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Calendar of Events

Veterans Lunch
Thursday, Sept. 15 (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.)
Blackburn Science Building 444

All military service-connected students can go to the Veteran Affairs lounge for a free meal.

Education Abroad information fair
Thursday, Sept. 15 (11 a.m. - 2 p.m.)
Curris Center, second floor

The annual study abroad fair is back. Students can come and learn more about faculty-led abroad programs.

Pet Therapy
Thursday, Sept. 15 (noon - 1 p.m.)
Outside of Waterfield Library

De-stress with pet therapy teams. Dogs, cats, and perhaps other animals with certified handlers.

Cinema International
Thursday, Sept. 15 (7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.)
Curris Center Barkley Room

Cinema International will host a showing of Mexican American film "Mr. Pig."

Reading Series: Crystal Wilkinson
Thursday, Sept. 15 (7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.)
Curris Center Ballroom

Kentucky Poet Laureate Crystal Wilkinson will be at Murray State discussing and reading from her work.

Constitution Day
Monday, Sept. 19 (8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
Curris Center Theater

An educational series will be hosted by faculty in the political science department to celebrate Constitution Day.

KentuckyCare Concert Jordan Smith
Saturday, Sept. 17 (6 p.m.)
CFSB Center

Winner of "The Voice" Jordan Smith will appear in concert hosted by KentuckyCare as a part of their Hope, Healing and Restore series. Tickets are at <https://bit.ly/3CYcLFi>

Family Weekend
Sept. 22 - 23

The full Family Weekend schedule is at <https://www.murraystate.edu/familyweekend/schedule>.

Source: murraystate.edu/calendar



Regents discuss fall enrollment rise, academic curriculum changes

The Board of Regents held their fall 2022 quarterly meeting on Friday, Sept. 9. The meeting can be streamed at <https://www.murraystate.edu/about/streaming.aspx>. Dionte Berry/The News

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In comparison to last year, Murray State had an overall 2.3% enrollment increase, as discussed at the Friday, Sept. 9 Board of Regents meeting along with curriculum changes, construction timelines and upcoming centennial events.

In addition to the overall enrollment increase, Renee Fister, the executive director for Strategic Enrollment Management reported there was a 5.6% increase in underrepresented minorities in undergraduate enrollment and a 3.2% increase in graduate enrollment.

"A 2.3% increase is a huge win for Murray State, and for all of the faculty, staff and students who made that happen, especially for the ones who are in enrollment management and are out on the road and continue to be," Fister said.

Although noting increases in overall enrollment, Fister said the number of new enrollments

from Kentucky overall has slightly decreased as a result of fewer high school graduates in the state.

Murray State will also introduce students to a new curriculum. The Academic Excellence and Scholarly Activities Committee provided an informational session on the change in the amount of University Studies credits required to graduate.

Assistant Provost Ashley Ireland said the decision to shorten the credit hours required for University Studies has been an initiative in the works for several years.

"Before now, the number of credits a student was required to take in this 'gen ed' curriculum was anywhere between 37 and as much as 42," Ireland said. "Now you can complete the University Studies in 32 hours."

Ireland followed by saying the change also makes it clearer to students what they are meant to get out of the curriculum.

"In the previous University Studies, there were 29 learning outcomes, and the categories were broad," Ireland said. "Students weren't understanding

that they were getting a core course. ... Depending on how you count, the new University Studies has eight to nine learning outcomes."

The learning outcomes will make it easier for transfer students and dual credit students to transfer and apply their credits.

Among the curriculum changes, residential college seminars are set to make a comeback. The seminars are one credit hour, second half-semester courses taught in the residential colleges.

Provost Tim Todd said the seminars are helpful for students who want to take on more credit hours after dropping a class.

"Those kinds of classes being taught in residential colleges further emphasize student affairs and academic affairs linkages," Todd said. "They are also very good retention tools because a student may get in trouble with a math course and need to pick up something else."

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Murray native arrested for sorority attack

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A Murray State student was arraigned in court on Tuesday, Sept. 14, after allegedly attempting an attack on female students gathering for Lambda Chi Alpha's Watermelon Bust event on Saturday, Sept. 10.

The former student, 19-year-old Jack Epperson, targeted those in the sorority with a Molotov cocktail-style explosive, according to a press release from Kentucky State Police. The attack proved ineffective and only gave Epperson himself burn injuries. He then took out a knife and further attempted to attack the students.

Calloway County District Court Judge, Randall Hutchins set Epperson's cash bond at \$50,000, *The Murray Ledger & Times* reported. Epperson also waived his right to a preliminary hearing and to have his case heard by a grand jury.

After the attack, KSP located Epperson and arrested him. Police transported him to Murray-Calloway County Hospital for treatment of his injuries and then to Calloway County Detention Center.



Jack Epperson was arrested after attempting an attack at Sorority Row on Saturday, Sept. 10. Jayden Hayn/The News

There, Epperson was charged with two counts of attempted assault and one count of possession of a destructive device, both of which are felony charges. One count of second-degree wanton endangerment was added at his arraignment, *The Murray Ledger & Times* reported. Although there were no physical injuries to those students, University administration ensured students had access to mental health resources after the incident.

"We are very thankful that this incident did not cause any injuries, and we are providing counseling services and other assistance

to those involved," President Bob Jackson said in a message to campus. "Any student or other members of our campus community may contact University Counseling Services at 270-809-6851 and msu.counselingcenter@murraystate.edu if needed."

Executive Director of Marketing and Communication Shawn Touney stressed the importance of Murray State police following the attack.

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Murray State is offering new overall degree paths including civil and sustainability engineering and cybersecurity network management.

For graduate programs, a wildlife and conservation biology master's program is set to be offered, but is awaiting approval from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education.

Three-year bachelor's degree programs are also in the works and set to be offered in earth and environmental sciences, nutrition, agricultural sciences and business administration.

Along with the accelerated degree path, new degree specifications are on the horizon.

The nursing program is set to offer dental hygienist and paramedic certification, and the agriculture department is set to include agriculture and drone technology programs.

"We are really proud of all the plans geared toward students and student success," Todd said.

Regarding current student programs, the Dean of the College of Education and Human Services David Whaley talked about the Kentucky teacher shortage and how his college plans to approach it.

"I sit on the Board of the Western Kentucky Educational Co-op...and probably the most troubling discussion that we get into has to do with the teacher shortages," Whaley said. "Last year we had 1,800 teaching positions that went unfilled. That's an amazing shortage."

Whaley pointed out low wages were a big part of Kentucky's teacher shortages and how many years of school it takes for students to become teachers.



The National Pan-Hellenic Council Plaza is one of the construction projects set for the fall 2022 semester along with Mason Hall and Oakley Applied Science. Dionte Berry/The News

In response to the teaching shortage, Whaley is highlighting the nine ways students can get a teaching degree, the newest being the three-year expedited teaching certification made possible by House Bill 277 passed in April 2022.

"We have partnered with West Kentucky Community and Technical College to develop an [expedited teaching certification program], but this will allow for a three-year program for those individuals who may be paraprofessionals or already work in that school district," Whaley said.

Whaley said individuals have already expressed interest in the program.

From academic updates to physical campus updates, Facility Management Director Jason Youngblood and Vice President

of Finance Jackie Dudley provided information on campus projects that have already been approved by the board.

The pair presented a timeline of projects apart of the asset preservation fund, the 2022-2023 academic year, the 2023-2024 academic year and a separate list of projects without a set completion date.

The asset preservation projects address the Oakley Applied Science Building and Mason Hall renovations. Both projects are set for this semester and serve to make the buildings more accessible and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

A grand opening is set for Lovett Auditorium as part of Homecoming and the Centennial Celebration.

Members from the Office of Branding, Marketing

and Communication presented further plans to commemorate 100 years of Murray State.

The fall 2022 edition of Murray State Blue & Gold will further highlight the centennial. The Racer Alumni Podcast, "Stories from the Finest Place We Know," is set to continue after the centennial year.

The spring donation campaign, "Give Bold," which commemorated the University's selection as a Normal School, raised over \$280,000 for programs across campus. Donors were allowed to give to whichever cause they wanted.

The calendar for the rest of Murray State's centennial year is available at murraystate.edu/centennial.

The Board of Regents will reconvene for their fall 2022 quarterly meeting on Dec. 2.

Centennial marks record-breaking donor support

Jill Smith

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During its centennial year, the University has hit a new record in donor support of students and academic programs.

The University has received approximately \$11 million in new gifts, pledges and planned gift commitments, according to murraystate.edu.

Executive Director of Development Tina Bernot said the continued support from donors keeps the University running.

"We rely on revenue from tuition [and] state funding to make up our budget, so anything donors give above and beyond helps us do incredible things for programs," Bernot said.

Bernot said donor support is important to ensuring all students get access to education and quality programs.

"Student debt is a hot topic across the country right now, and every scholarship dollar we bring in the office is \$1 less that a student has to come up with or their family has to come up with."

Donors have designated \$4.7 million has been designated to fund scholarships, which is often geared toward certain specific programs, colleges and students.

"[Donors] think about their story and the type of students they want to help because of the story they lived, so they set up new scholarship funds all the time to reflect that," Bernot said.

Donors have designated \$2.4 million was designated to support academic programs across campus.

Bernot said these donations are important because they are donor centered.

"We try to create lifelong relationships versus just a transactional relationship where it's one gift or two gifts over time," Bernot said. "We want donors to give throughout their whole lives. In order to do that, we try to determine where they want to focus their philanthropy and where they want to make a difference, so we guide their support in that area to certain projects once we identify where they want to help."

This year, Karon Jones Squires and her husband Jim Squires made the largest gift in the University's history.

The gift was made to the Jesse D. Jones College of Science, Technology and Engineering to provide students with full-ride scholarships.

Jones Squires is an alumna of Murray State and is the daughter of a former professor who taught in the college.

"It's very important to her to continue her dad's legacy of creating new engineers, and it's also important to her to give women that same opportunity and to help encourage them to be a part of that field," Bernot said. "She designated it to support her dad's scholarship fund and then to create full-ride scholarships with a preference for women students. That's just program changing."

President Bob Jackson said he is grateful for the support from alumni and friends of the University.

"We could not provide the current record levels of scholarships



Over \$100,000 has been donated so far to various academic programs during 2022. Dionte Berry/The News

and financial aid to our students without our generous supporters," Jackson said. "We have the best alumni and donor base a university could imagine, and it started 100 years ago as Murray State was being envisioned and our donors stepped forward with \$116,000 to make this special place a reality."

A number of special projects, including the new National Pan-Hellenic Council Brick Plaza has led to an increase in first-time donors supporting causes important to them.

Bernot said these special projects reinforce donors' love for the University.

"It was a great opportunity for us to be able to reconnect them to do something great for our current students and future students," Bernot said. "Then to connect those new donors to campus, so those types of projects are very successful right now."

To make a gift to the University, visit murraystate.edu/giving or call the Office of Development at 270-809-3001.

Colleagues share memories of late instructor

Dionte Berry

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William Gross Magee died on Aug. 31 at the age of 65. He was a professor at Murray State for nearly 25 years.

Magee worked as a photography and digital imaging professor after graduating from the University himself.

Before starting his undergraduate journey, Magee discovered photography.

“At 14, he picked up his late father’s camera equipment and reopened his darkroom,” according to murraystate.edu. “Before graduating high school, he had become a professional photographer published in books, newspapers, national magazines and other commercial ventures.”

Orville Herndon, publication systems manager for the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, recalls knowing of Magee before he started teaching at Murray State.

“I knew Magee from my days as a computer consultant for the ‘Gleaner’ newspaper chain,” Herndon said. “Magee had written a classified advertising program based on Apple’s HyperCard program. I bought and installed his HyperCard program for several of the newspapers I worked with. I was happy Magee joined the department in 2010. He had a great amount of knowledge.”

Before joining the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, Magee was a professor in the College of Industry and Technology, where administrative assistant Marion Hale first met him.

“He taught one of our photo classes, and so we had to put him with an

extra comp and do paperwork, and I misspelled his name really bad,” Hale said. “I’m sure he was accustomed to it, but he was very kind in the way he corrected me on how to spell his name.”

Magee and Hale became more acquainted when Magee transitioned to the journalism department. Hale said she found him to be a funny and kind person who was dedicated to their craft and sharing knowledge with others.

“He was a good teacher, a little rough around the edges for some,” Hale said. “But he helped you learn a lot of things, especially photography, which was his skill and his passion. He wanted people to understand it like he did.”

Magee wanted students to be able to tell stories with their photos. Hale said she would often witness him talking with his students regarding how to tell a story and grab one’s attention with a photo.

Hale also became acquainted with Magee’s family and some of his other interests beyond photography. She said Magee was a big fan of barbecue and bluegrass music.

The pair would often have conversations during Magee’s breaks.

“I think I enjoyed most just seeing him being around,” Hale said. “You could always tell when he was on break because he’d be walking out the door to go across the street to have a cigarette. We would talk as he came back in.”

Magee was known for being a lover of nature, which made up a large amount of his photography. One of his biggest projects was publishing photos from Mammoth Cave in Kentucky.



Photo courtesy of lindseyfuneral.com

Magee taught photography and digital imagery at Murray State for 25 years.

In a message to the journalism and mass communications faculty and staff, Department Chair Kevin Qualls said instead of flowers, Magee’s family said they would appreciate donations made to the Friends of Land Between the Lakes at <https://friendsoflbl.org/donations-and-campaigns>.

“Magee had a 25-year career at MSU,” Qualls wrote. “Recognition of his career and our loss is important.”

We at *The News* appreciate Magee’s work and the help he lent during the production of our 2022 edition of the Gateway magazine. Magee captured the Wilson Hall sunset cover photo.

Mental Health Highlight: Student Disability Services

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Student Disability Services (SDS) works to provide students with disabilities accommodations and services to ensure they have a positive college experience.

SDS annually provides for nearly 800 registered disabled students with cognitive disabilities, mental/emotional disorders, seizure disorders, autism, sensory disorders, mobility impairments and other physical or health impairments.

Ken Ashlock, director of SDS, said SDS is committed to serving students with documented disabilities.

“We work with students that have learning disabilities, physical disabilities, chronic health impairments, mental and emotional disorders and more,” Ashlock said. “Our mission at the office is to help students be able to gain access to all areas of campus, not just things that might impact their academics or the classrooms.”

Ashlock said his office strives to guarantee students can succeed in the classroom by providing students with a variety of ways to ensure a successful college career.

“We provide students with accommodations in the classroom setting,” Ashlock said. “We provide students with extra time to take their exams; perhaps, they might need to have a reader or a scribe, depending on the nature of their disability. Anything related to the academic areas, those are some things that we focus on.”

The Testing Center is available to students who have completed the Testing Center accommodation form, according to their website.

The Center provides students with a quiet, distraction-free environment to take exams with extra time if needed.

Ashlock said the Testing Center might benefit students who are easily distracted, specifically students diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).



Dionte Berry/The News

Abigail Perry is the administrative assistant for Student Disability Services located in Wells Hall 423.

“If [students] are taking an exam in a classroom full of other students, sometimes just the slightest little distraction can really kind of spiral for students like that,” Ashlock said. “Our private testing rooms give them the opportunity to take the exam in an isolated area, and we have a way that we can monitor students [because] all of our testing rooms have a two-way glass, so we can kind of watch them as they’re taking the exam.”

Students can request access to the center by emailing, calling the office or filling out a request form on their website.

Ashlock said students wanting to utilize the Testing Center should schedule three days before their exam takes place.

In addition to the accommodations and services for students, SDS also offers two programs to provide students with extra support during their college career.

Project Pass is a voluntary program that provides students with extra support during the beginning of their college career.

This program offers students extra help during Racer Nation Orientation, a smooth move into their residential college and specialized classes, according to their website.

This program focuses on students’ first experiences at Murray State. Students are enrolled in a course during their first semester.

“[Students] have to learn how to request accommodations, they have to learn how to schedule their exams, they have to learn how to communicate with

their professors, if they’re using accommodations through our office,” Ashlock said. “It’s just a way to kind of help students understand the differences, the combinations are, are basically the same, but just how they’re implemented.”

For students transitioning out of college, the College to Career Experience is a career transition program that helps students with intellectual disabilities.

This program is designed to help individuals wanting to gain more independence and skills they can use in the job field.

Ashlock said this program works with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to assist students find employment opportunities.

“There have been several [students] that have gone through the program and really benefited from it,” Ashlock said. “It’s just another way to help individuals who have more profound disabilities to still gain some valuable experiences, valuable skills to help them better themselves and contribute positively to those communities.”

Beyond academic and career transitional services, SDS provides housing and parking accommodations, meal interpreter/captioning, notetakers, emotional support animal registration, classroom accommodations, voter registration services, pregnancy and parenting accommodations and Americans with Disabilities Act Student Grievance procedure.

To find out more information on SDS and the services they provide, visit murraystate.edu/sds or visit their office located in Wells Hall Room 423.

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The Murray State University Police Department is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 270-809-2222.

Touney said the Greek and Student Life Office has been in contact with the organizations affected.

“We are very thankful that this isolated incident did not cause any injuries to those attending the event and that the individual was quickly apprehended,” Touney said.

In light of the attack targeting women, the Gender Equity Caucus made a statement expressing their stance in solidarity with the women who were attacked.

The GEC also acknowledges the heightened violence toward women and requests for more reporting on these incidents.

“This weekend’s events demonstrate the urgency of a problem that existed long before Saturday’s attempted attack,” the GEC’s statement reads. “Greater transparency beyond meeting minimal reporting requirements and concrete actions to address the needs of vulnerable populations are essential for combating violence already shrouded in silence, secrecy and shame.”

The GEC said they encourage anyone affected by and struggling with gender-based violence or the violence they experienced during the incident or elsewhere from intimate partners to reach out to the Women’s Center at 270-809-3016. The center is located in the Oakley Applied Science Building in Room C102, Lotus Sexual Violence Resource center at 1-800-928-7273 and Merryman House Domestic Crisis Center at 1-800-585-2686.

The attack is still under investigation.

The Murray Ledger and Times reported Epperson will be arraigned on additional charges in Calloway County Circuit Court on Oct. 18.

Stay tuned in to *The News* for follow-ups on the case.

Our View: The U.S. Constitution is a living document

Saturday, Sept. 7 is Constitution Day, meaning many Americans will celebrate the writing and signing of our Constitution. On Sept. 17, 1787, the U.S. Constitution was written, and since then, we have used it to set legal precedents and make decisions impacting our country.

Many people believe, despite the precedent, we should begin relying less on the Constitution as it was written. As more decisions are made, new precedents are set. Because of this, our legislators should begin to consider new ideas and not rely solely on the Constitution for decisions.

Although the Constitution was written to guarantee certain rights, the Founding Fathers could not have foreseen every possible outcome. While having a document to use for important legal decisions can help make sure we make effective decisions, it is important to remember the Constitution is a living document.

At *The News*, we believe a document written 235 years ago should not be considered when it comes to modern decisions impacting groups of people who weren't considered during its writing. Essentially, the Constitution was written to govern the white men of society at the time. Because we have come so far in terms of rights and who has them, we should be able to now reframe the Constitution in a way that best benefits everyone better.

We can celebrate the progress and the milestone event, but to celebrate the Constitution as it stands today is ineffective. While we can learn about what the Constitution means to our country and its people, it is also important to remember the changing times we live in today.

At *The News*, we believe that consistency within the legal system is important for creating and maintaining laws and ensuring justice. Sometimes, however, politicians make decisions without taking into account the shifting ideas and needs of our people. When it comes to a decision made in



Wesley Hammer/*The News*

2022, we may take into consideration what the Founding Fathers wrote, but we certainly should not rely solely on decisions made in the 18th century.

One notable example is women's suffrage granted by the 19th Amendment on August 26, 1920. The right for women to vote was not present in the Constitution but eventually that was changed to benefit society.

In terms of recent cases citing the Constitution, the Supreme Court of the United States overturned *Roe v. Wade* this summer on the grounds that it was unconstitutional because nothing within the Constitution states an inherent right to privacy and personal autonomy. Sure, the Constitution may not say anything regarding abortion, but things have changed significantly in terms of the rights and healthcare we have now.

Women's suffrage and abortion rights are two different issues, one involving giving

women the power to choose their legislators and one giving people the right to an abortion. Both may be different, but both are prime examples of using the Constitution as a framework for decision-making and offering free choice and autonomy. When it came to abortion this summer, however, the SCOTUS used the Constitution to argue that abortion was never present in the document and should not be an option.

We at *The News* believe decision-making bodies should consider the good of the country, rather than trying to maintain ideas set hundreds of years ago. If we rely only on the ideas set forth in 1787, women would not have the right to vote and slavery would be legal. We would be nowhere near the level of societal progression we have reached today.

Although we can't change everything about the Constitution, we should definitely learn to accept change. When some-

thing that would benefit society as a whole becomes available, we shouldn't keep it from everyone just because it wasn't explicitly stated in the Constitution 235 years ago.

Allowing the Constitution to be seen as a living document allows more room for interpretation. When we get stuck with policies established in the 1800s, we get stuck without effective change. We have to understand the importance of using the Constitution to create change rather than using it to keep change from happening.

It is completely unconstitutional to take steps away from advancement. If we are moving backwards, progress is being dented and we should not stand for that. Allowing the continuation of no change means our freedoms are being robbed from us. We have to hold legislators accountable and make sure they are using the Constitution to benefit us rather than take our freedoms away.

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The News strives to be the University community's source for information. Our goal is to present that information in a fair and unbiased manner and provide a free and open forum for expression and debate.

The News is an independent weekly student-run newspaper published at Murray State. The content does not reflect the opinions of the Murray State journalism and mass communication department.



Photo courtesy of Racer Athletics

Junior outside hitter Jayla Holcombe (jumping center) finished the Marshall Invite on Saturday, Sept. 10 with 38.5 total points across all three games.

Volleyball takes two games at Marshall Invite

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The Murray State volleyball team went 2-1 over the weekend when they traveled to Huntington, West Virginia to compete in the Marshall Invite.

This is a turnaround from the Liberty Tournament, where the team went 0-3 on the weekend. Racers' Head Coach David Schwepker commented on the improvement in play.

"Each week, we'll always pick something that we just need to work on," said Schwepker. "What we were really working on is our offense. We're giving up way too many unforced errors, so that's kind of what we worked on all week."

Racers vs Buccaneers

In their first match of the weekend, the Racers took on Charleston Southern University on Friday, Sept. 9.

Murray State was down 7-4 early in the first set before a flurry of points came its way. A rally was started by back-to-back kills from junior middle blocker Darci Metzger, followed by an attack error from Charleston Southern followed and a kill by freshman outside hitter Federica Nuccio came soon after, putting the Racers up 9-7.

The Racers were down 26-25 and close to losing the first set, but they weren't quite done yet. Back-to-back kills by Metzger gave Murray State a one-point lead and a bad set from the Buccaneers put

the Racers up 1-0 in the match.

It was late in the second set and Murray State was down 23-15. The Racers then began to rally thanks to a kill by junior outside hitter Morgan Price. Nuccio followed her with three straight kills. An attack error rounded out the rally, leaving the score 23-20. Despite the late rally, the Buccaneers took the set 25-22.

Murray State was able to get an early lead, starting the third set off with three straight points. Nuccio killed the ball twice and sophomore setter Bailey DeMier earned a service ace in the sequence.

Charleston Southern retaliated by going on a seven-point rally to go up 7-3. After a back-and-forth set, the Racers were up 21-20. Murray State was able to go on a late run, scoring three times in a row thanks to two Buccaneer attack errors and a kill from Nuccio. The Racers took the set 25-22 and went up 2-1 in the match.

The Racers were able to handle things in four sets as they got an early 7-3 lead before the Buccaneers rallied to get ahead 8-7. The Racers were able to respond quickly, however, as they began to run away with the fourth set going up 20-14. The Racers were able to close the fourth and final set thanks to a Buccaneer attack error, giving Murray State the win 25-19.

Racers vs The Herd

After losing game two 3-1 against Kent State, the Racers took on Marshall University on Saturday, Sept. 10.

Murray State had a 22-16 lead in the first set before The Herd went on a tear, tying things up 23 apiece. As both teams were tied with 26 points each, junior outside hitter Jayla Holcombe earned back-to-back kills, giving Murray State took the first set winning 28-26.

Nuccio helped the Racers win the second set with six kills. Holcombe was a big contributor with five kills. The pair led the Racers to a 25-18 win in the second set to put the Racers up 2-0.

Murray State trailed 22-17, but a rally started with a kill from graduate middle blocker Elisa Dozio helped narrow the gap. A Herd attack error followed, and Holcombe concluded the rally with a pair of kills to lessen Marshall's lead 22-21.

The Racers weren't able to complete the comeback and dropped the third set 25-23.

Murray State was down 4-2 early on in the fourth set until a huge rally catapulted the team ahead. Price started the rally off with a kill and a Herd attack error soon followed. Price then earned another kill and two more Herd attack errors followed.

Miller earned herself a service ace to continue the rally and Price concluded it with another kill. The Racers led 9-4 once the rally was over.

The score was 19-15 as the Racers led and another rally helped them win the fourth and final set.

Metzger and Price contributed with a kill each. The Herd was able to put a stop to the rally after a kill of their own but committed a service error,

giving the Racers a 25-16 win in the fourth and final set. The Racers won their final match of the invite 3-1.

Metzger totaled 36 kills and 15 blocks over the three game stretch. Miller ended up with 64 digs and 16 assists.

Nuccio finished the weekend with 55 total kills, the highest among Racers over the course of the Marshall Invite. DeMier totaled a whopping 150 assists over the weekend, leading her team by a wide margin.

Schwepker commented on the performances from Nuccio and DeMier. They have both been very active on the court, and their coach has noticed.

"Federica [Nuccio] has been doing a lot of stuff for us," Schwepker said. "We've given her a big role, and she's doing a lot for us. Bailey [DeMier] has been really good and consistent, so I really appreciate that."

Price also has impressed her coach. She finished 21 kills and five blocks over the weekend.

"Morgan [Price] has been playing a lot of different roles for us already this year," Schwepker said. "She's kind of been thrown all over the place, and she just keeps going in and responding really well. It's very nice to have somebody who is very willing and capable of doing that."

This win puts Murray State at 4-4 on the season. The Racers will travel to Birmingham, Alabama, to compete in the Samford Invite this weekend. Murray State will face off against Clemson University in their first match of the invitation on Saturday, Sept. 17, at 2 p.m.

Soccer grabs historic 200th program win

Ronan Summers

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The Murray State soccer team made history on Sunday, Sept. 11, when it won its 200th game as a program.

On Senior Day, the Racers defeated the Lions of Lindewood University by a score of 3-1 after a strong showing on both sides of the ball.

The first goal of the game came in the 20th minute when Lindenwood's junior forward Lauren Tyson was able to hit the back of the net. The goal was assisted by the Lions' freshman forward Lily Sutter.

Murray State was able to quickly respond after going down 1-0 thanks to a goal from senior midfielder Lauren Payne, tying it up in the 24th minute. Senior defender Saraya Young and junior

defender Camille Barber both earned assists on Payne's goal.

Junior defender Riley Johnson followed soon after with a goal in the 28th minute, putting the Racers up 2-1. The goal was assisted by Barber, her second assist on the day.

The Racers were able to keep the game out of reach in the 62nd minute when senior midfielder Grace Bodker kicked the ball into the back of the net. Freshman forward Sydney Etter and Young were both credited for an assist on the goal.

The Racers finished the game, outshooting the Lions 21-3. Murray State had 10 shots on target compared to Lindenwood's three. The Racers also controlled the ball for 53% of the match.

Lindenwood committed nine fouls, four more than Murray State. Both teams finished the match-



Photo courtesy of David Eaton/Racer Athletics

Senior midfielder Lauren Payne scored once against Lindewood University on Sunday, Sept. 11.

up with six corner kicks each. Barber finished the game with two assists in 84 minutes played. Young also finished with two assists in 69 minutes played. Racers' senior goalie Jenna Villacres played the entirety of the second half and saved two goals.

Payne had two shots on goal in 71 minutes, one accounting for one of Murray State's three goals. Johnson was efficient in 34 minutes played, shooting the ball on target twice

and scoring once. Bodker played 69 minutes and finished the game with two shot attempts and a goal.

Seniors Bodker, Payne, Young, Villacres, goalie Jamie Skarupsky, forward Parker Greer and forward Marti Floyd were all honored following the Racers' first win of the season for Senior Day.

The Racers are now 1-5-1 on the season and will host Oklahoma University at noon on Sunday, Sept. 18, on Cutchin Field.

Football goes down in home opener

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Football returned to Roy Stewart Stadium on Saturday, Sept. 10, when the Murray State football team hosted the Jacksonville State Gamecocks.

The Racers took the loss by a score of 34-3, but the energy remained high throughout most of the game. Head Coach Dean Hood said it's something the coaching staff has been preaching to the team. "Faith in the finish," Hood said. "Football is the greatest game ever invented, and it's a lot like life. You can do your best and still get kicked in the teeth and that's how it's felt the last two weeks. There's a lot of ups and downs that happen, but you can't let that bother you. You gotta have faith in the finish, and as long as you keep fighting, there's always a chance to win."

Murray State started with the ball and began to make its way down the field with a 19-yard rush from freshman quarterback Lucas Maue. Despite the long run, the drive resulted in a punt, giving the Gamecocks the ball at their own 15-yard line.

Jacksonville State spent no time getting its offense moving. Senior running back Matt Laroche took back-to-back runs for 17 and 16 yards, respectively.

Following the pair of runs, senior quarterback Zion Webb completed a 10-yard pass to junior wide receiver Ahmad Edwards, then a 15-yard pass to freshman wide receiver Micheal Pettway.

Three plays later, sophomore running back Anwar Lewis took a 1-yard rush for the first touchdown of the game. With the extra point up and good, the Gamecocks led the Racers 7-0 with 7:24 to go in the first quarter.

Despite an 11-yard rush from senior

wide receiver LaMartz Brooks and a 15-yard pass from Maue to junior wide receiver Jacob Bell, the Racers again settled for a punt that pinned the Gamecocks at their own 1-yard line.

Both defenses held strong for the remainder of the first quarter, but just before the quarter came to an end, Webb was able to get a 33-yard pass off to sophomore wide receiver PJ Wells.

The Gamecocks' drive continued into the second quarter as they moved up to the Murray State 37-yard line. On fourth and 15, Webb found Lewis for a gain of 13 yards, just short of the first down. This gave the Racers a chance to get their first points of the game.

But, the Racers' offense was stuck in limbo. They were forced to punt yet again, pinning the Gamecocks at their own 26-yard line.

Despite a decent drive from the Gamecocks, the Racers' defense managed to get to Webb and sacked him for a loss, giving some momentum to Murray State. The momentum continued to swing the Racers' way as senior defensive back Quinaz Turner intercepted a pass from Webb.

The interception gave the Racers the ball at their own 40-yard line. After Maue took an 8-yard sack on first down, the Racers began their trek up the field. An 11-yard rush from freshman running back Jawaun Northington put the Racers in field goal range, giving the offense hope for some points.

Another 7-yard rush from Northington moved the ball up to the Jacksonville State 25-yard line, where senior kicker Aaron Baum made a 45-yard field goal. The Gamecocks were still in the lead 7-3.

The Gamecocks used the remaining time in the half to move into field goal range, thanks in part to a 19-yard pass from Webb to junior wide receiver Sterling Galban. Sophomore kick-



Freshman quarterback Lucas Maue made his first collegiate start against the Gamecocks on Saturday, Sept. 10.

er Alen Karajic sealed the half with a 42-yard field goal, and the Gamecocks went into halftime up 10-3.

Jacksonville State continued to move the ball to start the second half, moving all the way up to the Murray State 10-yard line. That was as far as it got on the drive as Turner grabbed his second interception of the game, giving the Racers a chance to tie the game.

The Racers were held to a fourth down, but decided to pull out a fake punt when senior punter Lewis Halton took the ball and completed a 37-yard pass to sophomore defensive back Dylan Appleton. Despite the large pickup, Appleton fumbled the ball away, and the Gamecocks recovered.

On the next drive, Lewis took a 46-yard handoff for his second touchdown of the game, putting the Gamecocks up 17-3 with 9:01 left in the third quarter.

Three drives later, as the Racers tried to punt the ball away once more, the Gamecocks managed to get in the backfield and block the punt, giving them the ball at the Murray State 26-yard line.

The Racers' defense held strong, however, as the Gamecocks settled for another field goal. They ended the third quarter 20-3.

Turner highlighted the team's energy throughout the game, as the team was still going strong heading into the last quarter. He said he's never played with a group like this.

"I'm not gonna lie," Turner said. "I love this team. I've never seen a

team so happy to play football. That's what it's about. Guys have a belief in finishing. We follow in our coach's footsteps. It's such a real thing on this team, just being there for your brother and making sure you pick his head up when the team is down."

The fourth quarter was all Jacksonville State and its run game. First, Lewis broke off a 64-yard rush for his third touchdown of the game. Then on the Gamecocks' next drive, sophomore running backs Ron Wiggings broke loose for an 83-yard touchdown to put the nail in the coffin.

When all was said and done, the Gamecocks left Roy Stewart Stadium victorious, defeating the Racers 34-3.

Maue completed five passes for 55 yards in his first collegiate start. Northington led the rushing game with 56 yards on 10 attempts. Turner ended up with just one tackle but had two interceptions to his name.

Hood spoke on Maue's performance in his first start, saying he looked good, but there's still room for improvement.

"Maue stepped up and played really, really good," Hood said. "He gave us a chance and a lot of credit goes to him. He's a good kid who means well and wants to battle for his team. He has a chance to play the position and manage the offense because of his adversity."

Murray State falls 0-2 on the season with a game at Ball State coming up on Saturday, Sept. 17, against the Cardinals. Kickoff in Muncie, Indiana is set for 1 p.m.

MURRAY STATE ATHLETICS SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 15 - 21

Shann Riley/The News

16
SEP

Cross Country vs. Tennessee Tech @ Cookeville, TN **ALL DAY**
Tennis vs. Austin Peay @ Clarksville, TN **ALL DAY**

17
SEP

Tennis vs. Austin Peay @ Clarksville, TN **ALL DAY**
Football vs. Ball State @ Muncie, IN **1 p.m.**
Volleyball vs. Clemson @ Birmingham, AL **2 p.m.**

18
SEP

Tennis vs. Austin Peay @ Clarksville, TN **ALL DAY**
Soccer vs. Oklahoma @ Murray, KY **Noon**
Volleyball vs. Samford @ Birmingham, AL **2 p.m.**

19
SEP

Men's Golf vs. UT Martin @ Martin, TN **ALL DAY**

20
SEP

Men's Golf vs. UT Martin @ Martin, TN **ALL DAY**

For more information
visit GoRacers.com



Writers residency returns with Kentucky author

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Kentucky author Silas House spoke about his new novel in the Curris Center Ballroom as part of the Clinton and Mary Opal Moore Appalachian Writer's Residency.

House, a former commentator for the NPR segment "All Things Considered," currently serves on the fiction faculty at Spalding University in Louisville and as the chair for the National Endowment for the Humanities at Berea College.

He is a member of the Fellowship of Southern Writers, the recipient of three honorary doctorates, and the winner of the Nautilus Award, an EB White Award and several other honors. He has also been invited to read at the Library of Congress.

House is the nationally bestselling author of several novels, including "Clay's Quilt," "A Parchment of Leaves," "The Coal Tattoo," "Eli the Good," "Same Sun Here" (co-authored with Neela Vaswani) and "Southernmost." He has also published three plays and co-authored a creative nonfiction book, "Something's Rising," with Jason Howard.

At the event, House read from his novel "Lark Ascending," which will be published Sept. 27.

The Moore Residency normally takes place each fall and includes a week-long stay for the writer in a cabin overlooking Lake Barkley. Because of the pandemic, the University had not hosted a writer-in-residence since 2019.



Kentucky author Silas House speaks in the Curris Center Ballroom as part of the Clinton and Mary Opal Moore Appalachian Writer's Residency. Photo Courtesy of Jeremy McKeel

The children of Clinton and Mary Opal Moore established the residency to honor their late parents and encourage students to pursue creative writing. Clinton and Mary Opal Moore were born in eastern Kentucky but relocated to Paducah, where the family settled.

Carrie Jerrell, coordinator of the creative writing program, said it was a thrill to have House after trying to bring him to campus in 2020 and 2021.

"Not only is he a wonderful writer, but he's also a great teacher, and I think students could tell that during his visit with them in the afternoon, as could the audience for his presentation in the evening," Jerrell said. "Not only did he read from his forthcoming novel, 'Lark

Ascending,' but he spoke about the process of writing it, which appealed to both the writers and the readers in the audience."

In addition to House's afternoon talk, he also gave a lecture to a fiction class.

Jerrell said she is thankful for the residency, which allowed the department to host House.

"We're so grateful to the Moore siblings for their generous gift," Jerrell said.

House's talk can still be viewed for free through the Murray State Live channel on YouTube.

On Sept. 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Curris Center Ballroom, the University will host Kentucky Poet Laureate Crystal Wilkinson as part of its Reading Series.

Wilkinson is the award-winning author of the poetry collection "Perfect Black" and the novels "The Birds of Opulence," "Water Street" and "Blackberries, Blackberries." She is the recipient of a 2022 NAACP Image Award for outstanding Poetry, a 2021 O. Henry Prize, a 2020 USA Artists Fellowship and a 2016 Ernest J. Gaines Prize for Literary Excellence.

The event will be free and open to the public. A book signing will follow, and books will be available for purchase.

Anyone seeking information about future Reading Series events can follow @murraystate-creativewriting on Instagram or the Murray State Creative Writing Program and Reading Series page on Facebook.

Centennial juried exhibit celebrates alumni artists

Raleigh Hightower
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In celebration of Murray State's centennial year, the Department of Art and Design is hosting a juried art exhibition for the department's alumni.

The exhibit opened on Sept. 6 in the Clara M. Eagle Gallery and contains the work of alumni who graduated between the years of 1972 and 2021.

The exhibit includes artwork in a variety of artistic mediums: painting, drawing, sculpture, metalworking, printmaking and digital work.

One prominent piece in the exhibit is a drawing titled "You and the Clouds" created by alumnus Randy Simmons in 2020. "You and the Clouds" is a black-and-white portrait of a woman surrounded by flowers.

"This is a portrait of my mom at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic," Simmons said. "I photographed her after putting her groceries away. We had taken her car keys. Her hearing had worsened, and she uses a walker now, but despite all, she seemed in good spirits. I wanted a busy drawing, lots of details and patterns and



The centennial juried alumni exhibition containing recent works from Murray State alumni is on display on the first floor of the Clara M. Eagle Gallery. Rebecca Mertins Chiodini/TheNews

heavily drawing in an organic, floral 'Art Nouveau' style."

The drawing also features images of an ear and the cochlea, a snail-shaped part of the inner ear.

"I am also into collecting medical posters and charts which are hanging around my house, hence the diagram of the ear and cochlea that appear in this drawing," Simmons said.

Since his time at Murray State, Simmons has received an M.F.A. from the University of Cincinnati,

has been featured in several art exhibitions and works as a professor of drawing at the Paducah School of Art and Design.

Another notable piece at the exhibition is a digital illustration titled "Identifying Gang Activity" by alumnus Joe Duncan. This work is a comic pamphlet that aims to educate the fictional community of "Pleasantville" on how to identify gang members.

The piece draws parallels between stereotypical elements of

gang culture and police officers, including clothing, weapons, jewelry and violence.

"I believe in art as a civic tool for projecting my thoughts on the issues that affect me, my family and my community," Duncan said. "I learned most of my concept of responsibility in the arts from my early years reading comic books."

See **ART EXHIBIT**, page 8

ART EXHIBIT, from page 7

After graduating from Murray State in 2011, Duncan spent the majority of his early career working as an illustrator and exhibit designer for public education organizations.

Duncan moved back to Kentucky in 2018 and has since gained a changed perspective on the arts through being a stay-at-home dad and doing freelance work.

“I spend my days watching cartoons, playing music and drawing and painting— whatever inspires me or pays the most,” Duncan said. “Spending every waking hour with the unbridled imagination of a toddler has reopened a connection in me to the original source of my attraction to arts. This connection and awareness has led me to one of the most fulfilling moments to date in my artistic journey, and I am holding on for dear life and enjoying the ride.”

For Duncan, the centennial exhibit is more than an opportunity to exhibit work—it is a chance to reconnect with the University community.

“It is hard for me to accurately express my affection for Murray’s art department and all that it has provided me over the years that all boil down to a greater quality of life,” Duncan said. “It is a real joy to get to have my art back in its halls for

a few weeks.”

Alumni from the Department of Art and Design who graduated with a B.A., B.S., B.F.A. or an M.A. degree were encouraged to submit their work to be displayed in the exhibit. Works of all mediums created in the last five years were considered for display.

Artwork featured in the exhibit will be judged by a panel of three jurors: alumnae Shelby Adams, Jasmine Groves and Amanda Kaler.

According to the jurors’ statement in the exhibits, jurors attempted to select work that presented a wide range of ideas and material exploration.

“The selection process was difficult, and ultimately, hard decisions had to be made,” according to the jurors’ statement. “The final selections in some way embody qualities that showcase excellence in craft or technique, examinations reflective of current issues, the human condition or ideas that explore the self in relation to a larger context.”

Simmons’ and Duncan’s art, among those from other Murray State alumni, can be viewed from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday on the first floor of the Clara M. Eagle Gallery. To stay up to date with information about the centennial exhibit’s closing ceremony and juror results, follow the Department of Art and Design on Facebook and Instagram.



Randy Simmons’ “You and the Clouds” drawing portrays his mother at the onset of COVID-19.

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NEW IN ENTERTAINMENT

MOVIES

Don’t Worry Darling: In theaters September 16th

Blonde: On Netflix September 23rd

Hocus Pocus 2: On Disney+ September 30th

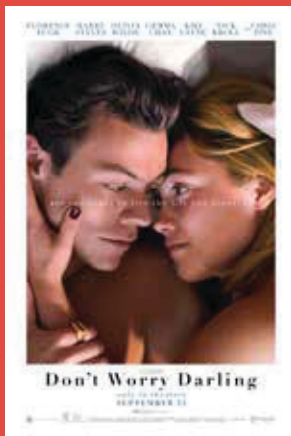


Photo Courtesy of imdb.com



Photo Courtesy of imdb.com



Photo Courtesy of disneyplus-originals.disney.com

GAMES

Last of Us Part 1: September 2nd

NBA 2K23: September 9th

FIFA 23: September 30th



Photo Courtesy of playstation.com



Photo Courtesy of nba.2k.com



Photo Courtesy of eurogamer.net

BOOKS

Stephen King’s Fairy Tale: September 6th

John Higg’s Love and let die: September 15th

Richard Osman’s The Bullet that Misses: September 20th

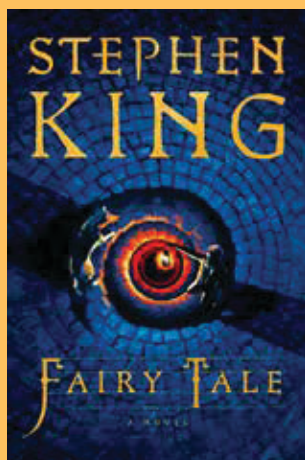


Photo Courtesy of simonandschuster.com



Photo Courtesy of weidenfeldandnicolson.co.uk

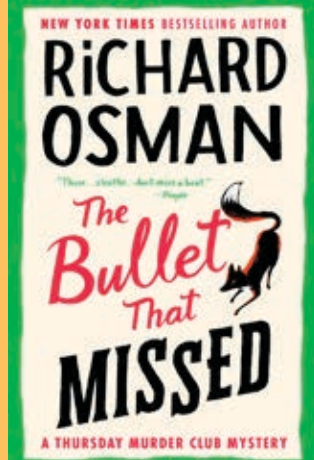


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