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The Murray State News, February 12, 1999

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Cold TODAY: Chance of flurries. High: 20s Low: 20. SATURDAY: Clear. High: 40. Low: 20s. SUNDAY: Clear. High: 50s. Source: National Weather Service

THE MURRAY STATE NEWS

February 12, 1999
Vol. 74, No. 21

The Student Newspaper of Murray State University

News

Course changes in secondary education could pose a problem for students graduating in Spring 2000.

See page 2

OpEd

Joseph Pence, junior electronic journalism major from Owensboro, discusses the disadvantages of the buffed up safety precautions on campus.

See page 5

CollegeLife

Valentine's Day is Sunday and business is booming. Area florists explain how they prepare for the big day. Also, learn the true meaning behind the day of love.

See page 8

Sports

The Murray State 'Bred baseball team is set to start its season at home on Feb. 20 against St. Louis. Despite finishing fourth in the OVC last year, the 'Breds are picked to finish eighth this season.

See page 12

TheNewsOnline

The Murray State News Online

Read Greg Stark's analysis and prediction for the Daytona 500 this weekend on The Murray State News online at www.thenews.org.

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Levine's father files complaint

Complaint: The father of Brian Levine filed a complaint with the state attorney general's office last month.

BY GREG STARK
STAFF WRITER

The complaint filed by a parent of one of the students originally indicted on charges relating to the Sept. 18 Hester College fire was released Thursday, with the rebuttal by State Deputy Attorney General Dave MacKnight also attached.

Michael Levine, father of Brian Levine, who was charged with conspiracy to commit first degree arson, filed a report with State Attorney General Ben Chandler Jan. 12. His letter ques-

tioned a possible connection between the attorney general's office and Commonwealth Attorney Mike Ward.

MacKnight stated in the reply the commonwealth attorney's office has no connection with the attorney general's office. He also stated there are two ways an attorney general can intervene in a criminal case which a commonwealth attorney handles.

"If the governor, a judge, grand jury, sheriff, mayor or city council asks the attorney general to intervene in a particular criminal case, the attorney general may then decide whether it would serve justice to intervene in that case. The attorney general is not required to intervene in that case. Second, if

Please see LEVINE/14

It's baaaaacon



Danny Vowell/The News

Bailey, a Basset Hound puppy, snoops his way through the Quad Tuesday afternoon with Mitzi Rickman, senior from Murray. Rickman was playing Frisbee with friends.

University ranks in top 10 Security crackdown continues

MSU: Murray State's academic reputation has once again earned it a top 10 ranking in "U.S. News and World Report."

BY CHRISTINE HALL
NEWS EDITOR

"U.S. News and World Report" has again named Murray State one of the top 10 regional public universities.

The school is tied for sixth place with University of North Carolina-Charlotte and Winthrop University in South Carolina.

Don Robertson, vice president of student affairs, said it is always positive to see Murray State ranked highly in "U.S. News."

"With an outside source there is a sense of validity in what is said," he said. "I hope we continue to be in it."

The main characteristics evaluated by "U.S. News" were academic reputation, graduation and retention rates and faculty resources. Other criteria were student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving.

Academic reputation is determined by surveys to the president, provost and deans of each university, asking them to rate the academic programs on a scale of one to five.

Retention is rated by a school's six-year graduation rate and its freshman retention rate.

MSU RANKED IN TOP TIER:

Murray State ranks 6th among Public Schools in the South

	Freshman Retention Rate	Graduation Rate	Student / Faculty Ratio	Freshmen in top 25% of class	Acceptance Rate
Murray State	68%	45%	16 / 1	63%	80%
Western	69%	41%	16 / 1	13%	86%
U.K.	78%	48%	N / A	23% (in top 10%)	78%
U of L	74%	29%	N / A	19% (in top 10%)	67%
Eastern	N / A	25%	18 / 1	41%	95%
Northern	67%	29%	16 / 1	N / A	100%
Kentucky	62%	31%	15 / 1	22%	61%
Morehead	66%	38%	15 / 1	N / A	64%

Public Schools in Kentucky are not necessarily ranked in the same tier

Source: "America's Best Colleges US News and World Reports"

Brian Howell /The News

The category of faculty resources is based on five factors during the 1997-98 academic year. Class size represents 40 percent of the score for classes of fewer than 20 and more than 500 students. Faculty salary, professor degrees, student-faculty ratio and proportion of full-time faculty are the other factors.

University President Kern Alexander said the criteria were a good indi-

cation of where the University stands in comparison to other schools.

"We are operating in a data vacuum," he said. "This is the most comprehensive ranking system and they collect good data."

Murray State ranked 60 percent in the acceptance rate category, but Alexander said the number reported

Please see RANK/14

Safety: The recent focus on security has caused the residential colleges to impose a 24-hour lockdown.

BY EMILY BLACK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A 24-hour lockdown security system has taken effect in Murray State's residential colleges.

This means students living in the residential colleges will have to have their student ID's with them when entering the dorms.

When entering through side and main doors students will have to insert their Racercards before the door will unlock and may be required to show their Racercards at the front desk when entering through the main doors.

Don Robertson, vice president of student affairs, said the lockdown of the residential colleges is not new.

"Some colleges were doing it already," he said. "We recommended all of the colleges to do this starting at the beginning of the spring semester."

Justin Rouse, residential director at Elizabeth College, said this rule is just for the safety of students and is not meant to be an inconvenience.

"At Elizabeth, we leave our south door

Please see LOCKDOWN/14

Dunker un.masks Saturday night

BY KRISTIN HILL
STAFF WRITER

The cheerleaders encourage the crowd to cheer while the home team plays for a victory. The fans come to the games as a visual and vocal sign of support. Dunker, Murray State's mascot, combines the two to build school spirit.

Dunker has remained a mystery to the general public, but will be unveiled during half-time at tomorrow night's game against Eastern Illinois. The game begins at 7 p.m. in RSEC. This is the last home game on the Racers' regulation schedule.

Having previous experience, Dunker is familiar with the demands of being a school mascot. While attending high school, he was asked to quiet down and even leave many games, before someone suggested he put on the cougar costume and encourage school spirit among his peers.

During Dunker's junior year at

Murray State, he realized that he wanted to increase school spirit.

"Believe it or not, I was crazy enough to ask around," Dunker said. "Then I saw an ad in the paper and went to try-outs."

Mike Young, assistant to the vice president of student affairs, was involved in the selection of Dunker. He saw characteristics in this particular Dunker that showed he was comfortable around people. Young said being outgoing and having a lot of personality were important things to look for when choosing the mascot.

"In evaluating his skills, I knew that he would be creative with his ideas and he would know how to get the crowd involved," Young said. "He was excited, which was half the battle."

Being a mascot is a varsity sport. Dunker went to cheerleading camp and earned a varsity letter. Dunker considers the physical demands one of the most difficult aspects of being the mascot. He said every

game he loses 10 pounds in water weight and takes the next two days to regain the loss.

Dunker said the time involved in being a mascot can become consuming if not managed well, both physically and mentally. Although there are challenges assumed with the job, Dunker said the easiest thing was "having fun and trying to get school spirit going."

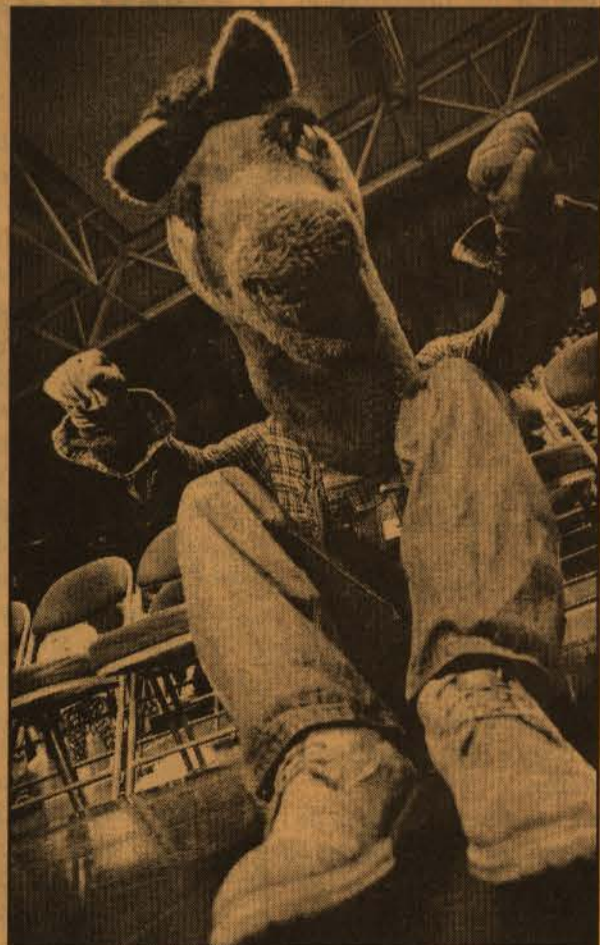
Dunker said making fun of people, to an extent, is how he has fun and gets the audience excited.

"I definitely have my enemies," Dunker said, followed by a laugh.

Dunker said he "keeps it in reason." He does not want to cause any fouls. The mascot's motto is "it is easier to ask for forgiveness than for approval."

The children who seek him out at the games are Dunker's second favorite things, right behind having fun, of course. Kids are his most prevalent fan base.

"They are there for Dunker, not basketball," he said.



Danny Vowell/The News

Dunker prepares to cheer on Racers.

NewsBriefs

Investments
workshop offered

A non-credit evening course called "Understanding Investments" will be offered from 7 to 9 p.m. beginning March 25 and will continue until May 6. Skills for making wise investment decisions, protecting retirement income and investing for safety income and capital growth will be the topics.

The course will be taught by Betty Boston, certified financial planner with J.J.B. Hilliard and W.L. Lyons in Murray.

The registration fee is \$40 each or \$70 for married couples.

To enroll in the course, contact the office of conferences and workshops at 762-3662.

ACT prep classes
start for June test

Murray State has a ACT test preparation program for the upcoming test on June 12.

The session starts April 24 and will continue through May 29. The six-week course meets on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon in the Collins Center for Industry and Technology.

The course fee is \$85.

For more information or to enroll in the course, contact the office of conferences and workshops at 762-3662.

PRSSA to host
professionals dinner

A professionals dinner hosted by the Public Relations Student Society of America will be held on March 30 in the Curris Center Ballroom.

The Italian buffet will begin at 6 p.m. and will be followed by a short program led by the chapter officers.

The cost of the dinner is \$10. Checks can be mailed to PRSSA c/o Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, P.O. Box 9, Murray, KY 42071-0009.

Evening computer
non-credit courses
offered this month

Murray State is offering different non-credit computer courses this semester.

"Microsoft Office" offers upgrading office management skills Feb. 17 through Apr. 24 from 6 to 9 p.m.

To receive information about other computer courses or to enroll, phone the office of conferences and workshops at 762-3662.

Correction:

In the Feb. 5 article on the Murray Bank, it was stated David Graham owns Paschall Truck Lines. Anthony Waller, Sr. is the actual owner.

Briefs compiled by Christine Hall, news editor.

Course changes affect some students

Scheduling: Secondary education students doing their student teaching in Spring 2000 may need to adjust their schedules.

BY REKA ASHLEY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Secondary education majors who are scheduled to student teach in the spring of 2000 and the semesters following may be unaware of certain changes taking place in their education classes.

Bonnie Higginson, chair of elementary and secondary education, said traditionally secondary students took SEC 420, practicum in secondary schools, and EDU 383, evaluation and measurement in education, the same semester as student teaching. These classes would be taken the first four weeks and student teaching would make up the remaining 16

"We want students to have more teaching experiences before the student teaching semester."

—BONNIE HIGGINSON, CHAIR
OF ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY EDUCATION

weeks.

In the practicum, students go into classrooms to explore using lessons and teaching. However, with having the classes the first four weeks, the students did not have a great deal of time to evaluate how well they did, and to work on more improved lessons before they began student teaching.

"We want students to have more teaching experiences before the student teaching semester," Higginson said.

Higginson said plans now call for the elimination of four-week secondary education classes by the spring of 2000. This means students who are student teaching in that semester and those following will need to plan to take these classes in a prior semester.

"Students will now need to take the classes one or two semesters prior to student teaching," she said. "They will become eight-week courses instead of the previous four-week courses."

While for some students this will not be a problem, it may affect some students' graduation dates.

"We are going to be alert to any problems," she said. "We have communicated with the different departments and are

trying to notify secondary education students."

Audry Clark, senior from Clinton said she was already planning on taking 19 hours next semester, but since the change, she will have to work something else out.

"I will either have to pay more money and take summer school classes or take one really big load," she said. "The classes will take up an 8 to 10:20 a.m. block and may make some problems, but Dr. Higginson said she would help us work them out."

Higginson said when the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education came in 1991, it stated while the secondary education program did very well in many areas, a weakness was students had little prior experience in schools before student teaching. The department made efforts to improve this, but when the

council returned recently it said more drastic changes were needed.

The council will return in 2001, so the changes need to be made now in order for secondary education to remain an accredited program.

"An additional reason for the changes is the fact a number of schools are going to go to alternative schedules," Higginson said. "Soon, four-week classes will not be feasible."

Higginson said the alternative schedule and changes will not affect middle and elementary school programs right away, but eventually all four-week classes would be eliminated.

"Secondary education majors will get more details at the student orientation meetings for student teaching," she said.

For more information students should contact their academic or education advisers.

Foot loose, fancy free



Danny Vowell/The News

Scott Durr, senior transfer student from Demontt, Ind., relaxes in the Quad Wednesday afternoon.

SGA approves proposal
for early housing check-in

SGA: A petition was issued to open the residential colleges early instead of the day before school to lessen confusion.

BY YENIA ZABA
STAFF WRITER

Although classes will begin on a Monday next fall, students may have more adjustment time if a new proposal is passed.

In response to complaints from upperclassmen who have to move into the residential colleges the day before classes begin, the Student Government Association started a petition asking the administration to postpone the first day of classes.

The petition, which started last Friday, stopped circulating when the administration, realizing the students' concern, offered SGA three potential remedies for the problem.

Todd Earwood, president of SGA, said, "We never try to start dealing with a problem with a petition, but with each other way we thought of, we kept coming short."

"The petition has brought

more awareness to the administration, and in a way it has worked," he said.

The selection SGA has approved maintains the same academic calendar as planned with classes starting on a Monday, but allows freshmen to move into the residential colleges the Friday prior to the first day of classes.

Upperclassmen would then be allowed to move in on both Saturday and Sunday, giving those who need it one extra day to settle in. The offices necessary for students to complete the registration process would also be open during the weekend.

"This option would give students enough time to take care of all the things they have to do before classes start," Earwood said.

This proposal went to the provost's office Thursday morning for approval.

The second alternative presented to SGA was starting classes on a Wednesday. If students want to keep Fall Break and a study day, that would push finals back to Dec. 21.

"We felt that was too close to Christmas," Earwood said. "It wouldn't give enough time

to those students who live far away."

The third choice was similar to the second one, with the exception of finishing finals on Dec. 20, a day earlier, by having exams on Saturday of finals week as well. It received no support.

Earwood's main concern now is housing for the fall, since sprinklers installation may take longer than expected.

"They (the administration) want to give Housing as much time as possible, but they may not have enough time now," Earwood said.

Concerns about the opening week schedule arose sometime in September, when students began complaining about not having enough time to move into the residential colleges, pay their bills, buy textbooks and run other errands.

"In November we heard that the next semester was going to start on a Monday, too, and we didn't want that," Earwood said.

"We are trying to make the best decision for the whole student body, and that's really hard to do," he said. "It's a hard process to come to an agreement on."

Committee agenda full of topics

Faculty: The Board of Regents Committee will tackle topics like faculty development during its meeting today.

BY JENNIFER SACHARNOSKI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Poor faculty retention, low recruitment power and a lack of interest in faculty development will be the topics of a presentation before the Board of Regents' committee for faculty and staff affairs meeting today.

Enhancing current faculty development programs and proposing new initiatives are main points Terry Strieter, MACE-AFT chair and professor of history, said he will discuss during his presentation on faculty development.

"One of the concerns is that this administration does not care about faculty development, so we have a very high turnover," Strieter said. "The idea is that the administration can contribute more funds so the faculty won't fall behind in their fields."

One way to ensure professors keep up with current information in their respective fields is to offer sabbaticals and summer leave programs for the purpose of research and independent study, Strieter



Terry Strieter: The MACE-AFT chair and professor of history will give a presentation about faculty development during the Board of Regents' committee meeting.

said. The sabbatical now offered by the University requires at least six years of teaching, and although sabbaticals are available, because of limited funding only a very small number are accessible.

"In essence a faculty member is lucky to go to a conference," he said.

Terry McCreary, associate professor of chemistry, will give the presentation on faculty recruitment and retention. He agrees with Strieter's assessment of the lack of travel funds.

"The amount of money for faculty travel in most departments is, in some cases, not enough for one faculty member," he said. "In chemistry, for example, the travel budget for the department is \$2,400 per year."

McCreary said this amount is for lodging, meals and registration costs. As a result, the dean usually has to supplement the expenses from a separate budget.

Competitive salaries, not only

within Kentucky, but also nationwide are essential for the recruitment and retention of faculty members.

As research for his presentation, McCreary spoke with several former faculty members and colleagues from other colleges. From his research he foresees more faculty with the intention to leave the University.

However, in his research he said he heard positive remarks concerning the departments, faculty and students. The one general comment he heard was satisfaction with the people.

McCreary said the purpose of his presentation is mainly to bring awareness to the board of the problems the faculty are facing.

"I don't know what they are aware of," he said. "Maybe they do not know how widespread the problem is."

There are very specific problems, he said, and they will probably be worse in the future if the situations do not get better.

"I suppose I am simply going to be pointing out some of the problems," McCreary said. "In many cases the problem itself indicates the solution."

The committee will meet at 10 a.m. in the Board of Regents room in Wells Hall.

Whitfield plans
to discuss
tobacco issues

STAFF REPORT

Rep. Ed Whitfield, R-Ky., will hold meetings with first district tobacco growers starting Monday.

Heading the agenda will be a discussion of the Clinton administration's three-pronged assault on tobacco, launched earlier this year.

In recent announcements, the Clinton administration said it intends to increase cigarette taxes by 55 cents, initiate federal litigation against tobacco companies and stake a federal claim on a part of the settlement reached last year between states and the companies.

All interested producers and quota-holders are invited to attend the meetings, which are scheduled as follows:

- Monday- Murray, 6 to 8 p.m.
U.K. Extension Service growers Meeting
Murray State University
West Kentucky Expo Center
- Tuesday- Hopkinsville,
7 to 8:30 p.m.
Christian County Extension Office
509 West 9th Street
- Wednesday- Russellville,
6 to 7:30 p.m.
Logan County Extension Service Office

New store could be in Murray's future

Construction: Lowe's may be the next business to come to Murray and would create many new jobs.

BY GREG STARK
STAFF WRITER

With the advent of new businesses opening in Murray in recent months, another major business could be on the horizon.

Lowe's Inc. could start construction of a business in Murray soon. Representatives of the company have looked at land in Murray, but no leases have been signed yet, John Williams, spokesperson for the Murray Chamber of Commerce, said.

"They want to make sure they have everything covered, and tie up some loose ends," he said. "If they want to announce something, I've asked them to have a press conference. I think if something is going to happen, they will make an announcement. These companies, if they want to make an announcement, they want to make sure things are in perfect order."

"As far as the impact on the economy, it would help everyone out."

—JOHN WILLIAMS,
MURRAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Julie Schressler, public relations representative for Lowe's, said most of the stores opened each year were superstores.

"We open about 80 stores per year," she said. "About 30 stores are opened per year in smaller sizes to evaluate the community. If they are successful, we build the superstores. They are the only stores we are building now. If one would come there, it would be the big superstore."

Schressler said the store would create 175 to 200 jobs for the area if it was constructed. She said she was not sure if the Murray area had been researched for a store.

"Our real estate company is all over the country looking at markets all the time," she said. "When we go into markets, we look at models to see if it would be beneficial to go into that market. We look at things like demographics."

Williams said a proposal had been made to the city's planning commission, but no final plans have been made yet regarding the construction of a Lowe's.

"I just know there's been a proposal to the planning commission," he said. "Lowe's is just looking at the property."

Williams said if Lowe's made its way to Murray, the effect construction and the store would have on the local economy would be positive.

"As far as the impact on the economy, it would help everyone out," he said. "There would be some jobs, and I think it would give more choices for people to come to Murray."

Lowe's has 484 stores in 27 states, and sales totaling \$10.1 billion. Lowe's is known as the nation's largest retailer in home improvement resources.

PoliceBeat

Feb. 6, 1999

3:29 p.m. Calloway County Detention Center advised Steven Spence was charged with a DUI.

5:56 p.m. The Murray Fire Department was advised of a false alarm at the Collins Industry and Technology Building.

Feb. 7, 1999

4:30 a.m. There was a domestic dispute in the 400 block of College Courts.

4:45 p.m. Calloway County Detention Center reported in jail: Ray Hounihan and Steven Dame for alcohol intoxication and possession of marijuana.

8:59 p.m. Allen David reported his watch stolen from Racer Arena while he was playing basketball.

Feb. 8, 1999

9:25 a.m. There was an auto accident on the west side of Stewart Stadium. No injuries were reported.

5:00 p.m. There was a complaint

called on skateboarders in the Hart College area.

9:55 p.m. The Murray Fire Department was dispatched to Mason Hall for a false fire alarm. The alarm was set off by fumes from a propane floor buffer.

Feb. 10, 1999

8:38 p.m. A citation was issued to Grant S. Quertermous for disregarding two stop signs, having no registration and no insurance.

8:49 p.m. There was an auto accident at Chestnut Street and the Industry and Technology Building. No injuries were reported.

Racer Escorts - 14
Motorist Assists - 6

Information for Police Beat is gathered and compiled by Christine Hall, news editor, from materials available from the Public Safety office.

University representatives use focus groups to communicate

Focus: Different departments on campus are meeting to find a way to narrow the gap between the faculty and administration.

BY CHRISTINE HALL
NEWS EDITOR

Academic colleges on campus are getting their voices heard by administration at focus group discussions.

On Nov. 19, the College of Science was the first to meet to discuss, among the various departments, the concerns most prevalent within the college.

Sandi Flynn, associate professor and director of the Center for Leadership and Policy Development, brought the idea for focus groups to University President Kern Alexander as a way to narrow the gap between the the faculty and administration.

"We would use the focus groups to raise the issues," she said. "More input could go from the faculty members to higher administration at the University."

The college was asked to consider seven focus questions before coming to the meeting. The questions ranged from the strengths of the department, college and university to what barriers need to be overcome to effectively run the department, college and university.

The focus groups were attended by Gary Brockway, interim provost; Bill Price, associate provost; Tim Todd, assistant provost; John Mateja, dean of the College of Science and Flynn.

Flynn said she was surprised by the concerns from the college.

"Its four main concerns were about student focus," she said. "They really

came in prepared to talk about this."

She said they also discussed the strengths of the college.

"There are excellent programs that don't get recognized," Flynn said. "We are the only assisted nursing program in Kentucky. Spreading that kind of news was one of their biggest concerns."

Stephen Cobb, chairman of the physics and engineering physics department, said he attended the meeting and it was always a good idea to be able to share communication.

"I applaud any effort of communication between the faculty and administration," he said.

Cobb said one of the issues discussed was about the operating budgets.

"This was an area of concern because the budget has remained static and has not increased," Cobb said.

Another area was the age and condition of research equipment.

"Dr. Alexander has not given any specifics, but we are all working together to find a solution," he said.

After the initial group meeting, Flynn submits all answers in a report to President Alexander. A meeting is then set up for him to address the answers and questions by the college.

Flynn said the experience was very positive.

"Dr. Alexander has been to the building and has a much better picture," she said. "You always hear the very negative voices, but this was a good interaction."

Alexander is not sure how effective the focus groups would be, but is willing to try.

"It can't hurt," Alexander said. "It's a different process of communication.

One way is the focus group and others are breakfasts, brown bag lunches and meeting with individuals."

Marcia Hobbs, chair of the nursing department, said the meeting was a chance for everyone to come together on a collegiate level.

"It was an opportunity for everyone to speak," she said.

Hobbs was pleased with Alexander's appearance at the meeting.

"It was important for him to be there," Hobbs said. "It was good to see he was concerned and interested in listening."

Thomas Timmons, chair of the biological sciences department, said the meetings were a very positive experience.

"Anytime you can get the president to come to the different colleges it is great."

Send yourself on Exchange!

To: National Student Exchange

National Student Exchange

Use the National Student Exchange for a summer, semester, quarter, or one whole year to supplement your education from Murray State and receive Murray State University credit for the classes you take somewhere else. The best part of the program is that you pay Murray State tuition.

Sound too good to be true? Learn more about the National Student Exchange by contacting Ross Meloan at Career Service at 762-3735.

Now accepting applications for the Fall '99 and Spring 2000. Deadline March 5, 1999.

The Brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon would like to congratulate

Clay Tapp Jason Pittman
Herbert Hoke Eric Latendresse
Morgan Hardy Phillip Chestnut

for being selected as new members of ΣΦΕ.

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At least 21 years of age, valid drivers license.
"Major credit cards"
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701 Main St.
Downtown Murray
753 - 5273 Ask for Wade

College Views

Q. What are your plans for Valentine's Day?

Name: Jason Parker
Major: Business Administration
Year: Sophomore
Hometown: Wheatcroft
"None, it's on Sunday so I'll just go to church."



Name: Shadrach Jackson
Major: Education
Year: Sophomore
Hometown: Henderson
"I'm just going to kick it with my boys."



Name: Christine Reiss
Major: Printing Management
Year: Senior
Hometown: Perryville, Mo.
"I'm going home to spend time with my grandma because it is her birthday."



Name: Jason Midkiff
Major: Physical Education
Year: Sophomore
Hometown: Owensboro
"Go to church, hang out with friends and probably study."



Name: Baki Sadi
Major: Chemistry
Year: Graduate
Hometown: Bangladesh
"Nothing. I am just going to enjoy Sunday."



Ryan Brooks/Staff

Focus teams improve communication

Communication barriers have been abundant on campus for several years, but just as how the Berlin Wall slowly came down, the barriers here are beginning to crack and be torn down, as well.

The deterioration of the separation between administration and faculty is because of a program the administration initiated last year. The program created focus group discussions between the administration and the faculty of each academic college. During these focus groups, faculty voice their concerns or ideas. In turn, administrators answer their

Our View

Issue: Focus groups have begun between faculty and administration.

Position: The discussions are breaking down communication differences.

questions and give their two cents on the matter. Although this does not mean the faculty will receive

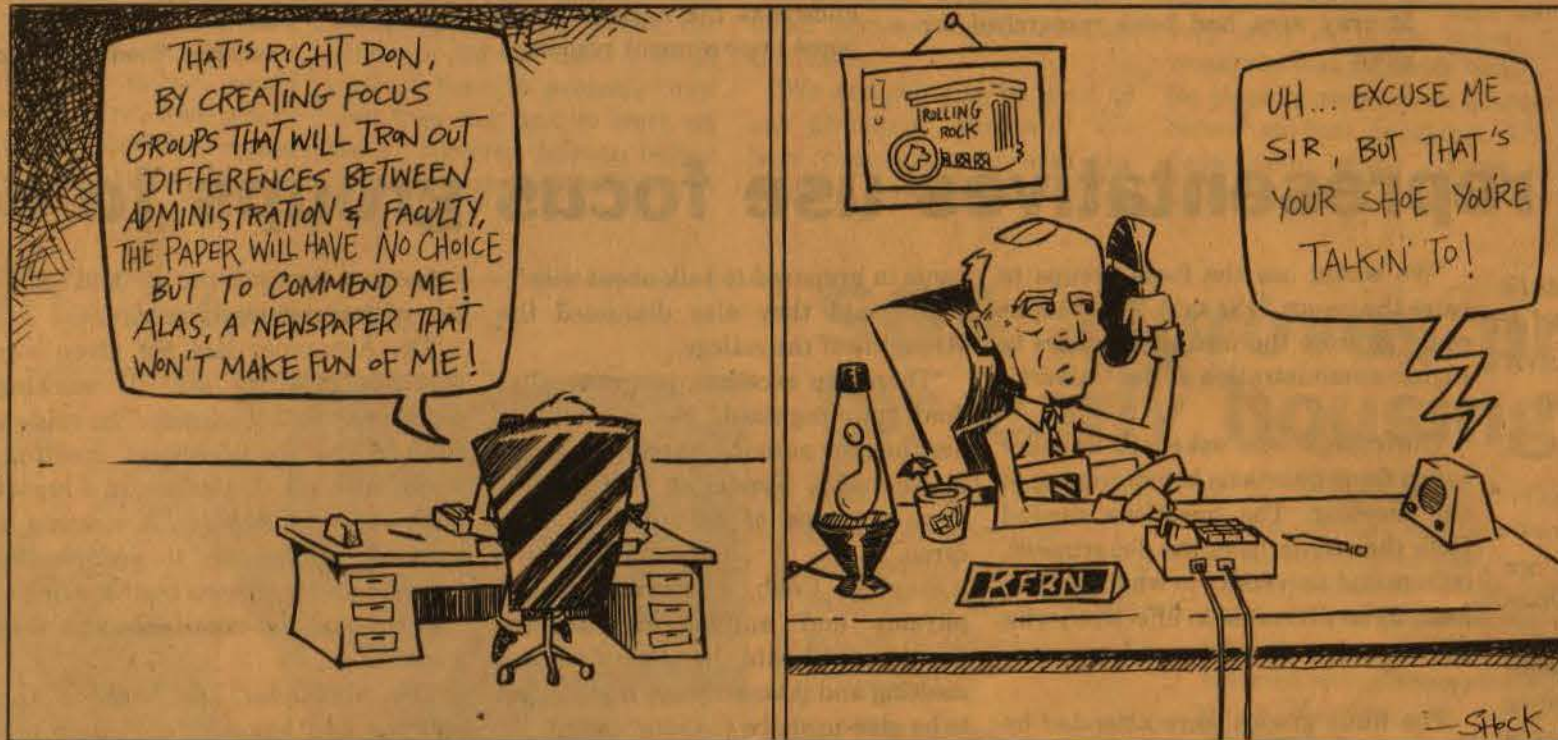
everything they ask, it allows the administration the opportunity to explain in more detail why a program would not work or why there is not any money for the department.

The discussion groups are exactly what the faculty has needed for years. For example, when a department is given a flat answer of, "No, there are not enough funds for this new program," it leaves reasoning unclear. The faculty may get upset because there was no explanation. The focus groups are now allowing for explanations and discussions.

Hence, misinterpretations may soon come to a sudden halt.

We think these discussion groups are a look to our future. Different teams must learn to communicate effectively. When these different levels of power learn to cooperate and get along, it makes for a better working and living atmosphere. And with a better working atmosphere comes a better university.

Although many of us may feel this is only a small step toward peace between the two parties, the demolition of the Berlin Wall also began with one brick.



MSU receives high honor

We are asking all students to sit back and think about the reasons they chose to continue their educations at Murray State.

Perhaps it was the close-knit community and campus, the size of the campus, the academic programs, the beautiful scenery or possibly even someone you met while touring the University. Whatever the reason, we need to add up all the reasons each of us chose this campus, because it will explain why we are one of the top universities in this area.

Recently "U.S. News & World Report" named Murray State as one of the top 10 public universities in the southern region. Although this is not the first time we have been named to this position, it proves we are keeping the tradition going.

This is just one of the many things putting Murray on the map in a positive way.

Many of us probably experienced the same reaction when we tell someone we go to Murray State. If relatives or friends are not from around here, they usually say, "Murray? Where is that? Near where? Paducah?" It may be the same for many colleges or universities, but how many of those can claim to be one of the best? The Uni-

Our View

Issue: Murray State has been named one of the top universities in the southern region.

Position: The Murray State family should take pride in this high honor.

versity is accredited for its academic programs, its sports teams are ranking nationally and its liberal arts and OSHA departments are shooting to the top.

So now we have a reason to brag. Instead of saying, "You know that school that aired on 'Unsolved Mysteries' about the vampire cult," or "where they had the dorm fire," we can now say, "I chose Murray State because it is a highly established university."

Not only is this recent honor good for students, but it also reflects well on the faculty. Faculty members probably receive the same reactions we receive. Now faculty can say it is an honor to teach at such a distinguished university.

We sometimes tend to take things

for granted and that includes our education. We need to make an effort to appreciate what the administration, faculty, staff and students do to make this University the best. It is not just one person or team doing the planning, the educating and making the grades. It is all of these people and factors that make this a university, and not an average learning facility.

But although this honor gives all of us pride, we must look to the future and see what it will do for the University. This is a great recruiting tool for school relations. The prospective students care a little, but their parents will care a lot more. Parents tend to have a great deal of concern on what kind of university their child wants to attend and if it is a credible university. This is a fact, that our student ambassadors need to learn and throw into conversations.

So to all the administrators, faculty members, students and staff, kick back and enjoy this fine learning institution while you are here. Enjoy it now because you may only have a short four years here (some of us may have a little more.) And remember, we may be a small university, but usually the greatest gifts come to us in small packages.

My View

LORI BURLING



Students appear fickle

Safety, safety, safety. Isn't this what students on campus have been preaching since the Hester tragedy? I have repeatedly heard people say, "We feel unsafe in the dorms," and "Racer patrol needs to scurry the grounds more often."

Does this sound familiar to anyone else? I remember when everybody was in an uproar about safety, and now that the University is taking more precautions and safety measures, this campus is still unhappy.

Now I hear people saying, "I hate this 24-hour lock down," and "I feel like a prisoner in my own home" and "Racer patrol is around every corner and I constantly have to show my I.D."

My take on the situation is the students asked for this. Granted, most of the students are not the culprits of crimes on campus, but when you petition and gripe about certain things, the University is obviously going to have to listen. Well, University administrators listened and they have solved the problems as well as they can right now.

I do not understand the major problem in locking the doors of the residential colleges. I lock my doors at home, and isn't Murray State home for nine months? It just does not make sense to me. I would think students would like the fact that your random Joe Schmo is not stalking the halls of their homes. It always made me feel safer when people would ask for my I.D. when I lived in Springer and Clark.

Students simply are not happy with anything the University does anymore. I actually feel sorry for the administrators at times. They can never win.

I have come to the conclusion college students are the most pessimistic, negative people around. We are never happy. I include myself in that because, as most know, last week I was unhappy with parking, but at least I understand that is a problem which will never be solved.

Anyway, be happy. The University is taking the time and effort to make you feel safe. Maybe we should all say a simple thank you.

Lori Burling is the viewpoint editor for "The Murray State News."

The Murray State NEWS

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"The Murray State News" is prepared and edited by students under the advisement of Joe Hedges. Opinions expressed are those of the editors and other signed writers. These opinions do not necessarily represent the view of journalism faculty or the University. This is an official publication of Murray State University.

Your Views

Student distressed by comments last week concerning trial

To the Editor:

Regarding Dennis Beard's somewhat amusing "pro-impeachment syndrome" article last week, understand this is not a personal attack, but rather to show concern for your nation goes beyond political parties. Before you stereotype someone with having certain symptoms, maybe you should strive to get a license to practice medicine. For naming a new syndrome you could be eligible

to win the Nobel Prize.

We all know the pen can be mightier than the sword, and from my recollection, everyone is entitled to his opinion. This whole back-and-forth mess started from an article (if I may borrow your adjective) written by a frustrated editor. In the article, the frustrated editor made uninformed comments about Republicans and life in general. Neither Democrat nor Republican can win with any dignity call foul. I do find it entertaining someone who is frustrated has enough time to tape soaps and check on taped soaps every day. In my

little podunk town such articles would be called fluff. Personally, I would have been frustrated Had I been shallow enough to write about a soap rather than real news.

Therefore, I would rather hear about politics from an informed Desert Storm veteran, Charles Daniels, than from someone who is following in the footsteps of the "liberal press." Such directly targeted words will probably not win a Pulitzer.

Cindy Wilkerson
Murray

"The Murray State News" welcomes commentaries and letters to the editor. Letters should be 300 words or less and must be signed. Contributors should include addresses and phone numbers for verification. Please include hometown, classification, title or relationship to the University. To submit a commentary call 762-4468. "The News" reserves the right to edit for style, length and content.

Senator urges citizens to take action

Kentuckians need to unite to keep control of tobacco settlement dollars. When Kentucky agreed to join the \$206 billion multi-state tobacco settlement, the state became eligible to receive \$3.45 billion spread out over a 25 year period. The settlement was written in a way that left it up to the individual states to decide how they would spend the money.

Some federal bureaucrats, however, are trying to get their hands on your money. First they wanted to have up to 70 percent of the states' portion of the settlement money, almost \$2.5 billion, turned over to the feds to recoup Medicaid pay-



In My Opinion

DAVID WILLIAMS

ments. After an enormous outcry by the governor, our bipartisan congressional delegation and state legislative leaders of both parties, the president's administration announced Feb. 1 that it may back

off that effort. However, the federal bureaucrats now want to dictate how the states spend their settlement money.

We need to act quickly to prevent this unwarranted intrusion into our business affairs by the federal government.

The federal government played no role in filing the suits or negotiating the settlement. The settlement, struck Nov. 23, makes no mention of any federal recoupment or any need to involve the federal government in deciding how the funds are used. The individual states did all the work, but now some federal bureau-

crats want to take away your right to decide what is best for Kentucky.

We, as a state, need to show our united support to keep the feds out of our pocketbook. What can you do?

- Write your congressman to urge his continued backing of legislation to keep the tobacco settlement money going to the states.

- Write the president, urging him to let the states decide the best use of their tobacco settlements.

- Ask your city council or fiscal court to adopt a resolution supporting the effort, and then ask it to forward the resolution to your congressman or congresswoman.

- Tell your state legislators you support Kentucky's right to use the settlement money to best suit the needs of our state.

Already, your Democrat and Republican state legislative leaders have banded together with Gov. Paul Patton in a bipartisan manner to defend Kentucky's right to our settlement money. Together, we can prove Kentuckians stand firmly against the federal government's intrusion into our business.

State Sen. David L. Williams is the Republican floor leader from Cumberland County.

Many enjoy recent changes in weather

I am tired of everyone saying "It's about time" when talking about the expected blast of cold weather. For days meteorologist have forecast cold and flurries, and I am sick of it. Why can't people appreciate the beautiful weather we have been blessed with recently?

We have had our winter. I remember sitting at home in Mt. Carmel, Ill., for two weeks during Winter Break while the roads to town were covered with two inches of ice. The night before I left to come back to school, I had to park my car in the garage to de-ice it. My doors and truck were frozen shut. The ice was so thick the ice scraper didn't work.

The Sunday I moved back, my 15-minute drive into my hometown took 45. Even at 25 miles per hour, I could barely keep my car on the road. I had



In My Opinion

DENISE HIGGINS

to drive down the middle of the road the entire way. Thank goodness traffic was light. No one else wanted to get out of their warm homes.

I think we have paid our wintertime dues.

Now we have warm, sunny days I can enjoy. I love going for walks or just sitting on my grassy knoll outside of Clark watching the traffic pass.

Springtime is a much nicer time of the year. Everyone acts happier; the world runs

smoother. Warmer weather brings content.

Wednesday was a warm, sunny day. I could not have ordered a prettier day. People were wearing shorts and sunglasses. Someone was lying under a tree. Another was sitting on the steps of Lovett, reading a book. I have never seen anyone doing that in the dead of winter. Instead, I hear people griping about walking in the cold. Everyone is sick and miserable.

Now it is cooling off and Old Man Winter has returned. People will look back on the beginning of this week and wonder when warm weather will return. Just for once, can't people be satisfied?

Denise Higgins is the associate editor for "The Murray State News."

Bob Dylan concert causes anticipation in Murray State fan

In rock music history, there are three artists and groups that are mentioned as the best or most influential of today's rock artists. They are the Beatles, Elvis Presley and Bob Dylan.

Guess which one I get to see tonight in Carbondale, Ill.?

The Beatles broke up a long time ago. Elvis is dead, I think, so that leaves one.

Dylan is playing at the SIU Arena tonight, with the Brian Setzer Orchestra as the opening act. I have heard sometimes Dylan doesn't sing the songs the audience wants to hear, or he may be scheduled to play for three hours and only plays 30 minutes.

Case in point. When Frank Sinatra celebrated his 80th birthday with a TV special, many artists came on and put their own spin on Sinatra's songs. Of course, Dylan had to be different. He sang one of his own songs, "Restless Farewell," which was a meandering song that sounded more like a eulogy than a celebration.

I will be honest. I do not own any Dylan albums or paraphernalia. But I'm not like the kids who will leave after the jumpin' and jivin' Brian Setzer. I will stay to see a true musical legend.

As soon as I saw the advertisement in "The Murray State News" that Dylan was going to be in Carbondale, I knew I was going. My parents told me I was not going to go see "that freak." Well, that "freak" is what their generation listened to growing up.

The timing of Dylan's tour couldn't be more perfect. "The '60s," a miniseries that appeared on NBC Sunday and Monday, featured many references to Dylan. The son who left to go to college finds his own way, eventually turning into a hippie who goes against the Vietnam War. His older brother, played by Jerry O'Connell, joins the Marines and fights in Vietnam.

The son who left for college fell in love with a girl from up east, at Greenwich Village. The girl, like he, was a radical who wanted to save the world and America from Vietnam. Greenwich Village is where the protesting and freewheeling Dylan hung out and played in clubs and coffeehouses. In one scene, as the guy and girl who were trying to save the world walked off the set,



In My Opinion

GREG STARK

an actor portraying Dylan, with his back to the camera, walked out onto the sidewalk, and a person acknowledged him by saying, "Hi, Bob." Dylan acknowledged him with a slight wave.

Later, the guy who wanted to save the world from Vietnam was losing the girl to another guy, whose beliefs were that violence against the war would make peace. All three met at the Newport Folk Festival, where Dylan performed. One of the guys asked what the amplifiers were for, foreshadowing the fact Dylan began to use more of an electrical feel on his music, which upset the folk traditionalists.

Well, I'm off my '60s tangent now, so I'm going back to present time.

I do not own any of Dylan's older material, but I do own his Grammy-winning album "Time Out Of Mind." The album features the song "To Make You Feel My Love," which has been nominated for numerous awards since Garth Brooks and Billy Joel rerecorded it. Many of his other songs have been recorded by other bands and artists, including The Band, who recorded some of Dylan's tunes on its landmark album, "Music From Big Pink." I just listened to that album, which I judge to be one of the greatest ever.

Of course, Murray will host its biggest concert in years when Dave Matthews and Tim Reynolds play next Saturday at Lovett Auditorium. Matthews is a popular artist and has a great following, he may reach legendary status when he gets older, but tonight I get to see a true musical legend.

And besides, it's cheaper.

Greg Stark is a staff writer for "The Murray State News."



Security reaches dorms, frustration brews in many

There they stand guard. They are on-duty, sometimes for hours. They are watching to make sure everything is safe. Does this sound familiar? No, they are not the Palace Guards at Buckingham Palace, although that is a good guess. I am talking about the hall security guards posted on every floor in Hester College. They are just one of the many additions to Hester security that have been added this semester.

The college has also added security cameras, new fire alarms and an I.D. card-sensitive door (which did not work for a number of residents, including me, for the first week or so.) Although these new security features are nice, one has to question the validity of them. For instance, with all these new measures, what is the purpose of the around-the-clock front desk workers? Are they there simply to let guests and the pizza man in? The front desk workers now ask me for my I.D., but this makes no sense. If I had to use my I.D. to get through the door, why do they need to see it as well?

The new fire alarms have



In My Opinion

JOSEPH PENCE

flashing lights on them. This seems to me to be an inane idea. Consider another fire occurring late at night; wouldn't it be the worst possible scenario to wake up, walk out into the hall and be frightened into a panic by flashing lights and blaring sounds?

Of course, ideas like these are not hard to imagine, considering they are coming from the same group who "forgot" the sprinklers and left-out fire escapes for aesthetic purposes.

Another security measure that seems ridiculous are these security guards. If we have cameras, locked doors and desk workers guarding the entrance, what is the purpose of these night watchmen? If you think about it for

a while, you will come to the same conclusion I have. All Hester residents are now considered "guilty until proven innocent" until further notice.

I do not mean to attack the security guards. In fact, I admire them and feel sorry they have to pull long hours several nights in a row. I simply would like others to consider ridiculous over-precautions being used to convert Hester College into a minimum-security prison of sorts. Certainly a good deal of these security measures will be paid for by students, in the form of raised housing costs. Why doesn't the housing office instead add more security guards to other dorms, such as Hart College? The vandalism I have witnessed while there is on a daily basis. I am sure, the repairs are coming from students' pockets as well. Instead, the housing office would prefer to cross the well-established line between safety and paranoia.

Joseph Pence is a junior electronic journalism major from Owensboro.

Exposure to smoke can create health problems for children

***Smoking:** Studies show smoking causes illness in those in smoke and also those exposed to smoke.

By YENIA ZABA
STAFF WRITER

The dangers of smoking go beyond smokers. Non-smokers exposed to cigarette smoke are also affected by smoking.

Studies by the environmental tobacco smoke, also called passive smoke or second-hand smoke, have found smoking promotes illnesses and other harmful effects in non-smokers.

Judy Lyle, health educator at Health Services, said the effects of second-hand smoke depend on whether the person is sensitive to smoke.

"If the person is (sensitive to smoke), it might trigger an asthma or allergy attack, or

A BURNING ISSUE

have other immediate effects," she said.

Lung cancer is not the only disease caused by smoking or being exposed to smoke. The initial effects start at the bronchial tubes, where the cleaning action is stopped. The oxygen flow to the brain is also impaired.

Both smoking and second-hand smoke can have irreparable consequences, like heart attacks, various types of cancer including lung, bladder and possibly cervical cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, circulation problems and a reduction of the sense of smell

Second-Hand Smoke
The EFFECTS OF TOBACCO

Being exposed to high amounts of environmental tobacco can:

- temporarily increase blood pressure, heart rate and blood flow in the heart's arteries.
- cause arteries in the arms and legs to constrict and narrow.
- speeds up the development of malignant hypertension, a very dangerous form of high blood pressure.
- reduce oxygen available to the heart and to all other parts of the body.

Source: American Heart Association
Brian Howell/ The News

and taste.

"I can tell when a smoker walks in here," Lyle said. "Their clothes smell really strong, but they don't notice that because their sense is

dulled to odor."

Lyle said respiratory infections tend to get more complicated for smokers or heavy second-hand smokers.

"If you have a smoker who is

smoking a pack or more a day, the consequences will be greater than those of a non-smoker exposed just occasionally to smoke," Lyle said. "But if the non-smoker is heavily exposed to smoke, the consequences are about the same."

"The issue of smoking is highly politicized," Lyle said. "People even use it in divorce cases, for instance, to give child custody to the non-smoking parent."

According to the American Heart Association, children of smokers have more respiratory infections than children of non-smokers. Also, non-smoking women exposed to tobacco smoke are more likely to have low birth weight babies.

Smoke increases the heart rate and blood pressure, as well as blood clotting. Thus, non-smokers who have high blood

pressure or high blood cholesterol levels have a greater risk of developing heart diseases when exposed to second-hand smoke.

Environmental tobacco smoke causes about 10 times as many cardiovascular deaths as cancer deaths, about 37,000 to 40,000 annual deaths, according to the American Heart Association.

Lyle said the people most affected by second-hand smoke are children and people who are constantly exposed to it, like waiters in smoky bars and restaurants.

"Restaurants in Kentucky are not required to have non-smoking areas, although many do," she said.

Said Lyle: "Non-smokers can bring some amount of pressure for smokers to quit, but they do have to want to quit."

Relay For Life seeks fund-raising help from University

STAFF REPORT

Coordinators for Relay For Life, a fund-raiser for the fight against cancer, are asking for University support for the third annual event, to be held April 30 at Roy Stewart Stadium.

"Faculty, staff, fraternities and sororities all formed teams last year," Bobbie Weatherly,

adjunct professor of English, said. "This year some of the faculty hold chairs for some of the events."

Weatherly is helping coordinate the event.

Relay For Life is a nationwide campaign sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

Teams of eight to 15 individuals will walk around the track

all night long. Each team must pay a \$150 fee to establish a campsite.

Participants are also encouraged to get sponsors who pay a set amount of money for each lap the person walks.

The first year, Murray's Relay For Life raised \$50,000. Last year it raised \$120,000.

Martha Andrus, overall

chairperson, said the money raised is put into research centers.

"It is to help them find a cure," she said. "Being a cancer survivor myself, I am eager to find a cure."

Relay For Life will begin with an opening ceremony where each cancer survivor will be called by name.

"The first lap is only by cancer survivors," Andrus said. "Then friends and family join for the next lap and then the teams start."

A luminary ceremony will be at 9 p.m. Those who attend will be invited to purchase and light luminaries in honor of cancer survivors and those who have died.

Andrus said People's Bank and Union Planters Bank are providing the luminaries.

The kick-off event for Relay For Life will take place Feb. 21 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Murray Woman's Clubhouse on Vine Street.

For more information contact Kay Ray at 753-5851 or Martha Andrus at 753-3862.

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Microsoft changes university software agreement

Computers: Microsoft's new licensing agreement is causing problems for many colleges and universities.

By DONALD LAWSON
ONLINE EDITOR

With the growing popularity of Microsoft products, more and more academic institutions have relied on the company for their software needs. However, a new licensing agreement issued by Microsoft may hamper universities and other higher education institutions when acquiring new software.

Microsoft's old licensing agreement allowed schools

using server-based platforms of software such as Microsoft Office, Windows 95/98 and Front Page 98 to buy licenses for the number of people statistically using the software. With the new agreement, schools must buy licenses for all potential users of the software. For smaller independent schools, this is causing a financial crisis.

The current licensing problem does not have a great effect on Murray State because most computers have their own software and do not rely on the server. However, future licensing changes could affect Murray State and other institu-

"The situation has to be continually reviewed and we have to evaluate our use."

—LINDA MILLER,
DIRECTOR, ACADEMIC
COMPUTING AND TECHNOLOGY
SERVICE

tions.

Georgetown College in Georgetown is one such school dealing with the the licensing change.

John Jones is the assistant

director for communication services at Georgetown. He said the new licensing agreement will cost the school \$50,000 under the new agreement.

"We currently have 45 percent of students living on campus with computers," Jones said. "Sixty-eight percent of the rooms on campus have them. This means that most students share one computer."

Georgetown's dorms are equipped with internal networks, which means students with their own computers can access the school's network and the software. However, an option to keep Microsoft on as the school's software provider

may lead to restricting access to students.

"Our policy has been that if a student needs a specific type of software, we'll get them access to it," he said. "This is included in the students' technology fee."

Georgetown could limit the number of licenses to just cover faculty and staff who may also access the school's network in their homes. Another option is to just have software installed on each computer on campus. But both of these options would go against what the school's policy has been.

A meeting is being held next week at Georgetown with other independent schools to put

together a group which will approach Microsoft with this issue.

Murray State has had to deal with this issue on several occasions, Linda Miller, director of academic computing and technology services, said.

"We've battled with this in the past," she said. "Microsoft changed the agreement with us on where we store the software on our servers."

Miller said Microsoft has been working with schools having similar problems to try to find the best solution.

"The situation has to be continually reviewed and we have to evaluate our use," Miller said.

Walkers, runners sprint back to Racer Arena

Recreation: People who enjoyed using Racer Arena for exercise are now able to use the facility again.

By YENIA ZABA
STAFF WRITER

Racer Arena, even though its facilities are not as modern as those at the Regional Special Events Center, is nonetheless the place where many students go to walk or jog early in the morning or after class.

Many of the older citizens of Murray enjoy using Racer Arena as a place to walk and were shocked to find it closed

one weekend.

The schedule of the walking hours for the Racer Arena was modified a few weeks ago and resulted in a decrease of hours available for walkers and joggers during the weekend.

However, the schedule had to be revised again because of students' complaints about the closing hours of the facility.

The arena is also utilized for the physical education classes. Public Safety is in charge of opening and locking the doors at Racer Arena on weekends.

Joe Green, director of Public Safety, said, "We decided to open it up again on weekends because it affected a lot of peo-

ple.

"It was only closed for one weekend, but they decided to keep it open," Green said.

"The arena is only open on the weekends for walkers," Green said. "The only lights that are on are the ones on the track."

The schedule of Racer Arena has been changed, but only for the weekends.

It is now open on Saturdays from 6 a.m. until 4 p.m., and on Sundays from 6 a.m. until 5 p.m.

"The needs of the community are now being met," Green said.



Danny Vowell/The News

Racer Arena attracts people young and old who use the track as a means of exercise. Many of the regular walkers became angry when Racer Arena was locked two weekends ago.

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OnCampus

Author appears
for reading series

Elizabeth Willis, author of two books of poems, "The Human Abstract," which won the National Poetry Series Award in 1994, and "Second Law," will read from her work at Pogue Library on Thursday, Feb. 18, as part of the MSU reading series.

Willis received her Ph.D. from State University of New York-Buffalo. She is currently teaching creative writing and literature at Mills College in Santa Cruz, Calif. The reading will be at 7:30 p.m., and will be followed by a reception and book signing at the Faculty Club.

For more information, phone 762-4730.

Outdoor historical
drama auditions
held in March

The nation's largest combined audition for outdoor historical dramas will be held Saturday, March 20, on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Fourteen outdoor historical Drama companies from Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, New Mexico, Virginia and West Virginia will recruit for approximately 350 jobs at the auditions, sponsored by the Institute of Outdoor Drama, a public service agency of UNC-CH.

For more information, phone the institute during business hours at (919)962-1328, or e-mail at outdoor@unc.edu.

Elton John appears
at SIU Arena

Elton John will appear March 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the SIU Arena in Carbondale, Ill. Tickets are on sale at the SIU Arena and all SIU Arena ticket outlets. Tickets are \$49.50 for main floor, \$35 for upper concourse and \$25 for upper concourse behind stage.

For more information, phone (618)453-5341.

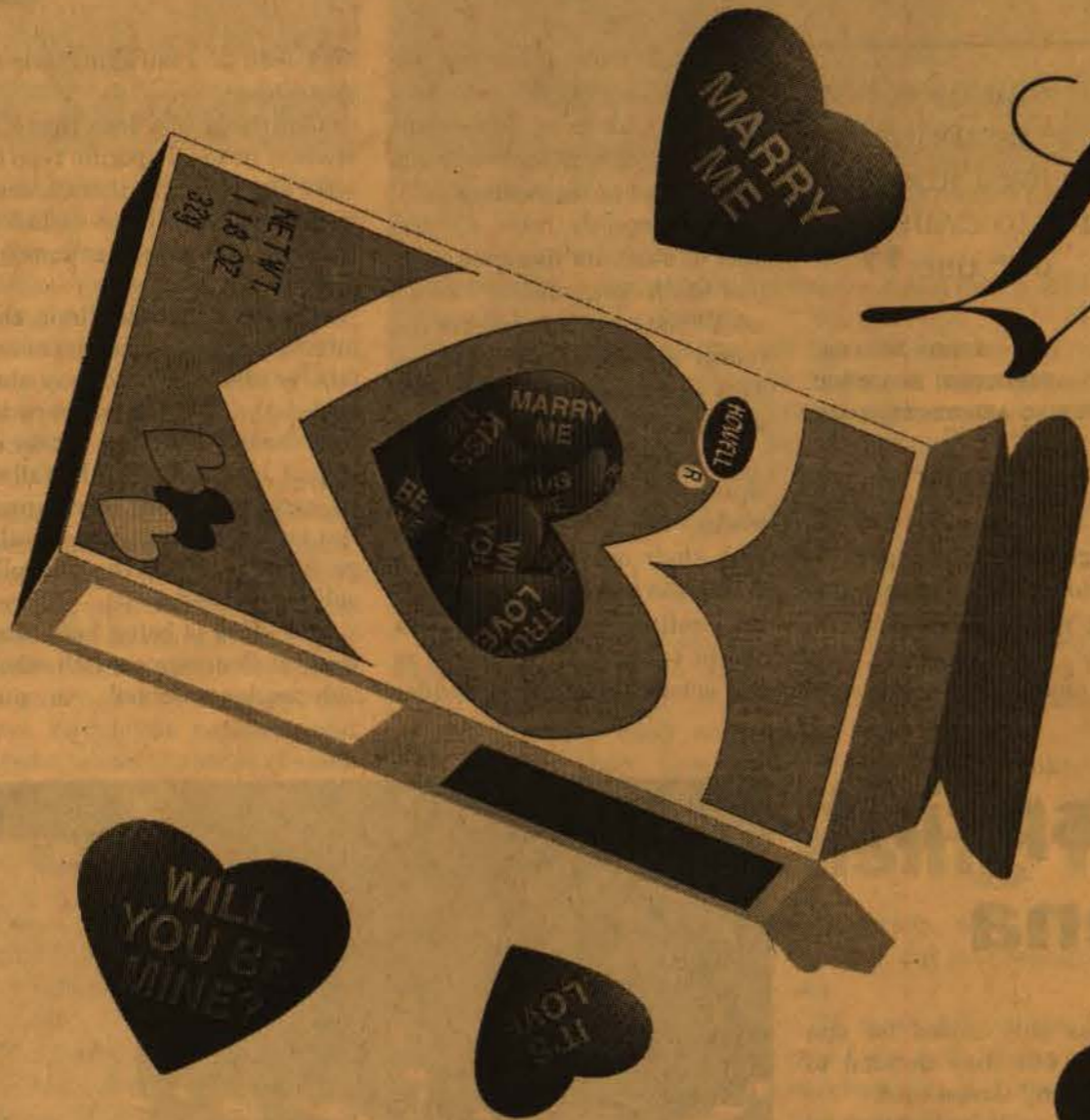
Book examines
women in prison

Author Kathleen A. O'Shea has released a new book titled "Women and the Death Penalty." This work gives the reader a look at the penal codes in the various states that have given women the death penalty, and the personal stories of women who have been sentenced to death, executed or are currently on death row.

O'Shea, a former nun, is a social worker who does criminal justice research on female prisoners with a focus on women and the death penalty.

Orders can be placed at www.amazon.com or www.greenwood.com.

Briefs compiled by Tara Shelby, assistant college life editor.



Love is
in the air

Florists prepare
for Valentine's Day

By JULIE WOLFE
STAFF WRITER

Valentine's Day is upon us and flower shops are feeling the pressure. Flowers are one of the most commonly given gifts on Valentine's Day. The flower shops in Murray claim it is their biggest holiday.

Among those asked, all shops agreed roses are by far the biggest seller for this lover's holiday.

"Our most commonly sold item are roses in any color, but we mostly sell red roses," Brenda Stewart, floral designer for Kroger, said.

Judy's of Murray owner, Lucy Forrest, said roses and balloons were her biggest selling items.

"We also do a lot of fresh cut arrangements and plush (stuffed animals)," Tom Gains, owner of Murray Florist and Gifts, said.

Valentine's Day has not always been the biggest holiday for the flower business.

"It's now the largest holiday we have," Stewart said. "It used to be that Mother's Day was our biggest, but now Valentine's Day has gotten even bigger than that."

Valentine's Day is made even more difficult for the flower shops because it falls on one day, unlike other holidays when

deliveries can be spaced out over a longer period of time. More employees are required for the demands of Valentine's Day.

"Fourteen to sixteen employees work this week and normally four can handle the shop," Gains said. "We also need extra vans and delivery people to make all the deliveries."

Some flower shops look at last year's sales to determine what they should order this year.

Deliveries are important to the flower business. Some require a minimum purchase before they will deliver, but other shops deliver for free with no restrictions. Many deliveries in the Murray and Calloway County area are made to the University.

"We do quite a lot of deliveries to the dorms, and we do as many deliveries to Murray State University as we do to all the other places in town," Phyllis Gibbs, owner of The Cottage Garden, said.

How much does the average sweetheart pay for flowers? It depends on the items they buy.

"They usually spend \$50 to \$60 if they buy roses," Stewart said.

"We have people spend everything from \$4 to \$150 for flowers or arrangements," Forrest said.

Where did it come from?
Origins of holiday explained

By KRISTY WELSH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With the upcoming St. Valentine's Day holiday, many students, while buying presents and cards, are left to wonder where the holiday came from.

When asked about how the holiday originated, many students admitted they had never given it much thought before.

"I would have to say that the holiday probably came from businesses who were trying to make some money," DeAnna Oliver, freshman from Dawson Springs, said.

Other students have a more outrageous opinion of where Valentine's Day came from.

"Maybe it came from the first Queen of England," Brandon Durham, sophomore from Louisville, said. "Her country was going through a rough

time and she needed a day of happiness. Or maybe some depressed women's group invented it."

The story of St. Valentine's Day is actually twofold. According to the Texas State website, St. Valentine's Day probably began in the third century with the Roman Emperor Claudius II. During a time of war in his country, he outlawed marriages because he believed single men would make better fighters.

A Christian priest named Valentine became outraged with the law and secretly wedded young lovers. On Feb. 14 in the year 269 A.D., he was arrested and beheaded for disobeying the emperor's decree. Many years later he became that patron saint of lovers.

The other story of Valentine's Day is that it originates from the Roman festival Lupercalia. On that day, the names of

Roman girls were put on slips of paper and placed in a jar. The young men were allowed to draw a slip from the jar and that girl would be his sweet-heart for the year.

So, what does Valentine's Day mean to students at Murray State?

"To me, Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate women and a chance to share an intimate evening with the person you care about," Jarvis Jones, junior from Lowes, said.

None of this, though, answers the age-old question of where the tradition of exchanging cards and flowers came from. Some historians believe the giving of flowers originated when a daughter of Henry IV of France gave a party in honor of the St. Valentine. At this party each young lady received a bouquet of flowers from the man who had been chosen to be her Valentine.

Unattached students reject love, affection

By LEEANN WILLETT
STAFF WRITER

Some people are looking forward to Sunday as an opportunity to spend quality time with that special someone. However, many college students feel Feb. 14 is just like the other 364 days of the year.

These students are planning weekend excursions unrelated to love and romance.

"Valentine's Day is a time to get out of town and spend time with true friends that you know will always be there for you," Matt Walker, junior

from Owensboro, said.

Walker plans to meet a group of friends in Gatlinburg, Tenn., for the weekend.

"The only reason I look forward to Valentine's Day is that the National Farm Machinery Show always falls then," Ian Hart, junior from Owensboro, said. "I've been going to Louisville for the past five years for the show."

Hart said he is planning on attending the event with his fraternity brothers. "Some years my dad and I go, but this year I'm just going with friends," Hart said.

Many question the legitimacy of Valentine's Day.

"Valentine's Day is mainly for couples," Rachel Lowery, sophomore from St. Francis, said. "But, really, if it were stressed for anyone to show how much they love each other it would be a nice holiday."

"I think Valentine's Day is a 'Hallmark holiday,'" Tommy Marshall, senior from Mayfield, said. "It's made for the flower shops to make money."

Other students are denying the holiday even exists.

"This is the first year since third grade that I haven't had a boyfriend," Sarah Acles, sophomore from Jasper, Ind., said. "I just broke up with my boyfriend of five years, so in my opinion, Valentine's Day does not exist this year."

A theme of home and family seemed to run through the plans of those interviewed.

"It's not really any special day for my twin sister and I," Lowery said. "We are just going home to spend time with our mom. It is the first time we've gone home since Christmas, so we are looking forward to spending time with our family."

"My mom always does something special for Valentine's Day," Acles said. "Usually for breakfast we have all pink food. We had strawberry Pop-Tarts and strawberry milk one year. Sometimes she lights red and pink candles."

"She also puts candy for my brother and me on the table," Acles said.

Some people despise the holiday so much that nothing related to it makes them happy.

"I hate those nasty candy hearts that taste like Pepto-Bismol," Julia Krampe, sophomore from Henderson, said.

"I hate public displays of affection," Casey Godfrey, junior from St. Charles, Mo., said. "It's Valentine's Day, and they are everywhere! For God's sake, get a room. Surely you can afford it one night out of the year."

'60s soundtrack could cause some flashbacks

Music Review

Kyle Shadoan

"The '60s" - Soundtrack

Black rights, Vietnam, the Kennedy assassination, the British music invasion and war demonstrations are all things that bring one decade to mind: the '60s. The artists of that time performed music that captured nearly every emotion and idea of the decade. "The '60s" is a compilation album that provides great selections from all of this music. This album is the soundtrack to the miniseries that premiered on NBC Sunday and Monday.

The album starts off with a song by Bob Dylan and Joan Osborne called "Chimes of Freedom." Being the huge Dylan fan I am, I feel the song would have been much better if he had done it alone. Neither of them can sing; therefore they don't mix. Considering the song was written by Dylan and he is a genius at song writing, it would have been excellent had Joan Osborne not mangled it. Despite this, it is still a good song.

Next, The Band follows with what is probably the group's best song, "The Weight." The Band has worked with Bob Dylan on several albums in the past and includes very talented musicians.

From there it moves through some left over '50s bubble gum pop. A few of these songs are "Do You Believe In Magic," "Do Wah Diddy Diddy" and "My Boyfriend's Back." After that is "My Girl" by The Temptations, which you have just got to groove to. The next and probably most rocking track on the album is "Sunshine Of Your Love" by Cream. Eric Clapton was one of the front men of this group and it is really evident through this song how much he has influenced musicians today. Next is "Draft Morning" by The Byrds and "Somebody To Love" by Jefferson Airplane.

This album is a great collection of won-



Mercury records

Go back in time with "The '60s."

derful songs from that era. You can feel the love, anger, peace and rebellion regarding the war these musicians felt and were trying to express. The feelings are something we all have within us and we can understand this as it is expressed in these songs. It is a great compilation album to just put on, kick back and revel in the memories of the past.

"The '60s" A-

Week Ahead

Friday, Feb. 12

- Exhibit - Dan Pfalzgraf and Angie Lyons, B.F.A. exhibitions. Eagle Art Gallery in the Doyle Fine Arts Building through Sunday.
- Exhibit - Julie Lovins, paintings, Eagle Art Gallery in the Doyle Fine Arts Building through Feb. 28.

Saturday, Feb. 13

- Open barrel race - Sponsored by MSU Rodeo Club. West Kentucky Exposition Center. Phone 762-3039 or 762-3125 for information.

Sunday, Feb. 14

- Bible study - MCF house, 7 p.m.
- Sunday school - Chi Alpha, Hart lobby, 10 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 15

- Bible study - Chi Alpha, Hart lobby, 9 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 16

- Red pin bowling - Curris Center Game Room, 6 to 9 p.m.
- Bible study - Newman House, 5 p.m.
- Nursing home ministry - Chi Alpha House, 6:15 p.m.
- Theater - "The Magic Flute," by June Walker Rogers, through Thursday. Lovett Auditorium, 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Phone 762-4421 for reservations.

Wednesday, Feb. 17

- Worship - MCF house, 7 p.m.
- Bible study - Chi Alpha. Curris Center Theater, 7 p.m.
- Pre-business orientation - Cost is \$5, participants must pre-register. Business Building, Room 254, 9 to 11 a.m. Phone 762-2856 for more information.
- Exhibit - Kentucky Art Education Association High School Art Exhibit. Eagle Art Gallery in the Doyle Fine Arts Center through Feb. 28.

Thursday, Feb. 18

- Prayer meeting - Chi Alpha, Curris Center Sofa Lounge, 7:15 a.m.
- Movie premiere - "No Apologies," Curris Center Barkley Room. No admission charge, 7 and 8 p.m.
- Voices of Praise ministries - Hosting Karen Taylor, BSU, 7:30 p.m.

Top 5 CDs of the Week

1. Tear Da Club Up Thugs - "Crazyindalazdayz"
2. Everlast - "Whitey Ford Sings the Blues"
3. "Varsity Blues" - Soundtrack
4. Limp Bizkit - "Three Dollar Bill Ya'll"
5. Pete Rock - "Soul Survivor"

Top Country CD

Roy D. Mercer - "How Big a Boy Are Ya: Vol. 5"

Source: Terrapin Station and Sunset Boulevard Music

Cannibals

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Michael-
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I love you!
Brandi

Benjamin,
Things keep getting better between us.
You are such an awesome person.
I Love You!
Melanie

Jonesy,
The best part about being me is having a wonderful person like you!
Happy Valentine's Day!
♥ Amber

Pippy,
To the one who has been there for me through thick and thin.
I love you.
Woodstock

Brent- Thanks for all the "SMILES" and the most unbelievable times of my life.
Love you lots,
Natalie

My ♥ for you has grown since Halloween - no clowning! Looking forward to another Panama trip with you.
Happy ♥ Day, Steve
Love, Angie

Lil' Dum Dum,
Thank you for giving me a second chance again. Starting tonight, all I'm gonna be is your man! I love you!
Love, Hagu

..Susan..
Many flowers around
But no rose.
Miss you!
-JOE!

HLH- I just wanted to wish you a wonderful day in a special way.
Love,
PJT

Drew,
You make my life complete.
Chelley

Kornegay recognized for leadership skills

By TARA SHELBY
ASSISTANT COLLEGE LIFE EDITOR

One thing Elana Kornegay can never be accused of is not having anything to say.

This junior organizational communications major from Montgomery, Ala., is involved in a multitude of activities on campus. She is a member of the MSU Varsity Speech Team, she is a student ambassador and she works in the president's office, to name a few.

Kornegay first learned of Murray State through a friend. She came with him to see the campus and was later offered a full scholarship.

Until recently, Kornegay was an electronic journalism major.

"I did that all through high school, and I did some volunteering last summer at a TV station," Kornegay said. "Then I decided that wasn't for me."

Kornegay switched to her minor, organizational communications, which she had already taken classes in.

"I just like working with people and talking with them," she said.

One of Kornegay's main activities is the MSU Varsity Speech Team. While anyone can join the team, Kornegay was offered a scholarship for her partic-

Black History Month Profile

ipation.

"I enjoy the speech team a lot because I'm able to do a lot of talking with that, and I love performing in front of audiences," Kornegay said. "It gives me a chance to work on my public speaking."

The speech team's coach, Crystal Coel, said Kornegay was chosen for a scholarship because she is extremely talented. She was also nominated by the team to represent it in the Miss MSU pageant.

"We're certainly glad that Elana represents the speech team," Coel said. "I feel she represents who and what we stand for."

Kornegay was in the pageant last year as well, and she was fourth runner up. Another pageant she participates in is the Miss Black and Gold pageant, which she won last year.

Her responsibilities for Miss Black and Gold include doing two programs. She has a program tentatively scheduled for March 8 that will focus on wom-



Danny Vowell/The News

Elana Kornegay, organizational communication major from Montgomery, Ala., is this week's Black History Month representative.

en's issues.

Another activity Kornegay is involved in is student recruitment. She is a Student Ambassador, a summer and fall orientation leader, a member of the African-American Recruitment Team and a Whitney Young Scholar Camp Counselor.

"It's a really good feeling to do activities such as Summer O and Student Ambassador," she said.

The African-American recruitment activities she is involved in require her to attend college fairs to speak with

prospective students.

"I explain to them that there are a lot of opportunities for black students here at Murray State; you just have to work for them," Kornegay said. "You can't expect anyone to just hand you anything."

Kornegay says the people who have had the most influence on her life are her parents.

"My parents have been a big influence on my life," she said. "They're really strong people and they make me feel strong, too."

Yoplait fights cancer

By TARA SHELBY
ASSISTANT COLLEGE LIFE EDITOR

The Women's Center is working with Yoplait Yogurt to earn money for breast cancer research.

The program is called "Save Lids to Save Lives." For every yogurt lid sent in to the company, Yoplait will donate 50 cents to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

"It's a small price to pay," Susan Maulder of the Women's Center, said. "It's a big donation for them to make."

Breast cancer is the second most fatal cancer among women, according to pamphlets from the Kentucky Cancer Program. It occurs in one out of eight women.

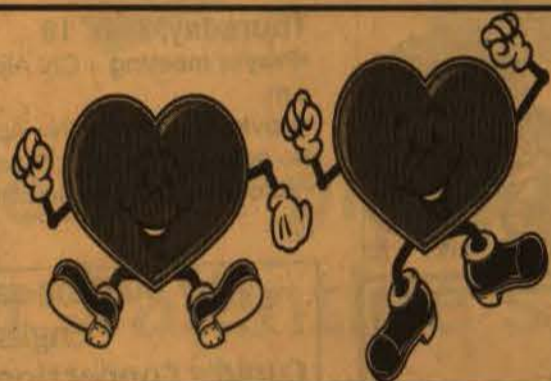
People interested in contributing to this cause can bring their lids to a drop box set up in the Women's Center in Ordway Hall, Maulder said. The promotion will continue until April 30.

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- ⇒ Condoms fail to prevent STDs 1/3 of the time ²
- ⇒ Condoms fail to prevent pregnancy 1 in 6 times ³

¹ Roland, C.M. and Sobieski, J.W. (1989)
² Journal of the American Medical Association, February, 1987
³ Medical Institute for Sexual Health

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Starring: Christopher Lloyd	1:05 p.m.
"My Favorite Martian" (PG)	3:10 p.m. 7:05 p.m. 9:05 p.m.
Starring: Brendan Fraser, Alicia Silverstone	1:05 p.m.
"Blast From The Past" (PG-13)	3:20 p.m. 7:20 p.m. 9:35 p.m.
Starring: Freddie Prinze Jr., Anna Paquin	1:10 p.m.
"She's All That" (PG-13)	3:20 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:10 p.m.
Starring: Mel Gibson	1:20 p.m.
"Payback" (R)	3:30 p.m. 7:05 p.m. 9:15 p.m.
Starring: Gwyneth Paltrow	1:30 p.m.
"Shakespeare in Love" (R)	3:45 p.m. 7:35 p.m. 9:40 p.m.
Starring: Kevin Costner, Robin Wright	1:00 p.m.
"Message in a Bottle" (PG-13)	3:35 p.m. 7:15 p.m. 9:45 p.m.

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SportsBriefs

Bennie Purcell ranks eighth in wins

Former Murray State Men's Tennis Head Coach Bennie Purcell has totaled the eighth most wins in NCAA Division I history, according to information compiled by the Emory University sports information department in Atlanta.

Purcell, who led MSU to 10 straight Ohio Valley Conference championships from 1980 to 1989, compiled a record of 569-258 in 28 years as head coach.

No other OVC coach, past or present, is ranked in the top 20. Jim Schwitters from Hawaii has the most notches in the win column with 1218.

Athletic department supports charity

In an effort to recognize the Kentucky Chapter of the Leukemia Society of America, Murray State is providing free admission to a home basketball game for members of the Kentucky chapter.

The KCLSA is currently sponsoring a team of novice and experienced marathon runners, walkers and cyclists for "Team in Training," the largest fitness training program in the world. The team competes in various events across the United States.

Briefs are compiled by Jason Yates, sports editor.

Sportlight

Keith Jared, Nina Sartz-Knudsen

Keith Jared and Nina Sartz-Knudsen are in the Racer Sportlight this week. Jared, senior from Danville, Ill., set two MSU school records in the 3,000 and 5,000-meter runs in last weekend's invitational at Indiana University. Jared's times were 8:30.62 in the 3,000-meter run and 14:47.55 in the 5,000-meter run.

Sartz-Knudsen, junior from Oslo, Norway, was the only member of the women's tennis team to win a singles match and a doubles match in MSU's 6-3 victory against the University of Memphis on Saturday.

She won her singles match despite stepping up to No. 4 singles. She usually plays at No. 5 singles.

FastFact

Coach claims four decades of glory

Former North Carolina Head Coach Dean Smith is the only man to take teams to the Final Four in four different decades.

Source: The Sporting News

Lady Racers ready for stretch run

BY JASON BILLINGSLEY
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

With four games left in the Murray State Lady Racers' Ohio Valley Conference regular season, the Lady Racers are looking to get into the OVC Tournament, something that evaded them last year.

Currently, the Lady Racers have a 6-8 OVC record. This puts them in firm grasp of seventh place, two games ahead of eighth place Austin Peay and two and one-half games behind fifth place Eastern Kentucky. This is after a 69-49 loss at UT-Martin last Saturday

night. The Lady Racers were in sixth place before the UT-Martin game.

The Lady Racers do not have time to rest, however, as they play the top team in the OVC, as well as the teams directly ahead and behind them in the last two weeks of OVC play.

The Lady Racers fell to Southeast Missouri State in Cape Girardeau, Mo., on Jan. 14. MSU has seen drastic improvement since that game. The Lady Racers are 4-3 since that contest, with victories against Eastern Illinois, Tennessee State, Austin Peay and Eastern Kentucky.

Bobbi Coltharp, senior guard from

Mayfield, said the Lady Racers are not looking into the future or the past. They are focusing on the present.

"We are looking at SEMO right now, because they are the number one team in the conference and are very beatable," Coltharp said. "After that, we will concentrate on Eastern Illinois, then TSU and Austin Peay."

Coltharp said the team's goals have changed in the last week.

"After our loss at UT-Martin, I don't know if we can finish in the top four for a first-round home game," she said. "Right now, we are shooting for getting into the tournament. We really don't

care where it's held.

"I feel pretty good about our season so far, minus the UT-Martin game," she said. "There is definitely an improvement from the beginning of the season. We have really come together and learned how everyone plays."

Coltharp said the Lady Racers are capable of doing some damage to other OVC foes.

"Depending on how we're playing, we can beat anyone in the OVC," she said.

The Lady Racers played SEMO last night at the Regional Special Events Center and will play Eastern Illinois Saturday at 5 p.m. at RSEC.



Photos by Shirley Martin

(Top) Rod Murray, junior from Montgomery, Ala., attempts to maneuver past a Billikens defender. (Bottom Left) Murray shoots over the outstretched arm of a St. Louis player in Monday night's 62-51 Racer loss. The Racers have never defeated the Billikens in seven tries.

BY JASON YATES
SPORTS EDITOR

The Murray State men's basketball team tallied its lowest point total of the season Monday night as the St. Louis Billikens finished the game on a 21-7 run to defeat the Racers 62-51.

MSU, which lost back-to-back games for the first time since February 1997, could only manage seven points in the final nine and a half minutes. Head Coach Tevester Anderson said it was a case of bad luck.

"We had good shots, but the ball just would not stay in the basket for us," Anderson said. "St. Louis played well down the stretch, and they made their free throws."

MSU (21-4 overall, 13-1 OVC) made 20-53 shots from the field for 37.7 percent and only 3-16 from three-point range. Aubrey Reese and Marlon Towns, the Racers' starting backcourt tandem, combined for 14 points on 4-20 shooting from the floor.

The Billikens (13-11), a member of Conference USA, used a physical style of play and balanced scoring to stifle MSU's chances of a road victory. Five players scored at least nine points. Rod Murray, junior forward from Montgomery, Ala., thought the physical play might have taken something out of the Racers.

"We just ran out of gas at the end," Murray said. "We didn't make a surge like we have been used to doing this year."

Isaac Spencer, junior forward from Montgomery, Ala., led MSU in scoring with 18 points, 16 of them in the first half, and eight rebounds. Duane Virgil was the only other Racer to score in double figures with 10.

Anderson said there is much for his team to learn from the loss and it was important to play a team of St. Louis's caliber late in the season.

"It was better for us to schedule this game now than it would have been to play it earlier this season," Anderson

said. "The team won't forget what it is like to play a team of St. Louis status going into the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament, and hopefully, the NCAA Tournament."

The Racers play their final regular-season home game Saturday at 7 p.m. when they entertain the Eastern Illinois Panthers. EIU fell 86-73 on Jan. 16 to the Racers in Charleston, Ill.

Spencer, who scored 17 points in the team's previous encounter, believes the Panthers will be even tougher the second time around.

"They will come in here with a lot of emotion because this is a big game for them," Spencer said. "We will have to be ready to play."

Murray said EIU will give MSU a different look the second time around.

"They played a lot of man-to-man when we pulled away at the end of the last game," Murray said. "They probably will play zone to try and throw us off this time."

Singin' the Blues

Physical Billikens outlast Racers in non-OVC battle

Track squads acquire practice

BY EDDIE GRANT
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Murray State track teams continued their preparation for Ohio Valley Conference competition last week when they traveled to take part in the Indiana Invitational, hosted by the University of Indiana-Bloomington.

Murray State Head Coach Bob Doty said the meet was just a little bit of extra practice.

"We didn't go up there and compete for points," Doty said. "We went up there to just let our kids get a little bit of extra practice; we didn't take any relay teams or anything like that up there at all."

Nonetheless, the MSU runners made some strong showings. Keith Jared, senior from Danville, Ill., set school records in the 3,000-meter and 5,000-meter runs. In the 3,000 meter, Jared posted a time of 8:30.62, which was good enough for fifth overall. In the 5,000 meter, he posted a time of 14:47.55, good enough for third overall. On the women's side, Lindsey Newlin, freshman from Georgetown, Ill., finished her 5,000-meter run in 18:28.47, which earned her fifth place.

As their final tune up for the conference competition, which is Feb. 19-20 at Charleston, Ill., MSU will compete in the Southern Illinois/USATF Indoor Invitational on Feb. 13 in Carbondale, Ill.

Doty said in this competition Murray will field a relay team, as well as have every runner compete in the same events as they will compete in for the OVC Championships.

"The SIU competition will show the kids where they are, as well as what they need to work on in preparation for the OVC's as well as the approaching outdoor season."

Hockey claims 'coolest game on Earth' title

In last week's sports column, Sports Editor Jason Yates said despite the lockout and bad level of play the NBA would have at the start of its season, it would be better than watching the NHL.

I say that is most certainly not true.

Don't get me wrong, I love college and high school basketball, but professional basketball has become nothing more than five-on-five street ball where no defense is played, and the player's worth is usually determined by how many dunks or three-pointers he can hit.

Hockey games are non-stop roller coaster rides of powerful slap shots, awe-inspiring goalie saves and destructive body checks. Oh yeah, there is also



Sports Talk

JASON BILLINGSLEY

the occasional big hockey fight to get the audience even more excited.

Hockey players give 110 percent to the fans in the arenas and watching on television. They do not sit out games for turf toe, the flu, hangnails or any other minor illness. They are the toughest and fastest athletes in professional sports, bar none. They take a shot off their face, get stitched up and

come back in the next period to finish the game.

Hockey players also do not have the "I make \$100 million, so I am better than you" attitude most basketball and some other pro athletes have.

Playing hockey takes incredible stamina, whether one is a small, quick forward or a huge, powerful defenseman. How about the goalies who have to make saves from "the splits" in every game? I would like to see a basketball player do that night in and night out.

Hockey's biggest problem has always been exposure, although it is not as big a problem now as it was. With the increase in television time by ESPN and FOX Sports, hockey is getting out to more homes than ever before. The new prob-

lem has become how to get people to watch.

The most radical idea ever used in sports history would probably be the "Fox Puck," a specially designed computer chip put into the hockey pucks that, when activated, would glow either blue or red on the television screen so the audience at home could always see where the puck was.

Other more practical ideas have been using goal cameras, microphones on the boards and announcers between both benches similar to sideline reporters in football.

With the NBA strike, I think this is the NHL's biggest chance to get over the hump of being the fourth most popular professional sport and overtake the NBA in attendance, ticket

sales, merchandising and other areas. The NHL has both young players who are ready to carry the sport into the next century and the greatest hockey player of all time, Wayne Gretzky, finishing out his glorious career.

The NHL must make the names Hasek, Jagr, Lindros, Kariya, Selanne, Roy, Federov, Hull and others into household names, just like NBA players are now. Marketing the players and the excitement of the game will be critical for the NHL as the 21st century approaches.

With its lightning fast action, incredible hits and miraculous saves, hockey truly is "the coolest game on Earth."

Jason Billingsley is the assistant sports editor for "The Murray State News."

'Breds attempt to prove preseason polls incorrect

By JASON BILLINGSLEY
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The middle of February usually means love and cold temperatures for most people. For the Murray State Thoroughbred baseball team, however, it marks the beginning of a new season.

The 'Breds are coming off a very promising season, finishing fourth in the Ohio Valley Conference standings, despite the preseason poll predicting MSU to finish eighth out of nine teams.

The 'Breds are in the same position this year, picked to finish eighth in the OVC preseason poll. This suits Head Coach Mike Thieke just fine.

"If this year's result is like last year, we'll be very happy," Thieke said. "I am a little puzzled, however, on why we were predicted to finish eighth after finishing fourth, ahead of teams picked above us this year."

Thieke said the poll did not affect him very much but it did his team.

"Preseason polls don't mean much, but the players are using this as a motivational tool," he said.

Southeast Missouri, which won the OVC tournament and retains 20 of 21 lettermen from last year, was picked first in the poll, followed by regular-season champion Eastern Illinois, Eastern Kentucky, Morehead State, Middle Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech,

Austin Peay, MSU and UT-Martin.

The 'Breds did not lose many players from last year, but the ones they lost will be hard to replace. Pitching ace Kurt Umbarger and top OVC batter Craig Delk leave two gaps in the MSU lineup.

"Losing Umbarger, our top pitcher, and Delk, the leading hitter in the OVC, definitely gives us some holes in our starting rotation and lineup to fill," Thieke said. "To fill up the holes in our pitching staff, we have two major prospects, Chris Gray and Preston Hesley. Gray is a junior college transfer who finished 8-0 for his team last year, and Hesley will give us a third left-handed pitcher on our staff."

The hitters returning for the 'Breds will be looked upon to carry the offense. These include Chris Williams, who hit .369 with a school-record 20 doubles, Chad Hamm, who hit .331 with a team-high 10 home runs and Robert Weatherly, who hit .316 with nine home runs. The 'Breds also have seven pitchers returning from last season.

Senior pitcher Brad Burns said the team is ready for the season.

"If we could start tomorrow, we would," Burns said. "We're chompin' at the bit to get started because we have the best team we've had in awhile."

"We have a good team with young pitching," he said. "Our

offense is obviously our strength because we have more experience there."

The 'Breds have only one road game further south than Tennessee, while most of their northern opponents will play in Murray.

"We're making an effort to play more home games this season to get the fans excited about our games," Thieke said. "We also want to avoid road games in the deep South because they have played at least twice as many games as we have at that time, and it shows on the field."

"This year, our conference schedule is broken down with two road series followed by two home series against all of our OVC opponents," he said. "We like the games we play at home because they will be against the toughest conference teams, and you always like to have the advantage of playing your toughest games at home."

Burns said the warm winter weather in Murray will give the 'Breds an early advantage.

"In years past, we would get to go on the field one or two days a week," he said. "This year, we have been on the field for weeks at a time for practices and scrimmages. With 16 of our first 20 games at home, we definitely have an advantage over the northern teams who will be coming here at the beginning of the season."

The 'Breds start their season with a doubleheader against St. Louis University on Feb. 20.



Ryan Brooks/The News

A Murray State Thoroughbred slides in under the tag in Wednesday's practice. The 'Breds have been picked eighth in the Ohio Valley Conference preseason poll.

Tennis victorious against Memphis

By JASON YATES
SPORTS EDITOR

The Murray State women's tennis team won its first competition of the spring defeating an injury-depleted squad from the University of Memphis 6-3.

The Lady Racers split six matches with Memphis, but MSU claimed victories at No. 5 and 6 singles and No. 3 doubles by default because Memphis had three players out with either sickness or injury. Head Coach Connie Keasling is disappointed some of her younger players did not get to compete, but she said there was a lesson to be learned from the match.

"This shows the rest of our team that they have to stay healthy in order to compete," Keasling said.

Junior Nina Sartz-Knudsen and freshman Maria Alonte led the team by winning their singles matches.

Alonte defeated Annika Westberg at No. 3 singles 6-4, 6-4 and Sartz-Knudsen was triumphant at No. 4 singles upending Laura Hughes 6-3, 6-3. Sartz-Knudsen also teamed with freshman Yvonne Thor at No. 2 doubles to

beat Hughes and Westberg 8-3.

Alonte, who is currently ranked 60th in the U.S. Tennis Association's women's amateur rankings, competed in her first singles match for Murray State since September. She has been hampered by a strained Achilles tendon.

Next up for the team is the ECU Indoor Tournament on Feb. 19 and 20. MSU will compete against Radford, Toledo and the host school Eastern Kentucky.

Keasling thinks this tournament will give her team a chance to rest some experienced players, and it will give some younger players an opportunity to participate in competitive matches.

"We should be in a stronger position than our opponents," Keasling said. "We can give our younger players a lot of experience because these teams will not overpower us."

Keasling believes playing indoors will initially be a disadvantage to her team, but she thinks her team will adjust.

"All the teams we play are from the north and have been playing indoors," Keasling said. "They will have the advantage for a set, but it will be minimal after we get used to the court."

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Hart defeats Elizabeth 49-34

BY MORGAN HARDY
STAFF WRITER

Hart College put the hurt on Elizabeth College Tuesday night in women's residential college basketball play, winning 49-34.

The Hart Ravens and the Elizabeth Eagles squared off promptly at 8 p.m. in the Regional Special Events Center. After jumping out to an early lead, Elizabeth could not hold out against Hart's ball movement and more importantly, its excellent bench play. Elizabeth, having only six players, was outpaced in the second half against Hart, who had more than 10 members.

But this didn't mean Elizabeth gave up easily. Chanta Anderson, Elizabeth coach and leading scorer for both teams, nailed five shots from the arc and closed with 17 points.

"I was tired, but I stayed in the game," Anderson said. "As long as my players have fun, I am fine. It does not matter if we win, just as long as we have a good time."

Elizabeth ended the game with a total of eight three-point shots, compared with one from Hart. Unfortunately for Elizabeth, Hart's slicing attacks and excellent ball mobility simply overpowered the Eagles in the end.

Another factor was the scoring distribution for both teams. Whereas two players scored all but two of Elizabeth's points, Hart had seven players contribute to the board. Natalie Lacey, Hart's coach, was proud of their excellent team play.

"I'm impressed with our team," Lacey said. "We have a consistent team this year. We work well together, and we have some true ball players."

Hart is now tied with Elizabeth at 3-1 in the women's RC league standings.

Men's rowing prepares for spring regattas

BY MORGAN HARDY
STAFF WRITER

Through the evening mist, 60-foot boats sail through the calmed waters, gliding toward the shores. No, this is not a scene out of "Braveheart," it is the MSU rowing team.

Last Saturday, four members of the team traveled to Chattanooga, Tenn., where they participated in the Indoor Championships. Adam Weck-

man, sophomore from Louisville, came away with fifth place in a field that had several national competitors.

Many members of the team are excited not only about the coming season but also about the sport itself.

"It's a good opportunity to meet people," Weckman said. "It teaches you good discipline and communication skills in general."

A competition team consists

of nine people. Eight of these perform the rowing, while the ninth, called the coxswain, calls out the rhythm and steers the boat. The competitions, called regattas, demand the members to row 2,000 meters in a timespan of about six and a half minutes.

In the fall, the rowing team has its long endurance competitions, in which the team must travel 5,000 meters. These require not only the

peak of physical fitness but also mental acuity.

During Spring Break, the team will hit the lake three times a day for practice, preparing for its huge April schedule. All of its competitions are invitationals. The team will travel to Atlanta first and have a meet every successive weekend in April, including a home meet on April 10.



Danny Vowell/The News

An Elizabeth College women's basketball player is caught between three Hart College players in Hart's 49-34 victory Tuesday night.

Classifieds

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LOCKDOWN

Continued from Page 1

unlocked so that all of our residents are not totally inconvenienced," he said. "Because of this door being unlocked, people like guests and pizza delivery can still get into the dorms even though they don't have the proper ID cards."

He says that there are also alarms on the side doors of Elizabeth for extra security.

Rouse said this is not Elizabeth's first experience with the 24-hour lockdown rule.

"Elizabeth has actually had this rule in effect since the 1997 spring semester and it seems to work," he said. "Of course most people can still get into the dorms by using someone else's ID or by slipping in behind someone after they open the door."

Robertson said each college is responsible for monitoring the doors to make sure no one is propping them open.

"The success of this will depend on how it is moni-

tored," he said. "Colleges that have done it for a long time found it beneficial."

The colleges of Regents and White have always been under lock, while many of the other residential colleges have just begun this security system.

Both White and Regents seemed to have had success with this policy and hope that the other residential colleges have the same luck.

Although many of the residential directors could not be reached for comment, those that were seemed to be supportive of the rule.

"It's nice to have the extra security," Rouse said. "Especially after the Hester fire."

It appears this rule will stay in effect for most of the residential colleges for the remainder of the year, instead of just on and off like it has been in the past.

Because of the 24-hour lockdown on the residential colleges, no additional security guards are being hired.

LEVINE

Continued from Page 1

the Prosecutors Advisory Council holds a hearing and finds that a commonwealth's attorney has a statutory conflict of interest in a particular case, or, because of the inability or refusal, has failed to perform his statutory prosecutorial duties in a particular case, the Prosecutors Advisory Council may ask the attorney general to intervene in a particular criminal case. The attorney general is not required to intervene in that case."

MacKnight also stated in the document the attorney general

does not have legal rights to reprimand or remove a commonwealth attorney from office.

"The Kentucky Supreme Court is the only body that has the power to discipline an attorney. The Kentucky Bar Association is the agency through which the Supreme Court administers its discipline of attorneys. If a citizen believes that a commonwealth's attorney has violated the Supreme Court's rules of professional conduct for attorneys, the citizen may file a complaint with the Kentucky Bar Association."

MacKnight listed the two ways a commonwealth attorney can be removed from office.

"If a commonwealth's attorney is convicted of a felony or becomes otherwise constitutionally unqualified to hold the office, the attorney general may file an ouster action to remove him from office. Second, if a commonwealth's attorney commits a misdemeanor in office such as official misconduct, the state legislature is the only body that has the power to remove him from office."

In the letter to the attorney general's office, Michael Levine questioned the tactics used by the authorities in interrogating the seven who were formerly charged with starting or conspiring to start the fatal fire, which killed Michael Minger,

sophomore from Niceville, Fla.

"The police put these kids through all their interrogation techniques from being their friends to making threats that would have scared the hell out of a hardened criminal. They came up with nothing, other than there was a party at a house and prank phone calls were made to a lot of different people including one of their (rugby) teammates that lived on the same floor of the building where the fire started."

Michael Levine was unavailable for comment at his Battletown home. Brian Levine declined to comment on the complaint, citing that he would refer questions to his father.

RANK

Continued from Page 1

to "U.S. News" does not include the number of students admitted in a pre-baccalaureate status or those at satellite campuses.

Overall he said "we are being

more selective," and he hopes to place more full-time teachers at the satellite sites.

"We want to have full-time teachers assigned to those centers eventually," Alexander said. "The higher percentage of full-time teachers, the higher quality of education."

Alexander said the ranking is

very important because a new formula of funding may change the way state funds are divided. He said the funding method is preliminary, but it would match the University with others using much of the same criteria as in the report.

He said he would like to see a change in some of the criteria

evaluated.

"We try to match ourselves up with good schools," he said. "We would like to be in good company. We would like to see percent of accreditation added to the list of criteria."

At the next legislative session in July, legislators will examine the criteria system.

The News wishes
Dr. Gene Garfield
a speedy
recovery!
Get Well Soon!

RALPH WOODS MEMORIAL AWARD
Established to honor students who have made an outstanding contribution in service and leadership to the University campus.
Criteria:
1. Must be a December 1998 or May 1999 graduate.
2. Must be a person active in campus leadership.
3. Must be one who promotes change.
(Can accomplish goals and is of service to students and faculty.)
4. Grade Point Average is of NO consideration.
Applications are available in the Office of Student Activities.
Three letters of recommendation (from peers, instructors, or whomever you like) validating nominee's leadership capabilities must accompany your application.
Applications must be submitted by Wednesday, March 3, 1999.
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I, _____, would like to nominate _____ for the award
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2. Have you had them in class? If so what class? _____
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4. What qualities do you feel this teacher has that would qualify them for this award for outstanding classroom performance?
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Major _____ Phone _____
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