



Calloway County re-enters RED ZONE

Daniella Tebib/*The News*

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With cases continually skyrocketing across Kentucky, Gov. Andy Beshear has issued new recommendations for businesses, schools, restaurants and other establishments across the commonwealth.

In Beshear's media briefing on Tuesday, Oct. 27, he introduced a slate of guidelines called the "red zone reduction recommendations."

The list includes the following:

- Employers allow employees to work from home when possible
- Noncritical government offices to operate virtually
- Reduce in-person shopping; order online or curbside pickup
- Order take-out; avoid dining in restaurants or bars
- Prioritize businesses that follow and enforce mask mandate and other guidelines
- Reschedule, postpone or cancel public and private events
- Do not host or attend gatherings of any size
- Avoid non-essential activities outside of your home
- Reduce overall activity and contacts and follow existing guidance, including 10 steps to defeat COVID-19

Beshear said schools should reconsider how they conduct themselves after the updated incident rate map which will be released on Thursday, Oct. 29.

"That's when the guidance kicks in about whether you go virtual, whether you go hybrid or whether it's safe to have a larger number of kids in school," Beshear said. "Schools following that guidance are sacrificing for their community."

Answering the question of whether or not colleges and universities in red zone counties should go solely virtual for an entire week, Beshear said despite plans already laid out, schools must evaluate the safety of their campus again if in a red zone community.

"First of all, every employee that can work from home during that week should," Beshear said. "I know the universities have their own plans. We've looked at them, we think they're pretty good for how they manage online and virtual. They've got a significant amount of testing around it. But when their community is

“ When [a university’s] community is in that red zone, we think they ought to take another hard look about what they do, certainly for that week and there are a lot of other recommendations in that red zone that they ought to be following including gathering and events, public and private. ”

- Gov. Andy Beshear

in that red zone, we think they ought to take another hard look about what they do, certainly for that week and there are a lot of other recommendations in that red zone that they ought to be following including gathering and events, public and private.”

In response, President Bob Jackson said with cases rising and multiple counties in Kentucky being classified as red zones or orange zones, the University is following all up-to-date guidance for colleges and universities, as provided by the commonwealth and local and state health officials as the end of the semester approaches.

“Since the beginning of the fall semester, we have communicated near-daily with students, faculty and staff regarding our Racer Safe and Healthy Guidelines,” Jackson said. “We continue that effort as it is vitally important as we complete this semester. The health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff is paramount in every decision.”

Jackson said the University will continue to keep an eye on all events at Murray State in order to create a safe and healthier campus environment.

“Furthermore, we continue to monitor all campus activities in order to cancel or postpone events as needed, reduce social gatherings and to encourage everyone to follow all Racer Safe and Healthy Guidelines,” Jackson said. “Also, we communicate on a daily basis with health officials regarding our steps and protocols in order to control COVID-19 in our campus community and beyond. Our healthcare advisors, including our local and state public health officials, have been very pleased with our Racer Restart Plan, Racer Safe and Healthy Guidelines and the efforts put into place for the past

several months to keep our campus community safe and healthy.”

After the recommendations from Beshear, Jackson said Murray State will continue to monitor all local, state and national guidance for colleges and universities as the semester comes to a close.

Chief Medical Officer Bob Hughes said he feels students are very conscientious regarding the importance of wearing a mask and the University has done a good job of keeping the campus safe and healthy.

As for Calloway County, Hughes said he thinks there are some changes that could be made to help diminish the number of cases.

“In Calloway County, family and other gatherings should be kept to a minimum,” Hughes said. “Also, unnecessary travel should be discouraged. I do think a mask mandate should be enacted with fines either to businesses or individuals if they are flaunting guidelines or endangering others.”

These types of restrictions might not be ideal to most people, but Hughes feels that it would best help prevent the spread of the virus.

“While these may be stringent guidelines or recommendations, we are at a critical time till we get an effective vaccine,” Hughes said. “A victory over this pandemic for an individual or family is to emerge on the end of this with you and your family’s life and health preserved.”

For the week of Oct. 19 to Oct. 28, Murray State reported seven faculty/staff cases, 49 student cases and 338 total cases since Aug. 1. Murray State’s COVID-19 dashboard can be found on *TheNews.org*.

As of press time, the Calloway County Health Department reported 1,002 total confirmed cases with 843 recoveries, 141 isolated at home, seven hospitalizations and 11 deaths.

As of Oct. 26, the Murray Calloway County Hospital reported the positivity rate for COVID-19 is 8.04 percent.

This has led to the City of Murray to close all city facilities to the public except for the police department, effective at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 30.

COVID-19 case information is reported on *TheNews.org* and our social media.

MSU RELATED COVID-19 CASES

Faculty and Staff

(Oct. 19 - Oct. 28)

7

Students

(Oct. 19 - Oct. 28)

49

Weekly Total

(Oct. 19 - Oct. 28)

56

Overall Total

(Since Aug. 1)

338

Source: Murray State University's COVID-19 Dashboard

Daniella Tebib/*The News*

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Comer gathers with Trump supporters ahead of election

Presley Woodrum
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Incumbent Congressman James Comer, who is running for re-election for the United States Representative seat for the 1st Congressional District, spearheaded a rally for President Donald Trump in Murray on Saturday, Oct. 24. The event took place at the Cheri Theater around 10 a.m. with a packed crowd. Traffic was directed upon entry and the cars were spaced out with mask wearing and social distancing encouraged. Those staying in their cars could tune into the radio to hear what the speakers had to say.

The crowd was very lively and passionate, as honking, applause and cheering filled the cold morning air. Trump supporter flags lined the truck beds of several vehicles in the parking lot.

Conservative speakers joked Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden brought the dreary weather that day. Additionally, speakers discouraged the practice of packing the court and encouraged the crowd to let the silent majority be heard.

In an interview before the rally, Comer said why he was voting for Trump. "I think that Donald Trump is the right person, he's definitely the best candidate," Comer said. "We've got a lot of problems and I think Donald Trump has the backbone and the vision to solve a lot of the problems."

Comer has had the opportunity to work with Trump for the past few years and they are both trying to "drain the swamp" in Washington.

This pop-up event concluded with a motorcade in support of Trump.

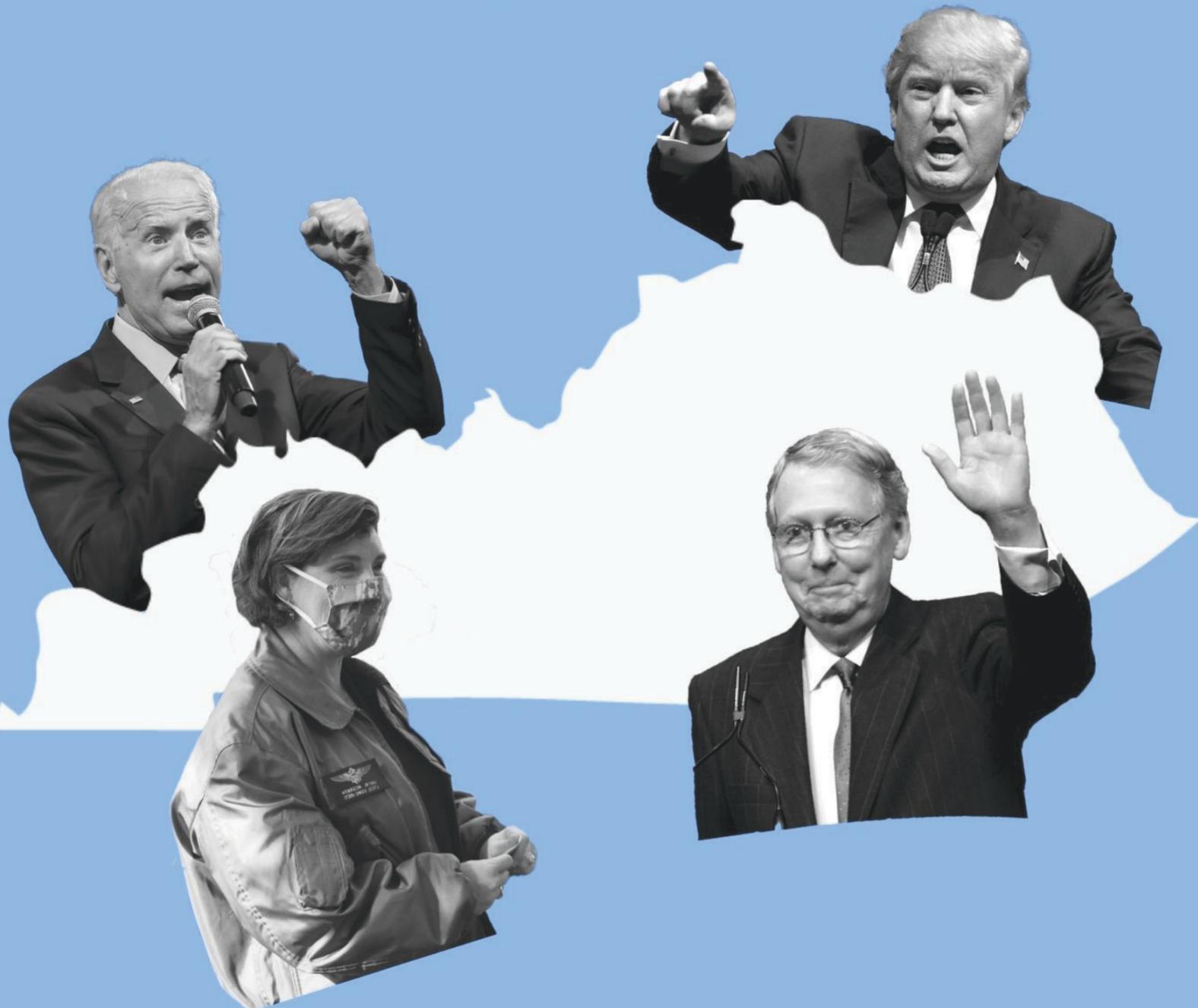


Photo courtesy of Mallory Unverferth
Presley Woodrum, junior from Liberty, Kentucky, interviews Congressman James Comer, on Oct. 24.

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Election Day Coverage

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University releases spring scheduling plan

Staff Report

On Oct. 23, Provost Timothy Todd decided to change the start date for advanced scheduling for the spring semester from Monday, Nov. 9. to Wednesday, Nov. 4.

Peggy Whaley, director of Student Engagement and Success, sent an email on Monday, Oct. 26, to inform students that advanced scheduling has been moved up. The new dates for spring 2021 advanced scheduling are Wednesday, Nov. 4, through Tuesday, Nov. 10, depending on the student's classification.

The News reached out to Todd and Whaley for a comment on why scheduling was moved, but they did not respond before press time.

Students can view their assigned time ticket for advanced scheduling on myGate. The assignment can be found by clicking the academics tab, registration tools, registration overrides and assigned time ticket link.

Graduate/post-baccalaureate and Honors Program students get first priority when scheduling classes, beginning on Nov. 4 at 8 a.m.

Seniors with last names starting with E-L can schedule on Thursday, Nov. 5, at 8 a.m. Seniors with last names starting with M-R can schedule on Nov. 5 at 10 a.m. Seniors with last names starting with S-Z can schedule on Nov. 5 at 12:30 p.m. Seniors with last

names starting with A-D can schedule on Nov. 5 at 2:30 p.m.

Juniors with last names starting with M-R can schedule on Friday, Nov. 6, at 8 a.m. Juniors with last names starting with S-Z at Nov. 6 at 10 a.m. Juniors with last names starting with A-D can schedule on Nov. 6 at 12:30 p.m. Juniors with last names starting with E-L can schedule on Nov. 6 at 2:30 p.m.

Sophomores with last names starting with S-Z can schedule on Monday, Nov. 9, at 8 a.m. Sophomores with last names starting with A-D at Nov. 9 at 10 a.m. Sophomores with last names starting with E-L can schedule on Nov. 9 at 12:30 p.m. Sophomores with last names starting with M-R can schedule on Nov. 9 at 2:30 p.m.

Freshmen with last names starting with A-D can schedule on Nov. 10 at 8 a.m. Freshmen with last names starting with E-L at Nov. 10 at 10 a.m. Freshmen with last names starting with M-R can schedule on Nov. 10 at 12:30 p.m. Freshmen with last names starting with S-Z can schedule on Nov. 10 at 2:30 p.m.

Before scheduling, students must meet with their academic adviser to discuss their plan for the upcoming semester and take care of any holds that may prevent registration.

For more information about advance scheduling, visit TheNews.org.



Paige Bold/*The News*

The Education abroad office promotes LGBTQ+ resources during LGBTQ+ history month.

Education abroad office highlights LGBTQ opportunities

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As a part of LGBTQ history month, the Education Abroad office is currently promoting resources for the LGBTQ community.

“While it is important for any student to research his or her host country before departing, for an LGBTQ student, it is essential,” according to LGBTQ Abroad, the Study Abroad Office’s resource page for LGBTQ students. “Cultures can vary greatly in terms of what is considered appropriate behavior and how sexual identities are defined and understood. You will find that attitudes and tolerance toward gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues vary from country to country, as they do within the U.S. Some countries are more welcoming and legally protective than the U.S., while others may be less accepting and more restrictive. You need to be aware of the legal issues, receptivity and social climate relating to gender identity in other countries.”

When considering studying abroad, students should research their potential host country. LGBTQ students should consider available LGBTQ resources, laws regarding homosexuality and if it is safe to be out in the host country. Students should also consider the host country’s cultural norms for dating and friendship. The visibility of and general attitude toward LGBTQ people in the host country are also important factors to understand before studying abroad.

“It is important that you are aware of and consider the implications of being identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender in the host-culture and

“While it is important for any student to research his or her host country before departing, for an LGBTQ student, it is essential.”

- Study Abroad Office’s resource page for LGBTQ students

how being ‘out’ might impact interactions,” according to LGBTQ Abroad. “If your host country is open and accepting of the LGBTQ community, take cues from the LGBTQ individuals around you. Observe how they dress and behave in order to blend in, not just into the LGBTQ community, but in your host country as well.”

Students should also speak with other LGBTQ students who have visited the host country. Previous visitors to the host country can share their experiences and offer insight to the challenges that exist in said country. On campus resources such as the Murray State Alliance student club and the Office of LGBT Programming are both available to connect students with others who have been abroad.

“Often programs place students in homestay or housing situations that are more culturally immersive,” according to LGBTQ Abroad. “It is important that all students are aware of and consider the implications of being identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender in the host culture and how coming out might affect the host family relationship. Research on your host country prior to travel is vital.”

For more information from the study abroad office, visit TheNews.org

Spring 2021 Scheduling

Seniors (Nov. 5)	
8 a.m.	E-L
10 a.m.	M-R
12:30 a.m.	S-Z
2:30 p.m.	A-D
Juniors (Nov. 6)	
8 a.m.	M-R
10 a.m.	S-Z
12:30 a.m.	A-D
2:30 p.m.	E-L
Sophomores (Nov. 9)	
8 a.m.	S-Z
10 a.m.	A-D
12:30 a.m.	E-L
2:30 p.m.	M-R
Freshmen (Nov. 10)	
8 a.m.	A-D
10 a.m.	E-L
12:30 a.m.	M-R
2:30 p.m.	S-Z
Honors/Graduate/Post-Bacc (Nov. 4)	
8 a.m.	A-Z

Brooklyn Burnett, *The News*



Photo courtesy of Racer Athletics

Freshman Allison Henry lines her shot up at the Pat Spurgin Rifle Range.

Rifle remains undefeated with third straight win

Racers defeat UT Martin in second matchup to move to 3-0

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Murray State Rifle continues with its strong start with a 4669-4592 win over UT Martin on Sunday, Oct. 25.

The Racers took a stand at their home range, the Pat Spurgin Rifle Range, to give them a quick 3-0 start to the 2020-21 season.

Head Coach Alan Lollar had great things to say about his shooters, who he said improved upon the things they were struggling with in the last match.

"I saw some good things today," Lollar said. "We have been working the last two weeks to take care of some areas we identified from the last match, and I think today we made some progress."

The five highest scoring Racers were also the top five overall finishers of the day.

Freshman Matias Kiuru maintained his spot at the top of the charts once again, placing first in smallbore, air rifle and aggregate scores, shooting 583, 591 and

1174, respectively.

Freshman Allison Henry also contributed a 581 score in smallbore, a far cry from her average of 568.5. Henry's aggregate score was 1167, and she placed fourth on the rankings at the end of the match.

Sophomore Anna Scheer placed second overall, shooting 579 in smallbore and 589 in air rifle for an aggregate score of 1168. Coming in at number four was Junior Dana Buesseler, who finished with an 1165 aggregate

score. Sophomore Emily Fitzgerald rounded out the top five for the day, shooting 574 in smallbore and 588 in air rifle to chalk an 1162 aggregate.

Freshmen Scott Patterson, Kylie Delaney and Abby Zinsmeyer were all top ten qualifiers, as well, scoring 1155, 1153 and 1151 in the aggregate column, respectively.

The Racers will set their sights on North Carolina State University on Sunday, Nov. 1, in Lexington, Kentucky.



Photo courtesy of Racer Athletics

In order to attend 2020-21 Murray State basketball games, students must sign up for a Winner's Circle membership.

Winner's Circle membership now free to students

Students must sign up in order to attend 2020-21 basketball games

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Because of the restricted capacity of the CFSB Center for the upcoming basketball season, students are required to be a part of the Winner's Circle in order to attend both men's and women's basketball games at The Bank.

Murray State Athletics announced the new requirement via

Twitter on Monday, Oct. 26. The deadline to join the Winner's Circle is Nov. 18. The release included a link to the Winner's Circle membership page.

Unlike previous years, premium membership to the Winner's Circle is now completely free to students who wish to enroll. Even the Gold Membership Level is priced at \$0.00 on the official membership webpage. The webpage fea-

tures a message to the Racer Nation in these unprecedented times.

"We are excited to announce that the 2020-2021 Winner's Circle Gold Membership will be FREE for all Murray State Students!" according to msuwinning.com. "Gold members get exclusive access to promotion items, receive updates for upcoming games and events and MORE! GO RACERS!"

The membership page also details the benefits of the Gold Membership, such as the Official Winner's Circle Nike Dri-Fit Shirt, while supplies last. Members are also included in the consideration and participation of special events and exclusive giveaways throughout the 2020-21 season.

Racers can join the Winner's Circle for free at msuwinning.com.

The Murray State News



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Intramurals succeeding through pandemic

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Murray State intramural sports have been going strong all semester and the plan is to keep them going through the spring semester as well amid the pandemic.

Many sports have already been played this year, including kickball, tennis, cornhole, golf and multiple one-day events such as a three-point contest and a dunk contest.

Travis Rawe, director of campus recreation and wellness at Murray State, discussed the events that happened so far this year as well as the turnout for the sports.

“In the first half of the semester, we had 173 teams register in our sport leagues in kickball, cornhole, tennis, frisbee golf and golf,” Rawe said. “Over 500 students participated in those league sports. We also offered a number of one day weekend events like soccer shootout, 3 point contest, dunk contest, H.O.R.S.E, spikeball, and foot golf. Sixty-six teams have signed up to play in weekend events we have held so far.”

Rawe also discussed plans for next semester, though plans still seem up in the air as of this moment.

“Next semester, we are planning for all programming possibilities; from offering our normal team sports (basketball, volleyball, soccer) to possibly adding sports we missed (softball and flag football) or having another limited semester of offerings similar to the fall semester,” Rawe said. “At this time we are unaware of what we will be able to offer for the spring semester. Once decided, communication will be sent out via imLeagues and social media.”

Students seem to have been having a great time with the sports and events offered so far this year while staying safe.

Spring 2021 Sport Leagues		
Sport	Registration	Season
Basketball	11/25 - 12/7	1/22 - 2/14
Volleyball	11/25 - 4/2	3/9 - 4/1
Innertube Water Polo	11/25 - 2/2	2/2 - 2/16
Outdoor Soccer	11/25 - 4/1	4/1 - 5/2

Photo courtesy of Murray State

Murray State is planning to offer typical spring intramural sports in 2021 after having to cancel sports like softball and flag football in the fall.

Senior Cameron Little spoke on how he believes the year has gone, while adding that safety has been at the forefront of the minds involved with intramural sports.

“I think overall, IMs have gone super well so far,” Little said. “Although they do not look the same as they normally would, we have been able to offer a variety of sports that allow for students to be active and social while also protecting them. Overall, safety is the number one priority and we have been able to ensure both safety and fun.”

Little also gave high praise to the IM staff for how well all of the events have been put together.

“It hasn’t felt the same as usual, but nothing in life is the same as usual right now,” Little said. “I think the IM staff has done a tremendous job of coming up with safe sports and activities for everyone to do. It may not be normal, but it is better than having no IMS and gives everyone something to

do.” Freshman Jayden Birkner also talked about his experiences so far with intramural sports, commenting on how fun it has been to play this year.

“Being a freshman here at Murray State, I haven’t gotten to experience intramural sports without the COVID protocols,” Birkner said. “But from what I have gotten to participate in so far, it has been a great time and the intramural staff has done an exceptional job with what they have to work with.”

Birkner also spoke on what sports he hopes to compete in next semester, and how the future of intramurals may go.

“In the future, I am hoping to participate in flag football as well as basketball,” Birkner said. “Being contact sports, I am not sure if those sports will go as smoothly as kickball... Hopefully by next semester there is a better grip on the virus, and we can enjoy playing these sports again. Obviously, COVID

has affected when and how the sports will be played, but from my short experience playing kickball, I have had a blast playing with my friends and other fellow students. I am confident the staff and leaders on campus will continue to do their best to have as many intramurals as possible.”

Finally, Rawe talked about how he believes the students have perceived the sports offered so far.

“I know a lot of students were disappointed that we were not able to offer our popular team sports this semester, softball and flag football,” Rawe said. “However, in a semester where many other University events or programs had to cancel, postpone, or go virtual, intramural sports was able to offer safe, fun and competitive in-person programming for students on campus. Most of our typical participants didn’t take the opportunity to participate in our programs, however, those that did enjoyed the opportunity to socialize and compete with other students.”

Murray State coaches share their playlists

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With many sports having their seasons postponed, Murray State coaches are looking for ways to brighten the moods of their players and fans. One way of doing this is by creating a fun activity called Music Mondays.

Dave Winder, Murray State associate athletic director, created Music Mondays as a way to get to know coaches and teams a little better and to see what songs pump up these athletes and coaches.

Adam Kielser, Murray State’s head track and field coach, has shared a list of 32 of his favorite songs. This list consists of songs from artists like Paul Simon, Trevor Jones, Mumford & Sons and many more.

However, out of all the songs on the nearly two-hour playlist, Kiesler said his favorite songs come from “The Last of the Mohicans” soundtrack.

“My dad is a conductor so I was brought up going to numerous classical concerts and as I have grown up that has stuck with me when choosing the music I listen to,” Kiesler said.

Kiesler said he likes to create his own images in his head while listening to instrumental songs. He joked, saying he enjoys songs without any words because his team fills his days with enough words.

A few other favorite songs include “Polaroid” by Imagine Dragons and “Wona” by Mumford & Sons. Kiesler said he listens to these songs on YouTube 10-20 times a day, a qualifying reason to be considered a favorite

song.

Kiesler has been a coach at Murray State for 11 years with the 2020-21 school year being his fourth as head coach. Under Kiesler, the team won the 2019 Ohio Valley Conference outdoor championship, their first since 1992.

Taking it to the tennis courts, Jorge Caetano, head coach of the Murray State women’s tennis team, has compiled a list of 37 of his favorite songs. Of these songs, Coach Caetano said his favorite song is definitely “Camaro Amarelo,” a Brazilian song that reminds him of his college days.

As a former tennis player for Murray State, Caetano listened to “Camaro Amarelo” by Munhoz and Mariano, with his former teammates as a way to pump himself up before his matches. This is a tradition he has passed down to his current players on the team.

Caetano said some of the players on his team introduced him to the French songs “Ramenez la coupe a la maison” and “Est-ce que tu m’aimes” that they now have on their match day playlist.

“Again I just really enjoy all those songs and have them all on my workout playlist because they pump me up whenever I need to get that workout done,” Caetano said.

Since his start in 2015, Caetano has led his team to 69 overall match wins. His teams have gone 38-10 at the Bennie Purcell Courts at home.

To listen to Coach Kiesler’s and Coach Caetano’s playlists, check out Murray State Racers on Spotify or head to goracers.com and search for Music Mondays.



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Racer Band wraps up the semester with Friends and Family Performance

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Racer Band has persisted through unparalleled challenges caused by COVID-19, and they ended this semester with a first and final performance.

The Friends and Family Performance took place this past Saturday, Oct. 24, at Roy Stewart Stadium in the drizzling rain with the company of a socially distanced and masked audience, as well as viewers through the livestream.

Director of University bands Trae Blanco, who livestreamed the event, said the performance was fantastic and emotions were high.

“I think if you look on Facebook or Instagram, you’ll see many pictures of students crying, celebrating and so grateful for the opportunity to showcase their work and talents,” Blanco said. “I saw each of the drum majors cry, several of the seniors and it was hard to hold back tears knowing the amount of obstacles the students had overcome to get to this point.”

Carrying a tradition of nearly 20 years, the band opened with A Space Odyssey’s “2001.” The Racer Band couldn’t complete the performance

without playing the Halloween favorite Michael Jackson’s “Thriller,” another tradition of many years. They ended the show with the Murray State Fight Song.

Katie Zheng, senior music education major and trumpet section leader, said it was an incredible experience to perform with the Racer Band for their close family and friends, especially considering the challenges that COVID-19 created.

Zheng said she met some of her closest friends and mentors through Racer Band.

“Since this was my senior year and fourth and final season, it was very special to get to perform one last time to close out my time at Murray State,” Zheng said. “The very first experience I had at Murray State was my freshman year at band camp the week before classes started, I moved into my dorm early and was thrown into the unknown with people I’d never met and in a new place, but the Racer Band immediately provided a sense of family and comfort and helped ease the transition into college life.”

Zheng said Racer Band Halloween is a longstanding tradition that is typically done for Homecoming. Since this Homecoming will be held



Racer Band performed on Saturday, Oct. 24, at Roy Stewart Stadium for their friends and family. *Jillian Rush/The News*

virtually, the Racer Band performed “Thriller” in costumes on Friday night for a video recording that will be released during the virtual Homecoming celebration.

Blanco said this fall was wildly unique, but the Racer Band was prepared for it because of the great leadership that has been building over the last 20 years. Now, Blanco said the student leaders have helped others to continue being wonderful leaders.

“The community loves Racer Band, and we are grateful to be such an integral part of the fabric of Murray,” Blanco said. “Our students worked exceptionally hard and are certainly the model citizens of safety and following guidelines set by the Racer Restart Initiative. I’m very proud of their work, their performance and the leadership of the organization for making the season possible.”

Visiting artists will participate in professional panel

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Art has been an instrument for activism and social justice, but as a result of today’s climate the usage of art to make comments on current issues has grown far more prevalent.

The Patricia L. Summerville Emerging Artists Panel is featuring artists who use their art to express their feelings towards injustices of minorities and can offer diverse perspectives.

They can provide examples of how their professional art can be used to promote social change.

On Friday, Oct. 29, the panel will be open to the public on Zoom at 5 p.m. The featured artists, Jasmine Burton, Leila Khoury, Sue Shon and Paul Verdell, will share their experiences with student artists to show them what career paths in the art field can look like.

The artist will have an opportunity to give a spiel on their work and what inspires them and then they will move on to specific questions.

The questions will concentrate on advice to upcoming artists, ways of advancing inclusivity, change in the art community and far more.

This diverse group of artists from various backgrounds will provide multiple perspectives about career paths in the art field. Read more about the featured artists:

Jasmine Burton

Jasmine Burton is a social inclusion and design specialist with a focus on social equality, youth engagement in social issues and innovation with water sanitation and hygiene.

Passionate about social justice, human rights and access to sanitation and hygiene products, Burton has taken her activism to an international level, working with organizations such as the Toilet Board Coalition, Equilo, Planet Indonesia, Women in Global Health, as well as one she founded herself called Wish for Wash.

Burton is the CEO of Wish for Wash, which serves to bring

innovation to sanitation and has grown to be a multipronged collective.

“As a freshman at Georgia Tech, I was inspired to do something about the global sanitation crisis at a women’s leadership conference,” Burton said, “I learned that over two billion people in the world today lack access to improved sanitation and over four billion people lack access to safely managed sanitation.”

After doing more research on the sanitation crisis, Burton started Wish for Wash in December 2014 to create a positive social impact.

“In response to this reality, our growing mission is to amplify more diverse voices and inclusive innovations in the water, sanitation and hygiene and global health sectors through the lens of research, design and education,” Burton said.

Leila Khoury

Leila Khoury is a multidisciplinary artist and preservationist based in Cleveland, Ohio, and her work takes a look at architecture and how it can lead to less inclusive and more gentrified space.

After receiving her masters degree in architecture and historic preservation she found that her education tended to exclude certain spaces.

“What frustrated me about my education was the lack of regard to community and neighborhood histories and their systemic erasure,” Khoury said.

Khoury’s field tends to have a eurocentric focus and she wants to expand to a focus that is more holistic. She commented on the eurocentricity of architecture in her graduate thesis called “A Soulful Body: The Immigration and Placemaking of Arabs in Detroit.”

“Being an Arab American I was interested in how they carved out spaces for themselves from preexisting structure to suit their needs and community,” Khoury said.

Currently, Khoury is the creative director of Cleveland Community Archives an interactive website and storytelling platform.

“One component from my thesis that inspired me to do this was

THE DEPARTMENT OF ART & DESIGN AT MURRAY STATE VIRTUALLY WELCOMES



DR. SUE SHON



LEILA KHOURY



PAUL VERDELL



JASMINE BURTON

ON ZOOM OCTOBER 29, 5-6:30 PM FOR THE

2020 PATRICIA SUMMERVILLE EMERGING ARTS PROFESSIONALS PANEL

Photo courtesy of the Department of Art and Design's Facebook

Racer Band performed on Saturday, Oct. 24, at the Roy Stewart Stadium for their friends and family.

a collection of oral histories I had,” Khoury said. “I became really interested in oral history and storytelling as a medium to shed light on history that isn’t well documented.”

Beyond housing oral histories, the Archives also shares Cleveland’s historic DIY and experimental art spaces, mutual aid organizations and LGBTQ venues that no longer exist because of systematic erasure.

Sue Shon

Sue Shon is an assistant professor at Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Vancouver. She teaches courses like art history and offers a non-traditional perspective to a traditional course.

“Whenever I teach a class that would be traditional like art history I foreground what usually gets underrepresented,” Shon said. “For example I foreground black feminist perspectives on art history.”

She also does research about the visual culture of race in modern history and investigates if there are connections as to what’s happening now.

She is currently working on an article that takes a look at runaway slave

advertisements and how their descriptions of Black people was the emergence of racial profiling in America.

“I wanted to look at the roots that influence anti-Black and indigenous policing,” Shon said. “I’m trying to find answers and see if I can make connections from the past to what is happening now.”

Paul Verdell

Paul Verdell is an artist based in Toledo, Ohio, whose work takes focus on vibrant colors and creates work from the perspective of being Black.

“My work is a reflection of how I see the world as a Black man,” Verdell said.

Verdell is going through a transitional phase with the concepts that motivate his work. When he first started, his works were politically fueled and then it turned towards a focus on color and figure.

“Although I have moved from more of a political stance in my art, when you’re a Black artist your work is always perceived as inherently political,” Verdell said.

Read more about Verdell on the-news.org.

Springer-Franklin College helps students connect

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Freshmen and new students at colleges across the country have been stripped of the true college experience, but at Murray State, the RCC Board at Springer-Franklin Residential College has found a way to let its students connect with each other amid the pandemic and resemble a normal first semester on campus.

Coming into the 2020 fall semester, Springer-Franklin College Head Eric Umstead and the RCC Board wanted to completely revolutionize the way they had done things in past years in regards to the pandemic.

HC Franklin President Ana Moyers said it started with changing meetings from a business style format to a more flexible meeting in order to gain more interaction with students at the residential college.

Starting with an inspirational message each meeting, they follow with half of the meeting's time taking up business regarding the community of Springer-Franklin and what's happening at Murray State before moving on to some sort of event or activity.

Bingo nights, open mic nights, Halloween coloring nights, Kahoot games over Zoom and pumpkin painting have been a few of the things Springer-Franklin has done to get students out of their rooms while enforcing mask wearing and social distancing.

Continuing to look for creative and innovative ways to change events, one event that Moyers

really enjoyed was fast friends: speed dating for friendships.

"That was our first big event this year where we broke people off into breakout rooms, so we utilized Zoom as much as we could," Moyers said. "We broke people up into breakout rooms in rounds of five minutes and they had a list of questions they could ask or they could go off of it. They just got to talk and chat and a lot of our residents really loved it."

For Aaliyah Harrell, a Springer freshman representative, this event has been her favorite of the fall semester.

"Personally for me, myself and another person on the executive board were in one of the breakout rooms," Harrell said. "Me and her actually both shot archery at the same time and we really had mad respect from other schools, but we didn't meet each other until this year, so me and her have gotten extremely close through that."

She has also talked to other students about it and said that they've met friends they eat lunch with everyday.

Taylor Moore, a Franklin freshman representative, really enjoyed the pen pal event, which led to her making some new friends. In times where it's not the easiest to get out and meet new people, Moore has really appreciated what the RCC Board has done for students.

"It's been hard to make new friends, but with the activities and stuff that you guys have been putting on it makes it a little bit easier to connect with other people even when we're in different residential colleges," Moore said.



Photo courtesy of Ana Moyers

Springer-Franklin College has had to find different but interactive ways to conduct programs.

Moore said she initially thought she would be stuck in her room all semester and that the RCC Board has really made the transition from high school to a freshman on campus much easier.

While things have gone well, Moyers said it's definitely been difficult trying to work with the COVID-19 guidelines to ensure the safety of students while allowing them to have fun with others.

"At the beginning of the year before we had visitation was the roughest part of it," Moyers said. "Because we are Springer-Franklin, which means we have two buildings instead of the one, so Springer could not cross over to Franklin and Franklin could not cross over to Springer, so we had to do everything virtually."

Sipes expanded on Moyers' statement, saying she also was really nervous for the pair's second term on the Springer-Franklin RCC Board.

"I was kind of nervous in general how this whole semester was going to go..." Sipes said. "I was really worried about

how stressful and rough everything was going to be, but having RCC being kind of an outlet [and] being able to be serious but also have a lot of fun and just hangout with people I think has been a really nice relaxing time."

Despite the challenges they've faced, the RCC Board at Springer-Franklin is thriving. Moyers said the goal this year was to create a community amongst the two buildings and they feel that they have done so.

Continuing to try and create connections among students, the RCC board has a plethora of events coming up, including decorating for Homecoming week.

They encourage all students to come visit events that they can in-person, but also to visit and connect with other students over Zoom as well.

"If you want to have a lot of fun after a stressful day and you want to come and you want to meet new people and actually do an activity that's going to help you meet new people and help you have a lot of fun after everything, I think it's a really good idea to come," Moore said.

Senior encourages students to participate in app

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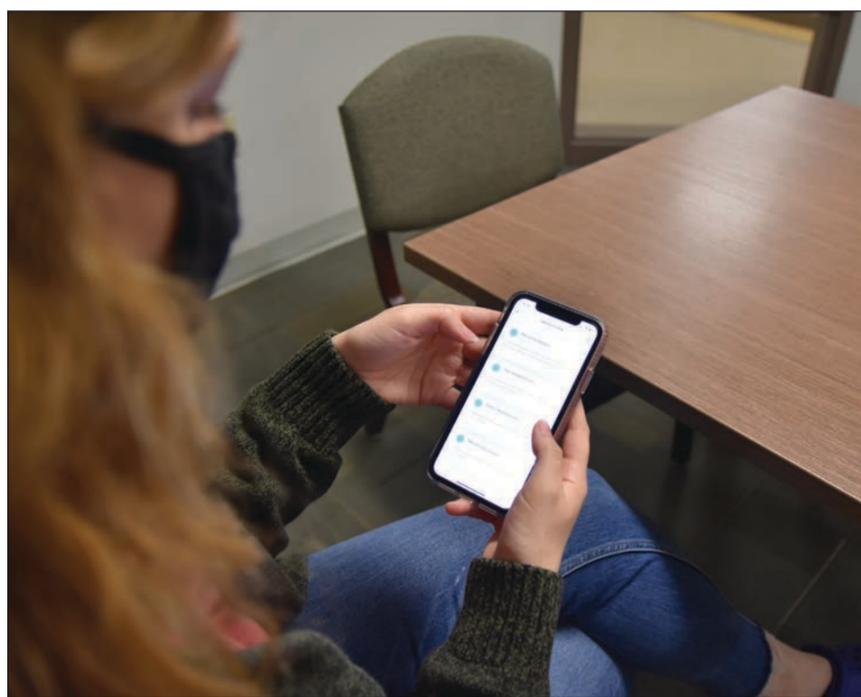
Elizabeth Erwin, senior double major in public relations and international studies, had her heart set to study abroad in China from March to July. After COVID-19 quickly spread, Erwin had to cancel her study abroad trip and enroll back at Murray State for the spring semester.

Stuck at home in Crestwood, Kentucky, Erwin was left to find something new to fill her summer. As the virus spread, every internship and job Erwin had lined up in such short notice ended up falling through the cracks. Then in June, a ProMazo recruiter made an offer to Erwin to work on a free app called 100k Mentor Challenge, which was meant to connect underrepresented college students to companies from a variety of fields and industries.

"Last semester because of COVID-19, a lot of professional development opportunities, summer internships and recruiting events got canceled when colleges and universities decided to go virtual," Erwin said. "Since I had personally been affected, I really connected with the mission of the challenge, but I also saw it as an amazing opportunity for Murray State students to get involved."

Erwin works as a public relations analyst on the external public relations team, so all summer she has been reaching out to companies and making pitches to executives to join as mentors. Erwin said students fill out their profiles on the app, which will generate a portfolio of five potential mentors to choose from, and the final match is announced on match day.

Erwin said the app tackles many challenges that cause mentorships to fall apart like a duration of time that lasts too long. To combat this, they



Jillian Rush/The News

Senior Elizabeth Erwin began interning on the 100k Mentor Challenge app in June.

created seasons, so students will have one mentor for a four month period, and at the end of the season both parties can decide to continue or move on to other matches.

"While the app is for all college students, right now we are currently focused on helping 100,000 students from underrepresented backgrounds," Erwin said. "This is because we saw underrepresented students getting hit the hardest by these cancellations since they often rely on resources provided on a physical college campus."

Erwin said while students gain insight about their career aspirations, further professional development and expand their network, professionals and companies can also create relationships with students from areas that are often overlooked while giving back during these difficult times.

Erwin said if students are still attempting to navigate their futures, this app is an amazing opportunity to connect with employers. She said everyone has unique experiences in

their professional journeys, so there is a lot students can learn.

"I want Murray State to show up because I don't think it's often that we are included in these innovative projects," Erwin said. "I'm on a team with 40 students from 12 universities across the country, and I'm the only one from a regional, rural university. I think Murray State students have a lot to offer and gain from this experience compared to students from better funded or well known universities."

Ethan Catanghal, senior communications major with an emphasis in public relations, attends California State University, Fullerton. He also found out about the app through a ProMazo recruiter on LinkedIn, and Catanghal said he was immediately hooked.

"When Adam told me about the situation of underrepresented students losing their ability to build their network, I knew I wanted to help," Catanghal said. "I believe everyone deserves an opportunity to better their future and networking is

definitely one way to do that. I was lucky and was able to build my network, and I believe everyone deserves the same opportunity that I had."

Catanghal joined the team in August with the corporate outreach team where he had to find potential partner companies that would supply mentors for the 100k Mentor program. He said he first had to take some time to learn the ropes from Erwin before feeling comfortable enough to generate ideas and lead conversations during meetings.

"My teammates Elizabeth and Jennifer really opened my eyes and helped me through the entire process," Catanghal said. "They helped me perfect my pitch, shared their insight on different types of marketing/communication strategies and even allowed me to join in on some of their meetings that they led so I could see how they were pitching to potential partners. They helped me to get to where I am today with this internship and now I have a built up confidence that I did not have before."

With this newfound confidence, Catanghal said he is pitching to C Suite level executives and HR personnel of Fortune 500 companies -- something he never imagined doing. The leadership experience that has come with this and building the app from the ground up will be the most beneficial aspect, Catanghal said.

Catanghal said he is simply amazed by the app and what it can offer for people to regain control over the course of their future.

"COVID-19 took control of our future career plans and altered the way that we grew professionally," Catanghal said. "The 100K Mentor app lets us get back in control of our future and allows students to continue to grow professionally. Don't let COVID-19 continue to bring you and your future down. Join today and take charge of your future!"

100k Mentor Challenge launched Tuesday, Oct. 27, and is in the App Store and Google Play Store.

Homecoming Events



Thursday, Oct. 29

Murray State News reunion and virtual newsroom tour,
7-8 p.m.

Homecoming King and Queen elections on MyGate

Friday, Oct. 30

58th Annual Hutson School of Agriculture Meeting,
11:30 a.m. CDT.

Virtual Football Reunion, featuring Athletic Director Kevin Saal,
Head Coach Dean Hood and members of the Racer
Football coaching staff, 12p.m. CDT

Alpha Sigma Alpha,
Beta Nu through the years

Alpha Omicron Pi,
Zooming Back to Delta O

Virtual Golden Reunion

featuring memories of the class of 1970 all weekend
Alumni VS. Students esports tournament

Saturday, Oct. 31

Virtual Tent City- 1-3 p.m

Banner Parade and Ribbon Cutting,
9:30 a.m. 16th Street/ Great Lawn

Annual SGA Picture,
10:30 a.m., Wrather Auditorium Steps

Coronation of King and Queen,
11 a.m., Great Lawn, live streamed at
murraystate.edu/streaming



Brooklyn Burnett, *The News*

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