

Lifestyles

Punch Brothers comes to WAC
page 5

Sports

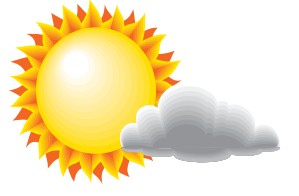
Hogs prepare for Bulldogs
page 8



The Arkansas

Traveler

WEATHER



HIGH 45
LOW 26

Mostly sunny and cold with light winds.

Page 1 | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2008

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Local gun sales increase since election

Owner says Obama has anti-gun policies, causes scare and sales hike

Jack Willems
Senior Staff Writer

November is a busy time of year for Phil Ezell, owner of Ozark Sportsman Supply in Tontitown. As a gun shop owner, the beginning of hunting season is a time of increased business, Ezell said. Still, this year sales are up by about a third of what they normally would be, he said. It's pretty simple to understand why, Ezell said.

"Obama is the most anti-gun person who's ever been near the White House," Ezell said. "Check his record in Illinois. He voted for gun restrictions in virtually every case."

Ezell is not the only one who thinks so, apparently. Despite economic troubles, gun sales rose 9 percent between January and September this year, according to FBI statistics.

Steve Sturm, owner of Sturm's Indoor Gun Range in Springdale, has also seen an increase in sales since the election, he said.

"There are distributors I know who have hardly anything left in their stores," Sturm said.

The 2008 Arkansas Poll showed an eight-point decrease in the number of people who thought gun control laws should be stricter, while those who thought there should be no changes in the law increased.

This surprised the pollsters considering the fact that the same year Bill Gwatney, chairman of the Arkansas Democratic Party, was shot by a lone gunman in a high profile case of gun violence, said Janine Parry, professor of political science at the UA.

"This was not the shift in opinion that we expected," Parry said.

What they did not consider at the time was that respondents were hoping for no changes in gun laws in anticipation of a coming Democratic administration, Parry said.

There was also an increase in gun sales in 1992 when Bill Clinton won the presidential election, and another



MEGHAN WALTON Staff Photographer

Guns sales are up about a third of what they typically are this time of year, a local gun shop owner said.

increase occurred in 1993, said Gary Kleck, a professor of sociology at Florida State University who has researched the topic. After 1993, gun sales steadily declined until 2001, Kleck said.

Higher gun sales do not lead to higher crime, but higher crime may lead to more gun sales, Kleck said.

People who feel threatened by violent crime are more likely to buy handguns, but most of those who buy handguns will not be criminals as a result of background checks, Kleck said.

In the long run, it may lead to higher homicide rates because crimi-

nals obtain firearms mainly by stealing guns, and the more guns out there the more targets they have, Kleck said.

"In the first nine months or so there will be no effect," Kleck said.

Local gun owners expressed anxiety about the coming administration.

The Democratic Party has a proven track record of placing restrictions on gun ownership, said Chris Potter from Fayetteville. There are plenty of gun restrictions as it is, and new ones are not needed, Potter said.

Randy Ross of Rogers has a habit of trying to buy guns every month, but he

has increased his buying recently, Ross said. He knows there has been a rush to get pistols, ammo and AR-15 Rifles, he said. Ross worries about being able to buy automatic weapons under a Democratic administration, he said.

"His cell phone has a video where they shoot machine guns for three minutes straight," said Joe Landrith, a friend of Ross. "You won't be able to do that under Obama."

See GUNS on Page 3

UA police investigate alleged rape on campus

Jack Willems
Staff Writer

The UA police department received a report of an acquaintance rape last Thursday.

The alleged rape occurred sometime between 10 p.m. Oct. 17 and 8 a.m. Oct. 18 at Maple Hill South Residence Hall, according to the police report. The investigation is still active, so not many details can be released, said Gary Crain, spokesman for the UAPD.

The victim was not injured, Crain said, and there is no evidence that alcohol was involved.

No arrests have been made so far, he said. It is not unusual for a crime to be reported several weeks after it has occurred, he said.

"Victims often struggle with the idea of whether or not to report it," Crain said.

This is the third report of rape that the UAPD has received this year, Crain said.

The first report of rape occurred in February, and it ended in the arrest of Matthew Reid, a student, Crain said. The second report of rape occurred in late August.

Crain said that case has been turned over to the prosecutor for review and no arrests have been made as of yet.

The UAPD received four reports of rape last year, according to the 2007 Cleary Report. The total number of rapes reported to law enforcement across the nation declined by 2.5 percent last year, according to the FBI Web site.

See RAPE on Page 2

UA receives Walmart grant to grow fresh produce

\$500,000 awarded to UA to provide retail store a link to smaller producers and sustainable food production

Saba Naseem
Staff Writer

Summer mornings, the Fayetteville Square is crowded with farmers selling their fresh produce and local consumers taking advantage of this opportunity. Now, this community will see the production of fresh produce on a much larger scale.

The Wal-Mart Foundation recently granted the UA Applied Sustainability Center more than \$500,000 for the Agile Agriculture program. Mike Faupel, the program manager, hopes to fulfill the purpose of the grant, which was to create sustainable food systems that link small producers with large markets.

The goal of Agile Agriculture is "to facilitate the availability of a safe, consistent and reliable supply of relevant products for purchase in the marketplace by large-scale buyers," according to the press release.

Agile Agriculture has several components, which include working with partnering universities to develop online markets that link small-size growers to institutional buyers, as well as developing GIS enabled tools to identify potential growing regions and the environmental and economic benefits of farming in those regions. The program also evaluates food supply chains to determine the greatest opportunities for improvement and delivers training to growers to help them take advantage of the tools being developed.

"Our community will benefit if we can help get the state of Arkansas into a group of states



VERONICA PUCCI Staff Photographer

The Walmart Foundation gave the grant to the UA to also help develop a sustainable method of food production that will connect small producers with larger retailers.

See PRODUCE on Page 2

UA seeks to replace legendary Old Main insignia

Brian Lofton
Staff Writer

A series of black horizontal lines resembling the Old Main tower has notably advertised the UA as an institutional landmark of higher education across the globe. It has been an icon of knowledge, sophistication, inspiration and higher education for more than two decades. However, the time has come when UA officials think it is time for the logo to pass the torch.

"We've been looking into updating since I got here in

2006," associate vice chancellor Tyesen Kendig said. UA officials have been receiving increasing

horizontal blind effect does not translate well into multimedia applications that emerged since



feedback that it may be time to consider 'freshening up' the mark. But, more importantly, it's been a common complaint that the

mark's development -- most specifically, the Internet. "AT&T had a similar problem with their blue, striped logo."

Kendig said. "They now have a similar logo, but with a more modern, sleek design."

Some might fear the logo revision will be an unnecessary expenditure of the university's valuable resources; however, there is no need to fret.

The UA is experiencing a large cost saving due to in-house conceptualization. With the aid of focus groups, and three UA professional designers on staff, no outsourcing will be required. As far as prints of the current logo are concerned, the university plans to exhaust all prints of envelopes, business cards and other formal documents that

contain the current logo. This will create a phase-out of the old emblem. UA officials estimate it will take about 3 months before the new logo is considered official. Also, it is on the UA's agenda to re-install aged signs around campus anyway, so the new emblem could be conveniently and inexpensively implemented.

Of course, the design of the new insignia is an important issue.

"The goal is to develop a mark

See INSIGNIA on Page 3

UA Teaching Academy Gives Award and Inducts Six New Members

Jordain Carney
Contributing Writer

Max Meisch, who teaches in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, was awarded the fourth annual John and Lois Imhoff Award for Outstanding Teaching and Student Mentorship at a banquet Thursday, Nov. 13, after being picked from five finalists.

The recipient of the award is a faculty member who has proved to be an outstanding teacher and mentor, and who teaches entry-level classes. Meisch also received a memento of service and a \$1,000 honorarium, according to the press release.

Jeannine Durdik, Mark Boyer, Janet Forbess, Michael Wavering, Jefferson Miller and Jeannie Whayne were also admitted into the Academy Nov. 13.

"Being inducted into the University of Arkansas Teaching Academy is a highlight of my career as an educator," Wavering said. "I want students to know that they should follow their passion, find out what interests them and find a way to make a liv-

See TEACHERS on Page 3