

Forget your English homework? Blame the textbook publisher

By LAUREN DAY
Staff Writer

“The Structure of Argument,” a textbook which is a staple in Volunteer State Community College’s English 1020 classes, recently underwent a change in its material.

According to Shellie Michael, Vol State’s English department chair, after the 5th edition of “The Structure of Argument” was published and sold, one of the contributing authors decided she didn’t want her piece of writing in the book.

The publisher made the necessary changes in the textbook, then reprinted and began circulating the new version.

The missing element from the new version of the book is an article by Deborah Darvick which begins on page 323 of the old version.

This change in content has affected several English 1020 students, as their edition of the textbook does not match that of their teachers’ or classmates’.

One instructor attempted to give an assignment to her students from the missing article.

“I have a textbook with an article by Deborah Darvick which I find useful to assign to the students, and

many of them had textbooks which did not include that article, so we had confusion about what the assignment was and wasted valuable class time,” stated English Instructor, Cynthia Wyatt.

Wyatt, who was teaching with an old version of the textbook, said she would like to eventually obtain a new version of “The Structure of Argument.”

“I hope to retrieve all of the bad books to take them out of circulation so the bookstore won’t end up buying them back and selling them to next semester’s classes,” said Wyatt.

“We need all our instructors and all our students to have the same book – the most current version – so our publisher’s representative is looking for the most efficient way to replace the old books,” added Michael.

Michael said she has estimated there may be as many as 50 of the old textbooks in use by Vol State’s students.

“I do believe it’s (the publisher’s) responsibility to notify the bookstore and the faculty (of the change). I believe the publisher should replace all the books with no penalty and minimal inconvenience to the students,” concluded Michael.

Heather Davis

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

top honors at the Sing To Win talent competition at the Wildhorse Saloon in 2001, receiving a standing ovation at the Grand Ole Opry during a guest performance, and co-writing with Richard Marx.

She has also performed at Nashville’s Bluebird Cafe’ and appeared on the same bill with country artists such as Ronnie Milsap and Beth Nielsen Chapman.

Staying busy with school, her supportive family, work, and the compiling of her upcoming CD, Davis tries to keep a steady balance among her responsibilities, keeping stress out of her life as much as possible.

“If you make a living at what you enjoy doing, you won’t be as stressed,” said Davis.

Anticipating her ultimate goal, she said she hopes to make a great living at making music and being happy, not letting her life pass her by too fast.

For anyone with the same aspirations and interest in a music career, Davis recommends persistence and to never give up, for there is always tomorrow.

“I’m told no everyday, but I believe I have this talent for a purpose. However, it’s not going to come to you, you have to go get it,” said Davis.

Look for the Spring 2007 issue of The Pioneer student produced magazine on newsstands soon!

Featuring a detailed look at Vol State’s seven deadly sins



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