against Tech that remind fans why March is the greatest sports month of the year. Anything and everything can — and usually does — happen in the world of college basketball.

"I don't think there is any doubt that we are the best team in this league," Tech head coach Bill Worrell said. "But things change in playoff time."

Yes, they do. And at this point, who's to say the Lady Govs' playoff time has to end in the first round of the NCAA Tournament?

While some of Austin Peay's players may be

wide-eyed about stepping out into the Big Dance for the first time, the Lady Govs' coaching staff shouldn't be fazed at all.

It is loaded with grizzled NCAA tourney veterans.

Gardner went to the Final Four twice as a player at Georgia, and assistants Amanda Butler and Rochone Dilligard took part in the tournament as stand-outs at Florida and Tennessee, respectively.

"This is new to me," freshman center Gerlonda Hardin said. "But hopefully it won't seem new to us."

Austin Peay will find out its opponent — probably another one that will be a big favorite — this weekend, when the teams are seeded and placed into regional brackets.

"I've been there so many times," Gardner said. "But this is going to be a sweet one."

And judging by the way her team has played lately, we don't yet have a reason to believe otherwise.

For more OVC tournament coverage, See Page 3



photo by Tammy Sparks

Paige Smith shoots over a Tech defender. Smith led the Lady Govs in the championship game with 16 points and joined teammates Brooke Armistead and Gerlonda Hardin on the all-tournament team.

### Women's history takes centerstage in March

By Jeff Osgood  
News editor

Telling women's stories is the theme for Women's History Month here on the campus of Austin Peay State University. APSU has events lined up for the month so that people can learn more about women's history. One of the events is the showing of a documentary, "American Hollow

"American Hollow," an art and photography exhibit, opened in the Felix G. Woodward library, Monday.

The annual celebration started in the United States 13 years ago after Congress passed a resolution declaring March "Women's History Month."

Since that time, the world has followed our lead and more people are becoming more aware about the important impact women have made on history.

Women's History Month actually began as a week long observance in a California school district in 1978. At that time, there was a feeling that children were not being educated about women's history.

An awareness emerged that the problem was not just with school children, but that the general public was also unaware of women's history.

As the years went by, the annual observance gained

followers. More schools began special lessons about women's history. Teachers were taking the time to learn women's history, since most of them were never educated about the topic when they were in school.

These teachers did this to ensure that their students got the best education and learned that all sorts of people, regardless of gender, shaped the world.

It wasn't until 1987 that Congress finally passed a

resolution declaring March "Women's History Month."

This annual celebration has meant a great deal to the study of women's history. For centuries, women's heritage was almost blended in with that of men.

During Women's History Month, we honor the generations of women who have served our nation as doctors and scientists, teachers and factory workers, soldiers and secretaries, athletes and mothers. We honor the

women who have worked the land, cared for children and the elderly, nurtured families and businesses, served in charitable organizations and public office.

And we remember the good friends we have so recently lost — women such as Bella Abzug, Marjory Stoneman Douglas, and Florence Griffith-Joyner — whose achievements and example continue to light

Continued on page 2

March 7, 2001



# Business development activities end soon

By Jeff Osgood  
news editor

Do you have a wonderful idea for a new business? This is the week to start developing it.

Austin Peay State University, along with the Tennessee Small Business Development Center at

APSU and the Clarksville Area Chamber of Commerce, is hosting the TVA Business Development Week.

Training sessions, informational workshops and classes run through Thursday. The kickoff luncheon was held Monday.

Guest speaker Niesha Wolfe, CPA, vice Chair of Business Development for the Clarksville Area Chamber of Commerce, spoke about the week and its events.

Terms such as cash flow, target market and working capital need to be understood. Learning the business lingo and addressing the concerns of lenders, suppliers and purchasers of goods or services will determine the success or failure of your business venture. In large part, the perception of your knowledge of basic business principles may determine the cooperation of other members of the business community. And that cooperation is critical.

You can solve this dilemma by educating yourself. Prepare yourself by taking advantage of the many business education opportunities in Tennessee and here at APSU.

Many of these programs

are free and are available to help you make your business a success.

The Distance and Extended or Continuing Education offices on campus offer workshops for hopeful entrepreneurs, as well as for the current business operator. Offerings may range from basic accounting to computer use in small businesses to managing employees under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1991.

The courses offer a business owner the opportunity to take more specialized courses, such as language training, manufacturing, management and marketing theory, on a credit or audit basis. They allow you to attend class without the requirements of work assignments, examinations and course grades. Many classes can be taken twice a week or one evening a week.

Our Clarksville Area Chamber of Commerce

assists business owners with workshops and seminars on various business topics.

The chamber has additional offerings such as mentor programs, small and/or minority business owners receive coaching from a well-established businessperson.

In effect, you can draw on an outside one-person board of directors to discuss strategy, opportunities and other approaches to business problems.

Here at APSU we have the Tennessee Small Business Development Center. The TSBDs are the state's primary channels of distribution for one-on-one consulting services. Federal/state-funded programs, the TSBDs provide business counseling and advice to small business owners.

Offering assistance at no cost, they can help you solve organizational, marketing

and technical problems.

Associated with universities and community colleges, TSBDs are capable of long-term, in-depth consulting. The TSBD network offers continuing education, workshops, management training and a variety of on- and off-campus programs that meet specific needs in business and industry.

The rest of the week will include classes on topics from "Capital Resources Available to Small Businesses" to "Basic Tax & Accounting Records for Small Business."

Reservations are required for the seminars. Go ahead and take advantage of the opportunities that APSU provides for those who dream of owning their own business.

For more information about contact Austin Peay State Universities Small Business Development Center at 221-1368.

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## Women's history

Continued from page 1

our lives. But we must do more than remember.

Women, whether renowned or anonymous, have contributed so much to the strength and character of our nation.

Women, who have gone before us, accomplished so much, often in the face of hardship and discrimination; we can only imagine what women will accom-

plish in the future if we break down the remaining barriers that prevent them from reaching their full potential.

There will be a book talk of "American Hollow," in the African American Cultural Center on Wednesday from 11 a.m. - noon.

Thursday there will be a presentation about the bat-

tles of women who have fought for issues on voting rights and legal abortion from 6-8 p.m. in the African American Cultural Center.

On Monday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m., there will be a women composers concert, highlighting APSU faculty and students. Violinist and storyteller Marilyn E. Thornton will perform Thursday, March 22 from 11

a.m.-noon.

Finally, on March 27 from 7-8:30 p.m., there will be a panel discussion on the topic of Transitions: Women Going Back to School.

Don't miss these great learning opportunities.

Watch for more Women's History Month coverage throughout March.

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March 7, 2001

# Govs stunned

Men see big lead disappear, fall to EIU in final second

By Kyle Tucker  
assistant editor

NASHVILLE — It was like they were watching a bad horror movie. They saw it happening, but all the Governors could do was watch — perhaps scream in disbelief and disgust, but nothing more.

The victim was Austin Peay's Ohio Valley Conference tournament championship and what would have been a resulting NCAA tournament berth. Eastern Illinois was the killer, stealing the life from the Govs' season before they even knew what hit them.

After leading by as many as 21 points, the Govs (22-10) saw their almost-certain conference title slip away as EIU stormed back in the last 8:26 at the Gaylord Entertainment Center Saturday.

Jan Thompson, a 6-foot-11 center, put the final agonizing touch on an 84-83 win over the heart-broken Govs.

Trailing by one, the Panthers got the ball and called timeout with 15.2 seconds remaining. On the ensuing play, tournament MVP Kyle Hill got the ball and fired a mid-range jumper.

His shot bounced off the rim and Thompson, who averaged only 3.5 points a game all year, grabbed the rebound with about three seconds on the clock. He quickly attempted a putback, but Austin Peay's Theanthony Haymon skied to thwart the shot out of bounds with 0.6 seconds left.

Momentarily, the Govs thought that they had survived. But the referee's whistle and subsequent goal-tending call sent Austin Peay players, coaches and fans into a state of shock.

"I just had to try to do what I could do," Haymon

said. "I felt like I blocked it, but evidently the refs saw it another way. I tried to time it the best I could coming out of his hands."

There was no discussion or review of the play and with no timeouts, Austin Peay had to take the ball out. Matt Jakeway hurled it to mid-court, but Trenton Hassell couldn't come up with it in time to get a shot off.

And just like that, the Govs' title and NCAA tournament hopes were dead.

"This is a devastating loss," Austin Peay coach Dave Loos said. "I really don't know how else to explain it. I'm really surprised we let the lead get away, but you must give them credit. They made the plays and we didn't help ourselves."

Most of that credit can go to one man. The same man who made those plays Loos spoke of — Hill.

Hill became a man possessed, hitting for 13 points in the final eight minutes of the game, almost single-handedly bringing EIU from what seemed an insurmountable deficit.

"You have to respect Kyle Hill," Eastern Illinois coach Rick Samuels said. "He competes every night out and he thrives in this kind of situation and in this kind of environment. He made some great plays down the stretch for us."

One of those was a 3-point shot that capped a 10-0 run late in the game. That run cut Austin Peay's lead from 78-60 to 78-70 with 4:41 to go.

Another was a driving layup that trimmed it to 82-80 with just over a minute to play.

"We were just trying to stay focused," Hill said. "We've been down by that

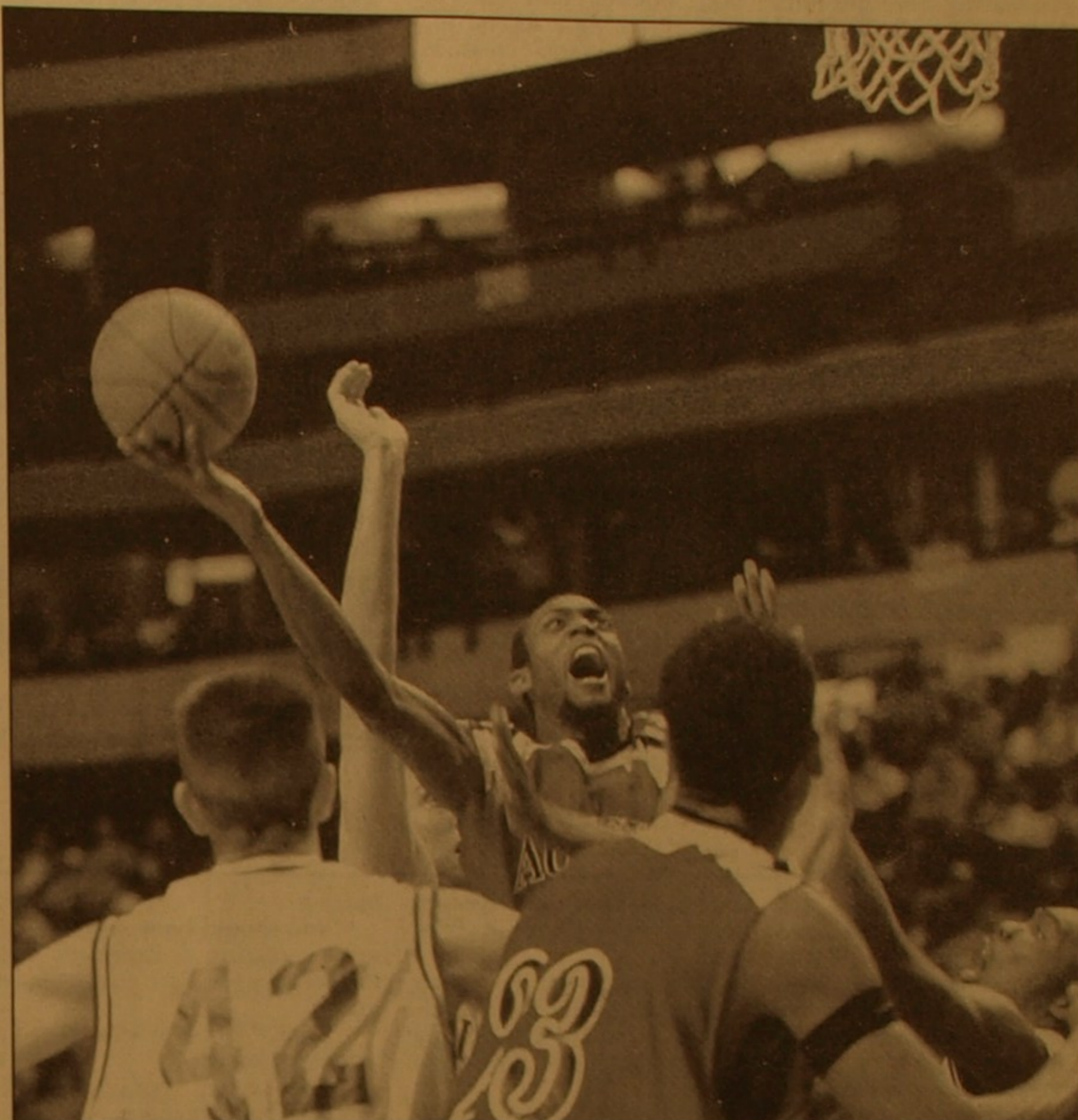


photo by Tammy Sparks

Trenton Hassell goes up in traffic against Eastern Illinois in the OVC tournament championship game. The Govs fell, 84-83, making the game perhaps the last for Hassell, who could jump to the NBA.

many before and have come back. We were trying to cut the game down into pieces. Cut it to 12, then to eight. ... There was still a lot of time left. Coach said anything can happen."

Unfortunately for the Govs, he was right.

Before the final shot, Austin Peay never trailed. Hassell nailed a three to open the game and the Govs sprinted out to an early 14-4 lead.

Everyone got involved. Seniors Haymon and Joe Williams had huge games inside, scoring 18 and 20 points, respectively.

Nick Stapleton shot well

early, scoring eight of his 11 points in the first half.

Weathering a few EIU runs, Austin Peay took a 42-32 lead into the break. Things looked good.

Nothing changed through much of the second half. The Govs continued to control the game, widening the lead to 12 with just under 16 minutes to play.

And a 10-0 run, capped by a Hassell layup, had Austin Peay sitting pretty. They led 67-47 with 12:05 to go.

"I thought there was a time or two when they thought they had it well in hand," Samuels said.

But in the final minutes of the game, suddenly and without warning, Hill and Eastern Illinois (21-9) made it clear that the game was anything but over.

"You've got 40 minutes to get it done, but the last eight we didn't," Loos said.

Hill brought the ball up on every Panther possession. Each time, he was looking to shoot. When he did, he made it. Firing from just about everywhere on the court, Hill missed only two shots during the outburst.

The second misfire turned out to be more important than

see Stunned, Page 4

## Baseball team takes three in Fla.

By Kyle Tucker  
assistant editor

Florida has been kind to the Governors. The Austin Peay baseball team won three straight games at the North Florida Osprey Invitational in Jacksonville, Fla., through Monday.

"I feel good," Austin Peay coach Gary McClure said. "We're picking each other up and we're really playing good as a team."

The Govs (6-5) started the week rough, dropping a game on the road to Alabama, 11-8. The loss was Austin Peay's fifth in a row after starting the year 3-0.

"We had the lead and we kind of gave that game away," McClure said.

Brett Boyd hit a two-out grand slam in the sixth inning for the Tide, which proved to be the eventual

game-winner. Stephen Pew took the loss.

Heading south for the weekend, the Govs bounced back. Saturday, Austin Peay dropped Gardner Webb University, 13-6, behind great hitting and a solid outing by Derrick Dunbar (1-0) on the mound.

The Govs had 17 hits in the game, a season high. And Michael Johnson went 3-for-3 with a home run and seven RBIs, a team high for the year.

"We swung the bats real well," McClure said.

In their second game of the round-robin tournament, the Govs knocked off Ohio State, 10-8, on Sunday. Ohio State scored 14 runs in beating Stetson, a top-25 team, and defeated Louisiana-Lafayette a day earlier, 10-2. Louisiana-Lafayette went to the College World Series last

season. "We've played really well down here against great competition," McClure said.

Frank Kunich single-handedly took down the Buckeyes, going 3-for-3 with three home runs. One of those was a three-run blast in the fifth inning to win the game. Kunich also came on to pitch in relief and got the save.

The game was called after five innings for rain.

"(Kunich) had a huge day," McClure said. "He's hit five home runs in the last four games."

And Monday night, Austin Peay beat a tough Jacksonville University team, 9-6, playing on the Dolphins' home field.

"It's hard to beat JU on their field," McClure said. "They're really tough here and they've got a good ball

club."

Jacksonville took a 5-2 lead in the fourth after Johnson dropped a fly ball in center field and the Dolphins used that to score three runs in the inning.

JU's No. 1 starter, Josh Daws, had the Govs' number most of the day, striking out 11 batters through seven innings. But Austin Peay got to him in the eighth.

The Govs scored six runs in the inning to take an 8-5 lead, knocking out Daws and getting to closer Casey Shumaker. Going in to the game with Austin Peay, Shumaker hadn't allowed a run in 25 consecutive innings.

The Govs rocked him for three runs in just a third of an inning.

Rusty Moore's two-out RBI double off Shumaker finished off the rally and the

Dolphins' closer.

"It was a great comeback," McClure said. "We did it against their best guys."

McClure and the Govs were happy with the wins and are looking for more.

"We've beaten three real good teams and two excellent teams," McClure said. "It's been great competition. With the schedule we've played so far, we feel pretty good about being 6-5. I don't know that we've ever played a better schedule this early in the year."

Austin Peay was scheduled to play Bethune-Cookman at 1 p.m. Tuesday, but results were not available at press time. The Govs will return home this weekend to play Valparaiso Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The first game will be at 4 p.m. Friday.

## Gooding to NCAAs

By T.J. Lusk  
sports editor

Sheena Gooding's already got a stranglehold on the Ohio Valley.

Now, she's going national.

Gooding, who won the 800-meter and mile-run titles at last month's OVC Indoor track championship, is set to compete in the 800 at the NCAA Championships this Friday at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Gooding, a junior, is one of only 16 athletes from around the nation to qualify for the NCAAs in the 800.

"I'm ready to run,"

Gooding said, brimming with confidence. "My mind is focused right now. If I can just get my mind right, I know I can make the finals."

Only the top eight runners from Friday's heats will advance to Saturday's finals. And while Gooding is entering the meet with the 14th-best time at 2:07.77, both she and her coach are confident she can make it.

"I really do think she has a great chance of finishing in the top six," coach Elvis Forde said. "Her training sessions over the past few days have shown me that she's ready to

see Gooding, Page 4

## Women's tennis sweeps at home

By Kyle Tucker  
assistant editor

While the men took a week off, Austin Peay's women's tennis team rolled to a pair of victories over Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis and Belmont last weekend at home.

The Lady Govs dropped IUPUI, 7-0, on Saturday and downed Belmont, 6-1, Sunday to improve their overall record to 6-3. Austin Peay is 2-1 in Ohio Valley Conference play.

"I was proud of them," coach Angie McLean said. "They played solid tennis this

weekend. They used their heads and they played solid all the way down the lineup. Doubles was an improvement also."

Austin Peay's women dominated both matches. And no one player really lead the way. From their first to last position, the Lady Govs cleaned up against their opponents.

"I didn't have one standout," McLean said. "They all did an excellent job. I wasn't disappointed with any of the matches. They were just focused for the whole thing and they never got down on

themselves. Their games just seemed to fall in place this weekend."

The only match Austin Peay surrendered was Jessica St. John's loss to Starr Steffner in the No. 2 position.

"She played a good match," McLean said. "It was probably the best I've seen Starr play, so (St. John) shouldn't hang her head on that loss. I do feel if she played her again, she'd beat her."

Both the men and women were scheduled to play Samford at home Tuesday, but results were not available at press time. Their next match will be March 16 at home against Troy State.

On the Govs...



T.J. Lusk

Who should take the fall for Govs' defeat?

NASHVILLE — Shortly following Austin Peay's stunning 83-88 loss to Eastern Illinois in the OVC title game, the emotions among the Govs faithful quickly turned from shock and disbelief, to anger and deep frustration.

Yet another disappointing finish for a talented Govs team was in the books.

The flurry of questions came soon after.

How could they possibly do this? How could they blow a 21-point lead in the final 8:26 of their biggest game of the year?

And perhaps most importantly, who was to blame for such an embarrassing finish?

Seeing as everyone comes an expert once the game's over, I will proceed to answer those questions.

In a situation such as this, the people on whom the blame is most obviously placed are the head coach and his staff. After all, isn't it the coach's job to make the necessary adjustments when things start to unravel the way they did against EIU?

It didn't look like many adjustments were being made Saturday. Instead, the Panthers continued to pummel and hammer away at the Govs, who looked like they'd forgotten how to fight back, or even how to put up their gloves and defend themselves.

Furthermore, the strategy that was employed took the Govs out of their game.

After dominating the Panthers with its aggressive, attacking offense for the game's first 30 minutes, Austin Peay decided to slow the game down, milk the clock and ride to the win.

The plan failed miserably. So it's the coaches' fault, right?

Not so fast. With hindsight being 20/20 and all, of course head coach Dave Loos would go back and change some things if he could. But as far as I'm concerned, I handled those final minutes in the book.

He called timeouts exactly when he needed to. And he called a lot of them, hoping the stoppages would somehow temper EIU's snowballing momentum. He tried to regroup and settle his guys down whenever necessary.

And the slow-down strategy made perfect sense at the time. Up to that point, EIU hadn't shown that it had enough firepower to surmount a huge deficit.

After all, how often is a team capable of the kind of miraculous scoring effort that the Panthers displayed late in the game? Almost never.

As I see it, the coaches did a pretty decent job. They did what most other staffs would have done, and the plan they chose should have gotten them the win.

So why didn't it? Seemingly, the only ones to shoulder that blame are the Govs players themselves. Because after all, coaches don't give any rebounds or can any players — therefore the players must not have executed the coaches' plan the way they should have.

Granted, the Govs were excellent for most of the game, and played with maximum effort for all of it. But the fact is they just didn't get the job done down the stretch.

Here's a rather stunning statistic: The Panthers scored every single time they scored in the final 8:59 of the game. That's fifteen straight times. Fifteen straight!

Had the Govs, just one second, buckled down on defense and stopped them in a nine-minute span of possession, they would have

see Lusk, Page 4

## SPORTS

March 7, 2001



## Stunned

continued from Page 3

all the other makes. Hill, who scored a game-high 31 points, was the obvious choice to get the ball on the last play. Everyone in the building knew it.

What no one knew or expected was that the ball would end up in Thompson's hands.

"We knew the ball was either going to Hill or (Henry) Domercant," Haymon said. "We tried to play them real hard and (Thompson) kind of sneaked in there and got the rebound."

A costly oversight. One that will leave questions for years to come.

Was it a block? How could the Govs let such a big lead slip away?

There's one thing Hassell is sure of.

"We beat ourselves tonight," Hassell said after the loss. "It looked like a great block, but if we would have blocked out, we wouldn't have been in that situa-

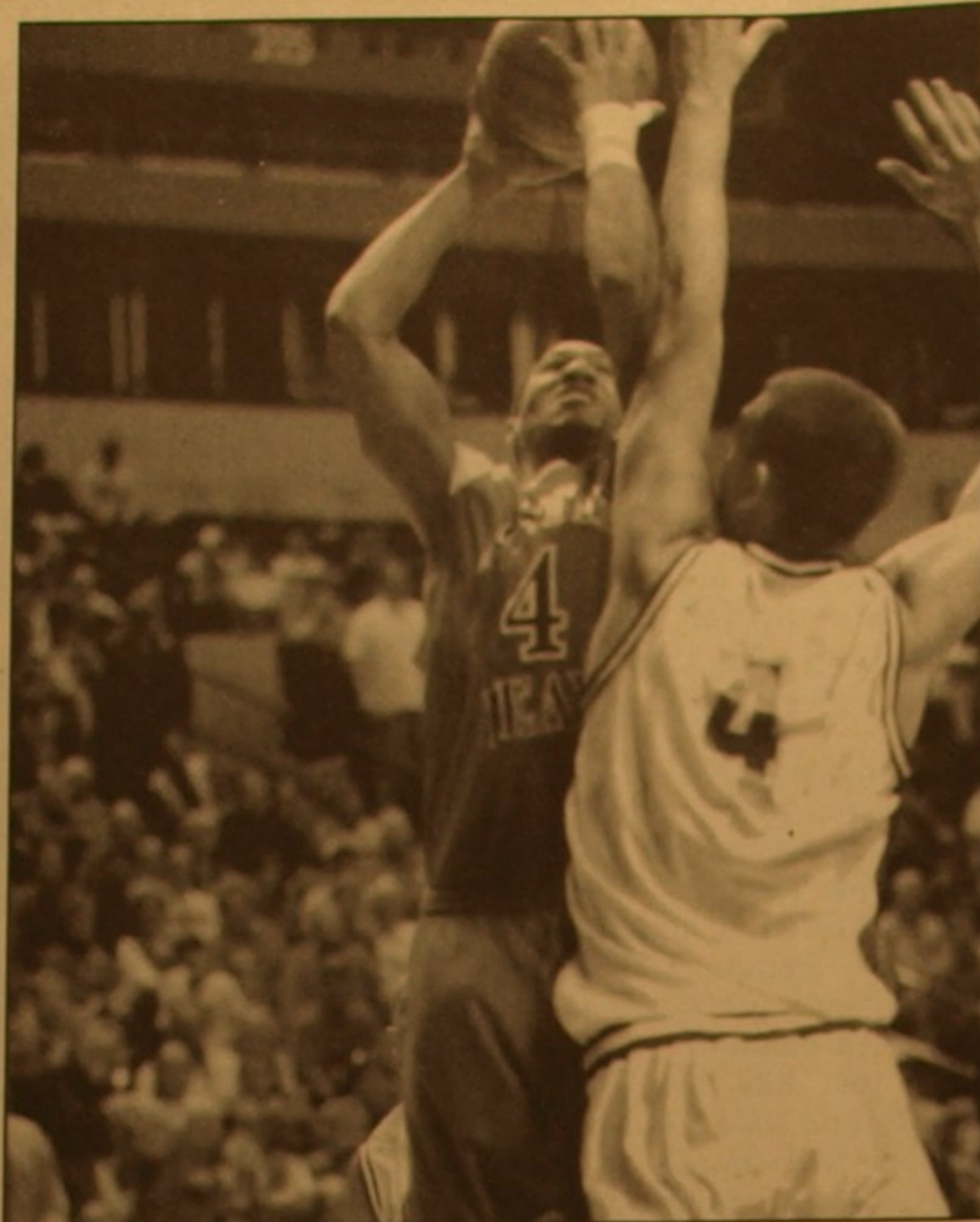
tion." The best the Govs can do now is hope for a National Invitational Tournament bid. Still, nothing will ease the pain of seeing a dream that was so nearly realized crushed before their eyes.

Just one night earlier, Austin Peay had stunned No. 1 seed Tennessee Tech, 83-63, in perhaps their best performance of the year.

Hassell scored 25 points and Nick Stapleton was on fire, hitting 10-of-17 from the field for a game-high 28 points. Both Hassell and Stapleton were named to the all-tournament team.

The Govs were on pace for an equal or better showing Saturday, en route to their first conference tournament title since the 1995-96 season — until the Panthers' amazing comeback brought the racing Govs to a screeching halt.

"It's a terrible loss," Haymon said. "It will take a long time to swallow."



photos by Tammy Sparks

(Above) Theanthony Haymon shoots over EliU's Jan Thompson. (Right) Nick Stapleton drives around Kyle Hill in the Govs' loss.



## Gooding

continued from Page 3

go up against the best.

"It will be an excellent test for her."

Though she's confident she can make some noise in the finals, she's not going to get ahead of herself.

"My first goal is just to make it to the finals," Gooding said. "After that, I've got to take it step-by-step."

Gooding is Forde's first athlete to qualify for the NCAA Championships.

This year, freshman Lauren Maul and senior Ayesha Maycock met NCAA provisional standards in the high

jump and long jump, respectively, but ended up ranking too low nationally to qualify for this weekend's meet.

Forde said Maul was ranked around 24th in the nation with a jump of 5-10, and Maycock around 36th with a leap of 20-2.

"I think at this point that (Gooding's) rank doesn't mean as much," Forde said. "All that matters right now is how determined she is, and whether she wants to be ranked as one of the best in the country on the collegiate level."

## Lusk

continued from Page 3

escaped with the win.

That never happened.

A championship team would have made it happen — they would have risen to the occasion and gotten that stop.

The Govs didn't.

Furthermore, Austin Peay's offensive play was also far from championship-caliber at crunch time: The Govs, who could hardly miss for most of the game, managed a paltry five points in the final 6:47, and only one point in the final 3:15, the time when it mattered the most.

"They tried to hold the ball, and that took them out of their offense," said Panthers guard Kyle Hill, who scored a game-high 31 points. "If they'd have kept doing what they were doing, it probably would have been a different story."

Truth is, the Govs weren't as determined to claim their

championship as Eastern Illinois was to take it from them.

"You could see it on their faces," Hill said. "Their heads dropped, and our players just kept getting more and more confidence."

But despite the Govs' lackluster play in the final minutes, it still wouldn't be justified to place all the blame on them. Players or staff.

Because in actuality, it wasn't as much that Austin Peay had an astounding collapse as it was that Eastern Illinois was just incredible when the chips were down.

More specifically, Hill was incredible.

With his team backed against the wall and his career on the line, the 6-foot-2 senior gunslinger assumed the look and role of a killer, refusing to go down without his guns

blazing.

"You should have seen his eyes during timeouts," Panthers coach Rick Samuels said.

"I don't think he was even listening to me."

Bang, bang, bang. Hill exploded for 11 points in only a two-minute span to ignite the rally, including three momentum-jacking 3-point bombs.

No amount of timeouts could have slowed down this one-man scoring machine.

Not on this day. "Kyle was unbelievable," Samuels said.

Not only was Hill unconscious, but his fearlessness also swept over his teammates like a wildfire.

All-OVC small forward Henry Domercant, who'd been quiet for most of the game, suddenly came alive.

Domercant began to pro-

pel his thickly muscled frame to the rack with more ferocity than ever, converting layup after layup.

And there wasn't a Gov in the place who was willing to step up and try to roadblock him. Or, for that matter, the runaway train that Eastern Illinois had become in a matter of moments.

The rest is history. At the final horn, Hill and company had pulled off the unthinkable, and had left a bullet lodged squarely in the heart of Austin Peay basketball when all the dust had settled.

But the saddest part of all is that this is what this team will be remembered for.

Not for its 22-win season. Not for the kind of grit and resolve it displayed in its first-round overtime win over SEMO. Not for the 31 minutes in the title game where they

had the title in hand, and they were playing like champions.

This season's 32 games will be reduced to nine minutes of shame in the minds of most Austin Peay fans, and that's not fair.

Yeah, the Govs did blow this game. That much can't be smoothed over, no matter how deep your allegiance is to the Peay. It's a fact.

But as much flak as the Govs will get for this loss, Eastern Illinois deserves that much more credit.

There was no lack of effort or desire on the Govs' part, only a lapse in execution, paired with an opponent that was playing out of its mind.

Only with those two ingredients could a game unfold the way this one did.

This is the bottom line: This loss can't be attributed to conspiring refs, brain-dead

coaches, half-speed players or any other lame excuse — they had a big game taken away from them by a better team, and that's all there is to it.

And don't think for one second that every one of those guys doesn't know it and feel awful about it. I personally know what it's like to fail to meet expectations in the sporting arena. It's painful. And those guys are feeling it.

They don't need some idiot fan who's never played a sport in his life to start spouting off stupid things like "You guys choked" in order to make them feel bad about it.

So lay off.

Unfortunately, the mere memory of this one will be more than enough to tighten up their throats for years to come.

## Congratulations

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## Lady Govs grow

Softball team  
splits two on road

By T.J. Lusk  
sports editor

Austin Peay's youthful softball team showed some real signs of growing up in overcoming a three-run final-inning deficit to beat David Lipscomb 6-5, but then regressed back to its old ways in a 1-0 loss in the teams' second contest on the road last Tuesday.

Though the second game was yet another story of missed opportunities for the Lady Govs (2-7), head coach Tara Csernecky isn't losing patience with her green bunch of players by any means.

"Going into the season, I knew that we were young, and that we were going to make some mistakes," she said. "But the important thing is that we're getting stronger every game."

The Lady Govs — who carry nine freshmen and sophomores on a roster of only 14 players — showed some real veteran-like toughness in their first game with Lipscomb.

Going into the top of the seventh down 4-1, the Lady Govs finally showed the ability to hit under pressure, cranking out five runs in the inning.

The return of big-hitting sophomore catcher Christina Garza from a broken finger didn't hurt the cause, as she cleared the bases and drove in three runs with her hit in the seventh.

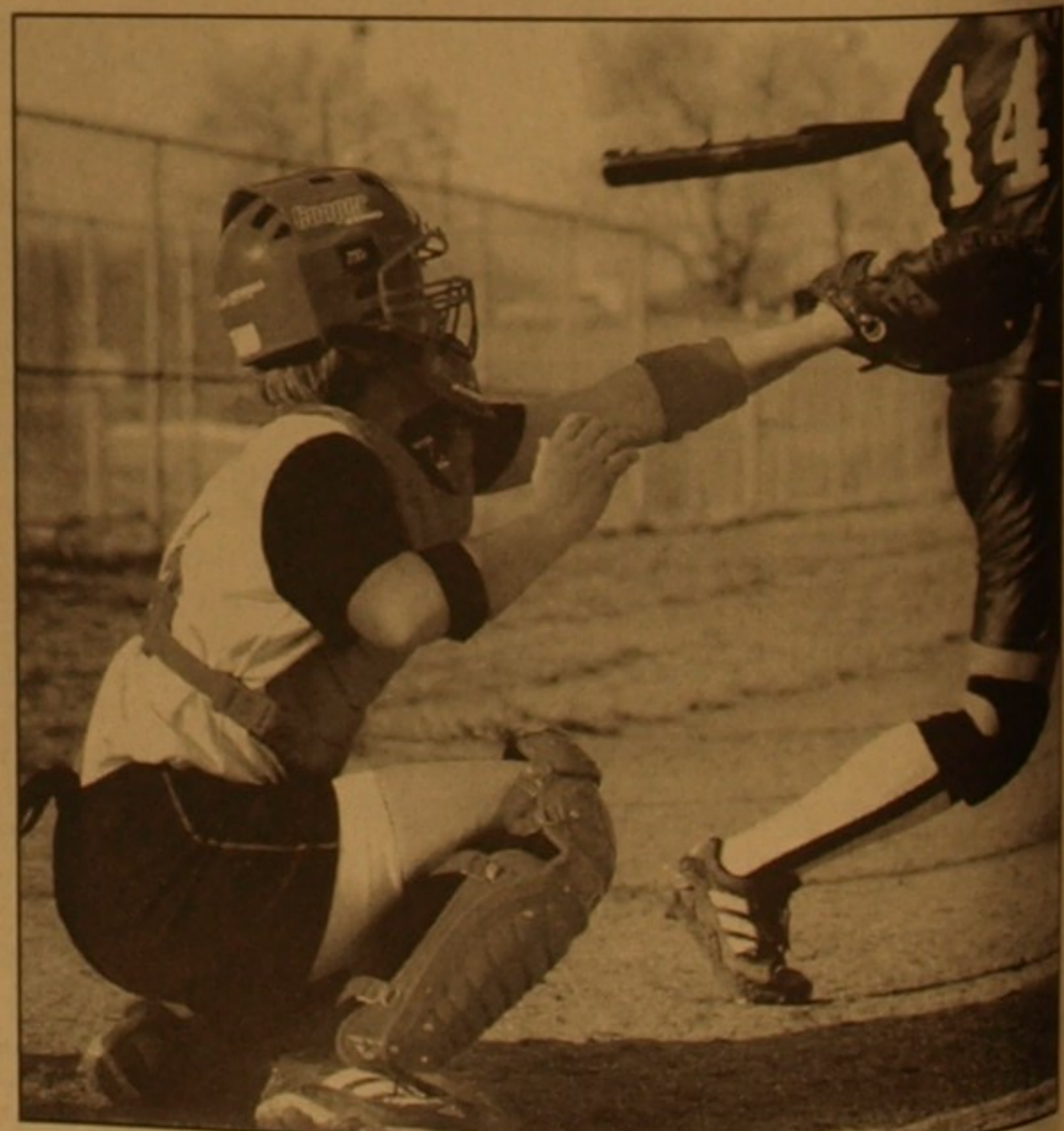


photo by Alicia Archuleta  
Lady Govs catcher Misty Calude works out behind the plate. Austin Peay split a pair of games with David Lipscomb last week.

Sophomore Holly Ricketts got the win on the mound, striking out seven.

"I was ecstatic to see that," said Csernecky of her team's performance at the plate. "That was a time where I said 'OK, we've got to do something here, let's see what you've got.' ... It seemed contagious — we just kept hitting and hitting. I was very happy with them."

That excitement was tempered a bit in the second game, when the defense and pitching once again far outperformed the offense.

Junior Megan Lane took the loss despite giving up only one walk, and a lone run in the bottom of the seventh.

"In the second game, we

gave ourselves a ton of opportunities, but we left all our runners in scoring position stranded," Csernecky said.

"We're trying to get them to that point where everyone can step in there and get that key run when we need it. Defense is what keeps you in the game, but offense is going to win the game."

The Lady Govs embark on another tough road trip beginning Friday, when they will be in Birmingham, Ala., for a tournament at Samford University.

They are slated to match up with a number of quality teams, including Auburn, Alabama-Birmingham and Ball State.

"It will be quite competitive," Csernecky said.

# FEATURES

March 7, 2001



## Professor's documentary spotlights Rudolph

By Tiffanie Cohoon  
features editor

March is Women's History Month, a time to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of women throughout history.

Yvonne Prather, assistant professor and director of television studies, recently devoted her time and energy to produce a documentary about one of Clarksville's most famous females athletes.

"This is to be an informative piece about a local celebrity. I want people to know who she was, where she was from and how she became an international star," says Prather.

"The Woman Behind The Gold" is a film dedicated to none other than Wilma

Alodean Rudolph.

This intriguing woman came from a family of 22. She resided in Lincoln Homes and attended school right near APSU's campus at Burt High. After graduating, she went to Tennessee State University and ran track.

According to Prather, Rudolph trained three times a day.

According to those who knew her, Rudolph was a considerate and loving individual that was liked by everyone she encountered.

She could get along with anyone from the man on the street corner to the President of the United States.

"She thought of others before she thought of herself," says Maxine Johnson, Wilma Rudolph's best friend.

Rudolph made it to the 1960 Summer Olympics in Italy, where she won three gold medals.

"She ran for her country and herself; she didn't get any money," says Ed Temple, former TSU track coach.

In the Olympics, she won her first gold medal in the 100-meter dash. Three days later she earned her second gold medal in the 200-meter dash, and she surprised everyone by winning her third gold medal in the 400-meter relay.

"Her last run was the race she wanted to win so her other teammates would

have a medal," says Prather.

After the Olympics, Rudolph returned to Clarksville to parades and welcome home parties.

**'She thought of others before she thought of herself.'**

Still during the segregation period, Clarksville city officials wanted to have a banquet in her honor.

Even the banquet was to be segregated. Rudolph said that if everyone couldn't come together, there wasn't going to be any banquet.

That comment touched the governor so much that

during his address at the banquet, he said that you cannot just play the white keys or black keys on a piano, you have to play them together to get harmony.

"She put Clarksville on the map," says Prather.

This woman has impacted and touched so many lives. She also accomplished many things during her lifetime besides the three gold medals. She opened the door for women's athletics everywhere. She was the first Tennessean to win the Sullivan Award. She met President Kennedy and was invited to the White House in 1993 where she was named an American hero by President Clinton.

Rudolph passed away on Nov. 14, 1994 at the age of 54.

Prather's documentary will be presented on March 9 at the Dale Wayrynen Recreation Center at Fort Campbell. It is open to the public.

Copies also are available for viewing at APSU's library, the Customs House Museum, Clarksville's Public Library and in the African-American Cultural Center.

Prather focused on the importance of Rudolph's life and the impact she made on others. Prather also shows that Rudolph is one of the most remembered athletes today but, most importantly, she was a caring mother and an inspirational individual.

## Six characters search for author

By Alicia Archuleta  
staff writer

"Six Characters in Search of an Author" is an intriguing name for an intriguing play.

Dr. Sara Gotcher decided to tackle this play by Luigi Pirandello for AP Playhouse's third regular season performance.

The title explains the main action of the play to a tee.

The basics of the story are as follows:

Six unfinished characters, of a very disturbed drama, are looking for someone to finish their story so that they can resolve the horror that is their reality.

These characters are in limbo because their first author put the work down never to pick it up again, thus leaving their story unresolved.

They enter a rehearsal in Trahern theatre, begging for the actors and assistant director to drop their practice for the Toby show to act out their story.

The actors oblige only after their assistant director becomes intrigued by the story the characters begin to tell.

They play out what exists of the story then disappear, leaving the actors and assistant director confused and a

little frightened.

While the "actors" were there, the main actions and majority of the lines belonged to the "characters."

I attended the Sunday matinee after hearing very little about the play.

Luckily I read the blurb in the local newspaper or I would have been as confused as most of the audience upon entering the house.

Being that there were no ushers, you found a program and sat yourself in the correct seat.

A full house caused for confusion and some disgruntled audience members.

Due to the chaos and the

fact that the house lights were left up for quite a while after the stage action had started, many people did not realize the play had started.

Soon the chaos ended and the play began full force.

All of the elements, lights, costumes, make-up and props made it seem like it truly was "just a rehearsal." The acting did not.

All of these talented young actors took their roles and made them their own.

I was very impressed with Shane Bridges' venture into his darker side. Bridges is usually cast as the joker or simpleton.

He definitely showed his range by taking this role and doing well in it.

Katherine Hill also was impressive in her role as the

stepdaughter.

She expressed a wide range of emotion that had to have been draining. She handled it beautifully.

The character that most disturbed me was the "little boy" played by freshman scholarship student Eric Duerr. The "little boy's" suicide, which took the "characters" away, was shocking and unexpected.

Duerr never said a word but the torment and fear in his actions sent chills through my body.

The play's run ended Sunday. The next venture for AP Playhouse is the student-directed one acts. Be on the lookout for dates and times, so you don't miss out on another wonderful performance.

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Miller 101.

Comments are encouraged and welcomed.

For more information email

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# OPINION



## Ricky Martin shakes my bon-bon

By Ashley Kettle  
opinion editor

I, Ashley Kettle, own two... count 'em... two Ricky Martin folders and one Mick Foley folder.

Of course, Ricky Martin needs no introduction, if you don't know who he is then you my friend, are living la vida loca.

However I understand that unless you follow the grappling sports entertainment venue of the World Wrestling Federation, the name Mick Foley means diddly squat to you. So of course I feel compelled to give you a brief rundown of who this man is.

Before becoming the WWF Commissioner, Foley wrestled under the names of Dude Love, Cactus Jack and my personal favorite Mankind.

Foley has shown the world throughout his wrestling career that just because the plights of the wrestling characters are nothing more than a mere script, the pain that is felt by all wrestlers is as real as the pain felt by seasoned football players. Watch Beyond the Mat. You'll see what I mean.

Anyway back to the fact that I own these folders.

Not only do I own them, but also I actually use them in my everyday scholastic experiences.

Since the beginning of this semester I have received some strange looks from classmates when I whip out these folders. For the most part, I pretend not to notice the "how old are you" looks I often receive.

I am not always the brunt of such looks. There are a few people who strike up friendly conversations with me about these oddities in which I bear.

To those who cordially inquire about my folders, I give you my unplumbed appreciation.

Do I possess unfriendly feelings towards those that scoff my beloved Mead-treasures? Of course I don't.

But can you imagine what this world would be like if everyone were to always act their age? Let me tell you it wouldn't be a pretty sight.

If you've ever noticed, dogs never act their age. Take Poochie for instance. Poochie is 5 in dog years and 35 in human years.

For the most part, Poochie can still be found chasing cars, tennis balls and sometimes people. How many 35-year-olds have you seen doing the aforementioned things?

When 35-year-old Poochie comes begging to play fetch, is she chastised by either her owners or her canine pals because she's too old for such nonsense? Nope.

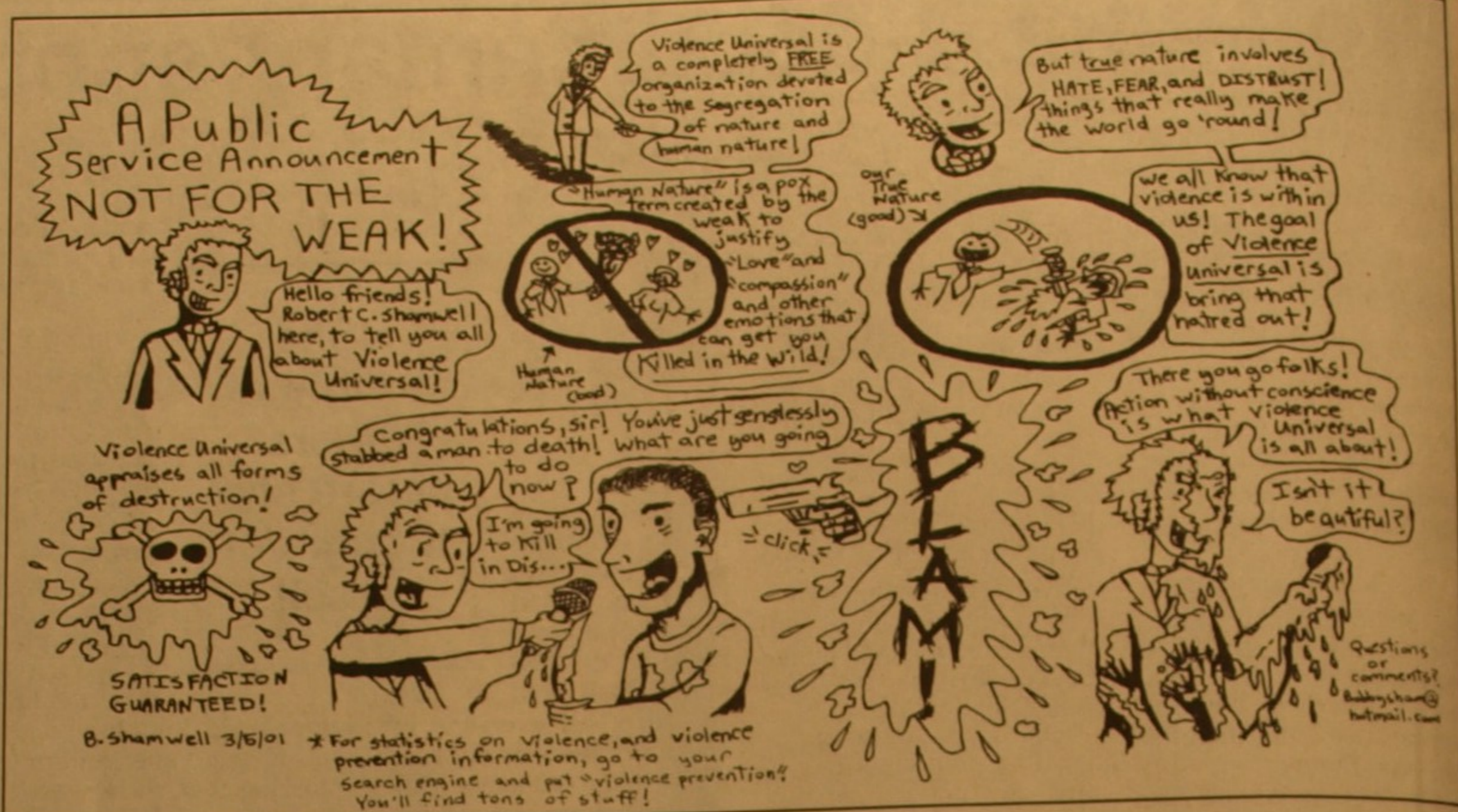
The main reason she's not is because Poochie is a dog, and her canine pals can't talk or bestow looks of lunacy onto others. Were you expecting a different explanation?

As long as I am comparing humans and animals, which was not my original intent, I may as well say that I feel much of society has become a large den of felines.

Once a kitten becomes a cat it immediately loses its friskiness. I'm no cat whisperer but intuition tells me the reason for this transformation is that cats, unlike dogs, carry the cumbersome thoughts about their jobs, relationships and money woes.

Then again I could be wrong, like I said I'm no cat whisperer. The one thing I do know is that there is way too much emphasis put on someone's age. The old adage that you are only as old as you feel rings very true.

I, Ashley Kettle, own two... yes, two Ricky Martin folders and one Mick Foley folder. I am by no means embarrassed by this fact, consequently no one should be. I do not use these folders in order to make myself either to appear or feel younger. I am not trying to make a statement by using these folders. I use them because they are fun. Plus Ricky Martin is a bit of eye candy.



## Letters to the editor

I attended the APSU vs. TSU game on Saturday, Feb. 24, and was completely infuriated. This game, being less than an hour away from APSU, had fewer than a hundred APSU fans in attendance. In addition, it was the last game of the regular season, and with a win could raise the Govs' placement in the OVC.

First, I was very ashamed to be there with such a poor showing. Most of the fans were alumni. Our red section was just a speck in comparison to the blue and white that filled the Gentry Arena. I dare say I saw more than five faculty members and fewer than 10 students. What does this show about our school spirit? Does no

one care? This is the year to attend the away games and root our Gov's to a victory.

Second, where were the cheerleaders and the dance team? A guy three rows down from my seat led us in "Let's go Peay" a few times but that was it. Even the initial clapping sounded silly with just a few hands and no megaphones. Is the budget so tight that we can't support one of the few strong athletics at APSU, I mean, ones that we are actually good at?

Third, I think the pep band that TSU displayed blew our few fans away. Their pep band consisted of at least 50 students! After going up a level and down several halls to the bath-

room, I could still hear them as if I were still in my seat. Why wasn't our "pep band" there? Sure, their tremendous sound would have masked our 15 students, but a showing would have been good for moral support. Especially against the horrendous officials but then again, hardly anybody reading this would know.

I'm just ashamed of my fellow students. Many of you were probably in Nashville on Second Avenue, paying more on cover charges than the \$6 I did to see both the girls and boys play good games of basketball.

Tracy Wood  
Communication Major

## There are more urban legends than mentioned

While reading your Feb. 28 article titled "Urban legends and shock wave," I was greatly disappointed in your exclusion of one of the most well-known urban legends of all time. I believe this exclusion to be due to your writer's lack of investigation. I am of course writing about the Ether Bunny. It is impossible to give the students of this university a complete understanding of legends without the Ether Bunny.

Byron Shives

## Don't sleep because Da Boogiemane is here

By Shaylan Davidson  
guest writer

Wednesday morning would have been like any other Wednesday if it had not been for the special breakfast prepared in the African American Cultural Center by one of America's best contemporary poets Da Boogiemane.

Myself and several other students of Austin Peay State University joined in the feast while talking, laughing and enjoying the company of the wordsmith.

Da Boogiemane had come to the campus of APSU as the featured performer of Peasoup "The Challenge," which was co-sponsored by Peasoup and the African American Student Association.

He wowed the audience with verses and metered timing like none that I had

ever witnessed. For 15 minutes he rhymed and alluded to various topics as if his words were painting a lyrical mural.

He spoke with so much intensity that beads of sweat rolled from his face and he had to remove his glasses from the fog that had accumulated on the lens. This is truly what performing poetry is all about.

Peasoup "The Challenge" was one of the many events that filled the calendar for Black History Month. It was a talent showcase that involved groups from Austin Peay, the Clarksville community and Nashville. The event was free and drew more than 100 people - a regular night at Peasoup.

Now, what is Peasoup? Peasoup is an independent bi-weekly open mic poetry event that takes place on Tuesdays in the African American Culture Center. It plays host to all sorts of talents, including poets, singers, musicians, etc.

"It allows people the opportunity to come out and experience culture and poetry in a family-like environment," says Marrah, one of the cofounders of Peasoup. "By us being poets, we want others to have a platform to display their stuff or just come and enjoy others."

As we eat the scrambled eggs with green peppers, onions and cheese, turkey bacon, hash browns, and biscuits, I was able to ask Da Boogiemane some questions. Here's how the conversation went down:

Shaylan Davidson - When did you begin writing/performing poetry?

Da Boogiemane - Well I've been performing since 1997 but I've been writing all my life.

He begins searching through his tote bag for a CD of his upcoming poetry

album. It has a sort of hip-hop feel to it but is engulfed in the jazz that is so present in most poetry venues.

His delivery is uncanny and sounds like it is one of the instruments that is accompanying itself.

SD - How would you describe what you do? Who has influenced you?

DB - I would describe my work as lyrical theatre... I take poetry and place it on the stage of life and see how it plays out.

My biggest influences are my parents. They gave me the drive. They would tell me to do what I feel but be good at it. I got my truth from my mother and my willing to succeed from my father. They wanted me to have artistic control.

Never try to be as good as someone else. Always strive to be the best. As far as my writing... Shakespeare. The way he chose language. His meter. His ability to capture life. Performers... I like Patricia Smith, Roger Bonaire-agard and Reggie Gibson.

SD - What are your current and future projects?

DB - World Domination (ha, ha, ha) Naw, seriously I want to redefine how people look at art; both visual art and poetry.

We as African Americans have been defined for too long. I want to create my own definition. Also, I am currently working on a book entitled Pimp, an album on Lionel Richie's label, Lion Tracks, touring, and other negotiations are in progress. I will be opening for Lionel's tour when it begins.

SD - What do you want people to receive from your works?

DB - Whatever they get. Whatever is in my work that another person needs in their life, I want them to get it. I want them to get what-

ever they get.

SD - That's deep.

DB - I want to be deep. But if you are so deep people don't understand you, then what good are you?

We've now come to a track on the CD where he is singing the chorus. A deep but passive voice sort of like Isaac Hayes mixed with Johnny Taylor. Someone asked who would be on his dream track.

SD - Yeah, who would be on your dream track?

DB - I would want all the people who were the tops in their prospective fields...like KRS-One, Stevie Wonder, and Marsalis, Patti LaBelle - people like that.

SD - Finally, since I know you are tired of me asking questions and you probably want to digest your food, which was good by the way. How was your visit to Austin Peay?

DB - Good, I enjoyed hanging with ya'll.

There are not many performers who would come to a school and want to watch the basketball game (Way to go Govs and Lady Govs), not be too concerned with attendance and getting their checks, hang out after the show until 4:30 in the morning, and still join us in breakfast and a trip to the mall.

Da Boogiemane is a great performer/poet and a great person. There is no wonder why he is as sought after to do shows as he is. While conversing with him, he speaks with conviction and believes what he says.

These beliefs are carried out through his actions and the way he lives his life. Da Boogiemane is a great person and will be also known as a great poet.

## The All State

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