The Murray State News

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Library: Fund rumors not accurate

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Calloway County Judge Executive Larry Elkins sent several emails to the community expressing his disapproval of what he thought was an $8 million project. However, Library Board of Trustees acting president Ryan Alessi said some of the information Elkins is spreading to the community is not true.

On Sept. 14, in response to WPSD's Calloway County Library Taxing District report, Elkins sent an email intended for "Calloway County taxpayers and other interested parties."

Elkins wrote, "The point of this hard luck story is, we can't and shouldn't raise taxes to meet every need and satisfy the wishes of every group."

However, the library board voted to approve a lower tax rate at the Aug. 10 board meeting. Alessi said the board lowered real estate taxes by 8 percent and personal property taxes by 52 percent.

Alessi said the Calloway County Public Library is funded with a portion of the county's taxes on real estate property and personal property, which is based on cents-per-$100 of assessed value.

"Most of what I've heard has been from community members and supporters of the library who don't understand why Elkins keeps misrepresenting facts and sending out emails that are not accurate," Alessi said.

In his 2011 State of the Community address, Elkins said he wanted to see a library expansion before the end of his term in 2018.

Alessi said this expansion project has been several years in the making. He said extensive research has been conducted to see what would be the best option for Calloway County's library and an architect was hired in January to work on the project.

The Calloway County Library Board of Trustees is looking into expansion options for the current library building. However, the community has expressed concern about the changes.

Alessi said the current library was last renovated in the 1970s, and it has 12,047 square feet, which, according to state standards, is half of the expected size of a library in a county with 38,000 people like Calloway.

see **LIBRARY**, page 2

PROFESSOR COMPENSATION

The science of fair pay



Photo illustration courtesy of Austin Gordon/*The News*

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The Finance Committee of the Faculty Senate completed a cost of living adjustment report that discussed concerns about faculty and staff compensation and proposed opportunities to provide additional earnings.

The Murray State administration is hiring a consultant to conduct a comprehensive salary study, to expand on findings of the Finance Committee study, to discover how the university compares to other benchmark universities, said David Roach, chairman of the Finance Committee and professor of mathematics and statistics.

"We are curious if it is just our salaries not up to snuff or just not meeting the minimum comparison to other universities like ours," Roach said.

Adrienne King, vice president of University Advancement, said Murray State has committed funds in this year's budget to begin a compensation evaluation.

She said "in recognition of their tireless dedication," Murray State also included a 1 percent across the board increase for faculty and staff that began in July 2016.

"Despite our fiscal challenges, the university believes we must provide adequate compensation for our campus community," King said.

The university is currently working to implement new Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) overtime and employee classification requirements, King said. The classification of employees is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

King said an exempt compensation study will follow the FLSA implementation.

She said the first step will be a request for proposal (RFP), study completion and implementation, which will be completed through a series of phases. Included in the study will be cost of living adjustment recommendations and across the board increases, merit pay and market comparisons for both exempt staff and faculty.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

"At Murray State University our greatest asset is our people," King said.

Roach said there is anecdotal evidence of being able to recruit quality professors but not being able to keep them.

"We found we lost 30 or so faculty over the last couple of years, not due to retirement, that concerns us," Roach said. "Our department alone, I can think of three or four people who have left for positions elsewhere for various reasons."

Katherine Farmer, Faculty Regent, said Murray State has been hiring around 15 new faculty members each year. However, she said faculty retention is a concern.

"They can get more money elsewhere to teach and not in the middle of nowhere," Farmer said. Roach said he thinks it can impact the university.

"Recruitment and retention of quality faculty is hallmark; it is essential," Roach said.

An engineering faculty member who preferred to remain anonymous said he thinks Murray State is on the low side of compensation and benefits.

"I knew the salary when I started, but I thought there would be ways to move up," he said. "I am finishing up my Ph.D., and it is out of my pocket, but that is the only way I can move up and increase my salary."

He said he thinks the lack of advancement opportunity and low salary, especially for the department he is in, are factors of the retention rate.

"My students with a bachelor's degree make more than I do with 20 odd years of experience," he said.

To make additional income he said he still does work in the field. He said he has noticed that many faculty members in his department start looking for positions elsewhere after about two years.

COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT

According to Investopedia, a website that discusses financial content, cost of living is the amount of money needed to sustain a certain level of living, including basic expenses such as housing, food, taxes and health care.

"The cost of living adjustment based off of

see **SALARY**, page 2

Students, faculty process debate

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The first presidential debate took place Monday night as Murray State students watched in a showing hosted by the Political Science and Sociology Department.

Democrat candidate Hillary Clinton and Republican candidate Donald Trump squared off against each other in their first face-to-face encounter this election cycle, and the Barkley Room in the Curris Center was near capacity with students and faculty ready to watch.

The event in the Curris Center was held and analyzed by assistant professors of political science Drew Seib and Paul Foote. The debate between the two candidates was held at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York, and moderated by Lester Holt, NBC news anchor and registered Republican.

Although the presidential debates do not have a point system and therefore do not declare an official "winner," a multitude of polls will come out over the next few weeks declaring who "won" based on collected opinion samplings.

"Be leery of those polls," Seib said. "It's hard to get a good random sampling so be very leery of those initial polls and how they evaluate this election."

The debate had three major sections for the candidates to discuss: Achieving Prosperity, America's Direction and Securing America.

ACHIEVING PROSPERITY

In the first section, "Achieving Prosperity," the candidates discussed America's economic status and tax plans along with the state of employment in the United States.

"The central question is what kind of country we want to be and what kind of future we want to build together," Clinton said.

Trump spoke about his tax plan, which includes reducing taxes on corporations and the wealthy, a type of trickle-down economics that Clinton referred to in the debate as "Trumped-up" economics.

"Companies will come; they will build; they will expand," Trump said.

Clinton said she still believes that tax breaks for the middle class and increases on corporations and the wealthy will be an economic boon.

"We need to have a tax system that rewards work and not just transactions," Clinton said.

The Tax Foundation, a nonpartisan think tank that collects data and publishes research studies on federal and state tax policies, has said Trump's plan will "balloon" the national deficit and Clinton's plan "not so much."

AMERICA'S DIRECTION

Candidates were first asked to discuss race relations in the country and how they would heal the racial gap.

Clinton said she sympathized with the state of race relations and said she has plans to make police more accountable and eliminate private prisons at the state level.

"We have to address the systemic racism in our criminal justice system," Clinton said.

Trump said it boils down to two words: law and order. He said U.S. metropolis areas like Chicago are more dangerous than some war zones in Iraq, and they pose great threat to young African-Americans living there.

"African-Americans are living in hell," Trump said.

see **DEBATE**, page 2

Bevin brings Day of Prayer to campus

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Gov. Bevin recently signed a proclamation declaring Sept. 28 Day of Prayer Over Students in the Commonwealth and Murray State students will be participating in the event by gathering for their first All Campus Prayer.

According to kentuckyfamily.org, Bevin said he signed the proclamation because believes it is imperative that members of every community come alongside young people in every way possible as they face negative influences and other struggles that go along with being a young person in today's world.

Day of Prayer Over Students will coincide with See You at the Pole, a national effort in which Christian students gather around their school flagpoles in prayer, according to the website.

Murray State students, campus ministry leaders and others wishing to participate will take this event to the next level by gathering on the steps of Lovett Auditorium from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sept. 28 for 12 consecutive hours of student-led prayer.

In a video covering the signing of the procla-

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Jenny Rohl/*The News*

This will be the first ever Day of Prayer Over Students in the Commonwealth.

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SALARY

From Page 1

consumer price index was very important to us," Roach said. "It is in the faculty handbook, and it just wasn't being followed by past administrators."

However, Roach said he is impressed with President Bob Davies and his commitment to the new ideas being presented.

According to the Finance Committee's report, before Davies became president, across the board salary increases were inconsistent from 2008-14. The report also included the cost of living increases as reflected in the Consumer Price Index during that time.

Farmer said new data is not published until two years later, so the most recent data available is from 2014.

According to the report, across the board salary increases for faculty and staff were only above the cost of living increase in 2011 and 2013.

The other six years' salary increases, however, were below the cost of living increases, according to the report.

"The raises almost just covers the increase in our insurance," Farmer said.

Roach said bonuses are not expected at Murray State. He said in his 16 years as an employee he could only think of one stipend he received, which was about $400.

MERIT PAY

Roach said the Finance Committee suggested a merit pay system based off of excellent accomplishments in areas of teaching, research and service.

"It [service in residential colleges] is good for the university, it is good for students, but it turns into a volunteer, goodwill kind of thing," Roach said.

He said there currently isn't any merit compensation in place.

"I think that would be good for the university, good for morale," Roach said. "A lot of the research we are doing and service to residential colleges, at some point it is not going to anything of substance as far as our salaries is concerned."
Roach said the university budget crisis has halted progress on this.

SUMMER COURSES

Roach said the Finance Committee wants to expand summer course offerings to give professors the opportunity for more pay and students the opportunity to take more courses.

He said this is a work in progress but suggested potentially allowing professors to teach three courses instead of two during the summer session. He said this would expand the opportunities for students that are currently limited in some departments.

Roach said professors get paid by the hours associated with each course, and the amount is different for each department, tenure and courses the professor has taught in the past.
"We just look for the most qualified person and who is available," he said.



PRAYER

From Page 1

mation on The Family Foundation's website, Bevin said, "This is important because our young people need prayer like they haven't ever before, and I want to encourage you all to be a part of it."

Schuyler Vowell, sophomore from Mayfield, Kentucky, and student pastor of Murray State student organization Love MKY, said he and members of the student organization will be participating in the event.

"We want to unite not only the campus ministries, but also all the Christians," Vowell said."We believe that God is bigger than denominations, tradition, legalism, and we would like to show that to the students at Murray State."

Vowell said he hopes the event will empower people to know that even as a student, they are qualified to lead in an environment like Murray State.

"We want to show people how Jesus and this 2,000-year-old book, or 4,000-year-old book, are still relevant and applicable to college students," Vowell said.

Cody Barger, senior from Huntingdon, Tennessee, and social media director of Love MKY, said he thinks it will be encouraging for people on campus to see regular students gathering to pray.

"We're not super pristine and proper people, but we're doing what we can," Barger said.

A variety of opinions are circulating about the proposed All Campus Prayer at Murray State.

Adam Bender, junior from Fairbanks, Alaska, and member of the Secular Student Alliance (SSA) said the organization is specifically about secularism and the separation of church and state within schools.

Bender also said the SSA serves as a meeting place for students on campus to find like-minded people to hold conversation with and that the group holds regular meetings to discuss events like All Campus Prayer.

Stephanie Stephans, senior from Winona, Minnesota, and Holden East, sophomore from Louisville, Kentucky, both members of SSA, said they will not be participating in All Campus Prayer.

Stephans said the Secular Student Alliance is for the promotion of science, skepticism, reason, logic and other related issues.

"It's specifically calling upon university students and specifically on university grounds that we would have a problem with," East said. "Like, it's up to everyone what they want to do, with their religion and whatnot, but I would have to say that for us, personally, definitely not."

"We won't be participating because that's just not what we believe in," he said.

East said he doesn't believe the event will affect Murray State's campus negatively or positively because he believes the university is already a fairly religious school.

"This is the South and it has its ingrained religion and whatnot, and I know that there is also the Christian Faculty Network, which is already very present, but we would like a separate distinction," East said. "I don't have any problem personally with the school being related to something like this, but housing it on school grounds is a little much."

Marina White, junior from Shelbyville, Kentucky, and co-president of Murray State's Baptist Campus Ministry said she will be participating in the event because she believes it is important to pray for Murray State as an active profession of her faith.

"The purpose is to unite believers from all different campus ministries because I think so many people see different sects of people who all call themselves Christians and yet they never do anything together," White said. "It makes it seem like we're all serving a different God, but we're not. We're all serving the same God."

"We want to bring all the believers in one central location where we can all pray for the campus together and not only see who the other believers are on campus, but to pray for those who have never heard of God," White said.

White said she hopes that the event will impact Murray State in a big a way and that people on campus will see people praying and that it would encourage others to participate.

"I think it will remind the campus that there are people who care about others at a level deeper than being just friends with them," White said. "That there are actually people who care about their eternity, and care about sharing with them things that may be controversial may be difficult to hear but to do it in a loving way."

In addition to prayer on the steps of Lovett during All Campus Prayer, there will be student worship led by various campus ministries.

DEBATE

From Page 1

He also said he has received an endorsement from the Fraternal Order of the Police and would work closely with them.

SECURING AMERICA

The candidates debated on America's national security, specifically the nuclear warfare crisis and NATO.

Trump said NATO is an alliance we have to rethink. He said the alliance is carried by the United States and we get nothing out of "policing foreign countries."

Clinton said she believes that alliance is still massively important and recalled NATO's mobilization after the 9/11 attacks and their continued assistance in the rooting out of terror organizations across the globes. She said she believes that maintaining those alliances is crucial.

"Words matter," Clinton said. "Words matter when you run for president, and they really matter when you are president. It is essential that America's word be good."

After the debate concluded, Foote and Seib took questions from the audience.

Seib said over the next few weeks - until the second debate - the media will pick apart the "little things" in the debate that most might not even have noticed during the first showing. He also said that regardless of the results, there is still plenty of time for things to swing.

"Ultimately, the media will say who wins and who loses," Seib said.

Foote said the debate reminded him of the debate between George Bush and Al Gore. He said Trump's demeanor reminded him of Gore's uptight demeanor that cost him during his own debate.

"He really wasn't as prepared as Hillary Clinton," Foote said. "He lacked substance and was not able to respond intelligently or at all to what was said."

Foote said he doesn't believe Trump convinced the public that he is ready to take on the role of commander in chief, one of the primary objectives he needed to accomplish during the first debate.

Seib said he expects to see Trump fall behind slightly in the polls. However, he said he believes Kentucky will still vote Republican on the presidential level regardless of this debate or any of the upcoming ones.

Seib said he thinks Trump's biggest mistake during the debate was his attacks on the moderator and insisting well-documented facts were untrue, rather than simply ignoring them and moving on.

Foote said around 10-13 percent of voters are undecided, so the debate will affect them the most.

"Debates don't win the presidency, but they do influence the outcome," Foote said.

LIBRARY

From Page 1

"It's quite obvious that the library is just too small for Calloway County," Alessi said.

Alessi said Elkins cannot keep the expansion from happening, but his comments do play a pivotal role in the discussion of expansion.

"I personally just want to make sure what he's saying is accurate because it helps no one to misrepresent the facts," Alessi said.

Expansion isn't the only library issue that involves Elkins.

Alessi said Elkins has yet to name new library board members, even though the board sent out nominations to fill the position in May.

According to the library bylaws, the board selects two nominees for each seat, and those nominees are referred to the Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives, which are then sent to the judge executive for Calloway County for selection.

Alessi has been the acting president since his term as secretary ended Aug. 15. He said the previous president had to step down due to prior obligations. He said he must remain in the position until Elkins selects new board members.

"He's the one who gets to select the board members," Alessi said. "That's all in the judge's control."

In the aforementioned email, Elkins said he was concerned about more worthy community needs such as a renovated animal shelter and courthouse.

As for monetary concerns for the library expansion, Alessi said the library has already started saving.

"He's right, the county has other needs, but those needs are to be addressed by the fiscal court," Alessi said. "The money that the library has been setting aside for capital improvement is money that was set aside specifically for the library."

Alessi said the library currently has $2.5 million to put toward the expansion, and he said there is no official $8 million project at all, despite Elkin's email to the community.

He said right now the board is working to decide what community members want in a 21st century library.

He said some community members have questioned how many people actually use the library. According to the Department for Libraries and Archives, in fiscal year 2014-2015, more than 329,000 visits were made to the Calloway County Public Library.

"We're taking our time," Alessi said. "We're getting feedback from the community at every step of the way. We're doing this all in public meetings so that things go in intervals. That has always been our plan: to go very methodically and to do our due diligence."

The next library board meeting is on Oct. 12, when it hopes to set a direction for the project and assess the next steps that need to be taken. All meetings are open to the public.

To read a Q&A with Elkins regarding the library expansion, visit TheNews.org.



Chalice Keith/*The News*

Plans for the library expansion are still up for grabs, though the goal is set in stone: modernization.



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POLICE BEAT

Sept. 21

1:25 p.m. A caller reported being stuck on an elevator in Business Building South. Officers and Facilities Management were notified.
7:22 p.m. Central Heating and Cooling Plant notified Public Safety of a fire alarm activation at Hart Residential College. Officers and the Murray Fire Department were notified. Activation was due to a resident's use of a hair dryer and no threat of fire was located.

Sept. 22

7:19 a.m. A caller reported a person using another person's state identification card at James H. Richmond Residential College. Officers were notified.
10:31 a.m. A caller reported a medical emergency at Winslow Dining Hall. Officers, Murray Ambulance Service, International Studies and Student Affairs were notified. A medical report was taken.

Sept. 23

12:02 a.m. A caller reported a sparking outlet in Regents Residential College. Officers, Central Plant Heating and Cooling and the Murray Fire Department were notified. The spark was determined to be caused by metal accidentally making contact with a plug not inserted properly into the wall. No threat of fire was located.
7:27 a.m. A caller reported being stuck on the elevator in Blackburn Science Building. Officers and Facilities Management were notified.

Sept. 24

1:02 p.m. A caller reported a motor vehicle collision in the Regents Residential College parking lot. Officers were notified and a hit-and-run collision report was taken.
10:07 p.m. A caller reported a burglary complaint at White Residential College. Officers were notified and a report was taken for second-degree burglary over $500.

Sept. 25

5:40 p.m. Central Heating and Cooling Plant reported a fire alarm activation at Hart Residential College. Officers and the Murray Fire Department were notified. Activation was caused by cooking food and no threat of fire was located.
9:05 p.m. A caller reported a disabled vehicle at Pogue Library. A disabled vehicle report was taken.

Sept. 26

11:54 a.m. A person reported information in reference to an off-campus sexual assault. Officers were notified and an information report was taken.
6:48 p.m. A caller reported a non-injury motor vehicle collision at the Curris Center. Officers were notified and a collision report was taken.

Sept. 27

1:41 a.m. A caller reported a noise complaint at Hollis C. Franklin Residential College. Officers were notified.
10:17 p.m. A person reported a reckless driver in the Regents Residential College parking lot. Officers were notified.

Racer assist – 0
Motorist assist – 7
Arrests - 0

Alicia Steele, Assistant News Editor, compiles Police Beat with materials provided by Public Safety and Emergency Management.

Not all dispatched calls are listed.

Love Police Beat? You can check it out every week online, too, on *TheNews.org*.

Athletic training phasing out bachelor's, offering master's

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The bachelor's degree currently offered in athletic training at Murray State will soon be phased out, with the last group of students graduating in May of 2018, program director Kristan Erdmann said.

However, a Master of Science in Athletic Training will be offered at Murray State beginning in Summer 2017.

Jeremy Erdmann, admission coordinator for the program, said the athletic training program has been accredited since 2005. However, he said the national organization decided to shift the level of professional education, which will officially begin in 2021.

"Murray State wanted to get ahead of the ball game and develop that program earlier so our students are graduating with a master's degree instead of a bachelor's degree," said Erdmann.

He said anyone with the prerequisites can apply to the program. There are two routes available to students: traditional and accelerated.



Courtesy of www.caate.net

He said the traditional route allows the student to achieve their bachelor's degree and then apply to the master's program, which will last two years.

He said the accelerated route is unique to the region because it allows students to major in exercise science and complete three years of the degree and then begin the first year of the master's program during the last year of the bachelor's program.

Kristan Erdmann said this is the only "three plus two" program available at Murray State with an immersive clinical curriculum.

She said the master's program allows the student to get a full experiential education combined with didactic learning and she said there is a portion of the accelerated learning courses that allows the student to work alongside other athletic trainers in the field locally.

Isabella Meeks, junior from Princeton, Kentucky, said she has always wanted to go into athletic training and believes that Murray State has one of the best programs around.

"It is probably the shortest but most efficient way to become an athletic trainer," Meeks said.

She said she is excited to work with the sports teams through the master's program.

Cody Molls, freshman from Fredonia, Kentucky, said, "I want to help people and this is the best way I see to do that. I am excited to be able to work hands-on."

There will be a deadline to apply to the program, but the date is unofficial. The next information session is at 5 p.m. on Oct. 19 in 409 Oakley Applied Science Building.

Annual Fall on the Farm coming this week

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The 13th annual Fall on the Farm will be held from Sept. 28 until Oct. 1 at Stanley Pullen Farm.

The event is hosted by the Agricultural Leadership Council and the students of the Hutson School of Agriculture to promote agricultural literacy in a fun environment.

"It's a big reward for the ag program in general," said Paige Chamerlik, senior from Antioch, Illinois. "The more people know and the more they understand where their food comes from the better."

Chamerlik said each group within the Agriculture Department is in charge of a booth and creating a broad range of activities which include milking cows, riding bouncy horses and a corn maze. On Saturday, there will also be three Animal Tales shows.

Want to go?
Time: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Date: Sept. 28 - Oct. 1
Place: Pullen Farm

She said the event is open by reservation Wednesday through Friday for local elementary schools, home-school groups and other children's groups. On Saturday, it will be open to the public from 10 a.m to 4 p.m.

Tony Brannon, dean of the Hutson School of Agriculture, said that it is intended to be a fun-filled educational event for the whole family.

He said since the event was founded 13 years ago, it has only gotten bigger and better each year. On average more than 400 children visit each day, and on Saturdays, more than 1,000 people take part in the festivities.

Holly Doom, freshman from Paducah, Kentucky, said that she was looking forward to working with the children.

"I love seeing how happy they are," Doom said. "It makes me happy for them to be learning about agriculture, even if they may not know that is what they are doing."

Brannon said he hopes that students will use Pullen Farm to promote agricultural literacy in Murray, with a focus on children.

"This is an important event for families in our community," Brannon said. "Typically children look forward to it, and families return year after year. There are probably more grandparents at this event than at any other university event."

Fall on the Farm is also used as a fundraiser for the Hutson School of Agriculture. Brannon said the proceeds are divided among the different student groups through a student development fund process.

Admission will be $5, and there will be pumpkins, concessions and T-shirts for sale.


Nicole Ely/*The News*
Agriculture students volunteer to supervise and teach children at Fall on the Farm.


Nicole Ely/*The News*
Elementary school children learn about and play in corn at Fall on the Farm 2015.

IT Matters to be held in Paducah

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Murray State's Center for Telecommunications System Management (TSM) has partnered with the Community Financial Services Bank (CFSB) to host Murray State's first IT Matters Conference.

The free event will be held Thursday, Sept. 29. Registration will begin at 12:30 p.m., with the first speaker starting at 1:00 p.m. and concluding at 4:15 p.m.

"The purpose of the event is to provide general technology information to local businesses, community members, and students and faculty across our region," said Michael Ramage, Director of the Center for Telecommunications System Management.

Ramage said every April TSM and CFSB host a Patterns of Distinction – Security Matters Conference discussing security topics, and the IT Matters Conference was established after discussions took place to have a complimentary event regarding only general technology.

Because the Patterns of Distinction – Security Matters is held at Murray State's main campus, it was decided that the IT Matters Conference would be hosted at the Murray State Paducah campus.

Those who attend will have the opportunity to explore vendors such as CFSB, Murray State TSM Program, and Calvert City's SmartPath, along with Kalleo Technology and DEVsource, both of which are based out of Paducah, Kentucky.

Ramage said Murray State is not a consultant for the technology that will be discussed throughout the sessions Thursday, which is why the vendors are necessary.

"If someone is interested in something they learned about, we want to provide them with the resources to be in touch with vendors who can implement those services," Ramage said.

The keynote speaker for the conference will be Murray State alumnus and former CEO and president of the Nashville Technology Council, Bryan Huddleston.

Ramage said Huddleston being from the rural area of Paris, Tennessee, combined with his involvement of helping address Nashville's IT workforce challenges, western Kentucky could learn and benefit from his experiences.

"I hope that we, as an industry in western Kentucky, not just higher education or Murray State, but also K-12, can learn to address the challenge," Ramage said.

Huddelston said the need is so great that if there were able, willing and skilled professionals that could fill one of these tech jobs, businesses would not hesitate to hire them.

"If you were to look at national data, IT workers are needed nationwide," Huddelston said. "The White House has a program called Tech Hire because 600,000 unfilled technology positions have been identified across the U.S."

He said he also plans on discussing what the Nashville Technology Council did in putting together plans and initiatives to help solve the problem.

"Communities that are in more rural areas can look at these as opportunities to some plans into place by which they can help grow a talented workforce," Huddleston said.

Consecutive U.S. News recognition

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Murray State has been nationally recognized as one of the top schools in the country for the 26th consecutive year, and according to an article from U.S. News and World Report, Murray State is ranked as a one of the top public schools in the region.

Out of the 1,374 schools that are evaluated, Murray State is the 25th Best College for Veterans, 12th Top Public School and tied for 35th Regional University. Other programs that were highlighted included the engineering and business programs according to an article from US News and World Report.

According to the article, Murray State was also evaluated on qualities such as tutoring services, Women's Center, health services, 24-hour foot and vehicle patrol, emergency telephones and controlled dorm access.

Popular majors that were factored into the criteria include nursing, veterinary technician/assistant, business and education.

Criteria also included the 15-1 student to teacher ratio, the 72 percent freshmen retention rate and the gender distribution across campus.


Farmer

"I believe that our continuous striving in achieving this honor 26 times shows our deep commitment to the success of our students," said Katherine Farmer, Faculty Regent.

Farmer said she thinks the residential college system is another factor that draws students in by not only providing a place to stay, but keeping them involved and on track in their academics.

"Murray State is a community of students, faculty and staff," Farmer said. "The recognition proves we are excelling and providing a worthwhile education."

She said she is proud of the high quality, student-centered education Murray State offers.

"The relationships built between the students and the faculty as they attend their classes through the degrees are developed especially through opportunities with experiential learning," Farmer said.

Cameron McRoberts, sophomore from Verona, Kentucky, said she definitely recommends students come to Murray State.

"I chose Murray State because I took classes in high school through the college, so when it came down to deciding where to go, this was already an option," McRoberts said.

Jacob Sandage, freshman from Boonville, Indiana, chose Murray State because of the veterinary program.

"My favorite part about Murray State is the small-town homey feel that it has," Sandage said. "It is very community based."

Farmer is proud that Murray State focuses on a quality education that prepares students for not only working locally, but also across the nation and the globe.

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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 a designated public forum. Student editors have authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval. The paper offers a hands-on learning environment for students interested in journalism. The campus press should be free from censorship and advance approval of copy and its editors should develop their editorial and news policies.

The News is prepared and edited by students and is an official publication of Murray State University. The first copy is free. Additional copies are available for 25 cents at 111 Wilson Hall.

Our View

Show me the money

The staff editorial is the majority opinion of The Murray State News *Editorial Board.*

[*The camera cuts to* GOV. MATT BEVIN, *a mask pulled from his face and thousands of dollars in his hand.*]

BEVIN: "And I would have gotten away with it, too, if it weren't for you meddling kids!"

[*The screen goes dark as* ATTORNEY GENERAL ANDY BESHEAR *high-fives* SCOOBY-DOO, *and members of the Kentucky Supreme Court cheer*].

That scene is what we hope happened Sept. 22 when the court ruled that Gov. Bevin's cuts to higher education were unconstitutional. After more than half a year stressing over the governor's decisions and facing the consequences of them, students at Kentucky's public universities should take a moment to celebrate.

We've had quite the ride with this issue, and it's been an involved battle. When we joined Kentucky State and other students to protest the proposed cuts to higher education in February, we heard again and again that our efforts didn't matter.

When the governor officially passed the budget in April, that reminder rang through our heads as we looked toward defeat.

And as we geared up to pay higher tuition costs and face cuts to programming, staff and resources, it was clear that Bevin had won and all of the hard work was in vain.

Now, as we near midterms, the Supreme Court's ruling has become a light in the dark. But we must celebrate warily – this isn't a clear-cut victory or loss for anyone yet.

Attorney General Andy Beshear, who rallied with the students in February, called on Bevin to release the $18 million he illegally withheld from universities. For Murray State, one of the eight universities affected, our fraction of that equals $960,000.



Despite the ruling and aggressive action from politicians like Beshear, though, it's uncertain whether or not we will actually receive the money we're due. Currently, that $18 million might as well be sitting in the Disney Vault. Bevin has 20 days to make a decision about his next steps, and according to a report from Cn2, he's in the process of "looking at [the] options." It's unclear what options there are besides admitting guilt and releasing the funds, but the 20-day period will no doubt be arduous and dramatic.

If we're playing best case scenario and we do get that money returned to us, where will it go? Unfortunately, the statement the university released was fittingly vague and noncommittal: "Today's Kentucky Supreme Court decision represents a sum of $960,000 that was included in the previous fiscal year's appropriation for Murray State University but rescinded from the final quarterly allotment. As we do with all state funds, if these funds are released, the monies will be used to advance the rigor, relevance and excellence of our academic programs for the benefit of our students."

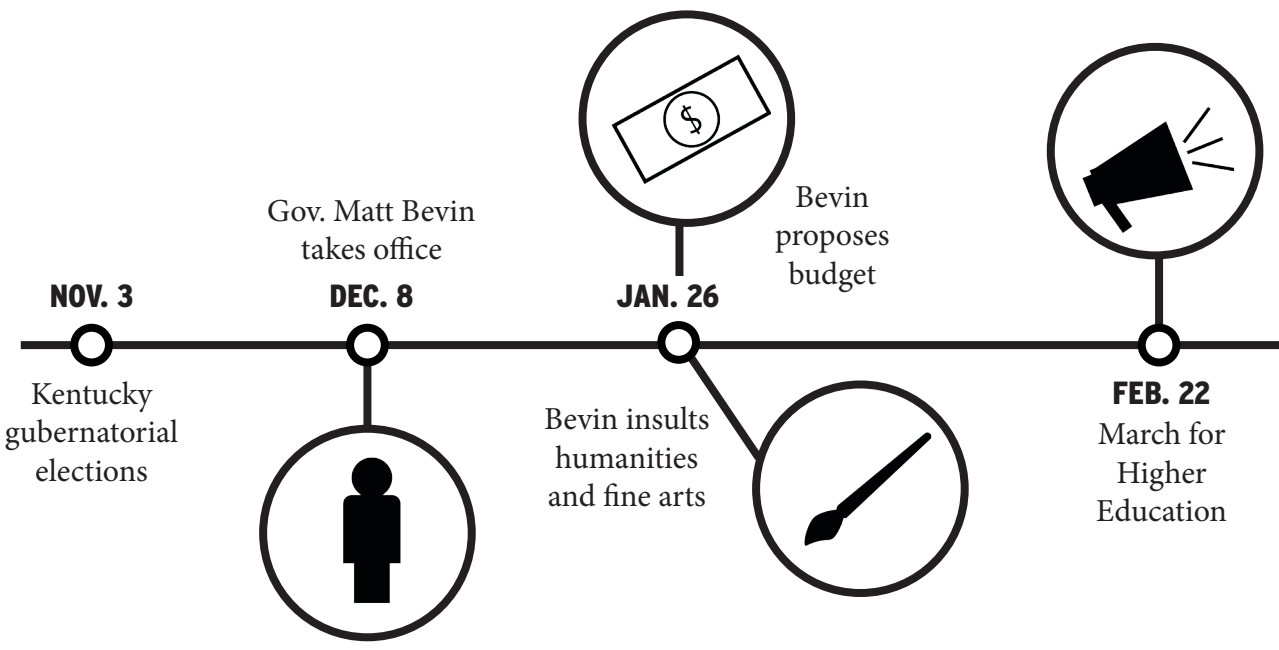
Advancing relevance? What a relief – we were worried the funds might actually go to something specific, like restoring cut programs, department funds, salaries or incomplete renovations.

Unfortunately, we can almost count on our new tuition model staying right where it is. Because the 4.5 percent cuts were not included in our current biennium budget, they can't be restored and are not part of the $960,000 we're owed, Adrienne King said.

If we must wait 20 days to even get a clear statement from the governor, how long will it be until we discover where our funds, if returned, will land? In this waiting period, we must be as vigilant and demanding as we were in February on the steps of the Capitol. We have to demand that the university release detailed plans and be as transparent as possible. If these funds aren't used properly to restore what had to be broken – or if we cannot even be confident in what they're being used for – we haven't done our job as meddling kids, and Bevin has gotten away with the ultimate crime.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS: GOV. MATT BEVIN'S BUDGET CUTS

Austin Gordon/*The News*



Between You and Media

Fan this spark into a flame

Rachel Wood || Contributing writer
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In honor of its Chicago debut this week, let's talk about one of my favorite subjects: *Hamilton.*

The musical, created by Lin-Manuel Miranda, follows the life of founding father Alexander Hamilton and his journey from being an orphan in the Caribbean to his untimely demise in a duel.

This Broadway hit has gained a large and devoted fanbase despite the Chicago tickets being close to sold-out for the next month and the New York City tickets almost $400 each. This restricts the audience from seeing the show, but then how are so many people obsessed with an R&B version of a history lecture?

It looks like the internet is the answer again.

Instead of keeping the music locked away until the iTunes digital release date, there was no gatekeeping when it came to the show's cast recording. The official album was available for streaming the same day on YouTube and Spotify. The show's title track "Alexander Hamilton" has accumulated more than 18 million plays on Spotify.

In the same vein, nothing in the show is really left out of the album – there's no dialogue or scenes missing from the recording. Essentially, listening through the album is like watching the show with your eyes closed; you miss the show's Tony award-winning choreography, but the stellar vocals are crystal clear.

The show's creator is also a master of connecting with his fans on Twitter, especially with the creation of his #Ham4Ham show. For the musical's first year of performances, Miranda sponsored a ticket lottery for the general public every Wednesday where theatergoers could place their name in a drawing for $10 tickets to that day's show. While this was awesome for people who could be in New York, the cast of *Hamilton* didn't want to let others miss out on the fun.

Along with the lottery, Miranda hosted short shows, which he dubbed Ham4Ham, in front of the Richard Roger's stage door, usually featuring performances by the show's stars. Within a few minutes of the performance, recordings were posted on YouTube and tweeted by cast members so everyone could enjoy the exciting, hilarious show.

In short, the cast and creators of the show have strived to make theater accessible to a wider audience through their unique use of social media and open-access cast album. Between the show's musical style and inclusive casting, you don't have to be a "theater person" to enjoy what *Hamilton* has to offer.

Would the musical have been just as successful with its distinctive style alone? Maybe. But it's clear that the internet played a key role in developing a large and consistent following for the show, allowing it to take its place in mainstream popular culture.

That being said, if you're a newfound theater fan because of the show, utilize this online community of theatergoers to explore the world of musical theater. While it's easy to put the cast album on repeat for hours on end, some smaller and even community shows have amazing songs to offer and could use your support – Miranda wrote and produced his first musical in college, after all. You just might stumble upon the next show that will turn the world upside-down.

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Rational Animal

Access is not agreement

John Muenzberg || Contributing writer
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The most paradoxical theory of morality is 'ethical relativism.'

The most general version states that an action is ethical only in relation to some standard, such as one's society. There is no objective standard that can decide between the beliefs of different societies.

This is appealing until one considers whether this could work in reality. If my society thinks people should live and let live and your society advocates invasion and subjugation of others, then we have a problem. My commitment to a live and let live attitude would result in my death and the destruction of my way of life. At this point, I cannot accept your moral code. It has to be moral for me to defend my beliefs.

The appearance of the Traditionalist Worker's Party (TWP) on Murray State's campus has forced a similar reconsideration of principles. Murray State is committed to open inquiry and honest investigation. Murray State is also committed to treating students and employees equally and without bias. A place that values open inquiry into any subject should also value openness to different races, backgrounds, and ways of life.

As previously detailed in *The Murray State News*, the TWP is a nationalist party that advocates dividing the United States into racially segregated states. Such a position is contrary to ideals of inclusion and non-discrimination. All students, staff, faculty and alumni should be concerned.

And yet Murray State, seemingly contrary to its own interests, not only allowed them on campus, but let them rent a table in the Curris Center. President Bob Davies, responding to concern from the Murray State community, reiterated Murray State's commitment to open examination of all ideas while expressing his personal disagreement with the beliefs of the TWP.

In an effort to protect our community, we should not destroy what our community is founded on. Investigation into the truth requires examination of a diversity of opinions. Even today, politics, religion and social tradition stymie honest exploration of ideas. Murray State opposes such control from outside forces. We should also oppose such control by ourselves.

One could argue that in prohibiting discrimination we should also prohibit groups that advocate such discrimination. But banning such "hate groups" creates a precedent that can be easily manipulated to reinforce specific biases. For example, since Murray State is a public institution perhaps we should ban speakers that argue for God's existence. On the other hand, groups that support atheism might discriminate against students who believe in God. Fraternities and sororities segregate based on gender, so they should be banned. Better get rid of the gender studies program too, just to be safe.

It is easy to see that attempts to ban hate groups can quickly devolve into only advocating for my social, political or religious position. Such parochial interests are contrary to the ideals of open inquiry.

Banning a group from campus will not end their existence. It will not even remove them from our lives. They still exist in society, and we are part of that society.

But allowing access to campus is not the same as agreement. Acknowledging different opinions does not preclude us from opposition to those positions.

The Murray State community has the tools to counter such groups. It is through information, argumentation, personal will and political action. So many of the assumptions of the TWP are false. Provide information and arguments that demonstrate why they are wrong.

Discrimination can destroy communities. Oppose discrimination in your own life and advocate that others do the same. Organize into groups that oppose such discrimination. Through organization we can also fight the intimidation that we may feel.

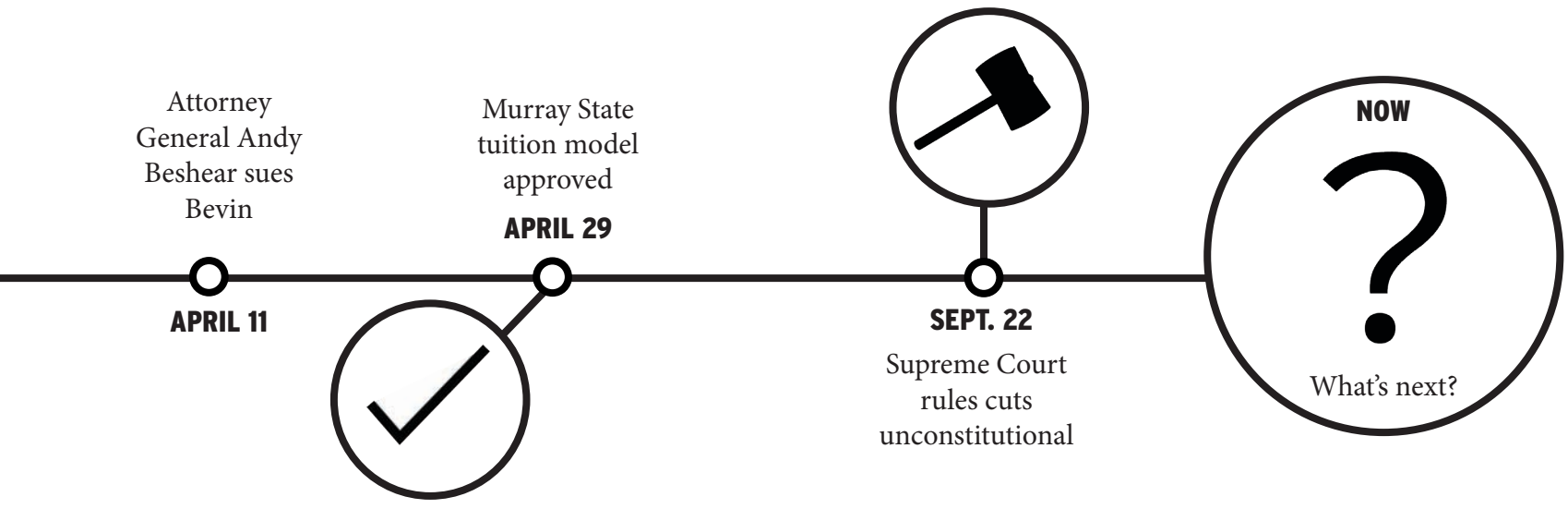
These actions, not outright bans, are what will truly destroy their positions and power. Through these actions we can oppose such groups without destroying our core beliefs. And through these actions we can strengthen our community.

Cheers to ... BBQ

One of the cardinal sins for a Southerner, especially a Kentuckian, is not caring about delicious barbecue. Maybe you think Owensboro has the best chops, or maybe it's Memphis. But there was room for all barbecue lovers at BBQ on the River!

Cheers to ... Narcos

Javier Peña and Steve Murphy, the DEA agents portrayed in the Netflix series "Narcos," came to the Curris Center as part of the Racer Distinguished Lecture Series Sept. 26. The men gave an insightful presentation about the show, which centers around kingpin Pablo Escobar.



CHEERS & JEERS

Jeers to ... Resisting

This, readers, is not a Jeer about Trump. This is not a witty recap of the debate or a comment about either candidate. There are no biting remarks here or critiques of the mess that unfolded before us. This is not an applaud to Lester Holt for keeping it together. We're resisting.

Jeers to ... Bevin

What, you thought he was going to escape the Cheers & Jeers? Do we ever let him escape this section? Of course not. You can read the editorial to the left, but we'll just reiterate: Bevin is finally getting his comeuppance for his tomfoolery and crookedness. Take that, Matt!

Cheers & Jeers is written by *The Murray State News'* Opinion Editor. Questions, comments or concerns should be addressed to hbeard2@murraystate.edu

Some Things Considered

Nice profs finish last

By Hallie Beard

Through many years of dance classes, school and workshops, I've realized I don't prefer nice teachers.

Strange as it sounds, the instructors who yell at and borderline insult their students on a daily basis are the ones I'm most responsive to. If the instructor has a reputation for making students cry or quit, sign me up.

It's not like I revel in the pain of others or enjoy getting belittled – in fact, public humiliation is my least favorite sensation on this earth and I'll do anything to avoid it. What I enjoy about harsh teachers is that, to the average student, they don't care about being your friend. They care about giving you quality instruction and fixing the issues you have, point blank. With those kinds of teachers, it's black or white, hot or cold, in or out. They teach with the assumption that some students might hate them, and that's OK.

Growing up, I had a dance teacher who was known for being challenging, demanding and less-than-pleasant sometimes. When I was young, I feared moving up in the ranks because I'd have more classes under her – I knew I'd never be good enough to keep up. But, as I got older and learned what she wanted to see or what she considered good, it was much easier to make adjustments on myself and please her. By the time I graduated high school, she was one of my favorite teachers, and I had chosen to have extra small classes with her.

As a more advanced student, I learned more about her as a person and was able to appreciate her teaching philosophy. I loved classes with her then, and we were able to joke and laugh as a group. Tackling her challenging choreography was no longer the frightening chore it was in childhood – instead, it felt like a team effort, like she was rooting for us to get it right.

Now that I'm a lazy-bones college student who hasn't had a dance class in ages, I'd give anything to return to my home studio and get yelled at by her.

Similarly, I have a current writing professor who is known in the department for being coarse. When I first mentioned taking a class with him, former students of his widened their eyes and said, "get ready to cry."

His first class was a shock, but I left smiling. There were students who cried and dropped the course, but I couldn't believe how. He's extremely critical, but each one of his critiques has sound reasoning backed up by experience, just like my former dance teacher.

With that in mind, how could I do anything but agree with his critiques for me?

That professor said in class recently he's been teaching for more than 30 years and has tried both "sticks and carrots" in getting students to learn, and sticks have worked best every time. I believe it – while hard instructors will never be dubbed "the nice one" or "the cool teacher," they will get the results they desire.

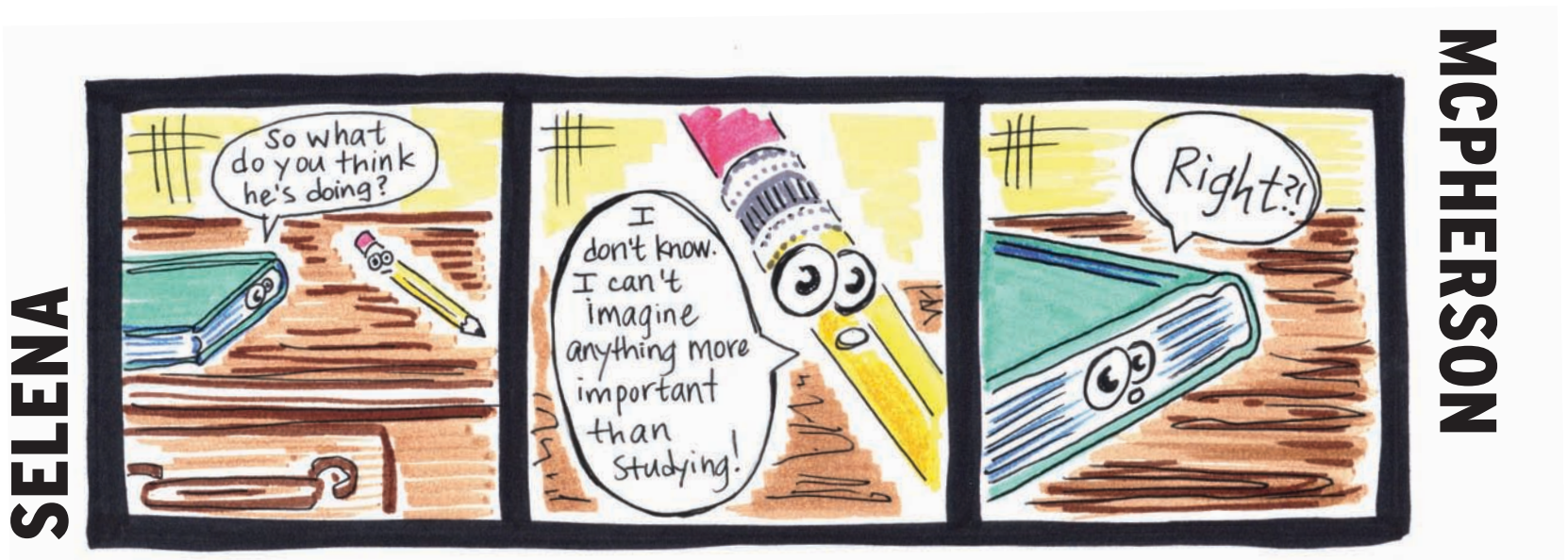
Don't get me wrong: there has to be balance, and I'd hate to only have "mean" professors. I need my lenient professors or ones I can joke around with – they're just as valuable and I respect them in other ways. But in some instances, I can't be given leeway. My laziness will take over, and everyone will be let down.

Not every student is like this – thank goodness – but more often than not, I've got to have a gun to my head and the fear of God in me to get something done and done right.

So, to all you teachers who think your students hate you, we don't. At least, I don't. Keep your finger on the trigger, because it works for me.

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Comic



Where is he?

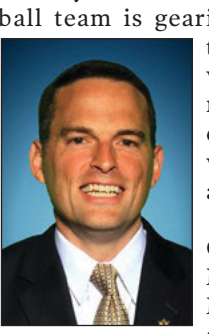
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New and old faces come together

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With the midway point of the fall athletic season approaching, the spring athletic teams are preparing for their upcoming season. The Murray State men's basketball team is gearing up for their year with many new faces coming to wear blue and gold.



McMahon

Head Coach Matt McMahon said the recruiting process over this offseason went really well and he is looking forward to the upcoming year.

"We were able to bring seven new players into the program this season," McMahon said. "It also brings forth the challenge that 67 percent of our team has never put on a Murray State uniform."

McMahon also said the team is looking like it is starting to come together after working in the summer to build chemistry.

"We had a great summer," McMahon said. "We had eight weeks of our strength and conditioning program, and a really critical part of the summer was just spending time together."

Murray State returns three starters from last season in senior guards Bryce Jones, Demarcus Croaker and Gee McGhee. Although losing their two leading scorers from last year in Jeffery Moss and Wayne Langston, Jones, the senior point guard, said this year's team coming into the season has a stronger bond.

The team will also have junior guard Jonathan Stark, a transfer student from Tulane, who averaged 10.6 points in his freshman year and finished third in the American Athletic Conference with 137 assists during the season.

Stark was forced to sit out his sophomore year because of the transfer policy of the NCAA.

"We are way better than last year," Jones said. "Our team chemistry is very strong, and we've been together almost every day throughout the summer."

Jones, from Brooklyn, New

see **BASKETBALL**, page 7



Nicole Ely/*The News*

Senior guard Bryce Jones walks off the court after beating Austin Peay State on the road last season.

Rifle begins title defense with win



Chalice Keith/*The News*

No. 2 rifle team in the country, Murray State, beat OVC rival UT Martin in its first match of the 2016-17 season.

Blake Sandlin
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The Racers started their season with a win Sunday, outshooting the UT Martin Skyhawks by a score of 4697 to 4570.

Individually, Ivan Roe, junior from Manhattan, Montana, led the way for Racers with an aggregated score of 1180.

For the Skyhawks, Joe Martin led with an aggregated score of 1163.

In smallbore, the Racers shot a 2331, while the Skyhawks shot a score of 2270.

Roe led all shooters in smallbore with a score of 589.

In air rifle, MacKenzie Martin, sophomore from Fairhaven, Massachusetts, led all shooters with a score of 593.

She was followed closely by Ben Estes, junior from Ozark, Montana, who shot a 592. Estes' score Sunday marked a personal best for him. However, Estes said he wasn't surprised by his performance.

"I've been shooting some scores higher than a 592 in practice, so it wasn't really that big of a surprise that I shot it in a match," Estes said. "I just need to get more consistent shooting in the matches."

Head Coach Alan Lollar said he was very pleased with his team's performance and their ability to translate their skills from training towards an actual match.

"The biggest thing for us was we had to shoot in a match and find out what we needed to work on," Lollar said. "Training is one thing, but the match atmosphere and the pressure and the intensity of it is a different deal. Smallbore was nice and solid, and our air rifle was really consistent."

Lollar said the heat inside the range played a big role in Sunday's match, as it started to affect the shooters. He said distractions like this don't bother him because being able to shoot through distractions is important in rifle.

"It's a difficult distraction, but it's one that I don't mind, because we're always talking about dealing with distractions and being able to shoot our shots with a lot of stuff going on," Lollar said.

Lollar had high praise for his sophomore shooter, Alathea Sellars.

Sellers shot 567 in smallbore and 590 in air rifle. Sellers' determination to improve as the

see **RIFLE**, page 7

Soccer 1-0 in OVC

Staff Report

The Racers beat Morehead State Sunday in the first OVC matchup of the season.

Murray State jumped out to an early two-goal lead in the first half after goals from senior forward Taylor Richerson and junior forward Harriet Withers.

Morehead State fought its way back to tie the game at two in the 86th minute.

The Racers scored a goal from sophomore forward Cori Cain in the final minutes of the game to beat the Eagles 3-2.

The victory was Murray State's second win of the year bringing its record to 2-4-1 on the year.

Murray State has now won its last 13 OVC games including the OVC Tournament semifinal and final on its way to the OVC Championship.

Murray State is led by Withers who has scored four goals in seven games.

The Racers will travel to Southeast Missouri State Friday to take on the Redhawks in their second OVC game of the season.

Last year the Racers beat SEMO 4-1 during the regular season and again in the OVC Championship 1-0.

Murray State will then travel to UT Martin Oct. 2 and will return to Murray Oct. 5 to take on Tennessee Tech.

The Racers beat both teams last season by a combined score of 6-4, beating UT Martin 4-3 and Tennessee Tech 2-1



Jenny Rohl/*The News*

Junior midfielder Aaron Lankster fights for a ball in Sunday's win over Morehead State.

Marky Mark Talks Back

Gone but not Forgotten

Death is never easy, but in the world of sports the toughest deaths bring everyone together.

Over the weekend golf lost a legend in Arnold Palmer, 87, and Major League Baseball lost a young fiery talent in José Fernández 24.



Mark McFarland
Sports Editor

Palmer died Sunday because of heart issues. He won seven major championships in his more than 50 years of playing on the PGA Tour. He won the Masters four times, the British Open twice and the U.S. Open once, earning him the nickname "The King."

Palmer was one of those guys that was always around the game of golf. Every year at the Masters Palmer, along with Gary Player and Jack Nicklaus, took the honorary first tee shot from the first hole at Augusta National Golf Club. People get up early in the morning or wait all day to see the memorable honorary tee shot from three of the best players in the game of golf.

In an ESPN article, Nicklaus said he was in shock him and the game of golf lost a friend.

"We just lost one of the incredible people in the game of golf and in all of sports," Nicklaus said.

The Miami Marlins and the MLB lost someone who really showed not only the United States, but the whole world what it was like to have fun playing the sport he loved.

Fernandez died Sunday in a boating accident off the coast of Miami. The Marlins canceled their game against the Mets Sunday and resumed play Monday night.

One of the single most powerful moments in all of sports happened when second baseman Dee Gordon led off the game for the Marlins giving a tribute to his friend and teammate Fernández. He found a helmet his size, put Fernández's number on the back of the helmet and went up to bat on the right side of the plate where Fernández used to hit from. Gordon took the first pitch thrown to the Marlins and went to get his helmet and hit from his normal left side. Two pitches later he hit a home run, which he said was the farthest he has ever hit.

Gordon and the entire Marlins bench had tears in their eyes as he rounded third base, touched home plate and looked up to the sky in honor of his late friend.

The Marlins won the game and gathered around the mound after the game. They circled up, prayed and set their hats on the pitching mound around the number 16, Fernández's number, and went back to the locker room.

Besides Gordon's home run, first baseman Justin Bour hit his first professional triple. Gordon was asked about it after the game and hinted at his team getting a little help during the game.

"I told them boys, 'If y'all don't believe in God, you might as well start,'" Gordon said in a postgame interview.

Gordon and the Marlins sent their gratitude to the New York Mets as they showed up and did their best to be there and support the team through a tough time.

Two strong sports communities lost someone they respect – players who were loved and cherished.

Never take life for granted. You never know when it may be over.

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Racers, Gov's: the Battle of the Border

Staff Report

Murray State and Austin Peay State football will match up in the second event of the newly announced Battle of the Border rivalry series between the schools.

The Racers won the first event as the Lady Govs traveled to Murray to take on the Racers in volleyball Tuesday night. Murray State earned three points for the victory.

The Racers and Lady Govs will have another matchup in volleyball Nov. 2 when the Racers will head to Clarksville, Tennessee.

The football game will also be worth three points as the two schools will battle it out to try and reach 67 points, which symbolizes the 67 miles from Murray State to Austin Peay.

This is the 50th football meeting between the two schools as Austin Peay won the last meeting in Clarksville, but fell short at Murray State last season. The Racers improved to 35-14 in the series with last season's victory. The Governors have won 10 out of their 14 wins while playing the Racers at home.

Both schools have fallen short in each of its games as the Racers are 0-4 after a 17-16 loss to Southeast Missouri State Saturday during Family Weekend. The Governors are 0-3 after losing 56-35 at Eastern Illinois Saturday.



Chalice Keith/*The News*

Senior quarterback KD Humphries looks for a receiver in Saturday's 17-16 loss at home against Southeast Missouri State.

Austin Peay has scored a combined 59 points in its first three games while the Racers have scored just 58 points in four games this season.

The Racers' defense has given up 147 points to opposing offenses this season. Murray State's defense has also given up 849 yards rushing this season for 212.2 per game. Austin Peay's defense has given up 154 points in one less game than the Racers have played this season.

Senior quarterback KD Humphries has dealt with a right shoulder injury as he continues to struggles with turning the ball over.

Humphries is 76-117 for 862 yards and three touchdowns. He has also thrown five interceptions, which is two less than he threw last season.

The Racers have lacked a rushing attack this season as they have rushed for 181 yards totaling 45.2 per game. Murray State's leading rusher, redshirt junior running back Demetric Johnson, has a total of 131 yards, but has yet to score a touchdown.

The rivalry between Austin Peay and Murray State is sponsored by Heritage Bank. In a press release from Austin Peay, CEO of Heritage Bank John Peck said it will be exciting to watch the two schools compete in every sport, as every game means something.

"It's been a long-standing rivalry between two bordering states and two excellent institutions," Peck said. "We thought it would be fun to get into the fray on both sides of the state line and, at the same time, highlight the excellent sports histories and talented student athletes that represent Austin Peay and Murray State."

Along with the sporting events, both schools will give to their communities throughout the school year.

There will be other competitions factoring into who will receive the bragging rights at the end of the year. A blood drive worth five points is the community service project. There is also going to be a week of giving worth five points. Whichever university has the most donors during the week of giving will receive the five points.

The Racers and Governors football programs will play at 4 p.m. Saturday at Austin Peay in the second leg of the Battle of the Border.

Women's golf places first

Staff Report

Moa Folke, junior from Tranas, Sweden, led the Racers to victory at the Banister Classic as she won the individual tournament with a score of 215.

Folke won by five strokes, in front of University of Alabama-Birmingham's Sydney Snodgrass. Folke led her team to the top of the Banister Classic by a total of 18 strokes with a score of 887. Murray State was followed by UAB, which finished with a 905.

The Racers led the way at the end of day two and didn't look back. Murray State finished second the week before in the Drake Creek Invitational it hosted.

Other top scores for the Racers were freshman Lucila Puente from Sevilla, Spain.

She finished in third place overall with a 221. Linette Holmslykke, sophomore from Vejle, Denmark placed eighth overall with a score of 225. Rounding out the top 15 was Sydney Kelley, senior from Paducah, Kentucky, as she finished in 15th with a final score of 234.

The Racers will head to Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to compete in the MVC Preview, hosted by Southern Illinois. The tournament will be Oct. 3 and Oct. 4 at Dalhousie Golf Club.

RIFLE

From Page 6

match went on impressed Lollar.

"I was really proud of her because she had a rough start in air rifle and had a score she wouldn't have been happy with, but she really put together a good 40-45 shot stretch to end the match with.

Before the match, the team held a ring ceremony celebrating their OVC Championship victory during the 2015-16 season. Lollar said this is always something he and his team look forward to.

"It's always fun," Lollar said. "I love being able to get our guys in front of our fans from other sports that don't necessarily get to see them all the time. They give me a lot of good things that I can say about them."

The large participation in Family Weekend brought in a large crowd for the rifle team, as fans came to watch the NCAA's second-ranked team open its season. Lollar was appreciative of the support the fans showed.

"I want to thank everybody that came out because it was an unbelievable crowd," Lollar said. "I think we had over 100 people. All of the seats were full and people were having to stand around. We were really happy that everyone came out."

The team will be in action again when they travel to Ole Miss on Oct. 7.

BASKETBALL

From Page 6

York, said he focused a lot of time this offseason working on his strength and his jump shot and expects a lot from the team this season.

The Racers finished their 2015-16 campaign with a 17-14 record, keeping the winning tradition at Murray State going but played a majority of OVC games without sophomore forward Brion Sanchious, who tore his ACL in a game against Belmont last season.

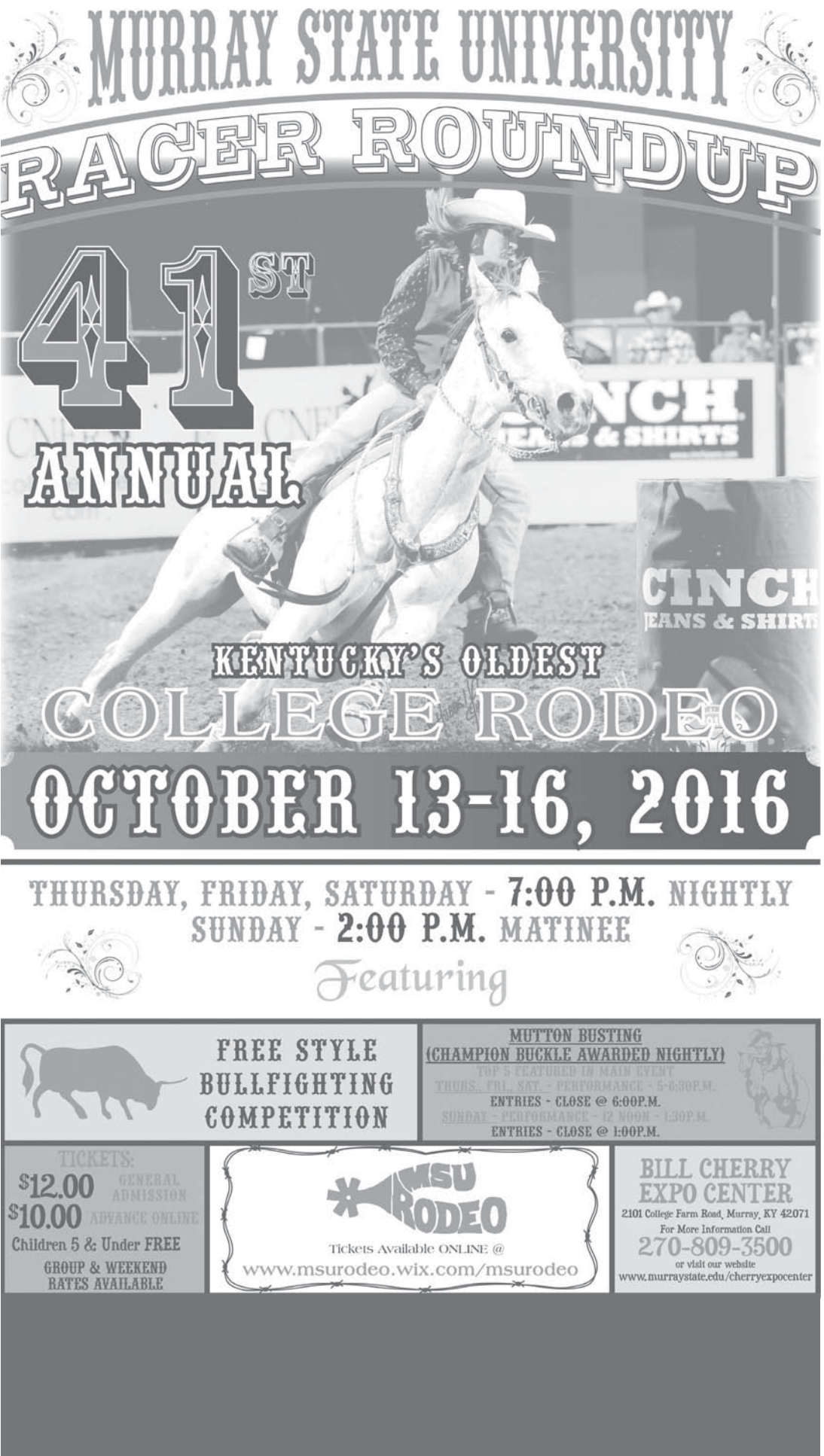
McMahon said Sanchious is back and expected to join the team in full contact workouts when they begin in October.

"Brion has put in the time and hasn't complained once since his injury," McMahon said. "He's back in all non-contact drill work."

The sophomore from Pompano Beach, Florida, averaged 14 minutes per game off of the bench during his freshman year before his injury and, with Langston gone, looks to take the No. 1 spot in the frontcourt this season.

The Racers will open their 2016-17 basketball season at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 3, at the CFSB Center in an exhibition game against Berry College.

"We know what we need to do to bring a championship to Murray," Jones said. "We want to shock the OVC and the world."



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TheNews.org

Softball makes fall adjustments

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Murray State softball elevated its fall record to 3-1 following two victories against Union University in its doubleheader on Sunday.

The Racers came away with a win early in the day, beating Union, 8-0. Head Coach Kara Amundson was pleased with how her players' played.

"The first game went great," Amundson said. "It was the third inning before we really started scoring some big runs, but our defense did the work. Our hitters were cold the first two innings, but we made the adjustments we needed to and found a way to score runs."

The same held true in the second game. After a 4-1 first inning in favor of the Bulldogs and a 0-0 second inning, Murray State scored five more runs to pull away and finish the game with a 6-4 score. Amundson attributed the turnaround to her team's attitude and ability to adjust.

"I think it took us a little time in both games to pick up on their pitchers a little bit and make some adjustments for ourselves offensively," Amundson said. "It's just a mentality to realize that their pitcher is doing a good job, but we can do better. I think we made the adjustments and stayed super positive and it turned out for the better."

Junior pitcher Haven Campbell came into the game in the third inning as an early relief for freshman pitcher Ellison Barrett and held the Bulldogs hitless in that inning.

"I just tried to come in and do my job," Campbell said. "I wanted to help my team out and help my defense out - just do my best and attack early."

The team's fall season is a series of eight exhibition games, which gives Amundson and her staff an opportunity to test varying lineups and see their freshmen perform for the first time.

Amundson took advantage of the opportunity, utilizing 17 different players over the course of the day and experimenting with a lineup full of speedy slap hitters.

"With how the fall works, we want to make sure we get different lineups out there," Amundson said. "We had a lot of lefty speed kids in the lineup today, which traditionally hasn't been how we do things, but it worked out and made the defense miss a lot. It worked out for us today."

The Racers will continue their fall season at noon and 2 p.m. on Oct. 15 at Racer Field in a doubleheader against Asbury University.



Jenny Rohl/*The News*

Junior infielder Erika Downey fields a ball against Union University at Racer Field.

Women's tennis improves during invitational



Jenny Rohl/*The News*

Jeanne Masson, sophomore from Dinard, France, serves during practice at Kenlake State Resort Park.

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Murray State's women's tennis team played in their second fall invitational tournament of the year last weekend, traveling to the University of Central Arkansas.

The tournament hosted seven schools, including Missouri State, Southeast Missouri State, Arkansas State, Northeastern State, Central Arkansas and Oral Roberts.

Claire Chang, freshman from Kaohsiung, Taiwan, won her first match in two sets against Amiru Shimoguchi, junior from Central Arkansas with scores of 6-2, 6-4.

> "One thing that I was really happy about was the way she played in the big moments. In those big moments, she played like a senior."
>
> - Jorge Caetano, Head Coach of Women's tennis, on player Claire Chang

Chang then went on to win her championship match in two sets against Julie Gaugery, senior from Arkansas State, winning 6-4, 6-3.

Amina Hadzic, sophomore from Esbjerg, Denmark, won her first singles match, beating Shelby King, sophomore from Arkansas State, in two sets 7-6 (6), 7-6 (3). Hadzic went on to lose her next match to Ceijenia Cornelius, sophomore from Oral Roberts, falling in two sets 6-1, 6-1.

Alina Schibol, senior from Hamburg, Germany, was victorious in her two-set singles match against Isabella Krupa, sophomore from SEMO, winning 6-3, 7-5. Schibol then lost her match against Marli Van Heerden, sophomore from Central Arkansas, falling in two sets 6-3, 6-4.

Sara Bjork, freshman from Malmo, Sweden, lost her match to Mila Majtan, senior from SEMO, falling 6-1, 6-0 in two sets.

Jeanne Masson, sophomore from Dinard, France, fell to Ximena Puentes, senior from Oral Roberts, losing in two sets 6-0, 6-1.

Hannah Rickard, freshman from Eddyville, Kentucky, won her singles match against Annisa Warasanti, senior from SEMO, with a score of 6-2, 0-6, (11-9).

Head Coach Jorge Caetano said he was very satisfied with the play of his team this weekend but still sees room for improvement.

"We had a really good tournament," Caetano said. "It was much better than last weekend. We're still having a lot of ups and downs, but we will get better with time."

Caetano said he was especially proud of the performance by freshman Claire Chang, who won her flight this weekend.

"One thing that I was really happy about was the way she played in the big moments. In those big moments, she played like a senior."

Chang began the tournament lacking confidence, but as the tournament continued, she became more confident in her game.

"On my first match I wasn't feeling that confident but after I won the first set I started to feel like I was playing some good tennis and that I could win the tournament," Chang said.

BATTLE OF THE BORDER
RACERS

Women's

SPORT	POINTS
Basketball	3 each game - 6 total
Volleyball	3 each game - 6 total
Softball	3 each game - 6 total
Tennis	3 for win
Soccer	3 for win
Golf	3 for best OVC finish
CC	3 for best OVC finish
T&F Indoor	3 for best OVC finish
T&F Outdoor	3 for best OVC finish

RACERS
VS

Men's

SPORT	POINTS
Football	3 for win
Basketball	6 - 3 each game
Baseball	6 - 2 each game
Golf	3 for best OVC finish
CC	3 for best OVC finish

ALL TEAMS

Service Project	5 for blood drive
Week of Giving	5 based on # of donors

GOVERNORS

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Graphic courtesy of Austin Gordon/*The News*

Murray State welcomes magic on campus

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A trail of magic, beloved by many, can be found in one of Wrather Museum's exhibition rooms until Nov. 4.

Wrather West Kentucky Museum is hosting an exhibit titled "Harry Potter's World: Renaissance, Science, Magic and Medicine." The exhibition, which uses materials from the National Library of Medicine, features six 7-foot one-inch panels with information on the topics in the seven-part series that are said to be drawn from 15th and 16th century ideas on Renaissance and science.

Sarah Hopley, special collections and exhibit librarian, submitted an application to have the traveling exhibit at Murray State in January. She said the reason for booking it was to

see **MAGIC**, page 10

Wrather West Kentucky Museum is hosting a Harry Potter exhibit for the next six weeks.

'Narcos' DEA agents talk Netflix series

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"Tonight is going to be the real story of Pablo Escobar," former Drug Enforcement Administration agent Javier Peña said. "We're going to talk about what actually happened."

Netflix's new hit series, "Narcos," shows the struggle of taking down Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar. The two American DEA agents in the show are real, and they addressed a crowd in the Curris Center Ballroom Monday night.

Steve Murphy and Javier Peña were the American DEA agents that helped take down Escobar and the Medellín Cartel in Colombia. The two men now share their story with the world; not just through Netflix or on the National Geographic special "Facing Escobar," but through presentations to colleges and communities around the globe.

Peña said they do it to make sure people remember the horror that was Escobar's narcoterrorism.

"It was real. It's history," Peña said. "We want people to remember the history; we learn from history."

Peña and Murphy showed the audience a timeline of the events that happened with Escobar and his cartel. The agents' lives were in real danger, and even though the show has some exaggerations, Murphy said they portrayed the danger correctly.

"The show can be gory at times, but they got that right," Murphy said. "There was a lot of violence and fear that surrounded this cartel."

Murphy said that the bounty Escobar put out for Colombian police officers was $100, but for himself and Peña, the bounty was $300,000 each.

"It was sad," Murphy said. "That's how cheap a Colombian police officer's life was."

"Narcos" has been talked about since its release in 2015, and students at Murray State jumped at the chance to meet Peña and Murphy to hear the real story.

Darius Hill, senior from Florence, Kentucky, said he just finished the series.

"It was perfect timing," Hill said. "I wanted to come see the real story of it.

Anna Eckard, freshman from Madisonville, Kentucky, said she hoped to see how the agents came out the other end unscathed.

"I wanted to see the real people," Eckard said. "I wanted to hear the stories about what they did, and how they were able to get through all of that without going crazy."

Murphy and Peña were careful about who told their story. They were actually approached several times by different producers before they decided to let Netflix tell their story to the whole world.

"We were totally shocked that there was any interest in this whatsoever and had been approached by many other producers," Murphy said. "We were going to turn these guys down, too. It's a good thing we didn't."

The partners said they had one condition for the team at Netflix that was going to produce "Narcos."

"We don't do anything independent from each other – we've been partners since 1989," Murphy said. "Our main concern is that you don't do anything to glorify Pablo Escobar because he's such an evil person."

Murphy and Peña said Netflix has lived up to their promise. And recently their story has taken them all over the world, but their next step is writing a book, which they said will be released hopefully sometime next spring. But until then, they will keep traveling and telling what they remember to be the true story of "Narcos" and Escobar's narcoterrorism.

NYC artists hold exhibitions















Photos contributed by Kelli O'Toole/*The News*

Staff report

Two artists from New York City gave a lecture on Thursday, Sept. 22, at the Clara M. Eagle Gallery about their exhibitions that were installed. Joel Carreiro, professor and director of graduate Master of Fine Arts programs at Hunter College in New York City, installed his exhibition "Picturesque Philosophy." Yeon Jin Kim, an artist working in New York City, helped install her exhibit "Fantastic Animation: The Imaginative World of Yeon Jin Kim." Carreiro's exhibit is available until Nov. 1, and Jin Kim's is available until Oct. 17.

Murray State's calendar of events website described Jin Kim's work as "combining technological and handmade approaches, drawing upon such diverse influences as sci-fi films, ancient Asian scrolls and her own dreams."

The website described Carreiro's paintings as "dissecting historically rich images, arranging them in intricate abstract compositions creating juxtapositions that transform and entice close investigation across the surface of each painting."

MAGIC

From Page 9

update Wrather and bring things that are more exciting and interesting to those other than history majors. The panels and lectures that will be held over the course of six weeks, will highlight the comparisons in Renaissance times and J.K. Rowling's references to them.

"You can learn more about Harry Potter – which I think most people love – and then you can see where J.K. Rowling got her inspiration from," she said. "It also brings you into a building that maybe you didn't know existed on campus or that you hadn't been in for 20 or 30 years."

Because of the collective love for the magical series, Hopley said it makes it easier for others to be interested in how the themes are tied into real life.

"Harry Potter spans the ages; from adults who really love Harry Potter to kids today who really love Harry Potter," she said.

Hopley said because of this, she thinks the National Library of Medicine's reason for the exhibition was easy since all they had to do was take information that they knew and add on potions and herbology and tie it into something that was interesting.

"So you're teaching people about things that maybe they would have never thought of but point them in through something they're interested in, like Harry Potter," she said.

Nicole King, graduate student from Hopkinsville, Kentucky, said she was one of those Potterheads who grew up with Rowling's books.

"My friends call me Hermione," she said. "I connected with that character since I'm a know-it-all. I love to learn, so every time I see this stuff like this I'm like 'oh, this is how it applies to the real world.'"

King said the exhibition is a good way to bring in new people who wouldn't otherwise understand or necessarily relate to the series.

"I understand a lot people are into Harry Potter like, 'Oh, I love this book,' but they don't actually know how it does connect to the real world, how J.K. Rowling used history all the time," King said. "She drew from real-world experiences, from people in the Dark Ages and how they viewed the world to create her own world. It connects to everything."

The Harry Potter exhibit is Wrather's first national exhibit and Hopley said in the fall of 2018, they are excited to welcome an exhibit from the Smithsonian, "Hometown Teams."

The exhibits displayed at Wrather are often funded by both donations and the university, depending on the exhibition, Hopley said. Because Murray State is not near a lot of things, Hopley said shipping can get expensive very quickly.

During the time the exhibit sits at Wrather, there will be other Potter-related activities going on around campus like a Quidditch match hosted by the Honors college, a Harry Potter-themed party for kids featuring owls from Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area and lectures from different professors on the themes and Renaissance references found in the series.



McKenna Dosier/*The News*

The Harry Potter exhibit at Wrather will be available until Nov. 4.





Paducah celebrates 22nd Barbecue on the River



Staff report

A cool fresh breeze coming off the river, the roar of the crowd shopping and walking down the street and a scent of freshly-cooked barbecue so strong it demanded attention.

Downtown Paducah was flooded with people from all around on Thursday, September 22 through Saturday, Sept. 24. The famous Barbecue on the River was held for the 22nd year.

The event is filled with live music, boutiques and shops, inflatables and games for children and – the main event – food. The festival is held to raise money for local charities.

Barbecue on the River organizers said the barbecue teams have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to charities through this event.

Each team picks a charity they wish to raise money for and then they set up booths selling food or merchandise.

Whatever is raised at the end of the weekend goes directly to their chosen charity.

Last year, there were more than 30 barbecue teams. The highest total raised was $25,732.51 by Tilford's Q Krew, for Purchase Area Sexual Assault and Child Advocacy (PASAC).

Barbecue on the River also hosts a cooking competition. Participants can purchase VIP tickets, which allows them to follow the judges through the scoring processing.

With festivals like these, long lines can be expected.

"The lines are always super long," said Paducah native Marcel Hopkins. "But it always seems to go by quickly because the time waiting is spent deciding how much you can eat without going overboard."

After attendees had their fill of barbecue, there were plenty of activities for the whole family.

For the children there were various inflatables to jump and play in, toys being sold, crafts, balloon animals, puppets, light-up toys and activities such as face painting.

The final tallies of this year's event can be seen at bbqontheriver.org with the next week.



Photos by Jenny Rohl/*The News*

Behind the scenes: Preparing for Homecoming

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Homecoming every year is full of fall fun, fanfare and camaraderie. However, behind the scenes, there are a lot of preparations. Clint Combs, president of the Student Government Association, said the goal of homecoming is to reminisce and have fun.

"It's like a second Christmas," he said. "It's a big deal. Really, it's an opportunity for our alumni to come back, for our students to meet and engage with alumni."

This year's Homecoming is filled with history, as it is the 90th anniversary of the first graduating class as well as the 80th anniversary of the SGA on campus. For alumni and students, this Homecoming will be historic.

Matt Turley, Homecoming chairman for the Campus Activity Board, said there are alumni who go as far as to plan their entire year around Homecoming.

"It really brings everyone at Murray State together," Turley said.

In order to make Homecoming a special event, there are a lot of moving parts that different people are responsible for. For example, everyone on SGA is required to work at the parade on Homecoming. Combs said when he was a senator, he and Nathan Payne, current executive vice president of SGA, had one of their first interactions lining up floats one year for the Homecoming Parade. On the day of, the preparations begin early in the morning, Turley said.

"It's a long day, but it's a fun day," Combs said.

The only aspect of Homecoming the committee isn't responsible for is Tent City, Turley said. Otherwise, Turley said the committee is responsible for the Homecoming Parade as well as the Homecoming court selection.

For the Homecoming court, an important aspect of Homecoming for current students, nominations were due on Tuesday at 4 p.m. The applicants then go through an extensive interviewing process, Turley said. The seven selected judges who make the final decision on who to put in the top five king and queen candidates are comprised of faculty and staff from across campus. The final vote is then made by students in October.

Turley said this year they really tried to get a range of judges that truly represented the Murray State community.

"This year we got someone from the president's office and athletics," he said.

So what does it take to be on Homecoming court? The court is the top five applicants chosen by the selection committee. They are students who represent Murray State, and for the King and Queen, will for the rest of the year. Combs said that while high school Homecoming may have been a popularity contest for some, on a collegiate level, being on Homecoming court means being one of the best representatives of what it means to be a Murray State student.

"These are people who really, truly, embody the characteristics of Murray State," he said. "People who are doing well academically, who are tremendously involved in the community and that will be respected by the campus."

Combs said a lot of times people recognize the names on the ballot because they are so involved on campus, in the classroom and out of the classroom. Since 1978, Murray State has made student involvement a consideration when electing the Homecoming queen.

Jeanie Morgan, coordinator of Student Affairs, said Murray State made the decision to have the student body vote that year, so they could have candidates that came from a more diverse pool than previously, when it was just a committee.

"In 1978, the Student Government took that [student voting] on as a project," she said. "They wanted a better representation of the student body."

Morgan said 2001 was the first year the student body voted on Homecoming king.

"The student body has really become the driving force here," Morgan said.

Turley said on the day of Homecoming, to see all the work pay off is a great feeling.

"I definitely think there's something in the air when it hits Friday afternoon of Homecoming weekend," Turley said. "It's just so fun to get to meet people and to talk about how much Murray State has changed and how proud they are of it."

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Pop Culture Corner



Photo courtesy of ibtimes.com

Katy Perry bares it all for voting campaign

Pop star **Katy Perry** partnered with popular website "funnyordie.com" and voting campaign "Rock the Vote" to tell viewers how important voting is, even if you can't find anything to wear. She has popcorn in her hair and is naked talking about voting before finally being arrested for not wearing clothing. You may want to wear clothes when you step to the polls in Novemeber.



Photo courtesy of free4kwallpaper.com

Brad Pitt denies abuse allegations

Brad Pitt recently spoke up about allegations that he abused his children, specifically an incident on a private jet with one of his children. The Department of Children's Services in LA is currently looking into the allegations. Whatever the case, Brad Pitt has requested privacy for the sake of his kids. Let's hope this divorce doesn't turn sour and turn into a he said, she said.

Soundbyte

"Didn't invite the mother of my child to a baby shower you all were trying to throw for me,"
-Rob Kardashian,
Rob letting the world know all is not as it seems in Kardashian paradise.

Prepare to be scared

★★★☆☆



Photo courtesy of screenrant.com

Ominous sign warns campers in "Blair Witch" to avoid the woods after dark because trouble lies ahead.

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When "The Blair Witch Project" was originally released in 1999, it left people shivering in their seats. Back then films surrounding 'found-footage' weren't common, and many believed that the film was a true story. Today, this genre of film has been popularized by "Paranormal Activity" and its many sequels and has proven that this form is quite profitable.

Now it's 2016 and time for "The Blair Witch Project" to get its own sequel. "Blair Witch" is essentially a revamped version of the original, and is likely to leave fans wondering if this film was necessary but is still a terrifying film.

The "Blair Witch" takes place in the aftermath of the first film. James Donahue (James Allen McCune) goes on a search for his sister, Heather, who has been missing for nearly 17 years after her search for the Blair Witch. With the help of his friends, his girlfriend Lisa (Callie Hernandez) and cameras they go into the wilderness of Maryland to unveil what happened to Heather and if the Blair Witch legend is true.

This premise is similar to its predecessor, but as the plot unfolds before the viewer one key element that made the original so good is lacking from the sequel. The sense of mystery in "The Blair Witch Project" created an atmosphere that was both intriguing and horrifying. However, in the sequel it has been replaced with shock-value jump scares. While it does successfully scare the audience, it feels lackluster in comparison to the terror of suspense in the first film. Where viewers of the first film were terrified of not knowing what would happen next, now they're afraid in anticipation of the next horrific figure to pop out at them.

Despite its flaws, the characters and their respective dialogue is believable. And one can feel the emotions the characters emit during their encounters in the deep woods. Another similar element is that the camera work is almost on par with the original. But this is set 17 years after the events of the first film, and therefore it feels slightly more polished and less like the camera work of college kids.

"Blair Witch" has a healthy balance of pros and cons. On one hand: the acting and cinematics of the film work in its favor, and the film is sure to spook. On the other: the themes are different than the original, relying more on jump scares rather than creating a realistic suspense.

Some will love it, some will loathe it, but one thing is for sure: it'll make viewers rethink their next hiking trip.

Maturity balances nostalgia

★★★★½

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Many seek the feeling of nostalgia. People often use their favorite music as an escape back to pleasant, listening to the bands that they grew up on. While progression as a band is deemed a necessity to thrive, several bands realize that their long time fans long to hear that sound they are recognized for. At the same time, they realize they need to appeal to younger generations of fans. With their seventh studio album, the Long Island-based rock band Taking Back Sunday take their signature sound and embellish what it is they do best.

Released earlier this month, "Tidal Wave" is 12 tracks of raw emotion and a throwback to music of the 00s. Opening the album with the wobbling tenor of an organ, "Death Wolf" starts with vocalist Adam Lazzara repeating "nobody," abruptly switching to pounding drums and razor-sharp guitars. The high-energy bridge is extremely unconventional in the best way, with a swift drum-fill moving a pounding bass riff and vocal chant.

The title track follows the pace of the previous track, with a drum groove moving straight into a riff and vocal melody that is reminiscent of the Ramones' discography. At heart, it's downright punk and is a lighthearted drinking song. The spacious guitar strumming the intro to "You Can't Look Back" builds up to an unleash of Lazzara's passionate voice, singing about the things people do and why they do them when the going gets tough. "I'm gonna get you if it takes me all night long," Lazzara says. Anthem "Fences" is a concoction of acoustic guitar and a variety of electronic instrumentation, with an escalating beat and soaring vocals.

The lengthy ballad "I Felt It Too" clocks in at the six-minute mark, and is one of the most heartfelt tracks on the album. The way Lazzara's lower-register of his voice melts with the softly plucked guitar is breathtaking, and you can feel the pain behind the harmonies in the chorus. "I know you're tired, I feel it, too," Lazzara and guitarist John Nolan sing together.

Piano-laced closer "I'll Find A Way To Make It What You Want" is comprised of three sections: The slow-burning mix of violins and keyboards, the silky whispered vocals, the transcendence into wailing guitars and then back into delicate piano, which fades out into squabble. An ode to a lover, this track is without a doubt the pinnacle of the album, a major stand-out from the previous.



Photo courtesy of chorus.fm

With age comes the inevitable progression of one's art, but Taking Back Sunday has a niche for writing creative hooks and licks while remaining in their comfort zone.

There is as much emotion put into "Tidal Wave," as their past releases, but now there is noticeable maturity. From songs of teenage heartbreak to the devastating toll of a divorce, it's clear to see that the band still knows how to put what they're feeling into their art.

Taking Back Sunday has successfully created a record capable of appeasing even the most die-hard "old" fans, highlighting some of the most innovative guitar and gut-wrenching lyricism in their catalog. As long as they are around, so is the glory of '02.

Just So You know

Just do it



Gisselle Hernandez
Features Editor

It's happening again. I'm freaking out about the concept of time.

If you ask any of the people I work with, they will tell you I do this at least once a week, and yes, I am aware it gets annoying. But how can you not freak out? We've sped through nine months of 2016 as easily as flipping the pages of a wall calendar. You might not know me, but I'm the type of person who would have probably drove Nietzsche, who came up with the school of existentialism, crazy. Just sitting here trying to write this column as time ticks by on my laptop clock has sweat beading on my brow.

Ironically, I'm also one of those people – I'm sure like many others – who mutters the phrase 'I'll do it tomorrow' at least 74 times a day. Precisely because of this paradox I'm here to tell you, it's a trap, man. There IS no tomorrow. And I don't mean it in the 'we're doomed and the concept of time is relative' philosophical nonsense. I mean it as in the 'you're a college kid who's probably never going to have as much free time in the future as you do now' sense. I've been here for two years and I've never been to the lake (I know, I know. I'm getting to it, all right?)

I've also never been to The Arboretum, never been to a Rocky Horror Picture Show, never had a pumpkin spice latte. All these things might seem mundane and #basic to most of you, but keep in mind I've been saying I would do all these things since I first came here in 2014. It is now nearing the end of 2016. I'm sure all of you have your own list, too.

What I'm trying to say is, I graduate this spring, and from then on I'll probably find myself back in my tiny tropical country where PSLs are as valued as winter jackets in December. So this is a column telling myself to do the things I said I would and so should you.

When you leave Murray State and get a job in some big city or continue on to grad school across the country, you won't have the luxury of doing that one crazy 15-hour road trip with your buddies or watch the sun set over Kentucky Lake. Get your butt off of your pota-to-chip-encrusted couch and do what's on that list, no matter how small it might seem.

When you have your 9 to 5 job, you'll wish you had studied abroad in college or learned a new language. Time is ticking, people. Believe me, I know. The next thing you know, your diploma is placed in your hand and you're on the job hunt, dreams of camping at LBL long since vanished into thin air.

Like the phenomenal author Paulo Coelho said, "one day you will wake up and there won't be any more time to do the things you've always wanted. Do it now."

So get out there and cross off that thing on your list that's been haunting you since you mentally jotted it down. As for me, I think it's time I finally see that sun rise at LBL.

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Out this week

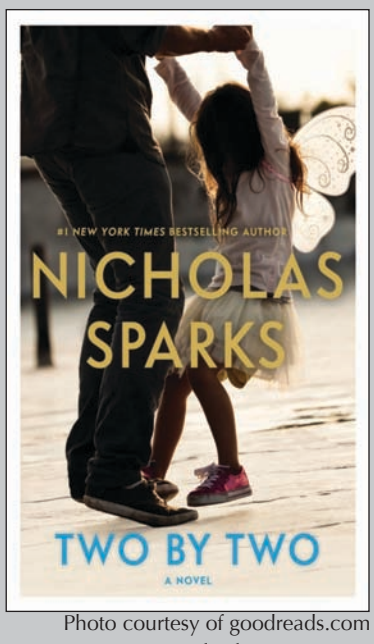


Photo courtesy of goodreads.com

Read It
"Two by Two"
by Nicholas Sparks



Photo courtesy of blastr.com

See It
"Miss Peregrine's Home
for Peculiar Children



Photo courtesy of pitchfork.com

Hear It
"22, A Million"
by Bon Iver



Photo courtesy ofimpawards.com

Rent It
"Central Intelligence"



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Play It
"Warhammer: End Times-
Vermintide"



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