

Drought scorches Tennessee



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

The same stretch of grass (pictured on right) that was so green a short time ago has been destroyed by the drought this summer. Tennessee is now under a burn ban until the state government decides that sufficient rain has fallen to revive the near-dead plant life.



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Five months ago, APSU student J Grammer took time to enjoy the lush green grass that spread throughout the campus grounds. The drought plaguing the state has since dried out most of the campus greenery.

While over the top temperatures persist, the rain continues to elude Montgomery County

By **JARED COMBS**
Guest Writer

Water is an essential part of every day life. We drink it, we bathe in it, we water our flowers and wash our cars with it. This summer Mother Nature has proven, however, that we cannot control the circulation of it.

According to the National Weather Service's U.S. Drought Monitor, Montgomery County, is classified as being in extreme drought.

Extreme drought is a classification often accompanied by severe agricultural losses, extreme fire danger, water shortages and water restrictions.

Less than 25 inches of rain have fallen since Dec. 1. That's 12 inches less than is average for the eight month time span.

"Basically, it sucks," said Justin Felts, an Austin Peay State University sophomore, "I wasn't able to cut grass almost all summer."

Felts is not alone in his discontent with the weather. The drought has impacted everyone from landscaper to fire fighter.

"Certainly crops have been effected," said Professor Don Sudbrink of APSU's School of Agriculture and Geosciences. "Some of the local farmers are getting half yield, or even less."

Sudbrink described a farm field day he attended recently north of Fort Campbell. The soy bean crops he saw there were so adversely effected by the current drought that it is unlikely they will produce beans this year. "The farmers may just bail up the soy beans as hay," Sudbrink said.

Commercial crops are not the only plant life being devastated by the high temperatures and lack of rain. Clarksville may not be painted with the orange and golds that are typical to fall this year. "After the extreme freeze in April and the current drought, some trees are already dropping their leaves," Sudbrink said.

"We won't have the same color display as last year," said Lindsay Jackson, APSU's landscaping manager. "We've lost about fourteen trees on campus," Jackson said.

According to Jackson, the Red Sunset Maples that are predominant on campus are drought resistant and her department has gone to great lengths to keep the campus landscaping green.

"We've added about 42 soaker hoses on campus," Jackson said. "That's as many as our budget would allow for."

Other measures being taken to preserve the landscaping include time-released watering

bags around some of the larger trees and periodic watering of almost everything else.

"Trees are being forced to tap into the reserve stores of water in their roots," said Jeremy Myer, Montgomery County forester. "If this happens again next year, they'll have no reserves left and many of them may die."

"Even the birds will be affected," Myer said. "There won't be as many nuts and berries for the competing wildlife this winter."

Myer explained that while some trees may "self-amputate" limbs to conserve water, most should live. "It's the younger trees that are more susceptible," Myer said.

"We water the trees we planted this year," Myer said. "But the water we put on the trees isn't enough, we could really use some rain."

"A burn ban is currently in effect for the city," said Bob Hansford, Clarksville's Fire Chief. The dying landscape is not only an aesthetic problem, it also creates a generally flammable environment.

"We've been very fortunate," Hansford said. "There is always the chance of fire in wooded areas when it's so dry."

The fire department has not seen a dramatic increase in calls over the past few months, but Chief Hansford does admit the situation has potential to get worse.

"We have had some mulch fires in the shrubs around houses," Hansford said. "It only takes a cigarette butt."

Another wide-spread effect of the drought comes in the form of a peculiar smell in Clarksville's tap water. "All the drinking water that the city consumes comes out of the Cumberland River," said Tommy Williams, assistant superintendent of Clarksville's Waste Water Treatment Plant.

"The Cumberland's had less current in the drought," Williams said.

Williams explained that the drought, in combination with the extreme heat, has deprived the river of both oxygen and current. "It's like a pond, if the waters not moving then you get a thin film of algae on top," Williams said. "The quality of the water is still good."

Clarksville's Water Plant superintendent Kenny Vaughn, described the problem in the same way.

"The chemical we use to kill the smell just isn't enough when the water [in the river] is this bad," Vaughn said. "Quite honestly the problem won't get better until we get some rain and cooler weather."

The problem with the water is only odor, and both Williams and Vaughn insist that it is still perfectly safe to drink.

"It's just more expensive to make drinking water in a drought," Williams said.

For more information about the continuing drought in Clarksville, visit:
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ohx/drought.php> ♦

Wolf Creek Dam: repairs continue through 2014

By **ELIZABETH BRUCE**
Assistant Online Editor

Wolf Creek Dam, a well-known sight for Tennessee and Kentucky residents, began to look like it would turn into a big worry as well last year, when small crevices were observed in the concrete wall.

In the last year, however, new engineering projects have been put into place to add stability to the structure.

According to the Army Corps of Engineers the dam, which is located on Lake Cumberland, is currently holding back 101 miles of the Cumberland River. Should anything cause the dam to rupture, everything from Russell County, Ky. to Nashville would be completely flooded in a matter of days (<http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/WolfCreek/>).

In 2007, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began the Wolf Creek Dam Seepage Rehabilitation Project.

According to Bill Peoples, a representative for the project, the Corps are working on two critical areas: the large wrap-around concrete piece of the dam and the end of the original dam cut-off wall.

Wet spots from the dam's water seepage have been spotted at these two points, and a grouting program is taking place in order to prevent the seepage paths from worsening.

The grouting process will apply a great deal of

pressure to force the concrete into the dam's foundation.

The grouting of these two critical areas will be completed by the end of September, with the first stage of the program ending some time in February.

The second part of the project will be the building of a new wall into the dam's foundation that will stand behind the current wall.

It will go 275 feet down into the foundation of the dam, which has most of its current wall above the foundation, standing at an elevation of 550 feet.

This second wall will only have an elevation of 475 feet. According to Peoples, "Going longer and deeper should cut off [the] seepage paths."

The Corps is currently speaking with contractors to build the wall, which is expected to be completed by 2014.

"We will work with them to develop the best technologies to improve the wall," Peoples said.

So although the approximate date is 2014, the exact time period will be determined by the speed of the contractor.

"So we could actually shorten the time period," said Peoples. The Corps announced at the end of July, that during the construction, the lake's currently lowered level of 680 feet will be maintained.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wolf Creek Dam, in southern Kentucky, was authorized for construction in 1938. Today, it is one of the highest risk dams in the U.S. Similar problems occurred with the dam in 1968.

Until the new wall is completed, however, safety is still their primary concern.

A continuous monitoring system is in place to quickly and efficiently alert officials in case of collapse. To date, they have held 27 public meetings to inform downstream residents of the

risks associated with dam rupture and to organize an emergency.

The Corps of Engineers is working with both state and local agencies in Tennessee and Kentucky to ensure that evacuations and emergency procedure plans are in place. ♦



Perspectives

We remember ...

pg. 5

Features

Michael Myers is back in new "old" Halloween movie.



Sports

New electronic scoreboard debuts. Football season starts this week.



Online

Be sure to drop by and see our site's new design



FYI

- ♦ Last day to drop classes online is Sept. 9
- ♦ Last day to register for fall graduation is Sept. 7

Faculty Senate ushers in new initiatives

By MARC WALLS
Guest Writer

The first week of the Fall semester kicked off a number of gatherings for faculty, including the school year's first Faculty Senate meeting of the semester.

It also marked the first opportunity for President Timothy Hall and head football Coach, Rick Christophel, to attend the monthly meetings.

President Hall speaks

President Hall's introduction to the Faculty Senate led off the meeting.

During his address, the president reiterated the number one issue the university faces; to improve student retention and graduation.

"We have to think strategically all year long to make progress," he said.

Hall said that Austin Peay State University enrollment reports vary. Some state that enrollment is down by 300 students while others state that enrollment has remained steady.

The first cause is the impending deployment of thousands of Fort Campbell soldiers.

"Enrollment is down for a combination of reasons. The first is deployment and the soldiers' dependents are less willing to enroll," Hall said.

A second factor, which Hall believes has led to a drop in enrollment in schools across the state, (within TBR institutions) is the new enrollment system, BANNER.

"[It] seems to be frustrating continuing students from enrolling," Hall said.

Hall stated that first year enrollment was up though enrollment for returning students was down.

Online evaluations to continue

Stanley Groppe, dean of extended and distance education, spoke regarding the university's commitment to course evaluations as well as a new pilot program to convert evaluations from all courses into online evaluations.

Groppe said that one reason APSU is moving toward online evaluations is, the current system has become obsolete and the computer that reads the evaluations is scheduled to be turned off next semester.

Using the new Scantron system, departments will receive instant feedback. The data will be organized into readable charts.

This will allow faculty to compare results from varying sections of the same course. Though this program is entering its second semester of study, six different departments will be part of the pilot program.

It is far from being considered a success so far.

"Fifty-two percent of students in traditional face-to-face classes completed online evaluations," Groppe said.

Compared to the 57 percent of online students who complete online evaluations, and the 75 percent of students who turn in the traditional in-class

evaluations, many members of the senate expressed concern over the legitimacy of the results with such a mediocre response.

"Validity is gone once you drop to 52 percent response," said Ronald Gupton, mathematics professor.

Student Grade Appeal Policy troubles

Mickey Wadia, language and literature professor then took the floor to dissect the proposed Student Grade Appeal Policy and its confusing nature.

Many senate members agreed that the new initiative, if enforced, will put faculty in a position to have to defend themselves and their methodology.

The policy gives students an opportunity to challenge the final grade of a course or the method used to determine the grade.

"The policy is geared toward giving students rights," Wadia said.

However, he also argued that it is "misnamed" and "not clear on the windows of dates for students who are deployed or not able to respond."

The new proposed appeal policy is more liberal in its structure than current regulations.

"Students used to be able to file a grievance against the grade, but not the process as long as the syllabus was in line with policy," Gupton said.

The senate voted unanimously to put the issue to a committee for further evaluation.

The next faculty senate meeting will be Sept. 27 at 3 p.m. ♦

Campus pool plans splashing ahead for spring completion

By TINEA PAYNE
Staff Writer

Ground has officially been broken as plans for a new university pool are underway at Austin Peay State University this fall.

The new outdoor recreational swimming pool will replace Pettus Pool, no longer under contract between APSU and Clarksville Parks and Recreation as of early August.

The construction site of the estimated \$1.5 million project is located between the two tennis courts next to the Foy Fitness and Recreation Center, where construction began Aug. 13, according to University Recreation Director, David Davenport.

Since 2005, APSU has rented out Pettus Pool for summer programming, summer camps and university recreation classes.

Construction is set to be completed by spring break, although the opening date has yet to be determined, according to Davenport.

Pool usage will be seasonal and operating hours are pending.

"The new pool will be free of charge to APSU students, faculty and staff," Davenport said.

Non-student guests and accompanying minors are also welcome, although admission prices are still pending. The new pool plans are a sigh of relief for some students.

Jerome Holcombe, senior sociology major and student worker at university recreation, said the new pool location would be more accessible to students.

"[A closer pool] beats students having to walk to Drane Street to use the pool. For students without cars, it's too far of a walk," Holcombe said.

Questions of renovation plans to the Memorial Health indoor pool have also been raised.

The university's indoor pool has not been used since 2003 due to a leak, that cost gallons of water to be lost.

"Lots of mud had built up in Sevier parking lot," Holcombe said.

Joseph Long, 21, graphic design major, prefers that the university focus on renovating the indoor pool for year-long usage.

"It'd be smarter to have an indoor pool," Long said.

"Fall and spring students can't use an outdoor pool because of seasonal hours."

According to Jenn Puhl, assistant director of



MATEEN SIDIQ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The new pool is being built near the tennis courts beside the Foy Fitness and Recreation center.

university recreation, many things are still tentative until later this fall. "Many things are too early to tell," Puhl said. ♦

CENSORED

Defense Department bans Myspace, Youtube for soldiers



DUSTIN KRAMER/ART DIRECTOR

As of May 2007, the Department of Defense banned access of Web sites such as YouTube, MySpace, Facebook, and Photobucket. This ban is not exclusive to just soldiers overseas, but any who use the Defense Department network.

Social Web sites off limits to soldiers using military bandwidth

By TANYA LUDLOW
Assistant News Editor

Deployed soldiers and their families may have to find alternative ways of communicating with each other in light of the Defense Department's ban on accessing MySpace and YouTube on their networks.

In a memo released by General B.B. Bell on May 11, 2007, soldiers will no longer have access to the following 13 sites: YouTube, MySpace, iFilm, Live365, StupidVideos, Metacafe, BlackPlanet, Hi5, 1.fm, FileCabi, Photobucket, MTV and Pandora.

According to the memo, the reasoning behind the ban is that the recreational traffic impacts official DoD network and bandwidth availability and poses a "significant operations security challenge."

This ban follows new regulations on military blogs ("milblogs") and although military officials cite these new measures as crucial to freeing up bandwidth for official use and protecting sensitive information.

Critics are decrying the tighter restrictions as a form of censorship.

The Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), a nonprofit organization that promotes the public interest involving digital rights, recently uncovered evidence that indicates milblogs release a fraction of sensitive information that may harm military operations than official military Web sites do.

According to documents released to the EFF through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit, the Army found no more than 28 violations on milblogs between January 2006 and January 2007.

In contrast there were at least 1,813 violations on 878 official military Web sites during the same period.

In an interview with EFF Staff Attorney Marcia Hofmann, said "Nobody denies that soldiers should be careful about what they say and the military has the right to keep tabs."

However, the documents make it clear that "more information is inadvertently leaked from official military Web sites than from bloggers," Hofmann said.

Hofmann emphasized the need to strike a balance

between ensuring the security of military operations and allowing soldiers to express themselves and their lives on digital forums.

"The EFF doesn't dictate how much freedom soldiers should be allowed, we're just suggesting perhaps that there is no need to circumscribe speech even more and it is not justified by the information we have found," Hoffmann said.

Hofmann also stressed the importance of milblogs and social networking sites and pointed out that President Bush recently gave a speech on why milblogs are important.

"It is important for soldiers to post what their experiences are really like; to be able to bring the experiences to the average person is a very legitimate and important thing for soldiers to do," Hoffmann said.

Far from impeding military operations in Iraq and worldwide, Hofmann points out that milblogs and social networking sites might actually have an important function because "they help personalize the military experience," Hofmann said.

For the time being, the regulations regarding milblogs and bans on YouTube and other social networking sites still stand. ♦

Good Morning APSU

Your Community

Poet visits

Award winning Poet Mark Jarman will perform in the Kimbrough building's Gentry Auditorium Sept. 12 at 8 p.m. There will be a reception and book signing after the event.

Student organization fair

The Student Organization Fair will be at the Morgan University Center Plaza from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sept. 6.

Graduation

The last day to apply for graduation in December will be Sept. 7.

Coffee house

The Church of Christ Student Center will be holding a free coffee house and concert at the CCSC Sept. 7. It will start at 7 p.m.

Gov's volleyball

APSU's volleyball team will be playing at the Tiger Invitational from Sept. 7 to Sept. 8.

Lady Gov's soccer

The Lady Gov's will b playing at Harding Sunday, Sept. 9. It will start at 1 p.m.

Gov's Football

Football will be at Indiana State University Sept. 8. The game will start at 5 p.m.

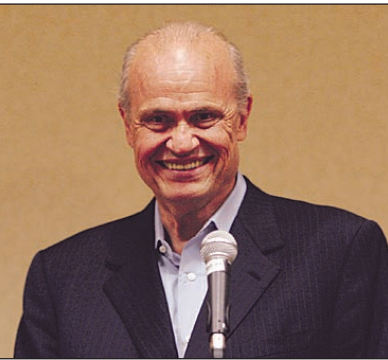
Concert

Brass ensemble will be performing at the MMC on Sept. 13. The concert will start at 7:30 p.m.

Mat Kearney

Mat Kearney, musician, will be coming to APSU Sept. 20 for Homecoming week. The concert will be located at the Memorial Heath and will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are currently available at the infodesk. The concert is free.

Former Senator Thompson enters presidential race



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fred Thompson, former Tennessee senator, is an actor and has starred in both movies and television.

Thompson next Republican candidate

Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa—Republican Fred Thompson will officially launched his presidential bid Sept. 6 in a Webcast on his campaign site, followed by a five-day tour of early primary states.

"I believe that there are millions of Americans who know that our security and prosperity are at risk if we don't address the challenges of our time; the global threat of terrorism; taxes and spending that will bankrupt future generations, and a government that can't seem to get the most basic responsibilities right for its citizens," the former Tennessee senator and "Law & Order" actor said in a statement Thursday that laid out themes of his campaign.

Thompson, 65, is vying to be seen as the most consistent mainstream conservative in the race.

Aides disclosed details about how he will formally enter the race in a conference call with supporters.

Evening house parties will be held nationwide on Sept. 6. A tour of Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina will quickly follow the Internet announcement on <http://www.imwithfred.com>, with later stops in Florida, and a homecoming event in Lawrenceburg, Tenn., on Sept. 15.

Next Wednesday, Thompson will appear on NBC's "Tonight Show with Jay Leno" but he won't participate with his Republican rivals in a debate that same night in New Hampshire. ♦

WORLD BRIEFS

U.N. revisits Darfur

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced Tuesday that he will visit Sudan, Chad and Libya next week to promote a political solution to the conflict in Darfur and test the Sudanese government's commitment to speedy deployment of a 26,000-strong force in the region.

Ban told a news conference that on his first visit to the region since taking the reins of the United Nations in January he would push the peace process, seek to get a hybrid African Union-U.N. force on the ground quickly and press for delivery of humanitarian aid.

The secretary-general said he chose this time to make the week-long trip because of the "historic opportunity" provided by the U.N.

Security Council's adoption of a resolution on July 31 authorizing the hybrid force to replace the beleaguered 7,000-strong AU force in Darfur by year's end. The resolution was adopted after months of delay in getting agreement from the Sudanese government.

"I want to go and see the very difficult conditions under which our forces will operate," Ban said. "I want to know, first hand, the plight of those they seek to help."

"But more, I want to create the foundations of a lasting peace and security. My goal is to lock in the progress we have made so far, to build on it so that this terrible trauma may one day cease," he said.

More than 200,000 people have died and more than 2.5 million have been displaced in Darfur since ethnic African rebels took up arms against the Arab-dominated central government in 2003, accusing it of discrimination. Sudan is accused of retaliating by unleashing Arab militias responsible for much of the violence-an accusation the government denies. Ban called the recent escalation in violence in Darfur that has killed hundreds of people in the last few weeks "simply unacceptable."

"I appeal to the government of Sudan and to all parties to refrain from military action and choose, at this critical juncture ... the path of peace and political dialogue," he said. Ban said deploying the hybrid force speedily will be "one of the largest and most complex field operations the United Nations has ever undertaken" because of the harsh environment and lack of water and communications.

"It cannot succeed without the cooperation of the government of Sudan," he said.

"This is the time for Sudanese government to fully implement the Security Council resolution," Ban said.

"Of course, their commitment will be tested in every aspect by the international community, by the United Nations."

The secretary-general said this was "exactly"

what he planned to discuss with Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir and other leaders. He said he also planned to raise the government's recent expulsions of the country director of the aid organization CARE International and the top Canadian diplomat and European Union envoy.

Sudan's U.N. Ambassador Abdelmahmood Abdalhaleem Mohamed said the government will use Ban's visit "to renew our commitment to the United Nations, our commitment to the resolution on the hybrid-so he will find a committed Sudan to implementing the letter and the spirit of that resolution."

He said Sudan would also like Ban's visit to put renewed emphasis on the peace process, economic development and rehabilitation and a U.N.'s promise of financing for the hybrid force, which has not yet been approved by the General Assembly.

In neighboring Chad, which has been affected by the spillover of the Darfur conflict, Ban said he and President Idriss Deby will discuss a Security Council statement adopted Monday giving the EU and the U.N. a green light to prepare for a new deployment to help protect civilians in both Chad and the Central African Republic.

The EU is considering deploying up to 3,000 troops and the U.N. up to 300 international police to help protect some 400,000 refugees and internally displaced people in Chad, and more than 200,000 displaced people in the northern Central African Republic.

Israeli's and Palestinians talk

JERUSALEM (AP) — The Israeli and Palestinian leaders on Tuesday tackled the core issues that have tormented Mideast peacemakers for decades-Palestinian refugees, final borders and the fate of Jerusalem.

It was the first time Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas addressed the issues in depth and represented an important building block for a U.S.-sponsored international peace conference planned for November.

Olmert met several times with Abbas in the past few months, but had been reluctant to take on the most contentious issues, preferring to focus on general outlines. That approach riled Palestinians, who want to take on the core questions of Palestinian statehood.

Heading into the meeting at Olmert's Jerusalem residence, Abbas warned that the fall peace conference would be a "waste of time" if the three big issues were glossed over. After the talks, both sides confirmed that Israel had swept aside its reluctance to address them.

"These core issues have to be discussed on the way to finding a diplomatic solution of two states for two peoples," an official in Olmert's office quoted the Israeli leader as

saying. The official, who agreed to speak only if not identified because the meeting was supposed to be private, said the two sides hoped by late October to come up with a framework for ending their conflict and creating a Palestinian state.

Chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said the leaders did not go into the nitty-gritty of the contentious questions or prepare written documents. But he declared that the time has come for action, not talk.

"We are at a stage to reach decisions," Erekat said. As he entered Olmert's residence, Abbas signed the guest book in Arabic with a wish for peace between the two peoples, the official in Olmert's office said.

The biggest obstacles to a peace accord have been what the final borders of a Palestinian state would be; whether Palestinian refugees from the 1948 war that accompanied Israel's creation would be allowed to return to their original homes in Israel along with their descendants; and whether the holy city of Jerusalem could be shared.

Failure to agree on those issues has scuttled decades of peace efforts, and a successful outcome is far from assured for the international peace conference that President Bush wants to hold.

The violent seizure of the Gaza Strip by the Islamic militants of Hamas in June has created dueling Palestinian governments, with Hamas ruling Gaza and Abbas loyalists in charge in the West Bank. Hamas opposes Israel's existence, while Abbas seeks a political accommodation.

Iran responds to threats

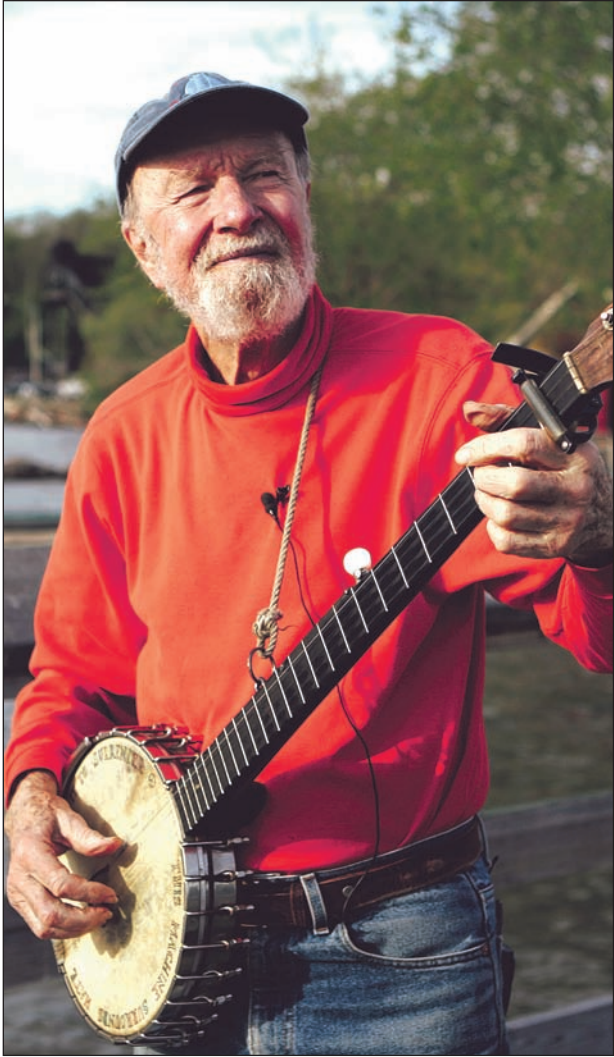
VIENNA, Austria (AP) — A senior Iranian envoy warned the United States and its allies on Wednesday against pushing for new U.N. Security Council sanctions on his country, suggesting Tehran could retaliate by ending cooperation with U.N. experts probing its nuclear program.

U.S. and European diplomats in turn criticized Tehran for not doing enough to ease international concerns and said its recent willingness to allow a partial probe of its past nuclear activities was not enough to banish fears it wanted to make the atomic bomb.

The officials spoke to The Associated Press as International Atomic Energy Agency chief Mohamed ElBaradei put the finishing touches on his latest Iran report. The restricted document-a snapshot of Iranian nuclear developments over the past three months-would be made available to the IAEA's 35-nation board on Thursday, diplomats said.

It will serve as the key signpost at a Sept. 10 board meeting that will focus both on Iran's lessened stonewalling of IAEA investigators. ♦

Folk singer revisits Soviet ties in song



Associated Press
Pete Seeger, 88, plays his banjo in Beacon, N.Y. This folk singer has written a scathing song about Joseph Stalin, the leader of the Soviet Union from 1924 to his death in 1953.

Associated Press

Decades after drifting away from the Communist Party, the 88-year-old banjo-picker has written a song about the Soviet leader that's as scathing as any tune in the folk legend's long career.

"I'm singing about old Joe, cruel Joe. He ruled with an iron hand. He put an end to the dreams of so many in every land," Pete Seeger wrote in "The Big Joe Blues."

Seeger said he left the Communist Party around 1950 and apologized years ago for not recognizing that Joseph Stalin was a "very cruel misleader." But he told The Associated Press on Friday that the song he finally finished this year is a first for him, despite three visits to the Soviet Union beginning in the '60s.

"It's the first overt song about the Soviet Union," Seeger said during a phone interview from his Hudson Valley home in Beacon. "I think I should have though, when I was in the Soviet Union—I should have asked, 'Can I see one of the old gulags?'"

Seeger calls it a yodeling blues song, and sings the chorus so it sounds like "I got the Big Joe Bloo-ew-ew-ews!" He said it's the sort of song his old buddy Woody Guthrie might have written in the '50s.

The song's existence also touches on a sensitive political issue: the view by critics on the right that the left recognized Stalin's tyranny only belatedly. Partial lyrics were cited Friday by author Ron Radosh in a New York Sun column.

Radosh, an adjunct senior fellow at the Hudson Institute, a conservative think tank, accused Seeger in the newspaper two months ago of failing to criticize the communist regimes he once backed.

Radosh took banjo lessons from Seeger in the '50s-two dollars for three hours-though Radosh took a very different political path from his childhood hero.

In a follow-up column Friday, Radosh said he was tickled to receive a warm letter last week from his old idol with a copy of the song attached. He provided a copy of the song to the AP on Friday, and said he still admires Seeger.

"I think he is a man of principle," Radosh said. "He's often wrong."

Seeger said he hopes to publish the song in the folk magazine "Sing Out." Though Seeger's voice has been reduced to a throaty croak, he said he has performed the song for friends.

Seeger is still politically active, concerned about the fate of humanity-and puckish. He agreed to answer questions on the phone from an AP reporter only if the story included lines from a song he wrote after the Sept. 11 attacks about the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. It goes like this: "Don't say it can't be done, the battle's just begun, take it from Dr. King, you too can learn to sing. So drop the gun!"

"I get the whole crowd singing on it," Seeger said. "I've never failed to get an audience singing, whether they're 8 years old or 80 years old." ♦

Cockfighting ring busted

Associated Press

GREENEVILLE, Tenn. — Two brothers have been convicted of federal gambling charges involving a cockfighting ring in Cocke County, while three other defendants were convicted of lesser misdemeanor charges.

Kenneth Frazier Sr., 64, who owned the 440 Cockfight Pit near Newport, and Allen Eugene Frazier, 60, who managed it, were convicted Thursday after a three-day jury trial on the felony gambling charge.

They also were convicted along with three co-defendants-George Ray Hicks, 69; Ernest Arrowood Jr., 67; and James William Russell, 62—of exhibiting or sponsoring animals that had crossed state lines for fighting, a misdemeanor.

On Friday morning, Kenneth Frazier Sr. waived his right to have a jury decide whether his property should be forfeited to the government. U.S. District Judge Ronnie Greer ruled that the property should be subject to seizure and the government will notify any other interested parties of the move. ♦



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OUR TAKE

Dining makes ‘change’

A tip of The Gov’s hat goes out to Chartwells for revamping its hours of operation at Austin Peay State University’s dining locations. Communters may not have noticed a change since they aren’t on campus during the weekends. But for residents it’s a different matter.

Most of the dining locations are closing earlier on Fridays and some remain closed through Sunday. The Food Court for example is now closed Saturday and Sunday, and the Peay Pod C-Store is closed Saturday but open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays.

“Eat what you want, when you want, how you want, and for less with a Standing Reservation. We have loads of options designed for you!” This is a quote from the Chartwells’ Web site.

We at *The All State* have come up with some theories to explain Chartwells’ reduction of working hours. Some might call them conspiracy theories, but we prefer the term “institutional analysis.” Here are some of the better.

1.) The reduction of working hours is part of Chartwells new health initiative to lessen campus residents’ access to food. The less these students eat, the less weight they gain; consequently, freshman won’t fall victim to the “freshman 15.” Chartwells 1, Obesity zero.

2.) This is about money. The “change” of hours for the Peay Pod and other dining locations makes perfect business “cents.” The university is going to save tremendously by

cutting labor costs. Less costs means the students pay less. Wait. Didn’t meal plan prices increase this year?

3.) It’s quality over quantity. Decreasing the hours of operation should allow Chartwells to focus its efforts on making the dining experience even more superior during its open hours.

Of course these are just theories conducted by sleep deprivation and hunger. And obviously we are not serious about these theories.

There’s a reason the hours are reduced. APSU is a “suitcase” campus; that is, almost everyone goes home on weekends (including many residents), and they don’t return until Sunday night. In regards to those who do stay, the demographic is not that large. ASPUs Institutional Research department records indicate that 86 percent of undergraduates lived off campus during the 2006-2007 academic year. Only 14 percent of APSU’s undergraduate students lived on campus.

The reduction of hours does not mean the end of the world. Chartwells is just doing its best to cater to as many students as it efficiently can. But this does serve as a reminder that college is ultimately a place of business and cannot survive on scholarship alone. And though most of you will not feel the affects of this change, keep in the back of your mind how much your education is dependent on the money students earn and how much your college earns. ♦

Another world is possible: Turn left

By DAN MAURER
Guest Writer

They say the difference between the optimist and pessimist is that the pessimist is better informed. That may or may not be true. It is interesting to note, however, that pessimism was not the prevailing sentiment at a conference I had the occasion to attend this past summer. Indeed, the group of dedicated individuals present at this conference (citizens, students, journalists and working class people) was not in a state of despair about the global conditions, although they were greatly concerned. Rather they were totally imbued with the sense that another world — a world free from terror, free from tyranny and oppression — was not only necessary, it was possible. In fact, it was the very realization that these people (who

Jeremy Scahill, journalist and author of the bestselling book “Blackwater: The Rise of the World’s Most Powerful Mercenary Army.” This list is by no means exhaustive.

To many, these names are unfamiliar. But for those who have committed themselves to social justice and societal change, these names ring a bell just as surely as those of any Hollywood superstar — perhaps more so.

Beyond the rousing speeches by these premier guests, attendees were encouraged to ask questions and to attend the smaller, less formal group meetings. These meetings had the distinct feel of a classroom setting. People were asking questions and taking notes. The topics were illuminating and conversations intense. In truth, I must admit that I

was out of my league. Nevertheless, I was welcomed and greeted as if I had been a part of the struggle for years. All of the meetings, which ranged from discussions about the merits of the Spanish Civil War to the fate of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, were recorded for posterity sake and are made available through Haymarket Books.

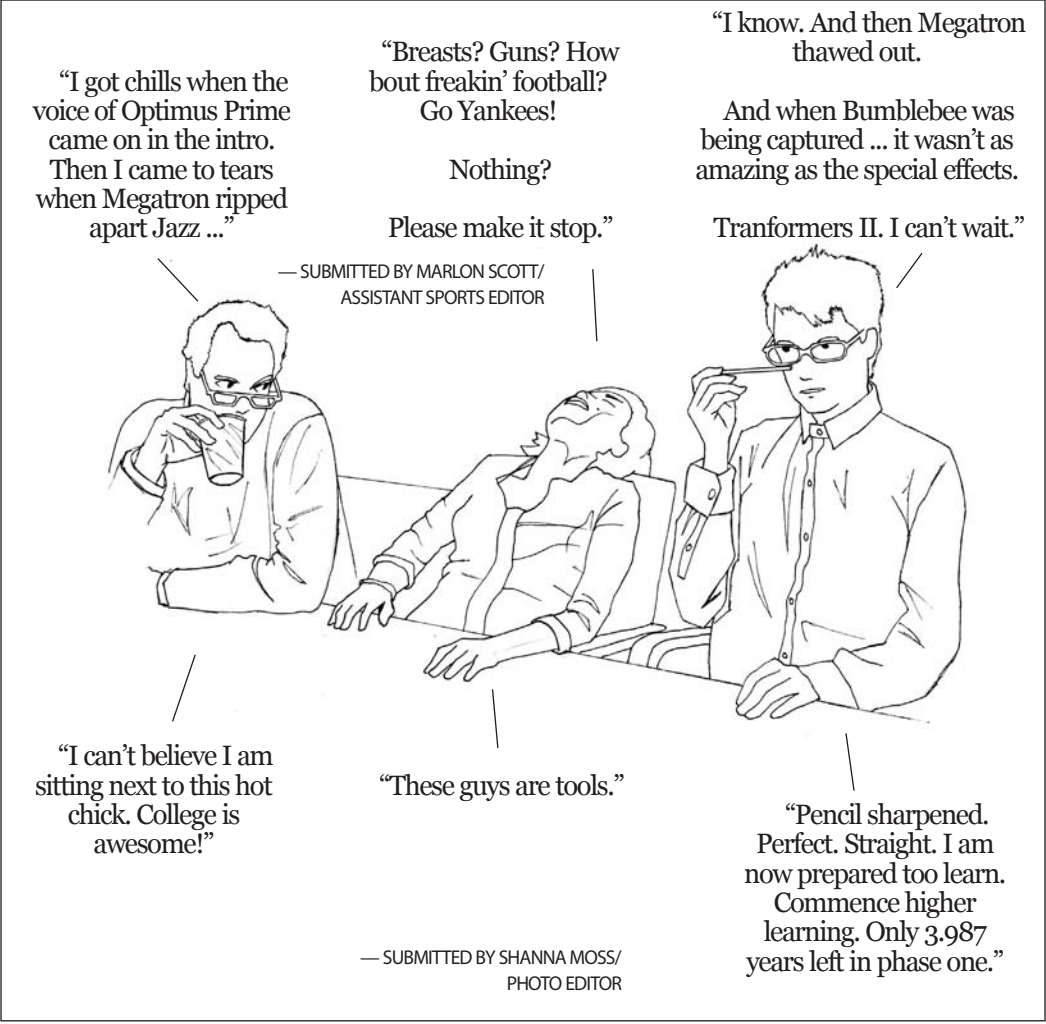
I, myself, am not a socialist — at least not in the proper sense — but I certainly confess to being fundamentally intrigued by their radical program of societal change. There are a lot of ideas out there about what should be done. In my view, socialism carries a lot of ideological baggage, leading me to question its relevance in the modern world. Nevertheless, its adherents are willing to face reality even if they are slow to adapt.

All in all, I enjoyed myself immensely at the conference. I would gladly attend in subsequent years, if for no other reason than to hear another stirring speech by Amy Goodman. My only regret (I knew it only afterward) is that I didn’t also attend the United States Social Forum held in Atlanta. This social gathering saw an attendance of over 10,000 participants.

I’m still new to this game though. With any luck I’ll be able to attend the World Social Forum in 2008, which has an expected attendance well in excess of 100,000 people. With a crowd like that, anything is possible, maybe even another world. I’d better start planning now. ♦

Dan Maurer is the organizer for APSU’s newest chapter of Students for a Democratic Society. He can be reached at cogitoergosum@bellsouth.net

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Sexism runs rampant at APSU

Sexism carries with it the dark and dangerous tones of a sinister social disease and like the rest of our society, our campus has no natural immunity to it. Most of us tend to think of the typical sexist as male, but the sexist can also be a female, and both can be sexist against their own kind. With no age limit on the sexist, many psychologists and sociologists have determined that these dysfunctional tendencies are taught to children at an early age, usually by their parents and/or other siblings. For the last twenty-five years or so, I have watched a new form of sexism growing among us. Like an insidious cancer, it has crept into the very

marrow of our society. But how dangerously ingrained is this “anti-male” sexism in our social structure?

Some of today’s anti-male sexism is fueled by the changing of the classic gender oriented vocations. An example of this would be the case of the older couple who always demand to be served by a waitress, instead of a waiter. And of course, there is the “American Witch Hunt” for male pedophiles and male sexual predators. I believe it is NBC that even airs a prime time show entitled “To Catch a Predator.” A more accurate title might be “To Entrap A Male.” There are even Web sites that teach people how to entice and entrap men into committing sexual crimes. A lawyer once interviewed in a special report on a news station several years ago stated that maybe as many as fifty-percent of the people on chat lines were either local, state or federal law enforcement officials posing as young girls looking for sex with adult men. That doesn’t even count the possibly hundreds of thousands of citizens now online pretending to be children looking for sex with men. I think a simple bell shaped curve analysis should tell you that as many as half of those men would have never committed the crime in the first place had they not been “enticed” into breaking the law. Then there are those that refuse to see the reality of female to male violence and aggression. Those people look the other way or pretend it just doesn’t exist. Even the female pedophile of whom has consensual sex with a minor, has a much greater social standing in our community than does the male who has consensual sex with a minor. A man might get twenty years for his first offense and a women usually gets probation or a couple of years.

After my first semester at Austin Peay I began to believe this sexist mentality was running through the people of the campus like a hidden stream. It meandered across the paths of everyone but did little to those who flowed with it. I took the opportunity to test this theory in a writing class. The idea was simple enough: Write a story that had only two rational ways to read it. One rational way, was that of a man who was suffering from delusions and hallucinations from mixing alcohol and sleep aids. You might remember Sen. Edward Kennedy’s “Dream Driving” accident on the capital. This mix allowed him to actually function just like he was awake while he was sleeping. I can personally attest to the effects of this type of mixture. A person can be doing something they are dreaming about and wake up inside the dream not knowing whether they are awake or only dreaming they are awake. It is a nightmare I do not recommend. The other rational reading is that the character has intruded into a forest creature’s domain by moving into his parents’ cabin. The mystical reading gave the reader plenty of room to imagine with forest creatures, a spooky old Indian medicine man, and many of the standard mystic stuff, like in the movies.

I did a simple role reversal of the characters of the typical villains and victims. I made the man a victim of a delusional sexual attraction to his

mother. I had clearly established that the setting was a nightmarish dreamworld, not a conscious reality.

The reader was also shown that the character had a very strong aversive reaction to the dreams when he awoke. The other delusion he began suffering from was that of a ten year old girl who just appeared on the next night after he arrived at the cabin in the woods. I made sure there was absolutely no trace of her having lived at the cabin for the last thirty days as she claimed she did, except for a few candy wrappers in a shed. Since this was a short story, I quickly ended the story with a mix of both delusions fighting for control over his mind. In the final scene, the male was being drugged and raped in his dreams by his mother. While struggling to escape one delusion he fell into another delusion where “A creature of smoke with tiny paws and the child’s voice” was on top of him and raped him while he died of a heart attack.

Okay, a bit avant-garde for most, I admit it. (Some even might say in bad taste).

But the results absolutely astounded me. Everyone (that I am aware of) in that class convicted the character of the unconscious man in a drug induced stupor of not only having consensual sex with his mother but also of having consensual sex with a minor. Along with the story, the writer was convicted of being a pervert as well. I have absolutely no doubt that if the character had been female and the delusions male, the class would have had no problems recognizing the blatant sexual assaults. The stereotype of a male assailant and a female victim was evident in two other stories. One story was about how a woman’s hoodlum boyfriend gave her the gift of being gang raped because of a sexual fantasy she had told him about. I only heard one small comment on this story. The other story concerning rape was how a six-year old girl became sexually awakened when she found a girly magazine in her barn. She then went on a journey to find her sexual self. During this quest she was severely beaten and essentially raped by two inbred boys. To my knowledge no one even blinked an eye at this. In fact the only person I think even noticed beside myself was the instructor who brought it to the classes’ attention. Many of my classmates who said they just couldn’t deal with the subject material in my story, had just a few weeks before, been adamant about how great the series of books by V.C. Andrews were. The entire series dealt with a family’s secrets of children born by incest and hidden away from the world.

Yes, there is anti-male sexism on the campus at APSU just like there is everywhere else in the U.S. Many laws are prejudicial against the male members of our society and the Witch Hunt only gets worse. Women are becoming increasingly violent in our society and the female rapist is still just an urban legend. Or is she?

Do I sound a bit angry? I am trying not to be. You see, once you’re a victim of a rapist, you are always a victim of a rape. You don’t stop being a victim after the criminal goes to jail or the statute of limitations runs out when the rapist just slaps into the darkness. The nightmares fade and become less frequent but they are always just around the next memory. You learn to release the anger by running, hitting a punching bag, or just lifting weights. You hold the one you love and hope they understand and you keep telling yourself that it’s over. You give yourself time to heal and you learn how to go on because there is no other real choice.

The same woman raped me seven times over a ten month period. I was in the best shape of my life. I ran five miles a day and practiced Tae Kwon Do two hours a day, yet I was as powerless as a child to stop the assault. In this anti-male society we live in, words (or even the lack of use of words) can be as deadly a weapon as any gun or knife. But then, rape isn’t about sex, its about power. ♦

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THE ISSUE

We remember ...
six years later.

WHY IT MATTERS

Yesterdays shapes today. Today builds circumstances for tomorrow. Much of the current social and political situation is influenced by the atrocities of 9/11.

UPCOMING TOPIC

The U.S. Constitution. What does it mean to you? For more information about contributing a guest column e-mail us at allstate.perspectives@gmail.com.

The power of memory forever changes

Gladys Knight and the Pips sang a song a long time ago that I think cuts to the heart of Sept. 11. In the song “Try to Remember” it says, “Memories may be beautiful and yet / What’s too painful to remember / We simply choose to forget / So it’s the laughter we will



Perspectives
Ricky Young

remember / Whenever we remember, the way we were.” A lot of people don’t like to remember Sept. 11 because it is too painful. We still can’t wrap our minds around how something like that happened or, better yet, why it happened. For many, it’s still too painful to watch footage of the attack — six years later. The brain is a very efficient self-defense mechanism — whatever hurts it, the brain immediately tries to forget the incident and doesn’t think on it again. That can sometimes be a very effective strategy, but it can also cheat you out of good memories associated with the bad. Take my friends in the Armed Forces for instance. Very rarely have I heard them talk about the gunfights, the death, the destruction. Instead they always talk about the times between — the times of slight relief, the smoke breaks afterward, the pranks, the laughs.

For those who choose simply to forget Sept. 11 completely, I might think again. Choosing to forget the whole thing will rob you of some of the good things that followed the tragedy. For instance, what about the relief you felt in your heart when you found all of

your loved ones were safe on the ground at home? It was then that you knew how much you loved them and how much more pain you would have felt without them. Do you want to forget that? Or suppose you were one of the people who knew that tomorrow isn’t guaranteed, so you turned to your sweetheart and proclaimed your love to him or her and promised to love him or her as long as you lived. Do you want to forget that look in his or her eyes when you said that? And what if you were one of the thousands of people who turned to faith to sort through the meaning of this event, do you want to forget that moment? Do you want to forget the minute you finally trusted in a higher power to help you through life?

I could name thousands of examples of ways the tragedy was accompanied by something good. I bet I could find tens of thousands more whose lives were changed for the better. And I’ll ask the question once again: Do you want to forget that? Gladys would say it is the laughter we will remember for the years to come. The wounds have healed and we bear scars in our own way, but we still need to think about the laughter, the kisses, the sweethearts and lovers and family. We still need to remember the troops who wade through blood and dirt everyday and still have the courage to find humor in such a dark place. We even need to think of our politicians who are burdened everyday with a hard decision. But most importantly we need to remember. Whenever we remember that day, the way we were and the way we are change forever. ♦

Ricky Young is a regular columnist. He can be reached at rickmeister110587@yahoo.com

A day never forgotten

Sept. 11, 2001 is not a day that we will soon forget. I know exactly where I was (in my recreation room) and what I was doing on that fateful day.

It started out like any other day with my coffee and the “The Today Show.” While the show was airing, they made an



Perspectives
Lois Jones

announcement that an airplane had crashed into the World Trade Center tower. At that moment the only thing that was known was that a major air accident had happened. The show’s hosts made speculations as to what had happened, and they were showing footage from the scene with the tower burning and smoke billowing. As the world watched, another plane was seen heading for the second tower, and then it hit. Two commercial planes, one after the other flying right into the World Trade Center towers. It took a few minutes, but then it was known that America was under attack by terrorists.

I received a phone call from my mother that sounded a little panicky. She told me that my cousin Linda was flying that day and we had not heard from her. My mother hung up, only to call me back to tell me that Linda was on her way to San Francisco out of Newark. The other planes weren’t out of Newark, so for a few minutes we didn’t worry. Then the Pentagon was hit.

My phone rang again and my mother told me that my cousin was on Flight 93, and that Linda had called her sister Elsa before boarding so we knew she had made her flight.

This was before we heard on the news that a fourth plane had been hijacked and was out of Newark headed for San Francisco. By this time my mother and I were frantically calling back and forth in between her calls to her sister — Linda’s mother. Then we saw on the news that the fourth plane was Flight 93, the plane my cousin was on. We both were crying. The news was speculating that that plane was headed for the White House.

The newscasters told America that the passengers were calling their loved ones from their cell phones and confirmed that they were hijacked and in return the passengers were told about the World Trade Center towers and the Pentagon. Many phone calls ensued after that. One call that was made was by my cousin, again to her sister, who was not home at the time, but had an answering machine. Linda told her sister that her plane had been hijacked and that the passengers knew about the other planes that had crashed. She proceeded to tell her sister where her safe was and the combination. She said her will was in the safe and so were other personal papers her sister would need after she was gone. Linda told her sister on an answering machine that she loved her and her sons, and asked her “to tell Mom and Dad that I love them” and that she knew she was going to die and was OK. She told her sister of the plan to overtake the terrorists and then she said, “I love you,” and hung up.

My cousin Linda was going to San Francisco with her boyfriend to celebrate her birthday two days later on Sept. 13. She would have been 47. What Linda didn’t

know was that her boyfriend was going to propose to her on that trip as well. Those things didn’t happen as Linda and her boyfriend died that day fighting terrorists and preventing others on the ground from being killed as well. The passengers on Flight 93 were heroes.

My family watched all this unfold on television in front of our eyes. We saw the vast hole in the ground in Pennsylvania after the plane crashed and there was nothing left. My family was in shock. This wasn’t supposed to happen to people we know. It certainly wasn’t supposed to happen to someone we love.

We lost Linda that day. There were always the four cousins — four girls — my sister Diana being the eldest, then Linda, then me and Elsa, the baby. Now we were three.

Linda left us with a void in our family and in the world. She left a legacy. She was an attorney for the BMW Corporation in their environmental department and was one of the developers of the hydrogen car. Since she was young she was taking apart cars and putting back together. She had found her dream job. When you Google her name — Linda Gronlund — there are pages about her and her accomplishments. I was, and still am, very proud of all she did.

“My mother hung up only to call me back telling me that Linda was on her way to San Francisco out of Newark. The other planes weren’t out of Newark, so for a few minutes we didn’t worry. Then the Pentagon was hit. My phone rang again.”

I did something this summer that made me understand Linda’s love of the law, I took a media law class. I, too, fell in love with the study of our legal system and its laws. I understand now what she loved and why. I did very well in the class despite its difficulty and intensity. When the class was over, I had the feeling that Linda was watching and was proud of me. I told my professor about her and he told me that he too thought she would be proud of me. That class created a new bond between us, even though she was gone.

It has been six years since the world watched as America was attacked and thousands of people died. One of them was a member of my family. That day is very personal to me and my family. Linda’s loss is felt all the time because we can’t pick up the phone and share what is happening in our lives with her. She never knew I went back to school and that I love it. I like to believe she is watching me and cheering me on when I do well, and saying, “Oh, Lord” when I do something stupid.

On Sept. 11, please take a minute and send your thoughts or prayers to the families that lost loved ones six years ago. That day is a day that will be in my heart and mind forever. It is a day none of us will ever forget. ♦

Lois Jones is a senior photographer, and regularly contributes to The Leaf-Chronicle. She can be reached at countrybarnequen@yahoo.com



the corner that counts

11: number of weeks the Sept. 11 commission’s final report was No. 1 on *The New York Times*’ best-seller list for non-fiction.

19: the million dollar amount the movie “World Trade Center” sold in its opening weekend.

\$5: security fee now paid by each airline passenger.

2–3: minutes added to the airline passenger screening process when a prohibited item is detected.

50: percent of people who say the Sept. 11 attacks affect their daily lives.

95: percent who say they remember exactly where they were or what they were doing when they heard about the event of 9/11.

5: the number of temporary spaces serving as memorials located in the Tribute Visitors Center at the World Trade Center site until the official memorial opens in 2009.

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

The above information is attributed to the Associated Press

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MOVIE REVIEW

‘Halloween’ Rob Zombie style



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER.

By PATRICK ARMSTRONG
Assistant Features Editor

“I met him, fifteen years ago. I was told there was nothing left. No reason, no conscience, no understanding; even the most rudimentary sense of life or death, good or evil, right or wrong. I met this six-year-old child, with this blank, pale, emotionless face and, the blackest eyes ... the devil’s eyes. I spent eight years trying to reach him, and then another seven trying to keep him locked up because I realized what was living behind that boy’s eyes was purely and simply ... evil.”

This quote from Dr. Sam Loomis, played by Donald Pleasence, comes from one of the most popular horror films of all time: “Halloween.” Made in just 21 days on a budget of \$300,000, “Halloween” became the highest-grossing independently made movie at that time, 1978. Since then, there have been seven sequels; “Halloween II,” “Halloween III: Season of the Witch,” “Halloween 4: The Return of Michael Myers,” “Halloween 5: The Revenge of Michael Myers,” “Halloween: The Curse of Michael Myers,” “Halloween H20: 20 Years Later,” and “Halloween: Resurrection.”

Since the death of producer Moustapha Akkad, in 2005, plans to continue the series halted until a brave and unique guy decided to give it a try.

On June 4, 2006, an official press release was sent out stating that the new director of “Halloween” will be Rob Zombie, director of “House of 1000 Corpses” and “The Devil’s Rejects.” This astonished and shocked fans as to what he could do to remake “Halloween.” Zombie said that it was not a remake, but a new vision, a new chapter that would reinvent a legend to the story we all knew.

Zombie is best known for his heavy-metal rock career and film directing. His directing style in “House of 1000 Corpses” was surreal and over-the-top with shocking amounts of gore and violence.

The sequel, “The Devil’s Rejects,” turned out much more gritty and dark, unlike the comedic and bizarre feel of the first. These were not be great movies at all so the big question is, “will ‘Halloween’ turn out the same way?”

Zombie’s new vision is about showing how the innocent, adolescent 10-year-old Michael Myers could turn into an unstoppable killing machine. The movie is a prequel/remake movie.

Prequels and remakes seem to be the new trend in horror flicks. Movies like “The Texas Chainsaw Massacre” and “The Amityville

Horror” are some of the more recent remakes. “Exorcist: The Beginning” and “The Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning” show how everything came to be and why they became what they are now. Some of these turned out to be great, but some were just not up to par.

Zombie’s version of “Halloween” should not even be considered part of the series. It takes everything one knows about the movie series and changes it completely, but that was his vision was. The focus in this version is on the development of Michael Myers from youth to adult. As a child, he cut up animals and the occasional bully at school. The parents were lunatics with a mom as a stripper and an injured stepfather. One could see why he turned out the way he did.

The transition from the past to the present left somethings to be desired, however. There was just a black screen with words in the traditional Halloween font which were used to tell the location, but it did not give the time frame or year.

The movie was intense; something happened every five minutes, leaving no time to recuperate. The deaths were grotesque images of a tortured soul who was at the wrong place at the wrong time.

Zombie put in some of the actors from his previous movies like his wife, Sheri Moon Zombie. Some of the actors who had been killed in prior roles came back as different characters to only end up getting killed again.

The acting that came from Lori —Scout Taylor-Compton — was incredible. She went through more than Jamie Lee Curtis, the original Lori, did. Being thrown around and beat up with tons of screaming takes talent. Some of the script lines were actually from the original. Dr. Loomis said that Myers was a psychopath. Although this line was corny, it made Myers seem human.

That is one thing that differs completely from the first. The original had Myers as a shapeless being without a soul. This change makes the movie hit the viewer harder by making it seem real. A person actually doing these things is a terrifying notion.

The movie was about like the average horror movie. It does not even pale in comparison to the original. If one decides to go see it, go in with an open mind. Don’t think about the original because you will be disappointed. Hopefully, a new director will pick-up where the “Halloween: Resurrection” movie left off, because Zombie’s directing style might not be able to do the rest of the series justice. ♦



Director of the new “Halloween” movie, Rob Zombie, walks the red carpet at the world premier at Grauman’s Chinese Theater on Aug. 23.



Travel to Europe



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Don’t be afraid to try out local cuisine and fresh produce when traveling abroad.

This floating produce market in Venice, Italy is visibly laden with colorful fruits and vegetables.

European travels don’t have to cost an arm and a leg if you are willing to stay at hostels

By AIMEE THOMPSON
Senior Features Writer

Why is it that when someone says they’re going on a European vacation they’re greeted with dropped jaws and bulging eyes? For many people, taking a European vacation is right up there with their dream of one day being an astronaut, but it doesn’t have to be that way.

It is possible to have an awesome vacation in Europe without having to take out a second mortgage on your house. You also don’t have to resort to sleeping on park benches in Paris in order to save money.

There are many ways to be thrifty without looking desperate during your stay in Europe.

Thanks to the movie “Hostel” many people now associate these quaint, inexpensive historical buildings with horrific acts of torture.

Unfortunately for sadists, the only secrets associated with hostels are their low cost and the surprisingly good services they offer. Anyone with a tight budget wanting to travel in Europe should consider staying at a hostel rather than a hotel.

Ranging from 12 Euros a night in Dublin to 28 Euros a night in Venice, hostels are good places to get the most for your money.

To get even cheaper prices at hostels, it is smart to become a member of the Youth Hostel Association. Children 17 and under are free, adults between the ages of 18 and 54 pay \$28 annually, and seniors 55 and older pay \$18 a year. If you plan on doing a lot of traveling in the future, a life-time membership is available for \$250.

By purchasing a Hostelling International Card, you can benefit by having access to 4,000 hostels in over 75 countries and almost 80 in the United States. To find out more about becoming a member, go to <http://www.hiusa.org> and click on the membership tab.

Hostels sponsored by the International Youth Hostel Federation are ones that can be trusted, so be sure to look for the IYHF logo when booking reservations. Another Web site to visit for information about European hostels is <http://www.eufed.org>.

Hostels are also good because they provide food. While not all hostels offer meals, many do, which is a great way to try local, home-cooked cuisine. Some hostels also allow guests to use their kitchen, so try to take advantage of every opportunity.

Shopping at local grocery stores is relatively inexpensive, plus you get the enjoyment of seeing your favorite foods packaged in completely different languages. It’s also best to eat at local bakeries rather than at sit down restaurants because they are cheaper, quicker and you can find them just about anywhere.

But if a sit down restaurant is what you desire, then try to stick to the ones on side streets, because they are often less expensive.

When staying in big cities like Rome or Paris, the best way to get around is by subway or bus. It might feel a bit scary at first, but once you get the hang of it, it can actually be a great experience. If your vacation is going to be a road trip, then one of your first purchases on your trip should be a European road map because mapquest.com doesn’t work well in small European towns.

One can rent a vehicle from an American-based company that runs on diesel, because it costs less than regular gas, and also be sure to find a rental car that has enough space for all the things you’re bringing with you.

There’s nothing worse than having to choose between leaving your suitcase or your biggest child behind.

While on a European road trip, consider gas stations as an oasis of life. Many have restaurants or cafes where you can get any kind of food ranging from sandwiches to ice cream. Plus, gas station food in Europe is nothing like it is in the U.S., so don’t expect to find a lot of fried food.

Since you will probably spend a good amount of time there, it’s important to learn European gas station etiquette. It is sometimes considered offensive if you use their restroom without buying something first, and some gas stations require that you pay a few cents before you can use their facilities.

All in all, a vacation should be fun and obviously worrying continuously about money can prevent this from happening. Use these money saving techniques to prevent some stress and provide some cash for splurging on the things you really want. ♦



Hall enjoys active life outside of President’s office



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
President Hall enjoys the great outdoors, as witnessed by his skill ‘punting’ on the River Cam in England.

By **TANGELIA CANNON**
Senior Staff Writer

As the President of Austin Peay State University, President Timothy Hall is a man of great honor and distinction, but as a man without a title, who is he?

He’s a man who is able to balance having a good time with responsibility, a marriage of 30 years, while standing for his belief in the Christian faith, love, marriage and the reality of higher education.

Born and raised in Texas, Hall enjoys outdoor activities such as fishing and canoeing. He has an interest in playing the guitar.

“Growing up, my father was a part-time music director at little churches. Most of these were 45 minutes or more from where we lived. I remember driving home from church in West Texas at night, during the drive my parents gave me a penny for every jack rabbit I saw dash across the road in front of us, illuminated by the head lights in the dark,” Hall said.

It was while living in Texas that he met his wife Lee, who he has been married to for 30 years this coming November.

When speaking of his wife, it is amazingly apparent how much he loves his life. In fact, 10 years ago he wrote a book called “The Labor of Love,” which focuses on Christian marriages.

In addition to writing his book, Hall has been traveling as well as doing lectures. Spending three years in Cambridge, England, Hall taught and directed a program for American law



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
President Hall, featured here with his wife and children, values his family time.

students at Downing College at Cambridge University.

During his time there, he remembers riding his bike everywhere, punting on the Cam and eating lots of Indian food. It makes his time overseas one of his most memorable experiences.

It was during another lecture, however, that Hall recalls his most embarrassing moment. “At one point [during the lecture] I climbed some stairs up one side of the auditorium as I was talking with the students.

On my way back down to the lectern, I managed to trip and fall down several steps, landing flat on my back.”

However, he has not always been the man in charge. In fact, just like every student during college, Hall had his moments where having fun was the most important thing on his agenda.

While camping with some friends, they decided they wanted to build a raft to float in a nearby bayou. “It never occurred to us that anyone might have a problem with cutting down some trees to build the raft.”

“However, the landowner did. To top it off, the green trees we chopped down and tied together to make a raft, sank like stone,” Hall said.

For inspiration on life, love and many of the world’s other great wonders, Hall has put together a commonplace book.

He has been collecting quotes and passages from books he has read since high school. “I’ve lived with many of the quotations long enough for them to have become part of my mind’s furniture,” recalls Hall.

As President of APSU, Hall supports all student organizations, including Greeks and sports.

One can find him dining at Einstein’s, working out at the fitness center or cheering on all of the Governor athletes. ♦

Creatvity, organizational skills can help relieve back-to-school stress

By **LORI PERKINS**
Senior Staff Writer

The 17 weeks of summer break have ended for students returning back to the main campus of Austin Peay State University. The dreadful experiences of getting tuition paid before the deadline, getting enough cash to pay for expensive textbooks, (if you didn’t use online resources), standing in long lines at Studymaster; if you don’t have an around the year daycare provider; finding trustworthy people to keep your child/children while you are in class; worries of assignments from professors, and finding parking spaces in a timely manner are baffling the minds of students causing stress levels to increase.

Stress is described as an emotional, mental and physiological response to changes in an individuals life. According to the American Medical Association, “stress was the cause of 80 percent of all human illness and disease or at the very least has detrimental effect on our health.” Researchers have done stress studies and rate stress to be considered a top killer among Americans.

According to WebMD, symptoms of stress include: rapid heartbeat, headache, stiff neck and/or tight shoulders, backache; rapid breathing, sweating and sweaty palms, upset stomach, nausea, or diarrhea (<http://www.WebMD.com>). Symptoms may also manifest themselves through emotions or behaviors. People might become irritable and intolerant of even minor disturbances, feel irritated or frustrated, lose your temper more often, feel jumpy or exhausted all the time, find it hard to concentrate or focus on tasks, worry to much about insignificant things, doubt your ability to do things, imagine negative, worrisome, or terrifying scenes, feel you are missing opportunities because you cannot act quickly.

If you think taking a vacation will reduce your level of stress, think again. A summer 2002 survey of 1,000 people by the Gallup Organization found that most people returning from vacation were more tired arriving home then they were before they left. Why?

Waiting to pack the day before the trip, waking up earlier than normal on mornings of the trip in order to get an early start, and because they report back to work to find more work to accomplish.

Instead of booking a flight to take a cruise to the Bahamas, make an appointment at a spa or

for people on a fixed income, go the cheaper route by going to a college where students are being trained to become massage therapists; avoid procrastination by managing your time and include physical activity in your life. Joseph Cooper, clinic supervisor at Miller Motte Technical College says, “people under normal stress level should get a massage once a month, or once every other month for individuals on a tighter budget.” A massage is often viewed as a luxury treatment, but for students who are under a lot of pressure, the act of getting your muscles rubbed and kneaded to release tension should be a requirement.

Using your time wisely is another stress reducer. Instead of waiting until the last minute to come to class, if possible, set your schedule to come 10-15 minutes earlier before your class starts, to shorten your waiting time.

To help you stay on schedule, APSU offers a handbook that helps students stay on track by writing down appointments, test and assignment due dates. For students who live off-campus and find it inconvient when its time to pay bills, consider utility companies like Clarksville Department of Electric.

CDE accepts payments online, over the phone, (for a \$4.50 fee), and also because of the pressures of unexpected utility costs, CDE offers a budget billing plan that allows your bill to be the same each month.

Students at APSU now have the option to use the Foy Fitness and Recreation Center to engage in physical activities. Exercise is highly recommended as a source to lessen stress. The Mayo Clinic Staff says, “exercise increases your overall health and sense of well being. It pumps your endorphins; physical activity helps to bump up the production of your brain’s feel good neurotransmitters (endorphins).”

“Exercise also helps alleviate daily tensions and might also help you learn to better cope with your stressors. It improves your mood, increases self-confidence and lowers the symptoms associated with mild depression and anxiety, eases stress levels and gives you a sense of command over your body and your life.”(<http://www.mayoclinic.com>).

For more helpful guidelines to help lower stress, read books that help inspire and motivate you during this semester. Most importantly, remember to always take time for yourself. ♦

SLIP’N’SIDE BACK TO SCHOOL

PATRICK ARMSTRONG/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Daniel Burubeltz slides down the hill at the Dunn Center sponsored by the Baptist Collegiate Ministries.

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1 Warts and all
5 Model Beverly
10 Desert growth
15 27th president
19 Comic Carvey
20 Fills the hold
21 TV's "Full —"
22 Sutherland solo
23 HEAD STARTS
27 Dogpatch's Daisy —
28 Patriot Nathan
29 Sherwood sight
30 Moscow moola
31 Workbench attachment
32 Croce's Mr. Brown
34 Expert
36 Writer Rand
37 Medical measure
40 Chalice accessory
41 Hammer feature
42 "— go brag!"
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44 Ubiquitous infinitive

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87 HAPPY ENDINGS
91 Long or Peebles
92 Caffeine effect
93 "Trinity" author
94 A speck with wings

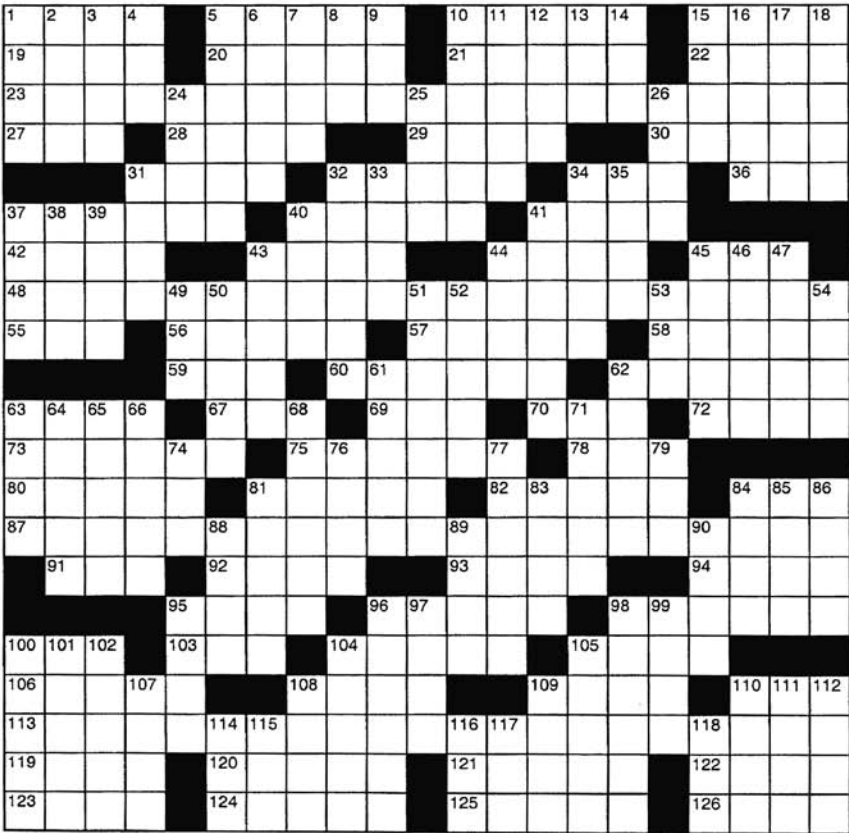
95 Connecticut campus
96 Cardiff's country
98 French philosopher
100 Light touch
103 Silence a squeaker
104 He had a golden touch
105 insect stage
106 Soothe
108 Welles role
109 Clothing
110 Sound like a hound
113 GRAND FINALES
119 Geraint's lady
120 Crazy as —
121 Actress Witherspoon
122 At any time
123 Contradict
124 Neon —
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7 Add fringe

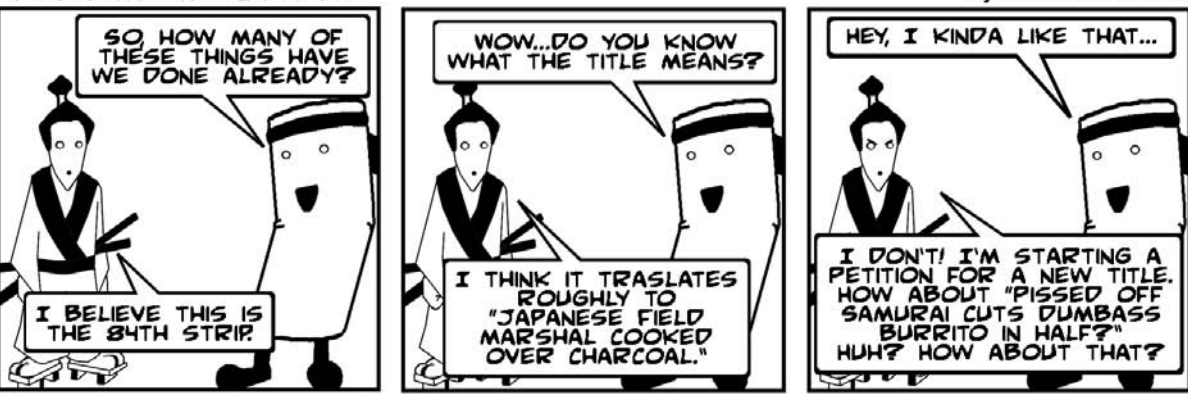
8 Aspin or Paul
9 Sixth sense
10 Rose of —
11 Actor Wendell
12 Discourteous
13 Take advantage of
14 "Golden Girl" Arthur
15 Forbidden
16 Antilles isle
17 Stable youngster
18 Spoken for
24 British pol
25 Raison d'—
26 Sleuth Nancy
31 Delivery trucks
32 Cavalry soldier
33 Decorate glass
34 Philatelist's purchase
35 Columnist Herb
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40 Brad of "The Mexican"
41 Pamper
43 Cook Claiborne
44 Obsolete title
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53 Vane dir.
54 Sundance's sweetheart
61 Post or Dickinson
62 Sunday supper
63 Stash
64 "On the Waterfront" director
65 Japanese porcelain
66 — firma
68 Act like Vikings?
71 Effluvia
74 Enjoy the Alps
76 Uncluttered
77 A great many
79 Strauss' "Rosenkavalier"
81 On — (doing great)
83 Baseball's Aparicio
84 Add color
85 Fruit-tree spray

86 Punta del —
88 California resort
89 A shake in the grass?
90 Taj town
95 Mr. Ma
96 Actress Ryder
97 125 Across' city
98 Unexpected
99 Lhasa —
100 Sealed
101 Skirt shape
102 Unadorned
104 Hardy's "The — of Caster-bridge"
105 Vital sign
107 He's Devine
108 It may be square
109 See 118
110 Bunch of birds
112 Knitter's need
114 Purrfect pet?
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116 Summon mommy
117 Bray beginning
118 With 109 Down, a way to pay



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One-Shots by Joseph M. Frazier



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★ ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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OPINION

2007 Fantasy Football Journal

By **MARLON SCOTT**
Assistant Sports Editor

With two magazines, a spiral notebook for notes, a steno book with the league settings written down, and various cheat sheets with strategies diagramed in great detail completely surrounding me and the computer, I took a steadying breath to counter the effects of my last energy drink and prepared for another fantasy football draft.

I was already logged on to <http://www.NFL.com> and was waiting in the draft room watching the timer in the top left corner of the screen count down the last two minutes before the draft began. This is a 12 team, head to head league and I had the second pick. Not only did that guarantee me one of the top two estimated fantasy producers this season, but it also meant that, because of the rotation, the rest of my picks would be close together. For example: I have picks 23 and 26, 47 and 50, 71 and 74.

Now I knew that unless some miracle took place, I was going to take Rams running back Stephen Jackson with my first pick and get a good quarterback/wide receiver combo with my second and third picks. The timer finished counting down, round one began, and I tried not to drool.

Rounds one and two had some surprises that made me optimistic about my chances of winning this season. A die hard Cardinals fan picked Edgerrin James and Matt Lienart as their first two picks. In addition six quarterbacks were picked in the top twenty. Grinning ear to ear, I changed my strategy and got a QB/RB combo for my next two picks. I chose Miami running back, Ronnie Brown and Rams quarterback Marc Bulger.

With three wide receiver spots in the starting roster, the rest of the league spent their third and fourth round picks on wide receivers. The judgment shown by the picks of the other owners made me confident enough to gamble at this point. I could not pass up on one of the many quality running backs still available. I chose Cedric Benson and followed up with Chiefs tight end Tony Gonzalez. It was not that big a gamble because Gonzalez consistently puts up wide receiver numbers with a lot of touchdowns. I did not choose a wide receiver until round eight.

Jets receiver Jericho Cotchery was the highest receiver on my list at this point. I ended up sacrificing superstar wide receivers for a good defense, the San Diego Chargers, and some excellent alternate starters including Dallas running back Marion Barber III and Chargers quarterback Phillip Rivers. I may have to trade or shop on the waiver wire to pick up a better receiver during the season but in the event of a tie my bench is more than a match for anyone.

After picking Ravens Kicker Matt Stover in round thirteen, I finished the draft by choosing the New Orleans Saints defense. When I looked at my new fantasy football team, I laughed like a super villain who has just unleashed the first step in his diabolical plan to rule the world. The GridironGovs have officially been born. Next comes the hardest part of fantasy football: the wait until week one of the NFL season. ♦



Marlon Scott

Tailgate Alley, scoreboard draw fans

By **MARLON SCOTT**
Assistant Sports Editor

The best way to describe Austin Peay State University football this season is “new” The team is new to the Ohio Valley Conference with a new head coach and a new attitude. There are two more things to add to the “new” list. The Tailgate Alley and an impressive 36 foot wide scoreboard with a 12 foot tall digital video display.

When fans pulled into the parking lot across the street from Governors Stadium, next to the Lady Govs’ softball field, they discovered the smoke from several grills filling the air. If they were not hungry before, within seconds of walking down the Govs Tailgate Alley their mouths were watering and their stomachs were growling. Students, fans, and alumni can register for a spot to set up camp, cook, and cheer for the Govs before the game. At the first game on Saturday the Peay Pom Parents, Legends Bank and Peaymania.com were just a few organizations set up in the alley eating food and getting ready for the game.

Everyone that filled Tailgate Alley poured into Governors Stadium to watch the Govs play. If they had trouble seeing the field, all they had to do was look toward the end of the field and watch the replay on the shiny new scoreboard.

“It really makes a wonderful statement and addition to the football stadium,” said Vice President of finance, Mitch Robinson. “I think it is a great way to welcome in the return to OVC football and is something I think the students and fans can be very proud of.”

The new scoreboard cost \$430,000 plus and estimated \$175,000 in renovations for support. Saturday marked the end result of a collaborative process that began back in November 2006 and included APSU finance, athletics, theater, and communications departments.

“I can’t say enough about the dedication, assistance, and hard work the people, John Moseley and Mike Gotcher put in to make this all happen,” Robinson added. “It would not have happened without their work and dedication to making the experience for our athletic events more exciting.”

The scoreboard is aluminum painted in APSU red with a three foot tall clock and score digits. It will take an estimated 34,500 watts of power to illuminate all of the displays. The ProStar video display beautifully rendered highlights of the game as well as scores from the rest of the OVC.

Fans have a lot to experience this football season. From eating and

laughing with fellow fans an hour before the game starts, to watching their favorite Govs on a giant video screen sparkling under the Saturday night lights of the stadium. Tailgate alley and the new scoreboard are just two of several new reasons why everyone will be looking forward to watching football Saturdays at Austin Peay. ♦



PHOTOS BY LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Above, the new scoreboard is 36 feet wide with a 12 foot digital video display. The estimated cost of the scoreboard was over \$430,000 and another estimated \$175,000 went into renovations. The scoreboard attainment process started back in November of last year.

Left, students relax while enjoying the Tailgate Alley before the Govs first game of the season against Bethel. Everyone from fans, alumni and students can register to have a spot where they can grill food, talk about the Govs football team and socialize with each other. During every home game there will be various vendor tents set up.

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Govs look to sack OVC

Sophomores ready to make impact this year

By **MICHAEL KELLUM**
Sports Editor

Bone crunching tackles, game changing sacks and crowd pleasing interceptions will be the theme for the 2007 Austin Peay State University Governors defense if sophomores Daniel Becker and Rocky Dee Peeler have anything to do with it. Everyone has heard the term, “offense wins games and defense wins championships,” which is why this Govs defense is ready to show the rest of the Ohio Valley Conference that they are worthy of playing with the big boys. A big boy in his own right, linebacker Daniel Becker, stands at 6’3 and weighs in at 231 pounds. Becker led the Govs in tackles last season and is looking to again contribute defensively.

“We (defense) want to make a big impact in every game we play” Becker said. “You win championships with defense, and we are capable of putting up really big numbers this year. One of the goals for this defense is to have three turnovers every game.” Becker moved into the starting line-up last season during the second game and never looked back. Becker had four double-digit tackle games including three games where he had 12 tackles. Becker was also second on the team with 8.5 tackles for a loss.

“Every game that we go out I feel as though we have to have a lot of intensity” Becker said. “This off-season I tried to get a little bit faster by losing 10 pounds. Last year at the end of the season my body started wearing down because I was heavy, so now I’m just letting my body rest and work on speed.” Becker’s teammate defensive tackle Peeler also returns to the starting lineup. Peeler started all 11 games last season and led all Govs linemen in tackles with 42.

“We have improved up front this off-season” Peeler said. “I’ve gained weight, putting on about 20 pounds and everybody has been working hard in the weight room.” Peeler had 6.5 tackles for loss including a season best seven against OVC opponent UT-Martin. Peeler and Becker both look to ignite this Govs defense in their first full OVC season and feel as though they are two of the leaders of this defense despite being sophomores.

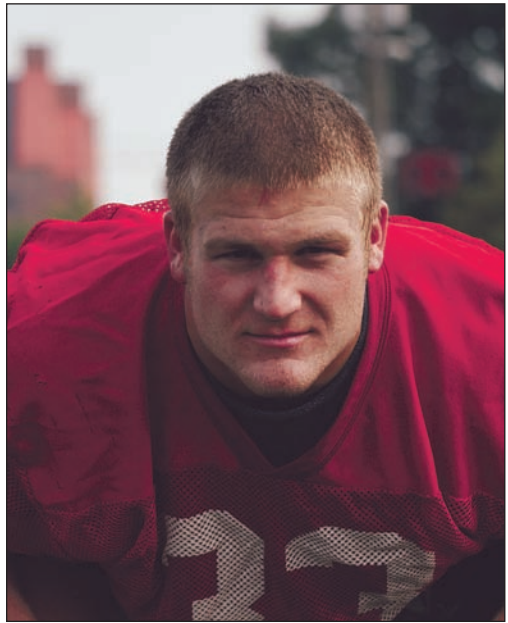
“I expect everybody to step up this year defensively,” Peeler said. “We have to play more physical.”

“I would like to think of myself as a leader on this team” Becker said. “I want to play with a lot of emotion and heart and I think we have a number of leaders.” The chemistry of this defense looks to be intact and ready to prove their critics wrong and show that this “New Tradition” is one full of wins and dominance. ♦



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Rocky Dee Peeler gained 20 pounds in the off-season while working extensively in the weight room to get stronger.



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Daniel Becker who led the Govs in tackles a year ago wants the defense to force at least three turnovers a game this season.

APSU blowout Bethel 49-13



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
The Austin Peay State University defensive line prepares to hit the Bethel Wildcats head on. Wildcats running backs Terrance Bell was held to 94 yards and did not score a touchdown, Adrian Smith was held to 41 yards and one touchdown. Senior running back Chris Fletcher ran for 131 yards making it his seventh 100 yard game going back to last season. The Govs scored 33 points in a explosive first half.

By MARLON SCOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

The Austin Peay State University Governors football fans were hoarse from cheering by halftime of the first game of the season. The Govs gave them plenty of reasons to cheer by scoring 33 first half points on their way to a 43-19 victory over the Bethel Wildcats.

Austin Peay showed no weaknesses early in the game. Their offense, defense, and special teams all contributed to an explosive first half.

“Every aspect of the game, I thought we did a good job in” said head coach Rick Christophel. “We came out and played as a team. The great thing about it is that every time something happened a little bit bad offensively or on defense, both of them picked each other up.”

The Govs surprised the Wildcats by opening their first drive with a 20 yard pass to junior wide receiver Lanis Frederick. After a 14 yard run by

senior running back Chris Fletcher, Frederick finished the drive by catching a 21 yard touchdown pass to give the Govs a quick 6-0 lead.

Frederick explained, “We just tried to throw the ball and see how the defense would react to it. It paid off for us. We got the ball moving and it opened up the run a little bit.”

The defense continued Austin Peay’s momentum by blocking the punt on Bethel’s next possession.

APSU freshman linebacker Ricky Thomas made the block, while his teammate Roscoe Carter scooped up the ball and then ran it into the end zone for the Govs’ second score.

Wildcat senior running back Adrian Smith ended a 10 play, 76 yard drive with a two yard touchdown run to make the score 13-7 with 4:35 left in the first quarter. Bethel’s excitement was short lived after the Wildcats kicked the ball off, APSU freshman Terrence Holt returned it 75

yards for a touchdown. Holt had a spectacular debut on special teams returning three kickoffs for 143 yards and one touchdown.

Early in the second quarter, Frederick caught his second touchdown of the game to make score 20-7. Frederick finished the game with four catches for 70 yards and two touchdowns.

Govs senior quarterback Mark Cunningham completed 10 of 13 passes with three touchdowns and just one interception that occurred in the second quarter.

The Wildcats took advantage of the turnover with a 64 yard scoring drive which made the score 26-13 with 4:18 left in the first half. Bethel did not get a chance to catch their breath. Holt returned the ensuing kickoff 50 yards and put the Govs in excellent field position. Senior running back Chris Fletcher took care of the rest.

Fletcher turned a screen pass into a 39 yard touchdown, giving APSU a 33-13 lead at halftime.

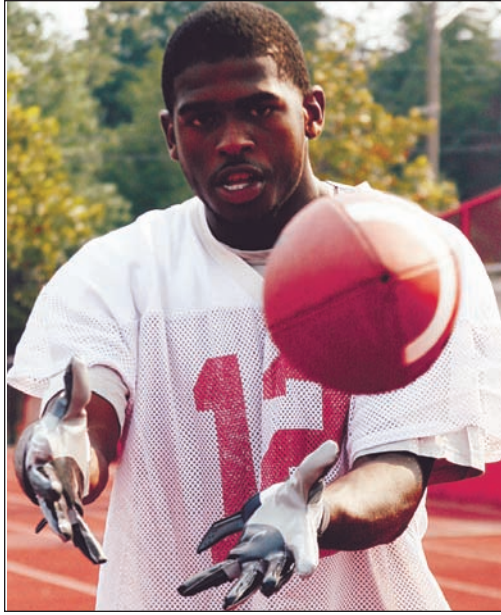
Fletcher continued his success with a one yard touchdown run at the end of the Govs opening second half possession. Fletcher finished the game with 13 carries for 131 yards. It was his seventh straight 100 yard game.

“I’m excited to win our first game back in the OVC and coach Christophel’s first head coaching victory,” Fletcher said. “It is a good thing to come out here my senior year and open up with a win. It is going to give us some momentum to carry throughout the season.”

Bethel senior quarterback Ronn Jankovich completed 11 passes for 135 yards in the second half and ran one yard for the Wildcats final touchdown in the fourth quarter. Jankovich finished the game completing 18 of 28 with one touchdown and one interception.

The Govs hit the road next week to face Indiana before returning home on September 15 to face Tennessee State. ♦

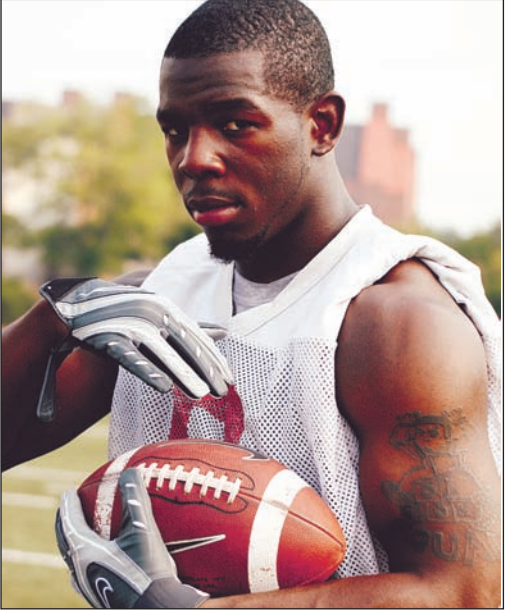
Triple threat upperclassmen lead The Govs



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Junior wide receiver Lanis Frederick broke the APSU record for receptions and for receiving yards last season.



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Senior quarterback Mark Cunningham passed for more than 2000 yards in his first starting role last season. He completed 50 percent of his passes in 10 of 11 games last season while also throwing for a best 308 yards against Charleston.



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Senior running back Chris Fletcher will look to once again lead the Govs in rushing for the season.

Frederick, Cunningham, Fletcher lead the way

By MICHAEL KELLUM
Sports Editor

Experience, expectations and record breaking players all could describe three of the top returning offensive players for the Austin Peay State University Governors. Ohio Valley Conference opponents will have to pick their poison. You have accuracy with senior quarterback Mark Cunningham, vision with senior running back Chris Fletcher and speed with junior wide receiver Lanis Frederick.

“Everything is going to run smoother this season” Frederick said. Frederick will look once again to dominate the OVC after a successful sophomore season which saw him break a 37 year old record by catching 77 passes. He also set the APSU mark for receptions with 1,101 receiving yards, and was third in the nation 100.09 yards a game.

“Last year I had a little help, but this year we really put time in recruiting more receivers” Frederick said. “I put on a little weight, polished up my routes a little bit so I think we be alright receiving wise.”

Though Frederick made breaking records look easy last season, he is all about trying to do whatever it takes to make sure the Govs have a successful season.

“As the years go on you always want to do better than the year before” Frederick said. “If I don’t do as well as I did last year I won’t look at it

as failure, I will just look at it as know I have help and I won’t be doing everything by myself.” One player who will helping Frederick out is teammate Chris Fletcher. Fletcher returns to the Govs as an All-American candidate after becoming APSU’s all time leading rusher as a junior. Fletcher finished last season with 1,401 yards which was good for second most all time in a season.

“I feel as though I am in a leadership role and I have to step up and do the things I have done in the past because I’m a senior now,” Fletcher said. If Fletcher even mirrors his season from a year ago the Govs will be in good hands. Fletcher’s 127.36 rushing yards per game ranked 10th nationally in I-AA, including a career best 197 rushing yards against Morehead State.

“The experience is going to give us a chance to be in every game” Fletcher said. “We feel as though if it comes down to the fourth quarter and the game is tied and we’re up or down a touchdown we will have an opportunity to win the game.” The player responsible for handing the ball to Fletcher or passing it down the field to Frederick will be none other than quarterback Mark Cunningham. Cunningham returns to his position as starting quarterback after taking over the role last season. Cunningham became only the third quarterback to throw for 2,000 yards or more, including passing for 308 yards against Charleston. Cunningham completed 50 percent of his passes in 10 of 11 games.



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
The Govs will look to their big three, Frederick, Cunningham and Fletcher to help lead them to a successful season their first year back in the OVC.

“Its exciting to get this season started because there is no pressure” Cunningham said. “We were picked to finish last in the OVC so we will go into every game as the underdog and I think we are going to surprise a lot of people.” Having this triple threat offense will certainly help the Govs in their first full OVC season. The 2007 theme for the football team is “A New Tradition” which the Govs hope means a tradition of winning.

“We were dominated by freshmen last year so that year of experience is going to help” Cunningham said. “Fletcher, Frederick and our whole offensive line are going to help take some of the pressure off of me.”

“Everybody came this season ready to work and ready to win” Fletcher said. “We are all on the same page and we know we can compete with anybody.” ♦