

INSIDE

NEWS
Organization honors graduate student
page 2

OPINION
Democracy wanes in the U.S.
page 4

SPORTS
Basketball players enter the transfer portal
page 5

LIFESTYLE
Campus ministry hosts religious trauma discussion
page 7

SGA PRESENTS
AMERICAN RED CROSS
BLOOD DRIVE

APRIL 5-6
CURRIS CENTER BALLROOM

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Shann Riley/*The News*
The American Red Cross is experiencing the lowest blood supply levels in over a decade.

News Briefing: Blood emergency spurs donation drive

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In response to the American Red Cross's first-ever "Blood Crisis," the Student Government Association hosted an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, April 5, and Wednesday, April 6. The American Red Cross is experiencing the lowest blood supply levels in more than a decade, according to the American Red Cross's website. All blood types are needed, especially Os, in order to replenish the blood supply. Since March 2020, there has been a 10% decline in blood donations, according to the American Red Cross's website. Drives at college campuses and high schools have dropped 62% because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Recruitment Representative for Biomedical Services Louis Zimmerman said mostly everyone will need to use the blood supply at some point in their lives. "Blood donations are necessary as blood cannot be artificially produced," Zimmerman said. "It can only be collected through donations." Zimmerman said 70 units were collected on the first day, making the drive a success. "[I] love the humanitarian mission," Zimmerman said. "I enjoy assisting people in helping others." Even though the SGA's Blood Drive was successful, the need for blood is constant. Appointments can be scheduled on the Red Cross Blood Donor App or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS. To schedule online, visit RedCrossBlood.org.



Remembering Kaitlyn: Friends, family mourn student
Murray State's chapter of Alpha Delta Pi held a candlelight vigil for Kaitlyn Shoulders of Madisonville on March 31. *Rebecca Mertins Chiodini/The News*

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The life and memory of student Kaitlyn Shoulders was honored with a candlelight vigil on Thursday, March 31. Shoulders, a native of Madisonville, Kentucky, was a sophomore public relations student and member of Murray State's Alpha Delta Pi sorority chapter. Shoulders died on March 19, and President Bob Jackson notified the campus body of her passing on March 28 in an emailed letter. Shoulders was laid to rest on Tuesday, March 29, at Brier Creek Cemetery in Bremen, Kentucky. Shoulders' fellow sorority sisters are not allowed to talk directly to *The News* about their relationship with her because the sororities' Collegiate Province Director has yet to approve them to do so. However, they were able to host the vigil and share their memories of her.

At the vigil, Alpha Delta Pi President Mia Kieninger said Shoulders was an embodiment of what it means to be an Alpha Delta Pi member. "Kaitlyn was someone you could depend on, and she lit up every room she walked into," Kieninger said. "We are now living for Kaitlyn in all things we do, and we will never forget the impact she has left on our lives." Junior and fellow sorority member Jenna Mullen also shared her memories of Shoulders at the vigil. "Kaitlyn was hands down one of the most genuine people I have ever met," Mullen said. "My favorite thing about her is her absolutely radiant smile that just touched everyone's heart. I met Kaitlyn during fall 2020 when she picked ADPi and she told me about how she was so excited to be here and meet all of the new sisters." Freshman middle school education major Abby Miller, Shoulders' fellow high school and college classmate, spoke after Mullen.



Photo courtesy of Facebook
Kaitlyn Shoulders was a sophomore public relations major who died on March 19.

"Kaitlyn and I went to high school together. She taught me what a true friend is," Miller said. "She was someone who stuck with me through thick and thin, and somebody who was so strong for me when I couldn't be. I am so grateful. When I picture Kaitlyn, I have this image of the biggest smile, and we all know she had the biggest, most beautiful smile."

see **KAITLYN**, page 3



Photo courtesy of Instagram
The Student Government Association announced junior Ellie McGowan (second from right) as next year's president.

New executive board sets goals for next year

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Student Government Association named junior agribusiness major Ellie McGowan as their 2022-23 president on March 23. Other members of the Executive Board include: sophomore Claudia Sweeney as vice president of administration, junior Gabe Maynard as executive vice president and junior Jacob Fritts as vice president of finance. McGowan said she is excited to have the opportunity to represent students, faculty and staff.

see **CAMPAIGN**, page 3

MURRAY STATE RELATED COVID-19 CASES

Students (March 28 - April 3)	Faculty and Staff (March 28 - April 3)	Weekly Total (March 28 - April 3)	Overall Total (Since Jan. 17)
1	0	1	197

Philanthropy organization honors graduate student

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An Indianapolis-based private philanthropic organization awarded a doctoral graduate student with a Teacher Creativity Fellowship.

Jaron Mann, the recipient, is a student in the Doctorate of Arts in English Pedagogy and Technology program.

Mann said the grant has always been on her radar, but she said she never felt she had the time to commit to the application process.

However, that changed when she was tasked with applying for two grants through Associate English Professor Danielle Nielsen's course in proposal and grant writing.

"The grant has always been a goal of mine, but it takes a fair amount of research and planning," Mann said. "The last few years of teaching have been difficult and complicated ... so the timing perfectly aligned."

The organization, the Lilly Endowment, was established in 1937. According to its website, the Endowment intends to help educators "renew their commitment to teaching."



Photo courtesy of murraystate.edu
Graduate student Jaron Mann is the recipient of the Teacher Creativity Fellowship.

The Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program was added in 1987 to support Indiana's K-12 educators working in public and private schools.

Each Fellow receives up to \$12,000 for personally and professionally meaningful activities. The grant is given to educators from various backgrounds, including public, private and charter schools in urban, suburban and rural areas of the state.

see **FELLOW**, page 3

CAMPAIGN, from page 1

"The thing that I'm looking forward to the most in serving in this role is definitely just being able to connect with more people than I ever have before," McGowan said. "I have always fostered a long-term passion for people, and so being able to meet multiple different students who serve in leadership roles, who are coming and transitioning to campus definitely interests me."

McGowan said SGA is here to serve the student body so it is her goal to let students know they can depend on her.

The Executive Board works alongside the SGA president to make Murray State a better place for students.

Sweeney said she ran for vice president of administration because of her love for Murray State.

"This campus has given me so many opportunities to grow, lead and serve," Sweeney said.

"Throughout my time here, I have been involved with SGA each year. I served as a cabbie—volunteering for events on campus—and over the past year, I have served as a PR chair for CAB [Campus Activities Board], posting graphics to SGA's social media in regards to upcoming events."

Sweeney said these positions allowed her the opportunity to grow more as a leader.

As the vice president of administration, Sweeney will be responsible for taking attendance and minutes for each SGA meeting and leading interviews for vacant positions with the rest of the Executive Board.

As the executive vice president, Maynard will work alongside the SGA president while also overseeing the CAB, as its president.

Maynard said he is hoping to make connections with others at the University.

"I am looking forward to meeting new people and working with SGA as a whole to be a voice for the students here at Murray State," Maynard said.

As the president of the CAB, Maynard said he hopes to see more students become involved with campus activities.

"The CAB is a great place for students to get involved on campus and present things they want to see on campus," Maynard said. "There are so many aspects that I am excited to dive into with this role."

Fritts, the vice president of finance, will be responsible for the SGA budget and managing the account.

Fritts said the Executive Board wants to do what they can to help Murray State students.

"To say we are all super excited for this opportunity would be an understatement. We're all super eager to get to work," Fritts said.

The Executive Board campaigned together with the idea they could help make Murray State an even better place for current and future students.

Current SGA President Ian Puckett said he is proud of the work he and his administration accomplished during his term.

"We were really proud of getting that additional row of parking at the Curris Center," Puckett said.

"The Curris Center is a student center, first and foremost, and we felt the parking should reflect that."

Puckett said he and his administration also were proud of the COVID-19 PSA released in August, but he said he is the most proud of the scholarship fund plan announced earlier this year.

Once complete, the need-based scholarship fund will directly support students working clinicals or unpaid internships.

Puckett said he will miss being able to help students but appreciates the friendships he made during his tenure.

"What I'm going to miss the most is having the authority to make a decision that could directly impact students now, or within weeks or months or the next semester," Puckett said. "It just thrilled me to death, knowing that I could do that and that the students had placed their faith and trust in me to do that."

Puckett said he is happy to see McGowan take over the position and is confident she will represent students well.

McGowan said she is excited to take on this role and learn more about herself in the process.

"I feel like my levels of personal growth are going to be tested this year and I'm going to be pushed to do things I've never done before and that doesn't scare me," McGowan said. "I'm really excited for that opportunity."

SGA meetings are held Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. in the Curris Center Barkley Room.

POLICE BEAT

2/27

7:22 P.M.

H.C. Franklin Hall

Fire was reported after a napkin caught fire accidentally in the microwave. No injuries/deaths. 0-\$99 damage.

2/27

10:15 A.M.

Chestnut Street

An officer stopped a car for speeding and the driver possessed a small amount of suspected marijuana.

3/4

8:34 P.M.

Hester College

Criminal mischief was reported after a poster was torn down.

3/8

3:59 P.M.

Elizabeth College

Criminal mischief was reported after a bulletin board was vandalized.

3/10

9:53 P.M.

Elizabeth College

Criminal mischief was reported after a bulletin board was vandalized.

3/12

4:38 P.M.

R.H White College

A report was received that a student was threatening harm to another student.

3/15

4:08 A.M.

The Arboretum

Criminal mischief was reported after damage to a signpost.

3/15

8:59 P.M.

Richmond College Parking Lot

Theft was reported after a catalytic converter was stolen from a parked vehicle.

3/18

12:54 P.M.

Multiple Locations (On and Off Campus)

Harassing communications was reported after an individual attempted to make unwanted contact with the victim over several years.

3/18

3:40 P.M.

Waldrop Drive

An unattended car was struck by an unknown car causing damage.

4/1

3:30 P.M.

H.C. Franklin Hall Parking Lot

An item was stolen from a parked vehicle.

Police Beat is compiled with material from the Murray State Crime and Fire Log.

Not all dispatched calls are listed.



Rebecca Mertins Chiodini/The News

At the candlelight vigil, friends, family and students shared their memories and experiences with Kaitlyn Shoulders.

KAITLYN, from page 1

Shoulders' mother Diana Phillips shared how special Murray State was to her daughter. "Kaitlyn came here for a visit with my mom, and she called me on her way home and said, 'Mom, I have found my second home,'" Phillips said. Phillips also thanked the Murray State community for their support during this hard time.

"Kaitlyn came here for a visit ... and she called me on her way home and said, 'Mom, I have found my second home.'

— Diana Phillips, mother of Kaitlyn Shoulders

"For all of you that have shown up for us this week, I can't tell you how much that means to me as her mom," Phillips said. "My entire family watched you all stand in line and hug us and love us and that really meant a lot to us."

Along with her friends and family, the Journalism and Mass Communications Department have been impacted by Shoulders' death. Journalism and Mass Communications Department Chair Kevin Qualls said he had Shoulders in an online class.

"Losing a student like this is always hard," Qualls said. "Kaitlyn was in our classrooms, she was in our lives, and we knew her and we liked her. Coming back from Spring Break and starting class, it was in the air, and I had to stop at the beginning of a

couple classes and say, 'I acknowledge this and I feel it too, the grief.'"

Senior Public Relations Instructor Elizabeth Thomas was Shoulders' academic adviser and had her as a student in two classes. She said she was looking forward to having her again during the fall semester.

"I have known Kaitlyn for two years ... I have been there from her very start here at Murray State, and I have to tell you Kaitlyn was truly a very, very special young lady," Thomas said. "She could have done anything she wanted with her life. She was a ray of light, and I know it can sound so trite when you say this, but truly she was the kindest, sweetest student I could ever imagine."

Thomas said she would often talk with Shoulders after class when they were on Zoom.

"I met with Kaitlyn two days before Spring Break started,

and we spent a wonderful hour talking and she was the picture of health and was all smiles," Thomas said. "She told me all about her semester, and we planned out the fall and she was so excited."

"She was a ray of light ... truly, she was the kindest, sweetest student I could ever imagine."

— Elizabeth Thomas, senior public relations instructor

As the campus body continues to remember the life of Shoulders, memorial contributions for Shoulders can be made to Christ the King Catholic Church at 1600 Kingsway Drive in Madisonville, Kentucky.

FELLOW, from page 2

In her class, Nielsen provided students with texts outlining the appropriate language for grant writing. Students also used the texts as a guide to analyze grants other people had written. Then, students worked through the topic proposal process. After Nielsen approved Mann's topic proposal, Mann applied for the grant.

"Dr. Nielsen was very helpful in offering feedback that ensured we were meeting the genre expectations," Mann said. For their final project, each student was asked to research and apply for a formal grant. Students wrote reflections on their experiences that tied to class discussions about grant writing.

Some students chose to work with nonprofit organizations or with their school districts. Other students, like Mann, chose



Photo courtesy of lillyendowment.org
Recipient Jaron Mann intends to use the grant to travel to England to research canonical British literature.

to apply for grants or write proposals for projects they were working on for their professional development.

Currently, Mann works as the instructional coach at the Fort Wayne Virtual Academy in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She said she aims to serve as a dual credit liaison between secondary and postsecondary institutions so she can spread her passion for reading.

"I love introducing students to canonical texts that may seem old or outdated and helping them to understand why these seemingly outdated texts are still relevant," Mann said.

With the funding from the Lilly Endowment, Mann will travel to England to explore and research artifacts influential to canonical, or religiously sacred, British literature.

She will visit several points of interest, including the Canterbury Cathedral, as portrayed in Geoffrey Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales" and the British Library, which houses a 10th century manuscript of "Beowulf."

Nielsen said Mann's travels will enrich her teaching career. "Grant and proposal writing is an imminently practical skill for professionals, especially those in education, and I'm always excited to work with our doctoral students on their projects in this class," Nielsen said. "Jaron's award will provide her with an excellent opportunity to engage with historical and cultural landmarks that matter to her classroom practices."

To learn more about the Doctorate of Arts in English Pedagogy and Technology program, email Program Director Kevin Binfield at kbinfield@murraystate.edu or visit murraystate.edu/graduate and click on the "Graduate Programs" tab

Our View: Democracy dwindles in the U.S.

Democracy is at the root of the United States' government and culture, but its presence seems to be waning. COVID-19, election season and the impending threat of war are all major events that definitely contradict the idea of the U.S. being a nation full of democracy and dreams.

One common threat in our country is the presence of polarization and division. No matter the era of history, U.S. citizens have been divided over politics.

According to a Gallup poll, satisfaction with our country at the beginning of 2022 only rose from 39% to 41% from last year. Under Trump, the satisfaction fell at 45%—just 4% more than the current rate.

The results from these polls give the impression that over half our country is dissatisfied with the state of our union as it stands today.

At *The News*, we believe that the divide in the United States is not easily solvable.

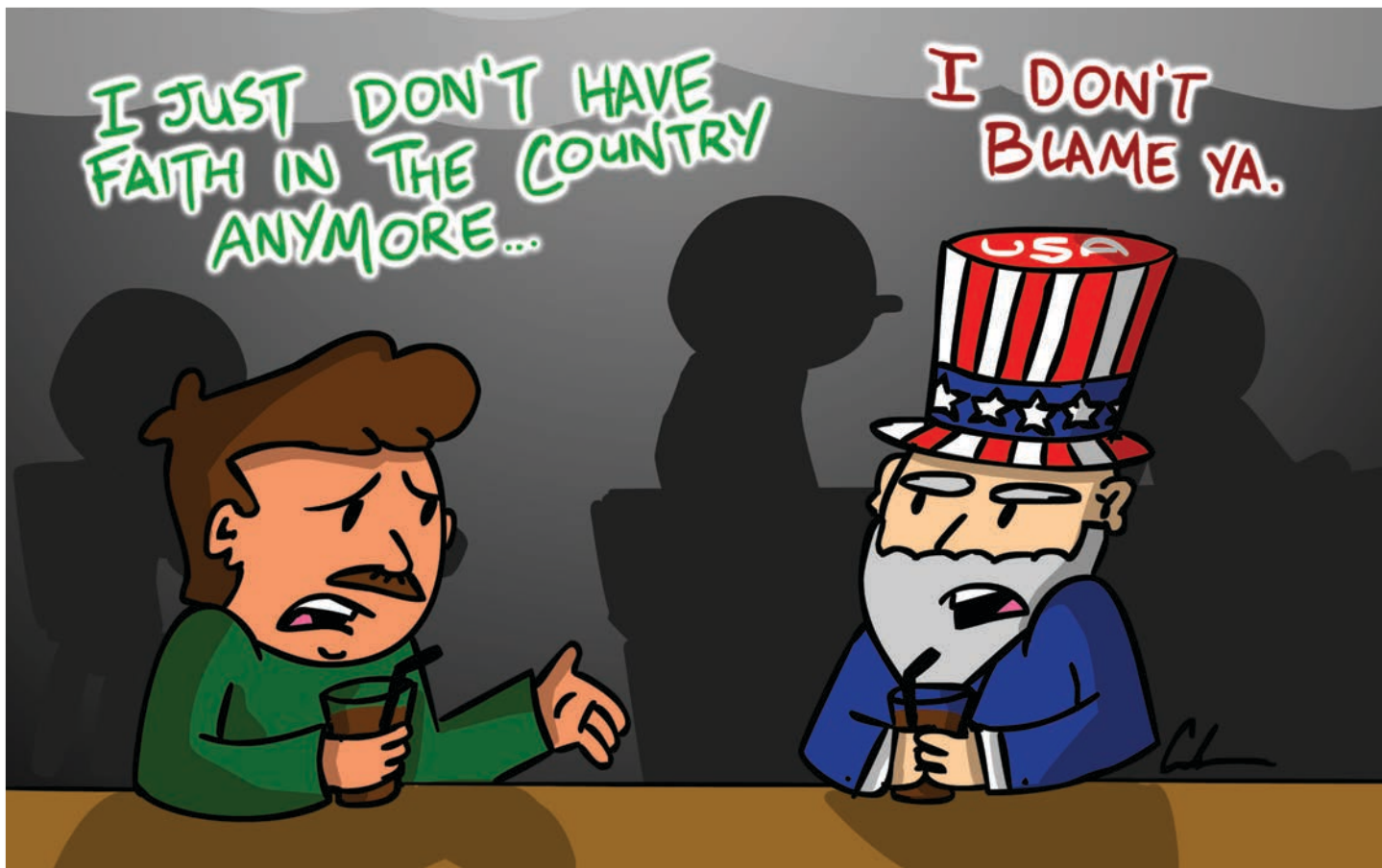
Democracy in the U.S. is important to our citizens because it offers choices. Despite the positivity of choices, they often lead to division that is increasing day-by-day. Division and polarization lead to unhappier Americans and the idea that everyone has to "pick a side" when sometimes it isn't that simple.

Everyday citizens often don't feel that they have the proper knowledge on certain topics to choose who to support at the polls. Topics like abortion, gun rights, healthcare and other issues are often hot topics during election season, but many voters don't even understand why they are voting in favor of or against these issues.

Policies like these will continue to generate a divide in the U.S. because so many people are passionate about these issues whether positive or negative. The problem lies in the passion that exists on both sides of the spectrum, leading to heavy polarization. Since everyone is convinced that their opinion is the only right one, no one will ever be truly satisfied with who is elected.

At *The News*, we also believe there is a lack of political involvement in the United States.

Citizens can certainly advocate for



Cade Utterback/*The News*

change. Political involvement in the last election was higher than we had seen as a nation in several years, with the voter turnout setting a record for most voters in the last century. Despite this record-breaking involvement, many large groups are unwilling to vote and become involved because they believe their vote will not count.

Although democratic voters were in support of President Biden on election day, they soon changed their voices of support. At first there was a sense of happiness because of the incoming changes proposed by President Biden such as climate change legislation, increased minimum wage, and free college tuition.

Many of these happy voters quickly became unsatisfied when they realized that some of the changes were not coming at all.

Younger voters feel that they have enough education to participate in politics, but many feel that they aren't being heard or represented. According to a poll by Zogby International, 33.6%

of 18-24 year olds in the U.S. feel politicians do not pay enough attention to young peoples' concerns.

Many people within this age bracket tend to feel unsupported by the politicians representing them, and we should when even Kentucky itself is being represented in the United States Senate by Mitch McConnell. Sen. McConnell is 80 years old and certainly does not have viewpoints that reflect 18-24 year olds struggling to pay for college or own their first home.

While there is not one concrete answer to the dilemma of lack of satisfaction in the U.S., several actions could be taken to help move us in the right direction.

One major change would have to be the allowance of younger people to have more of a platform. Being represented by older white men is no longer satisfactory when so many young voters are seeking representation that is not being given to them. As younger voters, we could begin groups to better understand the issues important to us

and voice concern about the policies and issues we care about.

Another way to increase satisfaction is to hold politicians accountable. Obviously a global pandemic or a war threat are unplanned events in our history that can take precedence over smaller issues at the time, but a focus could still be put on the issues at hand. Important issues, could be addressed and organizations could be created as a way to fix this issue. Issues highlighted in a candidate's platform should never take a backseat to smaller issues that citizens don't see a need for.

No matter what actions are taken, one thing is definitely true; we are more divided as a country than we have been in several years. Polarization is detrimental to our society, and it is only getting worse and worse. We have to hold politicians accountable for the promises they are making. Without accountability, politicians will not listen to their voters and will continually disappoint us.

"MORE TODAY THAN YESTERDAY"



Written & Illustrated by Cade Utterback

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Dave Winder/Racers Athletics

Junior guard Tevin Brown was one of the first players to leave as he entered his name into the NBA Draft with an agent.

Transfer Portal hits men's basketball team

All but one player from Murray State leave team in just over a week

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As the college basketball season closes the books following the NCAA Tournament, the one phrase everyone is hearing right now is "transfer portal."

Murray State men's basketball has lost all but one player to the transfer portal in the last couple of weeks. This follows their loss to Saint Peter's University in the NCAA Tournament and the departure of Head Coach Matt McMahon, who was hired as a head coach by Louisiana State University for men's basketball.

The Racers also lost two of its recruits following the hire of Steve Prohm as head basketball coach.

The names of players moving on include: junior forward KJ Williams; sophomore guards

Trae Hannibal, Justice Hill and DaQuan Smith; sophomore forward DJ Burns; and freshman forward Nicholas McMullen.

The one remaining player on the Racers roster is sophomore guard and Paducah, Kentucky native Rod Thomas.

Williams declared for the NBA Draft on March 22, but did not sign an agent, allowing him to return for one more season if he chooses. Junior guard Tevin Brown also announced he was declaring for the NBA Draft with an agent on March 24, effectively ending his collegiate career.

While Hannibal and Hill already have moved on to play at LSU with McMahon and Smith announced on Wednesday, April 6, that he will be playing for Radford University, the rest of the players in the portal still have a chance to return to Murray State.

According to the NCAA website, D1 athletes are allowed to test the transfer portal completely for free, essentially seeing what their value is to other schools. If they don't wish to transfer to another school or don't receive transfer offers, they can return to their school as if nothing happened.

Murray State isn't the only university whose basketball program is suffering from the transfer portal. Saint Peter's lost junior guards Daryl Banks III, Doug Edert and Matthew Lee.

Additionally, LSU lost all but one of its players to the portal, as well as two of its five-star recruits. Even key players from this year's NCAA Tournament, like University of Illinois's sophomore point guard Andre Curbelo and Texas Tech's junior guard Terrance Shannon Jr., were lost to the portal.

Another OVC player was lost

when Morehead State's freshman forward Johnni Broome both declared for the NBA Draft without an agent and entered his name into the transfer portal. Broome is ranked the 10th Best Available Player in the Portal by CBS Sports.

According to @verbalcommits on Twitter, there are over 1,200 names in the transfer portal as of Wednesday. The list of available transfers last season reached 1,700 by July.

Murray State's options remain wide open, with two recruits still coming in next season. The Racers are not the only program struggling with loss of players now, and there are many names out there for them to talk with.

Only time will tell what Murray State's men's basketball team will look like heading into the 2022-23 season in the Missouri Valley Conference.

Baseball drops close game in extras

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Murray State's baseball team losing streak hit four games as the Racers took an 8-5 loss against Southern Illinois University on Tuesday, April 6.

After coming back to tie the game at five in the bottom of the ninth, the Racers dropped three runs to the Salukis in the top of the 11th to lose their fourth straight game.

Junior left-handed pitcher Shane Burns got the start for the Racers, entering the game with a 3.86 Earned Run Average on the season.

Burns gave up a hit in the top of the first with a single to senior center fielder J.T. Weber, but he managed to work his way out of it by forcing a double play and striking out the last batter to get out of the inning.

The Racers took an early lead in the bottom of the first when junior right fielder Brennan McCullough singled down the left field line to bring sophomore designated hitter Jacob Pennington home for the first run of the game.

The Salukis got a run back in the top of the second inning when junior first baseman Ryan Rodriguez hit a sacrifice flyout that brought home sophomore right fielder Nathan Bandy.

Then, the Salukis took the lead in the top of the third inning with a single from junior designated hitter Darren Taylor. The single brought around junior third baseman Cody Cleveland and se-

nior second baseman Grey Epps, giving the Salukis a 3-1 lead.

A single from junior left fielder Pier-Olivier Boucher brought home Bandy and Taylor for another two runs in the top of third, pushing SIU's lead to 5-1.

The Racers didn't have an answer till the bottom of the fifth inning when they had the bases loaded with two outs.

Junior right-handed pitcher Jordan Gould, who relieved the Salukis starting pitcher two batters beforehand, threw a wild pitch behind junior catcher Nick Hagedorn. The pitch allowed sophomore second baseman Riley Hawthorne to dash home from third base and give the Racers a run.

The climb back continued for the Racers in the bottom of the sixth inning with a single from senior first baseman Wes Schad. The single brought in graduate shortstop Jordan Holly and moved the score to 5-3 in favor of the Salukis.

Then, the Racers crossed a run in the bottom of the eighth. Salukis' senior right-handed pitcher Trey McDaniel allowed Holly to steal second and McCullough to steal third. Following these steals, McDaniel balked on the mound and allowed McCullough to cross home for the Racers third unanswered run.

In the bottom of the ninth, with two runners on base and one out, senior third baseman Bryson Bloomer stepped up to the plate.

Though he hit a flyout to Bandy in right field, it was deep enough for Hawthorne to tag up and



Dave Winder/Racers Athletics

Junior outfielder Brennan McCullough was 2-5 batting against the Salukis on Tuesday, April 5.

score, tying the game at five runs and sending it into extra innings.

The Salukis quickly got a man on base when junior infielder J.T. Ortiz came in to pinch hit for Taylor and was hit by a pitch. Though he advanced all the way to third, a lack of bat contact from SIU left him stranded on base, giving the Racers a chance to score.

With two outs, sophomore left fielder Cade Sammons singled up the middle for his first and only hit in the game. After stealing second and forcing a throwing error, he made his way all the way over to third base. Despite his efforts, Sammons was left stranded on third by the Racers.

The top of the 11th inning came around and the Salukis looked to end the game there.

A single from junior shortstop Kaiber Rog brought in Cleveland and Hagedorn, then Weber scored on a wild pitch.

The Racers were unable to get any runs in the bottom of the 11th and the Salukis left Murray, Kentucky, victorious, winning 8-5.

The Racers had 10 hits and 15 strikeouts on 45 at-bats in the game and left 11 runners on base. The Salukis had seven RBIs on 14 hits in 44 at-bats, leaving nine stranded on base.

Murray State falls into a four-game losing streak with a 15-12 record overall and a 1-5 record in OVC play. The Racers travel to take on SEMO in a three-game series on Friday, April 8, and Saturday, April 9. First pitch for game one is set for 6 p.m. on Friday.



Photo courtesy of Racer Athletics

Senior right-handed pitcher Jenna Veber allowed four runs against Eastern Illinois over the three-game series.

Softball win streak ends at EIU with 14 wins

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A 14-game win streak came to an end as the Murray State softball team lost two games in a three-game series at Eastern Illinois on Saturday, April 2 and Sunday, April 3.

The Racers' undefeated start in conference play ended as they lost game one 8-0 to the Panthers, then dropped game three of the series 5-0.

GAME ONE

Junior right-handed pitcher Hannah James got the first start of the series on Saturday, entering the game with a .97 Earned Run Average (ERA). Quickly, James found herself in trouble as she gave up a single from freshman center fielder Jaylen Prichard, which was followed by a two-run home run by junior second baseman Hannah Cravens in the bottom of the first.

James held the Panthers to two runs in the game, until the bottom of the fourth inning when sophomore catcher Lindy Milkowski singled down the left field line to bring Cravens to home plate.

Two more runs came in when graduate right fielder Kendall Fields singled up the middle, bringing home sophomore third baseman Maddie Swart and freshman infielder Mikayla Creasbaum. The three runs put the Panthers up 5-0 heading into the fifth inning.

The Panthers added onto the score in the top of the fifth with a single from Prichard that brought senior shortstop Megan Burton in to score. Another run came across after a wild pitch from James.

The final run for the Panthers came off a single from Cravens that brought Prichard home for the run, which was unearned from an error. The game was called there, with the Panthers beating the Racers 8-0 in just five innings.

James gave up seven hits but still managed nine strikeouts in the game against 20 batters. The Racers had two hits in the matchup and drew three walks, totaling five baserunners.

GAME TWO

The Racers flipped the script for game two, getting a quick run from Braundmeier when she hit a lead-off home run to start the game.

Another six runs came across

the plate for the Racers in the top of the second inning on eight total hits. It all began with a single from freshman second baseman Erin Lackey that brought home senior center fielder Jensen Striegel.

Lackey tacked on another run in the top of the third with a home run to put the Racers up 8-0, but the Panthers answered with four runs of their own in the bottom of the third, with two runs coming in from a single from Cravens.

The Racers added one more run in the top of the sixth with a home run from senior shortstop Sierra Gilmore, which proved to be the nail in the coffin. The Racers defeated the Panthers 9-5.

Murray State had 16 hits through 36 batters in the game, including three home runs. James, who started in game two, had five strikeouts through three and two-thirds innings.

GAME THREE

Sophomore right-handed pitcher Jenna Veber got the start for the Racers in game three, coming into the game with a 1.04 ERA.

That ERA took a hit in the bottom of the first when Cravens hit a single to

bring Prichard around to score. Burton added on another run in the first with an RBI sacrifice flyout that brought in Swart to make it 2-0 Panthers.

The Racers left a runner on base in the second and third innings, with sophomore first baseman Lily Fischer getting a single in the top of the second and Wilson getting a hit in the top of the third.

Cravens added another run in the bottom of the third inning with a home run. Then, Fields hit a deep home run in the bottom of the fourth inning, making it a 4-0 lead for the Panthers.

Burton added one last run in the bottom of the fifth with a single up the middle that brought Prichard across home plate for the fifth and final run.

The Racers ended the game with five hits, but all five runners were left on base. The Panthers had five RBIs on five hits in the ballgame, while striking out six times in the game compared to the Racers' one strikeout.

Murray State falls to 25-10 overall with a 9-2 record in OVC play. The Racers continue their season on Saturday, April 9, and Sunday, April 10, when they take on Belmont in a three-game series. First pitch for game one is set for 1 p.m.

MURRAY STATE ATHLETICS SCHEDULE

APRIL 8 - 12, 2022

Shann Riley/The News

April 8

Women's Golf at Murray State @ Murray, KY	ALL DAY
Women's Tennis vs. Eastern Illinois @ Murray, KY	12p.m.
Baseball at Southeast Missouri @ Cape Girardeau, MO	6p.m.

April 9

Women's Golf at Murray State @ Murray, KY	ALL DAY
Women's Tennis vs. SIUE @ Murray, KY	12p.m.
Softball at Belmont @ Nashville, TN	1p.m., 3p.m.
Baseball at Southeast Missouri @ Cape Girardeau, MO	2p.m.

April 10

Softball at Belmont @ Nashville, TN	1p.m.
Baseball at Southeast Missouri @ Cape Girardeau, MO	1p.m.

April 11

Men's Golf at Tennessee State @ Nashville, TN	ALL DAY
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April 12

Men's Golf at Tennessee State @ Nashville, TN	ALL DAY
Baseball at Ole Miss @ Oxford, MS	11a.m.

For more
info visit
GoRacers.com



Minister addresses trauma, preaches joy

Raleigh Hightower
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Offering a space where people can recognize “religious violence” but still experience joy and fun in these faith spaces, speaker Alicia Crosby led a discussion on these topics on April 4.

The Episcopal Campus Ministry and the Department of English and Philosophy collaborated sponsoring the discussion.

Zebulun Treloar, who leads the Episcopal Campus Ministry said he decided to try and bring a discussion about religious trauma after observing trauma at play in the community.

“A lot of people connected to the Episcopal Campus Ministry, St. John’s, Murray State, and in the wider community around us have experienced religious trauma. I hear about it a lot and it’s a frequent topic of conversation, especially when we’re sharing our faith journeys together,” said Treloar who also serves as priest of St. John’s Episcopal Church.

The discussion was led by Alicia Crosby, a justice educator, activist and minister whose work is centered on religious trauma, violence and abuse.

The discussion began with Crosby detailing her earlier career, which started in a New York megachurch. Crosby said while working at this megachurch, she experienced an early, fundamental incident of religious trauma that stuck with her throughout her career.

“There was this one service in particular, the choir was singing this song called ‘I Need You To Survive.’ The lyrics are: ‘I pray for you, you pray for me, I love you, I need you to survive,’” Crosby said. “In my body, hearing those lyrics, I froze, my heart was racing and I felt the need to run ... the reason I had that embodied response was because this church environment was deeply, deeply violent toward me.”

Crosby said shortly after this experience, she quit her job and separated herself from the mega-



Photo courtesy of aliciacrosby.com

Educator, activist and minister, Alicia Crosby, led a discussion on religious trauma in partnership with the Episcopal Campus Ministry on April 4.

church. Though this experience was very significant to her, it was not her first brush with religious trauma.

Crosby said she experienced her first instance of religious trauma growing up in a black Baptist church.

“I was seven years old in this service and very involved with the church,” Crosby said. “The new pastor came along and changed the rules for communion. Something in my little seven-year-old self knew this wasn’t OK, and I spoke up about it. The pastor wasn’t with it ... the pastor ignored me as a child.”

Crosby said the religious trauma and violence “clicked” for her while she was working for a civil rights non-profit.

While working at the non-profit, many of Crosby’s younger co-workers began coming out to her as members of the LGBTQ community. Crosby, who herself is a member of the LGBTQ community, said she was confused as to why her co-workers had hidden this part of their identities from her.

“These young folks, high-schoolers and college

students, were trusting me as a supportive presence in their lives,” Crosby said. “I said ‘What’s going on where this part of who you are is being left out of conversation and is being left off the table? They said, ‘You are the most religious person we know, and we were afraid you were going to abandon us.’”

Crosby said this experience left her heartbroken and she realized that the abandonment these people had faced was religious violence.

“In my head it clicked, this is violence and we need to call these things what they are,” Crosby said.

Treloar also discussed the possible effect that religious organizations being noninclusive can have on religious trauma.

“I think all communities are diminished when people are excluded from leadership, or even from salvation, based on things like gender and sexuality,” Treloar said. “We were made to compliment one another and work together. Limiting who calls the shots and who gets a say based on class, sexuality, gender or race weakens the community and opens it to corruption.”

Crosby defined terms like religious violence and religious trauma in order to give people the language to explain how they are feeling.

The definition of religious violence Crosby provided is: “the spiritual, physical, emotional, psychological or material harm people experience through, because of or within religion.”

Crosby also spoke on how religion can sometimes create and place people within restrictive environments in which they are not able to fully explore themselves.

“For some of us we have lived in a really restrictive space,” Crosby said. “That means we need space for processing who we are, even as sexual beings.”

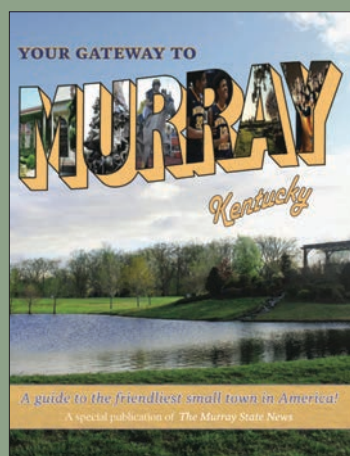
The discussion concluded with Crosby advocating that even as individuals face difficult tasks such as repairing and healing from their religious trauma, that there is still room for positivity.

“There is room for joy here,” Crosby said. “Too often people take things like healing and repair as serious things, and they are ... but there is still a space for lightness, fun and for being ridiculous.”

Gateway approaches

The 2022 edition of our *Gateway Magazine* can be a gateway for businesses to reach a bigger audience. The magazine will be distributed on campus and at various locations in Murray.

Reserve your space in this full-color magazine which will be on newsracks and online through February 2023. To speak with an advertising representative call 270-809-4478 or contact msunewsads@gmail.com



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All Campus Sing is back on the steps of Lovett Auditorium on Wednesday, April 13 at 3:30 p.m.





(Clockwise from top left) Winner of Miss MSU, Hanan Stiff poses with her family; Hanan Stiff after receives awards; (Middle) Hanan Stiff receives the Miss MSU 2022 crown from Hannah Irvin; Hanan Stiff with Miss MSU 2021, Hannah Irvin; (Bottom) Top 5 contestants pose together; and Top 15 contestants pose together.

Photos by Rebeca Mertins Chiodini / *The News*



Sophomore student crowned 52nd annual Ms. MSU

Hannah Foote
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Students competed for the opportunity to represent the university as Ms. MSU 2022 at the Ms. MSU pageant Saturday, April 2.

This was the first year since the COVID-19 pandemic that an audience was present to watch the pageant.

The crowd showed lots of cheers, support and playful cat-calling for each contestant and their organizations. After the pageant, most of the audience swarmed the stage for pictures with the candidates.

This year Hanan Stiff, a sophomore elementary education major nominated by Alpha Sigma Alpha, was crowned Ms. MSU.

Aside from being a part of Alpha Sigma Alpha, Stiff is also a part of Delight Ministries, a ministry group on campus directed toward women.

“After graduation, Hanan plans on teaching at an elementary school, hopefully in the Murray area,” according to a post about Stiff on the Ms. MSU instagram page, @msmurraystateuniversity.

“It was definitely an initial shock because of how many wonderful women I was competing against, but if I had to choose one word it would definitely be an honor,” Stiff said. “I am so thrilled for this opportunity and excited to see what’s to come.”

Stiff was given a crown, sash and plaque along with a \$850 Ms. MSU scholarship.

In ranking order, the other contestants in the Top 5 and consequently the runner ups are: Allye Culp, representing Alpha Omicron Pi; Courtney Rager, representing College of Education and Human Services Student Ambassadors; Anjel Echols, representing Delta Sigma Theta; and Hannah Eriksen, representing Sigma Sigma Sigma.

The pageant also recognized the Top 15 contestants. The contestants included Lani Mitchell, Livy Badalamenti, Kaitlyn Sutton, Emily Winstead, Kennedy Trypus, Jackie Forys, Coleman Austin, Jill Rush, Ana Moyers and Jenna Thomas.

Eriksen was voted Miss Congeniality by her fellow competitors prior to the pageant and was awarded a plaque at the pageant. Rager won Most Photogenic, also receiving a plaque.

In the fall, registered student organizations had the opportunity to nominate women to represent their organization.

This year, the Board considered around 50 nominees. For the Board to determine the 15 advancing to compete in the pageant, the nominees went through interviews.

After their selections, the Top 15 performed the opening dance at the pageant in red jumpsuits. Then, each contestant came forward announcing themselves

and who they are representing. Afterwards, they walked on stage in their ball gowns, flowing in and out of the spotlights one after the other.

There were gowns of various different styles and colors, some featuring capes and trains.

Afterward, the judges chose the Top 5 contestants who would continue on and present a one-minute speech. From those, the overall scores were determined to decide the next Ms. MSU.

The 2021 Ms. MSU, Hannah Irvin, will go on to represent Murray State in the Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival this May for a chance to be crowned queen of the festival by Gov. Andy Beshear.

The Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival is a festival held every May in Pineville, Kentucky. Colleges and universities around Kentucky each select one representative. Stiff will have the opportunity to participate in the 2023 Mountain Laurel Festival.