

Campus News

Home school Eating disorders

continued

clubs from Gallatin to Nashville, and recently finished touring with a band in the southeast. Sample, 19, is currently helping run sound on tour with Ricky Skaggs. He was home schooled since eighth grade.

Some of the faculty have also begun to notice the potential advantage home schooled students can have.

"If home schooled students are allowed a wide range of subjects, they are allowed a freedom that public school doesn't get," explains Nancy Blomgren, associate professor of English, "I haven't had any [home schooled students] who fit the stereotype of being socially backwards."

Alyssa Dawson, who teaches English and works in the language lab at Vol State, was home schooled for eight years after attending public and private school. She found a certain benefit to mostly working on her own as a home schooled student.

"You have to think critically- you're not bottle-fed by a teacher," she comments.

Arlo Hall, university studies major, agrees.

"To be honest," he explains, "I think home schooling offers more college-like opportunities than high school. [Students in public school] can only hang around people in their own age bracket and their own neighborhood."

This reaction is echoed by other home schooled students.

"I wasn't socialized by my peers," explains Dawson.

"If anything," says "Lee" Emmanuel, nursing major, "I think I was better equipped. I was able to meet other people and not be stuck in a room all day with people your own age."

"I was around plenty of people," says Smith, describing her experience, "it's not like I was at home all day in my room in the dark."

"I had many, many opportunities to be in social atmospheres and was not restricted to only my family and other home schoolers," says Sample.

This is, perhaps, the key element to the success of these home schooled students.

be growing as well.

"I've had people stop in and say there are people throwing up in the bathroom everyday," says Brown, whose oldest daughter struggled with bulimia and anorexia after graduating from college.

"My daughter's hair began to fall out- I used to have to buy two permanents to give her a permanent because her hair was so thick and her hair is very, very thin to this day- never has thickened back up after the abuse. Her teeth- she had to have quite a bit of dental work done from the purging. A lot of people can even develop cancer of the esophagus from repeated throwing up. There

are lots of real serious complications- hemorrhaging from the esophagus, bulging eyes," she explains.

But weight is not just an issue for middle school to college age people, which means those over 21 are left out, even from Vanderbilt's clinic.

"I have people parading in here daily weighing [themselves]- students, employees, faculty- that number is going to be magic for them in some way and it doesn't tell you anything. It tells what you weigh right then at that moment. People will weigh and base their whole being on, 'oh I weigh 110 pounds!' as if that's going to bring some kind of happiness, some kind of satisfaction," says Brown.

She explains that years ago, Vol State had a professional counseling department that was encouraged to put on more programs to bring attention to the eating disorder problem.

As this department is no longer in existence, students are encouraged to talk to advisors or medical staff with issues regarding eating disorders.

There has been no recent attention given to the unhealthy eating habits of students at Vol State, even those practicing these habits in the school's public restrooms.

For more information or help with an eating disorder, contact the Vanderbilt Adolescent Medical Clinic at (615) 936-2447.

Homeland Security degree

Joni Tyler
Staff Reporter

September 11, 2001, forever changed America's idea of security.

The U.S. government responded by creating the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), a division solely constructed for securing the U.S. against a new and often unknown enemy.

Now, thanks to a new university parallel program, Vol State will be added to the growing list of colleges helping to educate future security personnel.

"We are finalizing a formal agreement with Austin Peay State University for a Homeland Security option for university parallel majors," stated vice-president of academic

affairs, Dr. Charles Lea.

The Tennessee Board of Regents has given APSU permission to begin a transfer program under a Bachelor of Science degree in Homeland Security for law enforcement.

Under the two plus two program agreement, Vol State will offer an Associates of Science degree for Homeland Security with an area of emphasis in law enforcement for the fall 2005 semester.

Four new courses have been added to the fall curriculum to satisfy the requirements for the new program.

Introduction to public safety, studies the policy-making process. International politics will include the study of the United States' role in world politics, and psychology of human interaction will focus on improving communication skills.

Also, introduction to criminal justice will be offered on the Vol. State campus through Nashville State Community College.

Vol. State students, who continue the final two years of their degree program by transferring to APSU, are "guaranteed a smooth transition," according to Dr. Karen Valencia, division dean of social science, "APSU will accept all credits where other colleges may not," she added.

The new option will be "directly applicable to a career in Homeland Security," Valencia said.

According to the DHS web site, "Employees of the Department of Homeland Security 'have a vital role to play in securing our homeland... employees are the Department's most valuable asset, the frontline in the war against terrorism.'"



Parent/Child Date Night

Friday, March 18

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.



Dinner & Dancing!
Lasagna dinner!!

\$5 per family
all proceeds go to the
American Cancer Society's

230-3447 for more info

Tickets are available in the
Student Club Center (Wood 204) or Student Services (Wood 210)