

# Campus News

## What you missed this past week...

### Cajun cook visits Vol State's cafeteria



Photo by Timmy Claytor  
Marti Lonard, from Natchitoches, La., was a guest cook in the cafeteria on Feb. 9.

### Clay Scott is the next American Idol



Mmm..  
take a bite!



Photo by Timmy Claytor

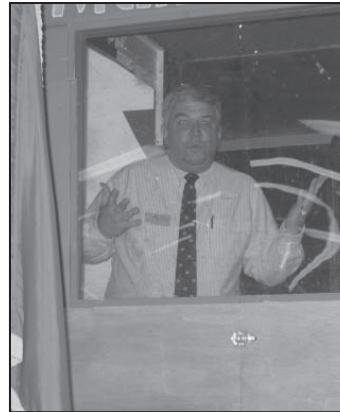


Photo by Cati Scott  
Clay Scott gets ready to rock out in the "Make a Hit" booth on Feb. 9.

## Physical therapy assistant program

Lindsey Osmond  
Contributing Writer

The physical therapy assistant or PTA program at VSCC accepts a maximum of 32 students and one class per year.

Elvis Brandon, the instructor of the program, explained, "It is a 2 year, 1+1 program. The first year the students take pre-requisite courses where they must receive a grade of C or better to apply for the second year."

They have distributed 55 applications for next year's class.

"There is a good job market right now. It was a pretty good day for graduating seniors," said Brandon.

Starting wage for a PTA can start from \$30,000 to \$40,000 for a home health worker, who is almost self-employed.

Nursing homes, especially those supported by Medicare, will be on the lower end of the salary range.

"A physical therapist assistant is an individual who, upon graduating from an accredited program and passing a licensure examination, is qualified to provide physical therapy services to patient," according to [www2.volstate.edu/academic/health/PTA/ptamain.html](http://www2.volstate.edu/academic/health/PTA/ptamain.html).

The PTA works under the supervision of a professional physical therapist in a variety of settings including hospitals, extended care facilities, rehabilitation centers, home health agencies, health maintenance organizations, school settings, and outpatient clinics."

Volunteer State's PTA program is accredited by the American Physical Therapy Association's Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.

Graduation from the PTA program allows one to sit for the licensure examination.

For those interested in the PTA program, more information can be found on Vol State's website [www.volstate.edu](http://www.volstate.edu).

## PR search reopened

Jason Drumm  
Staff Reporter

According to Tim Amyx, a member of the search committee, the position of public relations (PR) director has been reopened.

However, due to undisclosed information the Settler does know the reasons behind this decision.

We, at the Settler apologize for any inconveniences this may have caused.

## New art exhibit in Thigpen

Wes Nolen  
Staff Reporter

A new art exhibit is on display in the Volunteer State Community College art gallery, but will anyone see it?

The work of Shasta James, a series of digital photographs, will be at Vol State for the next month.

The photographs are a series of color ink-jet prints depicting a number of flea markets from "all over the place," said Armon Means, the director of the gallery.

For approximately three years, shows such as these have been coming to Vol State's gallery in the library.

The gallery has hosted works by artists such as Yvonne Petkus and John Steele.

"As the art department here on campus, it is our goal to educate the populous of Volunteer State in general. We aim to bring in artists that are working with ideas that we think will connect with other students and staff," said Means.

However, many students and faculty do not even know the gallery exists. Some do not even know what art is.

"Art? What art? I just thought it

was decoration," said Jeff Smith, VSCC head baseball coach.

"I've never looked at it honestly," agrees student, Krystle Rhodes.

So are the art exhibits in the VSCC gallery insignificant? No.

"We try to bring an artist in, because it's an opportunity for students studying art to meet other artists who are further along in their career," said assistant professor of art, Sue Mulcahy.

When asked about these discussions, art major Justin Langford replied, "It helped me kind of see where they were coming from, and see if they had motives to what they were working on. Especially, Yvonne Petkus, because she confused the heck out of me with her abnormally large, naked women."

Even students and faculty who are not art majors enjoy many of the shows.

"Its fascinating," said admissions advisor, Connie Budai.

"Some of them are very bright. I like them," said Cati Scott, when asked about the work of James.

Furthermore, the gallery does not limit its exhibitions to outside artists.

Every year, there is a faculty show in the fall followed by a student show

in the spring.

"I really liked the faculty show. It was last semester, and we got to see where a lot of the professors down here are coming from," said Langford.

"One of the professors did an awesome job. I think it might have been Armon Means. He did a graffiti like painting."

"It's fun, and some of the stuff is for sale, and like people you know want to buy it. It feels good," said Stacey, a student studying interior design, who exhibited her work in the show last year.

The student show is a juried show. Last spring, there were about 300 submissions, and 60 were chosen.

"It's sort of like the real world, where your work gets to stand on its own," said Mulcahy.

Whether it is by professional artists, faculty, or students, the gallery hosts art of all kinds.

"It's a space that gets a lot of walk through, and a space we hope to make visually enjoyable," said Means.

Like anything, there will be some who like the exhibits, and those that do not.

The space will be seen by those that are interested in art, and viewed as visually enjoyable by others.