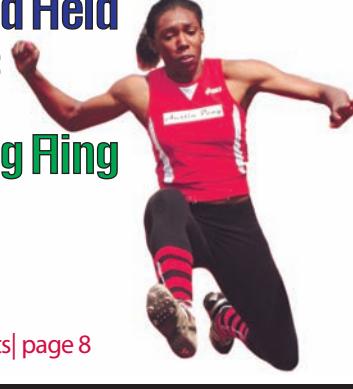


Lady Govs Track
and Field
hosts

Spring Ring



Sports| page 8

the all state

BRACKETAPMASTERS

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Online Headlines

The voice of Austin Peay State University students since 1929

March 26, 2008 | Vol. 80, Issue 10

First copy free, additional copies 50 cents each

Redevelopment meeting closed to many

By DAVE CAMPBELL

Managing Editor

An angered crowd gathered outside Burt School last week while Mayor Johnny Piper held a public forum inside, which only some of the public was allowed to attend.

The purpose of the forum was to present goals for the Clarksville Center Redevelopment Plan, which has been a matter of controversy for some time now.

The concern from citizens is one that has been ongoing in the past months. Many feel that Mayor Piper will be granted the right, under the redevelopment plan, to acquire property under the guise of eminent domain. Piper insists this is not the case.

The forum, which was held in the cafeteria of Burt School, attracted the attention of Channel 4 News and News 2 of Nashville.

Clarksville Police Lieutenant David Crockrell said that the meeting began around 6 p.m. and,

along with three other police officers, he made sure the public and the media did not get into the meeting.

Denise Watts believes they were trying to shut people out the night of the forum. She said her main concern is her family who still lives in the affected area.

"I've got a grandmother wondering if they're going to take her property," Watts said.

"They held it in the cafeteria because they didn't want people speaking out," Watts said, who does not live in Clarksville but grew up in the area.

Public concern

Comment cards were made available to anyone attending the meeting.

Clarksville City Communications Director Missy Graham and her office is in charge of compiling the document that is composed of the

comments and said the event was a public hearing as mandated by state sunshine laws.

Many wondered why the hearing was held in the cafeteria instead of a place accommodating to a larger crowd.

"We wanted a venue in the affected area," Graham said, adding that past meetings had been held in the Burt School cafeteria. "Burt School is in the heart of that district."

There aren't that many venues in this community, according to Graham. "We had no way of knowing how many people would turn out for this event," she said, though public notices were sent to people in the affected area.

"The meeting was open to anybody," Graham said.

"We checked some locations at APSU," Graham said, stating that other locations like the auditoriums in the Music/Mass Communications building and Clement Building on campus were not available.

Once the fire marshal determined that the room was at its maximum capacity of 180, people were turned away, though for each person that left, another was allowed in.

Citizens who gathered also feel that they will not receive the proper return for their property if forced to sell.

"They didn't want us in there tonight," Clarksville resident Lydell Jones said. He believes that residents are being pushed out "little by little."

Bob Stewart lives on Robb Avenue and is afraid that he is going to lose his property after living there for 44 years.

"As far as I'm concerned the city's going to do what they want to do," Stewart said. "That's not

See Meeting Page 2

Reagon sings to tune of liberty



MATEEN SIDIQ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bernice Johnson Reagon, above, enlightened the crowd with stories and songs from the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. She was a strong force in the movement due to her activism and her voice. While at APSU, Reagon sang Harry Belafonte's "Banana Boat Song" and a song about a member of the NAACP who was killed by a bomb on Christmas 1951.

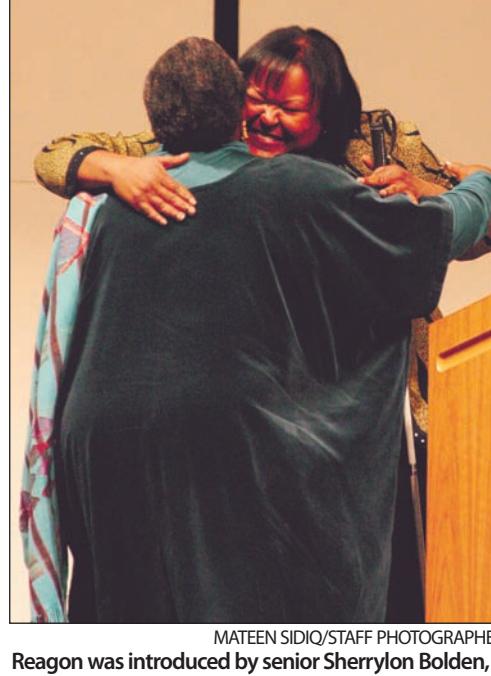
By NICOLE JUNE
Staff Writer

Bernice Johnson Reagon spoke to the audience with her presentation of "Singing for a Purpose: Voices of the Civil Rights Movement" Wed., March 19 in the Music/Mass Communication Concert Hall.

Reagon is professor emeritus of history at American University and curator emeritus at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. She is founder of the Grammy award-winning musical group, Sweet Honey in the Rock, and a leading scholar of gospel and spiritual music.

The event was sponsored by the African American Cultural Center, the Woodward Library, the Center of Excellence for the Creative Arts and the Alumni Association.

Carol Bennett, director of the AACC, said she has been trying to get Reagon to speak at APSU for two years.



MATEEN SIDIQ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Reagon was introduced by senior Sherrylon Bolden, above. President Timothy Hall and Carol Bennett, director of the African American Cultural Center also introduced Reagon.

"I think our events are academically enlightening and enjoyable," she said. "This event was at most very heart touching because of the subject matter. Not only did she provide a history lesson about the Civil Rights Movement, but she put it in the perspective of the young people involved and she was on point."

Reagon's speech opened with welcoming statements from Bennett and President Timothy Hall and an introduction by graduating senior Sherrylon Bolden.

Reagon began her speech by outlining the importance of young people in the political processes of today and the need for their "21st century orientation."

She then presented her topic on the Civil Rights Movement. "I am not offering a recipe for what should be done in the 21st century, but sharing what these people did to [change their situation]," Reagon said.

Reagon's first song of the night was a haunting tune about a man named Harry Moore, NAACP member who helped register black voters in Florida. A bomb killed Moore and his wife on Christmas Day, 1951.

"Freedom never dies/I say, freedom never dies/no bomb can kill the dreams I had/freedom never dies," Reagon sang.

Reagon spoke about the trials of being female and the fear instilled in women by predators, but the expectation of society to overcome this fear and not let it slow them down in any way. She also applied this theory to being black.

She also mentioned the sit-ins and protests of the 1960s and their impact on the movement. She paid special attention to the Freedom Riders and their influence. Freedom

See Reagon, Page 2

Students speak out on Sunshine Week about freedom of information

Question: Do you think that the media has too many or too few rights to government information?

J. Grammer, junior, English

"I think that there should be a good amount of information that should be available to the press, but the press needs to be responsible for the situation that it creates."

Carmen Chetham, freshman, nursing

"They have too few rights when it comes to government information. It goes both ways when it comes to information."

Lyndsey McQuiston, sophomore, biology

"They have too few because not everything in the media is true. I think that media should have complete access to the information as long as it is the truth."

Jordan Bagwell, sophomore, English

"Media has too few rights to government information. It depends on the information and who will it affect and how it will affect them. There is a lot to take into consideration."

Phil Germain, junior, business

"There really is no definite answer. If the media speaks too much it leaks information and if they don't say anything, it seems that they are hiding something."



Perspectives

See what other students think of Bush, gas prices, and Gov. Spitzer



FYI

♦ The "Cast Your Net" networking event will be today in the UC Ballroom from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Features

APSU reads "Fast Food Nation: the Dark Side of the All-American meal"

Networking event set to net

By JAKE DAVIS
Staff Writer

A career networking seminar called "Cast Your Net" is coming to APSU. This event will provide students opportunities to develop relationships with successful APSU alumni and students from institutions like NASA, FBI, Tennessee Board of Regents and many other organizations. It will take place in the University Center Ballroom Wed., March 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and again from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Office of New Student Programs and Director of Alumni Relations Shelia Boone are organizing the alumni members as well as the event itself.

"[The event will] connect students with successful alumni to give them an idea of what students can be doing in college to be

"It's to connect students with successful alumni to give them an idea of what students can be doing in college to be successful."

Melissa Gomez, director of new student programs



successful," said Melissa Gomez, director of New Student Programs. Students are not obligated to stay the full meeting times.

Students will be allowed to come and go as they please between their classes, according to Gomez.

The guest list at "Cast Your Net" includes Bob Adams from TBR, accounting major; Montgomery County Mayor Carolyn Bowers; Glen Glenn from TBI and forensic chemistry major; Ed Sneed, stock broker;

and Phil Wood, sports writer and nationally syndicated broadcaster.

This is the third consecutive year this event has taken place.

This event is relevant to all APSU students. Many fields are represented, according to Gomez.

"If a student comes to an event and someone who is not in their field is there, they should still come to speak with alumni," Gomez said. "There is something for any student to get out of it."

President Timothy Hall said, "You are welcome to come and stay for as long as your schedule allows. Even if your field is not represented by an alumnus, we feel you could still gain some excellent advice about what you can do now, as a student, to ensure your success as a graduate of APSU." ♦

Reagon: Songs ring with purpose

From Page 1

Riders were black and white volunteers challenging Jim Crow laws, according to an article by NPR.

The highlight of the night was audience participation with Reagon in a rousing chorus of Harry Belafonte's "Banana Boat Song." The words "daylight come and we want to go home" were sung as "freedom's comin' and it won't be long."

Reagon gave advice about tolerance and acceptance. "Think outside anything you may have in your particular journey in this world," she said.

During the Civil Rights Movement, Reagon participated in a march in Albany, Ga. "It was an amazing time; within two weeks I was

Meeting: people overflow forum

From Page 1

right." Area realtor Billy Gilkey believes that the redevelopment plan is a done deal and that the city is simply "going through the motions."

Gilkey was also upset because the public was being denied access to a public building where many believed there to be plenty of room left to allow people in.

John Summers is the attorney for the group that opposes the plan.

The Clarksville Property Rights Coalition has a mission to get the plan repealed.

"People are worried their property is subject to eminent domain," Summers said. "It's a very personal matter."

He believes the goal of the plan is "to encourage maximum private development."

According to Summers, the meeting was a public hearing as required under public statute.

WORLD BRIEFS

Monarch convinces Bhutan into democracy

THIMPHU, Bhutan (AP) — Long known as a quirky holdout from modernity, the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan ended a century of absolute monarchy March 24 by electing a staunch royalist as its first prime minister.

So it goes in Bhutan, possibly the first country in history where a king had to convince his people that democracy was a good idea.

Rocket attacks may spell trouble

BAGHDAD (AP) — Rocket attacks on the U.S.-protected Green Zone may carry a message with implications

"The public is normally afforded the opportunity to speak," Summers said.

"This was basically a public relations presentation in support of the plan."

Summers says this whole process has been a "very closed" one.

Frank Lott of the Clarksville Housing Authority said that the event was a "public forum that was in the same style of Tennessee Department of Transportation meetings."

He described these meetings as including a factual presentation of a plan with a quick overview. He also said that Mayor Johnny Piper has drawn a lot from the Knoxville Community Development Corporation (KCDC), in making this plan.

Alvin Nance, CEO of KCDC, presented comparative points of what Knoxville has in its plan.

The Clarksville Community Redevelopment Plan has styled their plan similarly to the one in Knoxville. ♦

SGA: WEEKLY ROUNDUP

Senate considers housing, college

By TINEA PAYNE
Assistant News Editor

The Student Government Association discussed resolutions 11 and 12 during the Wed., March 19 Senate meeting.

Housing resolution

Sen. Steven Biter presented SR 11, which would extend the housing visitation hours for opposite sex visitors from midnight to 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

The housing resolution will go into effect by fall 2008, if passed.

J.D. resolution

SR 12, also presented by Sen. Biter, would issue a formal recommendation to the Faculty Senate to establish a college of law at APSU.

The resolution calls for an exploratory committee to form a J.D. program on campus.

SGA will vote on SR 11 and 12 during the Wed., March 26 SGA meeting.

Committee report

Sen. Casey Green said that the Sustainable Campus Fee Committee has \$115,000 remaining to spend on energy efficiency initiatives.

President Timothy Hall will push towards development of a bio-diesel system for campus energy use, according to Green.

Wind power energy from the APSU Farm is also being considered. ♦

Next Meeting

The next SGA meeting will be held 12:20 p.m. Wed., March 26 in University Center Room 305.

Good Morning APSU

Your Community

Why Should You Care?

Frank Gibson, Executive Director for the Tennessee Coalition for Open Government will speak at 4 p.m., Thurs., March 27 in University Center Room 305. Contact Tabitha Gilliland at 221-7375 for more information.

Crime Log

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

- Feb. 4, 11:30 a.m., Hand Village, vandalism
- Feb. 6, 7:30 a.m., Cafeteria, theft of property
- Feb. 6, 8:30 a.m., Meacham lot, auto vandalism
- Feb. 12, 4:30 p.m., Library, theft of property
- Feb. 13, 4 p.m., Clement, theft of property
- Feb. 13, 7:55 p.m., Foy Recreation Center, theft of property
- Feb. 14, 11 p.m., Castle Heights, auto vandalism
- Feb. 14, 4:10 p.m., Library, theft of property
- Feb. 16, 1:37 a.m., College Street, DUI, arrested: Frank H. Summer of 724 Claton Dr, Clarksville
- Feb. 18, 2:30 p.m., Meacham Apt., minor consuming/possession of alcohol, arrested: Thomas M. Estes of 269 Willow Run Apt. 269, Clinton, TN
- Feb. 19, 1:49 a.m., 8th Street, minor consuming of alcohol, arrested: Gary S. Dick of 1285 Old McKenzie Highway, Paris, TN
- Feb. 20, 8 a.m., 8th Street lot, theft of property
- Feb. 22, 12 p.m., UC, theft of property
- Feb. 24, 1:20 a.m., UC, minor consuming alcohol, arrested: Paris U. Freeman of 2655 Union Hall Road, Clarksville
- Feb. 24, 8:28 p.m., Emerald Hill, domestic assault, arrested: Justin Shoate of 7918 Old Stage Road, Adamsville, TN
- Feb. 25, 9:30 p.m., Blount, simple possession of drug paraphernalia and minor consuming alcohol, arrested: Gary S. Dick of 1285 Old McKenzie Highway, Paris, TN
- Feb. 26, 11:30 a.m., Meacham Apts., theft of property
- Feb. 28, 2:05 p.m., Clement, theft of property
- Feb. 29, 3:30 p.m., Hand Village, theft of property
- March 1, 1:48 a.m., Farris and Parham, COR violation, arrested: Justin T. Dowlen of 2211 Charleston Road, Clarksville
- March 2, 11:30 a.m., Hand Village, theft of property
- March 7, 12:01 a.m., 258 Forbes Ave., auto vandalism
- March 8, 7:15 p.m., Hand Village, aggravated burglary
- March 11, 11 a.m., Hand Village, theft of property
- March 11, 8:50 p.m., Austins Diner, assault
- March 12, 4:30 p.m., Harned, theft of property
- March 13, 7:40 p.m., 8th and College Street, auto vandalism, arrested: 3 juveniles
- March 14, 12:45 a.m., Hand Village, auto vandalism
- March 15, 1 a.m., Tennis Courts, theft of property
- March 17, 5:34 p.m., Killebrew, possession for resale; violation of drug free school zone, weapon on school property, drug paraphernalia, arrested: Christopher M. Thomas of 403 Lucky Debonair St, Hopkinsville, KY
- March 18, 12:15 p.m., Killebrew, minor consuming/possession of alcohol, arrested: Melissa A. Flannery of 1091 Gaywinds Drive, Mt Juliet, TN
- March 18, 0:45 p.m., UC, theft of property
- March 19, 1:30 p.m., Claxton, theft of property
- March 22, 2:14 a.m., West Avenue, aggravated assault

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OUR TAKE

Sports supremacy promises changes for APSU

Editorial Roundup

THE ISSUE:

APSU sports teams are winning big in the areas of football, basketball and baseball.

OUR TAKE:

APSU's recent advancement in sports could bring about significant changes for students, some positive and some negative.

Last spring the Govs baseball team won the Ohio Valley Conference regular season championship and the OVC tournament. They advanced to the NCAA tournaments.

Soon after, the Govs football team surprised everyone and won seven games in their second season of scholarship football. In addition, it was APSU's first season back in the OVC, and they had a new coach.

Now the Govs basketball team has won the OVC regular season title and the OVC tournament. In the first round of March Madness, they lost to the Texas Longhorns 74-54.

APSU's recent accomplishments in these three sports have led *The All State* to question the possibility of APSU one day becoming a "big-name" sports school.

Although the road to college sports supremacy is a long, expensive and often times disappointing one, TAS would like its readership to consider the possibilities should APSU attain status as a prominent sports school.

If APSU rises to sports stardom,

university revenue would greatly increase. According to the Office of Postsecondary Education of the U.S. Department of Education, the Govs and Lady Govs basketball teams generated over \$1 million in revenue, and the football team made over \$800,000 on its own last year (<http://ope.ed.gov/athletics/>).

That might sound like impressive figures, but consider how much operating expenses were. Last year, the Govs basketball and football teams each racked up over \$800,000 in operating expenses.

However, these figures are small in comparison to those of University of Tennessee at Knoxville. The Vols and Lady Vols basketball teams attracted over \$9 million in revenue, and their football team alone generated over \$31 million. It's amazing the difference an "A" can make in a division ranking.

Add to this the money that will be generated through the sale of sports paraphernalia, and it's evident how lucrative a big name can be.

With the increase in sports-related money would come funds for much needed campus improvements, as well as a possible end to or reduction in tuition hikes. With a better campus and a bigger name, APSU's enrollment would vastly increase.

One day it might even be on par with such schools as Duke, North Carolina and Notre Dame.

Although it seems as though becoming a sports school would solve all of APSU's problems, there are other issues to consider.

While it could be argued that the increase in revenue would bring about a decrease in tuition costs, there is evidence that suggests otherwise.

A study commissioned by the NCAA showed that total athletic spending increased by roughly 20 percent between 2001 and 2003, while total institutional spending only rose by less than five percent during the same period.

If this trend continues, students in the future could have to pay a whole lot more to come to APSU than they

do now.

While some departments would flourish in the limelight produced by sports, others could wither. Game days could overshadow all other campus events, making most weekends unusable for guest speakers, art shows and concerts.

In pursuing big-name status, a school must spend a lot of money, and budgets must get cut in order to achieve their goal. If a university or college doesn't maintain an emphasis on the importance of academics during its quest for athletic greatness, it's safe to say those departments not directly applicable to sports will be slowly cut back.

There's also the question of how an influx of athletes into APSU will affect the quality of academics. While there are many negative stereotypes associated with college athletes, TAS believes that having the right coaches who strictly adhere to administrative rules, will prevent the demise of an academically focused university. So far, APSU coaches have done this.♦

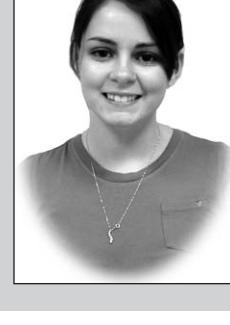
YOUR TAKE

"What do you think?"



"TRUTHFUL"

"George Bush didn't get any independent votes, and McCain is trying to."



—Hailey Smith,
Freshman,
Education

Free association can spark segregation

For me, one of the most essential parts of the human experience is being exposed to as many different people as possible. That sounds reasonable, right? Wanting to be a well-rounded, open-minded person? We have the right to free association, which means we can hang out with whomever we want, no matter how different or how alike we are.

The first article I wrote for *The All State* was about political correctness, and I feel that bringing up that subject again is relevant here.

Political correctness was a movement designed to encourage diversity; a language, if

you will, that we all had to learn so that we could get along better and learn more from each other. Then it went too far. And now, several years down the road, it appears that everyone is tired of walking on eggshells.

For a lot of Americans, it seems as though diversity has overstayed its welcome and the right to free association is being used legally (at varying degrees) to exclude people who just don't fit in.

Case in point, Ave Maria is a township in Florida which broke ground in 2006. According to Times Online, developers hope that Ave Maria will be populated with conservative Catholics and plan on building 11,000 homes. Now, there is no legal way they can keep anyone who is non-Catholic from buying one of those homes, but they have found a few ways to make non-Catholics think twice before they do.

First, Ave Maria is being touted as a Catholic community. Non-Catholics sound unwelcome already. Second, the town is being built around a Catholic church. And finally, Ave Maria doesn't plan on having any public schools, so anyone who doesn't want their children to attend a Catholic elementary school have to load them on a big smelly school bus to be shuttled elsewhere in the county.

So without breaking any laws and without building a gate around the township with armed guards on duty, Ave Maria has simply made an environment that discourages anyone different from settling there.

It's not just the religious and the conservative who are guilty of this. Bleeding heart liberals aren't helping either.

In 2006, Ernie Chambers was the only black member of the Nebraska legislature and a liberal. (He's also the guy who filed a lawsuit against God in 2007). He was in favor of a bill that would divide Omaha schools into three districts: One white, one black and one Hispanic. Bad idea.

Unless, that is, you think segregating impressionable young teens during a critical learning stage in their life and almost certainly eradicating any early notion of tolerance is something that should happen. Then, I suppose, you would think that this is a good idea, and I would think you're crazy.

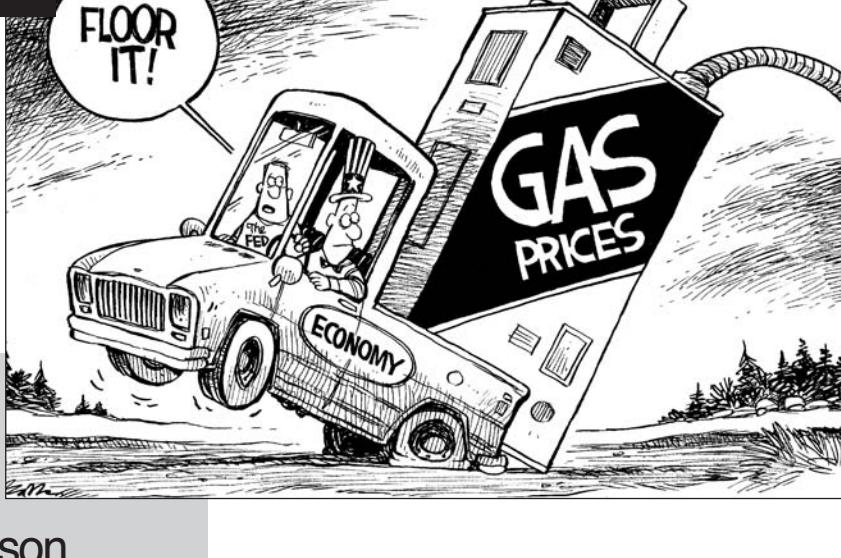
The impulse to be with others like you is simply human. Sports fans go to sports bars, not gay bars (unless you're a gay sports fan, but you get the point). I'm definitely not denying that. I bet if I were to pick students at random and ask them to introduce me to their closest friends they would all share similar likes and dislikes, and maybe even musical tastes and styles of dress. And that's not really a bad thing.

Don't misunderstand me. We all want to be surrounded by people who encourage us to be ... well, us. But, to me, it just seems too elitist for people to use their right of free association as the right to create cliques.♦

Devin Walls is a junior English major and can be contacted at d.w.walls@gmail.com

"TERRIFYING"

"The higher the gas prices, the harder it will be for us to put money into the economy, which will further spike gas prices in a vicious cycle."



—Emily Ellison,
Junior,
Social Work

"IRONIC"

"As a governor, he helped put a lot of bad politicians and money launderers away. The people of New York trusted him and he absolutely dropped the ball."



—Caleb Jackson,
Freshman,
Graphic Design

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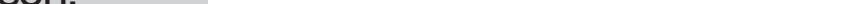
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—Maroulies



MAROULIES
©2008 Jim Margolis

—Caleb Jackson,
Freshman,
Graphic Design

Jobless after graduation? Teach English abroad.

With graduation looming on the horizon, no doubt many of you soon-to-be recipients of bachelor's degrees are faced with a persistent question from friends and family: What are you going to do next?

Of course, you don't have time to think about that. You still have papers to write, finals to take and graduation rehearsals to attend. But really, what are you going to do when you graduate?

I can only speak for myself, but when I earned my undergraduate degree in 2003, I was under the impression that I would have no problem finding a job. After all, I graduated with honors and did not have a criminal record — who wouldn't want to hire me?

Unfortunately, I had grossly overestimated the value of a political science B.A., and was dismayed to discover that there was little market for the writing of good research papers.

Even my co-major in English was a laughable post-script to an academically glowing resume, whose subtext was "No real world experience."

A few months later I found myself serving up oriental chicken salads and southwest grilled steaks at Applebee's in a daze. As table 19 demanded yet another refill of ranch dressing, I could only ask myself two questions.

First, why the hell do people need so much ranch dressing? Second, why did I go to college if it was just going to be a detour to a

lifetime of refilling iced tea? I was, in short, feeling very sorry for myself.

Dawn Smith, a graduate student who will be earning her M.A. in English literature and criticism this May, is determined to make the most of her post-university career by starting off strong. Instead of wallowing in the food service industry, Smith will be teaching English as a second language abroad.

"I've always wanted to travel and it's the easiest way to travel and you can make money doing it," Smith said.

She recently earned her Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) certificate through Oxford Seminars. The month-long course not only grants certification, but also connects participants with a job overseas.

For Smith, the decision to teach English abroad was made because she faced the same dilemmas that many soon-to-be college graduates face: What to do next.

"I don't know if I want my Ph.D., and I don't know if I'm ready to sit behind a desk all day," Smith said.

With opportunities to teach in a myriad of countries, from Hungary to Korea, Smith is excited about the prospects of becoming immersed in a foreign culture, as opposed to the fleeting experience of a vacation. Because teaching contracts generally last one year, with the possibility of extending them even longer, "you can get a true experience of living abroad," Smith said.

I remember my undergraduate adviser telling me that, "A university education doesn't teach you how to get a job. It teaches you how to think." Although I quickly forgot his words (now ominous in

retrospect), they became much more meaningful as I slaved away in the food service industry which filled the bulk of the interim years between receiving my undergraduate degree and enrolling in graduate studies at APSU.

Even though I felt alone in my dismal post undergraduate career, apparently I was not the only one floundering in a post college funk.

According to *Change*, a publication focusing on contemporary issues in higher education, 40 percent of bachelor's degree recipients not enrolled in graduate school say they are employed in a job where a college degree is "not required."

The same publication reported that economists in Florida are noting growth in the ranks of "the educated poor — people with college degrees who don't earn above the national poverty line." The "educated poor?" How depressing.

If you are going to graduate this May, don't have any solid prospects of the next big step in life, have an adventuresome streak and are able to leave the United States for at least a year, you might want to look into teaching English as a second language.

Another factor that makes teaching English abroad even more attractive is the fact that, for the most part, there are no specific degree requirements, although you probably should be able to speak English proficiently. Although it might not be the most lucrative venture, unlike the Peace Corps or other volunteer agencies, you do get paid.

And, as Smith said, "If nothing else, it's a year to travel." ♦

Tanya Ludlow is a graduate English student and is the Assistant Perspectives Editor. She can be reached at tludlow14@apsu.edu.



Tanya Ludlow

laughable post-script to an academically glowing resume, whose subtext was "No real world experience."

A few months later I found myself serving up oriental chicken salads and southwest grilled steaks at Applebee's in a daze. As table 19 demanded yet another refill of ranch dressing, I could only ask myself two questions.

First, why the hell do people need so much ranch dressing? Second, why did I go to college if it was just going to be a detour to a

Build castles, not fantasies

When I originally sat down to write this article, I had just intended to write about Strategy Role-Playing Games (SRPG), a genre of video games that is one of my favorites and is also, I think, very sadly neglected. I don't have a wide experience of games in the genre, but I played Dark Wizard on the Sega CD and completely loved it. Final Fantasy: Tactics is probably the best known example of the genre. In an SRPG, I get to have all of the fun of watching multiple characters "level" and acquire new abilities and magical items and I also get to deal with the complex machinations of maneuvering various troops.

You get to be the hero on the quest and also the inspiring leader like Nelson shouting, "England expects that every man will do his duty" to my artificially intelligent minions.

As rousing as I'm sure all that is to everyone, through some sort of association, I went from considering SRPGs to considering what C.S. Lewis calls "castle-building" in his book "Experiment in Criticism".

He divides castle-building into two broad categories: Morbid and Normal.

We morbidly castle-build when we find ourselves caught up in and imagining stories where we accomplish great things, but never do anything about it. We compensate for what we perceive as our own deficiencies by vicariously enjoying, through books, movies, TV shows, etc., the things that we really want, but we remain unmotivated to become those heroes.

One part of normal castle-building is the sort of dreaming that we all do about the future we are working towards. It's those moments when I let myself imagine what it will be like if I ever actually do become a respected scholar; get out of debt; have a nice, little house; and (God willing) actually learn how to write.

That's when I compose a few lines for my acceptance speech for my Oscar (Best Original Screenplay) or my Pulitzer Prize (Fiction). I'm willing to bet that we all castle-build, but it seems to me that the question is what kind of castle are we really building? Are we using our dreams as fuel or replacements for our goals?

I doubt anyone would disagree that most people don't really work towards their dreams and that most dreams don't come true. It seems to me that there are two main reasons that Normal castle-building often fails.

The first is pure laziness. The solution is to do what you should even if you don't feel like it. It's that simple. People are always looking for some kind of miracle way to stop being lazy, but that doesn't exist. To stop being lazy you have to stop being lazy.

The second reason is, perhaps, less common and a little harder to pin down. I think that some people finally come to see their own personal goals as arbitrary and without meaning. Goals in real life seem as pointless as goals in video games. This reminds me of a character from the RPG Baldur's Gate who would, at random moments, inform you that "Our quest is vain."

It's true that getting a degree won't generally make you a better person. Your degree might not save any lives. The problem is, though, that I think people look to college for some sort of fulfillment that it's not really designed to give. Complete fulfillment is, I think, impossible in this life anyway. That princess is always in another castle.

College (like a lot of things) has no inherent metaphysical "worth," but it's definitely worth doing if you really want to do it, and I honestly think that that is what matters in the long run. Generally speaking, it is probably better for you to pursue the "worthless" dream you really want for its own sake than to pursue the dream you don't really want for some other sake.

Our quests may appear vain to others and often even to ourselves, but how great would it be, when we fold up our tents and walk into the evenings of our lives, to say we may have been morons, but we held the fort of our normal castles or at least died trying? ♦

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



Kevin Scahill

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Thanks APSU and *The All State* staff

I remember as a child having dreams of grandeur. I would imagine myself on a brightly lit stage or in the center of a sports arena. I would stand on the podium and thank all the people who helped me get to the top. Standing in the spotlight, beaming with pride I would pat myself on the back for what I had accomplished. But after I saw the first issue of *The All State*, in which they printed an article I had written, I wanted to run up and down the block screaming "Look at what we did!"

I'm sure some of you have noticed that I am no longer writing my political column in *The All State*. Over two years ago I began experiencing acute insomnia. By acute I mean only getting six to 10 hours of sleep per week, every week. One doctor put me on sleep aids, which helped at first, but then I began to get used to them and they weren't as effective as they were in the beginning.

Last August I was diagnosed with hypothyroidism. The thyroid produces the hormones that control many aspects of the human body. The lack of these hormones can produce staggering effects on a person. Insomnia is one of the effects of the lack of these hormones. In the fall semester last year I had to go back to my doctor, the one who had originally found my hypothyroidism, when I realized I hadn't slept in over a month, and before that was getting incrementally less sleep each night. In fact, it wasn't until I sent out an innocuous incoherent e-mail to another student and got back an even more incoherent reply that I realized I was having serious communication problems from the lack of sleep. Trust me, even a skeptic like myself can start believing in mythological creatures after sleep deprivation sets in. You would think that having a politically motivated, chess-playing beaver talk trash to you would be a big red flag, but those kinds of things just seem to be normal once you're in a state of acute sleep deprivation. I would describe it as being a ghost grasping at a row of falling dominoes that simply tumble to the floor, despite your best efforts. The dominoes are all those highly evolved socialized skills it takes a lifetime to learn. And once they've fallen, like a computer missing a library file, everything works but not always the way you want it to.

To make a long story short, I chose to withdraw from APSU to find time to recover. My doctor told me that sleep deprivation was a cumulative effect. She explained it could take a long time for me to feel healthy again. At a cost of \$10,000 per semester for me to attend day classes part time, I felt it was in my best interest to withdraw. Although this "thank you note" is long overdue, I wanted to wait until I was at least somewhat clear headed again. There are many professors I needed to thank, even the ones I pissed off. I genuinely feel that I have learned from some of the best and I will strive to prove that fact in the future. I can see how much my writing has improved in the short time I studied here at APSU and that impresses me, which is not easy to do. I have

been told I expect far too much out of people and that includes myself. However, it is to my editor, Kasey Henricks, that I feel I owe the greatest thanks to.

As my editor, Kasey always forced me to achieve a higher standard of quality in my writing. I remember one article in which I made inflammatory statements about the war in Iraq and the weapons being used against our troops. Although at one time I had the proof to back up my statements, his insistence on me being able to verify the source forced me to withdraw that statement from my article when I could no longer reproduce the source of the information. Kasey's insistence on my professionalism literally made my words unimpeachable. I bring this up now because just recently, another huge selling book in which the author (title of book and name of author intentionally withheld) claimed to have survived a traumatic life of gangs and drugs has been proven to be a fraud. It still amazes me how easy it is to fool people. I wonder if that proves we see exactly what we want to see or that even the most educated among us can be deceived by those who know all too well how to use our narrow minded bigotries and prejudices against us. But when we wear those bigotries on our sleeves like badges of honor, whose fault is it?

The best compliment I have ever received on my writing skills was given to me in the fall semester of 2007. One woman stated, "I don't always agree with what you say, but it always makes me think." The greatest hope any political columnist can have is to make people think for themselves. That is what I have strived for. There are other great compliments that were not intended to be compliments. The endless labels I was given, "the sexist, racist, anti-Semitic," and too many others to mention were actually compliments in their own right.

It goes back to Kasey Henricks forcing me to verify my sources so that my words would be above reproach. If someone can't attack the truth in the words they don't want others to hear, they simply attack the messenger. Maybe that was invented about the same time as terrorism, when we still lived in caves. The last great compliment will go unmentioned for it would give credence to those little minds to whom deserve no recognition.

Just recently I decided to move into the forest that I love and write powerful and compelling novels destined to be best sellers. But the last few weeks have made me realize just how important that voice is, the one I found to speak up for those who can't speak for themselves. I have decided to write a non-fiction book this time and it is due to APSU and the staff at *The All State*.

Thanks again to Kasey Henricks, APSU and the staff at *The All State*. Each in their own way has proven what true professionals they are.

Jack W. Butler
The All State Alumnus

TUITION FEES INCREASED AGAIN?

NO ONE PICKS UP TRASH ON CAMPUS

Need to

clear the air?

THERE'S NOTHING TO DO IN CLARKSVILLE

D2L IS STUPID

REGISTRATION IS SO CONFUSING

WHY CAN'T I SMOKE WHERE I WANT TO?

Send a

PEOPLE ARE TOO LOUD IN THE LIBRARY

Letter to
the Editor.

BOOKS ARE SO EXPENSIVE

THE FOOD HERE IS OVERPRICED

THERE ARE NO PARKING SPOTS ON CAMPUS

I JUST FOUND OUT I CAN'T GRADUATE UNTIL NEXT YEAR

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

'Across the Universe' brings out peace, love



By SAMANTHA PARIS
Staff Writer

A magical and musical 1960s tour into the lives of six young people set to The Beatles' catalog of songs leads us into the story of: "Across the Universe."

From the opening scene, it looks more like the James Blunt music video "Beautiful." We are introduced to the film with Jude, played by Jim Sturgess, sitting on a white beach.

Jude then turns to the camera and starts singing the first of 33 Beatles' songs featured in the film. As he sings "Girl," the audience begins to see the musical tour of his life.

Jude is a dockworker from Liverpool who comes to America to find his estranged father. He consequently finds love with Lucy, played by Evan Rachel Wood, a girl from the upper-class East Coast that has lived a sheltered life.

With the issues of the time which include the Vietnam War and anti-war protests, their love will be tested, and the audience we will find out if "love is all you need."

All the original Beatles' songs were re-recorded and sung by the actors. The movie fits the songs like a glove. It is as if the songs were made for the movie and not vice versa.

The songs come to life in this film. It's like a music video for favorite Beatles' songs.

Throughout the film there are choreographed dance sequences with great camera angles. The use of puppets, masks and special effects are truly a feast for the eyes.

With any '60s era-film, the existence of politics, sex, drugs and rock n' roll are present. An example is an emotional scene of a Detroit riot and a young boy singing "Let it Be." The scene shows all people were affected during that time of history.

There are a lot of great characters throughout the film. Lucy's

brother Max does a great job acting. His character transitions from a Princeton student to a drafted soldier.

There are two musical characters that resemble famous rockers.

Dana Fuchs plays Sadie, an aspiring rock singer.

Fuchs played Janis Joplin in the Off Broadway show "Love, Janis." Her character Sadie has that Joplin sound and style.

The other rocker is Jo Jo, played by Martin Luther McCoy. He is a guitarist that arrives in New York from Detroit. His character seems to be an "Across the Universe" version of Jimi Hendrix.

During the song "Come Together," the theatrical dancing and scenery are brilliant. Another memorable scene is when an "Uncle Sam" recruitment poster comes to life and "Uncle Sam" starts to sing "I Want You (She's So Heavy)." We then see the recruitment process by a swarm of robotic soldiers in formation.

U2's Bono and Salma Hayek make star cameos. Bono sings a rendition of "I Am the Walrus" on a trippy bus ride with the gang.

Sturgess does a great acting job playing Jude and makes everyone love him. Sturgess has charm and good looks, and his singing voice is actually good.

This film is directed by Julie Taymor. Taymor was the director of Broadway's "The Lion King." She brought whimsy and art to visualize the chaos of this decade.

This romantic musical is for people who like all things Beatles. Even the characters have names after Beatles songs. If you don't like a film that has characters bursting into song for no reason, this film is not for you.

This film is filled with rainbow-colored scenes and a catalog of music to accompany it. The message in this film is the hope for peace and love. The film is rated PG-13 and is approximately 133 minutes long. ♦

DUSTIN KRAMER/ART DIRECTOR



DUSTIN KRAMER/ART DIRECTOR

Sigma Chi egg hunt



MARSEL GRAY/ASSISTANT ONLINE EDITOR

Children and parents searched the field on Sat., March 22 in front of the Dunn Center for Easter eggs left by Sigma Chi.

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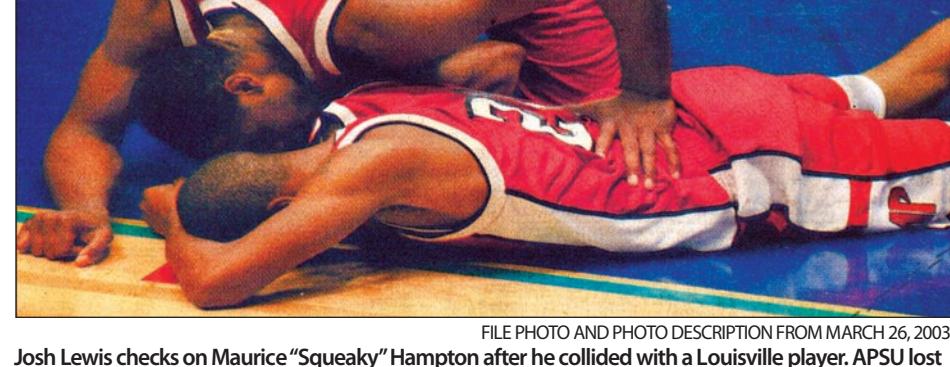
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Remember when . . .

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



FILE PHOTO AND PHOTO DESCRIPTION FROM MARCH 26, 2003
Josh Lewis checks on Maurice "Squeaky" Hampton after he collided with a Louisville player. APSU lost 96-64.

Globe Trotting Govs



Tonight! Wednesday, March 26

6:30 p.m.

MUC 305

Bollywood Film Night featuring the Bride and Prejudice

Students come join us
for Mexican food and fun!



Academic Affairs
P.O. Box 4485
Clarksville, TN 37044
P: (931) 221-6851
E: tarpyt@apsu.edu
<http://www.apsu.edu/iec>

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Two years of college with a 3.5 GPA. Excellent public speaking and communication skills. Good time management and organizational skills. In-depth knowledge of subject material. Basic computer skills.

How to Apply

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For more information, contact:

Lindsey Walk
931-221-6552, UC 114

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
April 11, 2008

APSU reads 'Fast Food Nation'

By MARSEL GRAY
Assistant Online Editor

For six years now, the Office of Student Life and Leadership has sponsored and led the "If All of APSU Read the Same Book..." program. This year's book selection is "Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal" by investigative journalist Eric Schlosser.

The program started in late February and will conclude on March 26. In the novel, Schlosser examines the history and growth of fast food restaurants in American culture. He claims that since the industry exercises a strong economic influence, it seeks to raise profits at the expense of the public's health and the condition of its employees.

Schlosser also includes the biographies of many of the fast food industry's early pioneers such as Ray Kroc, the developer of McDonald's.

The finale event for the program will be a showing of the movie "Super Size Me" by film director Morgan Spurlock. The film follows a 30-day period in which Spurlock eats nothing but McDonald's. The documentary details this lifestyle's dramatic effects on his physical and psychological health while exploring the fast food industry's

corporate influence. By the end of the film, audiences can see just how much "damage" has been done to Spurlock's health.

The program has been coordinated by Heidi Leming, director of Student Life and Leadership, who said the main objective of the program was "to bring the campus together to read a book for pleasure instead of just an academic interest." Leming hopes to expand the program to expand to several APSU 1000 classes next fall, but is already averaging about a hundred participants from some classes.

The genre of the books covers a wide range, but each book selected tends to be around 300 pages and is selected by the previous year's participants. "We [try] to avoid books that might be used in a classical literature course," said Leming. "Fast Food Nation" was selected in part because of its popularity and to support National Nutrition Month, which falls in March.

While "Fast Food Nation" may demonstrate the darker side of our nation's fast food industry, the program hopes to brighten the minds of APSU students and help them engage with "faculty and staff in an informal setting," said Leming. ♦

Country stars uplift children's hearts

By RACHAEL HERRON
Staff Writer

Music City honored the gift of music Wed., March 19.

The Lili Claire Foundation teamed up with Meharry Medical College to form a new chapter to benefit children who were born with neurogenetic birth conditions including: Williams syndrome, Down syndrome, autism and fetal alcohol syndrome.

The foundation funds behavioral clinics, counseling services and information and support for the family and children who live with these special needs.

Sam Moore and his friends Lorrie Morgan, Travis Tritt, Wynona Judd, Jo Dee Messina and Callaway all joined together to honor the Lili Claire Foundation. The night was full of soulful duets with Sam and each guest. The musical choices included hits by Aretha Franklin, Louis Armstrong, Diana Ross and the Supremes, Conway Twitty and Amii Stewart. These hits included: "Knock on Wood," "Think," "Tennessee Waltz," "I Thank You" and "I Want To Know What Love Is."

Wynona Judd, like many others, was honored for her involvement with the Lili Claire Foundation. Judd and Moore joined together to sing a phenomenal version of Tina Turner's "I Can't Stand the Rain." Since she was one of the many people being honored for their involvement with the Lili

Claire Foundation, Judd sang one of her own songs, "Love Can Build a Bridge," a song she recorded with her mother.

The children and young adults Lili Claire funds have one thing in common: Their love for music. Host Maureen McCormick educated the audience about one of the neurogenetic disorders Lili Claire recognizes. Williams syndrome is a disorder that has a unique effect. Children and young adults who are born with this disorder have a natural aptitude for music. They have a phenomenal ability to sing and play instruments with no formal training, and these guys don't miss a note.

Sam Moore brought Jay White and Triana Moon to the stage. Both have Williams syndrome. White sang the song "What a Wonderful World." If one did not know the difference, one would think it was performed by Louis Armstrong himself.

Moon a rivaled Judd on the stage and won. Judd sang backup for Moon as she sang "You Are So Beautiful" and "Amazing Grace."

Moon was naturally able to go to the piano and play "Amazing Grace" on the spot, without any warning. The Lili Claire Foundation sends children with Williams syndrome on full scholarship to music camp. There they share experiences and music with others who have the disease.

The night, overall, was a success in bringing soul and the Lili Claire Foundation together to feed White and Moon's passion for music. ♦

Step Demonstration



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/FEATURES EDITOR

The NAACP demonstrated the Chicago and New York style dances for students Thur., March 20.

get off
your
and
register.



**theallstate.com, offering
breaking news, online
exclusives, message boards,
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AP Hispanic Cultural Center
presents

Salsa in the Plaza

Come dance the night away under the stars.

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Free to students with valid APSU ID

Comics

THE ALL STATE
PAGE 7; WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2008

Super Crossword SPECTACLE

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|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Related | 55 Present for |
| 5 Speedometer abbr. | 91 Part 3 of |
| 8 Jaffe "Ben Casey" | 95 Dwell |
| 11 Implored | 97 Underneath |
| 15 Married | 99 City near |
| Mile. | Montpelier |
| 18 TV's "What's My —?" | 61 Beardless dwarf |
| 19 Snobbery | 62 Heiss on the ice |
| 21 Exist | 63 Heraldic garment |
| 22 Mare's morsel | 64 Scavullo apparatus |
| 23 Doris Day refrain | 67 Psychic Geller |
| 24 Start of a remark | 68 Cruel treatment |
| 27 Exhausted | 69 Lacking principles |
| 29 Move like mad | 70 Savalas role |
| 30 Discernment | 72 Fad |
| 31 Hosp. area | 74 Mettle |
| 32 Acclaim | 75 "The Chosen" author |
| 35 Like wormwood | 76 With |
| 36 Part 2 of remark | 61 Down, "Jurassic Park" star |
| 42 Stance | 77 Swab |
| 43 Khartoum's river | 80 High rails |
| 44 Herber of football | 81 Obligation |
| 45 Carnivorous plant | 82 California city |
| 48 Euclid's home | 84 It's hardly aesthetic |
| 52 Liverwurst or fruitcake | 87 Opportunity to overeat |
| 53 Emulate Aladdin | 89 One of the Osmonds |
| | 90 Summer stinger |
| | 91 Curtis of "Spartacus" |
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Longhorns stampede Govs 74-54

By MARLON SCOTT
Sports Editor

The APSU Govs basketball season has come to an end.

In the paint, Gov junior forward Drake Reed, spun toward the basket with a short right-hand hook shot and missed. After cutting along the baseline, Gov senior guard Todd Babington received the swing pass from teammate Derek Wright and launched one of his trademark 3-pointers. The shot bounced off the front of the rim.

In the Alltel Arena in Little Rock Ark., on Fri., March 21, the shots the Govs have been making repeatedly all season missed against the No. 2 seeded Texas Longhorns. Shooting only 29 percent (17-59) from the field, the Govs fell behind the Longhorns early and spent the rest of the game trying to catch up. But Longhorn junior guard A.J. Abrams, made sure that did not happen. Leading all scorers with 26 points, Abrams led the Longhorns to a 74-54 victory.

"Texas was what we expected," said Govs coach Dave Loos. "We were a little undersized and that was one big difference. They out-rebounded us by nine I think."