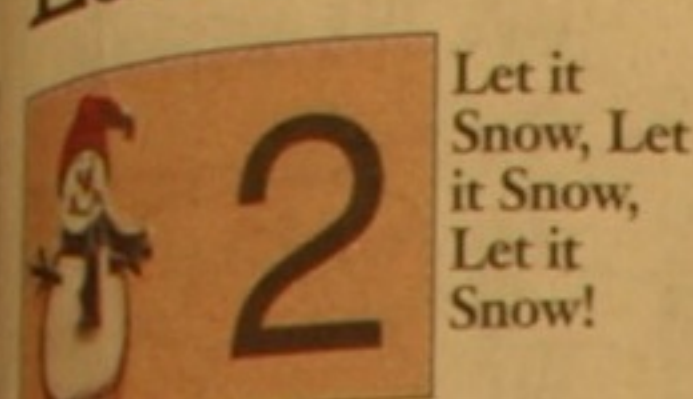
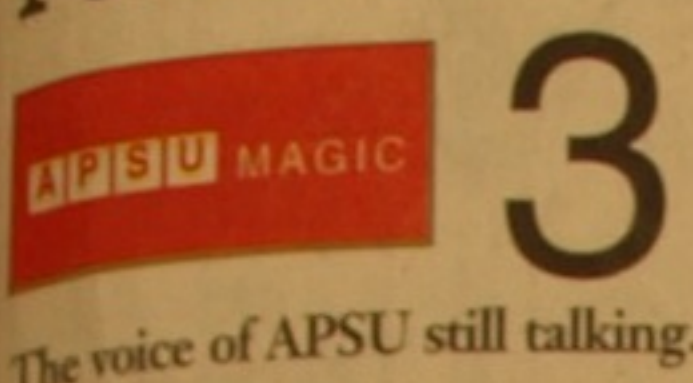


## Editorial



## Features



## Sports



## Peay Pride committee rallies spirit

By: CHRISTINA WILSON  
Staff Writer

In the spring of 2002, Austin Peay State University president, Sherry Hoppe commissioned a committee to "build spirit and pride" for our university both on and off campus.

Since that time the committee has done just that. Comprised of faculty, staff and students, the Peay Pride committee, 15 members strong, has been responsible for some very successful programming and activities on this campus.

Last fall the committee kicked off the semester with the now semi-annual Peay Pride Block Party.

The event was geared toward new and existing students. Free food, bands, book scholarship giveaways and t-shirts were just a few of the incentives to attend.

The Peay Pride committee will attempt to recreate and improve upon this successful event set for Jan. 25 when the Gobs and South East Missouri face off.

Peay Pride is sponsoring another block party at 3 p.m. in-between the men and women's basketball games that will include free food. Students are encouraged to come out and enjoy themselves.

The block parties and yard signs help build spirit and pride on-campus, but the committee is also reaching outside APSU to help establish a sense of pride in the Clarksville community.

For the last year committee members have met with various civic groups in Montgomery County, giving informative presentations to spread the word about the massive revenue-generating impact this university and its students has on this community.

Committee presenters are armed with statistics such as: APSU adds \$100 million to the economy every year and APSU students spend \$18.8 million on food in a given year.

"APSU is a sleeping giant of sorts, and we hope to help the campus community and the general population realize its worth," said University Advancement manager, Heather Legg.

The Peay Pride committee is always open for suggestions for programming ideas. If you have a suggestion for programming or for more information about the committee and upcoming events, click on the Peay Pride logo on the APSU homepage ([www.apsu.edu](http://www.apsu.edu)).

# APSU frozen down

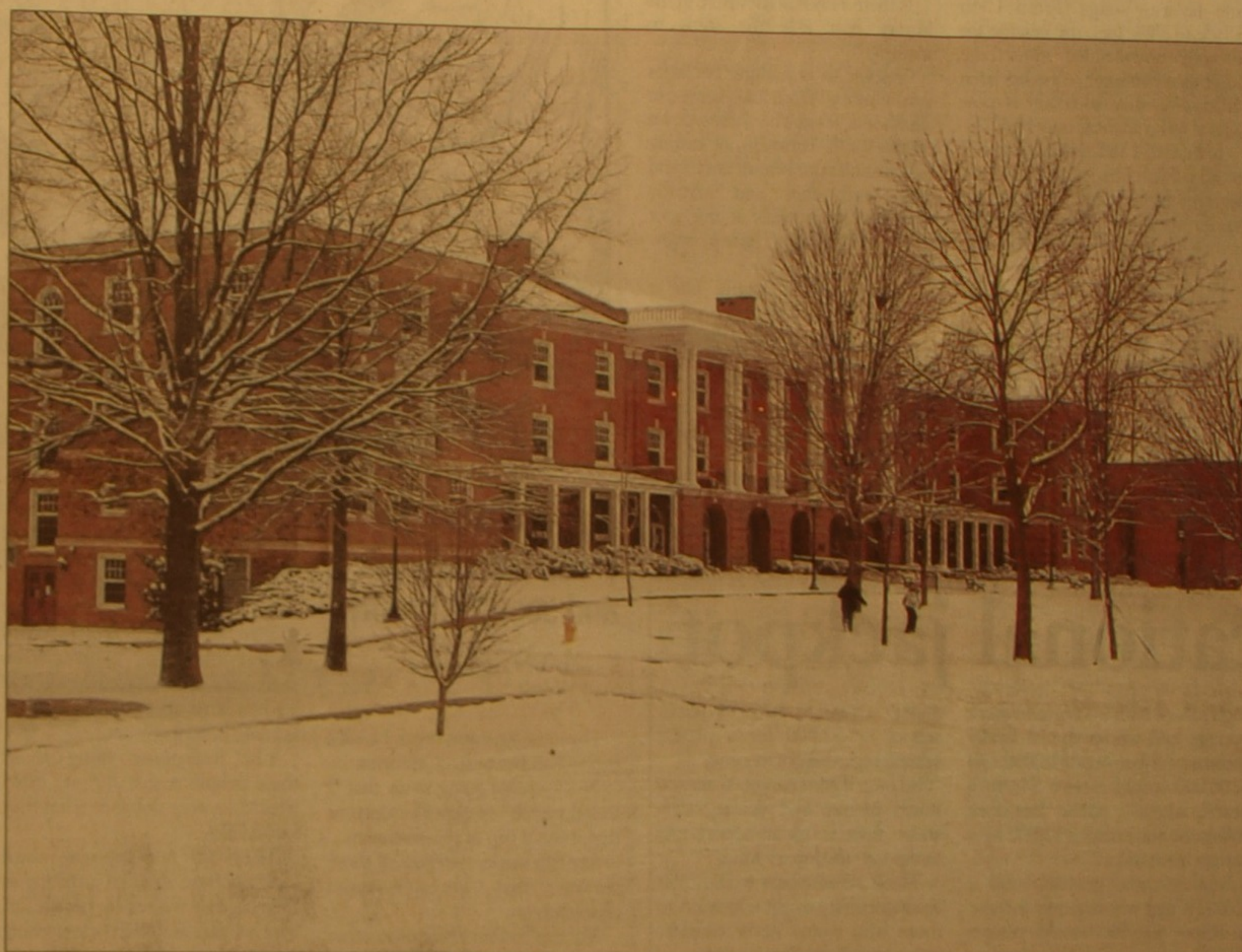


Photo By Louise Morales

Austin Peay State University woke to a winter wonderland. Students found themselves with some extra time on their hands when Sherry Hoppe, APSU President, closed the campus Thursday, Jan. 16 and Friday, Jan. 17 because of the unexpected snow fall. Many students spent the time getting things done, building snowmen, having snowball fights, sliding down the infamous Emerald Hill and hibernating underneath the covers. Regrettably for many students the five day soire has come to an end.

## Students comment on time off

"It took me nine hours to drive to TN Tech in Cookeville for a game, which we were almost late to."  
-Richie Schueler, Graduate student, Masters in HHP

"I spent the extra time sleeping, studying and playing football in the snow."  
-Lain Fullilove, Sophomore, Political Science major

"There was nothing to do. My friends and I had to make our own fun by playing card games all day."  
-Brooke Buttman, Freshman, Political Science major

"It was awesome! I went sledding on Emerald Hill."  
-Elaine Yung, Junior, Media Technology major

"I was trapped here like always, but that's because I don't have family here."  
-Daniel Carter, Freshman, Physics major

"I think everybody needed a few days to themselves."  
-Robin Lester, Sophomore, Music Performance major



(Above) Montgomery County Courthouse stands ready for the opening ceremony and dedication. The ceremony is today at 3:30 p.m. Everyone in the community is welcome to come and tour the courthouse.

Photo By Alicia Middlebrook

(Right) The courthouse was heavily damaged in 1999 when struck with an F-3 tornado. APSU was also hit hard when the tornado came through downtown Clarksville. Harned, Ellington, McCord and Harvill were among the buildings harmed. Additionally some dorms suffered flood damage.

Photo Contributed By All State Archives



# Grand opening

By: DEVINE WARFIELD  
Staff Writer

The last decade has been a harsh time for Clarksville. In 1994, Clarksvillians experienced an ice storm that left many families without electricity—some for at least two weeks.

On January 22, 1999 an F-3 tornado packing winds estimated at 200 miles per hour heavily damaged Clarksville's courthouse and surrounding areas.

The tornado, which left behind \$72.6 million in damages, plowed through Clarksville at 4:30 a.m.

Newly elected Mayor Johnny Piper's first order of business was to help tornado battered Clarksville mend. Four years later, re-elected Mayor Don Trotter is experiencing something similar.

With the anniversary of the tornado and the rededication to Clarksville's courthouse nears, Mother Nature sends yet another

devastation.

This time she sent the beautiful puffy white stuff. Even though temperatures were low, crews were still out preparing to dedicate the new courthouse.

Today, four years later, downtown Clarksville appears to have mended. Even though snow has everything covered, the courthouse, which consists of two buildings, and its surroundings is indeed ready for their special day.

Mayor Trotter will be among those to appear Wednesday for the ceremony.

The courthouse ceremony will be held at 3:30 p.m. today. After a ribbon-cutting ceremony and dedication, both buildings will open for tours complete with musical groups performing.

At the end of the celebration, the county commission will have their meeting in its newly refurbished courthouse chambers. Before the crowds and in

addition to the afternoon events, County Executive Doug Weiland has a less formal ceremony planned.

The new courthouse clock will be started at 4:30 a.m. to observe the time the tornado demolished downtown.

The public is welcome to come out to the early morning ceremony as well.

The formal festivities, conveniently named, the "Courts in Session Celebration," is set to take place on the Second Street side of the courthouse block.

Second Street from Franklin to Commerce will be closed from 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. for the ceremonies.

Beginning at 3 p.m., churches throughout the county will begin ringing their bells. After which, Weiland and County Historian, Eleanor Williams will speak and a ribbon stretched between the two buildings will be cut.

Then, bring on the music! From 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. the musical performances will include, Young at Heart, The Clarksville Community Chorus, First Baptist Church Adult Choir and Hilldale Baptist Church Adult Choir.

Meanwhile, other groups will be performing in the Courts Center. Each group's performance will be about 20 minutes in length. Also, the tours, which will be one hour to 90 minutes long, will begin at 6:30 p.m.

"It's going to be something you're going to want to be a part of and to have your children and grandchildren involved in," said Theresa Harrington, one of the co-chairs for the grand opening planning committee. For Clarksvillians, this will be a celebration to remember. Come out and show support for this historical event.

You've called names before,  
why not win a prize for it?

## Got Slogan?

Then give it to us!

E-mail: [theallstate@apsu.edu](mailto:theallstate@apsu.edu)  
Attn: Slogan Contest



# Editorial

## Snow inspires thought

By GARY SUTTON  
Editorial Page Editor

Isn't it weird how certain situations in your life make you take a step back and think about life in general?

I had a moment like that this weekend, in the midst of Winter Blast 2003, or whatever it was dubbed by the

local TV stations.

Not being an experienced all-weather driver led me to hang up my car keys and sit back and think about whatever popped into my mind.

Yes, what a wonderful way to spend a five day weekend.

With classes cancelled, I could either make snow angels in the parking lot or organize my sock drawer.

So, what did I think about? Well, I think APSU got the message across. Letting all know that school was shut down was a true public relations success. Maybe the critics who have doubted our school's inclement weather policy have been

silenced.

Ironically, I was looking forward to someone wanting to brave the cold and ice. No doubt their "Let's go Peay" in the snow attitude doesn't interest me.

During this weekend I also came to the conclusion that I have no need for a CD collection when I have the APSU network in my apartment to help me download all my favorite songs. From Clint Black to Billy Joel, my craving for illegally downloaded music and high speed internet access has been filled. My ebay addiction is now poised to be at an all time high.

Is that all I did this weekend? I could tell you I had a snowball fight with my friends and that made me think about all the important people in my life, but that would be a lie.

I'm too much of a wimp to venture outside during a snowstorm, nor am I willing to risk life and limb going down the hill in front of the Alumni Center on a plastic sled.

I'd rather be inside, where it's warm. I realized that snow isn't as cool as it was when I was a kid.

Huddling in front of the TV to catch the snowbird report on Channel 4 just doesn't feel right

anymore.

Maybe because bad things happen when it snows. Dates get canceled; your favorite shows are interrupted by continuous media coverage of the end of the world.

Is this some sort of sign of maturity? Why do I have to have less fun now than when I was just a shy comedian, afraid to share my jokes with the world?

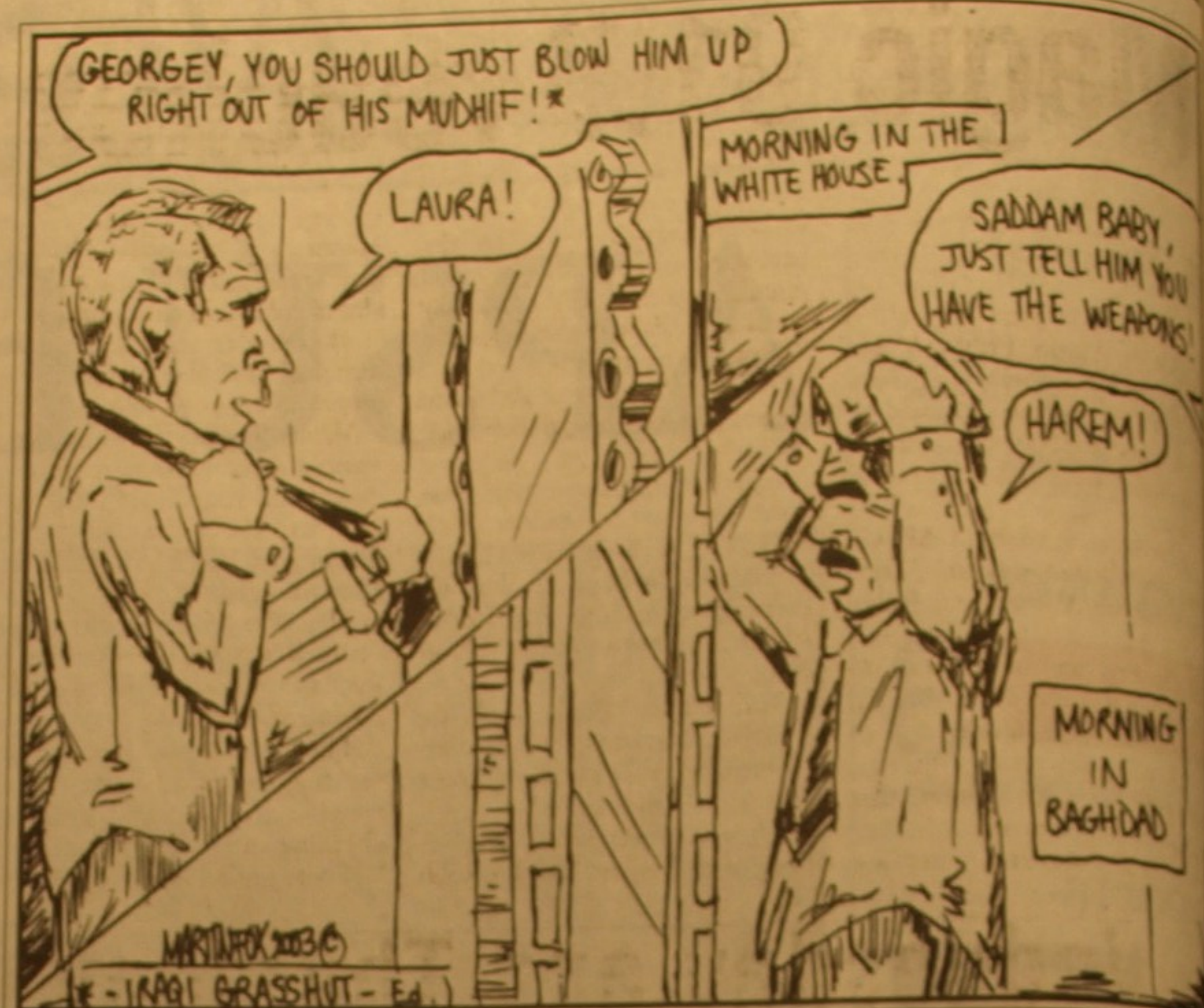
Is there a book somewhere in the library that lists the steps to maturity?

Chapter six is nothing but signs you've moved from adolescence to adulthood. Somewhere deep down on the list, in between not cutting the crust off your peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and actually enjoying infomercials is the spot reserved for not liking snow anymore.

By the way, I would like a Juiceman for my birthday.

In retrospect, maybe the snow was a good thing. After all, the snow did give me a chance to ponder the world's many questions and settle my unresolved issues with dial-up internet access.

Maybe the bitter cold was just a good excuse for me to put extra marshmallows in my hot chocolate, or to find that new special blanket.



## San Francisco mirrors true life

### Golden Gate City shows off cultural and social diversity

By SHAUN COPELIN  
Staff Writer

During Christmas break I took a trip to San Francisco California.

No, I am not going to say that "I found myself" in San Francisco or that it was a trip of self-discovery.

My trip was not for any of those reasons that cheesy sitcom characters say.

My trip had no real reason other than to get away for awhile and to go somewhere I had not been before.

After one flight cancellation and a four hour wait, I arrived in San Francisco.

The city was overwhelming to say the least. Traffic was horrible; I will never complain about Nashville traffic again after having to sit through that.

I was surprised at how many homeless people there were. I had always heard that San Francisco was one of the cities in America that had the most homeless people, but I was surprised to actually see them all.

A friend of mine told me that I

would get the real effect of the city by just wandering the streets instead of going to the typical tourist attractions.

So I wandered the streets for awhile; as I wandered I passed several interesting people, from punk girls with shaved heads and leather skirts to same sex couples holding hands.

The interesting thing about these people is that no one cared what they were doing or what they looked like.

They did not get any weird looks, no one shouted anything at them as they walked by; people just kept walking as if there was nothing strange about them.

That is the one thing I liked best about San Francisco, the people, they could care less what you look like, to them a man in a suit is no more normal than a lady with a shaved head.

If someone walked around Clarksville or Austin Peay's campus dressed like that, they would definitely get some strange looks and maybe even have someone say something to them.

After one week in San Francisco I was ready to come home, but in a way, I was not ready to leave.

I did not want to return to a place where someone dressed differently than someone else was considered

weird. There was a very "true" feeling to San Francisco.

I told someone about my trip and how the people did not care about person's appearance and the person told me that of course people do not care what people looked like, they are all freaks in San Francisco. It is ridiculous how people in small towns judge other people.

I wish that Clarksville could be more like San Francisco, or all small towns be like San Francisco for that matter.

I am not saying that Austin Peay is horrible, I really like Austin Peay campus, and for the most part people are pretty accepting here, but people are also too concerned with the way other people live their lives here.

People are too obsessed with how they are dressed or how other people are dressed.

There are too many cliques here, such as the Greeks, the non-traditional students, the traditional students, the non-traditional.

People need to quit labeling and limiting themselves to certain groups of people. People in small cities need to learn from the large cities and look beyond appearance to just treat everyone as equals.

Things would go a lot smoother and less hectic if people just accepted everyone.

## An educational jackpot

The lottery creates a passion that many dislike. But, unlike some cheap scratch off ticket purchased at the local convenience store, this issue will not quickly go away.

Many argue its negative impact on the community, but what about the positive aspects of the lottery?

Sure, everyone has heard about the religious sin of gambling and the dangers of addiction millions across the state face. However, not enough has been said for the lottery, or even as loud as the anti-lottery supporters who were defeated in the November election.

Just a few days ago, The Tennessee published an article discussing the use of lottery money for scholarships.

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission came up with a proposal for academic and need-based proposals. There are four categories THEC has lumped applicant possibilities.

Students who graduate from

high school with a 3.0 grade-point average and whose annual family incomes fall between \$36,000 and \$100,000 would receive \$4,000 a year to attend a public Tennessee college or university or \$2,000 for a private institution.

Students who graduate with a 3.0 GPA and whose family income is below \$36,000 would receive \$6,000 a year for a public school or \$2,000 for a private school.

Home-schooled students would be eligible with a 23 on the ACT for the 3.0-equivalent scholarship or a 29 for the 3.75-equivalent award.

And all state residents would be eligible to earn a lottery grant of \$1,500 a year to study for a certificate or diploma at a Tennessee Technology Center.

Students with family incomes above \$100,000 won't be eligible to receive a scholarship.

But all students with a 3.75 GPA and a 29 on the ACT would receive

\$6,000 a year to attend a public school or \$2,000 for a private school, regardless of income.

So even if your parents make too much money and you're really smart, there is still an opportunity to dip into the lottery fund.

These scholarships would offer an opportunity to get education to those who would never consider going to college due to costs.

Finally, the state of Tennessee is taking a step in the right direction when it comes to its educational future. The educational lottery bandwagon has been rolling towards the future for years, its about time we hopped on.

But, we must be cautious to note that the lottery is not a cure all for education, but a first step.

No one here ever thought the lottery was going to be a "cure all" for one of the worst educational systems in the U.S. We do hope that this effort to revitalize our system is a proverbial sure bet.

## Letters to the Editor

### True patriotism includes voicing your opinion in times of war, crisis

In last weeks editorial entitled "Iraq war raises many issues," the All State wrote "Is this war really necessary? Certainly it is our patriotic duty to support any action the U.S. takes against its declared enemies."

Patriotism, defined in the The New Lexicon Webster's Dictionary as "inspired by, showing or aimed at arousing love of one's country" can be shown in many different and beautiful ways.

However, blind support and silenced opinions of actions made by our government is not only unpatriotic, but also undermines the productivity and value of the governmental system in which we participate.

American government is a

representational democracy, which contains representatives that the people of our nation elect. Representatives, the voice of the people, make choices that effect public and international policy.

Without input from the people they represent, the government cannot adequately make informed choices for us.

Even if your representatives have already made a decision, it is still valuable to tell them if you appreciate their choice and why.

Therefore, supporting America and our governmental system involves voicing your opinions to your representatives.

You can find contact information for Tennessee's representatives at [www.congress.org](http://www.congress.org).

Another way you can show patriotism for your country is to exercise your right to free speech.

Inform yourself about current world and national events and then talk to people about them, even if the events are unpleasant or your opinions differ from theirs.

Ask people about their political opinions. What do they believe? Why do they believe it?

I have found that debates about political and social concerns can be very rewarding.

These discussions will not only allow yourself and others to be exposed to different ideas, but can also help you to understand why, and if you should, keep holding onto the opinions that you own.

This attempt to understand what you believe in and why, will help you make an informed dialogue when you make your patriotic attempt to write your representatives.

I end with a quote from Abbie Hoffman, a revolutionary, a lover and defender of democracy and free speech: "Democracy is not something you believe in or a place to hang your hat, but it's something you do. You participate. If you stop doing it, democracy crumbles."

Luke de Andrade  
Philosophy Major

### Death penalty issue raises more ethical questions

I would like to start by thanking The All State staff for finally bringing issues of importance up in their journal.

Yet with having said that I would like to decry the position on capital punishment they took in the last edition of The All State. I applaud Governor Ryan's condemnation of the death penalty.

There is a statistical constant in the judicial system that fifteen percent of all convictions are erroneous. That means there are scores and scores of men and women awaiting execution that did nothing to deserve it.

Yet furthermore, how is right to put a human being to death to begin with? It is a common misconception that capital punishment deters crime, and there have been studies proving this, as long as the public are forced to watch the execution. Studies show that otherwise it does nothing to deter crime.

Yet there are deeper issues at hand. How many times have you said two wrongs don't make a right?

How can one death cancel out another? What kind of arrogance does it take to declare that a human being no longer has any worth because of one single thing they did, no matter how atrocious?

How would you like to be judged because of the worst, most despicable thing you have performed?

Is it not more just of us to forgive these people, now matter what they have done? Many say that it saves taxpayers money, which is not true, it costs just as much to put to death a person as to keep them in prison for the rest of their lives, but moreover it reduces the value of life into a utilitarian equation.

If scientists calculated that the world would be better if we put every American to death, would you gladly lay down your neck?

It is true that most of these people have done thing that are ugly beyond description and beyond compensation, but how can any human being or collection of human beings value another so little to decide that they no longer have the right to live?

Michael Gouge,  
Philosophy Major

## Earn \$\$\$ and Experience!

The following positions are open for immediate employment:

Circulation Manager  
Sports Writers  
News Writers  
Copy Editor

For more information, call 221-7376  
[theallstate@apsu.edu](mailto:theallstate@apsu.edu)  
Located in the UC Basement, Room 115

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# Features

## Magic 91.7 reaches campus, community

By NATASHA JACOBS  
Staff Writer

Broaden Musical Horizons Through Austin Peay's Magic 91.7 Austin Peay State University has a voice that can be heard by thousands of people by a single touch on a dial, a fact unknown to many.

This voice is through APSU's very own radio station, Magic 91.7. David Michael von Palko, who has a bachelor's in broadcasting and a doctorate in jurisprudence, and John Moseley, assistant professor of communication and theater, oversee this radio station, that is only nineteen years old.

Von Palko, also known as "Doc

v", was brought in at the beginning to get the station up and running, whereas APSU had only envisioned a radio station of its own in aspiring dreams.

With the help of von Palko and several others, they transformed this vision into reality.

Beginning from scratch, von Palko obtained equipment, built studios and wrote a curriculum.

As the studio began to blossom, there was still the absence of students to make the new station come alive.

Von Palko, along with six others kick started the program by bringing in students the most creative way they could.

They planted themselves in front of the station, then on Robb

Avenue, and approached anyone that would lend their ears to the idea of going into broadcasting.

"In our own academic way, we shanghaied lots of students into the program," said von Palko.

Magic 91.7's slogan is "The Voice of Austin Peay", as it is just that. The station goes beyond campus boundaries to the community and is one voice for all on the campus.

The outstanding difference between 91.7 and other stations is the fact that it is a non-commercial network.

They do not depend on revenue, which allows them freedom to play basically anything and everything.

There are no labels, no genres,

just great eclectic music blended together.

APSU is a diverse environment, so it would only make sense to incorporate diversity on the air. There is something for everyone, for the music is a mix of jazz, classical, blues, bluegrass, alternative, rock, etc.

"One could compare our station to the Tennessee weather; if you don't like it wait, it's going to change," said von Palko.

Melanie Turner, a senior communication major, has been a student disc jockey for three years at the station.

In her programs on the air, she likes to play either alternative or '80s music because both are just fun.

"I like to listen to the station because I can tune in and hear anything. We don't have a set format, so it really opens musical horizons much more than any other station," said Turner.

Upcoming programs to look forward to are ones that will reflect Black History month in February, featuring not only legends of the past but also of the present, and women's studies programs in March.

For the avid Austin Peay sports fan, the station also will be covering several sporting events, including 27 basketball games live on the air. Included in the 27 are three

away games.

This is the first time in 12 years to have live coverage of away games.

Josh Oliphant, a senior communication major, like Turner, has been a student DJ for three years.

Best known as "Josh O." on the air, he is also one of the sports broadcasters for games.

According to Oliphant, the real reason to tune in is because of von Palko and Moseley.

"They are like Paul McCartney and John Lennon in a sense that they mesh so well together. They are the voices of Austin Peay. They make us great."

## Wednesday and Thursday Weekly Movies

Matinee: \$5.00 Adult \$4.50 Child  
Evening: \$7.00 Adult \$4.50 Child

**Carmike 8**  
1955 Madison Street  
(931) 648-3917

Antwone Fisher (PG-13)	7:15	9:45
Drum Line (PG-13)	7:00	9:30
Gangs of New York (R)	8:15	
A Guy Thing (PG-13)	7:00	9:40
Kangaroo Jack (PG)	7:10	9:25
LOTR: The Two Towers (PG-13)	7:30	
National Security (PG-13)	7:05	9:30
Two Weeks Notice (PG-13)	7:05	9:20

**Carmike Cinema 5**  
2801 Wilma Rudolph Blvd  
(931) 648-9669

Catch me if You Can (PG-13)	7:00	9:50
Just Married (PG-13)	7:20	9:45
The Wild Thornberrys Movie (PG)	7:15	9:15
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (PG)	8:00	
Maid in Manhattan (PG-13)	7:05	9:40

**Don't forget APSU discount night on Thursdays with a valid student I.D.!**

## Coming Soon!

Just in time for Valentine's day. Seeks M for quiet candlelight dinners, movies, hiking, and outdoor activities. Smoker preferred, 21. Looking for a relationship and games. I Coladas, right in rain

...a like P... oladas, and getting caught in the rain. If you're not into yoga, if you have half-a-brain. If you like making love at midnight, in the dunes of the cape. You'll love the looker with

# Peay Personals

## Big names because of little people

By TAMIRA COLE  
Staff Writer

Every stopped and wondered who made or constructed your Tommy Hilfiger or Aeropostle sweater? Most likely you don't.

In December 2002, a sweatshop free t-shirt manufacturer, American Apparel charted record-breaking sales.

The sales in fact increased over 80 percent from the sales in recent years.

The American Apparel attributes the increased sales to the company efficiency, consolidating in marketing design and manufacturing under one roof, assembling an alternative to the use of subcontracting and offshore exploitation.

American Apparel started or was created in Los Angeles. American Apparel is the most passionate and innovative wholesale blank t-shirt

manufacture and distributor in the committed to leveraging art design, and technology to produce garments of the highest quality while pioneering in standards of social responsibility in the workplace. Their mission is to make a "sweatshop free" t-shirt.

The unique thing about American Apparel is each item is sewn in an American Apparel building without child labor workers. Some of American Apparel's hottest clothing line items include sheer jerseys, classic baby tees, and athletic wear.

Some of the students here at APSU have developed an opinion about American Apparel's success.

"I think the key factor of their success lies in the quality of the clothes. You don't have to worry about some kid slaving over making a t-shirt," said freshman mass communications major, Whitney Joy.

Other students have shown particular interest in the non-use of sweatshops.

Sophomore biology major, Erin Muldon states, "I think it's a great thing that they're not using sweatshops."

Another concern for students is the cruelty of child labor.

"I think it's awesome that they don't use sweatshops. I feel better knowing that my clothes were a little bit more expensive than cheap because some little kid in Guatemala was working for two cents a day to keep costs down," said sophomore psychology major, Jennell Manley.

People have noticed the success American Apparel has had in not using sweatshops and the style in becoming increasingly popular.

Only time will tell if big name brands will continue to benefit from use of sweatshop.

**Yard Sign Contest**  
Sponsored by Student Life & Leadership  
UC Room 211, 221-7431

Student organizations can decorate a yard sign for a chance to win a \$100, \$200, or \$300 prize!

Theme: "Coming Home"  
Come by SL&L and apply for your FREE 4' x 8' panel!

Signs will be displayed  
February 24 - March 1  
in front of the Dunn Center.



# Sports

## by the NUMBERS

3

Number of steals by guard Rhet Wierzbica against Tennessee Tech.

5

Number of lead changes in the Gobs' game against Tennessee Tech.

5

Number of three-pointers made by the Gobs against Tennessee Tech.

7

Number of total team blocks by the Gobs against Tennessee Tech.

10

Number of defensive rebounds by guard Anthony Davis against Tennessee Tech.

15

Number of second chance points by the Gobs against Tennessee Tech.

16

Number of head football coaches in APSU history.

28

Percent the Gobs shot from the field against Tennessee Tech.

41

Number of total team rebounds by the Gobs against Tennessee Tech.

60

Number of field goal attempts by the Gobs against Tennessee Tech.

## APSU names new head football coach

By NEIL BALADAD & LOUISE MORALES  
Sports Editor & Editor in Chief

Carroll McCray was named the newest head coach of the Governors football squad at a press conference, Tuesday, Jan. 21.

McCray is the 16th head coach in the program's 66-season history. He inherits a program that finished 7-5 overall — the Gobs' first winning season since 1984.

"I think he's a perfect fit for APSU," said David Loos, athletics director.

McCray served as offensive line coach (centers and guards) at Mississippi State the past two seasons and has also served as an assistant at Samford, University of

South Carolina and Appalachian State.

"Coach McCray has high integrity and is a very knowledgeable football coach," Loos said.

The committee was looking for a coach who could bridge the gap between the university and surrounding community, promoting APSU football for this area of Tennessee.

"It was a very difficult decision," Loos said.

APSU began its formal search for a new head coach on Jan. 13 interviewing six candidates.

The candidates included Steven Haywood, Gary Shepard, Walter Wells, John Parker and Rick Butler.

## McNair should get "Stallion Player of the Year" Award

Sports State  
Column

By NEIL BALADAD  
Sports Editor

Resilience, the ability to recover from or adjust to change or misfortune, needs a new subhead in The New Merriam-Webster Dictionary — a picture of Titans quarterback Steve McNair.

Throughout the season, McNair showed signs of resiliency, playing with multiple injuries ranging from turf toe to a sore throwing shoulder to badly bruised ribs. These injuries caused McNair to miss practice for the entire month of December.

But McNair refused to sit on the bench. After a slow 1-4 start, the Titans won 11 of their last 12 games under the leadership of their battered QB, taking big hits and making big plays. Just when you thought McNair succumbed to the pain of his injuries, he got up and kept on playing.

Carrying most of the offensive load on his injured back, McNair led the Titans to the playoffs, getting all the way to the AFC championship game. With an injured sore thumb, McNair started the game. Still sore from other injuries, McNair kept his poise and played with heart,

running for crucial first downs and scoring two rushing touchdowns against a tough Oakland defense.

McNair took a huge hit while crossing the goal line for his first rushing touchdown. An already injured player would have taken himself out of the game, but not McNair. He continued to play and scored another rushing touchdown later in the game.

Even though the Titans lost to the Raiders and fell one game short of the Super Bowl, McNair's season is not a disappointing one. He finished the season with 22 touchdowns, three of them rushing, and passed for 3,387 yards. Even though he was snubbed out of being in the Pro Bowl, McNair did finish third in the voting for the league's MVP, behind Brett Favre and Rich Gannon, a testament to his resiliency this season.

McNair's heart and intensity led the Titans this season. Pain and injury are supposed to hamper performance. McNair played through the pain and injury to have one of his best seasons in his pro career. I'd like to see McNair and the Energizer Bunny go at it. I guarantee McNair keeps going and going and going...

Congrats to Steve McNair, you're entitled to some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

## Gobs fall to Tennessee Tech

### Cold shooting, turnovers cost Gobs road win

Austin Peay Sports Information

Austin Peay's shooting was as icy as the conditions outside, Thursday night. The Governors shot just 28.3 from the floor and went nearly eight second-half minutes without a field goal as APSU dropped a 66-47 Ohio Valley Conference decision at Tennessee Tech.

The loss dropped the Gobs to 8-6 overall and 1-2 in the OVC and sends them to Tennessee State needing a win to even their four-game league road trip.

The Gobs grabbed the lead early, 11-6, but cold-shooting set in early and they trailed by as much as eight, before being down by just two, 26-24, at halftime.

"At halftime we felt like we could win the ball game," APSU coach Dave Loos said. "We were playing good defense and we were

down by just two shooting the ball the way we were. We knew we weren't going to have another half like that from an offensive standpoint."

Unfortunately, the Gobs did. Early in the half, APSU got down by eight, 34-26, before storming back for 37-36 advantage on a Josh Lewis tip-in at the 11:14 mark.

But that would be the Gobs last field goal until a Lewis dunk at the 3:26 mark. By that time Tech had outscored the Gobs 14-2 (those points being free throws). APSU never got closer than nine points the rest of the way as the home team ripped off 16 points in the final three minutes.

APSU finished the night 17 of 60 from the floor, hitting just 5-of-25 three-point shots. They were equally as cold at the free-throw line. Hitting 72.6 percent from the line entering the game, the Gobs went just 8-of-15 from there Thursday. Tech outscored APSU 34-18 in the paint. Surprisingly, the Gobs outrebounded Tech 41-38, but 20 turnovers also contributed to APSU's demise, with the Golden Eagles scoring 20

## Trio of hosts named for "54321"

By NEIL BALADAD  
Sports Editor

Fox Sports Net announced three new hosts for their new action sports show "54321." Leeann Tweeden, Chad Towersey and Kip Williamson have been named co-hosts of the new daily extreme sports show that debuts Monday, Jan. 27. The 30-minute show, which will showcase skateboarding, surfing, snowboarding, BMX and other action sports, will air weekdays at 5 p.m. local time on Fox Sports Net (channel 31, Charter cable).

The 29-year-old Tweeden has worked on the action sports series "Bluetorch" and has appeared regularly on the "Best Damn Sports Show Period." Tweeden has also reported on high profile events such as the Super Bowl, Kentucky Derby and the Oscars. One of the nation's leading models, Tweeden has also co-hosted cable TV shows "Fitness Beach" and episodes of E! Entertainment's "Wild On."

Towersey and Williamson are both accomplished extreme sports athletes. Towersey is a popular figure in the world of surfing, while Williamson is a popular figure in the BMX community. Both will provide an insider's look at the action sports world.

Towersey, a 23-year-old California native, is a member of the Volcom surf team. He has appeared in the surf film "Stoney Baloney" and on the television show "The Practice."

The 28-year-old Williamson has announced for NBC's Sports/Gravity Games and the Van's Triple Crown of BMX. Williamson has had a successful 16-year career as a bicyclist.

"We have put together a talented and knowledgeable trio of studio hosts that can deliver in an entertaining format all of the insight, analysis and lifestyle news that '54321' provides five days a week," said Gary Considine, Executive Producer. "Our audience will immediately recognize Leeann, particularly from the 'Bluetorch' show, and Chad and Kip bring the athlete's up-close perspective. Kip's very experienced viewpoint and Chad's fresh-off-the-waves approach should be an exceptional combination."

Considine spent 20 years at NBC as an executive producer, producer and director of such shows as "The



Contributed by Tom Chiappetta, Director, Public Relations, Fox Sports Net

These are two logos that "54321" will be using this season.

"Tonight Show with Jay Leno," "Saturday Night Live" and "Late Night with Conan O'Brien."

"He brings knowledge of how to put a show together," said Tom Chiappetta, directors, public relations, Fox Sports Net. "54321" is really going to lend itself to a high-quality show and at the same time keep it true to the spirit of action sports."

The program will cover news, event highlights and analysis, as well as lifestyle, personality and insider's features to give fans their daily fix of action sports.

Coverage also includes in-depth looks at other emerging sports such as beach volleyball, wakeboarding, triathlon and mixed martial arts.

"54321" will also take a look at the different cultures associated with action sports and the different styles as well. Segments of the show may be shot at different locations such as Hawaii, Australia, Brazil, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

The phenomenon associated with action sports continues to

grow with participation and interest at an all-time high. Participation in snowboarding has increased 32 percent in the last 10 years, and has even been added as an Olympic sport.

Wakeboarding has become the third fastest-growing sport, with a 32 percent increase in 2000, and behind skateboarding and snowboarding. Also, in-line skating has increased to over 29 million people.


This summer, Fox is planning an action sports network that will have coverage 24 hours a day, seven days a week. With an action sports genre growing at an incredible rate and so many young people interested in it, "54321" helps capture all of the excitement five days a week. "The growth of interest is the driving force. There are 77.6 million people between the ages of nine and 24. That is the largest group of teens in history," said Chiappetta. "54321" is going to be the signature show of action sports."

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