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NEWS BRIEF

UPDATED 2022-2023 INFLUENZA VACCINE RECOMMENDATIONS. Look for specific updates, including: 3 vaccines preferentially recommended for people 65 and older. Vaccine composition updated to better protect against flu viruses expected to circulate this season. CDC recommends everyone 6 months and older get an annual flu vaccine.

Graphic courtesy of the CDC. The Center of Disease Control advises for those older than 6 months to get a flu vaccine.

Flu season starts, vaccines available on campus, Murray

MacKenzie Rogers Staff Writer mrogers42@murraystate.edu

Being a month into flu season, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) encourages communities to go and get their annual flu vaccines.

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by the influenza viruses that infects the nose, throat and lungs, according to the CDC. Typical flu symptoms include fever, chills, cough, sore throat, headaches and fatigue. Symptoms typically last for around four to seven days. The CDC recommends that anyone exhibiting flu-like symptoms should remain at home and avoid contact with others, except to receive medical care.

While flu cases are still relatively low, there have been noticeable early increases across the country, with the highest flu activity counts coming from the southeastern and south-central areas of the United States, according to the CDC. Western Kentucky is already seeing the flu season's effects, with numerous public schools including Ballard County, Crittenden County, McCracken County and Paducah Public Schools all temporarily closed because of a surge of flu cases.

In October, the CDC estimates 1.6 million to 3.7 million instances of flu illnesses have likely occurred.

These increases could be a sign of an early start to the flu season, which typically begins in October and ends in February. The CDC also stated the severity of the upcoming flu season cannot be predicted because of the nation's recent years dealing with COVID-19.

Flu shot vaccines are available by appointment at the local Walgreens, Walmart and CVS, with Walgreens and CVS offering free flu shots with most insurances. A walk-in vaccine clinic will be available on campus through the KentuckyCare COVID-19 Vaccine/Testing Clinic from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 16 in the Waterfield Library Breezeway.



Calloway County votes red in midterms

Voters at the CFSB Center line up out to the road on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Dionte Berry /The News

Unofficial election results outline incumbent wins, locals vote 'yes' to rejected amendments

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Calloway County voters reelected Mayor Bob Rogers for his second term, while welcoming a newcomer to the Murray Independent School Board.

Residents reported long lines at the six voting locations in Calloway County on Tuesday. This year's voting also included three days of early voting last week. Voter turnout stood at 37.3%.

In the mayor's race, Rogers won with 67.37% of the vote to challenger Clifton Darnell 32.63%. Rogers and Darnell could not be reached for comment late Tuesday night.

In the Murray City Council race, newcomers Bonnie Higginson, Terry Strieter and John "Joe" Darnall were elected to city council. Incumbents Monty McCuiston, Alice Rouse, Danny Hudspeth, Linda Cherry, Jeremy Bell, Johnny Bohannon, Rose Ross Elder, Wesley Bolin and John Mark Roberts were reelected.

The Murray Independent school board race attracted five candidates for three slots. Incumbents Gina Winchester and Shawn Smee were reelected, and first-time candidate Robyn Pizzo took the third spot.

"I feel very excited," Pizzo said. "I worked really hard. I met so many incredible people in our community, and I'm so excited to represent them on our school board."

Pizzo said her win shows a different kind of person can get involved in local politics.

"I'm the youngest person running for the school board and so I'm excited to see a new generation of people coming into leadership," Pizzo said. "It means a lot to me to be there for the youth in our community. They're so inspiring to me, and I want to make sure that their voices are heard too on the school board."

Smee said he's excited to serve a new term alongside Winchester and Pizzo.

"Coming off of several years of working with COVID, I'm excited to see what the new plan of work is," Smee said. "We have great things going on in and outside of the classroom, and we're excellent at finding spaces for our students to succeed."

see MIDTERM ELECTION, page 2

Scholarship honors first-generation student

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After announcing a scholarship for first-generation students last year, the Office of Student Engagement and Success congratulated the first recipient at the fourth annual first-generation celebration.

Hosted by the Office of Student Engagement and Success, the celebration takes time to highlight first-generation students while also offering them words of encouragement from first-generation alumni.

Travis and Kelly Taylor, both first-generation 2011 graduates of Murray State, announced the first scholarship honoring first-generation students at last year's celebration. The scholarship was awarded to Nadia Stone, a junior social work major.

Stone said it felt as though her efforts in class were being recognized.

"It just reminded me that all my hard work is going toward something, and it felt good to see that is paying off," Stone said. "Being a first-generation student also doesn't come easy, and I'm thankful for my family and friends that remind me to keep pushing."

After she was notified that she would be receiving the scholarship, she wrote a letter that was read to



Attendees mingle at conversation tables mixed with students and staff members.

Dionte Berry/The News

the event by Peggy Whaley, director of Student Engagement and Success.

Stone wrote about the scholarship not only affecting her but her mother as well.

"Receiving this scholarship has positively affected both me and my mother, who is a single mother," Stone wrote. "I am my mother's only child, and she has always supported me in everything I do, even when we struggled financially. Being raised by a single mother was not easy, but my mother never turned down my dream."

Following the reception of her award, the event featured guest speaker and two-time Murray

State alumnus Aaron Harris. Also a first-generation student, Harris graduated with a bachelor's degree in electronic media in 2012 and a master's degree in human development and leadership in 2014.

Now, Harris is the executive director of Keeping my Promise Inc., a nonprofit that focuses on providing resources, such as online learning tools, mentorship programs, resources for finding scholarships and career counseling to support high school and college students, according to the nonprofit's website.

see CELEBRATION, page 2



Mary Huffman/The News

Because of high voter turnout the CFSB center needs to have ballots replenished throughout the day.

MIDTERM ELECTION, from page 1

Smee said one of his main concerns is making sure students are fed. “When students are hungry, they can’t concentrate, they can’t participate and they can’t excel in the classrooms,” Smee said. “That’s one of the big things for me.” Democrat Antonia Faulkner was reelected county clerk over Republican challenger James “Mike” Tinsley. “I appreciate all the people that not only turned out to vote for me but also to vote for the other candidates,” Faulkner said. “It was exciting to see the lines of people waiting to vote on this beautiful day in Calloway County. Everything went very smoothly.” Faulkner said she and her board will get together and review the election and compare it to what they did in the primary election in May.

“I worked really hard. I met so many incredible people in our community, and I’m so excited to represent them on our school board.”
— Robyn Pizzo, Murray
Independent School Board member

Sheriff Nicky Knight was reelected with 68.5% of the vote over challenger Danny Williams 31.46%. Knight dedicated his victory to late Calloway County Chief Deputy Jody Wayne Cash. Cash was killed in a shooting in Marshall County on May 16. “He always wanted to help people,” Knight said. “When he helped somebody, nobody knew except that person. When he passed away, I received so many calls from people saying how he changed their lives.” In terms of the sheriff’s department, Knight said he likes where the county is heading and is ready to move the county forward. County Attorney K. Bryan Ernstberger was reelected at 73.18% over Madison Leach 26.82%. This will be Ernstberger’s third term. Ernstberger said he is excited to continue in his position and plans to make an emphasis on child support collection in the coming term. Kenneth L. Claud, incumbent, won jailer at 51.7% over William Lamb. Claud said he would focus on expanding the state inmate holdings, improving the work program for inmates and giving his deputy jailers a pay raise. In the 42nd Circuit Court judge race, incumbent Jamie Jameson received 51.41% of the Calloway County vote to challenger Andrea Moore’s 48.59%. However, the district also includes Marshall County. In total, Moore received 11,269 votes to Jameson’s 9,942 and won the seat. Moore said she was excited to get started on her platform.

“I’d like to remain impartial,” Moore said. “I wanna treat people with respect.” Voters in Calloway County picked incumbent Republican Rand Paul for the U.S. Senate seat at 66.84% of the vote, with Democrat Charles Booker at 33.16%. Paul won reelection for a third term, winning the election statewide. Calloway County voters chose incumbent Republican James Comer for the U.S. House seat at 70.48%. Comer won the race statewide. Amendment 1 was voted “yes” at 50.75%. This amendment would allow legislators to call special sessions without consulting with the governor. However, the state rejected the amendment with 53.6% voting “no” at 89% reporting, according to the Associated Press. Amendment 2 was voted “yes” at 52.22%. This would declare nothing in the state Constitution protects a right to abortion. The state showed a different result—the amendment was rejected with 52.5% voting “no” at 90% reporting, according to the Associated Press.

In other races:

Republican Mary Beth Imes was reelected for 5th district state representative. Shea Nickell was reelected justice of the First District Supreme Court. Chris McNeill was reelected for first district appellate judge for the Court of Appeals (first division). Donna Dixon was reelected for first district appellate judge for the Kentucky Court of Appeals (second division). Stephanie Judy Perlow was reelected for 42nd circuit judge for family court (second division). Randall Hutchens was reelected for 42nd district judge. Jay Housden was elected for the board of education in the first educational district. Scott Lowe was elected for the board of education in the third education district. Don Cherry was elected for the third district magistrate. Tim Stone was elected for the third district constable. Paul Rister was elected for the fourth district magistrate. Ricky Garland was elected for coroner. Christopher Bradley Jones was elected for county surveyor. Ricky Stewart was elected for the first magisterial district. Jedediah “Levi” Lamb was elected for first district constable. Larry Crutcher was elected for the second district magistrate. Joseph Swarthout was elected for the second district constable.

Writers Ben Overby, Grace Boatwright, Mason Galemore and Noah Crum contributed to this report. They are enrolled in JMC 397 In-Depth Reporting and covered the election as a class assignment.

Calloway County Unofficial Election Results

*Checkmarks denote Kentucky and regional results

United States Senate*

Option	Percent	Votes
Rand Paul ✓	67%	7,906 votes
Charles Booker	33%	3,934 votes

United States Representative in Congress 1st Congressional District*

Option	Percent	Votes
James Comer ✓	70%	8,288 votes
Jimmy C. Ausbrooks	30%	3,483 votes

Circuit Judge 42nd Judicial Circuit 1st Division*

Option	Percent	Votes
Jamie Jameson	51%	5,155 votes
Andrea Lee Moore ✓	49%	4,875 votes

Amendment 1: Allows for legislative session dates and duration changes*

Option	Percent	Votes
Yes	51%	5,145 votes
No ✓	49%	5,291 votes

Amendment 2: Amends State Constitution to declare no right to an abortion*

Option	Percent	Votes
Yes	52%	5,988 votes
No ✓	48%	5,492 votes

Shann Riley/The News

Sources calloway.clerkinfo.net and Associated Press



Dionte Berry/The News

Alumnus Aaron Harris talks about the struggles he faced while pursuing his bachelor’s degree.

CELEBRATION, from page 1

Harris talked about the obstacles he had to overcome, such as getting in trouble with the law and struggling to find the strength to finish his bachelor’s degree after his brother died. During that time, Harris found himself relying on those around him. Harris concluded with the importance of perseverance and giving back to one’s community. “Start believing in what you want to achieve, but know it’s not going to be easy,” Harris said. “Nothing that is worth it comes easy. What you do when no one is looking matters. Even if no one is looking, give back.” Assistant Director of the Office of Student Engagement and Success Jennifer Smith said she was scrolling through LinkedIn when she saw Harris and thought to have him back for the celebration. “I read about what he’s doing with that nonprofit,” Smith said. “He started Keeping the Promise, and [it] just clicked: we should ask him to come back home and speak to first-generation students.” Overall, Smith said the office finds it important to highlight first-generation students because of the number they make

up at the University and the additional obstacles they may face. “Of Murray State’s student body, 44% are considered first-generation students,” Smith said. “It’s important that we support first-generation students, being the first in your family to attend college. We help, so we support them to make their transition to college as easy as possible and support them while they’re here.” In terms of support, because the student is the first in their family to attend college, families may not be well informed about everything their student will have to do in regards to making payments and scheduling classes. The office is working to give students supplementing knowledge to help them succeed. Smith spoke about her own experience as an undergraduate student and how that informed her as a current University worker. “I wasn’t the best student,” Smith said. “I graduated with a 2.48 GPA and decided to come back to school to be successful. I was a single mom with two kids in daycare and working a full-time job. It’s just — we all have a story. All of us, and some stories are more difficult to hear than others. But we all have a story, and it’s part of who we are. And it’s part of how we get to where we’re going.”

'Her Loss' sparks Drake's redemption arc

Jakob Milani

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In a year that has been full of great music, it seems only fitting that one of the biggest artists in the world would surprise us. Drake has collaborated with rapper 21 Savage to bring us "Her Loss," an album that sees the pair flexing their lifestyle and moving on from their past.

Following back-to-back albums in which critics expressed indifference, the Internet let Drake know they were displeased and wanted more from the Toronto-born rapper.

With four collabs already released between Drake and 21 Savage, which were hits in their own right and the oldest dating back to 2016, it seemed fitting that the two link for a collab album, similar to what Drake and Future did in 2015 with "What A Time To Be Alive."

"Her Loss" is a 16 song, one hour project showcasing how well these two artists can work together, meshing their multitude of different styles to create a project like no other this year.

Upon first listen, listeners are hit with heavy beats over which the two rappers are really bringing what feels like their best. Both artists switched up their flows and instrumentals to hone in on the feeling of this album.

The album kicked off with the song "Rich Flex," in which Drake opens the song with the now-trending line, "21, can you do something for me?" The song really feeds into 21 Savage's Atlanta trap style, with deep bass and a beat switch in the middle of the song.

From there, we get "Major Distribution," where Drake starts out with his signature singing voice before the beat really kicks in, and he breaks out into a full rap with guest vocals from Lil Yachty. Savage gets the second verse and flows easily on the heavy beat, seeming very at home with this song.

The third song, "On BS," is where it starts to feel more like a Drake album rather than a collab album, as Drake takes up most of the song

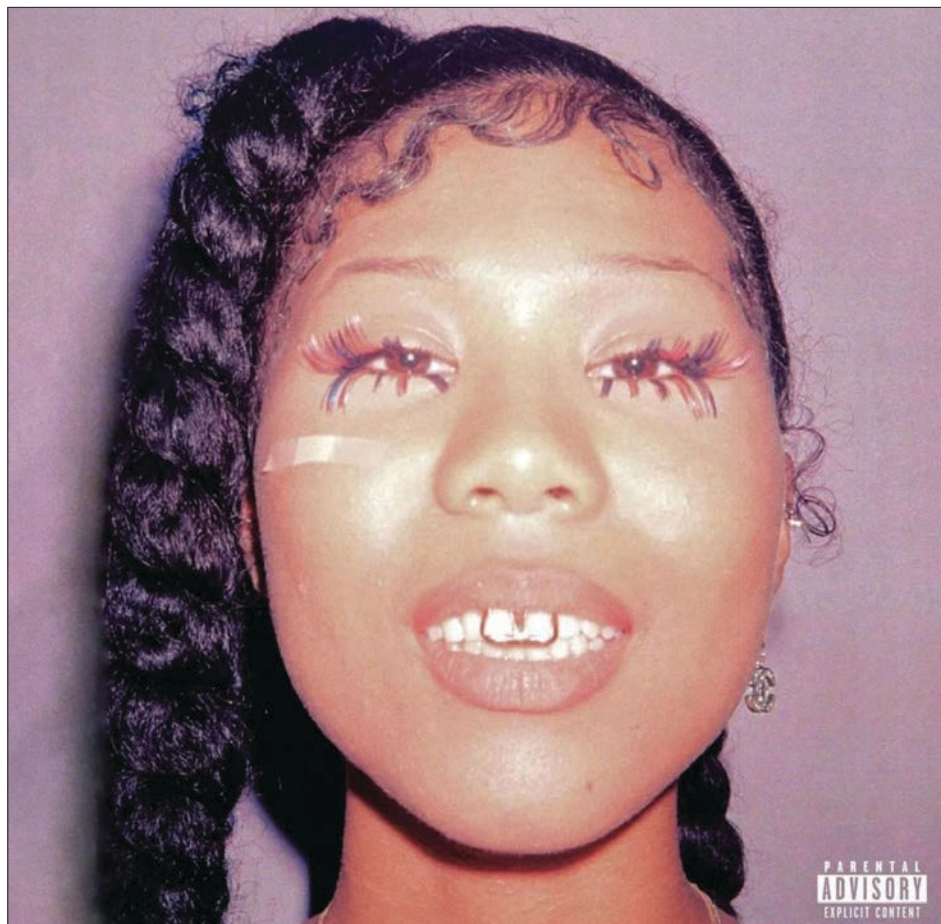


Photo courtesy of @champagnepapi on Instagram
Qui Yasuka aka Suki Baby is on the album cover for 'Her Loss' released on Friday, Nov. 4.

compared to his counterpart. However, the song stands out as a true banger.

A few songs later, we get "Privileged Rappers," where the two discuss how they may be on top but don't have the same privilege like others to get there. The two made a promo video for the song with a parody of A COLORS SHOW video—the cherry on top.

Some great samples appear across the album, with the song "Spin Bout U" sampling "Give Me Your Lov-N" by B.G.O.T.I., and the song "Circo Loco" sampling "One More Time" by Daft Punk. Both songs are really standouts on the album, in large part because of the clever sampling.

Despite a fun sample of Juicy J and DJ Paul's "Talk Yo A** Off," the song "Hours In Silence" goes on a bit too long at 6 minutes and 39 seconds, though it's a nice change in pace as both artists show off their singing abilities.

The one and only feature comes on track 10 as Houston rapper Travis Scott hops on the track titled "P***y & Millions." This song is one of the best on the project, as all three artists show off some great skill, and Travis Scott provides arguably the best feature in rap music this year.

While he presents this album as a collab project, Drake keeps four songs for himself. While the closing track "I Guess It's F**k Me" is a skip, his other three songs ("BackOutsideBoyz," "Middle of the Ocean" and "Jumbotron Sh*t Poppin") all feature a different style and are really nice listens.

21 Savage gets his own solo track as well, opting for the Drake-esque title "3AM on Glenwood," where 21 Savage goes for an R&B style. I would dare call this track a standout, as it's something we don't really hear from him.

To further push just how lopsided this album can feel, Drake has a total of 66% of words spoken on the album, while 21 Savage gets 26% of lyrics on the album, and guest vocalists like Travis Scott and Lil Yachty get 8% of words, according to @hiphopnumbers on Instagram.

While these tracks I've mentioned are all pretty good, few are snoozers. "I Guess It's F**k Me" is a weak closer in my opinion. Other tracks, like "Broke Boys" and "Traacherous Twins" just get lost behind the other songs that stand above them.

Drake also seemed to take shots at public figures on the album, including rapper Ice Spice, Serena Williams' husband, lawmakers over abortion rights and most controversially, Megan Thee Stallion.

Drake went on the song "Circo Loco" and said, "This b***h lie 'bout gettin' shots, but she still a stallion," referring to what many fans thought was Megan and the 2020 shooting incident with Tory Lanez. Lil Yachty, who was a co-writer on the album, said this joke was not about Megan, n, and Megan was quick to jump on Twitter and defend herself, as the assault trial against Tory Lanez has been set for December.

It feels like Drake was doing some of the best work he's done in years while on this project, making it the best since his 2017 project, "More Life." As for 21 Savage, it feels like he's finally reached that upper echelon for today's rap scene. Over his last five albums, he's only gotten better and better, and his growth has been undeniable.

Overall, while the albums felt pretty lopsided in terms of who was rapping, it pretty well met my expectation as a fan of these two artists. I would rate this album at an 8/10, as I think it was a very good and fun listen, but nothing that makes you say, "This is album of the year material."

I'm more excited to see where 21 Savage goes from here, but also curious as to what Drake chooses to do next in his career. One thing is for sure, though; these two are truly on top of the rap game right now.

Grant set to support nursing program expansion

Jill Smith

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The School of Nursing and Health Professions was awarded \$307,800 through a workforce grant from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education's (CPE) Healthcare Workforce Collaborative.

The workforce grant will provide the University with additional funds for expanding programs offered to nursing students that focus more on frontline healthcare training. CPE's Healthcare Workforce Collaborative distributed \$8 million in grants to Kentucky public colleges and universities to address the regional, statewide and national healthcare worker shortage.

Dina Byers, dean of Nursing and Health Professions, said this partnership will give students the opportunity to learn important skills and have more support from faculty.

"We will have one of our RN faculty members work with the students and the staff there at MCCH, so the students will work directly with the registered nurse who works at the hospital during their clinical experiences," Byers said. "Students will have more one-on-one access to the registered nurse and be able to provide care to a greater number of patients."

Funding for this grant came from a Kentucky General Assembly appropriation fund, which is a certain amount of money allocated for specified purposes.

This grant will allow the School of Nursing and Health Professions to fund a partnership with the Murray Calloway County Hospital (MCCH) to create a dedicated education unit for nursing students.

Dana Todd, undergraduate nursing program director, said the clinical experience allows nursing students to put what they have learned into practice.

"Through clinical experiences, students have the opportunity to develop critical thinking skills and provide direct patient care under the supervision of clinical faculty," Todd said. "Students are expected to prepare for clinical experiences with those objectives in mind and then are expected to provide patient care in a professional, safe manner while collaborating with clinical faculty and other healthcare professionals."

The Dedicated Education Units (DEU) will begin in spring 2023. These units will focus on adult health and medical surgical nursing.

Byers said in the future, she hopes to offer more DEU options to students to strengthen the support given to students and clinical partners.

Nursing instructor Neely Chandler will be supervising students' clinical work and working as the lead faculty member of this program.

The relationship between students, faculty and the registered nurses at MCCH will be a collaborative effort.

Jake Hicks, a junior nursing major, said this partnership will allow for more meaningful interactions with registered nurses.

"To me, it would be like each student having a mentor, in the sense that we are always at access to a person who can show us a realistic idea of what our future careers can look like," Hicks said. "I am so excited to have this new unit be introduced into our curriculum because it gives us better expectations of what we have to look forward to in the future."



Dionte Berry/The News
The workforce grant set to launch in Spring 2023 supports frontline healthcare training.

Todd is hopeful this partnership will provide students with an enhanced development into the professional field.

"This experience will provide students with a more 'real world' clinical experience, as a few students will rotate through the role of a charge nurse and staff nurse," Todd said. "This is a unique clinical experience to assist students as they transition into practice."

Keeli McKeel, a junior nursing major, said this partnership will prepare students and help them understand what working as a registered nurse entails.

"I believe having a one-on-one experience with an RN will make me more confident in my nursing practice," McKeel said. "Some registered nurses are willing to reach out and help students while others might not be as willing. In my experience, working with RNs that enjoy helping students provides students with a more positive outlook on nursing as a career."

Hicks said this partnership will provide him and other nursing students with more support when starting their clinicals.

"My first clinical, I was placed on the med-surgical floor and given a patient—I had so many questions and did not know where to start," Hicks said. "The hospital is such a different setting than the classroom. Having a nurse would have definitely made that transition experience more comfortable."

The grant will also provide 30 students, who have already received their associate's degree in nursing, a tuition waiver of \$5,000 per semester.

Students can complete an application, and recipients will be selected if they have a GPA of at least 2.5 for admission into the RN-BSN program.

Todd said the grant has been fundamental in developing a unique clinical experience and is hopeful it will allow for similar clinical experiences on other MCCH units in the future.

Our view: Term limits are necessary for the Supreme Court

The Supreme Court has been the highest court in our country since 1789. In the 233 years since its creation, the Court has ruled on several landmark cases and offered opinions on the cases they have ruled on. Most recently, the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision was a huge landmark case decided on by the Supreme Court.

Despite its longevity, the Court has only had 116 justices in total. While this may seem like a large number, nine justices serve at a time. In comparison, since the first senators were elected by Pennsylvania voters in 1788, there have been about 78 senators representing the state.

One of the biggest issues with the small number of justices we have had throughout our history is a lack of term limits. The Supreme Court currently has no term limits, meaning justices remain in their position until they either step down or pass away.

Typically, justices spend an average of 16 years in their positions, but without term limits, they may spend much longer. Former Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is a prime example of this, since she spent 27 years on the court until her death in 2020, and former Associate Justice Stephen Breyer also served 27 years before his recent retirement.

Term limits would help remedy the decision-making process within our judicial system, particularly within the Supreme Court. One way term limits within the Court would help the judicial process is by ensuring our justices are devoting time and effort to policies that impact everyone.

When justices are secure in their position and know they won't be leaving until they decide, they aren't as focused on creating policies that impact everyone positively. Instead, they focus on furthering their own ideologies and beliefs.

Court packing is another issue the Supreme Court can have. Court packing is add-



Wesley Hammer/The News

ing more justices to the Court with the passage of legislation that authorizes. Since nothing currently keeps our Supreme Court from adding more justices, court packing is a definite possibility to skew political decisions.

Packing the Court can become problematic because it can influence political decisions more than it currently does. It can allow for more justices with the same ideologies to influence the decisions made overall by our Supreme Court and end up diluting votes from other justices.

In addition to court packing, we have seen the continuous issue of justices being put in place to favor one party or ideology. Particularly under former President Donald Trump, three justices were recommended and confirmed, but during former President Barack Obama's time in office, he was unable to get a justice

confirmed at all because Senator Mitch McConnell blocked the confirmation.

This is just one example of party favoring in the Supreme Court, but it has been demonstrated time and time again. With the justices confirmed during Trump's time, they agreed to be unbiased when it came to several issues but have proven their disloyalty to their own statements.

Having term limits would especially help with this issue since justices aren't solidified for a lifetime. Strategic retirement is a big part of this since many justices can plan their retirement around when a specific president will be in office to confirm a replacement.

Many people, including Breyer, favor 18-year term limits. This would allow for the length of three senate terms and give plenty of time for justices to make effective decisions for our country. It also helps ensure

the justices have adequate time to make these decisions without looking for their next job.

The effectiveness of an 18-year term limit would ensure justices don't abuse their power but also retain enough power to get their job done effectively. One problem with no term limits is the common belief in the overarching power of the Supreme Court because of their lifelong terms and power to change laws for the entire country.

The Court is regarded as the ultimate decision-making body, but term limits would hold a mirror of accountability up to those determining the rights and liberties of those they preside over. Though they are the highest Court, it shouldn't mean people accept their lifelong authority without question, especially considering the U.S. Constitution makes no mention of lifelong terms for the Court.



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Men's basketball starts with a loss

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With a bunch of new faces, a new head coach, and a new conference, the Murray State men's basketball season has officially started.

Only two players returned to the team from last year, and Head Coach Steve Prohm returned to Murray State for the first time in several years. With 12 new players now hitting the floor for the Racers, the team has taken on a new identity.

The Racers went to Saint Louis University to take on the Billikens in the first official game of the 2022-23 season. Despite keeping the game close in the first half, the Racers lost to the Billikens 91-68.

Prohm spoke after the game about the result and how he felt the first game of the season went.

"We needed to be humbled," Prohm said. "Now we've been humbled. We had some good basketball out there, but we have to understand that there's a process to this right now. There's going to be some growing pains along the way, and that's part of it."

Despite losing the starting jump ball, the Racers were first on the board as junior forward Jamari Smith hit a 3-pointer to start. The lead was extended with layups from junior guard Rob Perry and sophomore forward Kenny White Jr. to put the Racers up 9-2.

The Billikens came back and tied the game at 9 points each after a pair of layups from senior guard Javon Pickett and a 3-pointer from senior guard Jovonte Perkins.

St. Louis' lead extended with 9 straight points, including a 3-pointer from junior guard Fred Thatch Jr. A layup from junior forward DJ Burns ended the Billikens' run, but the damage put them up 21-15.

The teams went back and forth throughout the rest of the first half, which made it difficult for the Racers to take the lead back from the Billikens.



Junior guard Rob Perry tries to put up a tough layup against St. Louis on Monday, Nov. 7.

Photo courtesy of David Eaton /Racer Athletics

A 3-pointer from Perkins had the Billikens up 11, but a few buckets and a 3-pointer from Smith had the Racers back within 6 points.

But the Racers' defense couldn't hold on and allowed a nine-point run from the Billikens to end the first half that included another 3-pointer from Perkins. At halftime, the Billikens led the Racers 44-29.

Perkins led all scorers at half with 12 points, while Smith followed close behind with 9 points, while also grabbing four rebounds.

Smith talked about his role in leading the team after the game. He said the process of leading starts off the court.

"Scoring points is cool, but when you've got new guys, it's not about that," Smith said. "It starts with understanding how to win. We're a team that's gonna be a process and learn from this loss. We've gotta just trust Coach Prohm more. We'll be better."

Sophomore guard Gibson Jimerson got the second half

started with a 3-pointer to put the Billikens up by 18 points.

Later on in the half, the Racers were climbing back with a 3-pointer from Perry. This helped the Racers bring the Billikens' lead to 11 points with three free throws from sophomore guard Brian Moore Jr. and a 3-pointer from Smith.

That was the closest the Racers got to tying the game, though, as Perkins and Jimerson put on an 8-0 run late in the game to put the Billikens' lead back up to 19 points.

With a last round of points coming in from the Billikens, the lead was at 23 points once the final buzzer went off. The Billikens had defeated the Racers 91-68.

Perkins led all players with 21 points in the game. Jimerson followed with 20 points. Pickett led the game with 13 rebounds.

Smith had 19 points —the most for the Racers. Perry had the next-most points with 14. Perry and Moore led the

Racers in assists with just two apiece.

Smith said they knew how good their opponent would be, but they just weren't able to do what they planned to do.

"The caliber team we played tonight is how it's gonna be every game this year," Smith said. "We'll learn from this like all good teams do. I think we will bounce back from this."

Prohm said despite a few flashes of good play from the team, it takes more than that to win a game.

"You can't play good for 15 minutes and expect to win," Prohm said. "We had a really good start, got the score back to within 11, but then it was allowing transition-3s and missed opportunities. We weren't good enough tonight. We got exposed."

Murray State officially starts the season 0-1. The Racers return to the CFSB Center on Saturday, Nov. 12, for their first home game of the season where they host the Lindsey Wilson College Blue Raiders. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m.

Soccer season ends in heartbreak

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After a spectacular tournament run, the Racers' soccer season ended just one match shy of an MVC Championship.

The first part of the season did not go Murray State's way, as the team had a record of 1-6-1 before conference play rolled around. By the end of the season, during conference play, the Racers had a record of 4-11-3 after going 3-5-2 against conference opponents.

Going into the tournament as the underdog, Head Coach Matt Lodge had a message for what the clean slate could do for his team.

"Start fresh," Lodge said. "We split the season into three parts, and this is our third and final go."

That is exactly what his team did. Luckily for the Racers, they had done enough to make it into the third part of the season—the postseason.

The Racers defeated Drake 1-0 and SIU 2-1, making their way into the semifinals against the first seed Valparaiso University Beacons. There was one thing these teams had in common: they all defeated Murray State in the regular season.

vs. Valparaiso

Murray State picked up the win against Valparaiso in the Beacons' own backyard on Thursday, Nov. 3, advancing to the championship round of the MVC Tournament.

The lone goal of the matchup came in the 12th minute off the foot of freshman midfielder Mary Hardy. The goal was assisted by senior forward Saraya Young.

Murray State had five of their 17 shots on goal. Valparaiso shot the ball 22 times, and nine of those shots were on goal. Racers senior goalie Jamie Skarupsky played for the entirety of the matchup, saving all nine of the Beacons' shots on target.

Young finished the match with two shots on goal and an assist. Hardy scored on her only attempt that was on target; she shot the ball twice in the game. Freshman forward Sydney Etter and senior midfielder Lauren Payne also had a shot on goal respectively.

The Racers' 1-0 victory meant they would then face the second seed Missouri State Bears in the MVC Championship.

vs. Missouri State

The pressure was on the Racers throughout the championship game, as the Missouri State Bears were on the attack offensively. The Bears finished the match with



Senior forward Saraya Young shoots one of the Racers' two shots on goal against Missouri State.

Photo courtesy of Racer Athletics

21 total shots taken, 10 on goal.

Despite the constant attack, the Racers' defense held strong until the Bears scored the first goal of the match in the 55th minute, breaking the scoreless tie.

The goal was scored by the Bears' freshman midfielder Hailley Chambliss. Sophomore midfielder Kaeli Benedict and junior forward Gracie English were credited with the assist.

The Racers were unable to get on the board offensively, and they ultimately fell to the Bears 1-0. This ended the Racers' late-season run.

The Racers took seven shots in the game, two of them on goal. Skarupsky played all 90 minutes and finished the match with nine saves. Young and freshman midfielder Tori Schrimpf each had one of the Racers' two shots on goal.

Despite the loss, Lodge was proud to see how far his team had come. They had gone into the tournament as the bottom seed and

ended up surprising many people.

"I'm proud of how they fought," Lodge said. "It's very easy to go in as an eighth seed and accept that that's your fate."

Lodge's attention is now turned toward next year. His first season as a head coach in the MVC started off rocky, but now he and his team know their opponents a little bit better. Lodge hopes that the momentum from the tournament carries over to next season.

"I think it's just to feed off of what we did in the tournament and not dwell too much on what happened before that," Lodge said. "We've now seen the level of the MVC, and we know we're good enough to play in it."

The Racers will get ready for the 2023 spring season by playing in exhibition games. With the first-year jitters in the new conference now out of the way, a MVC championship title is on the mind of the Racers' soccer team.



Junior forward Hannah McKay goes for a wide-open layup against Bethel University on Tuesday, Nov. 1.

Photo courtesy of David Eaton/Racer Athletics

Women's basketball preps for season

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The Murray State women's basketball team begins its season on Thursday, Nov. 10 against Christian Brothers University.

The expectations are high for Murray State this year, as the Racers tied a school record in the 2021-22 season by finishing with 21 wins. The 21-10 record landed Murray State third in the OVC. The Racers are hoping some of that momentum from last year will carry over to this season.

The Racers have nine players returning this season, including junior forward Katelyn Young, who dominated throughout her 2021-22 campaign, earning OVC Player of the Year. She averaged 20 points and eight rebounds per game last season.

Other returners to the roster include redshirt senior guard Maciey Turley, redshirt senior forward Alexis Burpo, junior guard Bria Sanders-Woods, junior forward Hannah McKay, junior center Lucia Operto, sophomore guard Cayson Conner, sophomore forward Jaidah Black and junior

forward Charlee Settle are all returning from last year's team.

Young, Turley, Burpo and McKay all started for the Racers last season. Sanders-Woods and Conner also filled in as starters throughout the season.

The Racers brought in three transfers for the upcoming season. Red-shirt senior guard Jordyn Hughes transferred from Eastern Illinois University. Sophomore guard Jenna Walker transferred from Western Kentucky University. Junior forward Fruzsina Horvath transferred from St. Francis College.

Freshman guard Briley Pena, freshman forward Julia Puente, freshman guard Zoe Stewart and freshman forward Halle Langhi make up Murray State basketball's freshman recruits.

To help prepare the Racers for the 2022-23 season, Hughes, McKay, Turley, Young and Burpo all played over 20 minutes in the exhibition game against Bethel University. Though this may not be the set-in-stone starting five, it gives an idea of what the starting lineup will look like.

Sanders-Woods, Horvath, Conner, Black and Pena all played over 10 minutes in the exhibition game.

This makes it seem like those in this group will be the first ones off the bench in relief of the starters.

After the Racers' matchup with Christian Brothers University, the team will travel to compete against Purdue University at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 12.

Other key nonconference matchups include a roadtrip to play UT Martin at 6 p.m. on Nov. 30, a home game against Austin Peay at 5 p.m. on Dec. 13 and a battle against University of Kentucky at 6 p.m. on Dec. 16.

The Racers' final nonconference game is at 6 p.m. on Dec. 20 at Bellarmine. Conference play for the Racers will start just before the new year on Dec. 30 at 6 p.m. against UIC.

Murray State will be facing some new competition this season, thanks to the relatively recent move to the MVC. In their first season of the conference, the women's basketball team was picked fourth in the preseason polls, barely trailing behind Drake University, Illinois State University and Belmont University.

The University of Northern Iowa will host Murray State at 6 p.m. on Jan. 6, 2023. UNI was picked fifth to win the MVC, trailing behind

Murray State. The Racers will meet Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa at 2 p.m. on Jan. 8, 2023.

Drake was picked third to win the MVC in the preseason polls.

The Racers will then come home to play their next game against Belmont University at 6 p.m. on Jan. 11, 2023. The Bruins were picked to win the MVC in the preseason polls, and they will host Murray State at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 2, 2023. Illinois State, who was picked second in the preseason polls, will host Murray State at 2 p.m. on Feb. 5, 2023.

Murray State will host Drake at 6 p.m. on Feb. 23, 2023 in their second meeting of the season. UNI will travel to play in Racer Arena at 2 p.m. on Feb. 25, 2023.

The Racers' final regular season game will be at 2 p.m. on March 4, 2023 at UIC. The 2023 Hoops In The Heartland MVC Women's Basketball Championship will start on March 9, 2023.

The expectations are high for Head Coach Rechelle Turner's squad. With these high expectations and a new conference, it should be an interesting 2022-23 women's basketball season for the Racers.

Volleyball heads toward final matches

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The Racers were scheduled to play two games over the weekend, but a power outage on Friday, Nov. 4 led to a no contest against UIC, leaving the Valparaiso University Beacons as the Racers' only opponent for the weekend.

Murray State won the matchup 3-2 and now sit at 10-14 on the season and 6-8 against conference opponents. This places them in seventh place in the MVC.

The Racers' final three games will all be on the road. Once the three game road trip is over, the MVC Tournament will start shortly after on Nov. 20.

The Racers had a 20-14 lead over the Beacons in the first set until Valparaiso went on a five-point run to narrow the gap. The Racers were able to finally score again, but the Beacons scored twice more to tie things up at 21 apiece.

The Racers responded by going on a four-point rally initiated by a kill from senior outside hitter Alysha Smith. Three Valparaiso errors followed to give Murray State the first set 25-21.

Up 16-13 in the second set, the Racers freshman outside



Graduate middle blocker (left) Elisa Dozio gets congratulated after a block against the Beacons.

hitter Ella Vogel earned a kill. A Beacons attack error followed, and Vogel earned another kill to put the Racers up 19-13.

Valparaiso was able to go on a run and get within a point before Vogel initiated another rally with a kill. Freshman outside hitter Federica Nuccio earned a kill as well, and the Beacons committed an attack error.

The Racers went on to win the second set 25-22.

Murray State had control for the majority of the third set. The Racers had a 22-20 lead late into the third set until the Beacons went on a five-point rally to win the 25-22.

The Beacons jumped ahead early on in the fourth set after a six-point rally that put them ahead 8-3. The Racers were able

to respond, stringing together a few small rallies of their own.

A rally initiated by Smith, followed by a kill from sophomore setter Bailey DeMier and a Valparaiso attack error, made the score 22-20 in favor of the Beacons. The Racers ultimately dropped the third set as Valparaiso won 25-22.

Tied at 8 apiece in the fifth and final set, Vogel earned a kill and an attack error followed, giving Murray State the lead. The Beacons retaliated with a kill, but the Racers were able to pull ahead even further after they forced three consecutive Valparaiso errors, making the score 13-9.

The Beacons scored once more, and the Racers finished the game off with kills by both Nuccio and Smith to give Murray State the last set and a 3-2 match win.

Nuccio led the team in kills with 21. She had 17 digs, two blocks and an ace in the win. DeMier finished with a total of 58 assists and two aces. Junior libero Dahlia Miller had 24 digs, six assists and two aces. Vogel totaled 20 kills, while Smith had 10.

The Racers travel to take on the Evansville Aces at 6 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 11 in Evansville, Indiana.

Annual scholarship art auction returns in-person

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After being hosted virtually because of COVID-19, the art department's annual Holiday Art Auction will be held in person in the Clara M. Eagle Gallery on Friday, Nov. 11.

More than 100 donated works of art from students, faculty and the larger community will be on sale at the event. The evening will include a live auction, a silent auction and a table for \$5 artworks.

Drinks will be served for guests 21 and over from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. The live auction will begin at 7 p.m. All proceeds will fund student scholarships and the visiting artist program in the Department of Art and Design.

Amanda Kaler, an accounting clerk in the Art and Design offices, said the auction is a great experience for students.

"Even if their work isn't in the live auction, they get very excited because typically the people that buy their work really, really, really love it," Kaler said. "It's good for students to see that even something they did as a skill-level exercise, someone thinks it really speaks to them."

Because the event will be held in person, Art and Design administrative assistant Ann Flowers Gosser said she is trying to remind students about the fun of seeing their work in a live auction.

"It's fun to see your work get bid on," Flowers Gosser said. "I've had pieces as a student be in the live auction, so to see that was really exciting."

Cintia Segovia Figueroa, assistant professor and this year's featured artist, said the auction is a fun event that brings the community together.

"We don't have an art world in Murray, Kentucky, so it's an opportunity for them [students] to spread their wings and see what it would be like when they graduate," Segovia Figueroa said.

Artists are encouraged to set their



Murray State Art & Design
presents the
*Annual Holiday
Art Auction*

NOVEMBER 11, 2022

4:30 - 6:00 Art Auction Preview open to ages 21+
6:00 Registration Begins. Open to All Ages
7:00 Live Auction
Silent Auction will close thirty minutes
after the Live Auction.

FEATURED ART BY PROFESSOR CINTIA SEGOVIA

Murray State ART & DESIGN

Photo courtesy of @MurrayStateArt on Facebook
The annual Holiday Art Auction will be held Friday Nov. 11 at 4:30 p.m. in the Eagle Gallery.

own market value based on their experience, the time taken to make the work and the materials used. Since students must submit artwork to access the scholarships the proceeds will fund, Segovia Figueroa said the event is an exercise in work ethic.

"Even if you can contribute with \$5, that would go to scholarships," Segovia Figueroa said. "It's our biggest event of the year and our main funding other than what the University gives. We hope that we get a lot of good funds for the students."

Segovia Figueroa specializes in photography. She said most of her work focuses on her identity as a person from

Mexico living in the United States.

"For people in the States, I don't look Mexican enough, and for people in Mexico, I have an accent now," Segovia Figueroa said. "I live in this space in between."

She said the two countries are often merged in her imagination, which shows in her work.

"I also like to talk about inequality in Mexico and in the U.S. because it is very related," Segovia Figueroa said. "We have the same problems on both sides, and we are both sides on one coin."

In her series that will be sold at the auction, Segovia Figueroa said she wanted to focus on beauty.

"I started this series in 2020 during the pandemic, when I did not have access to a printer anymore," Segovia Figueroa said. "We were in lockdown

in Los Angeles, so I wanted to focus on things that actually made me happy and did not make me think about how dark and uncertain the world felt."

Though the series will be auctioned as individual pieces, Segovia Figueroa said the works could also go together. One piece, a collage made using oil pastels, was inspired by María de Jesús Patricio Martínez, the first Indigenous Mexican woman to run for Mexico's presidency.

"She, as an Indigenous person, was not associated with any of the political parties because she was tired of the corruption," Segovia Figueroa said. "She was tired of seeing her country being in poverty and for Indigenous people to be set aside all the time, basically. We have a lot of racism in Mexico toward Indigenous people."

Since Indigenous groups are typically skeptical about the political system, Segovia Figueroa said it was "unheard of" that Patricio garnered significant support.

"As an independent candidate, for her to have the backup of other groups was amazing," Segovia Figueroa said. "For her to become legally a presidential candidate, she needed to collect signatures electronically. There is no Internet in some areas, especially where people like her come from."

Though Patricio was unable to collect enough signatures, Segovia Figueroa wanted to pay homage to the candidate in her work.

"We need more action," Segovia Figueroa said. "That's why I love this piece more than the others."

The Clara M. Eagle Gallery, where the Annual Holiday Art Auction will take place, is on the sixth floor of the Price Doyle Fine Arts Building. For more information about the event, call 270-809-3784.

Week-long event celebrates international community

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Students at Murray State will have the opportunity to learn more about classrooms around the world with International Education Week (IEW).

IEW was organized by the Murray State's Education Abroad Office and will start Monday, Nov. 14 and end Nov. 18.

Universities from across the country take part in IEW and are advised by the U.S. State Department. The week-long event includes guest speakers and activities for student.

This year's IEW will be the first since COVID-19. The event is nationwide and is celebrated in the majority of Kentucky universities.

Steven Guns, director of Education Abroad, said IEW is a great opportunity for students to learn about traveling abroad. He says many of the exchange students have planned activities, including a group of Korean exchange students who are organizing a K-pop group.

"International Education Week is a way to provide intercultural

and international experiences for faculty, staff and students," Guns said. "It makes them aware of studying abroad, and there is a large and diverse international student presence on campus."

Guns said the Education Abroad Office has collaborated with Murray State Dining to cook international dishes. Dining staff will receive help from international students to accurately cook the meals.

IEW will also have scholarship workshops available for students to learn how to write strong scholarship applications.

Additionally, workshops are planned that teach students how to use their existing financial aid to help finance study abroad trips.

Lauren Hines, a Murray State alumna, will give a presentation on Tuesday, Nov. 15 in the Blackburn Science Building about her study abroad experience in Morocco. Hines traveled to the north African country as a part of her Fulbright Scholarship.

Bill McKibben, director for International Retention and Scholar Services, said he is optimistic studying abroad will make a full comeback within



#StudyWithUS

Open for Opportunity

International Education Week

#IEW22 | November 14-18 | IEW.state.gov

Photo courtesy of iew.state.gov
International Education Week is celebrated at universities across the country from Nov. 14-18.

the next two years.

"Study abroad not only helps our students but also helps our faculty and staff," McKibben said. "It increases the University's professional development."

The majority of IEW events will take place in the

Blackburn Science Building in Room 135 and in the Curris Center. For more information about IEW, visit murraystate.edu/educationabroad.

For more information on how universities across the country celebrate IEW, visit iew.state.gov.

Art Students develop professional skills in exhibit



(Clockwise from top left) Six pieces of art from the Professional Blend XIII exhibit in the Mary Ed Mecoy Hall Gallery; 'Dark Fishing Spider' drawing by Christine Cox which depicts a lifelike fishing spider; Cox's 'Tarantula Hawk Wasp' on display with Kay Yount's 'Headlights' and Rebecca Curtis's 'Latency' and CJ Nance's ceramic 'Always Listening' which contains ears on each side of the piece.

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In an effort to build necessary skills and advance their careers in art, art and design students enrolled in ART 399 Professional Practices have participated in an experiential art exhibit.

The Professional Blend XIII exhibit is part of a series of exhibits hosted every semester by students in ART 399. Students enrolled in the course learn how to prepare artist statements, resumes, biographies, press releases and cover letters.

“Presenting this exhibition amplifies the learning experiences in the course ...”

— T. Micheal Martin, director of University Galleries

The goal of this exhibit was to connect what students have learned in assignments to the real world, according to Gallery Director T. Micheal Martin's statement.

“The course orients students around the skillsets they have acquired through their studies,” Martin wrote in the gallery statement. “Presenting this exhibition of their works amplifies the learning experiences in the course and

directly connects those assignments to their studio practice.”

“I also got to learn a little bit behind the scenes when it comes to having your work featured ...”

— Skyler Pointer, senior graphic design major

In addition to giving students a chance to have their artwork exhibited, the Professional Blend exhibit also taught students how to arrange and install artwork.

Senior graphic design major Skyler Pointer says the exhibit provides unique learning experiences.

“Whenever my work gets exhibited, I always learn something new, like mounting new things or taking care of vinyl,” Pointer said. “I also got to learn a little bit behind the scenes when it comes to having your work featured in the gallery or any gallery, and that is really important to learn as an artist.”

The exhibit featured artwork across several different artistic mediums including drawing, printmaking, painting and ceramics. Seven students contributed to the exhibit including Pointer, Christine Cox, Rebecca Curtis, CJ Nance, Molly Ramsey, Winter Smith and Kay Yount.

Some of the notable pieces in the exhibit include a pair

of charcoal drawings by Cox depicting a dark fishing spider and a tarantula hawk wasp. Both drawings are lifelike depictions of the two bugs.

Another piece titled “Latency” by Curtis is composed of two different depictions of children on pastel and colored paper. The child on the left of the piece is covered in a pastel red color, and the child on the right is covered with a blue pastel color.

The figures of the children are connected to one another by a yellow string telephone with a cup on each end. Each child is holding one of the telephone's cups to their own ear. Curtis' watercolor titled “Presence” and wooden sculpture titled “Playthings” are also featured in the exhibit.

Yount, who is a senior graphic design major, contributed three different works to the exhibit. Yount contributed an animation titled “Puppet,” an untitled digital painting and a charcoal drawing titled “Headlights.”

“One of my pieces... was created to get the viewer to put themselves in others' shoes.”

— Skyler Pointer, senior graphic design major

The subject of Yount's piece “Headlights” is a deer. The deer is depicted with fine, white lines, which provide a stark contrast to the black

background. Yount's untitled piece depicts a skeleton that appears to be taking a drag of a cigarette, leaving behind a thick cloud of smoke.

One of Pointer's pieces in the exhibit is titled “This Dude is on Fire.” The piece is a simple depiction of a man, using only a few lines, standing within a flame. Above the man is the text, “This dude is on fire,” with “fire” being the only word in bold.

Pointer, who has mostly worked on animation projects in the last year, explained his typographical choice in “This Dude is on Fire” was intentional.

“Some of my work outside of animation tends to lean toward using typography to express feelings or a certain attitude,” Pointer said. “One of my pieces...was created to get the viewer to put themselves in others' shoes. Things might seem great but are really not, and that is kind of the basic idea of my work.”

Pointer also contributed another piece exploring typography titled “Hey, What Are You Doing.”

The Professional Blend exhibit was displayed in the Mary Ed Mecoy Hall Gallery on the sixth floor of the New Fine Arts Building from Oct. 26 through Tuesday, Nov. 8.

To stay up to date with the Department of Art and Design, follow the department's Instagram page @murraystateart.