

Campus Police promotes one of its own



"We're here for [the campus community] to ensure a safe learning and working environment."
Capt. Charlie Struckel

By **STEPHANIE COWARD**
Editor in Chief

APSU Campus Police promoted one of its own to the rank of captain Dec. 1. Capt. Charlie Struckel now holds a new rank and job title — assistant director/assistant chief.

Police Chief Lantz Biles created the position to assist in the department's Community Oriented Policing.

Community Oriented Policing includes forming partnerships with both groups and individuals at APSU, to ensure that problems "related to law enforcement and to the safety of the community" are identified, prioritized and responded to, according to Biles.

The department chose this policing philosophy because "it emphasizes the needs and desires of the community. This 'people value' is the foundation for other critical values Charlie possesses," Biles said.

Struckel credits his military career — which was cut short due to an injury suffered while deployed — for embedding in him the necessary leadership traits for the position.

"Most of my managerial leadership experience came from the military, both the Marine Corps and the Army. I held every position up to company commander," Struckel said.

"I also had the honor of commanding a company of 262 people in Operation Iraqi Freedom."

Struckel's first job after the military was in federal law enforcement in Nashville, but Struckel left that job in 2004 because he wanted to find a "more traditional law enforcement job."

He began at APSU Nov. 1, 2004, as a police officer and since then has held the positions of Crime Prevention Unit Officer

and Crime Prevention Sergeant before earning captain this month.

"Captain Struckel brings to our department a fresh, energetic view of law enforcement," said Lt. Loris Ellsworth, Campus Police officer supervisor. "He is always willing to assist and work with peers, subordinates and supervisors."

"I look forward to working with him in the future," Ellsworth said.

The position required a bachelor's degree that Struckel had before arriving at APSU and it also required 10 years of leadership experience.

Struckel holds certifications in CPTED, crime prevention, NIMS/ICS, domestic terrorism, FLETC instruction and sits on the District 7 Board of Homeland Security.

"The best qualified applicant was selected," Biles said. From now on Struckel will be running day-to-day operations

"The best qualified applicant was selected."

Police Chief Lantz Biles



within the department, he said. The Chief will now have the time to focus on administrative duties and the campus community while he will also manage the internal functions of the department.

"The first issue we're dealing with is retention. The university can expect to see a stronger police presence [on campus] immediately," Struckel said.

"We're here for [the campus community] to ensure a safe learning and working environment," Struckel said. ♦

'Hoppe'ing from past, walking 'Hall'way to future



By **TINEA PAYNE**
Staff Writer

The fall semester was filled with numerous changes and arrangements for APSU. Among these was a change in leadership as President Timothy Hall made his debut, presenting a new perspective on leadership to faculty, staff and students.

Upon arriving at APSU in August, Hall has introduced himself to the campus community through listening meetings, events and reaching out to the campus by making himself more accessible.

Hall is known to have made appearances at athletic events, campus organization meetings, SGA Campus Talk and has been found sitting at Einstein Bros. Bagels to grab a cup of coffee.

But Hall hasn't just reached out to students, but to faculty, administration and campus organizations who are aware of Hall's accessibility and attachment to the campus community.

Reflection of changes this fall

Hall described his first semester here as a learning experience to better understand and familiarize with the campus.

"It's been great. I've spent a lot of time talking with



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Top: President Hall, his wife Lee, and daughter Amy, attended the The Apollo, APSU's annual talent show held in Clement Auditorium, Sept. 20. The president and his family have been seen at many campus events this semester.
Left: President Hall running the APSU flag at the football game against Tennessee State University, Sept. 15.

people here, trying to understand Austin Peay, its needs, its opportunities and challenges," Hall said. Hall said that his main goal this semester was to get out and get involved with the campus and to become more educated about the university's needs.

"People have been very gracious in talking with me and helping me to learn, sharing with me their thoughts about Austin Peay and its future," Hall said.

"Certainly [Hall] has captured the imagination of the faculty," said Bruce Speck, provost and vice president of academic affairs.

Speck said that Hall is looking for more opportunities for faculty to discuss campus changes and concerns.

"I believe that President Hall is meeting the expectations of the faculty and administration. He is open, he has been accessible [and] he has been very active. I think they want somebody they can trust and they can believe in."

In comparison to former President Sherry Hoppe, Speck said that there are differences in management styles between the two.

"[Hoppe] was a charismatic leader," Speck said. "Part of her management style was that she was hands-on. That managing style, I think was fairly

effective." Speck said that Hall has a relaxed style.

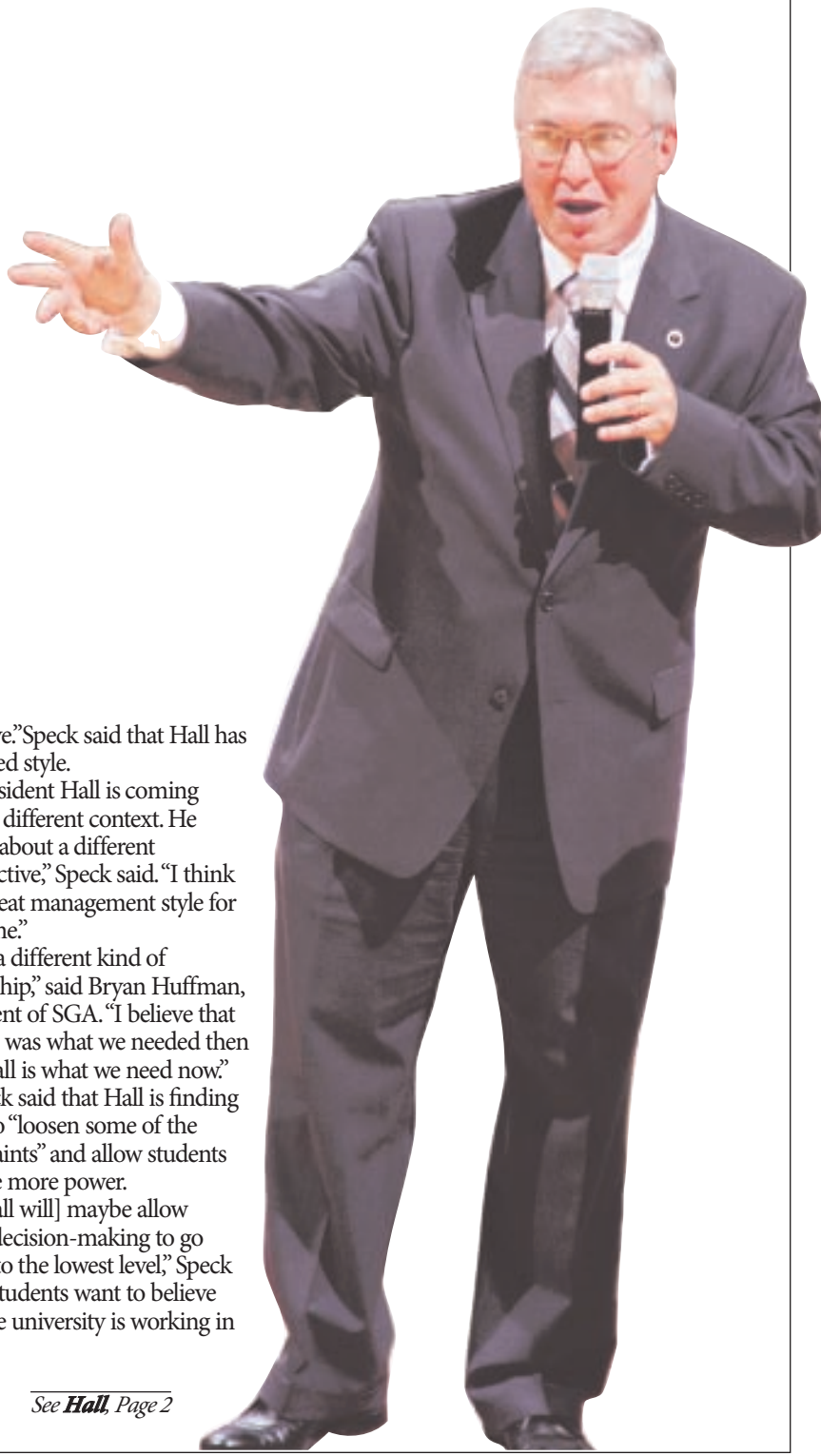
"President Hall is coming from a different context. He brings about a different perspective," Speck said. "I think it's a great management style for this time."

"It's a different kind of leadership," said Bryan Huffman, president of SGA. "I believe that Hoppe was what we needed then and Hall is what we need now."

Speck said that Hall is finding ways to "loosen some of the constraints" and allow students to have more power.

"[Hall will] maybe allow more decision-making to go down to the lowest level," Speck said. "Students want to believe that the university is working in

See **Hall**, Page 2



Mock trial impeaches Bush for torture, Katrina, separation of powers

By **PATRICK ARMSTRONG**
Assistant Features Editor

The U.S. v. Bush Hybrid Mock Trial began in Professor Greg Rabidoux's American Constitutional Law I class Nov. 27 with over 40 students and faculty participating and observing.

In the student-lead trial and bought charges against President George W. Bush.

"The idea of doing a hybrid mock trial is one I've had for quite some time and since law school I have polished it up and added some real-life elements," Rabidoux said.

The charges against Bush were: Violations of the Geneva Convention article; violation of Separation of Powers within Articles I, II and III of the U.S. Constitution; disparate treatment of U.S. citizens in response to Hurricane Katrina which the prosecution said violated the 14th Amendment.

The prosecution and defense both presented



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

The mock trial was held Nov. 27 and Nov. 29. Here prosecutor Mike Price presented his opening arguments.

pictures of prisoner treatment, presidential signing statements, congressional testimony and executive

memos and orders as evidence.

"[Students] prepared a bill of indictment,

develop motions to dismiss certain charges at the preliminary trial conference, research the issues, develop arguments, prepare witness testimony and cross-examinations, as well as opening and closing arguments," Rabidoux said.

Students in the class signed up for the parts they wanted to depict which included: Prosecution, defense, justices, chief justice and witnesses.

"Students signed up for the sides and roles they wanted and I tweaked it a bit to try and ensure a balance of strengths for each side," Rabidoux said.

"It was similar to the Girls' State [the top junior girls from their high school attend a week long session learning about government]," said Kelly Maddox, junior corporate communications major who observed the trial, "I attended in high school."

See **Trial**, Page 2

Perspectives

Columnists discuss Christmas trends, and *The All State* staff bids farewell ...

Features

Put a little Ho, ho, ho into your holiday: Holiday Guide 2007



Sports

Govs and Lady Govs win on the road this weekend



Online

Don't forget to check us out online during the Christmas break

FYI

♦ Today's the last day of regular classes, final exams begin Dec. 7.

Trial: soon to conclude



PATRICK ARMSTRONG/ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR
Matt Harris, above, delivered the opening arguments for the defense.

Mock trial was a part of constitutional law class

Rabidoux wanted his students to work as a team and for each to work on his or her feet in a courtroom environment.

“I wanted students to learn the key constitutional and political issues at hand from the actual charges being contested,” Rabidoux said.

“I gained a more solid understanding of how our judicial system works,”said Emery Walters, justice.

The press release Rabidoux handed out to observers said, “This trial is not intended to completely duplicate any one setting, but applies different methodologies in a trial of original jurisdiction, a typical criminal process as well as features from arguing in front of the U.S. Supreme Court.”According to Rabidoux, the verdict will be released by the justices Dec. 10.

“I thought they did a very fine job and seemed to grow and gain some confidence as the trial went on,” Rabidoux said.

Rabidoux is planning another mock trail for students in his constitutional law II class in Spring 2008. ♦

Hall: ‘active’ leader

From Page 1

their best interests.” In regards to policies, some students wanted to know what was being done on campus. Lanny Begley, senior political science major, said that he wanted to know exactly what the president has planned.

“Even if I don’t agree with it, I know now who to disagree with,” Begley said. SGA Secretary Chris Drew said that Hall has set a good example this semester.

He said that Hall helps set the tone for connecting students with the campus community.

“[Hall] does lead by example. He’s always out there on campus, always visible. He’s not just “behind the desk,” Drew said.

Student success, future plans

According to Speck, the key phrase now is “student success” and how the campus can incorporate the idea in all aspects of student life.

“I’ve been able to talk about renewing a focus on helping our students to succeed,” Hall said. “There has been a renewed push in that area where a lot of people are thinking, a lot of people are planning and are acting in ways to help students to succeed.”

In regards to student success,

Hall said that there will be a faculty group, chaired by Physics Department Chair Jaime Taylor, that will focus on what academic departments can do to aid in student success.

He said that faculty members from across campus will be working on this committee and will produce results and recommendations by next semester. Additional academic support was one of the many goals Hall said he would like to achieve at APSU.

“We’ve added a significant number of new faculty positions help teach students. More than \$1 million dollars in salaries was committed to hiring new people to help our students succeed.”

Hall said that he is trying to create a campus where students stay, graduate and succeed. He wants students to belong to the campus and become “co-owners”.

He also plans to pull together a special brainstorming session titled “Do They Feel the Love?” in an effort to show students that APSU cares about their successes. Hall is working toward newer ways to meet student needs.

“If a student believes that the campus is friendly and engaging and they make relationships here, they’re likely to come back,” Speck said. ♦

Good Morning APSU

Your Community

“Chimes” play at the Roxy

Charles Dickens’ “other Christmas Carol” is a cross between the story of Ebenezer Scrooge and Frank Capra’s “It’s a Wonderful Life.” In it, Toby Veck meets the spirits of the church chimes and sees the greater importance of his life. “Chimes” is adapted for the stage by John McDonald. Show dates are Dec. 6 to Dec. 22 at the Roxy Regional Theater in Downtown Clarksville. The show tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for 13 and under.

Christmas on the Cumberland

The city of Clarksville celebrates the holiday season with a beautiful display of holiday lights along the banks of the Cumberland River. Stroll the RiverWalk through a winter wonderland featuring over one million lights. The lights will be on display until Jan. 1, and can be seen from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Sponsor an Angel

Help the Health and Human Performance Club provide the children of New Directions in Van Leer a merry Christmas. Select a gift to donate or make a cash contribution by Dec. 13 at the HHP Office in Dunn Center, Room 268. A pizza party will be held for those who donate cash or a selected gift. For more information contact Heather McDonough by e-mail at hmcdonough14@apsu.edu or call 221-6111.

Scholarship opportunity

Presidential Scholars are granted \$3,000 in support of independent research or creative activity with scholarly merit. All full-time undergraduate students are eligible to apply. The Presidential Research Scholars Program solicits proposals for the next award cycle 2008-09. The application deadline is Jan. 31, 2008. For more information contact Dr. Rebecca M. Jones by e-mail at jonesr@apsu.edu or call 221-762.

Salvation Army Angel Tree

The Salvation Army’s Angel Tree program provides new clothing and/or toys for children of families in need. The organization needs volunteers to help organize and distribute gifts to participating families. The dates to help organize are Dec. 8 and Dec. 15. The dates to distribute gifts are Dec. 17 to 18. If you are going to remain in the area for the holidays and would like to serve, contact Sherry S. Holmes by e-mail at holmess@apsu.edu or call 221-7043.

Help an Elf assists families of students with Christmas gifts

By STEPHANIE COWARD
Editor in Chief

Help an Elf, a program that allows the APSU community to adopt a family in need, thrives with generosity.

The program in its 16th year – has 41 families for 2007, all of which are APSU students.

Each year, Student Affairs sends out information about the program and asks for names of students’ families who could use some help at Christmas. Once all the names have been submitted, the office determines whether or not all submissions qualify.

This year all of the 41 names met the criteria. After a final tally is taken, Student Affairs notifies the campus community and then the office waits for volunteers to contact them.

Barbara Phillips, former associate vice president of Student Affairs, started the Help an Elf program at the community level.

However, she realized there were families in need right here on campus and transitioned the program over to the APSU community, according to Vanessya Fountain, secretary in Student Affairs and coordinator for the event.

“We’ve had an overwhelming response this year,” Fountain said. But, as of press time, not all of the families were adopted.

Because the office makes every attempt to get all the families adopted, Fountain said they are willing to work with any sponsors.

“The deadline is Dec. 13, but we’re willing to work with anyone if they need more time. The University closes Dec. 21. We would like to have

everything to the families by then,” Fountain said.

This year, the families range in size from one child to five and the ages are just as vast, with the youngest child being 18 months and the oldest 18 years.

Last year, the program had 25 families and all were adopted in no time.

Fountain would like the same to happen this year.

A few years ago, there were 50 families and not all were adopted.

“It was heartbreaking,” Fountain said.

As of press time, Fountain said there were still eight families who needed to be adopted.

To adopt an elf this year, contact the Office of Student Affairs at 221-7341, or stop by UC Room 206. ♦

Austin Peay State University
Office of Student Affairs
presents a



UNITY
CELEBRATION

with special
guest speaker

Nikki
GIOVANNI

February 7, 2008

See the December 5 edition of The All State for more details.

SGA: WEEKLY ROUNDUP

Resolution, kiosks, campus transit discussed

By **TINEA PAYNE**
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association presented three resolutions and discussed plans for next semester during the Nov. 28 SGA meeting.

Resolutions introduced

SR 2 and SR 3 were introduced during the meeting. SR 2, presented by A.J. Wolfe, requested a by law on the pocket veto, which is defined as the president not returning a signed bill within two Senate meetings.

The resolution will implement a procedure for legislation that is not signed and states that if a bill is lost or misplaced, the legislation is to be re-submitted to be granted approval from the Senate through a veto override, if passed.

“This is a means to correct problems including loss of legislation,” Wolfe said.

Section 1 requests that the pocket veto be added to SGA bylaws as another manner that the president can veto legislation.

Section 2 would introduce another way the

Senate can vote on vetoed legislation and a manner in which to override the veto.

Senator Daniel Maurer presented SR 3 regarding the expansion of the “free speech zone.” Lines 18 to 20 of the legislation requests that students and student organizations have a “reasonably fitting location” to express their views.

Lines 22 to 25 regard APSU as limiting the rights of student to express views due to the size and number of locations of zones. SR 3, Section 1 calls for a formal recommendation to be issued to the Faculty Senate and the President’s Cabinet in regards to amending the “free speech zone” policy, expanding more opportunities for activities where students can be heard.

Section 2 states that, if passed, a second “free speech zone” would be established at the recessed concrete statue near the UC.

Section 3 states that the possible location for the new “free speech zone” no longer be regarded as an interference to classes or university functions.

SR 4, presented by Senator Elizabeth Boom, would, if passed, promote a safer, cleaner environment by adding more awnings and trash cans with ashtrays in the designated smoking

areas.

The SGA Smoking Policy states that smokers can only smoke in campus parking lots, regardless of whether classes are in session or in the event inclement weather. Section 1 of the resolution states that, upon passing the resolution, smoking areas will be safer and more attractive. “Smoking areas aren’t very well marked,” Boom said. “It makes our campus look trashy.”

‘Help an Elf’ presented to senate

Bryan Huffman, president, presented the annual “Help an Elf” program, sponsored by Student Affairs. The program is designed to assist full-time, income-eligible students at APSU with holiday shopping by donating gifts to their children.

Senate announcements

Wolfe also announced that the Student Tennessee Education Associaton and NAACP

Collegiate Chapter are forming a coordinating effort for the Black History Bowl. The organizations are currently collecting funds for the bowl that is scheduled for Feb. 7, according to the APSU Web site. Secretary Chris Drew announced that the Gops Organizational Council Budget Allocations Committee needs a spot to be filled. The committee is organized to help campus organizations get funding for programs.

Future plans

Huffman also discussed the kiosks that will soon be established across campus.

SGA will meet with President Timothy Hall to discuss funding. If utilized, SGA will be able to expand use of the kiosks. SGA will also meet regarding the campus transit and future senate seats to be filled. Huffman said that a senator will be elected for the GOC to discuss Student Life and Leadership policies. R.J. Gossett, vice president, also presented need of a senior senator spot to be filled. Plans will be presented during the first SGA meeting in January.

The next SGA meeting will be held Dec. 5. ♦

Taylor appointed to retention committee, elections held

By **MARC WALLS**
Staff Writer

Faculty Senate President Tim Winters called to order the final meeting of the Fall 2007 semester, Nov. 29.

Hall’s Report

President Tim Hall began the meeting explaining to the Senate his decision to appoint Jaime Taylor, chair of the department of physics and astronomy, to a new committee designed to explore opportunities to promote retention of students at APSU.

“Too many students are leaving ... 35 percent of students are walking away,” Hall said, adding that those numbers place APSU at the bottom of Tennessee Board of Regents institutions.

“Two million dollars every year is walking away from the university,” Hall said. “That is the financial loss of students who do not stay.”

President Hall mentioned that for the time being, the committee’s main focus would be on the efforts that can be made to the academic side of APSU to help more students succeed.

Hall said his thoughts regarding the opportunity to be successful in retaining students include engaging the students actively in learning and providing a number of support mechanisms.

When asked if APSU 1000 courses had made a dent in the retention figures, Hall said it was too soon to tell, but that similar courses have proved successful nationally.

Fort Campbell Adjustments

Beginning next fall, the Fort Campbell Center will begin featuring five terms instead of the traditional four.

Faculty members will switch from a July to March contract to an August to May contract and the fall term will begin closer to the main

campus, Aug. 18, instead of July—as in years past. The five terms includes an eight week summer term that will provide opportunities for faculty from the main campus members to teach summer courses.

It was also mentioned that all courses would be set up with the new Desire 2 Learn system to accommodate situations that particularly affect the Fort Campbell community.

Admissions Changes

Ryan Forsythe, director of admissions, presented for a vote proposed changes to APSU’s admissions policy concerning the topic of concurrent enrollment.

The issue arose out of the formation of the Governor’s School on computational physics, which will be taking place on campus next summer from June 1 to July 3.

The proposal, which was unanimously passed, defines concurrent enrollment as students dually enrolled in high school and APSU with a minimum requirement of a 3.2 GPA.

Forsythe noted that unlike some other universities that offer Governor’s School, APSU would not have admissions criteria regarding ACT scores.

“Because these students will be sophomores and juniors who may not have taken the test yet, we didn’t think it was necessary to include that as a requirement,” Forsythe said.

New Elections

Elections were recently held to fill the several open seats on the Faculty Senate.

The new Senators are: Marcus Hayes, theatre and dance; Nora Lewis, music; Greg Wolyneck, music; Benita Bruster and Jennie Preston-Sabin, education and Michelle Robertson and Michelle Williams, nursing. ♦

Gas prices affect policy

By **JARED COMBS**
Staff Writer

The rise in gasoline prices has affected APSU directly and may continue to do so as the roof on crude oil prices climbs even higher.

The substantial increase in the price of gasoline is attributed to turbulence in the Middle East, the depletion of fossil fuels, rising demand for fuel by industrializing countries and other factors that have become common knowledge to the average American.

“Our physical plant implemented a zoned approach to campus maintenance last spring,” said Mitch Robinson, vice president of Finance and Administration. Robinson explained that the new approach to daily campus maintenance came, in part, as a means of reducing fuel consumption at APSU.

“When implemented, team members generally ride together when performing facility maintenance thereby reducing the number of plant vehicles traveling on campus. Consequently, less fuel is needed for plant operations,” Robinson said. Apart from fuel used daily on campus, the climbing gas prices may affect off campus travel as well. “Our current travel policy provides mileage reimbursement at the rate of 46 cents per mile,” Robinson said. “Should there be a significant increase in gas prices, the state

could increase this rate thereby increasing travel costs.”

Students at APSU will also feel the inconvenience of pumping gas at such high costs as the semester comes to a close and commuters prepare for long drives home for the holidays.

“I only have to drive back to Nashville for the break,” said Ross Coffee, APSU junior. “But even that is going to be expensive. Gas prices are ridiculous.”

In light of this world energy crisis research to create sustainable fuel sources has become a topic at APSU.

According to Robinson, Professor Don Sudbrink has asked for funding through the sustainable fee committee to build a bio-diesel engine at the APSU farm.

“I expect a system to recycle used cooking oils for use as an alternative fuel source would immediately reduce diesel fuel consumption at the farm,” Robinson said.

According to the American Automobile Association (AAA) media site for retail gasoline prices (www.fuelgaugereport.com), the current national average for regular unleaded is 3.096 dollars per gallon.

According to the Energy Information Administration’s Web site (tonto.eia.doe.gov), the average price per barrel for crude oil is, as of Nov. 23, \$90.54. Ten years ago, in the fourth week of November, the per-barrel price of crude oil was \$17.83. ♦

Schools use GPS to ensure student safety

Associated Press

MONTCLAIR, N.J. — It was after 1 a.m. on Dec. 2 when college freshman Amanda Phillips arrived at the train station.

She was nervous about walking alone in the dark to her dorm at Montclair State University.

So Phillips activated a GPS tracking device on her school-issued cell phone that would instantly alert campus police to her whereabouts if she didn’t turn it off in 20 minutes.

After a five-minute walk, she safely reached her dorm room, locked the door behind her and turned off the timer.

“I think this is a great idea. It makes me feel a lot safer. And it’s not even that expensive,” said Phillips, an 18-year-old from Delaware.

Had she not turned the device off, an alarm would have sounded at the campus police station, and a computer screen would have displayed a dot with her location, along with her photo and other personal details.

Montclair is one of the first schools in the U.S. to use GPS tracking devices, which along with other security technology are increasingly being adopted on campuses in the wake of the Virginia Tech massacre last spring.

Students can use the timer, or, in an emergency, activate the GPS technology to instantly alert police.

“Maybe they’re hiding and are hurt. Maybe they wouldn’t want to talk because they’re hiding behind a desk and the gunman’s in the room. They’d have a better chance of being located,” said campus police Sgt. Paul Giardino.

So far, not many students are using the feature. The university, which has 13,000 undergraduates, said the timers get turned on only about 5 to 10 times a week.

In the little more than a year that the system has been fully operational, the alarms have gone off only about once per month, and it was a false alarm every time, usually because someone forgot to turn off a timer.

Giardino said the false alarms aren’t nuisances, they are training opportunities for the 32-member police force.

“I can get my guys to get out and learn how to handle these,” he said.

Two years ago, well before Virginia Tech, Montclair State made the cell phones mandatory for all first-year students living in dorms at the largely commuter school in suburban New York City.

Now, all new full-time undergraduates , whether they live on campus or off, are required to buy them. About 6,000 students have them now.

Karen Pennington, vice president for campus life, said she and others on campus wanted to use the phones for instruction, letting professors take instant polls in class, for instance, and for safety as well.

While students praise the safety features, some grumble that the phones are mandatory and that they must be bought through the school for \$210 per semester, on top of tuition and fees totaling more than \$7,600 a year.

The phones come with free, unlimited text messaging, the capability to read campus e-mail, free calls after 7 p.m. and free calls to other Sprint phones, but only 50 minutes per month of anytime talking.

Students must pay extra to add minutes. And though students pay by the semester, the phones work year-round.

The university contracted with the New York-based upstart Rave Wireless for the safety technology and Sprint for the cell phone service. Montclair State said it is not making money on the deal.

It said the total cost is around \$2 million per year, almost exactly what the school collects from students to fund it.

Sprint added cell towers so that virtually every inch of the campus gets service.

Raju Rishi, co-founder of Rave, said Montclair State was the first to use the safety feature, called Rave Guardian.

A half-dozen other schools, including nearby Fairleigh Dickinson University and the University of North Carolina, now use similar systems, Rishi said.

Rishi said campus police are not monitoring the movements of students who don’t turn on the GPS feature.

“There’s no Big Brother,” Rishi said. “You need a subpoena to locate somebody against their will.”

Security on Campus, a King of Prussia, Pa.-based advocacy group, gave Montclair State an award for the innovation.

The group’s vice president, Catherine Bath, said the technology will probably become more widespread.

“When I’m out walking my dog at night, I would love to have one of these,” she said. ♦

WORLD BRIEFS

Bhutto urged to boycott elections

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif began a last-ditch effort Dec. 3 to persuade fellow opposition leader Benazir Bhutto to join a boycott of parliamentary elections, but he suggested his party was ready to contest the vote if he fails.

It was the first meeting between the two former premiers since they both returned from exile in recent weeks.

The talks came hours after an election official rejected Sharif’s own candidacy for the Jan. 8 vote, a decision that could deprive him of the chance to become prime minister for a third time.

Bhutto reiterated that she thought all opposition parties should take part in the vote, despite concerns it won’t be free and fair, rather than leave the field open to supporters of President Pervez Musharraf.

Critics call Russian elections unfair

MOSCOW (AP) — Foreign election observers and Russian opposition groups accused authorities Monday of manipulating a sweeping parliamentary victory for the party of President Vladimir Putin, who hailed the vote as a validation of his leadership.

“Of course it’s a sign of trust,” Putin said in televised remarks.

“Russians will never allow the nation to take a destructive path, as happened in some other ex-Soviet nations.”

The victory of the United Russia party sets the stage for Putin to stay in charge as a “national leader” even after he steps down as president next spring because of term limits.

The presidential candiate to be named by his party this month is expected to be a figurehead who would take orders from Putin or even step down early to let Putin regain his seat.

British teacher pardoned

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — A British teacher jailed for insulting Islam after allowing her students to name a teddy bear Muhammad flew home Dec. 3 following a pardon by the president of Sudan, a British Embassy spokesman said.

Gillian Gibbons was believed to be on an Emirates flight with a stopover in Dubai before heading to London.

Embassy spokesman Omar Daair told The Associated Press that Gibbons has left Sudan.

Gibbons’ conviction under Sudan’s Islamic Sharia law shocked Britons and many Muslims worldwide.

It also inflamed passions among many Sudanese, some of whom called for her execution.

She escaped harsher punishment that could have included up to 40 lashes, six months in prison and a fine.

Chavez still has term limit

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Humbled by his first electoral defeat ever, President Hugo Chavez said he may have been too ambitious in asking voters to let him stand indefinitely for re-election and endorse a huge leap to a socialist state.

“I understand and accept that the proposal I made was quite profound and intense,” he said after voters narrowly rejected the sweeping constitutional reforms by 51 percent to 49 percent.

Opposition activists were ecstatic as the results were announced shortly after midnight, with 88 percent of the vote counted, the trend was declared irreversible by elections council chief Tibisay Lucena.

Some shed tears. Others began chanting: “And now he’s going away!”

Without the overhaul, Chavez will be barred from running again in 2012. ♦

OUR TAKE

Farewell to Stephanie

When this semester ends, our editor-in-chief will be leaving *The All State*. On track to graduation, Stephanie Coward will be taking the next step and moving on. Her service to the paper has been invaluable, and her absence here will be sorely felt. She always makes us laugh and never takes crap from those who like to give it. She's honest, loud and one mean party host. None of us could ask for a more loyal, concerned or devoted friend. So now we wish to send her off in our grand editorial fashion. This is our take on the top five things we love and will miss about Stephanie.

- **Her commitment.** She has set a high bar for journalism by working even on the verge of wetting herself because "we've got a deadline to meet, and we don't have time to take restroom breaks!"
- **Her cooperation.** She has been there every step of the way for us, supporting us all, to make working at *The All State* one of best

learning experiences a friend would want to share with another.

- **Her caution.** She has her mind set on something as soon as it comes to her, yet she rings it through "the system" of rules, before proceeding with it.
- **Her teaching.** She is able to tell immediately when we're doing something wrong. But not only will she say that it's wrong, but she'll clearly explain why it's wrong and how we can solve the issue.
- **Her soft inner core.** Though she acts like a tough guy full of vinegar and spunk, we know she has a sweet gooey center full of love and nougat.

We wish she didn't have to leave, but it's just the natural progression of things. Next semester will be both scary and exciting, but Stephanie has well prepared those of us who are staying on for the spring semester. We'll be sure to make her as proud as she has made us. ♦

Christmas gets more offensive

Christmas shopping, cold weather and final exams are all things we associate with winter and the holiday season. More and more, however, people complaining, arguing and even suing are other things now associated with winter and Christmas. In the past decade, this war on Christmas and reduction in the Christmas spirit throughout the U.S. and other portions of the world has sparked widespread controversy as well as signaled the death of a happy holiday season; and yet, many people fail to realize simple truths concerning Christmas.

Christmas has its roots in a few different cultures and religions. Christmas is, by its origin, not a Christian holiday. Some scholars dispute the claim that Jesus was even born during the winter. According to the Gospel of Luke, there were shepherds present during the birth of Jesus. Spring or summer would have been a more appropriate time for shepherds to be herding at night.

So if Jesus was not born in the winter, why celebrate the holiday at this time? There are a few proposed ideas as to why an event that took place in the warmer months. It is speculated by scholar J. R. Porterm in his novel "Jesus Christ: The Jesus of History, the Christ of Faith," that the date was moved by the Roman Catholic Church in an attempt to replace the Roman festival Saturnalia, the celebration of the Roman gods, Sol Invictus, birth.

Another, more widely accepted theory is the mixture of Christian holidays with pagan ones. During the spread of Christianity, many Christians found it easier to convert pagans if they didn't have to relinquish all of their traditions. The theory is that pagan holiday Yule, celebrated on the Winter Solstice, normally around Dec. 22, was merged with Christmas in order to help convert pagans.

Given all that, Christmas shouldn't even be celebrated on Dec. 25, and seems more pagan than Christian. But, I suppose it is too late to change a centuries old holiday. Nevertheless, the latest trends have been to either negatively commercialize the holiday and/or abolish aspects of Christmas. Whether banning holiday signs in public places or changing key holiday phrases and greetings, every year there seems to

be some interest group or political party who wants to get rid of Christmas.

According to an online Yahoo! article, "Santas warned 'ho ho ho' offensive to women," Santa Clauses in Sydney, Australia were told not to say "ho ho ho" because it may scare children and offend some women, since the phrase sounds too similar to the slang word for a prostitute. Clauses were told to change the traditional greeting to "ha ha ha." I remember the "ho ho ho" as being a traditional greeting, and the idea that the phrase might be offensive or scare children is ridiculous.

Another, more classical, wage against Christmas, and the holiday season, is to ban the use of holiday signs in public places. The First Amendment makes it justifiable to want no religious signs in public places, yet I fail to see anything religious about a Christmas tree. Just because it has Christmas in the name, doesn't make it a religious piece of holiday decoration. Many atheists around the world also have Christmas tress in their homes. Also, the idea of using a tree came from a pagan belief. Yet, again, going back to banning holiday signs in public places, there is a simple solution: Either represent all holidays celebrated during the winter (Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Yule) or none of them.

Reaping the rewards of hard work is only natural, so why shouldn't major department stores around the country commercialize Christmas since all other holidays (everything from Valentine's Day to birthdays) are profitable already? And because they wish to commercialize Christmas, why do people find it offensive when sale associates say "Merry Christmas?" Maybe because "happy holidays" is more politically correct, yet here I thought we had freedom of speech.

Granted, even the First Amendment comes with certain boundaries, I find it more offensive when I hear sale associates forced to say "happy holidays" than I do when they choose to say it out of their own free will, or if that free will moves them to say "Merry Christmas."

This time of year was never meant to be about department store sales, Santa Clause, Christmas trees or weeks off from school.

No matter what your religion celebrates this winter, or whether you choose to celebrate it at all, let's keep the true holiday spirit this Christmas season by remembering that it's better to give than receive. ♦

Marsel Gray is a staff photographer. Comments for this article can be sent to allstate.perspectives@gmail.com



Exaggerated Christmas disconcerts with novelty

A disconcerting trend in holiday decorating has emerged over the last few years. The standard Christmas lighting displays have begun to give way to oversized inflatable Santas, polar bears, reindeer, snowmen and giant, clear plastic balls filled with fake snow swirling around various and sundry Christmas scenes contained within. Some of these things are big enough to float over Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Now, all of this is incredibly cheesy in a fascinating "devolution of the culture" kind of way, but that's not what makes it disconcerting. Truth be told; at night when these things are lit up in all their "Wal-Martesquian" glory, they are kind of cool to look at, especially when your neighbor has about 20 of them scattered ostentatiously about on the lawn.

At about \$100 to \$200 a pop, that's a lot of ostentatiousness. Makes you wonder why the neighbors don't just buy a Corvette and park it on the lawn instead. That way they could rub their prosperity in your face past Dec. 25. But still, that isn't what makes it disconcerting.

The disconcerting part happens when I drive through the neighborhood at about 8 a.m. You see, most people only keep these things inflated at night — probably because it's expensive and impractical to keep the blower motors inside running 24/7. So when I'm driving down the street in the early morning, it looks like Christmas at Gettysburg.

There's something exceedingly disquieting about driving down a silent street past multitudes of flattened snowmen and Santa Clauses all contorted into grotesque positions, looking very much as if they had taken a .60-caliber mini-ball right between the eyes. Being a history guy I can't help but see flashes of Matthew Brady's Civil War photographs, or even the

opening scene from "Saving Private Ryan."

You expect that kind of horror in war, but it's not something you want to have jumbled up with childhood memories of Santa land. As my car rolls quietly — almost respectfully — past the dead and wounded family of polar bear carolers on my right, I am saddened to think what kind of North Pole insurrection might have led to this carnage.

Maybe this "Christmas War" was instigated by renegade elves trying to unionize Santa's toy shop. I cast an eye to the left and see a deflated abominable snow monster slumped against a tree, its life's air ebbed away and think, "War is Hell, but I hope Yukon Cornelius is OK." Maybe he is and maybe he isn't, but Rudolph over there is definitely deader than fried chicken. Too bad. The good, they die young.

Onward I crawl at 20 miles per hour through the red, white and green battlefield on either side of me. I half expect to see inflatable vultures in the dead and leafless trees that stand like silent sentinels rising up from brown lawns. The flat gray winter sky is a poem of death. The sun shines dully like a greasy pie-pan through dirty cheesecloth. A stanza from Edgar Allen Poe's "The Conqueror Worm" comes to mind (as read by Vincent Price). Probably because I saw the movie on TMC the other night and I'm in a really suggestible mood.

You know, the holiday season used to make me feel good. Christmas used to make me feel good. Maybe it's just me. Maybe it's just my state of mind. But then I look in my rearview mirror and see a deflated Nativity scene. The baby Jesus and the rest look like they just got run over by a Nazi Panzer Tank.

It's not me.

I drive over to Immaculate Conception and light a candle, remembering Christmases past. Then I get back in my car and crank the Ramones, "Merry Christmas; I Don't Want to Fight Tonight." It's not exactly "White Christmas," but Bing doesn't live here anymore.

Wal-Mart. Everything Must Go. Merry Christmas. ♦

Phil Grey is an alumnus columnist. Comments can be sent to allstate.perspectives@gmail.com

When snazzy gifts won't do, just give them your time

From my earliest memories of Christmas there was always the cedar tree. We would climb in the new honey-gold Ford Falcon and head downtown. There, next to the Brazos River on the old asphalt parking lot by the courthouse, were hundreds of Christmas trees. The air was usually crisp by mid-December even for south central Texas, spitting the occasional drifting snowflake. My sister and I would marvel at all of the trees, the smell of cedar, pine and spruce. The clear light bulbs strung around the parking lot seemed to come alive with their own form of Christmas magic. My father would always haggle over the price of the tree for a while, and then we would load it into the trunk of the car and head home.

My sister and I would help decorate the tree with brightly colored glass bulbs. Occasionally we would run across one in the box that hadn't survived storage or the journey to and from the attic and we felt a deep sense of loss as though a part of Christmas had died. My hands would soon be itching and break out in huge, red bumps before we had finished stringing the lights. By the next afternoon, my eyes were almost

swollen shut and I had turned a beautiful shade of Christmas blue; the medical term is cyanotic. After about four years of my spending the middle of December to the middle of January with pneumonia, my parents decided to get one of those new artificial Christmas trees. It sparkled with the silvery foil leaves that reflected the light of the Christmas bulbs.

Many times I would sneak into the living room and stare at the shining lights and listen to the south Texas winter wind whipping around our house. It was even more fun when there were many brightly wrapped presents under the tree. And just when I had finally convinced myself there was no Santa Claus, my parents stored all our presents over at the next door neighbor's house. We left for a ride to look at the Christmas lights around some of the wealthier neighborhoods and when we returned, like magic, there were piles of presents under the tree. I think the memories I enjoy the most are those from the years I was old enough to sit on a blanket in the floor while everyone else was fast asleep. I would dream about a world where my father didn't beat my sister or me, and our mother actually had time to spend with us.

When my sister was old enough to drive we would take the honey-gold Mercury Montego (our dad had a thing for the color of honey-gold), and we would go to the stores to shop for presents. Back then we

were given an allowance to buy presents, and it wasn't Christmas until we were at the shopping centers looking longingly at the skies for those fleeting snowflakes again. In the '60s, shopping malls were only in the big cities like Dallas or Fort Worth, so we always felt the crispness of the air while running from one store to another. Rarely did we encounter one of those rude shoppers who would run over you to get what they wanted.

After my children were born and we were shopping for their presents, I noticed that Christmas shopping had become a true quest for many people. The only joy they got was in getting the perfect gift for the biggest discount. What was considered the perfect gift was not always what was best for the child or what the child wanted the most; it was what was most popular, hip or cool. Now people get into shouting matches, fistfights break out and some people even get trampled in the rush to be first through the doors.

Many times my ex-wife and I would go into debt for the rest of the year to be sure our children had the latest toys, the neatest gadgets and the best clothes under the tree at Christmastime. There were the learning-computers that were played with for at least a few weeks. The dolls whose clothes went out of style with the grape juice stains on them.

There were toy guns that were left by the wayside once the plastic bullets broke or would no longer fire. The board games lost

their appeal once the pieces were lost or you went around the same board so many times that you could read the cards by the stains on the back of them.

The clothes we bought the children always seemed to get ruined in a few weeks or outgrown in a few months. There were also some kids who got new clothes even before the old ones wore out. If our children were given \$100 sneakers, they were disappointed that they didn't look as nice as the ones the other parents paid \$200 for. Before we knew it, the skirts we bought weren't cool enough. The shirts we bought weren't the right color. And finally, we just couldn't afford the gifts with motors and wheels on them, and nothing else seemed as important.

Just before I moved to Tennessee, I stood in the doorway of my mother's house. This voice inside my head told me I should hug my mother or I might never get another chance. I, being in the hurry that I was to get on with my life, ignored that voice and stymied the urge to hug her and kiss her goodbye. I jumped on the motorcycle and drove off. Eight hours later I found out that my mother had died of a massive heart attack five minutes after I drove off. It was five days before Christmas. It was one of the hardest lessons I ever had to learn. The most perfect gift you can give someone is your time. ♦

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I know who's been naughty and nice

Dahnke. Grazie. Muchas Gracias. Merci. Thanks. Time once again for my annual end of the year giving thanks and the telling of who has been naughty and nice column. Don't pretend I didn't warn you and yes, I do know what you (well, some of you) did this year.

Naughty List: (In no special order)



Politically Speaking
Dr. Greg Rabidoux

Actor Ralph Fiennes, who, as if making the "English Patient" wasn't enough torture to real men everywhere, inflicted more hypocrisy to moviegoers everywhere while flying the (very) friendly skies of Quintas in 2007. Seems Ralphie, who was serving as spokesperson for safe-sex and en route to a conference on HIV-AIDS, engaged in some not-so-safe sex with a flight

attendant during the flight sans protection (bodyguards waiting outside the plane bathroom don't count as actual protection). Rumor has it that Fiennes' schedule doesn't leave much time for actual dating on the ground.

(At least his plane didn't collide with Santa and his reindeer.)

Sports commentators who seemed to imply that Washington Redskins football player Sean Taylor somehow may have got what was coming to him for his own bad dude attitude and previous brushes with the law. For those who don't know what I'm talking about, four individuals recently intruded into Taylor's Miami home and ended the young, successful football player's life. For those sports commentators, how about making sure the blame stays on the real bad dudes who broke into his home, imperiled Taylor, his girlfriend and son and then shot Taylor to death? Or should we believe one commentator who suggested that all athletes who show off their bling only ask for such murderous endings?"

Yahoo! for throwing out its collective corporate



back by bending over so far and so fast to Chinese officials who demanded to know the identity of a Chinese journalist with a Yahoo! account. Seems he made two mistakes: One was criticizing Chinese officials and the second was believing that confidential accounts actually mean the same in English to Yahoo! management. Yahoo!, with visions of about a billion Chinese consumers dancing in their heads coughed up the name to officials faster than a Siamese cat recalls its own furball. The result? The journalist is now sentenced to 10 years in prison and his parents are seeking to sue Yahoo! for breach of contract. (Ask Yahoo! what the Chinese word for spineless corporate shill is — sorry, that's three words.)

And then there's the global warming denouncers. Look, it's time to get over the fact that Al Gore became the poster boy and slideshow wizard of the global warming movement. He did

and he even got a nice prize (how noble) along the way. Stop trying to equate anyone who has looked at the scientific evidence and is alarmed by the melting of our polar ice caps and extreme weather around the globe as demons that are intent on taking away your Humvees and other SUVs away from you. Those who said the world wasn't flat got the old "mumbo jumbo" words-of-a-heretic routine too. Anyone fallen off the edge of our planet lately?

Teachers across our nation who prey on his or her students for sex. Teach, not touch. Is it really that difficult to remember? Here, I have a really hard wooden paddle with your names on it — maybe I can help all of you predator teachers remember. Are you sure the law prevents corporal punishment against teachers, too? (Let's send all these teachers to the principal's office for life.)

City councils that have banned baggy-pants.

Are you serious? Aren't there predator teachers and students building meth labs that we should be more worried about?

(We already use racial profiling, why not baggy-pant profiling?)

The preacher who recently went through a car wash minus the car, wearing only a mini-denim skirt and a bottle of vodka close by. (The Lord does work in mysterious ways, but this might be a real stretch.)

Congressmen Foley, Craig and the Rev. Ted. Seems they all had trouble staying away from situations with other males — be they older, younger or in bathrooms. (It's not just that you all have issues, it's that you can't seem to admit you need help.)

The Nice List: (Told ya it was shorter)

Kids everywhere who still believe in the magic and spirit of the season, especially those bigger kids who probably know better and still choose to.

Teachers and students everywhere who trust each other to make learning positive, memorable and genuine.

Everyone who at least has asked the question, "How can I be a better steward of the planet I share with others?" At least it's a step in the right direction.

Parents everywhere who care enough to use Skippy peanut butter. No, actually, parents who care enough to ask who their kids are with, know where their kids are and dare to say no — even when yes is a lot easier. And even when their "kids" are old enough to know better.

Thanks to:

Our men and women in uniform everywhere who are a long way from home but much closer to our prayers than even they realize. Educators who dare to challenge students to be the best they can be. Students who accept the challenge and exceed what they and others thought possible.

Peace. Out. The wall must come down. ♦

Greg Rabidoux, J.D., Ph.D. is a professor of law and can be reached at rabidouxg@apsu.edu

Goodbye from a few of *The All State's* best Make the best of the college years

Dec. 14, 2007 — the day my life will forever change. As I stand by, thinking of exactly what I am going to do after graduating from this fine institution, I sit back and ponder all the memories I have made since my arrival as a little naïve freshmen. The more things change the more they stay the same; that probably best describes how I feel about graduating.

When I first came to APSU I had no study skills, poor time management skills and just wanted to go out and socialize. Four and a half years later I still have no study skills, poor time management skills and just want to go out and socialize. It feels so weird to say goodbye to *The All State*, seeing that it's been a part of my life ever since I got here.

Working for the paper will be one of the things I miss most about APSU. Writing game stories, meeting deadlines and just meeting a bunch of awesome people are things that I will always remember. Another thing I'll miss is the gym. Though I usually socialize more than I lift weights in the gym, I have come to meet a lot of nice people there, while also keeping off the "freshmen 15" that I definitely gained. One thing I know is that I won't miss the

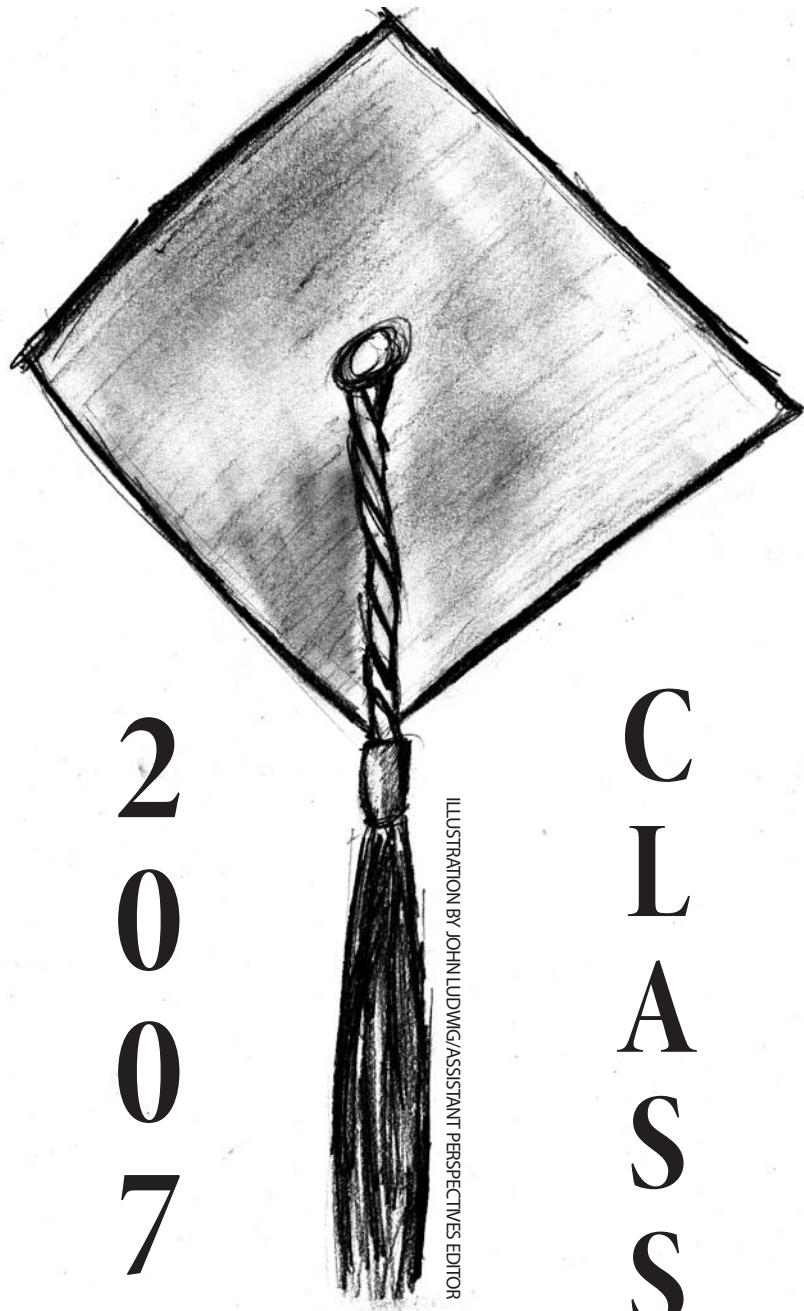
“Working for the paper will be one of the things I miss most about APSU.”

soft return 8 a.m. classes. Though I haven't had one in a couple semesters, I just never could get used to them.

The only thing that I really regret that I didn't get a chance to do is the study abroad program. I didn't really take interest in it until this year, but of course it was too late to sign up. I have seen so many new, fresh faces this semester, and if I were asked I would give them this advice: Skip class at least once a semester just because it's okay. Stay out until 5 in the morning every now and then, especially if you have an 8 a.m. class the next day, so you will have something to talk about with your friends.

And now, I just want to say goodbye to all the friends I've made here at APSU, good bye to all the memories I've made at *The All State* and at the gym. Goodbye to the hours and hours of studying that I didn't but should have done and goodbye to all the tests that I've passed and failed. Now that I have all of my goodbyes out of the way it's time for me to say hello to the future. Hello to me actually growing up, getting a real job and working day in and day out. Actually on second thought, hello to grad school; the real world can wait a couple of more years. ♦

Michael Kellum is The All State Sports Editor. Comments can be sent to allstate.perspectives@gmail.com



“See you all next semester!”



Take that chance and let it guide you

I'll be honest. Less than a year ago, I knew that *The All State* was the campus newspaper of APSU, but I really never paid any attention to it. Then I got a phone call saying a teacher had recommended me for a position at the paper. I had never even considered working for *The All State*, and I definitely didn't know anything about working for a newspaper. I thought about it and decided that maybe it was



Features Editor
Jenny Wallace

more than just a coincidence that I had received that call, so I decided to go for it.

In taking the position of Features Editor, I have learned so much. Obviously, I've gained irreplaceable knowledge and experience about working with and for a newspaper; but far more important are the lessons this past year has taught me about life. If I could pass along one granule of knowledge, I would want it to be that you shouldn't be afraid to take advantage of opportunities, but realize they are transient.

What I mean is this: I never planned to work for a newspaper, but here I am. There are things, some of them big, which I thought for sure I would be doing at this point in my life, but I'm not. I, being the "type A" that I am, try to plan out and map things in advance, but the older I get the more I realize that life will quickly re-route me as it will for you. If I hadn't taken the chance at working for *The All State*, I would have never learned about the newspaper business, I would have never met the wonderful people I have befriended nor would I have seen the bounds of my patience when numerous and unrelenting computer problems plagued my section.

Many people don't understand or appreciate the stresses of college life, or perhaps the experience is completely different than when they attended years ago. I realize stress and burnout are frequent and severe problems that we, as college students, deal with. I simply want to leave you with the thought that although it is depressing, upsetting and utterly stressful when things don't work out as we had hoped or intended for them to, there is a bigger plan, and ultimately things always settle into the correct place. Sometimes it takes two hours and sometimes it takes 20 years to see the "whys" behind something, but have faith that there is a "why," because things truly do happen for a reason. Take advantage of every success as well as every failure in your life as an opportunity to learn the lessons that they equally provide.

To all the readers, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you. I hope you've enjoyed the Features section for the past year, as I've put forth my best effort to provide you with enjoyable content on eye-catching pages. To my writers, thank you for all the work you've put into this section. I'm proud of you all and have been blessed by the opportunity to work with you.

Last but not least, to my fellow staff, you've been a pleasure to work with, and I will forever hold you dear to my heart. Thanks for all the support you've provided, the tears you've shared and the immeasurable laughter you've inspired. I'm thankful that I was given the opportunity to meet you all and work with you. May God bless you all. ♦

Jenny Wallace is The All State Features Editor. Comments can be sent to allstate.perspectives@gmail.com

Holiday Guide 2007

Movies, TV shows and DVDs to watch, music to listen to and places to go before Christmas

By PATRICK ARMSTRONG
Assistant Features Editor

We are just a mere 20 days away until that joyous time of the year where presents are given out, family stand side-by-side at the Christmas tree and Santa visits all of the good boys and girls.

Everybody has their own holiday routine about watching movies, television specials and hanging out with the family.

If no places are on the agenda, here are some ideas for time with friends, family or with oneself.

Around the holidays there tends to be movies that battle each other for that precious holiday spending money.

This year is no different with movies that feature chipmunks, one man left on Earth struggling against vampires, a blade-swinging barber, another great treasure to be found and once again, two aliens fighting again.

That classic trio of chipmunks makes a return to the limelight this season with computer generated imagery, CG, and live action makeover.

The "Alvin and the Chipmunks" movie shows how the chipmunks began and how they turn their "dad" David Seville's, played by Jason Lee, life around. Alvin, Simon and Theodore climb into theaters Dec. 14.

If your do not want to see furry little chipmunks, what about a movie with vampires and one living man left on the planet?

Will Smith plays Robert Neville who somehow survives being turned into a vampire while the rest of Earth's population transforms

into thirsty blood-suckers. "I Am Legend" is based on the horror novel by Richard Matheson and flies in Dec. 14 to take on the chipmunks.

Discover the long-awaited sequel to "National Treasure" this Christmas in "National Treasure: Book of Secrets." Ben Gates, played by Nicolas Cage, uncovers a worldwide conspiracy about President Abraham Lincoln's assassination.

His assassin, John Wilkes Booth's, journal has 18 pages missing. When one is found, viewers are led to believe that Gates' great-grandfather might have had a part in Lincoln's death.

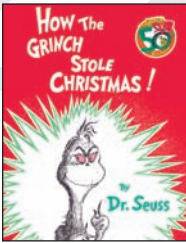
In order to protect his great-grandfather's name, Gates must find the missing pages all over the world. Dig into "National Treasure: Book of Secrets" Dec. 21.

A classic musical makes its way to the silver screen this season with Johnny Depp as "Sweeney Todd." Depp plays a barber who is charged with a crime he did not do. When released, he wants to take revenge on the judge that sent him away. Sweeney decides to practice his razor blade on some unsuspecting victims at his barber shop.

His girlfriend then uses the bodies in her meat pies that become a town favorite. "Sweeney Todd" sings to audiences Dec. 21.

When done with the family and opening presents on Christmas Day, you might want to go out and see "Alien vs. Predator: Requiem."

The acid saliva aliens and invisible predators are at it again trying to kill each other, this time in a small Colorado town.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

If one does not want to venture out into the cold just to see a movie in theaters, check out these new classic and old holiday flicks: "Home Alone," "The Santa Claus," "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," "The Nightmare Before Christmas," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "The Polar Express" and "A Christmas Story." All of these are available on DVD but most will be on TV multiple times. Another option would be to listen to Christmas music by "an open fire."

The "Now That's What I Call Music" series has come out with three Christmas CDs over the years with old classics and new voices by today's music artists. Josh Groban came out with his first Christmas CD's this year entitled "Noel" that will surely warm anyone's heart.

The famous Trans-Siberian Orchestra's latest Christmas CD came out in 2004 called "The Lost Christmas Eve." Dec. 30, they will be performing at the Sommet Center in Nashville and tickets are \$32.50 or \$42.50.

For the ones who like to venture out into the cold, there are Christmas attractions all around Middle Tennessee to see. Here in Clarksville, Christmas on the Cumberland showcases many lights up and down Riverwalk for people to stroll through.

In the capital city of Nashville, Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center each year put up incredible light displays all over the hotel and in the trees outside.

Gaylord Opryland brought back the success of ICE! but with the Dr. Seuss' classic, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." In the below-freezing temperature, one can see this classic tale come to

life with colored ice. The week-day prices are \$19 for adults and \$12 for children \$21 and \$14 on the weekends, respectively. This freezing success will melt away Jan. 2, 2008.

Those famous legs make their way back to Nashville again in the "Radio City Christmas Spectacular." The Radio City Rockettes show off their dancing skills choreographed to Christmas music and decorated scenes.

Ticket prices range from \$29 to \$79. If an AARP or AAA member, one receives 10 percent off and Military ID takes 20 percent off. If you cannot make it to any of these there is always the option to drive around neighborhoods and gaze at everyone's lights outside.

The No. 1 thing everyone must do on Christmas Eve is to put out cookies and milk for the big guy. This is a good way to rekindle those memories of Christmas's past. ♦



MATEEN SIDIQ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

There are many sites to see around the Middle Tennessee this year, including Christmas on the Cumberland and Gaylord Opryland.

Christmas pleasures bring Christmas hazards

By AIMEE THOMPSON
Staff Writer

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), during November and December of each year about 10,000 people are treated in hospital emergency rooms due to falls, cuts, shocks and burns they received while decorating for the holidays.

It's a fact few people want to hear, but it's obvious that while holidays have their special moments, they have their deadly ones too.

Oddly enough, two of the most enjoyable aspects of holiday decorating have the potential to turn lethal. Candles and Christmas trees combined cause roughly 180 deaths a year, and \$360 million worth of damages, stated a CPSC in a recent press release.

The good thing is many of these accidents can be avoided by following simple safety precautions.

The Tree:

If your evergreen tree is no longer green, then you have a problem.

Dried out trees are incredibly flammable, so make sure if you purchase a live tree that it is first and foremost green. It should be hard to pull the needles off the branches and shouldn't break if you bend them between your fingers. Your tree shouldn't shed like a cat either, so make sure it has plenty of water.

When decorating your tree, think of the people and animals that might be around it. Trees can be quite hazardous to children and pets, so take care to keep small, breakable ornaments out of reach.

Also, remember that children are curious and anything that looks edible could end up in their mouth, thereby creating the potential for choking.

The same can be said for pets. According to an article by Sherry Woodard, a care consultant for the Best Friends Animal Society, pets can get into all kinds of trouble with a Christmas tree. Simply drinking the water from the tree stand can be lethal to a pet, so try to keep it covered for Fido's sake.

Pets could also eat small ornaments or metal hooks, which may require surgery to be

removed, so be sure to carefully clean up after decorating and taking down.

The Lights:

If your Christmas won't be complete without a ton of lights, try to be safe in how you use them. The CPSC says to check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections.

Be sure to throw out damaged sets to cut down on the clutter.

Although the glow of a Christmas tree is magical at night, always remember to unplug them before you go to bed. It's easy for lights to short out and start a fire.

Candles are another favored decoration this time of year, but it's not hard to see how they can turn deadly for people and pets.

Never leave lighted candles unattended or out of sight, and be sure to keep them away from flammable items like curtains, trees or furniture.

If pets have run of the house, put candles in places where they won't be able to disturb them.

As Sherry Woodard said in her article, it's very

easy for a cat to light itself on fire by brushing up against a burning candle or start a house fire by tipping the candle over.

This Christmas, be on the alert for hazards and try not to become another casualty of holiday decorating. Enjoy yourself and have a great time this holiday season. ♦



AIMEE THOMPSON/STAFF WRITER

The lights and Christmas trees pose possible problems during the holiday season for safety.

Sights of the Season

Have yourself a merry little Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Some of the most familiar sights of Christmas include holiday treats, the classic movie "Rudolph," and of course, "Santa Claus." Take the opportunity to enjoy a Christmas cookie and a mug of hot cocoa, or drive around town and look at the beautiful Christmas lights and scenery.

Box office still ‘Enchanted’

Associated Press

The fairy-tale romance “Enchanted” maintained its magic at the box office, pulling in \$17 million to remain the top movie amid a sleepy weekend at theaters.

Disney’s “Enchanted,” starring Amy Adams as a cartoon princess banished by her fiancée’s wicked stepmother (Susan Sarandon) to live-action Manhattan, raised its total to \$70.6 million, according to studio estimates Dec. 2. After a solid Thanksgiving holiday in which revenues rose compared to the same period last year, Hollywood’s business sank back into a box-office funk that has persisted most of the fall.

The top-12 movies took in \$76.6 million, down 6 percent from the same weekend last year, when “Happy Feet” led the box office with \$17.5 million and “Casino Royale” was No. 2 with \$15.1 million. Because of record summer revenue, business for the year is up, with Hollywood taking in \$8.7 billion domestically so far, a 4.7 percent increase from 2006. Factoring in higher ticket prices, though, actual movie attendance is just a fraction ahead of last year’s. “After the strength



ASSOCIATED PRESS
Carrie Underwood at the ‘Enchanted’ premiere.

of the summer, we expected the fall would follow suit, and it just hasn’t done that,” said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box-office tracker Media By Numbers. “It’s a good crop of films, but the marketplace just has not been able to rise above the levels we were hitting last year at this time.” The weekend’s only new wide release, the Weinstein Co. and MGM thriller “Awake,” opened in fourth-place with \$6 million. “Awake” stars Hayden

Christensen, Jessica Alba and Terrence Howard in a tale about a man who is conscious during heart surgery and overhears his wife’s plot to kill him. In limited release, the acclaimed comic drama “The Savages” debuted strongly with \$153,121 in four New York City and Los Angeles theaters, averaging \$38,280 a cinema, compared to a \$3,002 average in 2,002 theaters for “Awake.” Released by Fox Searchlight, “The Savages” stars Philip Seymour Hoffman and Laura Linney as estranged siblings forced back together to care for their ailing father. The film expands to more cities Dec. 21. Also opening solidly was Miramax’s “The Diving Bell and the Butterfly,” which took in \$75,300 in three theaters for a \$25,100 average.

The film stars Mathieu Amalric in the real-life story of French Elle editor Jean-Dominique Bauby, who had a paralyzing stroke and wrote a memoir of his experiences by dictating the book with blinks of his eye. Estimated ticket sales for Nov. 30 through Dec. 2 at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Media By Numbers LLC. Final figures will be released Dec. 3. ♦



Mob farce shows Vaughn’s talent

By DUSTIN KRAMER
Art Director

The “buddy comedy” is not an uncommon thing to American audiences. Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy and even “Lethal Weapon” are all good examples of dynamic duos that have become nothing short of legend in American cinema.

But all too often, the premise of two main characters engaged in conflict as an examination of their relationship is reduced to shallow, friendly prodding and downright slapstick.

When a film can show you an honest look at what “real” people call friendship and can still call itself a “buddy comedy,” it is often a pleasure to watch.

“Made,” a film directed by and starring Jon Favreau, is about a couple of old high school friends. Bobby (Favreau) and Ricky (brilliantly played by Vince Vaughn) decide to make a little money as “carriers” for a local mob boss.

Their job takes them to the heart of New York City to do business with characters portrayed surprisingly well by Sean “P. Diddy Daddy Combs,” Faizon Love and Vincent Pastore. During the film we see that Ricky’s loud-mouth, irreverent ways become a burden on poor Bobby’s shoulders, endangering not only the job, but at one point, their lives.

Through these events, which seem to escalate over the course of the movie, the audience begins to see a real friendship that effectively illustrates the saying “through thick and thin.”

The performances given in “Made” are nothing short of phenomenal. The power that Vince Vaughn wields as a master improviser is astounding as he reels off lines from the loose script.

Performing opposite Vaughn’s infuriating antics, Favreau as the burdened buddy is totally believable.

Although an unfortunately overlooked film, “Made” is definitely a movie you should be watching. ♦

Kennedy Center inducts honorees

Associated Press

From “Good Vibrations” to “GoodFellas,” Brian Wilson and Martin Scorsese scored. Steve Martin strutted as one of the “wild and crazy guys.” Diana Ross sang to Motown stardom. Pianist Leon Fleisher surmounted a debilitating injury.

Their contributions to American culture won them a visit Dec. 2 to the White House and recognition by President Bush, followed by an evening of celebration at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. For their career achievements, the five were named in September as members of the 30th class of Kennedy Center honorees.

Robert De Niro, who starred in Scorsese’s “Mean Streets,” “Taxi Driver” and “Raging Bull,” told the director: “You still have the same passion, drive and intensity you had when we were starting out together. And as for me, well, I’m doing

comedy. But don’t worry, Marty — I still have enough misery in me for us to do a few more pictures together.”

Steve Carell, star of NBC’s “The Office,” said: “I am in awe of Steve Martin. I admire his career. I respect him more than anyone, with the possible exception of Martin Scorsese.”

During the tribute to Ross, Ciara sang “I’m Coming Out,” Yolanda Adams sang “Reach Out and Touch” and Vanessa Williams sang “Touch Me in the Morning.”

Art Garfunkel described Beach Boys founder Wilson’s music as “this unique crazy creation, a mix of rock ‘n’ roll and heartfelt prayer.”

Lyle Lovett sang the Beach Boys’ “God Only Knows” and Hootie & the Blowfish performed “I Get Around.”

Cellist Yo-Yo Ma told a story about hearing a recording, when he was in college, of Fleisher performing Brahms’ first piano concerto. “That

music is still seared in my memory,” Ma said. Jonathan Biss, a one-time student of Fleisher’s, joined the Peabody Conservatory Orchestra for a performance of Beethoven’s Choral Fantasy.

Fleisher, 79, lost the use of his right hand for much of his career because of a rare neurological disease but fought to return to two-handed playing. The two-hour event will air Dec. 26 on CBS.

Recipients are cited for their excellence in the arts and selected by the center’s board of trustees.

As he stood for photos in the White House East Wing, Fleisher told reporters he had gotten a classic dose of Martin’s humor.

The two met as they left their hotel, and Martin joked to Fleisher, “I hope you win.” Fortunately, unlike at the Academy Awards, the Kennedy Center honorees have no such worries. ♦

War film wrenches viewers hearts

By TANYA LUDLOW
Assistant News Editor

“Grave of the Fireflies” is an animated film set toward the end of World War II in Japan.

Based on a semi-autobiographical novel of the same name, the story involves a teenage boy, Seita, and his young sister, Setsuko.

Their mother has been killed in an incendiary bombing of their city — people seem to forget that before the atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, U.S. strategic fire bombing in major Japanese cities killed over 500,000 people — and their father has in all likelihood died while serving on a naval warship.

Against this backdrop of relentless horror and chaos, Seita tries to keep himself and Setsuko alive.

They live with an aunt who is bitterly hardened by the cruel life that she has lived.

Seita finds a cave on the outskirts of town where it is determined he and

Setsuko will live until the war is over.

I do not think I have ever seen a movie where I so badly wanted the characters to triumph over the odds, and yet was so utterly convinced they wouldn’t.

Although set during the devastation of war, this movie is remarkable in that it doesn’t exploit the action that war makes so accessible.

Instead you are taken through a story of often scrupulous survival, in which the difference between life and death isn’t dodging bullets or engaging in hand-to-hand combat with the enemy, it’s simply trying to get something to eat for a starving child.

“Grave of the Fireflies” is a tragic tale that will inspire deep and soul-searching grief.

If you watch this with someone and they claim they aren’t moved, watch out — that person is either a sociopath or a chupacabra. Check for murderous and or blood-sucking tendencies in “Grave of the Fireflies.” ♦

What’s hot, what’s not

Staff Reports

Sales and discount prices continue to lure customers into department stores.

From the latest electronic toys to apparel, pursuing the perfect gift can be exhausting and thought-provoking if you don’t know what or where to start.

Everyone enjoys the fun and simplicity of electronics. Playing “Guitar Hero” on a new Xbox 360 might make the ideal gift for a teenager or college student wanting to play long hours of self-made music.

Yet, if you are looking for the newest cell phone, then the iPhone might be the perfect purchase. According to an online BusinessWeek report titled “Best and Worst Consumer Electronics 2007.”

Apple continues to dominate the mobile media player market with their ever-popular iPod, (www.businessweek.com).

Toys will never cease to impress the children in our lives. The hottest new toys this winter will most likely be toys that were inspired by kid movies.

Movies such as “Ratatouille,” “The Simpsons Movie,” “Pirates of the Caribbean 3,” “Spider Man 3” and “Transformers” have all sparked the minds of toy creators to invent the ideal gifts as well as games for children worldwide.

About.com’s article, “Best Educational Toys of 2007,” lists Vtech Whiz Kid Learning System, Smart Cycle, and Brain Quest DVD Games as the top three games for kids.

Each offers a variety of games and activities to stimulate the world’s next Einstein.

With each new year, as well as new season, the hottest and stylish clothes hit department stores worldwide.

Yet, if there is one new article of apparel that has hit popularity with unprecedented fame, it’s those trendy trappers, sold by both American Eagle Outfitters and Gap.

This winter season, almost everyone should end up with a trapper, on his or her head, or in a Christmas stocking.

Knowing what’s hot and what’s not is the first step to finding those perfect holiday gifts.

Yet, when in doubt, traditional gifts such as dolls, toys, fragrances, and gift cards hardly ever fail at being great gifts.

Remember, to keep gift receipts in case a friend or family member needs to exchange a gift. ♦



MARSEL GRAY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
“Guitar Hero,” DVDs, learning games and popular clothing are the perfect gifts to give this year.



FOLLOW THE LEADERS.

Army ROTC is a 2-4 year college elective where leadership is the curriculum. Register and you're on your way to becoming an Officer, a leader of the U.S. Army.

**ENROLL IN ARMY ROTC
BECOME AN ARMY OFFICER**



All APSU students may enroll in ROTC courses with no obligation.
You'll develop your self confidence and leadership skills while qualifying for financial aid & officer career opportunities.
For details, contact the Military Science Department at 931-221-6149 or email Major Kurt Hales at halesk@apsu.edu

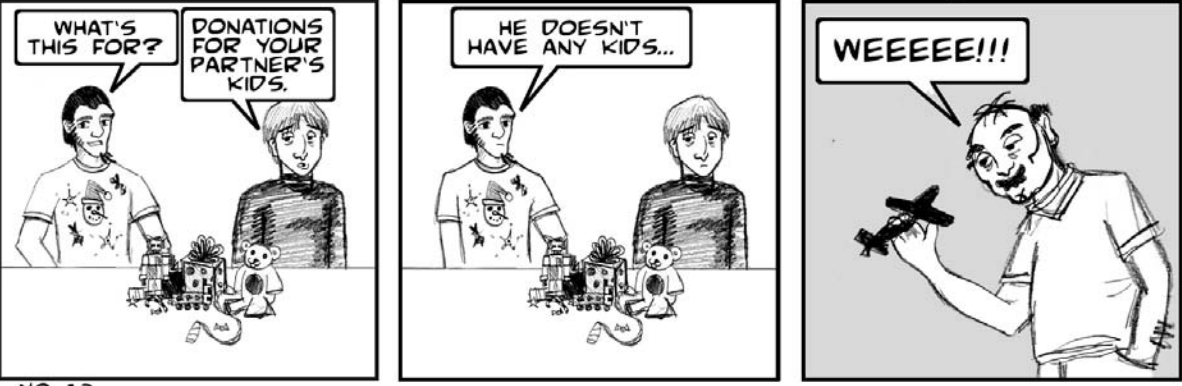
SHOGUN AL CARBON



3rd Eye



PIGSTY



Girls & Sports



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RICA	DAWSON	INTO	DER
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HOSPITAL	LOST	ERIE	
APT	STROM	NED	DRAM
LALO	ACROBAT	ESTEEMED	
FLESH	SNARL	MAR	SELA
LOU	TACO	URIS	NEB
FLOSSES	YOU	RIP	TIDE
BAH	TARA	SHIP	REEN
ADAM	GIN	OJAYS	MIDST
RESIDENT	GLACIER	TRIO	
DANA	ORE	APRES	ALB
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GATOR	LOIRE	LIBRARIAN	
ERODE	ENTER	INRED	PTA
RANDY	TOES	MOODS	EAP

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

6					9	2		
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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ATTENTION GRADUATING SENIORS

Congratulations! You are cordially invited to the

Senior Salute
2-4 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 6, 2007
Pace Alumni Center at Emerald Hill
751 North Second Street

Hosted by the National Alumni Association
Austin Peay State University

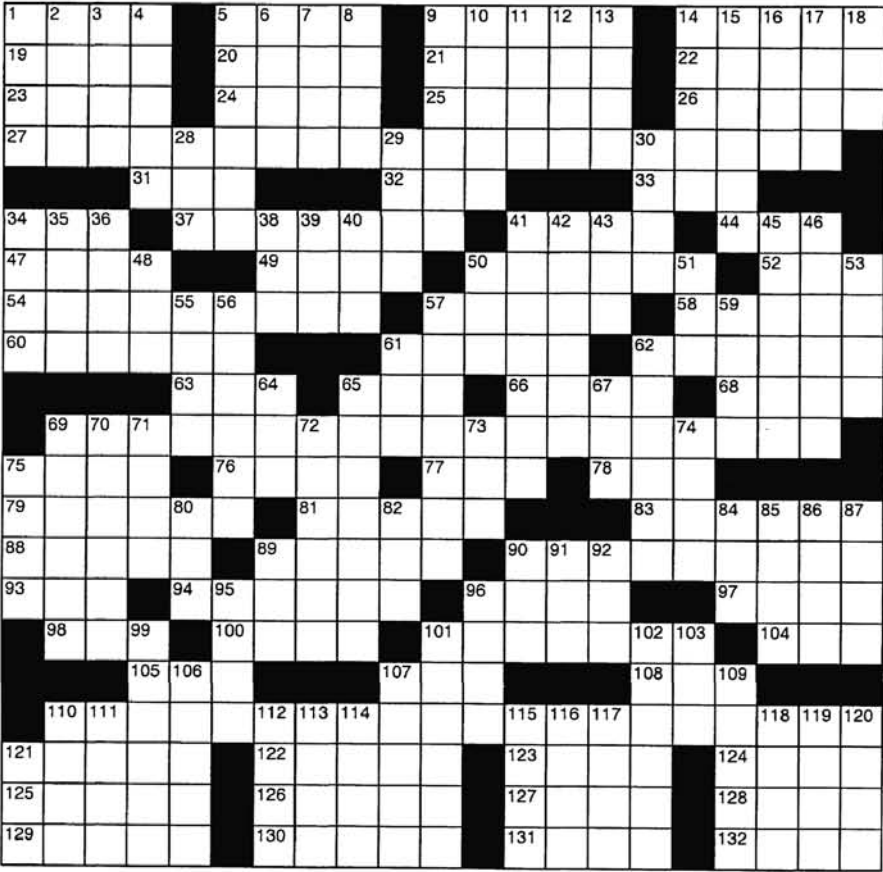
We know that graduation will be a busy and exciting time for you, so let us help you get this special event off to a happy start. Please join us at the Pace Alumni Center at Emerald Hill for a complimentary reception in your honor (casual dress).

There will be shuttle transportation to and from the Pace Alumni Center and campus (in front of Austin's) every half hour between 2-4 p.m.
For information or to RSVP, telephone 221-7979.

Super Crossword

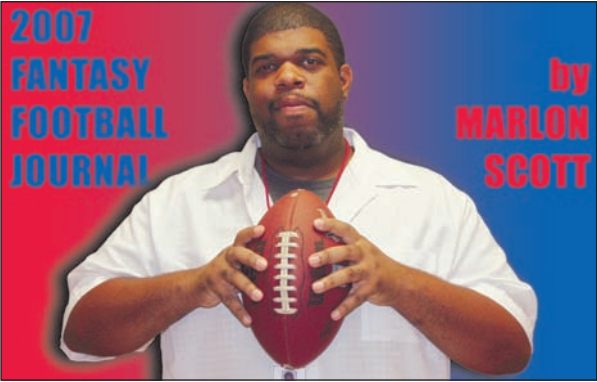
APRIL
DILEMMA

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lump
5 Showed sorrow
9 Anthony of "Boston Public"
14 Jambalaya ingredient
19 Hammelt hound
20 Where to find an onager
21 Songwriter Greenwich
22 Spine-tingling
23 Fertile soil
24 Tumble
25 Java joints
26 — garde
27 Start of a remark
31 Herriot title
32 Vigoda or Saperstein
33 Slippery character?
34 Brit. fliers
37 Singer Manchester
41 Celt
44 Faucet
47 94 Across highlight
49 Pants part
50 The Jungle Book boy
52 Cask
54 Part 2 of remark
- 57 "Love — the Ruins" ('75 film)
58 Neon —
60 Cap or dolman
61 Bookstore section
62 Bog
63 Precambrian —
65 In honor of
66 Snick and —
68 — above (somewhat superior)
69 Part 3 of remark
75 Baseball family name
76 Antitoxins
77 Mouth piece?
78 Long or Peeples
79 Solidarity leader
81 Forger's need
83 Cultural
88 Wear away
89 Carthaginian
90 Part 4 of remark
93 Comic Rickles
94 Bizet opera
96 Nasty
97 "How sweet —!"
98 Cpl.'s superior
100 Type of fuel
- 101 Porgy and bass
104 Fast flier
105 He gives a hoot
107 Cooke or Donaldson
108 Male swan
110 End of remark
121 Biblical city
122 "That's —"
123 Actress Thompson
124 Gymnast Korbut
125 "West Side Story" role
126 Porsche propeller
127 Tel —
128 Crucifix tree
129 Texas' state tree
130 Marvel's
131 Coty or Clair
132 Dweeb
- DOWN**
- 1 French Sudan, today
2 From
3 Command to Fido
4 Mead's milleu
5 Breakfast treat
6 "NYPD Blue"
- 7 Disagreeable sort
8 Hard to believe
9 Priam's wife
10 Cheer
11 — Romeo
12 Mortgage, for one
13 Actor Amaz
14 Serenity
15 Disgust
16 Composer Khachaturian
17 Deep red
18 Volleyball divider
28 City on the Danube
29 Kind of kiln
30 Fenwick or Carter
34 Snitches
35 Inland sea
36 Prix —
38 Baton Rouge coll.
39 Cloth finish
40 — Mateo, CA
41 Errs
42 It darkens your doorway
43 Bird-to-be
45 Join
46 Follow
48 "— you for real?"
50 2001, to Tiberius
- 51 Skater Midori
53 Publisher Conde
55 At any time
56 Brewer or Wright
57 Orlan, for instance
59 Part of Q.E.D.
61 Tofu base
62 Occupation
64 Sail through
65 Cozy cloth
67 Tons of time
69 Mild cigars
70 Fermented tea
71 Depleted
72 Shock
73 Word with baby or snake
74 Inauguration Day event
75 Filled with wonder
80 Instant, for short
82 Coq au —
84 — polloi
85 '87 Streisand film
86 Egyptian deity
87 — la vie"
89 Supportive of
90 Princess bruiser
- 91 Klutz
92 Plastic — Band
95 Bill of Rights grp.
96 Interoffice commu-nique
99 Honda competitor
101 Wimsey's creator
102 From C to shining C?
103 TV's "Scooby- —"
106 '81 John Lennon hit
107 Senator Thurmond
109 Borg of tennis
110 Actress Skye
111 Bank's backup org.
112 Clammy
113 "Typee" sequel
114 A bit of Beethoven
115 Weekend warriors: abbr.
116 Donated
117 Frigga's fellow
118 South African plant
119 Sikorsky or Stravinsky
120 Diane of "Chinatown"
121 Weaken



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OPINION



Winning my way to 10-4

With both his quarterback and running back out because of injuries, Bill did not stand a chance. I dispatched him with impunity. Plaxico Burress was Bill's highest scorer with 15 points. Vernon Davis' 10 points barely made the total score respectable at 56. It was almost too easy.

It was a shame that I could only use two running backs. Steven Jackson, Kevin Jones and Marion Barber all rushed for more than 90 yards and a touchdown. Derek Anderson is still impersonating Clint Eastwood in a western and Marques Colston has come up big for the second week in a row. I love the GridironGovs. It is amazing how a 21-point victory can eliminate the memory of two straight losses.

Going into week 13, I am third in the league at 8-4. I want to go into the playoffs 10-4. My next victim is "Rebound". I beat this team in week two after my week one loss to Bill (Thus the name "Rebound"). I plan to make it a sweep this week.

Rebound has John Kitna at quarterback and Reggie Wayne at wide receiver. Kitna and the Lions have been getting smacked around lately. This week they have a division showdown against the Vikings. With his back against the wall, Kitna could come up big. Wayne is a guaranteed touchdown every week.

I expect another great week from Anderson, Barber, Jackson and Colston. Jerricho Cotchery's numbers have taken a hit since the Jets switched quarterbacks. I still have Andre Davis, but I will check the waivers for depth in the playoffs. I like the Packers, but I do not think their defense is going to be able to stop the Cowboys this week. I have already noticed that the Chargers are available. They are playing the Chiefs. Sounds like money in the bank to me.

Looking ahead, the team to watch out for is "Shootout". Both Tom Brady and Terrell Owens are on this team. In week nine I beat them 99-94. It was my best game of the season and I won by only five points. I am not saying I can't beat Shootout again. I am just saying that I would rather face someone else instead.

There is only one team headed to the playoffs that I have not beaten. In week four they beat me 87-82 and they have the best record in the league, 9-3. I call them "Arch Nemesis".

Tony Romo, Reggie Bush and Roy Williams are on that team. The GridironGovs match up well against them. I would love to face Arch Nemesis in the championship game. Only time will tell. For week 13 results, log on to www.theallstate.com ♦

Govs ground Golden Eagles

By MICHAEL KELLUM
Sports Editor

Govs win first Ohio Valley Conference game of the season

Adversity seems like the perfect word to describe this year's Govs basketball team. With a difficult schedule, every game has been a challenge.

Coming into this weekend, the Govs were 2-4 after losing their last two games. With the last loss against nationally ranked Memphis still fresh in their minds, the Govs traveled to Cookeville, Tenn., looking to prove they had learned from their mistakes. APSU beat Tennessee Tech 79-76 to get their first Ohio Valley Conference win of the season.

The victory was the first time APSU has won in Cookeville, Tenn., since the 2003-04 season. The Govs dominated the first half. They trailed the first few minutes, but eventually took the lead and never looked back. They led by as many as 17 points and went into halftime with a comfortable 46-32 lead.

The Govs did have one unexpected surprise in the first half of the game. Play had to be stopped when TTU senior Amadi McKenzie and junior Daniel Northern both tried to dunk after a missed shot. Together, they missed the dunk and shattered the backboard. It took one hour and 20 minutes for the glass to be cleaned up. When play finally resumed the Govs continued their onslaught.

Govs senior point guard Derek Wright capitalized on a TTU turnover and nailed a three-pointer to end the half. Sophomore guard Wes Channels led the Govs in scoring in the first half with 14 points. Junior guard Todd Babington made 2-of-4 three-pointers on his way to 13 points. The Govs shot 53.8 percent from the field in the first half compared to TTU's 38.2 percent.

Channels opened the second half hitting a three pointer to increase the Govs lead over the Golden Eagles. Despite being down by 19 points with 16:38 left in the game, TTU continued to stay afloat thanks to the play of senior Anthony Fisher. Fisher finished the game with a team high 24 points. He scored 17 in the second half. At the 10:51 mark, Fisher made a three-pointer to make the score 63-50.

TTU put together a 8-0 run with 3:01 left in the game intent on catching the Govs. Eventually, they got their wish and cut the Govs lead to one, 75-74, with 12 seconds left to play in the game.

After both teams traded free throws, the Golden Eagles put the ball in Fisher's hands, hoping he would make the game winning shot. Instead, Fisher missed a long three-pointer and the Govs won the game.

The Govs had five players who scored in double figures. Channels led the way with a career high 25 points. Babington put up 15 followed closely by Wright with 14. Senior forward Fernandez Lockett scored 12 points and junior forward Drake Reed was held to just 10 points. APSU shot 48 percent (24-50) for the game including shooting 53.3 percent (8-15) from three-point range.

TTU shot just 15.8 percent (3-19) from the three-point line. They out-rebounded the Govs 44-22, but committed 21 turnovers.

Next up for the Govs (3-4, 1-0 OVC) is OVC opponent Morehead State, Dec. 06 at the Dunn Center. It will be the Govs first home game since winning the home opener against Belmont Nov. 17. The Govs, who lost both of their games against Morehead State last season, will be looking to continue their success from last week . ♦



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Sophomore guard Wes Channels scored a career high 25 points in the Govs Ohio Valley Conference win over Tennessee Tech 79-76.



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Junior guard Todd Babington shot 2-of-4 from three-point range on his way to 13 points. He was one of five Govs who scored double figures in the game.

Lady Govs start win streak at Kennesaw State



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Senior point guard Amber Bacon scored a team high 16 points as the Lady Govs defeated the Lady Owls for their second win in a row.



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Freshman forward Ashley Herring dribbles down the court. Herring had a complete game with nine points, five steals and two blocks.

By MARLON SCOTT
Assistant Sports Editor

The APSU Lady Govs basketball team began a two-game winning streak in Kennesaw, Ga. after defeating the Kennesaw State Lady Owls, 67-55, Saturday afternoon.

Nine Lady Govs scored in the winning effort. Senior guard Amber Bacon led the way with 16 points. After her second Ohio Valley Conference Freshman of the Week award, freshman forward Ashley Herring had a complete game with nine points, five steals, two assists and two blocks. Senior center Kellea Reeves put together her second strong game in the paint with 10 points.

The Lady Govs started the game putting on a clinic. Nine minutes into the game, KSU was down 17-0. Reeves started the lesson with a layup after KSU's first missed shot. She had six points in the 17-point run.

At 14:13, Bacon made her first three-pointer of the game to make it 14-0. She finished the game draining 2-of-4 from three-point range. It appeared to be the beginning of a blowout. However, 19 turnovers quickly gave the Lady Owls the momentum they needed to close the gap.

At the 10:33 mark, Lady Owl Montinique Nixon was fouled during a layup and then made the resulting free throw to convert the three-point play. It sparked a 13-2 run that brought KSU back into the game.

According to APSU sports information, Lady Govs coach Carrie Daniels was not pleased with the first half let down.

"I felt like when the game started, we got off to that big start and we would put together a 40-minute game," Daniels said. "But, it was almost like we got off to that start and got complacent. We have to realize that no one is going to lay down and hand it to you."

The Lady Govs were able to maintain the lead to halftime, but KSU did not go away.

One minute into the second half, a layup by Lady Owl, Greyeta Kelley, cut the Lady Govs lead to five, 35-

30.

Kelley was one of four Lady Owls who finished the game with double-digit points. She finished with 11 points. DeAndrea Bullock led her team with 13 points. Jennifer Baker and Nixon both had 12.

With 18:36 left in the game, Bacon nailed her second three-pointer to increase the Lady Govs lead. After two KSU turnovers, junior forward April Thomas weaved through Lady Owl defenders to make a layup that made the score 40-30.

Shooting 54.5 percent (24-of-44) from the floor, the Lady Govs were able to keep KSU behind them the rest of the game. Despite winning the battle on the boards (34-31) for second chance shot opportunities, KSU had trouble finding the net. The Lady Owls shot just 35.1 percent (20-of-57).

The win improves the Lady Govs record to 3-3. Clearly, they have found their offensive rhythm compared to earlier this season. But, they still have to find a way to take better care of the ball and become more of a rebounding force.

This week the Lady Govs return home for their first OVC game against visiting Morehead State Dec. 6 at 5:15 p.m. It will be the first of three straight home games before they head to Las Vegas Dec. 20 to participate in the Lady Rebel Christmas Classic Tournament. ♦

During Christmas break the Lady Govs will play eight games.

- Dec. 15 vs Middle Tennessee
- Dec. 20-21 at the Lady Rebel Classic Tournament
- Jan. 3 at Tennessee Tech
- Jan. 5 vs Jacksonville St.
- Jan. 7 vs Eastern Illinois
- Jan. 10 at Murray St.
- Jan. 12 vs SEMO



LOIS JONES/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Senior center Kellea Reeves battles in the paint for the Lady Govs. Reeves scored over 10 points in the two straight Lady Govs victories.



Fall sports highlights

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Top: The Govs basketball team opened the season ranked No. 1 in the Ohio Valley Conference.
Bottom: This year the Lady Govs are a blend of new and old faces under second year head coach Carrie Daniels.



Top: Senior Chris Fletcher helped lead the Govs to a surprising 7-3 overall record, their first year back in the OVC.
Bottom: Junior Ashley Beck was one of the highlights of a very young Lady Govs team that featured 12 freshmen.



Under new head coach, Jenny Hazelwood, the Lady Govs volleyball team saw senior Dodi Szymaska set the record for most points scored in a season with 555 and senior Kristen Kirch set the school record for most digs with 1,912.