Satellite campus to offer more courses

By JENELLE GREWELL Staff Writer

APSU and Nashville State Community College students will have more class opportunities and easier access to these classes by this fall semester. Classes will be offered at the Renaissance Center in Dickson.

The registration for courses at the Renaissance Center began Monday, April 6, and will continue through Aug. 24; late registration period is Aug. 25 through Aug. 31.

The programs of study offered in Dickson include business and applied arts, English and humanities, social sciences and math and sciences. Stephens said these courses will continue to be offered with the move to the Renaissance Center.

Cynthia Stephens, office supervisor of Dickson County Higher Learning Center, said NSCC has offered general education courses leading to degrees and certificates, as well as college preparation courses to better prepare for college level work at Dickson.

Julia McGee, interim dean of Extended and Distance Education, said APSU will offer

See Campus, page 2

Club to send donations to tornado victims

By JAMILA WEAVER

Lee Majors stepped out on his porch at 12:30 p.m., April 10, to see a tornado touch down near his home; he barely had time to get his son to

safety. "Within three seconds, literally my house was gone. The tornado picked it up and in seconds it was destroyed," Majors said.

There was a four -foot deep ditch behind the Majors' home in Murfreesboro, Tenn. Majors threw his son Micheal into the ditch laid on top of him and watched as his home was torn off the ground and destroyed. The family lost everything as a result.

In response to the devastation, The APSU sociology club has held a fundraiser for the family of three. The fundraiser will last until the end of the spring semester. They will be collecting things needed by the Majors family like household appliances, toiletries, dog food and monetary donations. All of the furniture in the household, left to Majors by his late brother, was also destroyed.

"The furniture in the house held a lot of sentimental value and you can't get that back along with other things that no amount of money or donations can replace," Majors said.

"We should all do our best to help, especially at a time like this. The family is in need and it is the right thing to do," said Christy Miller, sophomore

political science major. For more information or to drop off donations, contact Melissa Gaydick at 221-7515 or go to Clement, room 143. ◆ **AWARDS CEREMONY**



MATEEN SIDIQ | SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Sherryl Byrd, associate vice president of student affairs, right, hands the Vice President's Excellence in Leadership Award to winner Ashley Hargis during the Student Organization and Leader Awards ceremony Wednesday, April 22.

President, students address more alumni activity

By NICOLE JUNE Assistant News Editor

President Timothy Hall conducted an executive meeting with students and members of SGA Monday, April 20.

Hall asked students to address the issue of transitioning from a student to an active alumnus of the university.

Timothy Hall

"Probably every university experiences this, especially those with a large commuter feel," Hall said. "We are interested in converting former students into supporters who will give back, but the question is, how?" he

Hall said successful students are typically engaged in the university and its activities, and he would like to find a way to make alumni feel that way also, and to encourage them to come back after graduation.

"Students graduate, and after that they just go away. It often takes about 15 or 20 years for a student to feel nostalgic and

decide to revisit," he said. Hall then opened the

discussion to the students. Steven Biter, SGA vice president, suggested placing more emphasis on returning to homecoming the year after graduation.

"Those who are involved have no problem coming back, especially those involved in Greek organizations," Nadia Berry, senior biology major, said.

"We're trying to pull back those who are not as active. A volunteer service that helps students find jobs is an idea,"

Hall said he thinks putting more emphasis on being in a certain class, rather than a certain school or professional track, could help build identity

for students. Camela Adcock, junior health and human performance major, said she felt this may not work as well for nontraditional students.

"There is a pressure at the state level to get students to graduate on time," Hall said. Some of our funding depends on it. If we can get a date in their heads as freshmen, we might be able to persuade more people to get through on time."

"One thing that will address that problem is advising," said

"It often takes about 15 or 20 years for a student to feel nosgalgic and decide to revisit"

Timothy Hall, president

Lois Jones, graduate assistant of legal affars. "The process needs to be restructured and advisers need to be retrained. Just because you're a faculty member, that doesn't mean you advise well," she said.

Hall said this is an issue the university has been working to improve.

"We're going to get dead serious about this," he said.

Along the lines of class identity, Hall suggested each graduating class contribute a class gift to the university. "It should be something commemorative, something that says 'I helped," Biter said. Jones said this gift could be

something aesthetic around the that no one really visits. The campus, such as a small brick knee-wall.

"Everyone could buy their own brick. It would be a perpetuating gift that would make the campus more beautiful and cohesive," she said.

Hall said he thought class identity could be furthered through the appointment of class officers, similar to SGA senators. Berry stressed these students should not be freshmen, as they are not fully prepared for such responsibility.

Chris Drew, SGA president, question the overall benefits of becoming an APSU alumni.

"It seems boring as an undergraduate. No one seems to have a coordinated effort in the alumni office. It's a foreign place alumni are not in our everyday life," Drew said. Hall suggested either bringing

students to Emerald Hill, the APSU alumni headquarters, or bringing alumni to campus more often. Kenny Kennedy, SGA

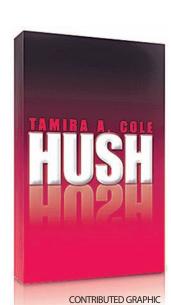
senator, mentioned more career-oriented networking events, but Hall pointed out the events currently held do not usually have a big draw. Jones said she feels the lack of

participation is due to internal public relations.

"We have to find a way to get these things out to students. I've found that the average student doesn't read The Gov Says," Iones said.

See Alumni, page 2

Graduate student gives the "Hush" on recent book release



"Hush" is available at Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com and Xlibris.com

By TINEA PAYNE News Editor

Under the weight of the Miss Black Kentucky crown, a classroom full of students and volunteering over 20,000 thousands of hours in community service, one could say Graduate Student Tamira Cole has a lot on her plate.

But in addition to her pageant duties, graduating in May and activity in 40 non-profit agencies, the Jackson, Tenn. native gave the dish on her first book release.

"Hush", which hit online bookstores Monday, April 20, is a "coming-of-age" fictional drama with a theme based on toxic relationships and secrecy. The story is about a young woman who discovers her life is a lie as she reveals a "web

of deceit" among her family and friends, according to the official book Web site, www. secretofhush.net.

Cole said she is projecting a four-week book-signing tour following the release of her book, starting May 20, at various Wal-Mart stores in Clarksville, Jackson, Hopkinsville and Atlanta, Ga. However, she said her biggest time conflict would be her platform tour as Miss Black Kentucky USA.

Cole said writing a book was a goal she wanted to achieve. "I have been trying to become a writer for a long time. I had been suffering from writer's block since 05.

She said suggestions from her piano teacher, family and friends helped her get over

See Cole, page 2

WORLD BRIEFS

40 cases of swine flu reported in U.S.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. officials advised Americans against most travel to Mexico on Monday, April 27, as a swine flu virus that began there spread to the United

With 40 cases now reported in the U.S., President Barack Obama urged calm, saying there was reason for concern but not yet "a cause for alarm."

Dr. Richard Besser, acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said that so far the disease in the United States seems less severe than the outbreak in Mexico, where more than 1,600 cases have been reported and where the suspected death toll has climbed to 149. No deaths have been reported in the U.S, and only one

The confirmed cases announced on Monday, April 27, were double the 20 earlier reported by the CDC. Besser said this was due to further testing — not further spreading of the virus — in New York at a school in Queens, bringing the New York total to 28.

Besser said other cases have been reported in Ohio, Kansas, Texas and California. He said that, of the 40 cases, only one person has been hospitalized and all have recovered.

Countries across the globe increased their vigilance amid increasing worries about a worldwide pandemic.

Obama told a gathering of scientists that his administration's Department of Health and Human Services had declared a public health emergency "as a precautionary tool to ensure that we have the resources we need at our disposal to respond quickly and effectively."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Deadline for student calendar dates

Student organizations and campus departments are encouraged to submit the names, dates, times and locations of events planned for the 2009-2010 academic year. The calendar runs from August 2009 to August 2010, and many students who provided feedback on last year's handbook asked that more events be listed. Please send dates to gillilandt@apsu.edu by Friday, April 30.

Academic Honors and Awards Day

Academic Honors and Awards Day is at 3 p.m., Wednesday, April 29 in the Music/Mass Comm. Bldg. Concert Hall. Students will be honored for distinguished achievement and departmental and senior student awards will be presented. Outstanding faculty awards will be presented also. There will be a processional of administration and faculty culminating in the Presidents reception. For more information, contact Bert Brisson at 221-6236.

Yearbooks and free T-shirts available

After many years, APSU has a yearbook again. To place an order, visit www.jostensyearbooks.com. For a free T-shirt when you place your order, watch for the yearbook sales table in the UC lobby Wednesday, April 29, Thursday, April 30, and Monday through Wednesday of next week. For more information, contact Tabitha Gilliland at 221-7375.

Summer employment: Science and Math Academy

Student Leaders are needed for June 3-19. Leaders will be responsible for directing day-to-day supervision and leadership of high school aged participants. Housing and meals are provided, as well as \$1,000 pay. Leaders cannot be enrolled in summer classes. All interested students can contact Willodean Burton at 221-7778. Applications are available in Sundquist Science Center room A127.

Midnight pancake breakfast

A pancake breakfast will be provided from 11:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 29, at the Baptist Collegiate Ministry on the corner of College and Drane Streets., across from Johnny's Restaurant. The cost is \$3 and will help meet the ministry's student missions goal. For more information, contact Jim Alexander at (931)647-6940.

Choirs in concert

Three choirs from APSU's Community School of the Arts will be performing at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 30, in the Music/Mass Communications Concert Hall. Teen Singers open the concert, followed by the Youth Chorus and the adult Community Chorus. The program features a wide variety of music, and also includes an announcement of a new scholarship fund for CSA students. The event is free and open to the public, with a reception following. For more information, contact JoAnn McIntosh at 221-7508.

Volunteers needed for the library

Faculty and staff are invited to join AASAF for a mocktail at 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday, April 30, at the Foy Fitness and Recreation Center poolside area. An assortment of appetizers, desserts and other refreshments will be provided. Faculty and staff can enjoy a day of meet-andgreet at this end-of-the-academic-year social event.

CRIME LOG

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

- 10:30 a.m., April 1, Shasteen, harassment, arrested: Robert Towner, 1184 Bagwell Rd., Clarksville
- 12:09 p.m., April 5, Cross Hall, burglary
- 10:34 a.m., April 7, Marion St., driving on suspended license, arrested: Crystal Johnson, 1121 Riverwood Pl., Apt. 408, Clarksville
- 3:57 p.m., April 7, Cross Hall, burglary
- 3:38 p.m., April 8, Meacham Apts., burglary
- 2:40 a.m., April 10, Hand Village, public intoxication, arrested: Jacob Mienke, 10955 Corduroy Rd., Curtice,
- 5:10 p.m., April 10, Foy Fitness and Recreation Center, domestic assault, arrested: Christopher Gainous, 213C University Landing Apts., Clarksville
- 8:04 p.m., April 12, Cross Hall, burglary
- 3:19 p.m., April 13, Woodward Library, violation of COR 3:30 p.m., April 15, Foy Fitness and Recreation Center,
- theft of property
- 3:13 p.m., April 15, Meacham Apts., harassment
- 10:48 a.m., April 16, Foy Fitness and Recreation Center, theft of property
- 11:36 a.m., April 17, Foy Fitness and Recreation Center, theft of property
- 3:03 p.m., April 17, Cross Hall, burglary
- 11:52 p.m., April 17, Killebrew Hall, intoxication and alcohol violation, arrested: Michael B. Waller, 2144 Sevenmile Ferry Rd., Clarksville
- 11:46 p.m., April 17, Gov's Lane, public intoxication, arrested: Roberto Ramirez, 104 Alveres St., Clarksville
- 2:46 a.m., April 19, Cross Hall, domestic assault and disorderly conduct, arrested: Sean M. Osborne, 159 Chestnut Mountain Rd., Traveler's Rest, S.C.
- 2:46 a.m., April 19, Cross Hall, domestic assault and disorderly conduct, arrested: Whitney B. Cartelli, 6948 Highland Park Dr., Nashville
- 4:44 p.m., April 20, Trahern Lot, vandalism
- 6:21 p.m., April 20, Hand Village, theft of property
- 2:05 a.m., April 21, Kimbrough Building, theft of property

APSU yearbook to begin new era; announce new name at fair

Press Release

This summer, with President Timothy Hall's support, the Division of Student Affairs at APSU launched a yearbook to preserve university history.

The Office of Student Publications hired a staff of students, explored the many options for yearbook publications and has established a partnership with Jostens Inc. to publish APSU's 2008-2009 yearbook. Events have been chronicled in photos throughout the year, the design process has begun and the book is on sale at www. jostensyearbooks.com, but one important component remains: The name.

A committee including faculty, staff and students collaborated on a name for the yearbook and narrowed a long list of possibilities down to a handful of favorites. Then they voted on the finalists, and their votes were compiled and sent

to Sherryl Byrd, associate vice president for Student Affairs, who discussed the results with

They agreed on a name, and Byrd will announce the yearbook's name at a yearbook sales fair at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 29, in the University Center Lobby.

In the early 1990s, APSU ceased to publish the yearbook, then named Govs Pride. In earlier years, the yearbook was called Farewell and Hail. The naming committee agreed a new name was in order to embody where the university is today and where it is going.

Tammy Bryant, director for Student Affairs services, said a yearbook has been in the division's sights for some time, and she could not be prouder that it is back in publication.

"We have an exceptional student staff working to produce the first yearbook at Austin Peay since 1993. We

are fortunate to have the full support of President Hall in reestablishing the Austin Peay yearbook for our students, faculty and staff, alumni and our community.

Publication this year will begin a new era of recording the next exciting chapter in the University's history," Bryant

The yearbook sales fair will offer free food for the first 400 students, free T-shirts to students who purchase yearbooks at the event, opportunities for students to have their photos taken for the yearbook and music.

Members of the media are encouraged to attend to shoot photos of the event for a story about the yearbook's resurrection. The event will last from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Members of the community are invited to purchase copies of the book at www. jostensyearbooks.com. ◆

Bill to ban texting while driving heads to governor

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A proposal that would ban reading or sending cellular phone text messages while driving is headed to the governor for his consideration.

The measure sponsored by Republican Rep. Jon Lundberg of Bristol was approved 68-24 in the House, Monday, April 27. The companion bill passed the Senate last week.

The bill would impose a \$50 fine for reading or writing text messages while driving.

Opponents argue that law enforcement may not be able to tell whether drivers are texting or dialing and that texting is already covered under the state's distracted driving law.

Gov. Phil Bredesen spokeswoman Lydia Lenker says the governor will review the legislation once it reaches his desk. ◆

No confirmed cases of swine flu reported in Tennessee

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee health officials expect mild cases of the swine flu to be confirmed in the

State medical epidemiologist Dr. Tim Jones said Monday, April 27, the primary goal is to slow down

the spread.

He told reporters during a conference call that the state has stockpiles of medications to fight the disease.

No confirmed cases have been reported in Tennessee, but the state lab is currently testing suspected cultures. Jones said the global

outbreak is expected to last a long time, adding: "It's not going to end next week."

He said it's not a particularly severe virus, but nonetheless some 700 Tennesseans die annually from the flu strain that normally hits during the winter. ♦

Cole: expresses gratitude to community, mentions future plans

Continued from page 1

her writer's block. Cole also expressed gratitude to the APSU community.

"I'm very grateful for the Austin Peay community for of support to do that." She commented on the book publishing process.

"It's a scary thing to send your work to press because you're not sure how people are going to receive it."

at Northeast High School and will graduate with a master's degree in education in May. Cole will compete for title

of Miss Black USA 2009 on Aug. 3. For more information, visit Cole's Web site at www.

Campus: core, developmental courses to be offered

Continued from page 1

both lower and upper division courses. McGee said the reason APSU decided to offer the BBA with a concentration in Management Corporation is because after talking with some of the business leaders in Dickson, it was felt that this degree would meet the needs of many Dickson businesses.

"APSU will be the lead institution in Dickson, working with NSCC to offer lower division courses, although NSCC will offer the bulk of core classes and all developmental courses," McGee said.

McGee said the reason APSU and NSCC decided to work together because they are both Tennessee Board Regents institutions that have served the Dickson area in the past. She said Dickson is the "service area" as defined by TBR.

Stephens said these specific classes are offered to give Dickson residents an opportunity to receive a quality, affordable, general education and college prep courses close to home to help them reach their educational goals. "The college level general education classes are nearly all transferrable to any Tennessee Board of Regents college or university and so are suitable for most any major." she said.

McGee said APSU has always had an extended education program and have offered classes in various locations. "Recently our focus has been on online education; however, APSU is a regional university and are here to assist our region with higher education needs," she said.

Stephens said the NSCC program in Dickson has grown tremendously. She said in the first semester Fall 2007, the program only offered 11 courses, and for Fall 2009, there will be 28 classes offered.

In the prospect of more classes, Stephens said more classes will be offered as the program in Dickson continues to grow and meet the needs of the students. "Not every student has access to affordable and quality education where they live," Stephens said. ◆

Alumni: Hall stresses support, connection with alumni necessary

Continued from page 1

The group discussed the pros and cons of APSU OneStop, and how it can be improved to be more useful to students, especially for communicative purposes."What we really need is person-to-person contact," Berry said. "If no one's talking to them, they don't care.

Alumni need to take the time to say something," she said.

A master calendar and a university-wide common hour were also proposed. Hall said Provost Tristan Denley is currently working on compiling some sort of master calendar

that will be featured on the APSU homepage.

Hall also asked if Facebook can play some sort of role in alumni communication. Several students agreed that it can.

> "We need the alumni's financial support, as well as their life and energy."

Timothy Hall, president

"It should be student run, not run by faculty or staff," Berry said. It could possibly be someone in SGA. It would make it more relatable," she

Drew asked how early the university should begin pushing the importance of becoming an alumnus. "All it takes is saying 'Welcome class of 2014," Hall

Hall said the university will begin using e-mail more often to communicate with alumni. The students suggested that the student e-mail accounts should be retained after graduation, rather than being deleted the summer following, in order to help alumni keep up with the university. Drew asked where alumni money goes, and Hall

said it is most common for gifts to be specified beforehand for particular areas. "The key targets are endowments for scholarships," Hall said. Drew said alumni should

play more of a mentoring role with students, perhaps through APSU 1000 classes. "I don't see any connection between normal students and alumni. They need to target those not as involved," he said.

"We need the alumni's financial support, as well as their life and energy."

Editor's note: Jones serves as the photo editor at The All State. ♦

~Now Accepting Applications~

The Science and Math Academy (SAMA) Summer Program\is now accepting applications for Student Leaders. Leaders will be responsible for directing day-to-day supervision and leadership of 50 high school aged participants.

- 8-10 positions available
- Housing and meals provided June 7-19th
- \$1,000 pay
- 3-day training, June 3 5
- Cannot be enrolled in Summer I Classes

For applications, all interested students should stop by Sundquist Science Building, room A127. For more information please contact Dr. Willodean at 221-7778 or e-mail <u>burtonw@apsu.edu</u>.

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THE ALL STATE is not an official

Students comment on spring semester changes

For this week's YOUR TAKE, we asked APSU students how they feel APSU has changed during the Spring semester. To participate in the YOUR TAKE, contact *The All State* at www.theallstate. com, or call us at 221-7376.



"The SGA has tried to increase student involvement on campus."

Alex Broady, freshman political science major



"It seems like the campus is more diverse in culture."

Jemeakie Taper, freshman public managment maior



"The thing I've noticed is that it's really crowded everywhere on campus."

Aaron Tiffner, junior computer science major



"More students are getting involved in campus activities."

Hunter Wilson, sophomore chemistry major



"The only physical change I've noticed is those little blue lights."

Whitney Barnes, junior nursing major



"I've noticed a lot more speeding cops on segways."

Kenny Dandurand, sophomore English major



"Greek unity has gotten a lot better this semester."

Marjorie Burnette, freshman marketing major



"It's really nice to have community poster boards. It seems like the campus is a lot less regulated."

Liza Kurtz, junior sociology major

'Wookie' reflects on APSU accomplishments



Joe Wojtkiewicz
Staff writer

If you have read anything I have written in the past year, you know I am a man full of opinions. I do quite a bit of work to formulate these opinions. Information is at our fingertips every moment of our lives. In no other time has the world been so interconnected. Even with this ability, we still have the same problems. Time still moves forward and we have the choice of staying where we are or growing into something new.

The end of each semester is one of those changing points in life. For many people the next week will be the last spent in classrooms. Graduation is upon us, and I am one of those that will be saying goodbye to APSU. I have had an amazing run in the last five years. Yes five years, but that has included two majors and a semester off to work as a professional actor

I have had the fortune of being able to connect with the campus in ways most people don't get to. I performed in the Trahern in nine performances of different types from Shakespeare and Brecht, to playing the Hairy Man. I have been published in the Red Mud

Review several times. I have also been a member of Pi Kappa Alpha and other student organizations. Each one of these experiences has made an impact on the man I am today.

In many ways, this column has been a big part of my life for the last year. I hope I have been able to make an impact on people. There is an old saying that opinions are like ... well, you know. This column has forced me to back up my opinions and hopefully argue issues in ways that show intelligent debate is still possible in the age of the Internet. While some might feel my opinions have had an unpleasant odor, I'm okay with that. That is what makes this country great.

As I prepare to accept my diploma and see where life leads, I do so with a sense of accomplishment and anticipation. I hope my fellow graduates embrace the new life they are moving on to. This is a large world we are living in, but it is what it is because of all of us. We can choose to stay put and accept life as it comes, or we can go out and make a difference in some amazing

As for me, I hope to enter the "real world" with a bang. How am I going to do that? That is a good question that will be answered in a little more than a week. Who knows? Maybe it will be big, maybe small. But for myself and all of you out there, make it be something. Don't let time pass you by. Move with the current and see where it takes you. Good luck and may God, or whatever you will, bless you in your future. •

Dru leaves TAS and APSU with a new 'home'



Advertising Manager

As a grad student, I was lucky enough to have the option of completing all of my courses online, but I quickly missed the social aspects of actually going to a class. I decided to get involved on campus so that I actually felt like I was a part of the APSU community. In early 2008, I interviewed for and accepted a job as the advertising manager of *The All State*. I had no idea what to expect, but it turned out to be much better than I ever anticipated.

In 2007, I moved here from Indiana and knew maybe five people in the area. It took about a semester or so for me to open up to the folks at *The All State*. I felt so out of place in Tennessee. I have a Chicago accent, and I'm quite sarcastic. I had never heard of the term "boot scoot," and I am not familiar with country music. I was not used to a laid-back atmosphere, and I had never been called a "Yankee." I had never had southern style vegetables, and I certainly had never heard anyone seriously say "Y'all."

At TAS and APSU in general, I have met some of the kindest people I have ever known. Back home, guys didn't walk you to your car after dark unless they were interested in something more than your safety. Here, it's just what guys do because they want you to make it home in one piece. Back home, you're lucky to get eye contact when you order a coffee. Here, you are greeted with a big smile. Don't get me wrong, though. I love the Midwest, and I love Chicago, but the southern hospitality has won me over.

"In 2007, I moved here from Indiana and knew maybe five people in the area. It took about a semester or so for me to open up to the folks at *The All State*."

I will always value my graduate degree, of course, but what I really value are the friends and strangers on this campus that have made me feel like I belong, even when I am 465 miles away from the place I still refer to as home. ◆

This week in ridiculous: double DUIs to doorstep sharks



Jess NobertAssistant Perspectives Editor

We're going to keep it short this week. I know everyone has finals, so I won't take up too much of your study time.

I found a few good stories over the last week I'm not sure many people have heard abou

Not even three hours after getting her first DUI, a woman in Connecticut was busted a second time for the same crime.

Local police said they arrested the woman a little after 1 a.m. and her blood-alcohol concentration was more than twice the legal limit. She had her license taken away and her driving privileges were suspended for 24 hours, according to a story from the AP.

She was released on bond, and the police thought she was getting a ride from a friend. But just before 4 a.m. the same morning, hardly a half-mile from her first arrest, she was pulled over again.

Um, good one.

Also from the AP, "deputies said a woman in South Florida has faked a miscarriage. The Broward county Sheriff's Office responded to an emergency call of a possible miscarriage. Upon arrival, they learned a woman staged the incident using what authorities described only as animal tissue.

"Detectives are finished with the case, but prosecutors may charge the woman with lying to authorities."

I don't care who you are that's

I don't care who you are, that's disgusting.

"Journalists have a lot to be nervous about lately: layoffs, furloughs, newspaper closures. But reporters at an Australian paper may have received the scariest threat of the day when a live shark was left on their doorstep." That's how The Associated Press put it.

A newspaper recently ran a story about a shark caught off the local coast, so they think might be one reason it appeared. Apparently some readers were less than pleased. They didn't think it should have been caught.

Another possibility was in connection to a local football team, the Sharks.

"So officers borrowed a bucket of water from McDonald's, placed the shark inside it and drove to a nearby pier, where they released the creature back into the ocean."

Democrats and Republicans united in economic fault



Joe Wojtkiewicz
Staff writer

For decades, the United States was riding the wave of a boom. This boom was caused by removing government regulations on several industries. Without government oversight, Wall Street was able to run rampant and send the stock market into an unprecedented rise. Then the bubble burst. The market collapsed after the mass speculation of investors proved to be false. This was in 1929.

Eighty years later, we have found ourselves in the same position. The truth is ,Wall Street did its job. They made money. The public had a demand for investments that would yield high returns.

So who is to blame for our situation? In my opinion, it's the government.

After the economic chaos of the Great Depression, regulations on financial institutions were increased, and the Glass Steagall Act of 1933 set forth many regulations on banks that were designed to keep speculation at a minimum. One of the chief regulations was investment banks and deposit banks would be kept separate. This helped to insure depositor's money would be kept safe.

This worked very well for 66 years. This was until 1999 when the Financial Services Modernization Act was signed into law by President Bill Clinton. This removed many of the regulations that the Glass Steagall Act enforced. This came at the end of an outcry for deregulation. The problem with deregulation is when there is no one to watch, anything can happen.

Strangely enough, it goes back further than 1999. It comes down to a tricky financial product known as a credit default swap. To put it simply, this is insurance for an investment. This product was explained in simple terms on NPR's "This American Life" in their episode "Another Frightening Show About the Economy." A credit default swap, or CDS, is nothing more than insurance for an investment. These products weren't bad in principle, only in practice.

There are state regulations on insurance in our country. These regulations require insurance companies have a certain amount of money on hand to pay out on policies. There were no such regulations on the CDS market. This allowed for massive misuse of the market. Many people lobbied to have this market regulated just as any other market would be back in 1998.

On the episode of "TAL," Michael Greenberger talks about how he tried to institute regulations on the market. He says there was resistance from all sides of the government against this fact. The Clinton White House, Congress, and Senate all agreed the government should stay out of the way. It was finalized in 2000 when Sen. Phil Gramm introduced a bill stating the government would not regulate the market. This was passed 95-0. So blame goes around the board, Democrat and Republican alike.

If you are wondering how an insurance company like AIG could collapse, this is what did it. They were handing these things out like candy. They didn't have the assets on hand to cover the promises they were making. If our government had decided to regulate the crisis we are in, it might not have been as drastic as it is

might not have been as drastic as it is.

To anyone who wants to say the government needs to stay out of the way, I say it is the job of the government to get in the way on these things. Our government needs to regulate the financial markets that control our lives and our economy. Banks need to be scrutinized and forced to show the world they are safe and honest. If the government can't be there to do it, who will? •

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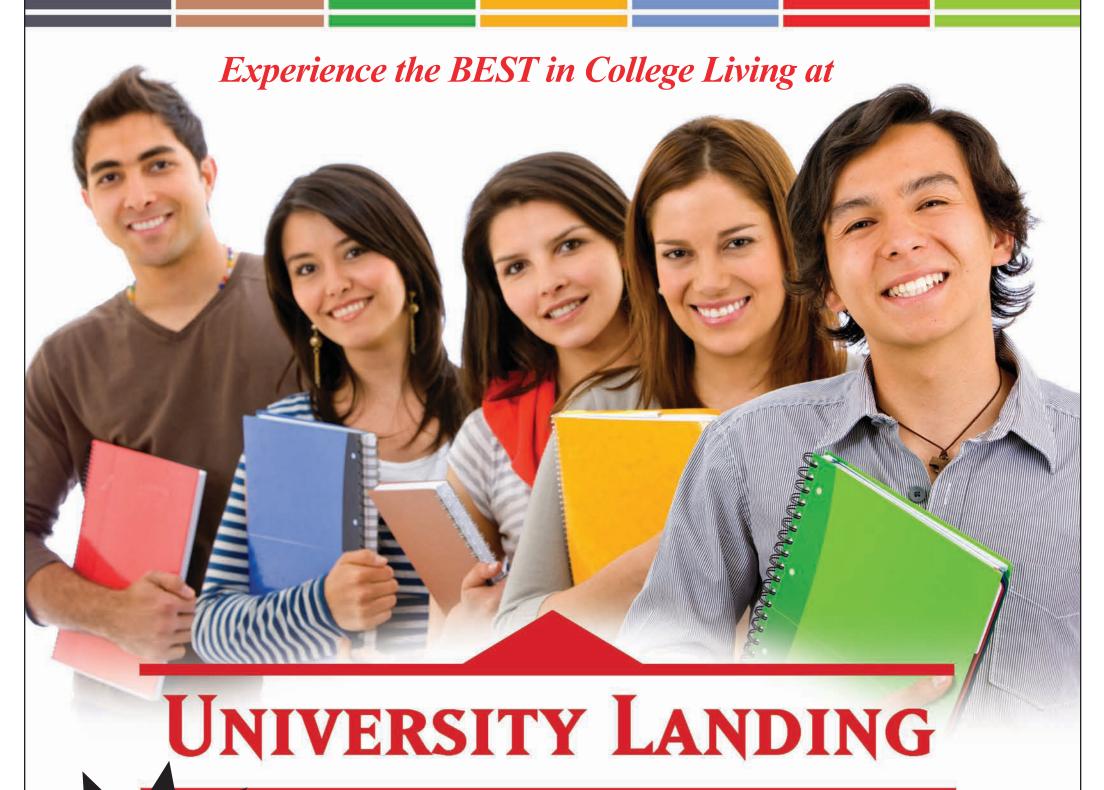
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Letters to the editor

should include the author's full name, e-mail address and telephone number (plus major and class if applicable). All letters will be checked for authenticity. Letters should be received no later than 4 p.m. on Friday of each week to be considered for publication. Letters may be edited for clarity and grammar.

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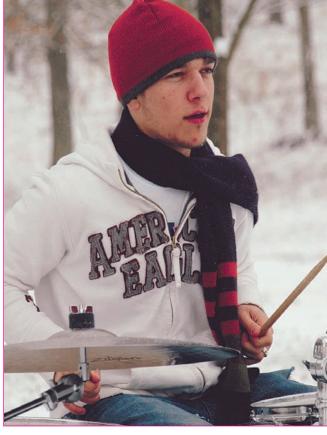
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Fudge reveals relation to Patsy Cline



ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Above: Andrew Fudge plays the drums during his free time.

Above Right: Andrew Fudge and his family pose during the revealing of Patsy Cline's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Bottom Right: Andrew Fudge poses in front of his grandmother's show poster at the Ryman Auditorium.



By JESS NOBERT Assistant Perspectives Editor

Not many students have ever seen a celebrity, but APSU sophomore Andrew Fudge is the grandson of one.

Fudge, as his friends call him, is the grandson of Patsy Cline.

When people find out, he usually hears, "That's awesome. Who is that again?" or, "You're kidding me, I don't believe you." And he even gets a few, "That's awesome, can we go and hang out at her house sometime?"

His typical response is, "She was a country singer," "You should look her up," "How can I prove it to you?" or, of course, "Um, she died in 1963."

Fudge is pretty modest about being a celebrity grandson.

"I don't consider our family to be boastful about the fact that we are related to Pasty Cline, but anytime there is a possibility to meet someone famous, like any country music singer, we try to use that to our advantage."

Though his grandfather doesn't talk of Cline often, Fudge does have a few favorite memories he has shared.

"My favorite stories that he has told me are about how he and Willie Nelson, who wrote 'Crazy,' would hang out and were drinking buddies," Fudge said.

"And there are the stories about when they went on tour with Johnny Cash and all the crazy shenanigans they would pull at hotels."

"I love when I talk about my

grandmother and call her Virginia Patterson Hensley, because most people don't know that's her real name; Patsy Cline was just a stage name," Fudge said.

"While singing isn't a talent that was passed down the genes," Fudge said, "I do play the drums."

He has been playing for seven years, and plays most Sundays at his church.

Fudge admits he's not sure he would be at APSU, or even born if his grandmother hadn't been on the plane that crashed in 1963

But if they were both here, "I know that she would have made many more amazing albums and that my family's life would be a lot more hectic than it is today."

He puts it, "God had a plan for her to die, and it led to where me and my family are today."

Fudge, who is a brother of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, still isn't sure what he wants to do after he graduates.

"The past few years, I have gone back and forth with the possibility of going to seminary and doing something in the ministry field," Fudge said, "or getting a degree in music and playing drums for a living in a music studio or band."

"The main goal I have right now is to be the first in my family to get a college degree"

degree."
"I think it's really sunk in, now that I'm older, about how big she was."

Fudge said, "My family all went to the opening night of 'Always Patsy Cline'

at the Ryman Auditorium. We got free tickets, being family and all, and it was pretty much like regular tickets."

"We sat up in the balcony in the middle of the auditorium just as if we bought the tickets at the door. No one really knows, without asking, that we are her family, so I felt like I was just going to a regular play," he said.

"But sitting there and hearing the girl playing my grandmother start to sing her songs, and everyone in the Ryman cheering, just because they love Patsy¹s songs, really makes me realize how big she was and how much people love her music," Fudge said.

Fudge said his favorite experience he has been a part of "was when Patsy received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. My whole family went to Hollywood and spent a week out there about a block from the Grauman's Chinese Theatre and had a great time."

"I also love the fact that even though she is well known by millions, her songs are played on shows like 'Lost,' and in movies, like 'The Departed.'

I still live a normal life and am not constantly bombarded with reporters like most celebrities are today," he said.

"Growing up I don't think I actually knew how big of a deal Patsy Cline really was. I just remember thinking of her just as Grandma Patsy."

"It's also cool to have your grandmother on a U.S. postal stamp," Fudge said. ◆



Thank you for being a friend, Bea Arthur

Associated Press

Beatrice Arthur, the tall, deep-voiced actress who considered herself lucky to be discovered by television executives after a long stage career that included a Tony award for the musical "Mame," died Saturday, April 25, at age 86.

The star of the TV shows "Maude" and "The Golden Girls" died peacefully at her Los Angeles home with her family at her side, family spokesman Dan Watt said. She had cancer, he said, but declined to give details.

"She was a brilliant and witty woman," said Watt, who was Arthur's personal assistant for six years. "Bea will always have a special place in my heart."

Arthur first appeared in the landmark comedy series "All in the Family" as Edith Bunker's outspoken, liberal cousin, Maude Finley. She proved a perfect foil for bluecollar bigot Archie Bunker, played by Carroll O'Connor, and their blistering exchanges were so entertaining that producer Norman Lear fashioned Arthur's own series.

In a 2008 interview with The Associated Press, Arthur recalled with bemusement being discovered by CBS executives asking about the new "girl."

"I was already 50 years old. I had done so much off-Broadway, on Broadway, but they said, 'Who is that girl? Let's give her her own series," Arthur said.

"Maude" scored with television viewers immediately on its CBS debut in September 1972, and Arthur won an Emmy Award for the role in 1977.

The comedy flowed from Maude's efforts to cast off the traditional restraints that women faced, but the series often had a serious base. Her husband Walter, Bill Macy, became an alcoholic, and she underwent an abortion, which drew a torrent of viewer protests. Maude became a standard bearer for the growing feminist movement in America.

"She was an incredible actress and a woman I will miss, and I think everyone else will," said Bud Yorkin, producer of "Maude" with partner Lear.

The ratings of "Maude" in the early years approached those of its parent, "All in t he Family," but by 1977 the audience started to dwindle. A major format change was planned, but in early 1978 Arthur announced she was quitting the show.

"It's been absolutely glorious; I've loved every minute of it," she said. "But it's been six years, and I think it's time to leave."

"Golden Girls" (1985-1992) was another groundbreaking comedy, finding surprising success in a television market increasingly skewed toward a younger, product-buying audience.

The series concerned three retirees — Arthur, Betty White and Rue McClanahan — and the mother of Arthur's character, Estelle Getty, who lived together in a Miami house. In contrast to the violent "Miami Vice," the comedy was nicknamed "Miami Nice."

As Dorothy Zbornak, Arthur seemed as caustic and domineering as Maude. She was unconcerned about the similarity of the two roles.

"Look — I'm 5-feet-9, I have a deep voice and I have a way with a line," she told an interviewer. "What can I do about it? I can't stay home waiting for something different. I think it's a total waste of energy worrying about typecasting."

The interplay among the four women and their relations with men fueled the comedy, and the show amassed a big audience and 10

Emmys, including two as best comedy series and individual awards for each of the stars.

McClanahan said Arthur felt constrained by the show during its later years and in 1992 she announced she was leaving "Golden Girls"

"Bea liked to be the star of the show, she didn't really like to do that ensemble playing," McClanahan said.

McClanahan first worked with Arthur on "Maude," playing her best friend, Vivian. The women quickly became close friends in real life. McClanahan recalled Arthur as a kind and caring person with a no-nonsense edge.

The three other stars returned in "The Golden Palace," but it lasted only one season. In 2008, Arthur was inducted in the TV Academy Hall of Fame.

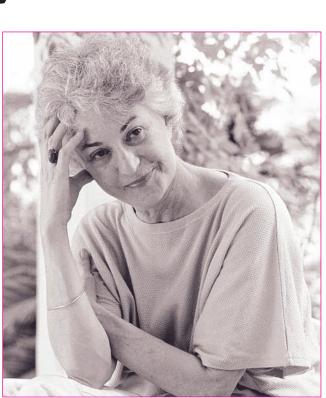
"She was a rare and unique performer and a dear, dear friend," Lansbury said in a statement.

Arthur won the Tony as best supporting actress and repeated the role in the unsuccessful film version that also was directed by Saks, starring Lucille Ball as Mame. Arthur would play a variation of Vera Charles in "Maude" and "The Golden Girls."

In 1999, Arthur told an interviewer of the three influences in her career: "Sid Caesar taught me the outrageous; (method acting guru) Lee Strasberg taught me what I call reality; and ("Threepenny Opera' star) Lotte Lenya, whom I adored, taught me economy."

In recent years, Arthur made guest appearances on shows including "Curb Your Enthusiasm" and "Malcolm in the Middle."

She was chairwoman of the Art Attack Foundation, a nonprofit performing arts scholarship organization, and was an honorary director of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.



ASSOCIATED PF

This July 23, 1985 file photo shows actress Beatrice Arthur posing at the Bel Air Hotel in the Bel Air section of Los Angeles, Ca. Family spokesman Dan Watt says the 86-year-old Arthur died at home early Saturday, April 25, 2009. He said Arthur had cancer, but declined to give further details.

Sororities jump for St. Jude's philanthropy

Staff Reports

Several sororities around campus made pledges for a predetermined period to spend on the huge trampolines at the Intramural Field Friday, April 24. The band, Passenger Creek, played live for them from 4 p.m. until around 8 p.m. They were also handing out new healthier energy drink, Blue Frog.

A portion of the night's proceeds went help St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Alpha Tau Omega sold a barbeque dinner, with baked beans, potato salad and cole slaw, and a drink for \$5; this also went to help St. Jude. Three trampolines were set up in the field for the jumpers. Jeff Doyle, freshman statistics major, said he could not wait for the event to start, and he was excited and knew everyone would have a great time.

"I really enjoyed seeing the girls having so much fun jumping for a good cause, especially when they would do flips and really get into it," said Amber Jo Traughber, senior history major and Alpha Sigma Alpha member.

Kierstin Vater, a freshman psychology major and member of Alpha Delta Pi, said "I am excited, actually. I hate trampolines but I think it'll be a lot of fun. I like helping kids out, so, it means a lot." She was also excited about the band; Vater went to the same high school as they did.

"I'm excited because they are really good, and hopefully more people will support them," Vater said.

Adrian Sensavaugh, a freshman and political science major, was just one of the members of Alpha Tau Omega to organize the chapters first philanthopry event, "Jump For Jude."

Donations are still being accepted. Please contact the Student Life and Leadership for more information. •





ALL PHOTOS BY MATEEN SIDIQ | SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Left: Jaima Carneyhan, of Alpha Sigma Alpha, jumps to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Above: Members of Alpha Delta Pi showed support for St. Jude's.

APSU takes part in Week for The Young Child



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Benita Bruster reads to children at The Village at Woodlawn daycare to commerate The Week For The

By TANGELIA CANNON Features Editor

Each year educators gather nationwide in order to participate in the National Week For The Young, which promotes literacy education for young children. This event started in 1971 by the National Association doe the Education of Young Children.

According to NAEYC's Web site, they are the largest and most influential organization of early childhood educators and others dedicated to improving the quality of programs for children from birth through age eight.

Benita Bruster, the university representative for the Two Rivers Association for Education of Young Children, which directly works with all of the local daycares, was invited to participate in this year's event at The Village at Woodlawn.

"I was invited by Nina Dudley, the director of the daycare," said Bruster. "While I was there I read 'Owen and Kitten's First Full Moon' by Kevin Henkes."

"The best part of the experience was seeing the joy on the children's faces during the read aloud time," said Bruster.

"The children were so excited to listen to the books and to share their personal experiences related to the story."

ÁPSU's education department also set up a booth during this year's Rivers & Spires.

"We had manipulatives and hands on activities for the children, and handed out DVDs to the parents that helped to give them literacy educational ideas for their children," Bruster said.

"There were also art projects displayed all over the Governor's Square Mall from many of Clarksville's childcare facilities in the county."

According to the NAEYC Web site, other events that took place nationwide were a Week of the Young Child parade with over 400 children, teachers, and parents in Chicago, Ill., a day in the park to highlight resources and educational services available to local residents in Irvine, Calif., and a "Day at the Capitol" educating legislators on the health and safety needs of children in child care and the new and emerging role of the Child Care Health Consultant in Raleigh, N.C.

For more information on The National Week for the Young, visit www.naeyc.org/. ◆

ARMY STRONG.

Miss California speaks against gay marriage

Associated Press

Miss California Carrie Prejean, who became the bombshell of the Miss USA pageant by saying gay couples should not be allowed to marry, said Sunday, April 19, that her state sponsors urged her to apologize afterward, but she rejected the advice.

Prejean, 21, said officials from the Miss California USA pageant were worried that her comments would cost their contest financial backing and tried to prepare her for a string of post-pageant media interviews by discouraging her from discussing her religious beliefs.

"You need to apologize to the gay community. You need to not talk about your faith. This has everything to do with you representing California and saving the brand," Prejean recalled being told. "I was representing California. I was representing the majority of people in California."

She offered her version of the tense hours following the April 19 Miss USA pageant while appearing at the San Diego megachurch that has helped shape her views. The Rock Church, founded by former San Diego Chargers defensive back Miles McPherson, was active in the campaign to pass a constitutional ban on gay marriages in California last year.

Prejean, who was named first runner-up to Miss North Carolina and will remain Miss California until November, has spent the last week defending her comments, made during the pageant's final round. They came in response to celebrity blogger Perez Hilton's question about legalizing same-sex marriage.

"I think it's great that Americans are able to choose one or the other. We live in a land where you can choose same-sex marriage or opposite marriage," she said. "And you know what? I think in my country, in my family, I think that I believe that a marriage should be between a man and a woman. No offense to anybody out there, but that's how I was raised."

Hilton, who is gay, stoked the 30-second exchange the next day when he cursed the beauty queen on his blog and suggested

her response may have cost Prejean the Miss USA crown.

Seated onstage across from Miles McPherson, she recalled resisting multiple opportunities — from her appearance on NBC's "Today" show to a performance with Miss USA pageant owner Donald Trump — to edit, explain or expound upon her remarks.

"I knew I had to stay true to my beliefs and not let them intimidate me into taking back what I said because I don't take back what I said," she said.

Rashad Robinson, media programs director for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, said Prejean's honesty would have been admirable if, in frankly expressing her opinion, she hadn't misspoke.

"Contrary to Miss California's claim, people can't choose. Gay and lesbian couples don't have a choice except in a handful of states," Robinson said. "In her extensive public platform since then, she hasn't clarified that. She hasn't walked back from what are clearly misstatements."

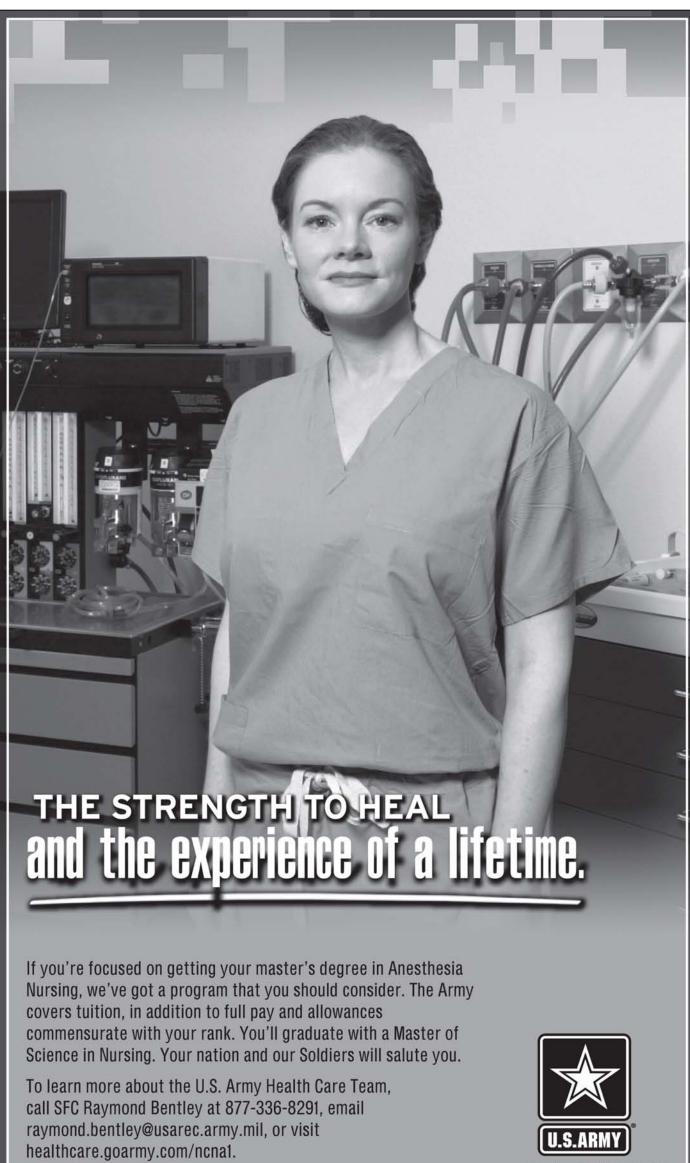
Besides Hilton, at least two more of the pageant's dozen judges have said Prejean should have given a more politic, if not politically correct, answer to avoid offending anyone and that it was her lack of tact, not her opposition to same-sex marriage, that ruffled feathers.

"I do not fault her for her beliefs. I fault her for her complete lack of social grace, and that's a quality I want my Miss USA to possess," judge Alicia Jacobs, a former Miss Nevada, wrote on her blog.

Others, though, have applauded Prejean for her forthrightness. The other four finalists were asked whether they would speak out against domestic violence, favor using taxpayer money to bail out corporations, give immigrants access to health care and help fund elections in Afghanistan.

"A question like that is not relevant in a platform such as the Miss USA pageant. It's far too political, and it's divisive as well," said Kenya Moore, the 1993 Miss USA who was one of the judges that named Prejean Miss California in November. "Half of the audience is going to agree and half is not, no matter what she said. It's a no-win situation."◆

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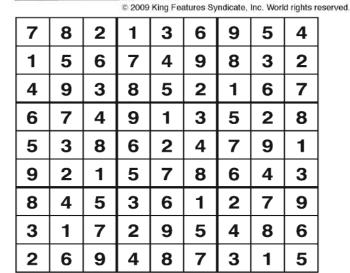












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by Linda Thistle

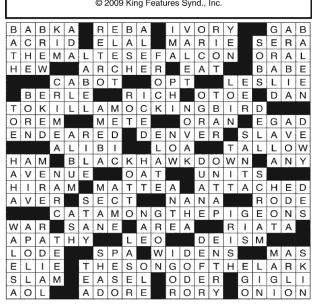
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging *** HOO BOY!

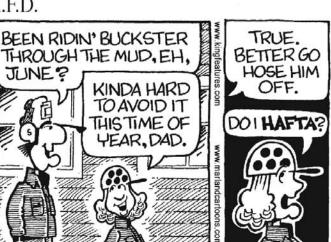
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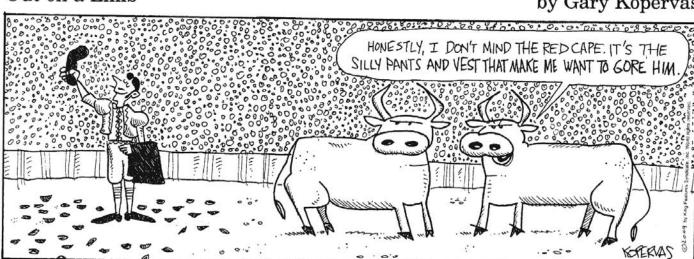
JUNE?





Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



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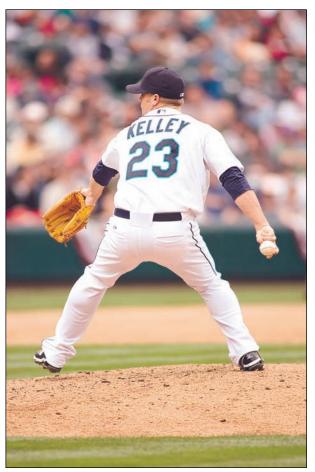
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GOVS BASEBALL

Gov pitches his way to MLB debut





CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS BY BEN VAN HOUTEN | SEATTLE MARINERS

Left: APSU alumnus Shawn Kelley steps in for the pitch. Kelley made his MLB debut for the Seattle Mariners Friday, April 10. Right: Shawn Kelley winds up for the throw to home plate. He currently posts a 0.00 ERA.

By JESS NOBERT Assistant Perspectives Editor

After spending two seasons in minor league baseball, APSU alumnus Shawn Kelley has made it.

Kelley made his first appearance Friday, April 10, in Oakland, Calif., against the Athletics, striking out two of the four batters he faced, including former All-Star, Jason Giambi to end the inning. Kelley said this is his favorite memory so far.

This first outing worked out well for Kelley.

"There is a little bit of pressure to pitch well and stay in the big leagues, pitching to big-league hitters isn't easy obviously, they are much smarter and more disciplined throughout the at bats," Kelley said. Moving from the minors up to the big league took a little transition. "Pro ball is more of a business feel. The game is still about having fun and winning and losing. However, it's a career and a means of providing for myself and my wife," Kelley said. "It's a much more grown-up game." Players have more accountability to make good

decisions on and off the field.

As the new kid, there are new friends and, of course, a little hazing.

"Rookies are always being hazed. Whether it be the pink backpacks we carry every day to the bullpen, or just constant things we have to do for the veterans. Baseball is a seniority game, so until you achieve some big league time, you're fresh for

picking," he said.

If you're his friend on Facebook, he's wearing the pink backpack in his profile picture.

Kelley said staying focused, having goals and sticking to a routine is how he made it to the Majors so fast. "The toughest thing for me was getting to know new teammates every level I jumped. The work was just what I always put in and that makes the success possible."

It doesn't seem that Kelley has a hard time making friends. He said though it's new, the bullpen is very close. "We tend to spend a lot of time together on and off the field." Kelley said he hangs out with "guys like Chris Jakubauskas, Mark Lowe, Roy Corcoran, David Ardsma, Brandon Morrow, and others."

But don't worry; he doesn't have to share a room with any of them on the road. "We all have our own suites on the road. No roomies," he said.

The hardest part, according to Kelley, "is not seeing my wife and two dogs every day."

In addition to Kelley, APSU has two other alumni on the mound in Major League Baseball. Jamie Walker and George Sherrill both pitch for the Baltimore Orioles. A.J. Ellis is also on the 40-man roster for the Los Angeles Dodgers as a catcher. To this, Kelley said, "having some Governors in proball, including myself, shows that through hard work and determination, the sky is the limit," Kelley said Ellis was his biggest influence at APSU.

But Kelley isn't the only Governor working for the Mariners. Former baseball and football coach, Jack Zduriencik, is the executive vice president and general manager of baseball operations, and Carmen Fusco, who also coached baseball with Zduriencik, is the director of pro scouting for the team. Kelley said having the two Govs in the front office means "APSU has done a nice job of personnel. Having Jack as my general manager being a former Governor, gives us nice material to talk about. We actually know

almost 30 years apart."

Kelley didn't have a favorite team as a kid. He "honestly just loved watching the game."

some of the same people even

though we attended the Peav

Though he did say Ken Griffey Jr. was one of his favorite players, "and now we are teammates and friends. Pretty cool"

"The best advice is not to let any one ever tell you that you can't achieve a goal, prove them wrong," Kelley said. "The other most important thing is you will get out what you put in ... the harder you work and try to achieve perfection, the more success you will have."

At press time, Monday, April. 27, Kelley had made pitched five innings over six games with a 0.00 ERA.

"You don't have to play baseball at Miami, or football at USC, or basketball at UNC to chase your dreams," Kelley said. ◆

Have a fantastic summer from The All State!

the all state

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throughout the summer!

When a record number of APSU gra they will get a lesson on "hard work inspiring them to persevere in the ye

Govs lose fifth straight OVC series, fall to 18-25



LOIS JONES | PHOTO EDITOR

Third baseman Greg Bachman celebrates with his teammates after posting one of two home runs.

By ANTHONY SHINGLER Assistant Sports Editor

With a depleted pitching staff, and 75 total hits between both teams, the APSU Govs (18-25, 4-9 OVC) dropped their fifth straight Ohio Valley Conference series (9-12; 9-5; 3-13) to Southeast Missouri (25-16, 11-4 OVC) the weekend of April 25 and 26

and 26.

In game one of the doubleheader, the Govs posted a seven-run third inning to pull away in the first game. APSU rallied back in the seventh inning with five runs and closed in on SEMO's lead. However, the Redhawks added one more run to put the game out of reach.

Combined for 36 hits and 21 runs in game one, both clubs posted 18 hits each. Third baseman Greg Bachman helped APSU with a seventh inning three-run home run and a tworun shot in the eighth inning to chip in 5 RBIs on 2-for-5 from

the plate.
APSU starter Jack Snodgrass (3-2) recorded the loss giving up eight runs on 10 hits over 2.1 innings of work. The Redhawks' bullpen combined to allow four runs on seven hits over the final

6.2 innings.

The nightcap started off with projected starter Ryne Harper being benched just before the first pitch due to an injury in warm-ups. In substitution of Harper, Ricky Marshall made the start after closing out the first game. The Govs offense was shutout through the first 3.2 innings. Catcher Trey Lucas broke up the shutout with a two-run home run in the fourth inning cutting the SEMO lead 2-5. APSU exploded in the fifth inning tacking on six runs to take a 9-5 lead which would prove to be enough for the win.

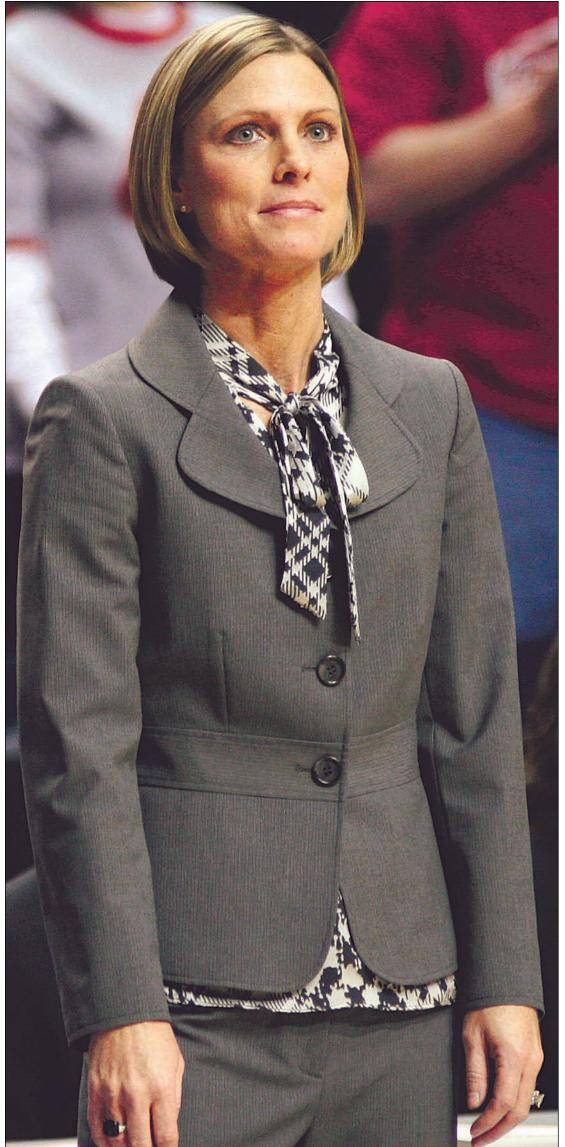
prove to be enough for the win Lucas Anderson (1-1) came in relief for Marshall allowing three hits over 3.1 scoreless innings to pick up his first victory.

APŚU racked up 14 total hits, with Lucas leading the on slaughter batting 3-for-3 with three RBIs. First Baseman Matt Kole went 2-for-4 with two RBIs on a two run double. In the final game of the three game series, SEMO took advantage of APSU's limited pitching. The Govs remaining pitchers tallied at least one run in each of the first six innings.

APSU pitcher Jacob Brisbin was tagged for the loss giving up four hits and four runs over 2.1 innings of work. SEMO jumped out to a 7-0 lead before APSU could even get on the scoreboard with a two-run blast from Trey Lucas. APSU would add one more run in the fifth inning before being shut out the rest of the game. The Govs face UT Martin in Martin, Tenn. Saturday, May 2. •

10 Sports

THE ALL STATE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2009



A spring of reflection





Robinson remembers time as sports editor, and APSU sports



This has been the worst decision of my life. It has been a year since I received the job as sports editor.

If I could turn back the hands of time, I would surely change that fact. I mean, it is a terrible job, really. I get to talk about my favorite subject all day and get paid for it. Who wants to do that?

Seriously though, it's been a great year of learning and watching some of the greatest sports on Earth. It's easy to like a job that makes you feel comfortable and be surrounded by some of the coolest people this university has to offer

this university has to offer.

When I took this job, I didn't think I would enjoy the majority of it. Although, it's safe to say I've enjoyed all of it. My writers Tyler O'Donnell, Anthony Shingler and my boss, Marlon Scott, have given our readers and I some great stories of the Govs' hard-fought wins to the screams at the court losses.

The thing I'm going to miss most about this year is watching Drake Reed and Kyle Duncan play basketball at APSU. I hope they'll get the chance to play professional basketball, but it will never match what they did for us on Dave Loos Court. I've spent some time changing the names on my college basketball games to match the names of our actual players. Yeah, sue me, I'm a dork. I'm really OCD about things like that.

One thing I'm proud of this semester is the involvement in sports at APSU. I've seen so many new faces at games and different people interested in sports. It truly gives my job that much more meaning.

The story of the Lady Govs basketball team will always be remembered.

Their season was up and down and they came through when it really counted: the championship. I cannot wait to see where the critics put them next semester. I'm certain it will not be last, like last year.

Next year, I expect our teams to do better in conference play across the board. The majority of APSU sports consisted of underclassmen and with practice comes growth and experience.

Things will get better before they get worse. I think sports fans need to hold that idea to their hearts, especially after this season.

At least that's what I hope because I know it is tough for you guys to read about our Govs losing often. ◆



ALL PHOTOS BY LOIS JONES | PHOTO EDITOR

Left: Head coach Carrie Daniels looks onto the court as her team faces Murray State in the semifinal of the OVC tournament. The Lady Govs basketball team faced the Duke Lady Blue Devils in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Top: Assistant coach Bubba Wells comforts senior forward Kyle Duncan after the double overtime loss to Morehead State in the OVC Men's final.

Center: Head coach Casey Dickson talks to her team after the first home loss against Kentucky Wesleyan. The Lady Govs failed to make the OVC Tournament after losing many close games.

Bottom: Gary McClure, head coach of the Govs baseball team, walks his players off the baseball field after the loss to Tennessee Tech, Saturday, April 18.