

Academic Freedom bill would ensure students' rights

By AMANDA COCHRANE
Assistant News Editor

A bill, going through the Tennessee legislature that would protect student's academic freedom and freedom from discrimination based on political and religious rights has been placed on the calendar of Government Operations Committee on April 27.

House Bill 432, which was introduced by Rep. Stacey Campfield, R-Knoxville, says that academic freedom should not be infringed on by professors be it in grading or through a hostile learning environment.

According to www.studentsforacademicfreedom.org/, Campfield said the bill is similar to the U.S. Bill of Rights and is intended to protect freedoms, not take them away.

"My purpose for introducing this bill is to ensure that diverse viewpoints can flourish in Tennessee's universities," Campfield wrote on the website.

"The bill provides a statewide grievance procedure by which students may seek redress if their academic rights have been violated.

"Those who fear this bill will chill classroom debate are only looking at the issue through the eyes of a professor."

Campfield said his bill, which was adopted unanimously as a Republican Caucus position, is intended to protect students' free speech.

"Hopefully we will be able to hold a hearing on this bill and hear from students across the state," said Campfield on his blog at <http://www.lastcar.blogspot.com>.

Krista Bristol, a junior, political science major believes that grievance procedures are already in place at Austin Peay State University.

"The issue of passing a bill in the legislature sounds great in theory.

A student's academic freedom should never, especially in the case of "state your opinion questions," be infringed upon by a professor with differing views.

The idea of a statewide grievance procedure, however, is where the problem lies.

There is already a statewide grievance procedure through the chain of command at each university that eventually leads to the Tennessee Board of Regents," said Bristol.

"We can already seek redress, and students probably have their rights violated every day.

The problem does not lie in the system but in the students who do not go through the current chain of command to have their

grievances solved," she said.

The APSU faculty senate composed a statement to ask legislators to review current Tennessee Board of Regents policies that are already in place.

Student rights are protected within the set policies by APSU according to faculty senate members.

"We welcome the concern shown by legislators who want to ensure that people at state colleges and universities are free from the fear of persecution over their personal

see student rights, page 3

Mass Comm broadens broadcast



ERIC MILLER/STAFF

Pierre Laurence reads broadcast copy on the air. Broadcasting students deliver up-to-date newscasts just before the top of the hour during their air shift.

WAPX-FM switches to 91.9 and begins broadcasting to Montgomery County

By STEPHEN WILLIAMS
Guest Writer

After 20 years of WAPX-FM, Clarksville's Magic 91.7 has entered a new stage of the station's life. On Feb. 28, the campus radio station commenced broadcasting from its new frequency, 91.9.

Professor David von Palko, director of broadcasting and cable services, said the new frequency is part of a deal negotiated with the Moody Bible Institute.

In return for the 91.7 frequency, the institute provided a sorely needed transmitter for the station.

It's been nearly two years since the old transmitter ceased functioning. During that time, the station was forced to operate at 250 watts under a special temporary authority granted by the FCC, down from the 3000 watts that broadcasted from the original transmitter.

The new transmitter broadcasts at 6000 watts, which covers all of Montgomery County and beyond, broadcasting to places as far as Joelton, Tenn.

"I haven't been able to go out and check the boundaries but generally speaking I was in Hopkinsville and there is a good strong signal on Sanderson Road and Highway 107, which is the backside of Hopkinsville. It has increased five miles," said von Palko.

The further reach of the new signal

increases the potential of Magic 91.9 to receive more listeners. "Audience base is going to increase a bit, at one point it was difficult getting out past gate one.

Now we are well past that and I think our audience will continue to increase," said von Palko.

While the frequency is new and broadcasts further, the station's goals remain the same. "We will continue to be a consistently diverse source of musical programming," von Palko said.

The communications department has made more plans to upgrade the radio station by an automation system.

The new automation system, called Pristine, will allow for specifically programmed events including sports and public affairs. "We added MARTI-it's a brand name as a term for remotes in the industry. This will help to originate programming from distant locations," said von Palko.

Pierre Laurence, senior broadcast media major, worked on the air for WAPX-FM when it only broadcasted at 250 watts and is now working airshifts that reach all of Montgomery county.

"It makes you feel more significant," Laurence said. "It gives you a better feel for what it's like in the actual workplace."

"Consistently diverse, commercial-free, the new 91.7," von Palko said. ♦

Mass Comm department gains sports broadcasting concentration

By STEPHEN WILLIAMS
Guest Writer

The communications department plans on adding another concentration to the broadcasting major, a sports broadcasting concentration, by fall of 2005.

Because of the new equipment communication faculty members said there was a need to add an additional concentration to the broadcasting major.

"We have been looking at sports broadcasting and discussing getting the new concentration for some time now," von Palko said.

"When we get the concentration, we can tie our new station and video into this concentration and make it powerful," he said.

Students have already been exposed to a few sports broadcasting courses, but faculty made a decision to expand their experience and offer more options.

"We already offer sports announcing, sports interviewing, and history/survey of sports broadcasting," von Palko said.

"Those were pretty obvious courses that any type of concentration like this will have, so we felt safe putting those together."

Some students are very excited about the addition of the new concentration.

"I've really been looking into this concentration.

I wanted to do something with sports and this might be the answer," said Phillip McKnight, a sophomore, undeclared major.

The department has put the creation of new courses for the concentration on hold until they hire a sports broadcasting professor.

"We haven't worked all the classes out yet. Before we decide have an entire concentration, we want to have a person on staff responsible for that program; we obviously want to make the new hire have a big input on how the program is developed and the types of classes we offer," said von Palko.

According to von Palko there is a group of candidates that the communication department is interviewing for the position.

He said the department hopes not only have the position filled by this summer, but to have the program up and running by fall.

"That person will be doing interviews in the next two weeks and then will likely be hired sometime after commencement and will come in August. "That's when the new concentration will take off," he said. ♦

Theft increases security awareness

By AMANDA COCHRANE
Assistant News Editor

Aramark employee, Sondra L. Meriweather, 29, of Clarksville, faces trial on May 18 for charges of theft and identity theft.

Meriweather was booked into the Montgomery County jail and was released on a \$6,000 bond. She was arrested by APSU Campus Police on April 6, according to court records.

Her arraignment was April 13. Meriweather was arrested after a student reported their Govs ID card stolen to campus police, according to police reports. Police said they used Morgan University Center cameras to identify where and when the ID was used.

APSU Campus Police Lt. Ron Szolek arrested Meriweather at her place of employment.

According to campus police, Meriweather completed a statement admitting to the use of the Govs ID on five occasions.

Dining services was not available for comment. ♦

Music department to recruit for university

By JOSHUA SMITH
Guest Writer

On April 11 and 12, the Austin Peay State University Wind Ensemble and music faculty took a tour to Memphis and surrounding areas to perform and reach out to prospective APSU students.

Their performances will take place at three high schools with up to 200 music students and a formal evening performance at the Germantown Performing Arts Center.

Gregory Wolynec, director of bands, and Andrea Brown, assistant director of bands, will conduct the performances from a selection of seven pieces, two of which are accompanied by soloists and music professors Susan Smith on trombone and Tichard Steffen on trumpet.

Two smaller chamber ensembles, trombone choir and brass quintet, will also play selected pieces.

Aside from the performances at the high schools, APSU's faculty and students will speak to the Memphis area high school students about APSU, including the numerous performance opportunities, scholarships, campus life and other departments of the

see recruitment, page 2

SGA continues to voice concerns on campus life

Senate finishes the semester with many new legislative decisions to accommodate students in Spring

By AMANDA COCHRANE
Assistant News Editor

Legislation has been the focus of the Student Government Association throughout this semester.

Several pieces have passed, and still more legislation is being brought to the table in the last week of the spring semester.

The first piece passed in the senate was the scholarship legislation. Dearina Hensley, author of the scholarship legislation said.

"Several student workers that I work with in the chemistry department addressed me concerning the issue that our scholarship requires only 6 hours

per week and we were working over 6 hours per week to acquire a total of 96 hours per semester."

The bill was passed and changes to the scholarship hours will start in the fall.

The next bill, proposed by Nick Pitts and Patrick Goolsby, would place six new speed bumps in Hand Village for safety purposes.

The bill has passed through the Senate and Student Tribunal. The speed bumps could possibly be put in this summer.

A bill to add card readers on vending machines that will take Gov bucks and debit cards was read in the senate

meeting April 13.

"The idea came from a transfer student from Texas A&M who thought it would be beneficial for students here at APSU. I started research about other universities who offered it and, also, if it was a possibility here," said Hensley. "I spoke with Tammy Silva, our Pepsi contract manager, and she referred me to Andy Kean who has helped a lot."

The reason why I want to write legislation about it is because I feel technology needs to be upgraded here at AP and, also, having card readers for gov's bucks and debit cards would be more convenient for most students," she said.

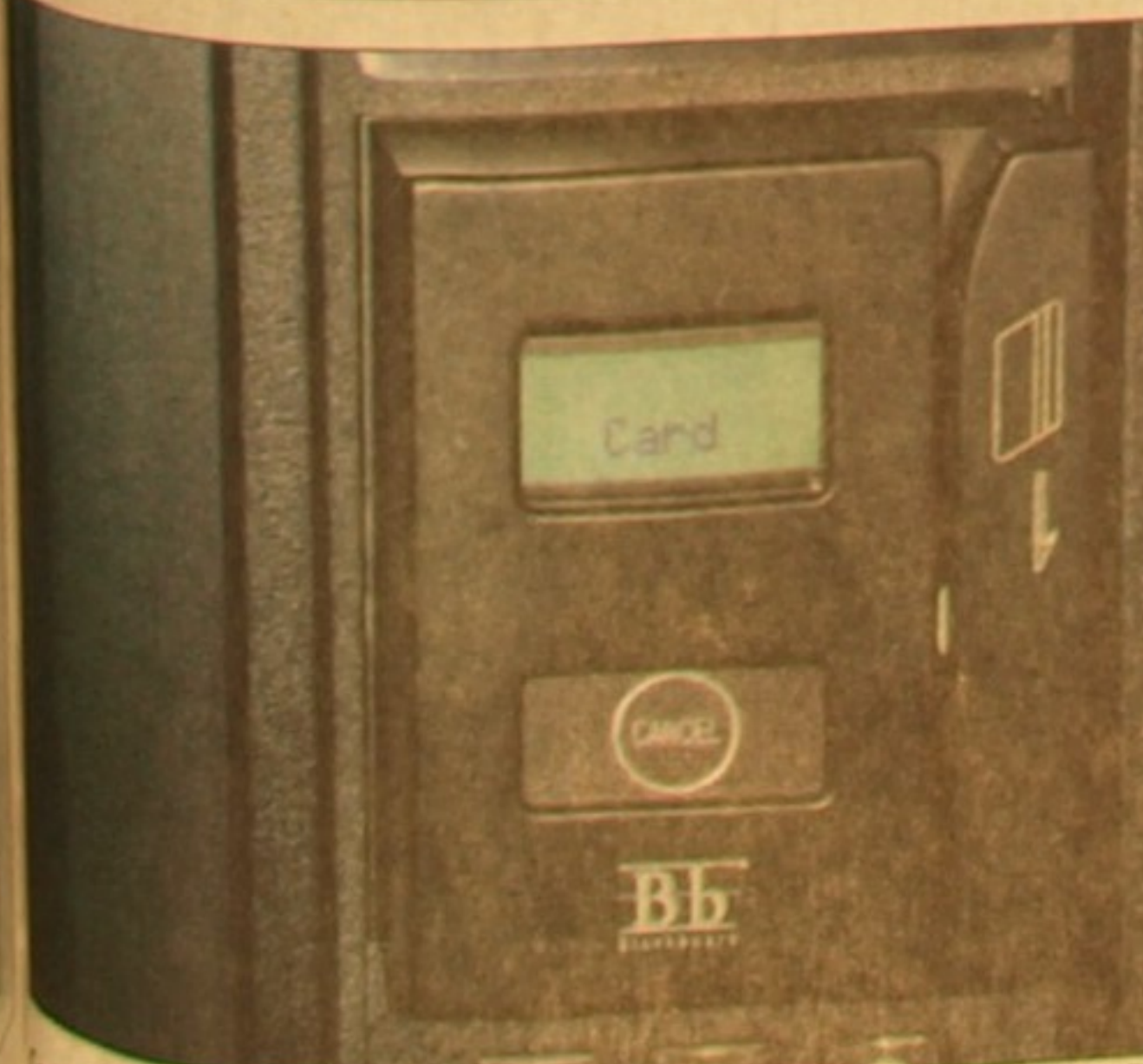
According to Andy Kean, statistics show that 23 percent of sales will go up on vending machines if the card readers are added.

University Facilities has 15 card readers that will have new software to make the interface work.

Vending machines at East Tennessee State University, Middle Tennessee State University and Tennessee Tech already have the card readers.

A test card reader is on the vending machine next to Java City. The bill passed through the senate and was sent to administration.

Two other bills have been read in the senate but have not gone to a vote. ♦



AMANDA COCHRANE/STAFF

Card reader, located on vending machine next to Java City, was placed to help availability for students to use Gov Bucks or debit cards.

Current discoveries of Tenn. and U.S. gas prices

By NICOLE SARTAIN
Guest Writer

Gas prices in Tennessee have been soaring in the past few months and experts say they are likely to continue rising throughout the United States—a rise that has been affecting many college students.

According to oil expert Colin J. Campbell, trustee of the Oil Depletion Analysis Centre OPEC can increase the gas prices, which allows the Middle East to produce less oil; in turn making the gas prices higher.

The ODAC is a charitable organization based in London working to raise international public awareness and promote better understanding of the world's oil-depletion problem.

"They are raising the price for America to use their oil because North America has consumed most of its oil," write Colin J. Campbell, in a study of the World Oil and Gas Industry.

"I have a feeling this is going to have a huge impact on not just me, but all APSU students," said sophomore, Jake Irish.

Latoya Jackson, Austin Peay State University junior from Jackson, Tenn., expected prices to change but anticipates that

problems won't increase for fellow students.

"Gas usually rises around this time of year anyway, I just hope it doesn't affect us anymore than it already has," she said.

"Maybe OPEC will change their minds and make gas prices lower. But for some reason, they only keep getting higher," said Jackson.

Students who commute everyday may have to slow down on gas mileage.

Jade Buckheimer, APSU sophomore, lives in Springfield and commutes, "which is a really big hassle because I only have one class on campus," he said.

"On average, I spend \$45 to fill up and after a week, I've already gone through \$100 worth of gas."

According to the an Associated Press report on April 25, President Bush prodded Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah on Monday to help curb skyrocketing oil prices, and the White House expressed hope that the kingdom's plans would ease U.S. gasoline prices that have shot above \$2.20 a gallon.

"A high oil price will damage markets, and he knows that," Bush said of Abdullah, the de facto leader of the desert kingdom. ♦

Rabbi speaks at forum



Rabbi Steven Greenberg, Director of CLAL, The National Jewish Center for Learning and leadership and award winning author, speaks to the crowd at the Asanbe Diversity Symposium about his book "Wrestling with God and Men: Homosexuality in the Jewish tradition."

THOMAS VAN HOOSER/STAFF

Student director premieres 'Whiskey Dancer'

By STEPHANIE COWARD
Staff Writer

"Whiskey Dancer," a film by Nathan Ellis, a junior media technologies major, will premier April 29 at 7 p. m. in the Clement auditorium.

The viewing is free and is the only chance the public will have to see the movie.

Both the lead actor and actress are Austin Peay State University students as well as two of the supporting actors from the six person cast.

Patrick Chester (Jessie) Alana Carere (Alex) take the leads while fellow students, Jessica Nault and Marc Leming both have supporting roles in the movie.

"Whiskey Dancer" is not the first movie Ellis has made. He began his film career in fifth grade, making his GI Joes come to life. He continued making small films throughout middle school, until finally in high school he made his first feature length film, "Matthew."

"Matthew" was premiered in front of 865 students and won best in show in a New England film festival, Ellis said.

Last year, Ellis filmed "A Good Life" which also stars Chester.

It was Ellis' second attempt at a feature length movie and Chester's first acting role. "A Good Life" was not premiered to the public, only Ellis' family and close friends have seen it, Ellis said. "Matthew" still remains Ellis' favorite of all the movies

he has made. Ellis said that he learned a lot during the making of "Matthew" and that it was a very trying experience. "In my mind, I don't think that I have ever beaten that movie. There is something about 'Matthew,'" Ellis said. "It's a good date movie," Ellis said of "Whiskey Dancer" which is his first attempt at a love story.

Ellis makes his movies with his own equipment. He uses a Canon GL2 for filming.

"Whiskey Dancer" was the first time Ellis external lighting in one of his films. He and Chester stumbled upon the lighting in Chester's garage. The lights were once used to spotlight Halloween decorations.

An external microphone was also used during filming, Ellis said that it made the sound quality a lot better.

"Whiskey Dancer" cost about \$400 to make and Ellis paid for it himself; he has no sponsors he said.

"I managed to get a lot of help from a lot of people," Ellis said.

Some of the actors worked for free, and Gateway Hospital allowed him to film there at no cost to him. "When you're a student, it goes a long way," Ellis said.

Those interested in getting a brief look into the movie before the April 29 preview can do so at the "Whiskey Dancer" website, www.whiskeydancer.com.

Ellis will find out if his second dream of becoming an army helicopter pilot will become a reality

this November.

This summer, Ellis will travel to Fort Lewis, Wash. for 32 days to participate in a Leadership Development Assessment Course. After that, he will go to Korea for four weeks to shadow a platoon leader and receive his first army evaluation, Ellis said.

His performance this summer will determine his branch placement when he becomes a commissioned officer in May 2006.

Ellis said that he will find out in November if he will be able to pursue army aviation, and right now, his chances look good.

Many children dream of becoming a pilot yet so few achieve it, Ellis says that flying helicopters with the army is something that he knows he will be happy doing.

"Every time I see a helicopter or plane fly overhead, it reminds me of how much I love to fly. There's nothing else I can imagine doing," Ellis said.

"The army's flight training is awesome," Ellis said. He chose to fly with the army because he likes the close knit style of the military and the overall life experiences.

"It's a good foundation to start off with," Ellis said.

Next May, Ellis will be sworn into the army as a 2nd Lieutenant, and start his eight year requirement. He plans to get out after he makes captain to further pursue his film career and civilian aviation. ♦



STEPHANIE COWARD/STAFF

Nathan Ellis finds a moment to relax in between classes and movie making; Ellis' film "Whiskey Dancer" premieres April 29.

Good Morning APSU Campus Community

How would you like a \$750 scholarship for talking on the phone?

The APSU Office of Admissions will have positions open this summer in our Student Telecounseling Admissions Representatives (STARS) program. There are no exceptions for outside jobs or extra-curricular activities on campus. If interested, please email the following information: Name, Social Security number, Year in School, Phone number where you can be reached before the semester's end. No phone inquiries to our main office please. All inquiries should be made to the following email addresses: Makeba Webb - webbm@apsu.edu or Jonathan Jeans - jeansj@apsu.edu. For more information please contact Makeba Webb at webbm@apsu.edu or Jonathan Jeans at jeansj@apsu.edu.

You're not too late to help.

Volunteers are still needed to help clean up Eighth Street for two hours on Saturday, April 30 from 9-11 a.m. If we finish sooner, we'll stop and we won't clean up longer than two hours. For more information please contact Heather Legg at leggh@apsu.edu or 6357.

Scholarships available

Applications are now being accepted for the Minority Advisors to Assist Peers (MAAPS) Scholarship. Deadline is Friday, April 29 into Student Affairs. For more information please contact Vanessa Fountain at fountainv@apsu.edu or 7341.

Honoring 2005 Graduates

Felix G. Woodward library extends an invitation to the students, faculty, staff and administration to join us on April 27, 2005 at 10 a.m. to honor the Graduating Class of 2005, refreshments will be served. Graduates are asked to come at any time during operating hour to sign 2005 Graduates Poster on display. For more information please contact Judith Garrett at garrettj@apsu.edu or 7978.

SPAM Alert

There continues to be a rash of spam emails pretending to be from financial institutions being received around campus. Delete any email from any bank requesting personal information. No reputable firm will request personal information through email. Questions should be directed to the Help Desk at 4357 (HELP). For more information please contact Jeff Walton at waltonj@apsu.edu or 6312.

Dance Marathon

Moving it next semester to Homecoming week, Vanderbilt Children's hospital will receive the funds from the event. The marathon will be from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. For more information, contact Jennifer James at 7837.

ACLU-TN APSU Student Club

The ACLU-TN APSU Student Club meets from 2:30 p.m.-4 p.m., Thursdays, in UC 308. For more information please contact John Chambers at jchambls14@apmail.apsu.edu at 1-877-557-9606

SOCCER CAMP 2005

Soccer Camps for Boys and Girls All Ages Information Now Available. To register call Camp Director Coach Poole Guth Discount for Students and Staff. For more information please contact Kelley Poole Guth at poolek@apsu.edu at 7972.

Corrections...

Summer prompts new housing renovations:

Summer school check-in for housing is June 5 not May 28.

Recruitment: showing musical skills for scholarship money

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university for those with interest in other fields.

"We essentially act as ambassadors for the entire campus," says Wolynec. "We let the students know what is available throughout the whole campus."

"We also pass out information cards for them to fill out for music department use, and we also give them to the admissions office."

The group did a tour last year in the same area which has shown an impact for the music department and university.

"We are definitely forging new relationships with band directors throughout the West Tennessee region," Brown said.

One of the pieces being performed on the

"We are definitely forging new relationships with band directors throughout the West Tennessee region,"

— Andrea Brown, assistant director of bands

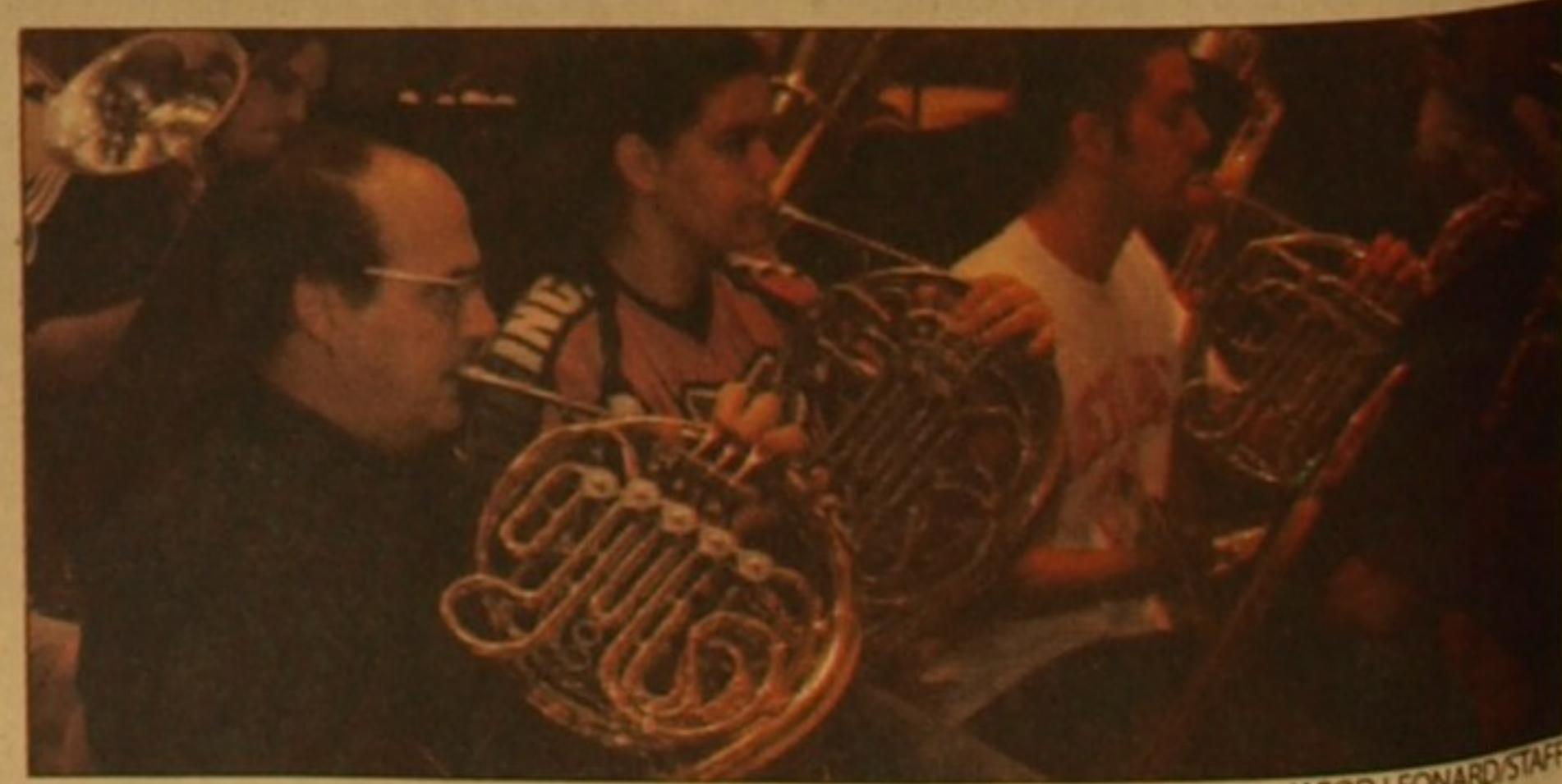
tour, Music for Prague 1968 by Czech composer Karel Husa, is written to depict the Soviet invasion of the city of Prague in 1968. "It's very difficult but a lot of fun to play," said Brandon Wilson, a grad student touring with the wind ensemble.

"To Walk with Wings by Julie Giroux is another one of my favorites, it's very bombastic and loud."

Wilson said the tour is good because it gives the high school students insight on the interesting pieces that are selected for the ensembles, and it is also a good thing for them to see APSU's faculty perform.

With the lack of diversity in the music department, Wolynec expects that recruiting students from more racially diverse band programs of the Memphis area will help increase diversity in the department.

After the group returns from touring, they will perform many of the selected pieces in a concert on April 26, 7:30 p.m. in the music/mass communications concert hall. ♦



JAROD LEONARD/STAFF

Students from the APSU Wind Ensemble are warming up for their upcoming concerts.

Business Manager scholarship position
scholarship position
scholarship position
now available at the allstate

Applications can be picked up in the Student Life Office (UC 115).

Familiarity with Peachtree Software, Microsoft Office, and accounting are required.

Deadline for applications is May 5th.

Tennessee Senate votes on comprehensive ethics reform



Sen. John Ford, D-Memphis, left, takes issue with ethics bill for exempting lawyers from certain provisions as Sen. Roy Herron, D-Dresden, right, looks on during discussion on the Senate floor in Nashville, Tenn., Monday, April 25, 2005. AP PHOTO/JOHN RUSSELL

By MATT GOURAS
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE—The Senate was voting on sweeping ethics reform that aims to ban state contractors from hiring public officials.

Leading lawmakers hope the measure improves an image tarnished by mounting allegations that Memphis Sen. John Ford has held private consulting deals with close connections to state contractors.

The House passed the bill Thursday, and the measure goes to Gov. Phil Bredesen if it clears the Senate. The governor, who canceled a scheduled trip to Japan this week, has said he looks forward to signing ethics reform.

Although some lawmakers have groused over the bill, few have voted against it during the package's trip through the General Assembly.

Bill sponsor Sen. Roy Herron, D-Dresden, said he would be surprised if it wasn't finalized Monday night.

Legislative leaders from both parties have rallied behind the reform package, which makes it a misdemeanor for state or local public officials to engage in lobbying or consulting deals. It also clarifies that any payment that rises to the level of bribery trading cash directly for a vote will continue to be a felony.

The measure also will require lawmakers to report the business names and addresses for all sources of their income. Right now, lawmakers

can simply report broad areas they earn income in, like "consulting" or "insurance."

Legislative leaders have promised more ethics legislation this session, including more rules for lobbyists and campaign finance reform.

In recent weeks, the TennCare contractors connected to Ford have scurried to distance themselves from the Memphis Democrat and fired executives close to the consulting deals.

The state is investigating the contractors, and Ford is the subject of state and federal probes into his business dealings.

The Senate unanimously passed a sweeping ethics reform bill Monday night. The vote was 33-0.

Eta Sigma Phi is chartered to accommodate Classics honor students

By DAN MAURER
Staff Writer

The classics program at Austin Peay State University is growing, much to the pleasure of Timothy Winters, head of the classics program.

Winters has worked to increase the awareness and interest in classical studies, and as a result there are more students studying the classics now than before.

To augment this growth, and to offer greater rewards, Winters announced that APSU will be home to the newly chartered chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, the National Classics Honorary Society.

This honor society is designed to develop and promote interest in classical studies.

"The idea is to provide an outlet for students studying classics and to gain some recognition for that even on the national level," Winters initially got involved with Eta Sigma Phi while working on

"The idea is to provide an outlet for students studying classics and to gain some recognition for that even on the national level."

- Tim Winters, assistant professor of Languages and Literature

the faculty at BYU. Since he now has many more majors and minors in the classics department, he felt the timing could not be more auspicious. The planning stages are well under way and the activities will really kick off in the fall.

Among other things, Eta Sigma Phi plans to bring several guest speakers to the APSU campus, where they can give their presentations before an audience of peers and scholars.

As an example of the types of events they have planned, Olga Pealagia, an expert on the Parthenon, will be speaking both at Vanderbilt and APSU.

They will also hold an annual banquet to honor outstanding achievements in the study of classics. It is the hope of both the faculty and the students that this will bring greater visibility to the classics program, and thereby establish Eta Sigma Phi as a real presence on campus.

Eta Sigma Phi was founded in 1914 and there are, counting APSU, 183 chapters throughout the United States.

There are many benefits of membership in the prestigious honor society, including the annual convention, subscription to the biannual newsletter, honors cords and sashes for graduation, travel scholarships to Greece and Southern Italy, bronze and silver medals of achievement, and eligibility for a Latin teacher training scholarship.

Student rights: protected by bill

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the statement reads.

"As an alternative to the legislation proposed, we recommend that the legislature first review existing policies and procedures.

"This review shows that existing policies and procedures are adequate; then either policies and procedures would be changed without legislation or, if necessary, legislation could be crafted in concert with the existing policies."

"This would ensure that the changes do not conflict with existing policies and improve the protections afforded to people at the state colleges and universities."

"We believe the rights of students and faculty should be protected. This includes the right to be free from the fear of persecution over their personal beliefs. We believe students' rights at APSU, as well as other universities, are well and properly protected by existing regulations and policies set forth and approved by governing boards (TBR and the Tennessee Higher Education Council).

"On that basis, we believe further legislation or legislation is duplicative. There is a real risk of conflict between existing policies and new legislation, this could undermine the protections currently given by existing policies and procedures."

Tim Winters, assistant professor of Languages and Literature said during the faculty senate meeting that

students already have the right to free speech.

"Why does the Tennessee legislature have to rewrite the constitution of the United States?" he asked.

William Rayburn, associate professor of business and president of the faculty senate believes that students' rights are protected in the policies by APSU.

"Concern about ensuring each student's rights predates the idea of legislative action, and I think the best way to ensure a student's rights is through our university and governing board policies and regulations," said Rayburn.

"I feel we already have policies in place at universities that are set up to deal with something like this if it comes up." When asked if it would stifle his classroom environment, Rayburn said, "I favor having an open, respectful environment in my classroom where a diversity of opinion is welcomed. Our existing policies have created that. Many faculty are concerned about the potential for stifling classroom interactions, and I think it is possible, especially in certain disciplines."

Rachelle Pate, a sophomore, communications major has a different opinion.

"I think that professors should have a right to oversee grading and discussion. If a professor is forced to withhold information, the student remains ignorant."

We are in college and it is time to expand what we think rather than prevent hearing or discussing issues

that may be unsettling to us," said Pate.

"And on another note, students will not make progress in the workplace if they are not harshly graded and observed while they learn," she said.

The thought of stifling classroom environments is different to Bristol.

"The idea of higher education is that there is always room to be presented with differing views on the world. This does not mean that a person has to agree with them, however, it does teach a person to defend his or her views," said Bristol.

"People will always be opinionated, and a bill in the legislature will not change that."

The professor is supposed to be presenting different arguments, in classes where this pertains and not so much the natural sciences and mathematics, whether they believe them or not in order to incite conversation and participation," she said.

Other universities have responded to the academic freedom bill as well. According to studentsforacademicfreedom.org, at Middle Tennessee State University, the student government association passed a resolution by a nearly unanimous vote to adopt an academic freedom policy to protect students' rights, which was inspired by House Bill 432.

Meanwhile, in Pennsylvania where legislation is expected to be introduced later this spring, the student government at Pennsylvania State University passed a resolution by a vote of 11-to-1 formally endorsing the Student Bill of Rights.

Congratulations to All the Nominees and Recipients of the 2005 Student Organization and Leader Awards from the Division of Student Affairs

Individual Awards

Vice President's Excellence in Leadership Award	Michael Gaither Jerresa Lewis
Governors Cup Leadership Award	Benessa Defend Christopher Poynter
Governors Pride Leadership Award	Feras Sadik Jacqueline Heath
Greek Woman of the Year	Naydia Spears
Greek Man of the Year	Justin Roper
Distinguished Student Leaders of the Year Celebration and Promotion of Diversity Philanthropic/Community Service Spiritual Development Peer Education Wellness and Life Balance Student Success	Feras Sadik Krista Bristol Amanda Ebersole Benessa Defend Deanna Hensley Charles Frazier Steven L. Young
Governors Rising Leaders	Krista Bristol John Carl Garrett Bruce Shanks Diana Wooten
Andrew Simmons Intramural Leader of the Year	Christopher Smalling
Athlete Leader of the Year	Cassandra Peek John Beamer
Graduate Student Leader of the Year	Stephanie Highsmith Evans
Betty Joe Wallace Women's Activist Award	Jenny Renegar
Valor Award	Tyrece Skinner Scott Monteiro Stacey Francis
Silent Inspiration Student Award	Jennifer Herman
Student Organization Adviser of the Year	Beulah Oldham Larry Lowrance
Exemplary Staff Member of the Year Exemplary Faculty Member of the Year	Lynne Yarbrough Glenn Carter
Housing Program Assistant of the Year	Charles Bridgers, IV

Organization Awards

Student Organization of the Year	Del Square Psi Physics Club
Greek Organization of the Year	Chi Omega Women's Fraternity Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity
Most Spirited Organization of the Year	Sigma Chi Fraternity
Presidents Cup for Academic Excellence	Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Chi Omega Women's Fraternity Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity
Rising Star Organization of the Year	Student Organization Council

Program Awards

Multicultural Program of the Year "Collegiate Black History Bowl"	NAACP, APSU College Chapter and Student Tennessee Education Association
Outstanding Community Service Program "Voter Education and Registration"	NAACP, APSU College Chapter and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Outstanding Fundraiser of the Year "Derby Days"	Sigma Chi Fraternity
Outstanding Program of the Year "Stay Live Suicide Rally"	Gamma Sigma Sigma and Sigma Phi Epsilon
Housing/Residence Life Program of the Year	Harvill Hall Staff, Fall 2004 Jason Jackson, John Spears, Parker Goolsby, Morgan Halfhill, Trina Mumallah
Thousand Points of Light Award "Dance Marathon"	Sigma Chi Gamma Sigma Sigma Chi Omega Alpha Delta Pi NAACP, APSU College Chapter Zeta Phi Beta



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"Empowering students to reach their full potential!"

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1 STUDY HARD

Lottery scholars must maintain a 2.75 GPA after 24 attempted hours and a 3.0 after 48, 72, 96, and 120 attempted credit hours. Please be aware that your HOPE GPA may be different than your institutional GPA as it appears on your transcript.

2 REAPPLY WITH FAFSA

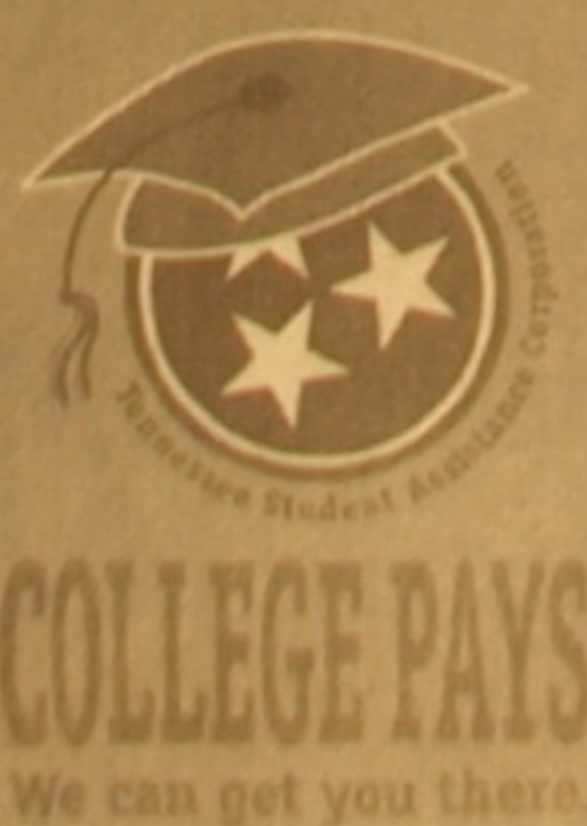
FAFSAs must be processed by May 1 and are available from your financial aid office.

3 STAY ENROLLED FULL-TIME

If you start the semester as a full-time student you CANNOT drop below 12 credit hours or you lose your scholarship. However, students who start the semester part-time are eligible for prorated awards. *ALWAYS check with your advisor or the financial aid office before changing your enrollment status.

To learn more about financial aid opportunities
call or visit the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation at

1-800-342-1663



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WORLD NEWS

Children of war



A young boy runs past a police bunker in Toribio, Colombia, Sunday, April 24, 2005. Eleven days of fighting in the region have forced the closure of all the schools in the region, as nearly 7,000 students enter their third week without classes. One 9-year-old boy died in the fighting.

AP PHOTO/ZOE SELSKY

Sustained fighting in war-torn Colombia closes schools, affects thousands of children

By DAN MOLINSKI
Associated Press Writer

Thousands of children in southwest Colombia began a third week without school Monday amid the most intense fighting between government forces and leftist insurgents in years, including an attack that killed one student.

With classes suspended, hundreds of fearful civilians have sought shelter in the Cecidic school in Toribio, the main school in this part of the Andes. With dormitories for teachers and students who live far away, it serves a rugged region inhabited mostly by Indians who want no part in the conflict.

About 7,000 students region-wide entered their third week with schools closed.

The fighting erupted on April 14 when the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, bombarded Toribio, 250 miles southwest of Bogotá, killing Yorfán Armando Trochez, a 9-year-old at Cecidic. His classmates say school won't be the same without him.

"I'll be sad because Yorfán sat right next to me in class," said second-grader Dania Vanessa Isaza, her large, brown eyes welling with tears. "He would always lend me a pencil or give me a piece of candy."

Reinaldo Opocue, the school's

headmaster, tried to reopen classes a few days later. But the clashes persisted, often encroaching on the school.

Government reinforcements arrived by helicopter as an armored column unsuccessfully tried to reach the town by punching through rebel lines.

"We were unable to teach math while gunshots whizzed by," Opocue said. "And it wasn't difficult just for the students. The teachers were terrified as well."

The fighting has now spread along at least a 14-mile front, and every day, gunfire and explosions echo throughout the jungle-covered mountains. Homes, vehicles and even horses have been outfitted with white flags in hopes the warring sides will not shoot at them.

On Sunday Colombia's top military leaders toured the region and reported progress in regaining control of the area. But FARC said it was holding its ground.

It is the first time in years that the FARC has fought pitched battles against government forces instead of simply carrying out hit-and-run attacks.

Instead of math, the children are learning about warfare. While 12-year-old Dina Lizet was speaking to a reporter in Toribio, a large

explosion was heard.

Asked whether it was a mortar round, Dina responded matter-of-factly: "No, that was a gas cylinder bomb. A mortar round does not have as loud of a thud sound."

The fighting on the western face of the Central Cordillera of the Andes Mountains represents the rebels' boldest challenge since President Álvaro Uribe was elected three years ago on pledges he would crush the 40-year-old insurgency.

The FARC has long had a presence in the region, where Nasa Indians made up 98 percent of the population.

Markos Yule, regional education director, said FARC rebels have tried to enroll their own children in local schools, but the tribe, not wanting to associate with a warring faction, has kept them out.

The Indians used to reject schools because students were forced to speak Spanish rather than the indigenous language. Children were whipped for uttering even a word of the Nasa language.

But then a push was made to integrate the indigenous language, said Yule, wearing a traditional brown and beige vest called a kapisayo. Attendance jumped from 900 students in 1990 to 6,900 today.

Half the Indian students are now

studying the native language, but it is still slowly passing out of use, Yule said.

The students, who wear T-shirts, shorts and tennis shoes, say they prefer to speak Spanish and only take the language classes because their parents told them to.

The rebels said their assault on Toribio was a message to the government that they will not accept the presence of police or military forces in town centers. Two years ago, a large police bunker was built near Toribio's main square.

Colombia's army chief, Gen. Reinaldo Castellanos, who toured the zone with Ospina on Sunday, vowed to restore state authority. "We are ready ... to flush them (the FARC) out of here," he said.

Since the start of the rebel offensive, the military has reported a total of five soldiers and three police officers killed. The rebels have denied any deaths in their ranks.

The FARC, created with the aim of overthrowing the government and bringing greater justice and opportunity to the poor, has instead been widely condemned because of its involvement in the drug trade and extortion rackets, and its reliance on frequent kidnappings.

More than 3,000 people are killed each year in the conflict.



AP PHOTO/PIER PAOLO OTTO

Pope Benedict XVI holds a statue of the Virgin Mary with Child given to him as a gift during an audience with German pilgrims in the Paul VI hall at the Vatican, Monday, April 25, 2005.

New Pope meets religious leaders

By NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press

A day after reaching out to other Christians and to Jews in his installation Mass, Pope Benedict XVI met Monday with members of the Muslim community, assuring them the church wanted to continue building "bridges of friendship" that he said could foster peace in the world.

Benedict made the comments while meeting with religious leaders who attended Sunday's installation ceremony, saying he was particularly grateful that members of the Muslim community were present.

"I express my appreciation for the growth of dialogue between Muslims and Christians, both at the local and international level," he said.

He noted that the world is marked by conflicts but longs for peace.

"Yet peace is also a duty to which all peoples must be committed, especially those who profess to belong to religious traditions," he said. "Our efforts to come together and foster dialogue are a valuable contribution to building peace on solid foundations."

"It is therefore imperative to engage in authentic and sincere dialogue, built on respect for the dignity of every human person, created as we Christians firmly believe, in the image and likeness of God," he said.

Later, Benedict kiddingly told an audience of German pilgrims that at one point during the conclave he viewed the idea of being elected pope as a "guillotine," and he prayed to God to be spared selection.

"As the trend in the ballots slowly made me realize that, in a manner of speaking, the guillotine would fall on me. I started to feel quite dizzy," a smiling Benedict said, clearly joking. "I thought that I had done my life's work and could now hope to live out my days in peace. I told the Lord with deep conviction, 'Don't do this to me.'"

Speaking in his native German, Benedict, 78, told the audience that a cardinal slipped him a note of paper reminding him what he had preached about Christ calling Peter to follow him even if he did not want to go.

"Evidently, this time he didn't listen to me," the pontiff said.

Benedict was interrupted several times by applause and cheering, and he seemed to enjoy the welcome from his countrymen, smiling and chuckling. He apologized for being late, saying the meeting with the religious leaders had been "heartfelt" and had gone late.

"The Germans are used to punctuality," he joked. "I'm already very Italian."

The Vatican did not say which Muslim leaders attended the meeting, which was closed to the press.

It did release a list of those who attended Sunday's Mass, including Saeed Taghavi, head of the office of religious minorities in Iran's culture ministry, and the head of Rome's central mosque.

Two dozen Buddhist representatives also were on the list, which included the Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams; Metropolitan Chrysostomos, a top envoy for Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, the spiritual leader of the world's Christian Orthodox Church; and a senior representative of the Russian Orthodox Church, Metropolitan Kirill.

Most Jewish leaders could not attend the Mass because it coincided with Passover.

"I assure you that the church wants to continue building bridges of friendship with the followers of all religions, in order to seek the true good of every person and of society as a whole," Benedict said.

The message was significant because Benedict had left out any specific mention of Muslims in his inaugural homily, although he had directed a greeting to "believers and nonbelievers alike."

In the homily, he specifically mentioned Jews, calling them his "brothers and sisters" who were joined with Catholics in a "shared spiritual heritage." He also called several times for full communion of Christians.

Benedict repeated that message Monday, telling ecumenical leaders that he fully supported the need to work toward uniting Christians divided by schism and saying the ecumenical presence at his installation was a good sign.

"Your presence, dear brothers in Christ, beyond that which divides us and casts a shadow over our full and visible communion, is a sign of sharing and support for the bishop of Rome, which can count on you for following the path in the hope and for the belief toward he who is the head, the Christ," he said.

In his homily Sunday, Benedict said he wanted to shape his papacy by being a "listener" and not set off by imposing his own ideas.

"My real program of governance is not to do my own will, not to pursue my own ideas, but to listen, together with the whole church, to the word and the will of the Lord," Benedict said in his inauguration homily.

The pope did not elaborate, but the speech suggested his papacy could study some pressing issues, such as greater social activism and ways to reverse the decline of church attendance and the dwindling number of priests in the West. In his previous role as guardian of church teaching, he had staunchly opposed calls for fundamental changes such as ending bans on contraception or for allowing women to become priests.

"I was quite prejudiced against him at first," said Maria Theising-Otte, a teacher from a Catholic grammar school in Handrup, Lower Saxony, who was among the German pilgrims lining up for their audience with the pope.

"But now that I've seen him, read about him, I've changed my mind. I think he came across quite human, very modest and decent," during his installation Mass on Sunday, she said.

She was with 1,800 students from the Gymnasium Leonium Handrup who traveled to Rome.

"You never know when you have a chance to do it again, to see him face to face," she said.

Later Monday, Benedict was to celebrate a Mass at a Rome basilica, St. Paul Outside the Walls.

Since being elected pope April 19, Benedict has sought a more inclusive image.

Benedict's effort to reach out to Jews carries an added dimension because of his membership in the Hitler Youth and later as a German army conscript during World War II.

He has said he was forced into participating.

"With his German background, I certainly believe that he will be sympathetic toward Jews and I think he will continue the path of John Paul II, who made some very significant symbolic gestures," said Menachem Friedman, a sociology professor at Bar Ilan University in Israel. "But I think it is much too early to comment."

North Korea may test nukes

United States willing to take issue to United Nations

By SOO-JEONG LEE
Associated Press

North Korea warned North Korea on Monday against conducting a nuclear test, saying one would further isolate the communist state and undermine its economy. The United States called the test a resistance to international disarmament talks unacceptable.

Concerns that the isolated North is trying to develop a nuclear arsenal have increased after it apparently shut down a nuclear reactor recently.

South Korea's foreign minister, Ban Ki-moon, said in a speech on Monday that North Korea "cannot have its future guaranteed" if it conducts a nuclear test.

"Nuclear weapons can never guarantee North Korea's security and will only bring about and worsen the isolation of its politics and economy,"

— Ban Ki-moon, South Korean foreign minister

"nuclear deterrent."

North Korea lashed out at Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice for recently saying that Washington was willing to take the nuclear issue to the United Nations.

"If the United States wants so much to drag the nuclear issue to the U.N. Security Council, it may do so," North Korea's Foreign Ministry spokesman said, according to the North's official Korean Central News Agency. "However,

we want to make clear that we will regard sanctions as a declaration of war."

North Korea declared in February that it had nuclear weapons and was boycotting international disarmament talks, which also involve the United States, China, South Korea and Russia. Since then, efforts to get the North back to the bargaining table have floundered.

Washington's top envoy on the North Korean nuclear issue met with South Korean officials Monday and discussed ways to revive the negotiations.

"What we are focusing on is the diplomatic track and the need to get the talks going, and more importantly, once they get going, to achieve progress in the talks," Christopher Hill, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, said following his meeting with his South Korean counterpart, Song Min-soon.

Washington is reportedly exploring other options in stopping North Korea from building up its alleged nuclear arsenal.

The New York Times reported in its Monday editions that the Bush

administration is debating a plan to seek a U.N. resolution allowing countries to intercept shipments in or out of North Korea that may contain nuclear materials or components.

The proposed resolution, promoted by a growing number of senior administration officials, would enable the U.S. and other nations to intercept shipments in international waters off the Korean Peninsula, and force down aircraft for inspection, the Times reported.

The United States has told China and its other negotiating partners that it has serious concerns about "recent provocative statements" by North Korea on its nuclear weapons intentions.

During three previous rounds of negotiations, North Korea has claimed to have nuclear capability and the potential to demonstrate it.

American analysts have said during the past week that they believe some of the claims are genuine. U.S. intelligence analysts have estimated in the past that North Korea has produced at least two nuclear bombs.

Grudges are useless

By CHARLES BRIDGERS IV
Assistant Opinion Editor

I did not expect to finish out this semester as unofficial opinion editor of *The All State*. One minute, I'm Dave's unreliable assistant, and the next I'm in charge of an entire section. The job comes with more than its fair share of stress (I don't know how he does it), but I have learned a great deal from this experience.

It would be inaccurate for me to state that I was the only person in charge of this section. *The All State's* editor in chief and managing editor, just to name a few, constantly changed headlines and redesigned how each page looked. I'd estimate that sometimes up to four or five people were evaluating my moves at any given time. As time went by I started doing more of it myself. Regardless, I've had a lot of help with this job.

Working at *The All State* has taught me the importance of teamwork. I'm a loner by nature, and I have been since elementary school. Set in my ways, I don't let many people criticize me. Having a job at the newspaper taught me that my work needs editing. If I made a mistake or did a bad job as a writer, it didn't reflect on me but the whole paper. This especially came into play when I took an editor position. I had to look at the big picture. Headlines and articles had to be adjusted so everything could fit on the page.

The writers and I had to learn give and take. Working at a newspaper definitely entails losing a lot of control over your work. If we all drop our egos and focus on putting a paper out, students will have something interesting to read every Wednesday. By sacrificing our pride, our ideas combined to form what I still believe to be the best section of *The All State*. Unity definitely creates a better newspaper. It is

the essence of every aspect of our lives.

No one can achieve their goals alone. This is something I have learned about the Christian faith as well. For several years, I have been holding a grudge against churches. A couple in particular, but I hated them all without reason. I decided to worship God on my own; I didn't need a church to corrupt my spirituality.

You cannot hold grudges towards people on a newspaper staff. They are your co-workers; if you have serious problems with them, the paper will reflect those problems (much to your eventual embarrassment).

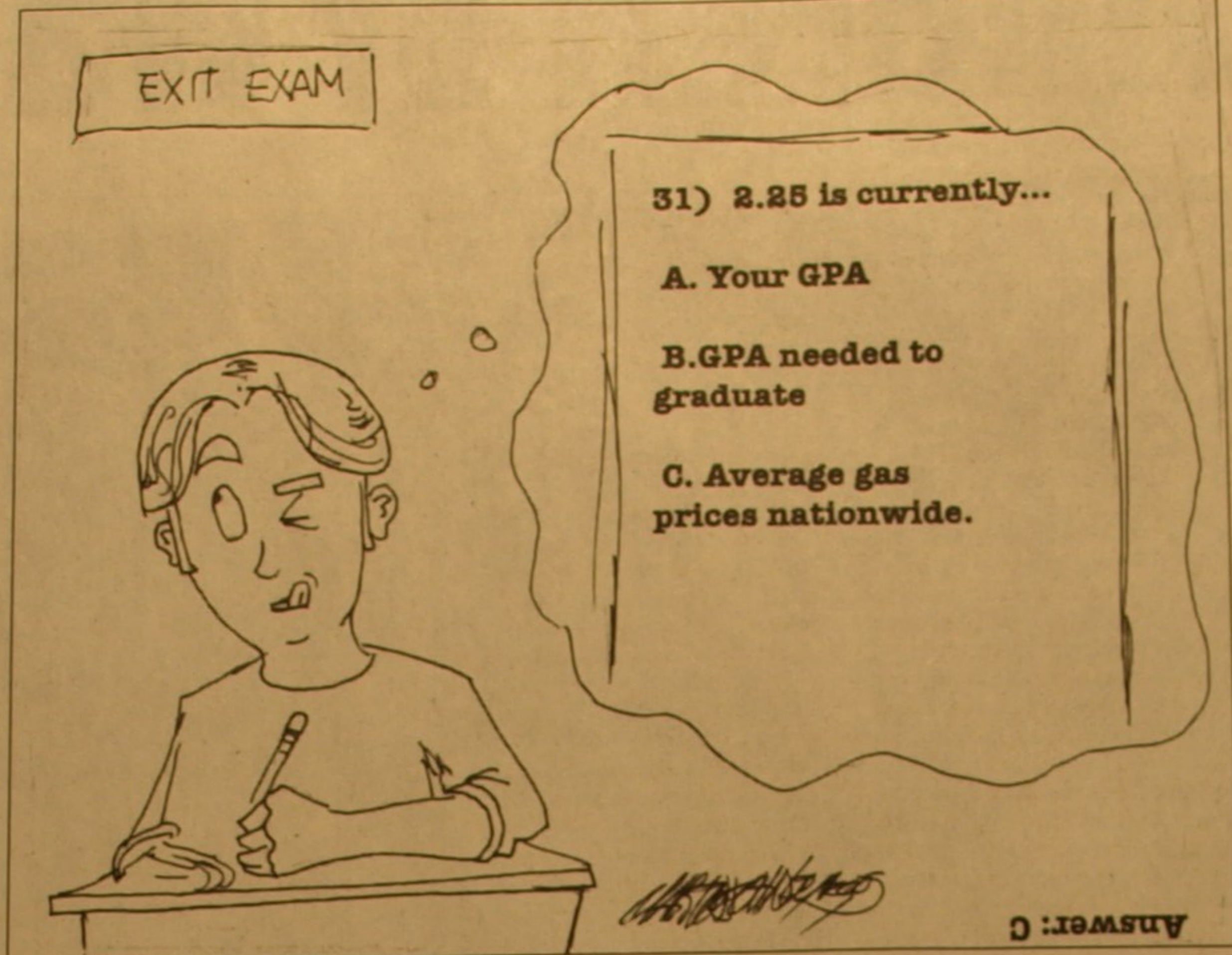
What I am trying to get at here is that I cannot let petty hatred keep me from working with other people. I might've had a few bad experiences with churches, but that doesn't mean I should just leave God's house behind forever.

Also, I cannot let a few mishaps with *The All State* keep me from ever working on the staff. As I have written before, my times as a writer and assistant editor have not always been to my liking. I did pack up and leave the paper the first time, but I came back because I refused to let the past ruin the work I could do in the future.

When things don't go my way, I usually leave instead of trying to improve things. Thinking like this damages the growth process of myself and people around me. I am leaving the paper because it interferes with my busy schedule instead of hatred.

This semester, my writers and I leave a legacy of joining together to create journalistic art in spite of our different beliefs. I am very proud of their work. Thank you Phil, Kurt, Daniel, Amanda, Erin, Jose, guest writers and anyone who wrote a letter.

Dave, you are an editing legend. ♦



By MARTIN FOX

YOUR TAKE

Marijuana debate dimbs higher

Having been referred to as an after school special, it is obvious who spends their time watching Big Bird and Cookie Monster on the PBS channel. It is nice to know however that they have clearly helped you with the distinction between the letters X and Y, but the combination of PBS which I will call X and Austin Peay State University which I will call Y have clearly not helped with your overall intelligence level, which has no distinct characteristic.

You start your article by bashing and degrading business majors and the math requirements for the school of business. I am sure the rest of the APSU business majors are just as eager as I am to know what that has to do with smoking marijuana. I will, however, reply to your direct insult by letting those who do not already know, that your major is only one step above the bottom, which I do believe is something related to underwater basket weaving. Though I have heard that is an exciting field to go into, maybe you should try that too! And did you know that modern science is able to train a lab monkey to perform the same duties as a psychology major? Simply amazing! But I guess it couldn't hurt the world to have another useless mind in the psychology field. So graduate with some pride, Seth, as your degree will render you with very little future promises.

Now, if my article were interpreted by a logical person (thus obviously not being you), they would most likely compare it to yours by simply saying, "Wow, at least this Daw guy makes a valid point." You, on the other hand, seem to be concerned with bragging about your love of cocaine and smoking dope. Truly admirable to any average low life. As the rest of us see it, you are just another lost cause in a

world of prospering young adults. Why would you even bother to compare adding one illegal substance to another with adding a controlled substance to a perfectly legal glass of beer? Has the hamster truly stopped running in the treadmill or are you just giving away your strategies for bringing home women who otherwise would never talk to you? Yes, that must be it Seth, by adding rohypnol to a glass of beer suddenly now, poor women, so drug induced, are helpless to your otherwise discouraging ways.

Even if it were legalized do you honestly believe that people would just stop adding extras to the marijuana? Of course not. Some burnout, probably much like yourself, would still be looking for a way to get a little bit more high out of their weed. Furthermore, why should we legalize it, when in fact you make a very good point as to the negative side and why it should remain illegal? You said yourself that by smoking marijuana the tar and other chemicals will eventually lead to lung problems. Absolutely brilliant Seth, let's just legalize something else that causes lung problems. As if cigarettes are not causing enough of that. Again, I must say that you are right, Seth. Let us consider the number of people that are in jail and the families ruined by a father, mother, brother or sister that has been imprisoned because they just had to break a simple law. Let's all be liberal like Seth for a moment and offer the imprisoned ones pity. Better yet, let's be realistic and civil like the real world and offer our pity to the lives they have ruined because of their selfish need to smoke dope and get arrested. You know, Seth, the daughter of some father who was arrested for that and now she has to go to school everyday and hear from her peers how her father is a convicted drug user. That has to be really great for that poor child and what a thrill it must be

to never have her father around because of his selfishness. You never know, Seth, that could be your daughter one day, and wouldn't you love it when your daughter got older and was able to finally call you a loser and disown for the problems you caused her when she was little. I know that is what the rest of us want as parents, or at least those of us who are business majors (hence the sarcasm).

Sure, everyone does have an addiction, but isn't it funny how you never hear how ESPN or education ruined someone's life. Let's just legalize marijuana so that we can all lay around getting high and become a country of lazy, liberal minded fools. What a great opportunity for advancement. I am very sorry though that you missed "The Matrix," it was a very good movie. I do see though that you showed the theater employee who was a better man by using your movie money to buy a bag of weed. How upset they must have been. You rebel bad boy, Seth. Grow up dude. Anyone who thinks that moderate drug use is acceptable needs to have their head examined. Hey, you could be your very first patient. Now to close this [letter to the editor] I would like to say one final thing to you, Seth, and only you (as not to offend the truly intelligent psych majors). As far as the other respectable majors at APSU (Nursing, Mass. Comm., Business, Education, etc.), I am sure that they could appreciate the logic of my previous article and not the psychological nonsense and babbling on about nothing from someone who is going into a career that is being outsourced by monkeys. Cheers to the monkeys, Seth, with a date rape drug and a free beer (this was a beer not purchased from your bar).

Marcus Daw
Sophomore
Business Marketing Major

United States foolishly ignores the problems occurring in Africa

By DANIEL PLUNKETT
Opinion Writer

For my last opinion article at *The All State*, I have decided to talk about Africa, for the simple reason that no one else does. A few days ago I watched the movie "Hotel Rwanda," in which one of the characters explains why the world stood by and watched in 1994 as genocide in Rwanda claimed nearly 1 million lives: "This is Africa. No one cares about Africa." For the most part, this character was right. I have a personal interest in Africa, however, because I lived in Ivory Coast, West Africa for four years. There are no easy solutions to many of Africa's problems, but the first step towards helping Africa is eliminating our own ignorance.

Of course, what concerns me most is not the ignorance of individuals who just didn't pay attention in geography class (it's especially amusing when people think that Africa is a country and not a vast continent), but rather the ignorance of lobbyists and policymakers in Washington who don't see that helping provide the right solutions to Africa's problems would be in our own best interests.

As I see it, there are two major obstacles that Africa must overcome before its countries can become prosperous. The first is the problem of political corruption. African politics are vastly convoluted, but without a doubt, one of the primary problems is corruption. Bribery is part of life in Africa. Of course, bribery occurs here too, but it is not an open and accepted part of life. That's because our country was founded by Christians and upon Christian principles, and I believe that the influence of Christianity in Africa is the best hope for a solution to African political corruption as well.

On the other hand, the further spread of Islam into sub-Saharan Africa could turn the whole continent into a breeding ground of terror (the idea that Islam is a peaceful religion is simply not substantiated by what's happening in the world; Muslims are terrorizing Christians and other Muslims alike in Sudan and Nigeria).

I also reject the naive liberal notion that if we only throw enough money at developing countries their problems will go away. I was amazed while I lived in the Ivory Coast at the industriousness of the regular Africans, but it seems that all

too often, those with the most power and money are also the most corrupt. Many in the government, secure in their positions, fall prey to the temptation to make easy money by taking bribes.

What I'm saying is that having a sufficiency of money does not eliminate greed. People tend to become lazy when they are given handouts, not hard workers, and hard work in all levels of society is what is needed to build prosperity. We must let African countries know that they are important and give them aid in the form of investments, helping them develop their own resources and build a future for themselves.

The second major problem that Africa faces is AIDS, and there is something specific that western countries can do to help Africa fight this scourge. There is only one good way to prevent AIDS, and that is abstinence. The United States can help African countries by promoting abstinence-based AIDS prevention programs, such as the one that has had tremendous success in Uganda.

Apparently liberals don't understand the biological process too well, but AIDS would be totally eliminated in Africa if people only had sex with their spouse. Of course, instead of promoting common sense and good health, liberals would rather promote promiscuity. Telling people that it is good to have sex as long as they use protection is like telling your kids that it's okay to play with a poisonous snake as long as they wear gloves.

Of course, Africa has many other problems, such as desertification (the Sahara desert is constantly growing), and incessant warfare (the school I graduated from in Ivory Coast has been evacuated twice, the last time for good, because of civil war that erupted in a once stable country). However, putting a stop to the spread of AIDS would save the population of Africa, and an end to political corruption (although it can never be totally eliminated) would pave the way for legitimate governments that can focus their attention on solving other problems.

Nothing good can come of the United States ignoring Africa's problems, but if we reach out to help the African nations we can not only put an end to much of the unnecessary death and poverty there, but may also find ourselves with valuable allies in the future. ♦



OPINION
Kurt Niesner

(HA!).

During my time at *The All State*, I hope that I have strengthened the opinions of likeminded readers and infuriated rival thinkers.

However, above all else, I sincerely hope that I have succeeded in provoking serious attention and scrutiny to the causes I have addressed in my articles, especially among formerly oblivious students.

As you may have been able to infer, the main incentive of my writing comes from my aspiration to expose and rectify the injustices and hypocrisies that inundate society: racism, sexism, heterosexism, bigotry, oppression, poverty, political malevolence (e.g. our lovely president, and his administration and constituency), et cetera.

Celebrities are regular people trying to buy their happiness

On my way to school every morning, I have the privilege of listening to disc jockeys divulge the next big story about celebrities: Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston are getting divorced, Paris Hilton bought a new puppy, Britney

Spears is pregnant, Lindsay Lohan and Wilmer Valderrama (aka Fes from "That 70's Show") had a ridiculous dance off and the list continues.

Why are we as a society so obsessed with "the lifestyles of the rich and famous?"

I've always told my friends, "They're just people, too."

This is true, but I am equally as guilty of following the rumors and headlines concerning celebrities.

I watch MTV's *Cribs*, *Jessica and Nick's Newlyweds* and anything on VH1 that gives information on all the things these people own and do.

I would love to have the money and prestige (for lack of a better word) celebrities have acquired in their careers.

They look like they have it made-wealth and happiness. What else could anyone need, right? A friend and I debated one night on whether or not money is the key to happiness. Everyone we see in the limelight is dressed to the nine and beaming their pretty little heads off.

They look happy, but are they? Some maybe, some maybe not. My friend

made the age-old point that money isn't what makes one happy.

Perhaps that is true, but as a single mother on welfare and attending college, money sure would make life easier.

Besides, if money doesn't enable us to be happier people, then why are we pursuing goals by going to college?

I guess this is why we need to constantly reevaluate our goals. We must ask ourselves questions dealing with why we have chosen our future careers.

For teachers one might ask: is the knowledge that one has helped educate and guide a child towards a brighter future reward enough to not worry about the mediocre pay?

For doctors: is the money and title worth the lack of sleep and time spent away from family and friends?

For writers and artists: can one be happy working a job that pays the bills until someone decides your work is worth money?

In choosing a career one must decide what is really going to make them happy; basically if you choose a career solely for the money you could quite possibly end up miserable.

Whatever the reasons for choosing our paths in life, overall happiness, to me, is the ultimate goal.

It's true that no amount of money can buy happiness.

However, I still believe it makes life simpler to not have to worry about how the bills will get paid.

But overall a career should tap your interests and passions. If you're happy in your career then perhaps everything else in life will fall into place.

So in retrospect maybe celebrities are as I thought-just regular people. ♦



OPINION
Amanda Jewel Wadley

WE WANT YOUR OPINION

Send your letters to the editor in a Word document to theallstate@apsu.edu by four on Friday. Please include your name, classification and major or job title.

THE ALL STATE

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managing editor
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news editor
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assistant news editor
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Jennifer Tyson
Brianna Venable
Amanda Wadley
Rebecca Yeatts
Michael Young

photographers
Jarod Leonard
Thomas Van Hooser

advisor
Kristy M. Galbraith

THE BASICS
On Campus Location:
University Center 115
Clarksville, TN 37044

Campus Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 4364
Clarksville, TN 37044

E-Mail:
theallstate@apsu.edu
allstateads@apsu.edu

Main Office:
phone: 931.221.7378
fax: 931.221.7377

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Letters to the editor should be saved to a floppy or Zip disk as a text only document or as a Word document along with a signed hard copy including the author's full name, signature, address, and telephone number (plus major and class if applicable). All letters will be checked for authenticity. Letters should be received no later than noon on Friday of each week for it to be considered for publication. Letters may be edited for clarity and grammar.

Illegal immigration needs to be addressed

Immigration laws unfair to our hopeful citizens

Many people support stronger enforcement of immigration laws, but what about those that oppose this enforcement? When searching on the Internet, you will find plenty of sites that say that illegal immigration is a bad thing. Many of these sites even state that they are responses to those that support immigration. Where are these mythical creatures that fight the forces of evil immigration nazis? According to a poll taken a year ago, 85 percent of Americans support stricter enforcement of immigration laws. This means that an incredibly small number of people actually support unrestricted immigration. Why do these people want to allow foreigners in unconditionally?

Many people feel compassion for immigrants, particularly those immigrants coming from countries with a lower standard of living, like Mexico. They can make about ten times as much doing the same type of work in the United States that they were doing in Mexico. These immigrants just want a better life for themselves and their families. This is what all Americans want. This is what our ancestors wanted when they came over to the United States. What is so wrong with this?

The opposition says that they are taking all our jobs. Oh no! How dare they steal jobs from people whose families immigrated here further in the past! They may be taking some of our jobs, but have you noticed how much construction is being done in Tennessee? Have you seen how many tobacco fields we have? There are plenty of these jobs to go around. Many immigrants in our area occupy these positions. They are generally not depriving our college educated middle class workers of their jobs. They are usually filling those positions that call for day laborers.

Are they stealing jobs from legal citizens? Let's look at the facts. Many work in fields of tobacco or other crops.

They are paid less than most citizens would work for. So why don't the owners of these fields just pay Americans more to pick these fields? Agriculture is a tough business. Many of these owners couldn't afford to keep their fields if they were paying legal citizens to pick their crops. They are breaking the law, but farming is a tough job. These owners need to have enough money to live on.

Our neighbors probably wouldn't be so eager to get here illegally if it weren't so difficult for them to get here legally. The government has made it almost impossible to come to the United States legally. Immigration and Naturalization Services makes foreigners jump through hoops to become American citizens. Even if they don't come here legally, we still expect them to assimilate themselves to the American way of life.

How dare they think of keeping their cultural identity! They must conform to our way of living and add to our "melting pot" that we are so proud of. No one who lives in our country can go without speaking our language, wearing our fashions and flying our flag in their front yard. We should be welcoming people who want a better way of life, since that is why our ancestors came here. We shouldn't patrol the borders with heavily armed men and have electric fences built all around our country. These people are not our enemies. How do you think armed guards and security equipment at the border would affect relationships with other countries?

Who will pay for this war on illegal immigration? Should we add some more taxes? Or how about raising the price of gasoline more? Do you want to pay to build these fences and buy weapons? Do you want to pay the guards' salaries? Nobody wants taxes to go up. The type of control the conservatives want would call for higher taxes. So, what's more important, keeping out people who are looking for a better life or raising taxes to keep out those bad, non-English speakers?

Why do we deserve to live in nice houses with our children while they have to suffer? Don't they deserve to live as well off as we do in this country? It isn't fair for us to turn them away because we were worried about our entry-level jobs and our price of land. They deserve as much of a chance at a decent life as all Americans have.

Immigrants are welcome if they follow the rules

For several years now, America has been experiencing an unarmed invasion from our neighbors to the south. Some American citizens have had enough when it comes to illegal immigration, and that is why the controversial Minuteman Project is now helping patrol the southern border. This is not a violent group; the members merely post themselves on a section of the border and report any illegals they see to the U.S. Border Patrol.

I guess these citizens just felt like someone had to do something about illegal immigration, a criminal phenomenon that has plagued our country for years, since the government (including President Bush) continues to turn a blind eye to the problem.

The basic problem is that illegal immigrants from Mexico, and elsewhere, are a drain on our society. Don't get me wrong; I don't mind if immigrants come to this great country to make a better life for themselves. I just want them to do so legally. Entering the country legally shows that an immigrant wants to be an honest, productive American.

Illegals, however, don't have the desire and so get trapped in a vicious cycle of poverty and crime, and that is detrimental to the whole country. They get paid in cash (so that businesses can get around the pesky problem of hiring them illegally), and so they don't pay taxes. And yet, they fill schools at taxpayer expense, and receive medical care and other entitlements.

One argument in favor of the hordes of illegal immigrants is that they take jobs that Americans would refuse. This is a deceptive argument used by agribusinesses and others who employ illegals. I mean, duh, of course normal Americans reject such jobs because the wages are too low. If there were no desperate immigrants to work those jobs, however, wages would rise, and those jobs would become more palatable to all the Americans who

are out of work. As long as we have significant unemployment, it's ridiculous to suggest that we have to have a labor force of illegal immigrants.

The problem with so many illegal immigrants who enter through the southern border is that they are not coming to America because they want to be Americans, they're coming because they want to milk the United States for all it's worth. Since America has been a nation, people of many nations have come to America and have eagerly accepted American culture and values while maintaining their identity.

Frankly, it should still be that way; if a person does not want to be an American, he or she should not live in America. America is a great nation because we have always been a melting pot, but now we're more like a salad bowl. Today, illegals don't seem to have the slightest interest in being American; there is no interest in learning English or assimilating at all, which is just fine with the liberal left, who believe that we should pat these criminals on the back and give them whatever they want (hmm-could the liberals possibly just want the votes?).

It's estimated that there may be 20 million illegal aliens in the United States and The Minuteman Project is evidence that people are getting fed up with the foolishness. We have to do whatever it takes to vigorously patrol the border (not only to stop the illegal immigration, but also the terrorists who could waltz in just as easily). Drastic times call for drastic measures, and a fence stretching across the entire border is feasible, as is militarizing the border.

Illegal aliens already here should be sent home if at all possible-they're criminals, having thumbed their noses at U.S. law, and should be treated as such. Pandering to illegals by giving them drivers licenses and taxpayer money is not fair to the people who immigrate here legally. Lastly, Americans must realize that immigrants must learn to conform to our ways, not vice-versa.

For example, immigrants need to be immersed in the English language. Sure, it's hard, but their descendants will benefit exponentially. Being an American is a privilege that does not come without hard work and responsibility, and it should only be given to those who have earned it legally.

Reflections on how the war has affected the global community

So, here we are, and what shall we say and how should we assess the situation two years into a war that many see as nothing more than an imperialist venture, a war which many others see, conversely, as symbolic of America's ability to do great good in the world. What have these few years wrought in American society and in that land into which we have tried to transplant a new version of that society, what have they taught us, if anything?

Here, in the environment of the university, we are aware of attacks against tenured faculty nationwide. Our professors are labeled as a collection of socialists and "anti-everything" malcontents and are accused of indoctrinating young people to hate their own country.

There are calls from across the nation to fire and/or otherwise silence those in academia who criticize the war and the subsequent occupation of a far-away country - a country that even most of the opposition would agree had been horribly misruled and oppressed before our troops finally intervened to topple a corrupt government.

Still, in the eyes of most of the world (except for Britain) we are wrong for having done so, and the strain on our relations with France and Germany in particular is thought to be a heavy price to pay for thumbing our nose at world opinion.

Moreover, our reasons for having gone to war in the first place turned out to be at best half-truths, and despite whatever good might yet emerge from all of this, the price of the lives of American soldiers seems to be an even more enormous price to pay than the loss of international good-will, all in order that we might bring a modern concept of government to a backward country that may be years away from the ability to rule itself.

Meanwhile, we are forced to read about a vicious insurgency that kills not only our American soldiers, but which regularly kills its own people by means of beheadings, burnings, shootings, and other horrific acts meant to terrify those that would help us, even when they only help us to do things like creating schools and better

sanitary conditions. Of course, we have also trained an indigenous police force that is becoming more effective at countering this insurgency, but the cost has been a great many dead policemen.

On the other hand, the situation in most of the country is not nearly as bad as it is in those isolated pockets from which most of the worst reports emanate. In fact, the majority of the country is stabilized and thoroughly pacified, and it seems that we have the support of the vast majority of the educated elites in that land.

However, for those of us who are here and not there, the concern is more over what this war has done to us. Our own elites are thoroughly divided, and the rhetoric on both sides is hardening steadily, trending towards a state of affairs in which things that are said can no longer be easily unsaid. One side accuses the other of "murder," "theft," "butchery" and "tyranny;" the other side calls these accusers "traitors," "anarchists," "incendiaries," and "collaborators."

The supporters of the war overlook and even condone atrocities performed under the aegis of the American flag. Meanwhile, prominent opposition politicians lead cheers for the enemy. Protestors try to physically restrain prospective enlistees from entering recruiting stations while others dump garbage on American flags, and still others openly wish for our defeat. Supporters of the policy claim that by opposing the President, some congressmen and senators are guilty of actually providing aid and comfort to those who are encouraged to fight on and kill American troops.

Plainly, however, the opposition is losing and in fact it actually lost the battle right from the beginning, the result of radical elements having drowned out the more principled and coherent leaders of the anti-war effort long before. The serious anti-war leaders of national standing are, in fact, hated almost as much by the radicals as by the pro-war, imperialist crowd, which adroitly uses every insane statement and action of the far-left to impugn those who try, ineffectually, to keep the focus on what they perceive to be America's dangerous descent into the abyss.

By the by, the America we are talking about here is the America of the very early 1900's, and the nation in which our intervention brought about most of this ill will is the Philippine Islands. The more things change, the more they remain the same, and there really is nothing new under the sun.

Happy belated April Fools.

Palestinian-Israeli conflict scrutinized

By KURT NIESNER
Opinion Writer

In 2002, the U.S. State Department drafted a proposal of common goals, or phases, that Israelis and Palestinians could work towards to effectively and peacefully partition the contested land, thereby ending decades of bloody conflict. The proposal is known as the Road Map Peace Plan, and was rapidly revised and sanctioned by the United Nations, European Nation, Russia and, of course, the United States.

In brief, the plan was composed of three phases: Halt Israeli-Palestinian violence (via armistice), stop Jewish settlement in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and restructure the Palestinian government, establish an interim Palestinian state with temporary borders and negotiate permanent Palestinian borders.

Unfortunately, the "peace by 2005" timeline originally suggested by the Road Map has been greatly exceeded. Both entities violated specific rules of the plan resulting in further violent disputes. Consequently, the Road Map is presently regarded as more of a reference of past agreements.

However, if somehow the two entities could achieve all of the benchmarks therein, the possibility of a Palestinian state still exists. President Bush met with Ariel Sharon on Monday, April 11, to discuss the prior Road Map plans that have come into question since the announcement of Sharon's plan to remove Jewish settlers from the Gaza Strip. Bush wanted to address the portion of Sharon's plan in which he has pledged to expand Jewish settlements in the West Bank, which violates the first phase of the Road Map plan.

Sharon persistently presents himself and his nation as the victim of unprovoked violence; however, he consistently negates each of his "movements towards peace." For instance, he plans to estrange his Jewish citizens by

forcefully removing them from the Gaza Strip, but he then plans to settle further into what little territory the Palestinians still possess.

However, please realize that I am by no means placing all of the blame on Sharon or Israel. There has been superfluous criticism directed toward Palestinians, but there is a marked lack of such criticism regarding Israel and Sharon's exacerbating flaws. I am only presenting another, largely ignored, side of the conflict.

Granted, many Palestinians utilize immoral, terrorist tactics, but they are not entirely "unprovoked." Although I am fervently against such deplorable tactics, I can understand why these young men are engaging in such heinous acts. Their former country was brutally stolen from them, and what little land they have left is progressively dissipating.

After World War II, the United States and the United Nations created Israel as a country for millions of Jewish refugees while displacing millions more Palestinians. However, what is not highly publicized is the alleged genocide of the native Palestinians. Many Palestinians insist that the United States and the United Nations covertly massacred innumerable Palestinians.

While I am uncertain as to the validity of this allegation, it seems highly unlikely that so many Palestinians would falsely accuse a world power and an authoritative, world organization of such an atrocity.

To put all of this into an empathetic perspective, imagine that your hometown was invaded, conquered and established as the invaders' state, while you're forced to live in a minuscule, appropriated region that was once desolate. Now, not only is your homeland occupied by millions of former adversaries whose culture completely conflicts with your own, your relatives and friends have been massacred while your ancestors' history and dignity have been completely decimated.

Wouldn't you be furious too?

Fleeting emotions should not get in the way of solid cognitive reasoning

By MATT ROHDE
Guest Writer

One does not need to listen to the social world for long before noticing that his or her environment occasionally chooses words in a discussion that do not seem appropriate in certain topics. For example, the word "feel" is often used in place of a seemingly more appropriate word, "think."

Someone once asked me, "What do you feel about the war in Iraq?" So, I replied with honesty, "I am worried, but that's not important."

Emotionalism is an important part of society; yet there are critical ailments associated with it when it is used as a primary foundation for certain political convictions, particularly in idealistic conceptions or imagining a more "perfect world" which many of us desire for emotional comfort. However, we all know that this perfect world does not exist. Emotion is strongly associated with ideas and predispositions, but while these may hold strong convictions, it is important to know that no emotion is permanent. Emotions change, and thus any values or ideas reflecting it will change automatically.

Cognitive thought and logical reasoning are undeniably the most effective problem solving tools available to man. No trial or tribulation can disprove that fact. We live in a world of conflicts which more often require the mind than the heart to solve. Unfortunately, some people will try to convince you that the most important things we can teach our children are character, trust of instinct and feelings while leaving logic, cognitive thinking and rationality untouched. Actually, this has already been tried before. It's known as brainwashing.

One merely needs to look at the massive Nazi propaganda movement in World War II. Hitler's Youth blindly accepted and followed his subjective world perspective (because Nazi educators had taught them according to Hitler's schematics for swaying the masses), and the youth saluted him in unison as Hitler had planned. Hitler believed that his young followers should have no ability to reason, and that they were property of the state. The use of emotionalism was a key factor in his extremely effective speeches; without the ability to think rationally for themselves, the Hitler Youth blindly united where their instincts led them. Hitler confirmed this in his book, "Mein Kampf," where he wrote, "Because this is the state of mind

that I require, because it secures to me the best sounding-board for my speeches."

In "Mein Kampf," Hitler explained that, "The masses are like an animal that obeys its instincts. They do not reach conclusions by reasoning." He also wrote, "Trust your instincts, your feelings, or whatever you like to call them." He spoke of how instinct and character should be taught to youth, and disapproved the notion of logical thought altogether. He even sometimes described his followers as "enemies of the intelligence." Many people instinctively believe that these Nazi education tactics would fail to brainwash our children in a way such as the Hitler Youth, because we live in the almighty USA! We would recognize such evil tactics if we were confronted with them. History actually proves the opposite to be true.

A book called "The Wave," written by Todd Strasser and Morton Rhue, dramatizes events retold by a retired schoolteacher Ron Jones in his nonfiction story, "No Substitute for Madness." Jones' story shares the events of a social experiment that he conducted in his sophomore world history class to help his students understand why German civilians didn't reject Nazism during the Nazis' rise to power. He taught his students that power and success comes from "strength through discipline" and "power through unity." He explained to them that they need to share equal worth and responsibility to uphold this union. Equality presented something that teenagers commonly strive for; social acceptance.

Soon, they formed an organization called "The Third Wave," which initially seemed like a harmless effort to improve the community, but the group soon thereafter grew out of control. Jones arranged for a meeting with his organization in which he exposed the truth to them; he explained that the concepts he was teaching them were based on the Führer's tactics for brainwashing the Hitler youth. The students promptly discontinued their activities, and the Third Wave ceased to exist.

The danger in teaching children to reflect upon their feelings and instinct, without first consorting with their logic, is that it teaches them to reject rational thinking. It makes them unable to question authority which could ultimately be manipulating them. Without cognitive thinking and logic, the public will mutate from a problem-solving entity to a controllable mass whose opinions can be swayed at will by those with charisma.

A life lesson learned in class

Percussion Ensemble has been an activity on my schedule for four semesters. I have enjoyed learning music and beating the crap out of things. Our director is very passionate about what he does (sometimes to the point of near insanity, but that's one of the side effects of creativity).

He has more passion in one of his mallets than I have in my entire music repertoire. Nothing brings him more joy than to see the ensemble get our parts right together and create music that moves the soul.

His fervor didn't keep me from destroying each piece of music, no matter how simple it was. Every concert, I made several mistakes, eroding the music that I imagine was playing in our conductor's head. He knew what it should sound like, and I always fell short of that greatness.

Until a couple of weeks ago, I wondered why our director continued to encourage me year after year. Then it hit me: he really has a passion for music and teaching students. I always knew this was true, but I don't think I really sunk into my soul until now. I really messed up my music in a concert several weeks ago. I felt bad about it, so I had come to class that day to apologize. I had been skipping out of band other things I wanted to do, but also because I felt kind of guilty.

When he saw me out of the corner of his eye, he still looked happy to see me. It reminded me of all the other semesters past when I slacked off yet he was always thrilled

to see me walk in the door. I'm not a music major, and that was never a problem. In fact, he encourages non-music majors to take the class. I always feel like I am welcome in that room.

The director had no reason to be nice to me. In the beginning, I couldn't read music, I had no training in percussion and I wasn't a music major. He had nothing to gain from "sucking up" to me. I've skipped enough classes for him not to like me.

However, I felt like the prodigal son every semester I walked through the door for the first time. He would give me an enthusiastic greeting and give me my new music parts. If I didn't have a part, he would make room for me so to speak.

Last semester, I walked up to him at the beginning of the first class, arrogantly claiming that I needed better music parts because of the semesters I had put into the ensemble. What did he do? He gave me better parts and reminded me everyday to work hard and live up to my boasts. He would humiliate me in class if I did a bad job. Definitely embarrassing, but I knew that I had asked for it.

When I apologized to my director, he really didn't want to hear it. He said that as long as I had learned from my mistakes, and would come back better next semester, it was mistakes, and would come back better next semester. I said I felt break from Percussion Ensemble next semester. I said I felt like I shouldn't be there if I couldn't devote myself to the work. I was punishing myself in a sense for failure. He didn't really seem to care about that. He just wanted me to keep coming back.

I will definitely return to Percussion Ensemble in the future. The director has shown me God's forgiveness. When we fail, God wants us to turn towards Him and let Him heal us through the Holy Spirit. Falling away out of guilt will just separate us from God more and more.



OPINION
Erin Cruys



OPINION
Phil Grey



ASSISTANT OPINION
EDITOR
Charles Bridges IV

Summer Events

In May...

Whitner Band Battle - May 3 at 7 p.m. during the Rocketown Festival

The Edes - May 12 at 7 p.m. during the Rocketown Festival

Sleeping at Last Croix - May 12 at 8 p.m. during the Rocketown Festival

Find out about more events at www.rocketown.com

Trendy Eateries

Mikado - Japanese; 410 Metroplex Dr. Ste 56, Nashville, Tenn.

Baraka Bakery & Restaurant - Mediterranean; 5596 Nolensville Pike, Nashville, Tenn.

Las Chivas - Mexican; 4021 Nolensville Pike, Nashville, Tenn.

Caribbean Hut - Caribbean; 1316 Antioch Pike, Nashville, Tenn.

Raz'z Jazz Bar & Grill - American (Traditional); 2241 Murfreesboro Pike, Nashville, Tenn.

Music Events

Kyle Riabko Blues/Funk May 1 at Third and Lindsay, \$8.

Avril Lavigne - June 17 at the AmSouth Amphitheatre

Karaoke Night with Liz Carter - May 25 at the Boardwalk Cafe

Cool shopping

Cool Springs Galleria - 1800 Galleria Blvd., Franklin, Tenn. 37067, (615) 771-2050

Rivergate Mall - 1000 Two Mile Pkwy., Goodlettsville, Tenn. 37072, (615) 859-3456

The Mall at Green Hills - 2126 Abbott Martin Rd., Nashville, Tenn. 37215, (615) 298-5478

Oprymills - 2820 Opryland Drive, Nashville, Tenn. (615) 884-7300

Great Concerts

Butch Walker - Dance/Electronic at Exit-In, Nashville, Tenn. (615) 321-3340

Alanis Morissette - Ryman Auditorium, June 21 at 7 p.m. in Nashville, Tenn. (615) 458-8700

CMA Music Festival - Coliseum, June 9-12 Nashville, Tenn. (615) 565-4200

Benedict XVI brings diverse background to papacy



Pope Benedict XVI greets the crowd following his installment Mass in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican, Sunday, April 24, 2005. Dignitaries and an estimated 500,000 pilgrims, many of them from the pontiff's native Germany, arrived in Rome for the ceremony to formally install Pope Benedict XVI and offer the pontiff a major chance to set the tone for his papacy.

By SARAH BULLOCK
Staff Writer

On April 19th, 2005, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger is elected to be the 265th pope. He takes the name Benedict XVI.

As Pope John Paul II's chief doctrinal officer and key advisor, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger was the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith from 1981 to 2005.

He is the most revered prelate, scholar, theologian, teacher and Catholic author of our time under Pope John Paul II - having spoken on everything from sexual consumerism, private revelation and the "crisis of faith, to human rights, roles of men and women today, marriage, the priesthood and the future of the world.

Yet, the depth, candor and humble servitude of this highest-ranking Cardinal will likely be his lasting hallmark.

Ratzinger was born in Germany (Bavaria) on Holy Saturday, April 16, 1927, and was baptized that same day. He has said of his early baptism, "To be the first person baptized with the new water was seen as a significant act of Providence. I have always been filled with thanksgiving for having had my life immersed in this way in the Easter Mystery..."

His father worked as a rural policeman, which kept his family continually moving from town to town. According to www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi, in his memoirs about his early life (prior to his appointment as Archbishop of Munich), "Milestones: Memoirs 1927 - 1977 (Ignatius, 1999)," Ratzinger depicts his family life as quite happy.

Family and church were, for him, inseparable - and he clearly saw Hitler and the Third Reich as the enemy to both. He has said of his father, "...He saw that a victory of Hitler would not be a victory for Germany but a victory of the Antichrist..."

In 1943, while still in seminary, he was drafted at age 16 into the German anti-aircraft corps (though he was opposed to the Nazis, he was forced to join at a young age). Ratzinger then trained in the German infantry, but a subsequent illness precluded him from the usual rigors of military duty.

As the Allied front drew closer to his post in 1945, he escaped from the Nazis and returned to his family's home in Traunstein, just as American troops established their headquarters in the Ratzinger household.

As a German soldier, he was put in a POW camp but was released a few months later at the end of the War in summer 1945. He re-entered the seminary, along with his brother Georg, in November of that year.

Ratzinger and his brother, Georg, were ordained to the priesthood on June 29, 1951, in the Cathedral of Freising on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul.

He received his doctorate in theology in 1953 from the University of Munich. Beginning in 1959, he taught theology at the University of Bonn.

Ratzinger became more widely known when, during the Second Vatican Council and at the age of 35, he was appointed chief theological advisor for the Archbishop of Cologne, Cardinal Joseph Frings, for the four-year duration of the Council.

After continuing his teaching at several German universities, Ratzinger was appointed by Pope Paul VI in March 1977 as Archbishop of Munich and Freising. In June 1977, he was elevated to Cardinal.

According to www.ratzingerfanclub.com, Pope John Paul II summoned Cardinal Ratzinger to Rome in November 1981, and named him Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, President of the Pontifical Biblical Commission and President of the International Theological Commission.

He has published several best-selling books which clarify faith practice and Catholic doctrine for today's "Catholic and Christian: The Ratzinger Report" (1985), "Salt of the Earth" (1996), "The Spirit of the Liturgy" (2000), "God and the World" (2002) and the recently published "God Is Near Us: The Eucharist, The Heart of Life" (2003).

As papal biographer for John Paul II, George Weigel, has said, "...not even his [Ratzinger's] implacable enemies ever questioned Joseph Ratzinger's erudition: his encyclopedic knowledge of theology; his command of biblical, patristic, scholastic and contemporary sources; his elegance as a thinker and writer." +

Make long study sessions obsolete with these stress-free tips

By JESSICA HAWK
Staff Writer

"Your exam is going to be 100 questions, essay and multiple choice form, you have two and a half hours to complete this test. Good luck and you may begin." Exam week. It's the bridge into summer, and once over its smooth sailing into the relaxing and tranquil summer. The best way to do this is good preparation that will help minimize stress of exam week.

There are numerous books, articles and websites that inform students of tips for preparing for an exam week. But, the best tool for finding such tips comes from past experiences and fellow students, because reading a study tip book wastes crucial time needed to prepare for the exams themselves. Schooling is designed for the individual to gain their own successful study techniques and patterns.

In order to survive exam week, students must utilize such study habits learned throughout schooling. Also, interacting with peers in study

groups or asking one another's advice on studying can provide useful insights for exams.

Jonathon Brown and Liz Whelpley are two example students that can provide great study tips for their fellow Austin Peay State University students. Brown and Whelpley are APSU tennis players and hold the highest overall athletic grade point averages for both genders. These two dedicated students strive for academic perfection, as well as great athletic performance, for APSU.

Brown and Whelpley have their own unique study habits and ways to keep the stress at a minimum. Juggling a collegiate sport and grades can be very strenuous and challenging, but both Brown and Whelpley seem to have it all under control.

"The key to exams is treating them like all other tests, I study for final exams the same way I do the rest of the tests I had throughout the semester by looking over old test and notes that could be on the exam," said Brown.

Both Brown and Whelpley take this strategic approach to finals, and that is very helpful towards minimizing stress. By approaching their finals like their previous tests, that they have obtained high scores for, they control the stress and anxiety that most students experience for finals. "You have to be able to get your stress out in a positive way," said Brown. Exercise is his positive approach to stress relief.

Whelpley also exercises to relieve stress but has another unique approach on relieving stress for finals. Cleaning is her other option to relieving stress created from finals.

"The two things I do most during exam week is work-out and clean. I probably have the cleanest apartment when it comes time for exams," said Whelpley when asked about her habits to control the stress. Instead of watching TV or listening to music, cleaning has become her activity during study breaks. Both students contributed advice for their fellow

students for the upcoming exams. "Students should stay organized with study plans and be prepared for their exams, and also it helps to sleep more to keep from tiring and losing focus during exams," said Brown.

Whelpley, however, commented on the importance on avoiding cramming and encourages study groups. "Don't wait for the night before to begin studying; you have to start studying ahead of time. Finding people in your class (that are striving for good grades) to study with is also a great way to prepare for exams."

As the school days are counting down and the year is wrapping up, the pressure increases the closer it gets to exam week. Good preparation and organization while controlling the stress are ways to ensure a better academic turnout for the exams and keep you from losing your mind.

Students have the opportunity to contact Career Services for professional advice if additional information on study tips for exams is needed.

Students discuss plans for living and working between semesters

From traveling around the globe to exciting job opportunities and internships, students aren't wasting a moment of their summer vacation



Travis Freeman
Business
Freshman

"I'm probably going to go back to Seattle."



Nikki Littleton
Special Education
Freshman

"I'm going home to Dickson and working at Camp Renaissance."



Zach Baggett
Criminal Justice
Sophomore

"I'm going to live at my fraternity house and make renovations on it. Also, work and sleep."



Christina Webb
History
Senior

"Now that I'm graduating, I'm going home for a summer and hopefully working with the A-Star program."



Fred Brodie
Health and Human
Performance
Freshman

"Working with Real Sports Leadership Academy."

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Austin Peay State University

We know that graduation will be a busy and exciting time for you, so let us help you get this special event off to a happy start. Please join us at the Pace Alumni Center at Emerald Hill for a complimentary reception in your honor (casual dress).

There will be shuttle transportation to and from the Pace Alumni Center and campus (in front of the Book and Supply Store) every half hour between 4-6 p.m.
For information or to RSVP, telephone 221-7979.

Seniors steal the show in May with stellar exhibitions



Top: Artist Paul Fly, creator of "Wonderland," sits with his painstakingly detailed sculptures. Many visual elements are used including, foam, ceramics, and paintings. The exhibit is being held at the Trahern Mansion until Wednesday, April 27.



Left: Artist and former All State Art Director Alicia Middlebrook used an eclectic variety of photography and digital illustrations to create her art card pieces. Her showing, titled "Past Reflections," will be on display in the Trahern Student Art Gallery, April 25-29.

Beachhaven Winery mixes Merlot and music with Jazz on the Lawn



MELISSA TYNDALL/CHIEF COPY EDITOR
Patrons of the event usually bring items or buy baskets like the one above to enhance their experience.

By MELISSA TYNDALL
Chief Copy Editor

As the weather becomes warmer, it will once again be time to dust off your picnic blankets and picnic baskets. Purchase your snacks and plastic glasses. Jazz on the Lawn is approaching, and those in the Clarksville and Nashville areas should be prepared.

Each year, Ed and Louisa Cooke, owners of Beachhaven Vineyards and Winery, host a free concert series.

The event took off after Operation Desert Storm, when it became a popular place for both military and non-military families to mingle. The Cookes said they started the event as something for types of people enjoy so that they could come to the winery and escape their worries while listening to music new to Clarksville. Today, an average of 2,000 to 3,000 people make up each Jazz on the Lawn crowd. With free parking, free entry and free music, it's no wonder that you'll find both young and old having a good time at each show.

However, it is also no secret that Jazz on the Lawn also has a hint of mystery. In over a decade, less than a handful of Jazz on the Lawn events have ever been rained out. The staff calls the phenomenon "Beachhaven Weather," a term coined by friends of the Cooke family. Perhaps it is also the mix of that Beachhaven Weather, the wine, the music and sultry summer nights that have spawned a second form of Beachhaven magic: romance. The Cookes receive phone calls each year from various engaged couples that caught each other's eyes and met at Jazz on the Lawn. Why not expect romance to blossom? Where else can one bring a date for the cost of a mere bottle of wine?

Perhaps you aren't a fan of jazz-but don't fret. The staff uses the term "jazz" loosely. While one concert may feature jazz music, others may have the sound and feel of rock 'n' roll, swing or R&B. With a guaranteed crowd of thousands (though it might not look as if that many people are parked on the picnic blankets next to yours) and a beautiful but small vineyard setting, it's no wonder that Jazz brings many artists from Nashville and other surrounding areas. Some of these artists are booked

up to a year or two in advance.

So, what should a first-time Jazz attendee expect? Beachhaven staff members suggest that patrons purchase his or her bottle(s) of wine prior to the event in order to avoid the crowd at the Jazz tasting bar. Wine is available for tasting each day at the winery for those 21 or older.

Like your favorite wine, Jazz on the Lawn and Beachhaven Vineyards and Winery will only become better with age.

"It's a lot of fun," said Beachhaven employee Travis Wickline, "That's the best thing I can say about Jazz on the Lawn and it be true. It's a great time."

All Jazz on the Lawn concerts are on Saturdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The staff requests that patrons do not bring outside alcoholic beverages, grills or pets. For more information, visit www.beachhavenwinery.com or call (931) 645-8867.

Jazz on the Lawn 2005 Schedule

May 14 - Delicious Blues Stew

May 28 - Jim Gibson

June 11 - Les Kerr

July 2 - Richard Waters and the Blues Boys

July 16 - James "Nic" Nixon

Future dates and musical acts to be announced.

Don't bum out on booze this summer: think before you drink

By DAN MAURER
Staff Writer

Well, you've heard it all before. Unfortunately, for most college students, the biggest issue plaguing their minds is what to drink and how much? Let's begin by saying that safe drinking is a contradiction in terms, since few of you will be limiting your alcohol consumption to the healthy one to two alcoholic beverages a day.

Alcohol is a toxin to the body. It damages the liver and the brain, among other things. It dehydrates and weakens the body's immune system. All of this you know, yet you continue to drink obscenely large amounts of it regularly. Based on the surveys published for the "Journal of Studies on Alcohol," it seems that "more than 40% of students are 'heavy' drinkers."

Instead of attempting to delineate the parameters of "safe" drinking, let us instead

concentrate on the notion of "responsible" drinking. The most important step toward responsible drinking is obviously not driving while intoxicated. The reason you should not drive while intoxicated is not to avoid a DUI. The reason you should not drive drunk is because you put everyone else on the road at risk. To operate a motor vehicle while intoxicated is the same thing as saying, "I don't care whether other people on the road live or die." Unfortunately, most college students drink so that they can cast inhibitions aside and throw caution to the wind. I understand.

But, please consider the other people who can't afford such luxuries. Drinking and driving kills. Countless studies prove this. So, again, do not drink and drive, not even a little bit, if not for your own safety then for the safety of others. Still, many of you will.

The second point, which is minor by comparison, is do not consume too much. Every year some new incidence of alcohol poisoning takes the life of some ill-fated freshman. Yes people, it really happens. If you consume too much, in too short of a time, then you may very well die. Do not dare someone to drink more than they should, and do not be pressured into drinking more than you want.

Finally, one of the primary characteristics associated with alcoholic inebriation is the loss of judgment. If you choose to drink, be mindful that you will probably do some things you will regret. Some of these things you cannot take back, you cannot say you are sorry for having done them, and no actions can ever make them right again. Sometimes all it takes is a split second to do something you'll regret the rest of your life.

Do not start a fight while you are sober, let alone drunk. Do not engage in promiscuous sex while drunk, because you might end up with something worse than a hangover. Ladies, do not accept opened containers of alcoholic beverages from strangers, as their may be more than mere alcohol therein. This is a common method of administering some the more common date-rape drugs. Gentlemen, do not use alcohol as a tool to get women to sleep with you. It's a simple moral argument. Please show some respect. Go forth little ones and have fun, but drink responsibly.

On May 21, Clarksville will be a little more colorful.

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Comics

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2005, PAGE 10

THE ALL STATE

LIFE IN HERE by Christopher Sanders



LIFE IN HERE by Christopher Sanders



Unmentionables by Martin Fox



HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE \$1500.00 BY TALKING ON THE PHONE?

The APSU Office of Admissions will have positions open this Fall in our Student Telecounseling Admissions Representatives (STARS) program. This is a \$1500.00 per semester scholarship program where YOU become a part of a prospective student's admissions process.

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You must have a 3.0 CUMULATIVE GPA.

You must NOT have any other scholarships over \$1000.00 (Exceptions to this are APSU Housing Resident Assistants and TN Lottery Scholarship Recipients.)

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Please do not contact our main office with phone inquiries. All contact and inquiries should be made to the following email addresses:

Makeba Webb- webbm@apsu.edu
Jonathan Jeans- jeansj@apsu.edu

GOOD LUCK ON YOUR FINAL EXAMS
FROM THE APSU ADMISSIONS OFFICE!

Bats come alive in Govs' sweep of UT-Martin

By Michael Young
Staff Writer

BASEBALL

The Governors' bats spoke volumes during this past weekend's three-game sweep of the University of Tennessee-Martin Skyhawks. In fact, Austin Peay State University baseball fans could almost hear the sharp pings of the Govs' bats all the way from Martin, as the Bat Govs hammered out a total of 22 runs off 31 hits.

The Bat Govs' sweep of the Skyhawks sends them into second place in the OVC behind Morehead State, as UT-Martin (8-29, 3-11 OVC) falls to last place.

The Govs (26-14, 10-5 OVC) held the Skyhawks to only four runs during the series as UT-Martin hitters netted a .170 team batting average against the Governors' pitching.

"I feel really good about our hitting," junior right fielder Brett Luther said.

Luther went 5-12 (.416) with five RBIs and five runs during the series. "Our hitting was there. Their pitching was kind of weak, but we were focused on doing our jobs and not trying to knock home runs."

The Govs began the first game by scoring one run in both the first and third innings off four hits to go up 2-0. However, the Skyhawks fought back and scored three runs in the third and fourth innings to take the lead. But the Govs blew the game wide open in the sixth inning by scoring eight runs on six hits and three Skyhawk errors to go up 10-3.

The Govs put the final touches on their blowout victory with four runs in the eighth inning to win, 14-3.

Govs starting pitcher Rowdy Hardy (7-4) picked up the victory as he pitched

eight innings, giving up three runs off six hits while striking out four. Govs' closer Dane Miller pitched the final inning with only one hit and allowing two walks.

"They came back and went ahead of us 3-2," APSU Coach Gary McClure said. "It was the sixth inning already and we were able to get a few guys on, and then things just sort of exploded for us. We hit through the lineup with 13 batters going to the plate. That's kind of the way each game went, even though we didn't score that many runs each time."

The Govs won the second game of the Saturday twin-bill, as they scored two runs in the third inning to overcome the eventual pitchers' duel. Left-fielder Ryan Kane led off the inning with a single to right field. Center fielder Cody Youngblood drew the walk, and a double-steal sent the two runners to second and third with no outs. Consecutive sacrifice

flies by right fielder Brett Luther and shortstop Jared Walker sent both runners home.

Govs starter Shawn Kelley (4-2) pitched his first career complete game shutout as he allowed two hits while striking out six.

The Govs closed out their weekend hitting display as a five-run third inning in game three led APSU to a 6-1 victory over the Skyhawks. Devin Thomas (5-3) was credited with the win after pitching seven innings and giving up one run on six hits and two walks while striking out nine.

"All three of our starters threw very well," McClure said. "They all three got ahead of hitters and were able to make good pitches. They were in control of the game the whole way and that helped our defense, which is what did the job for us. We played great defense this weekend."

The Governors return to action on Wednesday when they play host to the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers.

The Hilltoppers (13-26, 3-9 Sun Belt) are 4-11 on away games while the Govs are a commanding 13-3 at home. The Western Kentucky offense is led by junior infielder Eric Scriven who is batting .365 with a .416 slugging percentage. The Hilltoppers pitching staff, however, has a combined ERA of 6.54 while allowing opposing batters to hit at a .303.

"Whenever we play Western Kentucky, it is always a tough game," McClure said. "It doesn't really matter what the records are."

"Western Kentucky always seems to have our number here lately," Luther said. "They are a tough team. We just need for our mid-week starters to keep us in the game and allow us to do our jobs up at the plate." ♦

Lady Govs continue scoring trouble



Junior Brianna Venable hits one of her three home-runs last week as she went on to be named OVC Player of the Week. Venable just recently passed Hall of Famer Andrea Miller, for APSU's all time home run hitting record for softball.

By MANDY WHITE
Sports Editor

Same story, different day. The Austin Peay State University softball team has been having trouble all season scoring runners, and the trend caught up to the team as they fell to seventh place in the Ohio Valley Conference after losing two games in their season's last home weekend to visiting league rival Eastern Illinois.

The Lady Govs lost Saturday, 3-2, after the Panthers had a three-run inning and APSU could not recover. APSU took a 1-0 lead in the first inning after an Amy Hale double and a Natasha Anderson two-out single. In the fourth, the Lady Govs added another run when Jennifer Simpkins singled home Taylor Newberry, who opened the inning with a single.

In the fifth, APSU's pitcher Natasha

Anderson seemed to be sailing along, getting the first two outs. And Anderson and her teammates thought they had a called third strike on the next hitter but the pitch was called a ball on Brittany Castle. Then Castle dropped a single over the infield and Jessica Irps stepped up and lifted a fly ball to centerfield to tie the game at 2-2. But the Panthers didn't stop there. Rachel Karos walked and Katy Steele

SOFTBALL

singled, leaving runners at second and third. Then Anderson threw a wild pitch, scoring Karos.

That was the way it remained. APSU put its first two runners on in the seventh but EIU's Heather Hoeschen retired the heart of the Lady Govs' batting order, Brianna Venable, Jessica Warden and Anderson, to end the game.

Sunday, things seemed to be looking up for the Lady Govs. They beat EIU 14-4, banging out 13 hits in Sunday's first game, which was a completion of Saturday's doubleheader, which was called due to rain.

However, in the nightcap, the Lady Govs were back to their same old story. They stranded 10 runners while collecting 10 hits in falling to EIU, 5-1.

"We have got to work on getting runners in when we have them in scoring positions," senior first baseman Tina Nickey said. This is the last time the Nickey and the other seniors will play at Lady Govs Field. "The game was especially emotional for me because we've accomplished so much this season and made big strides, but now the pressure is definitely on to win our next six games."

APSU jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the first when Venable slapped her season's ninth home run. The game stayed that until the fourth when EIU turned an APSU error into a run. The Lady Govs stranded two runners in the

fourth and sixth, being unable to get key RBI hits.

In fact, APSU had runners at first and third with just one out in the sixth, but were unable to plate a run. Then in the seventh, APSU had runners at first and second with one out but were unable to score. In the eighth, there were two outs when EIU's Steele then got a ball up in the wind in right center for a 3-1 lead. Two batters later, Adams followed suit with a drive to right.

As a result, the Lady Govs lost the rubber game of the three-game series. APSU, now at 9-10 in the OVC, have fallen behind Eastern Illinois (10-10) in the OVC race for one of the six spots that qualify for the league tournament. The Lady Govs currently sit in seventh place in the conference. Had they won all three games last weekend, they would have been in third place.

"It really comes down to the little things," senior Jessi Warden said. "Like back-to-back hits or back-to-back defensive plays. It's going to be the fundamental things that will make or break us."

The Lady Govs return to action with two non-conference games this week, Birmingham Southern, Wednesday, and Cumberland, Thursday, before taking on third-ranked Tennessee Tech this weekend.

"We definitely need to work on getting the kinks out in our non-conference games before we face (Tennessee) Tech," Nickey said. "Those will be very important games for us." ♦

SPORTS SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Wednesday

Softball at Birmingham-Southern, (doubleheader) 5 p.m., Birmingham, Ala.

Baseball vs. Western Kentucky, 6:30 p.m., Clarksville, Tenn.

Saturday

Softball at Tennessee Tech, (doubleheader) 1 p.m., Cookeville, Tenn.

Track and Field at Western Kentucky Invitational, Bowling Green, Ky.

Baseball vs. Eastern Illinois, (doubleheader) 1 p.m., Clarksville, Tenn.

Sunday

Softball at Tennessee Tech, 1 p.m., Cookeville, Tenn.

Baseball vs. Eastern Illinois, 1 p.m., Clarksville, Tenn.

Next Week

May 7 Baseball at Murray State, (doubleheader) 1 p.m., Murray, Ky.

May 7 Softball at Southeast Missouri, (doubleheader) 1 p.m., Cape Girardeau, Mo.

New on-campus facility should be ready by time for preseason training

By BRIANNA VENABLE
Staff Writer

After three years of waiting, the Austin Peay State University women's soccer team will finally have a field to call home. "It's really exciting," sophomore and team captain Adonia Bivins said.

The plan was to have the field completed by the Lady Govs' inaugural season in the fall of 2002, but difficulties in finances and facilities planning has held the project back until now. According to Ben Pratt, the facilities manager at APSU, the field should be finished by Aug. 1, just in time for preseason practices.

"It will be a great addition to the program," head coach Kelley Poole-Guth said. "Especially having a regulation size field to practice on." In previous seasons, the Lady Govs have been practicing on a grass field in front of the Dunn Center, which is

"We will take more of a sense of pride in how we play."

—Adonia Bivins, team captain

drastically short of regulation size. A regulation-size soccer field is 120 yards by 80 yards, while their practice field was only 110 yards by about 60 yards. "Having a smaller practice field made it hard on us to practice game-like situations," Bivins said.

The new field will be NCAA regulation size, equipped with lights, stands and a scoreboard.

"It will definitely help with recruiting and attracting future players," Poole-Guth said.

The Lady Govs have been playing their home games at Heritage Park, a

SOCCER

sports complex 15 minutes from campus. Now with a field on campus, more students are likely to come to games.

"There should be a much bigger fan base because students will be able to walk over to the field whenever there's a game," team manager Jess Breard said.

The Lady Govs are looking forward to playing games with a home field advantage. "Although we should play well wherever we are, we will take more of a sense of pride in how we play," Bivins said.

An irrigation system should be installed this week so that the ground can be fertilized and seeded in May and ready to practice on by August.

"It will be nice to finally have a field to call ours," junior goalie Sarah Broadbent said. ♦

Austin Peay Player Profile

By MICHAEL KELLUM
Staff Writer

Junior Jennifer Simpkins started in all of the Lady Govs softball games last season, which comes to an impressive 55 straight games. Simpkins says her durability comes from eating right among other things.

"I try to eat right, do all the things the coaches tell me to do and work hard in the off-season," Simpkins said.

She has started in 41 of 43 games this season. She also has a .231 batting average, 12 runs and 11 RBIs. She is third on the team in runs scored with 11 and hits with 30. She leads the team in stolen bases with four and is first in sac bunts with five.

With such impressive stats, Austin Peay State University was lucky to land the shortstop. Simpkins says one of the reasons she chose APSU was because it is close to home.

"I liked how close it was, but I also liked that it was a Division I school," she said. Simpkins says one of her goals for the rest of the season is to be in the top five in the Ohio Valley Conference.

"I want to be up towards the top and also have a winning season in the OVC," she said. Simpkins, who has improved every season, said she plans on working hard in the off-season, especially on her speed and hitting.

Simpkins, like a true team player, gives her teammates credit towards her success.

"They're always picking me when I am down, and they're encouraging," she said. "They have a lot of confidence in me."

Her teammate Ami Bush says that Simpkins is someone the team can count on.

"She always gets the job done in clutch situations." ♦

Question and Answer

Name: Jennifer Simpkins

Hometown: Joelton, Tenn.

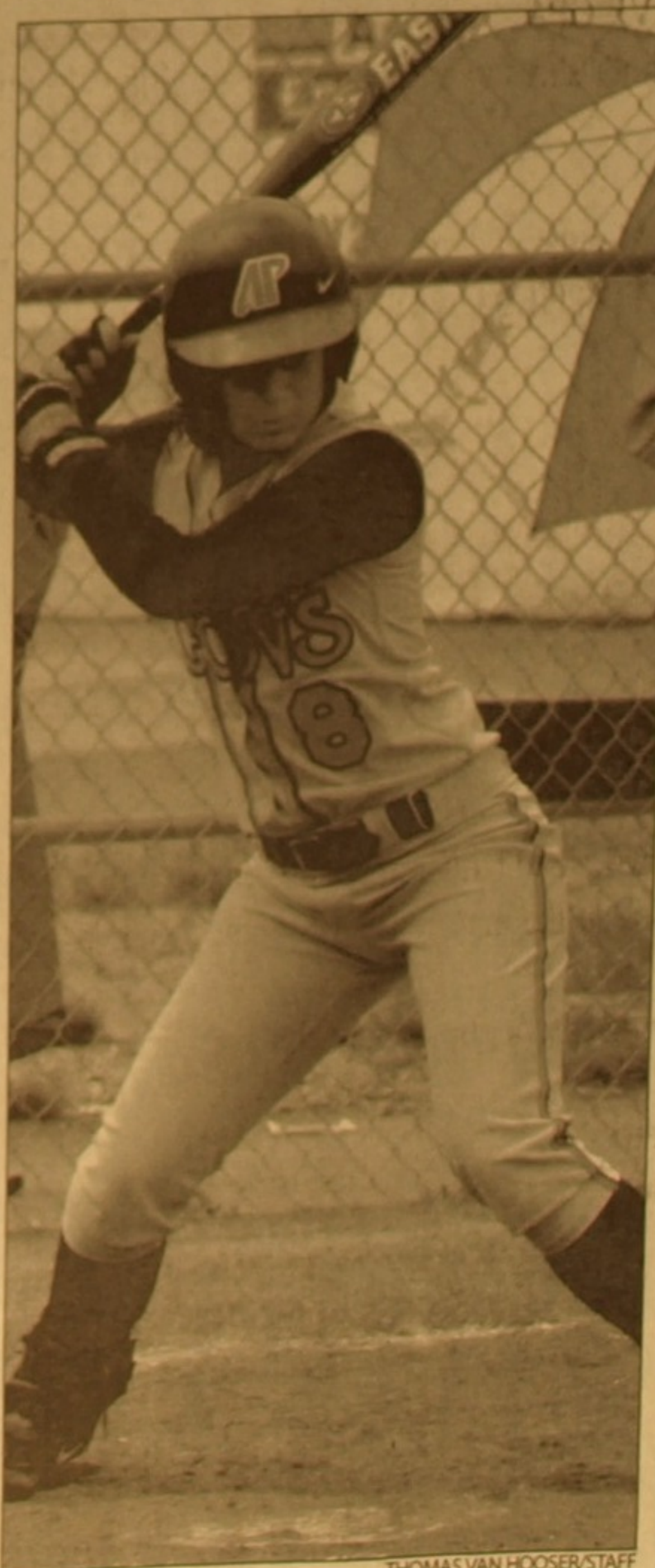
Major: Business and Finance

After College: Work in the sheriff's department and be a softball coach

Favorite Place to eat: Linda's Pick-A-Rib

Role Model: Mom and Tameka Catchings

Favorite Place about being an APSU student athlete: "My teammates and the friendships I've made."



Jennifer Simpkins sports a .231 batting average on the season and leads the team in stolen bases with five on six attempts.

THOMAS VAN HOOSER/STAFF

THOMAS VAN HOOSER/STAFF

Austin Peay celebrates athletics



THOMAS VAN HOOSE/STAFF

The first Gobs Sportsfest was held Monday to honor and support the athletic teams who do not have a Homecoming. Student Life and Leadership headed up the event with over 15 organizations on campus sponsoring athletic teams. The event was held from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the University Center plaza, with free food and T-shirts given away. Live music was provided by Scratch Track. First, second and third place trophies were given away to the top three winners in the poster contest, which consisted of decorating a poster with the teams apparel and decorating tables as shown above.

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TRACK AND FIELD

High hopes ride on last tourney

By ASHLEY SCHILLING
Staff Writer

With the Austin Peay State University track and field team finishing their outdoor season this coming weekend, the O'Reilly Ohio Valley Conference Championships will be right around the corner. This OVC tournament will be held next Friday and Saturday, May 6-7.

As the Lady Gobs get set to host their second home meet of the season, they still will continue working to improve both their personal and team records.

With over half of the track and field team already qualified for the NCAA Regionals, the only thing the Lady Gobs have left to do is continue their already ambitious efforts.

Just last weekend at Vanderbilt University, the Lady Gobs had several top-place finishes. This has been a trend for the Lady Gobs all season



THOMAS VAN HOOSE/STAFF
Keauna McCall and Cicely Sullivan run in the 100-meter dash.

long.

In the past two years, Southeast Missouri has won the OVC title, which means the Lady Gobs will have to step up in order to bring the title home. The last time the Lady Gobs have won the OVC in track and field was before 1979.

With a new head coach this season, the Lady Gobs have pushed both personal best records and team

records to an all time high.

In the earlier indoor season, the Lady Gobs had finished in seventh place. In the outdoor season, the Lady Gobs hope to finish within the top five spots, which includes them pulling ahead of some of the toughest teams in the OVC.

Yet, with top players such as junior Sherlonda Johnson, this task seems like it could be a reality with just a little bit of hard work. Johnson has finished first in more than three events this season.

Other players on the team such as sophomores Tia Hendricks and Ashley Genslak have improved their jumps and hurdles to where they are beginning to place right along with Johnson.

As one of the best track and field teams that APSU has had, the team only hopes to improve and bring that OVC title home back to APSU.

FOOTBALL

Coach McCray welcomes Greenbrier

By ASHLEY SCHILLING
Staff Writer

As this academic school year ends at Austin Peay State University, many of the sports teams are finalizing plans for recruits. This task does not seem to be a problem for some of the departments such as baseball and football.

The Gobs football team alone has over 50 students heading on their way to APSU. These students come from all across the state to perform here at the collegiate level.

With so many recruits, it only seems fair to introduce some of the them and to take a deeper look into how they wound up at APSU. The process of selecting players for the next season is a long one. As hundreds of student-athletes graduate each year, more and more of them seem to be guided by family and coaches to the Governors' football program.

"When looking for a recruit, the first thing I do is talk to the coaches about the player's character and what kind of person he is," head coach Carroll McCray said. "The second thing we do is evaluate the transcripts. The academics are important. Third, we look at the player's athleticism."

Both of athleticism and academics are critical for any college athletic

"There is a good coaching staff up at Austin Peay. I think that (the student-athletes) can see and sense how good of a staff is up there."

— Kirk Williams, Greenbrier football coach

program due to the newly instated NCAA academic regulations. Every college has to have a certain number of athletes graduate in order to meet the NCAA quota. If this quota is not met, then the college goes through different stages of punishment such as ineligibility.

Although many high schools all across the state are sending their athletes to APSU, one school stands out the most in football. A small school just southeast of Clarksville, called Greenbrier, has five students entering into the Gobs' football program next fall. All five current seniors have set a trend, which many high schools and colleges alike are following.

"As a general rule, high school areas and high schools kind of have characteristic qualities throughout the

state or wherever I might go," McCray said. "Certain schools reflect certain things to me. I think the biggest development of an attitude of a coach is that if I already have a player from a certain school - good or bad - then my thoughts about that school have been developed."

This attitude worked out nicely for the five Greenbrier football players as the Gobs already hold one of the high school alumni on the team, freshman Duncan Williams.

Also, high school coaches have a main influence on where their students go. Depending on a coach's attitude toward a certain school can decide where the most effort is put into when recruiting.

"The first thing as you do when coaching kids for four years is choosing a good program for them," Greenbrier High School's head football coach Kirk Williams said. "There is a good coaching staff up at Austin Peay. I think that (the student-athletes) can see and sense how good of a staff there is up there."

In all, the APSU football department is on its way to a better season. With new recruits under its belt and an already hard working team, the Gobs plan to get started on the upcoming fall football season.

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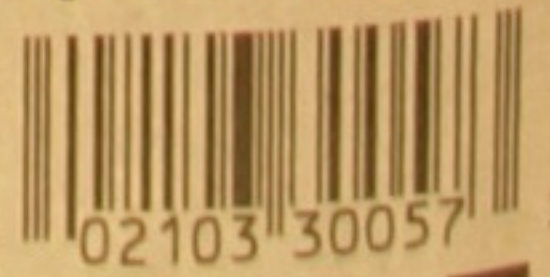
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By MANDY WHITE
Sports Editor

As the school year comes to a conclusion, I thought I'd take a look back at Austin Peay State University sports over the last year. A lot has happened and, for the most part, the future is looking bright for the Gobs and Lady Gobs.

Football

Perhaps one of the biggest stories of the year is the return of the APSU football to the Ohio Valley Conference. The team finished the season with a 2-9 mark, tying for third place in the



FLETCHER

Pioneer Football League. Renovations were made to the football stadium this year, including putting down new turf. The Gobs did defend their new turf in their last two home games of the season, against Charleston, 28-20, and in their homecoming game against Davidson, 20-17. Despite a season with less than satisfactory marks, two-year head coach Carroll McCray believes things will begin to look up with the move to scholarship football. The time frame for the move includes 2005 as the Gobs' last year in the PFL. They will begin to see some competition with OVC rivals on their schedule, including Murray State. In 2006, the Gobs will move to a partial-scholarship, independent schedule, before moving to a full scholarship program in the OVC the next year.

The Gobs have some young talent that will help them in the years to come. Freshman Bradley Wilson kicked the game-winning field goal in the Homecoming game in and Chris Fletcher's 974 rushing yards signifies the most by any freshman back in university history.

I predict some challenges for the Gobs, but if they work hard and recruit some more talent, I think they will be competitive in the new, higher level of play.

Volleyball

The Lady Gobs volleyball team went 15-16 last season, dropping from an even 16-16 from the year before. APSU tied for fourth in the OVC.

The future for the Lady Gobs holds some changes for next season. Head coach Cheryl Holt announced her retirement from coaching, after building the program for the last 23 years. The retirement will become effective Aug. 15, but she will remain as head women's administrator at APSU. In her 28 years of coaching Division I, Holt has accumulated 499 victories.

I predict that Corey Carlin, who has been assistant coach to the Lady Gobs' program for three years, will take Holt's place and could possibly provide that spark the team seems to have been missing the past few years.



HOLT

Soccer

The APSU soccer team finished 8-9-2 on the season, with an eighth-place finish in the conference. The record is the best in the program's three-year history, and while the Lady Gobs fell just short of their first tournament berth, the team placed three members of its squad on the All-OVC second team. Those players include senior Erin Mitchell, junior Sarah Broadbent and sophomore Adonia Bivins.



MITCHELL

The Lady Gobs will soon have something to show for their steady improvement. Completion of the new soccer field on campus is scheduled before the Lady Gobs begin pre-season training in August.

Rifle

The women's rifle team finished the season 2-8 and sixth place in the league. The team, originally made up of five individuals, lost some people during the season and ended up having a rough year. The Lady Gobs did recruit three new shooters and have begun building the ranks for next year's squad.

Another plus for the team—new rifles. Head coach Howard Wooster was able to buy the rifles for the team this year. They are made of higher quality and are easier to use. Next year's team should be made up of experienced and talented shooters, who can



THOMAS

bring APSU into the next level of play.

Cross Country & Track and Field

The cross country and track and field team at APSU is under the new leadership of head coach Doug Molnar, who came to the program after Yvonne Lowe resigned last year.



JOHNSON

There have been many positive changes for the teams this year, as the stadium renovations have made it possible for APSU to host track and field meets.

The Lady Gobs hosted one earlier during the outdoor season, and they will be hosting the O'Reilly OVC championship in the coming weeks.

Junior Sherlonda Johnson has been named APSU Athlete of the Week five times this season and has qualified for the regional meet.

Women's Basketball

After an all-around frustrating season for everyone involved, the women's basketball team is ready to look forward to next year. The Lady Gobs finished the year 8-19 overall with a 4-12 mark in the OVC. The team did not, for the first time in years, make the conference tournament.

The Lady Gobs graduated one senior from the season's squad, but is losing a total of seven players, many of whom have opted to transfer and play ball somewhere else. APSU will return junior Ashley Haynes, sophomores Missy Booker and Tiffany Benford and freshmen Ashlee McGee, Amber Bacon and Kellea Reeves. Second-year head coach Andy Blackston has recruited two high-profile players in a somewhat strained effort to build next year's team.

After the year's drama, it's hard to predict the future for the Lady Gobs. With any luck, the women's basketball team will be able to pick up the pieces of its broken season and return to the OVC with a vengeance, once again dominating the league. At worst, the team could continue to struggle and fight through the issues that have bogged them down. Ultimately, I think it's up to the players and the coaching staff to work hard, but most importantly, to work together in a unified effort at excellence.



BLACKSTON

Men's Basketball

The Gobs basketball program finished the season with a 13-18 overall mark and tied for fifth in the OVC. In post-season play, however, the Gobs worked their way up through the ranks, first knocking off Samford in Birmingham, Ala., before upsetting top-seed Tennessee Tech, 67-61, in the OVC tournament semifinals. Unfortunately the Gobs could not carry that momentum into the championship game, losing to Eastern Kentucky 52-46.



SCHLADER

The Gobs will have 11 players returning from last season's team, and they have already signed forward Drake Reed, guard Landon Shipley and post player J.P. Fekler, who should be a strong up-and-coming player to give Zach Schlader a hand in the paint. I have high hopes for the Gobs next season. They will have to get used to not having play-maker Anthony Davis around, but Maurice "Squeaky" Hampton, Derek Wright, Todd Babington and Schlader should be able to fill in some of the holes.

Men's and Women's Tennis

The men's and women's tennis teams were under new leadership this year in Ed Dickson, who brought 20 years of major college Division I tennis coaching experience to the program.

The Lady Gobs went 2-15 overall and finished 10th in the OVC, failing to make the tournament. The team's two wins came from Lipscomb, 4-3, and a shootout of league rival Tennessee State, 6-0. The Gobs went 5-16 on the season, and they squeaked by Murray State, 4-3, in the O'Reilly OVC tournament to bring home a seventh-place finish.



DICKSON

Men's Golf

Kirk Kayden had some pretty large shoes to fill when he came to APSU last fall to be the head men's golf coach. Previous head

coach Mark Leroux, who left the program in June to coach at Missouri, led the men's golf team to OVC championships in 2001, 2002 and 2003.



LEAVER

This year, the men's golf team began its season on a rocky note, ending in the bottom half of the field in its first four tournaments. In their next six tournaments, however, the Gobs picked up the pace and finished in the top five, including first-place finishes in both the F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate and the Billiken Invitational, where Yoshio Yamamoto and Chris Barron tied the tournament record with their scores of 207.

In the O'Reilly OVC championships, the Gobs trailed Samford by three shots after the opening day, but gained ground on day two as they moved into first place. Samford played out a come-from-behind victory, on the third day, as the Gobs slipped into a second-place finish.

I predict great things for the future of the Gobs' golf program. The entire roster is composed of talented freshmen and sophomores, who will undoubtedly prosper with more experience. Grant Leaver was named OVC Freshman of the Year, and he and Yamamoto each earned OVC second-team honors.

Women's Golf

Assistant coach Sara Burkhead took the helm of the Lady Gobs golf program this season as the men's and women's teams split. The Lady Gobs struggled this season through various injuries, finishing in the top half of the field only twice.

In the O'Reilly OVC championship tournament, the Lady Gobs sat in seventh place, out of eight teams, for the first two days. On the third day, however, the Lady Gobs shot their best of the tournament, a 330, to slide by Samford for sixth place.

The Lady Gobs have shown a team effort this season, with Erin Wise, Christine Idoux, Pier-Anne LaChance and Amanda Rose all leading the team at one point or another.



WISE

Softball

Jim Perrin rounds up the list of new APSU coaches for the 2004-2005 year. He came to the program, after the resignation of Tara McCoy in June, with more than 600 wins in 20 years at Christian County High School in Hopkinsville, Ky.



ANDERSON

With 10 games left before the O'Reilly OVC championships, the Lady Gobs have an overall record of 16-30 and a conference mark of 9-10. After last weekend's losses to Eastern Illinois, the Lady Gobs have fallen from fifth in the conference to eighth. But the Lady Gobs have taken games off four of the teams ranked higher than them, including first-place Jacksonville State. And the Lady Gobs have yet to play third-ranked Tennessee Tech or fifth-ranked Southeast Missouri.

I think APSU has a good chance of making the conference tournament and being competitive for the remainder of the season. The Lady Gobs can be aggressive and get the job done; they just need to be more consistent. But I foresee good things for the program under Perrin in the coming years.

Baseball

The Gobs, 26-14 and 10-5 in the OVC, are currently ranked second in the conference behind Morehead State, who sports an 11-3 mark in the league. The team is looking for its third regular-season championship in as many years.

The Gobs were ranked first in the OVC preseason rankings by Baseball America and Collegiate Baseball. So far, APSU has lost its OVC games to Morehead State (3) and one game each to Samford and Southeast Missouri. Pitcher Rowdy Hardy was named to the preseason All-America squad.



HARDY

So far, this year has been full of many ups, downs, changes and even surprises. There's been disappointment and rejoicing. One thing will always remain the same for APSU athletics. There will always be a sense of pride for those who wear the red and white.

GOVS

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