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NEWS BRIEF



Dionte Berry/*The News*
Needing a bigger space, the Pride Center relocated to N101 in the Oakley Applied Science Building.

Pride Center finds new home

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The Pride Center relocated its office to room N101 Oakley Applied Science to provide students with more space and better accessibility. “The number of students visiting the Pride Center and spending time in our space has been growing, and we needed a larger space to accommodate that,” said Director Abigail Cox. Cox said she identified the relocation as a need when she began her role as director of the Pride Center. The new space will provide students with an area to work on homework, study or lounge. Student organizations will also have an area in the center to meet while the Curris Center undergoes renovations.

“They have so much enthusiasm for the community they have created with one another, and they needed a space that was capable of growing with them.”

— Abigail Cox, Pride Center director

The center will now be located near other campus resources, including Career Services, the Women’s Center and the University Counseling Services. Cox said she hopes to maximize relationships by partnering with these resources more often to provide students with support and important information. With a larger and more accommodating space, Cox said she is hopeful the more convenient location will bring more students to the Pride Center. “The move is just as much about the students we are already connected with as it is about new students,” Cox said. “They have so much enthusiasm for the community they have created with one another, and they needed a space that was capable of growing with them.”

Admin denies open records request



WPSD requested the email correspondence between multiple University parties in regards to former Judge Jamie Jameson contacting admin discussing a WKMS story. Shann Riley/*The News*

University cites freedom of the press as reason for open records refusal

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The University denied an open records request from the WPSD Local 6 news station in Paducah seeking communication between University administration, WKMS and former 42nd Judicial Circuit Judge Jamie Jameson, citing the First Amendment and the request being “burdensome.” WKMS, Murray State’s public radio station, previously filed an open records request for video footage of Jameson roaming the Marshall County Judicial Building in his underwear. When Jameson discovered the request, he contacted former WKMS Station Manager Chad Lampe. According to allegations from the state Judicial Conduct Commission (JCC), Jameson pressured Lampe to abandon the story

by claiming he had contacted University administration and President Bob Jackson disapproved of its publication. On Oct. 7, the JCC found Jameson

“The First Amendment erects no barrier to public information... It is not a federal law or regulation that prohibits disclosure of public records. Murray State’s argument is a textual non-starter and, frankly, deeply offensive.”
— Kentucky Open Government Coalition

attempted to use his position as a judge to stop WKMS from pursuing the story. They removed Jameson following a series of hearings in early November.

Lampe provided testimony on the matter during one of Jameson’s hearings in October. Both Lampe and Jameson testified the judge inquired about the request to Jackson. WPSD then filed a request in an attempt to learn about Jackson’s alleged involvement in preventing the story from airing. In the denial letter, General Counsel Robert Miller stated the request was unreasonable and hindered WKMS journalists from exercising their First Amendment right to freedom of the press. “Permitting the public to engage in fishing expeditions by searching the files of journalists... undermines and dissuades the press from fulfilling its Constitutionally protected freedom,” the letter read.

see **OPEN RECORDS**, page 2

NEWS BRIEF

Minor explosion leads to science building shutdown

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Emergency responders were on the scene of a chemical explosion in the Jesse D. Jones Chemistry Building resulting in the evacuation and temporary shut down of the Gene W. Gray science campus. The campus body was alerted of a chemical leak in the chemistry building around noon on Tuesday, Nov. 29 and was told to avoid the area. Three people were sent to Murray Calloway County Hospital because of the explosion, with one being injured by the explosion said Murray Fire Chief Eric Pologruto. All three have now been treated and released. The extent of their injuries is unknown. Although the Admin News updates labeled the incident as a chemical leak, Pologruto said the incident was more of a small chemical explosion, which triggered an alarm throughout the entire science campus. Pologruto said the explosion was caused by a reaction during an experiment that was conducted.



Rebeca Mertins Chiodini/*The News*
Murray Fire Department responded to the explosion while MSU PD secured a perimeter on Nov. 29.

The Murray Fire Department worked on the scene to ensure the building was fully evacuated and to locate the source of the explosion and neutralize it. With advice from professors in the chemistry department to evaluate the hazards, the firefighters ensured the building was safe to reenter. Pologruto said the affects of the explosion were contained in the lab area where it happened.

Another Admin News alert updated campus at around 2 p.m. announcing there was no immediate danger to the science campus, but the buildings would remain closed until the next day. Since the chemical explosion, lab experiments have been temporarily suspended, but classes resumed in the Chemistry Building on Wednesday, Nov. 30.

'You Matter' signs spotlight mental health

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Gold signs around campus exclaim "You Matter! We Care About You." and encourage students to learn about the mental health resources available to them through a QR code that links to murraystate.edu/mental health for a list of resources, both on and off campus.

The Office of Student Engagement and Success, in collaboration with the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Topic Development Team, planned this initiative.

Peggy Whaley, director of Student Engagement and Success, said she noticed students are not always aware of on-campus resources for mental health.

"Our biggest hope is really just encouraging students to familiarize themselves with the resources," Whaley said. "Part of it is really making sure that there's an awareness but also an increased utilization of [the resources.] And just helping them know that we do care about them, and they do matter, and we're here to help."

Students were struggling with mental health and general well-being coming back from the pandemic, Whaley said.

The biggest trend she's noticed is more involvement on campus overall since the University's mask mandate was repealed. Last year, Racers Empower saw between 10-15 students, but at the last two events this year, attendance was at 25-30. The Fall Festival saw over 120 in attendance, and the Back to School Ice Cream Social had about 300 attendees.

"Many of us have to kind of learn how to socialize again," Whaley said. "Making those connections and feeling that sense of belonging is really what helps students stay and want to be here and do well, academically and socially."

The office also requests welfare checks from the Murray State



The 'You Matter' signs are placed throughout campus with a QR code that takes scanners to the Mental Health and Emotional Well-Being tab of murraystate.edu. *Dionte Berry/The News*

University Police Department. Those have increased dramatically over the last few months, Whaley said. She hopes to see these decrease to see that the initiative is working.

“ Many of us need to kind of learn to socialize again...Making those connections and feeling that sense of belonging is really what helps students stay... ”

— Peggy Whaley, director of Student Engagement and Success

To respond to these issues, she wanted to compile a list of resources for students. The office designed a webpage for on and off campus resources, placed the yard signs across campus and made business cards and rack cards. The webpage also includes information on

financial literacy, Student Disability Services and the Wellness Center.

That turned into a "We Care" campaign, where "care" stands for "Caring About Racers Every (Day)."

This year's Quality Enhancement Plan focuses on mental health and well-being.

The QEP is required for the University to be reaccredited with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

Alyx Shultz, department head of Agriculture Science, started on the last QEP, "Bring Learning to Life," as a development team member. She now serves as co-chair alongside Jamie Rogers, interim director of the School of Engineering.

"When Dr. Provine approached me about co-chairing this QEP with Jamie Rogers, it was an easy 'yes,'" Shultz said.

This year's QEP is not officially named yet, but it targets improvement of overall wellness and mental health.

The team sought input from each college and people in the community who hire students, Shultz said. They identified several potential topics and surveyed constituents who overwhelmingly responded they needed to do wellness/mental health as the QEP this time.

The Topic Development team meets every other week. So far, the team has identified its objectives and are working to develop implementation and assessment strategies. Later this semester, they'll work to collect feedback from students on these ideas and for other needs within the student body.

Meanwhile, they're working on the literature review and formal written plan that will be submitted to SACS for accreditation.

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OPEN RECORDS, from page 1

Perry Boxx, news director of WPSD, disagreed with the response and said the request is not a First Amendment issue.

"What's being questioned is the sanctions taken by the administration there, Dr. Jackson, and the reaction to it, the fallout from it," Boxx said. "It has nothing to do with knowing the inner workings of the journalists."

Following the denial, WPSD sent an additional request on Nov. 16 clarifying the term "records" includes all documents, regardless of medium, in the University's possession as established by Kentucky statutes. The University also denied the second request.

Senior journalism major Dustin Wilcox said he was upset by the University's decision.

"I did not feel that the request was unreasonable in its scope, nor did I think it was within the University's jurisdiction to say no to such a request," Wilcox said. "I feel that the ability to complete quality journalism was impeded that day."

Wilcox said WPSD's request would have benefited their journalistic endeavors if accepted.

"It's not every day that WPSD gets to cover such an intriguing story, so to have the University say no to that is incredibly disconcerting for me," Wilcox said. "As a student journalist, I have routinely run into roadblocks when trying to seek even the most innocuous information from Murray State administration, so it doesn't surprise me that admin would say no to something more serious."

The request denial caught the attention of the Kentucky Open

Government Coalition, a Hopkinsville-based nonprofit organization that seeks to protect the accountability of the state government.

"The First Amendment erects no barrier to public information," the Coalition wrote in an online post. "It is not a federal law or regulation that prohibits disclosure of public records. Murray State's argument is a textual non-starter and, frankly, deeply offensive."

Miller also added in the letter the request would require an "unduly burdensome" search through prior emails.

"Such a review would require dozens, and perhaps hundreds, of hours to search, locate, review and redact—as may be necessary—depending on the number of emails such a search would produce," Miller said.

“ As a student journalist, I have routinely run into roadblocks when trying to seek even the most innocuous information from Murray State administration. ”

— Dustin Wilcox, senior journalism major

Miller said it is common for the University to receive over 100 open records requests every year.

"The University responds to each request thoroughly, promptly and courteously," Miller said. "University responses to these requests are rarely appealed, and the University strives to work with requesters whenever possible."

Shawn Touney, executive director of Marketing and Communication,



Former Judge Jamie Jameson was declared unfit for office by the Judicial Conduct Commission on Nov. 4. *Dionte Berry/The News*

noted that current and former WKMS staff members have testified under oath they willingly discontinued the story.

"Importantly, we stand behind WKMS news reports and former WKMS Station Manager Chad Lampe's prior statement that Jameson's explanation to Lampe made sense," Touney said. "The story was not newsworthy and that he was not pressured about the story."

Touney noted these statements are consistent with Lampe's testimony to the JCC. He also said Jackson was unaware of the story at the time and stated such to Jameson.

"Dr. Jackson informed General Counsel Rob Miller and Provost Tim Todd of this call," Touney said. "President Jackson asked the provost to keep General Counsel Miller informed and took no further action... The University will have no further comment on this matter."

WPSD appealed the denial of the request. Louisville attorney Michael Abate, representing WPSD, said the University's claim the First Amendment protects WKMS correspondence is false.

"MSU is simultaneously claiming that Mr. Boxx has not identified a specific date range and individuals in his request and that producing records responsive to the specific date and individuals identified in the request is unduly burdensome," the appeal read. "MSU cannot have it both ways."

On Nov. 16, WPSD approached Jackson with questions about his alleged involvement while he was in Paducah for a Rotary Club meeting. After declining to answer the questions, Jackson entered the backseat of a car and departed.

WPSD is currently awaiting the result of the appeal.

The News recaps its favorite albums of the year



'RENAISSANCE' by Beyoncé

Dionte Berry
Editor-in-Chief

Is this an opinion? Yes. But if there was a correct answer it would be "RENAISSANCE" by Beyoncé. The fusion of R&B, house and bounce music all while paying

homage to the talent and culture of the Black and queer community makes for an electrifying and infectious groovy blend. Beyoncé steps away from ballads with the goal of reviving life on the dance floor after a sedentary couple of years because of COVID-19.

"RENAISSANCE" is an album that can be played when you're partying with your homegirls, doing solo car karaoke or needing that little boost of confidence before you start your day. Keep in mind this is only act one. I am beyond hyped to see the rest of the album anthology.

'Too Late to Die Young' by Sonder

Raleigh Hightower
Lifestyle Editor

My favorite album of 2022 was Sonder's EP "Too Late to Die Young." I think this project flew under the radar for a few reasons. First, it came out on the same day as Taylor Swift's

"Midnights," and second the group is definitely overshadowed by one of its member's solo careers, Brent Faiyaz. Sonder is an R&B collaboration featuring the producers Atu and Dpat with lead vocals by Faiyaz. I think what kept bringing me back to the EP was the production. The album's five tracks all

have a sort of melancholic energy to them. This ambience built by the beats and the production establish the perfect canvas to spotlight Faiyaz's vocals and harmonies. I just don't think there is a bad aural moment in this project. Being only 11 minutes and 50 seconds, make it the perfect for a late-night drive.



'The Forever Story' by JID

Jakob Milani
Sports Editor

2022 brought us so many great albums from so many great artists. But my favorite has to be "The Forever Story" by JID. It had been four years since the world was blessed with an album from the Dreamville prodigy,

but he kept the fans fed with a handful of singles and features. Even with some great songs in that time, nothing could've prepared the world for this album. Songs like "Dance Now" with Kenny Mason and "Can't Punk Me" with EARTHGANG provide the high energy that fans have come to expect from JID. But songs like

"Sistanem" and my personal favorite song from this year, "Kody Blu 31," saw JID get in his singing bag. And it was nothing short of amazing. This album is full of 10/10 songs and is sure to change the way you look at hip-hop music. It was well worth the four-year wait, and I would gladly wait four years again for music of this quality.

'The Car' by The Arctic Monkeys

Kate Manley
Ad Sales Manager

My favorite album of 2022 was "The Car" by the Arctic Monkeys. The Arctic Monkeys offers a modern take on rock, but with their most recent albums, "Tranquility Base: Hotel and

Casino" and "The Car," the band's music has taken a softer rock and EDM approach. The album is 37 minutes and 23 seconds long, but each minute and second is a vibe. This album features two hit singles—Body Paint and There'd Better Be a Mirrorball—which offer almost jazz bass tones

that are perfect for a mellow homework setting. My personal favorite song of this album is "Sculpture of Anything Goes." The song features heavy bass and EDM notes but still offers a soft approach. As someone who is partial to EDM music, this song instantly caught my attention.



'Dance Fever' by Florence + The Machine

Sydney Harper
Opinion Editor

Although several albums released this year were fantastic releases, I would have to say my favorite album is "Dance Fever" by Florence + The Machine. Florence has been

one of my favorite artists for years now, so it was no surprise she was able to produce another album full of great songs. She has put out great albums in the past, but Dance Fever definitely deserves recognition. Songs like "King," "My Love" and "Dream Girl Evil" encompass the

vibe of the album perfectly. In addition to the album, she also put out music videos to each song that perfectly demonstrated the theme she was going for with the album. In my book, this album deserves a 10/10 rating because of Florence's consistent ability to put out quality albums.

From top to bottom: Photos courtesy of Beyonce.com, spotify.com, @jidsv on Instagram, @arcticmonkeys on Instagram and spotify.com.

MENTAL HEALTH, from page 2

"The QEP is an effort that helps us as a campus community to be on a path of continual reflection, growth and improvement," Shultz said.

Each cycle, the University selects a new topic. Each topic spans across five years. Other recent QEPs have been "Writing" and "Bring Learning to Life."

Students can find evidence of past QEP efforts across campus. For example, the Racer Writing Center came directly from the "Writing" QEP. The "Bring Learning to Life" QEP included grant opportunities that faculty could use to increase hands-on learning within their programs and classes.

"My big hope for this year is to work with the Dev Team to create a QEP that benefits all our Murray State students and provides opportunities to help our faculty, staff and instructors create the most positive learning and living experience possible for students," Shultz said.

To assemble the team, Rogers and Shultz met with each dean to request nominations for "great thinkers" within each college/school.

"In each meeting, we work hard to develop a strong, impactful QEP that maximizes benefits across campus, but we also have

a bit of fun," Shultz said. "Rarely do we as faculty, staff and instructors get to meet up with people from all across campus. This is our chance to do that. I think anyone on the committee would agree—it's hard work, but it's enjoyable."

The Office of Student Engagement and Success also works with parents with "We Care" boxes. Parents and family members can order a free self-care box for students from the office's twice-a-month newsletter in the mental health resource section.

The boxes contain a personalized message from a family member, coloring book, pencils, chapstick, tissues, candy and more.

Whaley said the office has filled over 130 requests for self-care boxes since "We Care" started in September.

As part of the webpage that the QR code links to, suggestions for faculty are also included. At a back-to-school meeting, the office gave faculty a sheet of these mental-health-positive steps and ideas for them to consider within their classes.

"[Think] about, you know, are you setting a midnight deadline?" Whaley said. "Which for some students could cause them to stay up late trying to study and not get the rest they need—because getting enough rest is important."

Offices on campus also close around 4:30 p.m. during the week, Whaley noted. She suggested faculty and staff be mindful of technology issues when setting deadlines. If a student needs to access the Service Desk, an earlier deadline would be more beneficial.

Faculty can also put the resources or the QR code in the

“ Many of us need to kind of learn to socialize again...Making those connections and feeling that sense of belonging is really what helps students stay... ”

—Peggy Whaley, director of Student Engagement and Success

syllabus to encourage conversation and submit notifications through the Starfish Success Network for struggling students.

"Let our office reach out and try to help so all of us together can help each other," Whaley said. "And really what the focus is is students and making sure that they're doing well and feeling good about their experience."

To measure improvement or if this initiative is working, Whaley looks at usage of services on campus. If more people are

using the resources, more people are getting the help they need. The office would see less referrals for mental health. The Counseling Center would possibly deal with a lot of issues, but the issues aren't as severe.

Whaley said the office will also most likely survey students about their care boxes, asking if it helped or how it made them feel.

"I think the more we talk about mental health and well-being, the more it's just kind of commonplace," Whaley said. "It's ingrained in us to take care of ourselves physically, but it's equally important to take care of ourselves mentally, and there are little things we can do and bigger things we can do. But really it's so important to take care of our mental health and well-being."

Whaley encourages students to reach out to the office if they need help, no matter what the issue is.

"We're here, as this is what we do," Whaley said. "We help students, and they do matter, and we do care about them."

To access Starfish or contact the Office of Student Engagement and Success, visit murraystate.edu/success.

Our view:

Focus on sustainable shopping for the holidays

As the Christmas season approaches, millions of people across the country will buy new gifts for their loved ones. Although new and expensive gifts can seem to be the way to go, consumers can often miss ethical implications along the way. Overall, we could all look for more valuable ways to give gifts this Christmas.

By purchasing gifts from small businesses, shoppers are able to support family-owned businesses and invest in local community. Additionally, shopping small can make it easier to find a more personalized gift. You are much more likely to find customizable items that couldn't be found in a larger store.

Advertisements and product placements often overshadow the importance of shopping small. Large producers of fast fashion can often be predatory when it comes to the holidays. Sales can lead consumers to spend more and buy in bulk unnecessarily.

Companies like Shein use fast fashion to mass produce their products. Fast fashion is especially harmful toward its workers, who often work 18-hour days and only earn 4 cents per item produced. Additionally, their first month's pay is withheld from them entirely. One million products could be created in just

one day, according to data from Business Insider.

Fast fashion companies, especially companies like Shein, create mass amounts of "trendy" clothing that often end up discarded when they become unpopular. It is estimated 100 billion clothing items are made annually, 92 million tons of which end up in landfills—a significant number because of the massive environmental harm, according to asocon.org.

There are several ways to change the way we shop this holiday season. While it may seem hard to stay on budget and purchase ethically, a little bit of research and effort will go a long way. Physical gifts may look more fun, but there are plenty of ways to give in a different way.

One example of alternative giving is making a donation to a charity or nonprofit that aligns with the gift recipient's values. This not only allows for a positive gift experience for the recipient but also provides a benefit to someone in need. In addition to making a donation, purchasing gifts such as jewelry made by women in developing countries can be another useful gift. This allows the recipient to get a unique gift that supports job growth in developing countries.

These gift recommendations are useful ideas but certainly not the only way to



Wesley Hammer/*The News*

shop more sustainable this holiday season. In addition to making donations or purchasing from women in developing countries, shoppers can support smaller companies rather than massive, billion-dollar corporations like Amazon.

While there are attainable ways to shop more ethically, it is important to remember there is no completely ethical consumption under capitalism. While fast fashion companies like Shein mass produce products at the expense of their workers, we cannot totally place the blame on shoppers seeking more

affordable clothing.

As a whole, the blame should shift to companies that use predatory practices in their business operations. By placing the blame on people in disadvantaged positions, we shift the focus away from the root cause. Allowing these companies to thrive will only perpetuate worker abuse and corrupt business practices.

We can all do a better job of shopping sustainable and ethically. Christmas is one of the biggest points in the year for consumerism, so we should ensure we do it in a thoughtful way.

Graduating opinion editor says farewell to *The News*

Sydney Harper

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When I first got to Murray State, COVID-19 was a significant part of my life. I had to finish out my senior year of high school online and began my college experience with the pandemic. To me, I was so worried about being involved and having the proper "college experience."

Despite my worries, Murray State has provided me with amazing opportunities all around, but I have particularly enjoyed being the opinion editor for *The News*. Because I am a political science major, journalism wasn't always my main interest, but I have found a place every Wednesday night to spend my time and grow my interests.

I want to say thank you to *The News* staff for entrusting me with the responsibility of

the opinion article each week. You all took me under your wings and allowed me to grow exponentially as a writer and editor. I also want to thank Carol Terracina-Hartman for advising us to the best of your ability. Your help each week certainly does not go unnoticed.

Lastly, thank you to the people who read *The News* each week, whether in print or online. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without you.



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The News welcomes commentaries and letters to the editor. Submissions should be 600 words or less, and contributors should include phone numbers for verification. Please include hometown, classification and title or relationship to the University. *The News* reserves the right to edit for style, length and content. No anonymous contributions will be accepted. All contributions should be turned in by noon on Monday of each week via email to msu.thenews@murraystate.edu.

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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.

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Photo courtesy of David Eaton/Racer Athletics

Sophomore guard JaCobi Wood averages 12.3 points per game this season, scoring 23 points against Texas A&M, and 24 points against the University of Massachusetts.

Basketball returns home for historic MVC match

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History will be made in Murray on Thursday, Dec. 1 as the Murray State men's basketball team hosts the Illinois State Redbirds in their first MVC matchup.

The Racers have played in the OVC for the last 74 years. But after agreeing to be a part of the MVC in the spring, Murray State takes on a whole new challenge.

Head Coach Steve Prohm said after the game against the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, the team has been preparing for their first MVC game the most.

"This is what we are building for, to put ourselves in the best position to compete for a conference championship," Prohm said.

Murray State opens as 12.5 point favorites in the game, with ESPN giving the Racers a 77.9% chance of winning.

"It's our first home Missouri Valley game, which is a big deal," Prohm said. "I hope ev-

eryone knows how big it is. We want to let this league know that this is gonna be the toughest environment to play in."

So far this season, the Racers are 3-3, including a 90-53 win against Lindsey Wilson College at home and a 88-79 win over the 24th-ranked Texas A&M Aggies in the Myrtle Beach Invitational.

The third win came in the third place game of the Myrtle Beach Invitational where the Racers beat the Tulsa University Hurricanes 77-60.

Of the Racers' three losses so far this season, two finished as one possession games, including a 71-69 loss to the University of Massachusetts in the Myrtle Beach Invitational semifinals.

Their other one possession loss came against the UT Chattanooga Mocs. The Racers lost the game 69-66 off a pair of free throws from the Mocs in the closing seconds. Junior guard Rob Perry scored 22 points in the loss, making eight shots from the field and three 3-pointers.

"We want to let this league know that this is gonna be the toughest environment to play in."

— Steve Prohm, head basketball coach

The opponent in the Racers' first MVC game is the Illinois State Redbirds, who sit at 2-5 overall so far this season.

The Redbirds' two wins came against Northwestern State University and Eastern Illinois University, an OVC opponent all too familiar to Murray State.

Some notable losses for the Redbirds come from Western Illinois University, Western Kentucky University and Louisiana State University, where former Murray State Head Coach Matt McMahon is in charge.

Some notable players on the Redbirds' side include senior forward Kendall Lewis, averaging 12.7 points per game this season. In the win against

Northwestern State, Lewis scored 24 points, along with 13 rebounds and three steals.

The Racers have had four guys averaging double-digit points so far this season, with junior forward Jamari Smith leading the way. He's averaging 17.2 points per game this season with a season-high 19 in the games against St. Louis University and Tulsa University.

Perry averages 13.7 points per game, and sophomore guard JaCobi Wood averages 13.2 points. Wood's season high of 24 points came in the Racers' loss to Massachusetts.

Lastly, sophomore forward Kenny White Jr. averages 10.7 points per game. White has been putting up high rebound numbers this season, with a season high of 8 against Chattanooga.

In the overall series, Murray State has won six times over the Redbirds, while Illinois State has taken just one win.

The historic matchup takes place at the CFSB Center. Tipoff for the game is set for 7 p.m.

Men's Basketball

M vs. ILLINOIS STATE REDBIRDS

Thursday Dec. 1
CFSB Center at 7 p.m.

Women's Basketball

M vs. SOUTHERN INDIANA SCREAMING EAGLES

Saturday Dec. 3
CFSB Center at 5 p.m.

Young's 31 points gives Racers road win

Ronan Summers

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A 31-point double-double from junior forward Katelyn Young led the Racers to a win on Wednesday, Nov. 30.

The Racers were 3-7 against their former OVC rival, the UT Martin Skyhawks, in their last 10 meetings, but they were able to coast to a 71-52 win on Wednesday.

The Racers were down 5-2 before going on a 7-point run to gain the lead as Young began to give Murray State some momentum with a made jumper in the paint. Red-shirt senior guard Macey Turley continued the run with a 3-pointer.

Young finished the run by knocking down a pair of free throws, giving the Racers a 9-5 lead. The Skyhawks were able to stop the run, scoring on a jumper, but Murray State continued to leave its foot on the gas.

Junior forward Hannah McKay scored on a pair of layups, sophomore guard Cayson Conner made a layup and redshirt senior Jordyn Hughes knocked down a 3-pointer. The Skyhawks began to pick up the pace on the offensive side and trailed the Racers 18-13 at the end of the first quarter.

UT Martin cut Murray State's lead to 3 at the beginning of the second quarter after making a jumper, but Young took a trip to the free throw line on the following possession and made both. The Skyhawks responded, draining a 3-pointer.

The Racers began to find their shot a few possessions later, as junior guard Bria Sanders-Woods knocked down a 3-pointer. Turley then got a hot hand, knocking down a pair of 3-pointers on consecutive possessions. The trio of shots from behind the arc put the Racers



Junior forward Katelyn Young grabbed a double-double in the Racers win over UT Martin on Wednesday, Nov. 30.

Photo courtesy of David Eaton/Racer Athletics

ahead 33-20 with a little over three minutes remaining in the first half.

Hughes and freshman guard Briley Pena continued the downpour of 3-pointers as they each nailed one from behind the arc. The Racers went into halftime with a 41-28 lead.

Sophomore forward Jaidah Black started the second half by making a pair of free throws for the Racers. Young made a layup, and Sanders-Woods made one of her two attempts from the free throw line. Young then drained a 3-pointer, and the Racers concluded their 8-point run with a 49-28 lead.

UT Martin responded by going on a run of its own, narrowing the score, but the Racers led at the end of the third quarter 54-41.

Both teams' offenses stepped

onto the floor ready to begin the fourth quarter. Sanders-Woods made a layup before the Skyhawks converted on a 3-point play on the following possession. Turley then made a jumper, but UT Martin made a layup in response.

The Racers went on another run after Young made a layup. McKay knocked down a pair of free throws, and Young converted on an and-one to conclude the 7-point run.

After a rather high-scoring affair, neither team found much success offensively in the final four minutes, and Murray State got the 71-52 win over UT Martin.

The Racers shot 50% from the field in the win, 63% from behind the arc and 93% from the free throw line. Murray State had 8 points off

of turnovers, 10 fastbreak points and 19 points from bench players.

Murray State out rebounded the Skyhawks 42-22 in the win, gathering 33 rebounds on the defensive side and nine rebounds on the offensive side of the court.

Young led her team in scoring, finishing with 31 points. She had 12 rebounds and four assists, going 8-8 from the free throw line. Turley had 11 points, six rebounds and three assists. McKay totaled 8 points, two rebounds and four assists, as Sanders-Woods ended up with 6 points, six rebounds and four assists.

The Racers improved to 4-1 on the season and will host the 3-2 University of Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3 in the CFSB Center.

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Flooding, cars and social media win at photo event

Ava Chuppe

Staff Writer

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The five winners of this semester's Images of Research Competition showcased their research through images, spanning topics from how flooding affects wildlife and what causes vehicles to deteriorate to social media's effect on how children view the world.

The competition, which was part of Fall Scholars Week, allowed students in various disciplines to submit a photo and a brief explanation of how it related to the student's overall research.

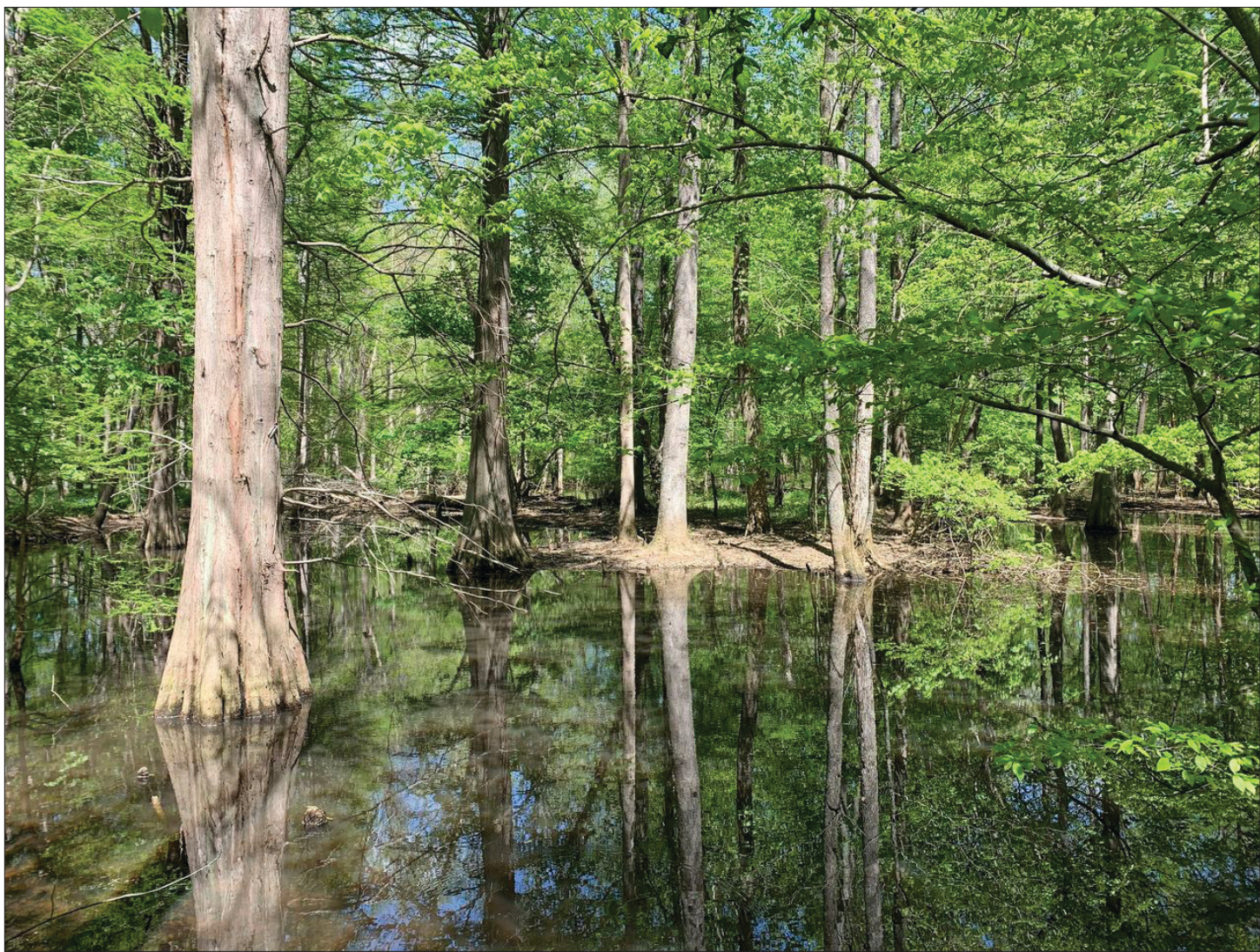
Evan Barr, a graduate teaching assistant in the Department of Biological Sciences, received first place in the competition with "Bald and Beautiful." The image, which featured Bald Cypress trees from the Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge in Benton, showcased Barr's research on how flooding regimes in bottomland hardwood forests affect the wildlife inhabiting these systems.

Barr said it is a shame people treat the Earth poorly.

"I just wish everyone would learn to see the world through a different perspective," Barr said. "I want people to see nature not as something they can profit from but something that [they] can preserve, conserve and be proud of for generations to come."

Kaylee Vanlue's submission, "Automotive Decline," earned second place. Because Vanlue researched what causes vehicles to deteriorate and what can be done to remedy corroded or rusted surfaces, the image showed a 1975 Dodge Tradesman van undergoing restoration.

"Through research of the mechanics and surfaces of vehicles long forgotten, we can discover the history of the machine and what led to its current state," Vanlue said. "By the end of the restoration research, we were able to get



Evan Barr's 'Bald and Beautiful,' which features Bald Cypress trees at the Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge in Benton, KY, is this year's Images of Research competition winner. Photo courtesy of @murraystatelibraries on Instagram

it running and successfully remove corrosive and rusted areas that would limit the lifespan of the van."

"Regrowth" by Madison Hernandez won third place. The photo, a butterfly in a garden, showcased Hernandez's research on how plant life impacts elementary students' perception of the world outside their screens.

"Children, especially the upcoming generations, generally see the world through Instagram or YouTube and take for granted the world that is outside of four cement walls," Hernandez said.

Junior studio art major Beth Bailey's submission, "Wonder," received an honorable mention.

Bailey said her professor encouraged her to enter the competition.

"I took my photo out on a field trip with my advanced digital photography class," Bailey said. "I didn't take this photo with the intention of entering... but I decided that I liked it enough to submit it. Nature is precious, and we shouldn't take it for granted."

The other honorable mention went to junior electromechanical engineering and technology major Boaz Burnett. In "Infinity Ingress," he used 3D printing, laser-cut one-way mirrors, a custom printed circuit board and LED lights to display scrolling text and images on car tail lights.

"The idea for my submission came

from a video I watched," Burnett said. "I was blown away by what this guy had done to his car, and I instantly wanted a version of the tails on my [Mazda] Miata... The design still needs some work, but I hope to eventually release them as a commercial product."

The winners were featured in the fall 2022 edition of Steeplechase, the University's biannual digital journal displaying the research and creative endeavors of undergraduate and graduate students.

The winning photos and their full descriptions can be found at digitalcommons.murraystate.edu/steeplechase/.

Campaign aims to educate on sexual harassment

MacKenzie Rogers

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The Office of Institutional, Diversity, Equity and Access (IDEA) continues its passive program with campaign posters that aim to educate about the reporting responsibilities and where to report in situations involving sexual harassment.

The Office of IDEA strives to provide a safe and welcoming work and learning environment while preventing illegal discrimination and harassment.

As a part of the passive campaign, the most recent set of posters discussed sexual harassment and the two types of workplace harassment: quid pro quo and hostile work environment. Quid pro quo refers to a situation where someone says they will provide a benefit for sexual favors in return, which preys on power dynamic imbalances. A hostile work environment refers to an intentional recurring environment that is hostile or abusive.

The goal of the passive programming poster campaign is to provide key information about must-know terms like stalking, sexually exploitive behavior, relationship violence and consent.

"Think of the passive programming poster campaign as part of the annual 'campus awareness tour' efforts for the campus community, which can also serve commuters and prospective students as well," Duffy said. "The passive programming posters appear in the RacerNation e-newsletter and are posted in print in high-traffic academic and residential areas of buildings on campus."

The Office of IDEA has been mak-

ing passive campaign posters centered around the responsibilities and locations to report since 2012. The campaign was expanded in January 2019 to partner with its active programming to assist in the spread of Title IX awareness.

"While this programming effort may be passive in name, it is the hope that these evergreen topics connected to raising awareness and visibility regarding Title IX will remain active in the minds of each member of the University community," Duffy said. "As the adage goes, 'When you know better, you do better.' This ongoing evergreen effort is to continually increase the 'know' so that the campus community can continue to 'do' and 'act' in ways that sustain an environment that promotes a healthy, supportive University community."

The Office of IDEA provides annual programming with presentations to groups like New Faculty Orientation, academic department meetings, First Year Experience sessions, First Year Athletes sessions, New Greek sessions, Emerging Scholars sessions, Nursing Leadership classroom sessions, Resident Adviser sessions, Residence Director sessions, Great Beginnings sessions and Racer Band sessions.

These programs offer information about Title IX by describing behaviors necessary to create a supportive community, requirements for reporting and campus resources.

Camisha Duffy, executive director of IDEA, said the office is constantly seeking opportunities to provide unbiased prevention education resources that will benefit the entire

HELP OUR CAMPUS PREVENT

Sexual Harassment

Two Types

- 1. Quid Pro Quo** - Refers to situations where decisions are contingent upon a person providing sexual favors.
- 2. Hostile Work Environment** - Conduct must be intentional, severe, recurring and create an environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, hostile, or abusive.

Office of IDEA
103 Wells Hall

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IDEA has been making posters aimed to bring awareness to sexual harassment since 2012. Photo courtesy of Office of IDEA

community.

"Providing information proactively can get conversations going and help campus community members learn about terms associated with conduct that constitutes Title IX violations and community respectful behaviors such as consent, active bystander interactions and reporting requirements for the campus community," Duffy said.

There are both on-campus and off-campus resources available for those needing assistance or support.

These professional resources are required by law to report to appropriate officials if they feel concerned that you may be in physical danger, a danger to yourself or to others.

Anyone needing to contact the Office of IDEA or Title IX can do so by calling 270-809-3155.

Memorial scholarship celebrates student's legacy

Erinn Finley
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The parents of a former Murray State student launched a scholarship for English and creative writing students in memory of their son who died in February.

Christopher Brady "Cole" Scherer held a bachelor's degree in English and was working toward a second bachelor's degree in Japanese at Murray State. His plan after college was to teach English in Japan for a year.

His parents, Christopher and Laurie Scherer, started the Brady Cole Scherer Memorial Scholarship in honor of their son's love for the University.

During his time at the University, Cole developed a deep appreciation for Murray State and the college experience. Although he eventually moved off campus to focus on his studies, he remained involved by working as front desk security at White College, according to a University press release.

"He was a deep thinker," Laurie said. "His teachers loved him because he was one of those kids that... just wanted to do his best, but he always wanted to help somebody else, and if he could do something for somebody that really didn't have the same advantages he had, he was all for that."

Cole encouraged his peers to pursue higher education and helped his close friends in their journeys at the University.

"That's one of the reasons why we wanted to do this scholarship because we knew that he would want us to continue helping other people, giving them a hand up, not a handout, so they can realize their goals and dreams," Laurie said. "And in some small way, we can be a part of that, and Brady can, too."



Photo courtesy of Scherer family
The Brady Cole Scherer Memorial Scholarship honors '21 alumnus Cole Scherer.

Kala Allen-Dunn, the director of Development for the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Honors College, helped the family establish the scholarship.

"A lot of what I do in working with scholarships is talking with the family of the person if it's a memorial scholarship and finding out a little information about them so that I can help create guidelines with a biography that reflects who the person was," Allen-Dunn said.

The family established a renewable

scholarship, which means they will continually add money every year to the scholarship fund.

The scholarship is for students majoring or minoring in creative writing or English. Allen-Dunn said the scholarship can go to a student at any level of study—undergraduate, graduate, post baccalaureate, etc.—so long as they have a 3.0 GPA.

"Through their generosity, Laurie and Chris, they've really ensured that... [Cole] is going to continue to make a

difference in the lives of Murray State students," Allen-Dunn said. "This scholarship will help people obtain degrees and go on to lead successful careers, so what they've done has really made a difference and made sure that Cole is still making a difference in the lives of others."

Chris said the scholarship currently awards \$1,000 dollars to the recipient. Laurie and Chris hope the scholarship will grow until it can be a full ride scholarship for the student who receives it.

Eventually, Cole's parents would also like to expand the scholarship and have one for both the English department and the Japanese program, if funds allow.

Laurie teaches English at North Perniscot High School in Wardell, Missouri. The school held a fundraiser called Baskets for Brady, a basketball competition that includes students and adults from other local schools.

Laurie said there was enough interest that the school is considering holding two competitions next time, one for the high school and one for the junior high school.

Laurie said Cole really flourished at Murray State. She couldn't believe the changes she saw at him even at the start of his time at the University.

"I remember when he came home that first weekend and just sitting around and talking," Laurie said. "He's like, 'Mom, oh my gosh, I can be myself. I can explore the things that I want to explore. I can say what I want to say.'"

Memorial contributions to the scholarship fund can be made by contacting the Murray State University Office of Development at 270-809-3001.

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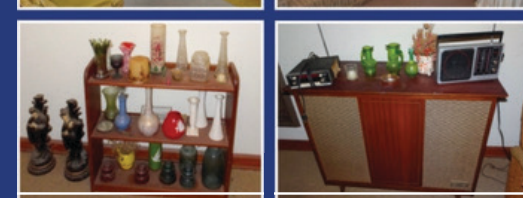
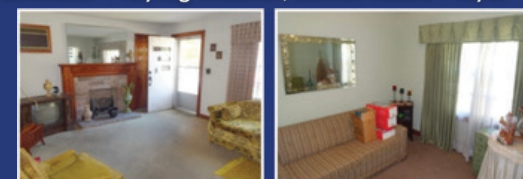
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