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The Arkansas

## Traveler

## WEATHER



**HIGH** 54  
**LOW** 37

Very chilly with 30% chance of scattered showers throughout the day.

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## Man charged with killing UA student on trial today

Jack Willems  
Senior Staff Writer

A man charged with killing a UA senior last March will stand trial today on a count of capital murder and a count of burglary.

Zachariah Scott Marcyniuk was arrested for the death of Katherine M. Wood March 10. Wood died from multiple stab wounds the day beforehand. If convicted, Marcyniuk could be sentenced to death or given life without parole. Being convicted of burglary would result in a sentence between 5 and 20 years in prison.

Wood was a 24-year-old senior art and English major at the university the semester before her death. Marcyniuk, 29, was a graphic design major who dropped out earlier in the spring 2008 semester.

Wood and Marcyniuk had a long relationship until a few weeks before the death. That Sunday morning, Marcyniuk went to Wood's apartment where Wood opened the door and started screaming at him, according to a police affidavit. Marcyniuk said he remembered grabbing her, but then "blacked out," according to the affidavit.

He later told his parents that he thought he had hurt Wood badly before leaving for Oklahoma, according to the affidavit. The next day, an Oklahoma Highway Patrol officer pulled Marcyniuk over for speeding and then arrested Marcyniuk upon seeing that he was wanted for murder.

After a neighbor reported hearing screams, police found Wood dead in her bathtub, the victim of a violent struggle, according to a police affidavit.

Marcyniuk pleaded guilty in July 2005 to aggravated assault for holding his then-girlfriend against her will and threatening to commit suicide while driving 70 mph. He was sentenced to two years probation. The same girlfriend filed three orders of protection against Marcyniuk during 2005, according to court records.

Marcyniuk also has previous arrests for burglary and possession of stolen property.

## Renovations, new projects start spring semester

Construction on Garland Avenue Parking Garage to begin



Construction workers replace part of the sidewalk near Gibson Hall. Various other construction projects are planned to be completed in 2009 and 2010.

MEGHAN WALTON Staff Photographer

Jennifer Joyner  
Senior Staff Writer

This fall, many students wondered what all the noise around Gibson Hall was for, as construction workers drilled into the nearby sidewalk. The project isn't finished, but the drilling has stopped, and students now can walk by Gibson Hall without having to plug their ears.

The noise was because of an addition to the Fine Arts Building, a renovation which requires relocating a portion of the existing 2004 Senior Walk to McIlroy Avenue, said Jay Huneycutt, a UA campus planner.

The addition is one of many projects UA officials have planned over the next two years.

For the spring 2009 semester, there are two major projects will take place on the UA campus, including the

construction of the Garland Avenue Parking Garage, which will be a 1,500 foot space that houses a book store and other shops. This project is scheduled for completion by summer 2010.

Some students questioned the usefulness of the Garland Avenue Parking Garage.

"Why would you have a parking garage where you have to walk a long way [to get to campus]?" said Jennifer Massie, a history major.

Massie said she didn't think adding the parking garage would improve the parking situation at the UA because the garage would probably always be full like the other two.

"More people are going to drive over there," she said.

The other project that will be focused on next semester is the Nanoscale Science and Engineering Building, which is scheduled to be finished in

2011, Huneycutt said.

The Phi Delta Theta house also will be fully renovated in 2009.

"It will be a great project for the fraternity," Huneycutt said.

In addition, a second building for the Arkansas Research and Technology Park will start construction soon. It will be just north of the Innovation Center, Huneycutt said.

More future projects include the Child Developmental Research Center and the KUAF National Public Radio building, both scheduled for 2010, according to the UA Planning Web site.

No major renovations will take place over the winter break. There are some minor projects, which will be completed by the time school starts in January, Huneycutt said.

In 2008, the campus planning department completed

or will complete all of the projects that were planned for this year.

"So far my experience here with the university has been a pleasant one, and I don't see much need for improvement," said Amy Patterson, a public relations major.

The Duncan Avenue Apartments have been open since August. Phase two of the Maple Hill residence hall was open for the fall, as well. The Memorial Hall Loggia Restoration was completed July 1, Huneycutt said.

"The Alpha Omicron Pi sorority house is scheduled to be completed in the next few weeks and occupied by the time school starts in January," Huneycutt said.

Also, the Northwest Quad dining addition will be completed this month, he said.

## Dead Day varies among Arkansas colleges

Cristen Handley  
Staff Writer

For students at the UA, Dead Day will be this Wednesday with finals beginning the following day. Dead Day is an event, or lack thereof, that offers students a final day of study time with no distractions so that they may be fully prepared for finals.

Other colleges in the state, such as Arkansas Tech University and University of Central Arkansas, participate in Dead Day, as well, although UCA typically refers to the day as "study day." Students at Hendrix College located in Conway are provided a "dead week" during which all classes except for Monday of next week will be canceled.

There is a fair share of campuses located in or around Arkansas that do not have a Dead Day, including John Brown University and UA-Fort Smith. Arkansas State University will not have a Dead Day for this fall "due to how certain dates fell," said Lynita Cooksey, associate vice chancellor of the Office of Academic Affairs and Research at ASU.

However, Dead Day will return to ASU students next semester, according to the the ASU student newspaper, *The Herald*.

Harding University in Searcy has a "dead week" during which classes are still in session, but all social club functions, sports games, and other activities are cancelled.

Professors might be disappointed to hear that several UA students are using Dead Day for a variety of purposes other than for what it is intended.

"I've actually booked a massage on dead day," said Seth Eli Barlow, a junior international relations major. "It's my day to de-stress."

Instead of a massage, Andrew Scogin, a freshman business major, said he is going to "take the entire 24 hours to catch up on the sleep I've been missing for the past five months."

Similarly, Danielle Frechette, a sophomore biological engineering major, said she plans to use Dead Day to "catch up on sleep and maybe get a little studying done."

## Company provides students volunteer opportunity over winter break

Jordain Carney  
Staff Writer

Cosmic Volunteers, a non-profit American-based company started by Scott Burke in 2000 in Philadelphia, offers students the opportunity to spend two weeks of their winter break participating in an international volunteering program.

The trip for this year begins Dec. 28 and ends Jan. 10, 2009. The company also sends people to volunteer and intern at schools, newspapers, hospitals and other facilities in various countries.

It started in Nepal, where Burke was teaching at the time, but in the past eight years students have spent two weeks in countries such as Ecuador, Kenya, India and Vietnam, and according to a news release by Cosmic Volunteers, the trip allows volunteers to participate in humanitarian and environmental projects.

This year, students will be traveling to the Volta Region in the eastern sections of Ghana, and "the projects involve spending time with children at orphanages playing games, arts and crafts and sports, as well as planting trees, cleaning-up school grounds and light construction work of schools and medical clinics," according to

the news release.

The cost of the program is \$1,895, which includes food, accommodations, airport transport, local transportation, orientation, the volunteer project, cultural excursions, visa support and other things. It does not include airfare, visa fee, vaccinations, extra sight-seeing or amenities such as the Internet or telephone calls. But volunteers can have the program paid for if they can recruit 10 volunteers to the program, and they can also have their international airfare covered if they can recruit 15 other members to join the program.

Volunteers for the program come from the United States, Canada and Europe, and, according to the news release, special skills or experience are not needed to travel with the company.

"Just an open mind and desire to reach out to those in need in non-Western countries," according to the news release.

UA students can visit the Web site for the Center for Leadership and Community Engagement for information on various volunteering opportunities. While places like the Butterfield Trail Village, The

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## Lights of the Ozarks switch to energy-efficient bulbs

Kaitlyn Rush  
Contributing Writer

The Lights of the Ozarks is more than halfway through the gradual four-year transition from using incandescent light bulbs to LED light bulbs at the annual Light the Night lighting of the Fayetteville Square last month.

This year, 60 percent of the lights on the square are light-emitting diode, or LED, lights. Fayetteville Parks and Recreation workers installed 2,000 new LED bulbs in October to prepare for the annual Light the Night Nov. 22.

City officials bought 200 LED strands this year, each strand having 100 LED bulbs. Two-thirds of the square already has been converted to LED lighting, and city officials intend for the conversion to be completed by 2010.

Josh Bowen, park maintenance supervisor, said that LED bulbs use 88 percent less energy than the traditional incandescent bulbs and are 80 percent more efficient than the incandescent bulbs.

"There are less installation problems with power distribution and fewer problems with LED bulbs because they are



VERONICA PUCCI Staff Photographer

Two-hundred LED light strands were added to the Lights of the Ozarks display this year as a part of a four-year plan to replace every strand with LED lights.

plastic, whereas incandescent bulbs are glass," he said. "High winds mean bulbs break in the treetops; incandescent bulbs are more susceptible to vandalism, as well, because they break easier. For someone to vandalize the LED bulbs, they would have to go around cutting wires. Not to mention LED bulbs can't be pulled out like the old bulbs."

Fayetteville Parks and Recreation workers spent more than 3,000 hours decorating the square with 400,000 lights this year.

"That's 34 miles of lights. Connected end-to-end, it would reach Bella Vista," Bowen said.

Bowen said last year the Lights of the Ozarks had installed some LEDs – about

2,000 strands. Between this year and last, 8,000 strands will be needed to complete the transition from partial incandescent to total LED lighting.

However, a strand of incandescent bulbs will last one year, or a maximum of two years.

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