

Call for Submissions

The Trident Times encourages students, staff, and faculty of TTC to submit items for review and possible inclusion in the paper. Submissions from student organizations about upcoming events and notices of awards and achievements are also sought.

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Trident Times

TRIDENT TIMES

November/December 2011

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Upcoming Events on Campus

Angel Tree.

Nov. 28-Dec. 14. Palmer Campus.

Making holiday wishes come true is the goal of the Palmer Campus Student Associations. In tough economic times, TTC's faculty, staff and students will help many families in our community with an Angel Tree Drive for Sanders Clyde Elementary. Donations are a wonderful way to express the gift of giving. Contact Regina Smart at regina.smart@tridenttech.edu or (843) 722-5562 for more information.

Holiday Drop-in.

Dec. 3, 1:00-3:30 p.m. Bldg 410, Student Lounge, Main Campus.

This annual family event will include free entertainment, food, and fun for all TTC students, faculty, staff and their families. Entertainment will include Cupcake's magic show, a visit and goodies from Santa, pony rides by Windsong Farms, face paintings by TTC Esthetic students, crafts by TTC Early Childhood Education students, balloon sculpturing clowns and a reception by Phi Theta Kappa. Contact Ann Welty at ann.welty@tridenttech.edu or (843) 574-6100 for more information.



Holiday Throwdown

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Women Outpace Men in College Enrollment: Why?

by Nicole Thomas

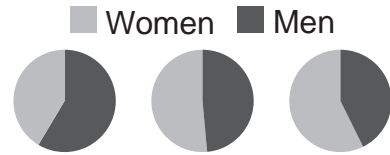
It's no big secret that in recent years women have been enrolling in college in greater numbers than men. That's not to suggest that men's enrollment rates have declined. In fact, they have steadily increased. However, since the mid-80's, women have enrolled at three times the rate of men. But, why? And, in what arenas?

What the Stats Show

According to the US Department

of Education National Center for Education Statistics, the nation-wide trend began around 1980. In the 1970s, men out-numbered women almost 2-to-1. Within a decade, the scales would shift with nearly 350,000 more women than men enrolled in college. By 2010, women would out-number men by nearly three million.

Statistics show that in 2010 there were approximately twenty million people enrolled at a higher education

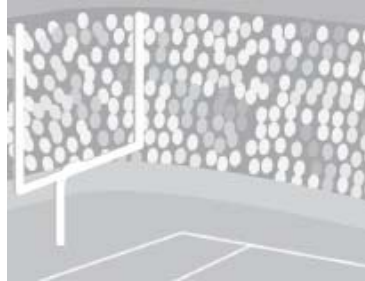


institution (2 year college, 4 year college, graduate school, etc.). Of that twenty million, nearly twelve million were women (nearly two-thirds) with men's enrollment at just under nine million (not even half).

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Southern Gridiron

by Micah Lambert



I was a soldier in the military on the infamous date of September 11th, 2001. I was greatly affected by the events of that day, just as the people around me and in my life were. This fall, we as a nation celebrated the 10th anniversary of the event that resulted in a surge of national pride and unity. And

nothing symbolizes that unity to me more than football.

The remembrance ceremonies caused a brief delay in the schedule of the NCAA and NFL. Our country is certainly far more important than any game to be played. However, it can be said

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ATV Law Good for State

by Steve Brandenburg

Every day I spend with my children is a blessing, and just hearing them say "I love you" can make a bad day good. It seems like a never ending struggle to protect our children. We try to balance being responsible parents while not making it as though our children live in bubbles. As a father, I can't imagine allowing someone to hurt my child. Even worse, I wouldn't ever want to be the one to contribute to my own child's death.

Periodically, the government passes laws to protect children

from danger. This was the case in 2007 when the South Carolina House and Senate passed "Chandler's Law." Renee Dudley of the Post and Courier reports that Chandler's Law was named after 16-year-old Chandler Saylor of Swansea who died from injuries suffered in an ATV wreck. However, it was vetoed by Governor Mark Sanford. He said it infringed on parental rights. The law would gain new life in 2011 when new Governor Nikki Haley signed the bill into law.

This new law requires all riders under the age of 15 to take safety training courses before riding an ATV. They must wear eye

protection and be accompanied by an adult. I am, however, disappointed that the ATV industry and ATV enthusiasts were able to water down the law. The original proposal said a child had to be 9 years old to operate an ATV, but opponents of the law were able to lower the age limit to 6.

Despite the watered down version, I support this recent passage of "Chandler's Law." For those that don't provide structure for children, this will theoretically force them to obey at least some rules. Younger children need guidance to stay safe. Most 6-year-olds don't know how to

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Loving the Library: Keystrokes to Infinite Possibilities

by Eric Benhall

Some associate libraries with shelves and shelves of antiquated volumes. Nothing could be further from the truth! Here at Trident Technical College, we have access to an enormous amount of information. In addition to the materials available for physical checkout, the TTC library offers students many online avenues, too. The best place to start your academic success at Trident Tech is with the library orientation videos. They are found under the "Research Help" tab on the library's homepage.

These videos will teach you much, but the greatest impression you will receive is how much material you have available to you. You can find the physical publications through the online catalog on the library homepage. These books can be physically checked out for two weeks with

one renewal for two more weeks. Also, the physical library offers reserved books that your instructor might have requested and reference publications that can't be checked out.

"...the greatest impression you will receive is how much material you have available to you."

In addition, you will find gateways to other materials through this same homepage: numerous databases, electronic books and avenues to resources at other institutions. The online library at Trident Tech is user-friendly. It has easy navigation tools and tabbed search dialog boxes to help with your research. It even has a helpful tab on the homepage that allows you access to a tremendous number of electronic databases.

Databases house various kinds of reading materials which may

be viewed anywhere you have an internet connection. For example, you can create an account to check out electronic books once you locate the databases. If you are trying to locate an electronic book, just click on the "e-Book" link under the EBSCO Host e-Book collection. However, do not orient your thinking around books only. Many database articles come from reliable, trustworthy and peer-reviewed magazines, newspapers, and journals. Depending on how you approach your search settings, they can help with your research. These databases are not accessible by search engines like Google, so make those tuition dollars work for you!

TTC students can even borrow materials from other colleges and universities. The College of Charleston, MUSC, the Citadel, Charleston Southern University and Charleston School of Law offer close physical proximity and readily allow TTC students to check out books. In addition, PASCAL Delivers and

Interlibrary Loan offer books from a large network of libraries to the TTC student body. PASCAL is a great resource for acquiring books across higher education institutions in South Carolina, and Interlibrary Loan is a nationwide service which provides all kinds of materials.

If all else fails, you can find help through the "Contact Us" portal on the library's homepage. You can even "Instant Message a Librarian" from your computer or mobile phone. Still, there is one tip you should remember before growing too comfortable: keep your student ID handy because everything you do online while off campus requires verification.

So, remember that you can put your hands on the information needed for that research paper from the comfort of your own couch. Go home, make yourself some hot Joe, saddle up to your computer and begin exploring the infinite world of knowledge that the Trident Tech online library offers. It's just keystrokes away!

Low Cost Beauty Services on Campus

by Zaneta Kennedy

Did you know that you can get a free or low cost haircut at Trident Tech? In fact, there are several services offered through the TTC Cosmetology Department for less than five dollars.

The Cosmetology Department offers a number of services at the Berkeley Campus: highlights, under-the-dryer deep conditioning, relaxers and more. These services are open to the public, and walk-ins are accepted. Sometimes, certain services can be arranged for free if there is a need; contact a cosmetology instructor for more information. To make an appointment, call 899-8052.

Operation hours vary by semester. For the fall 2011 semester, the cosmetology department is open Monday through Thursday starting at 8 a.m. Appointments for chemical services cannot be done after 12:30 p.m., and haircuts cannot be done after 2:30 p.m. All services will take place in room 159 of

Berkeley Campus' main building.

The Cosmetology Department also offers services at the Summerville Campus on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Operation hours for the Summerville location at 449 Old Trolley Rd start at 6:30 p.m. Appointments for chemical services cannot be done after 7:30 p.m., and haircuts cannot be done after 9:30 p.m.

Don't worry. These stylists know what they are doing. Cosmetology majors undergo a 16-month program that requires 1500 class hours to graduate and pass the state board. Twenty-one cosmetology seniors will graduate this December.

Mary Nease is among the seniors. Nease chose to major in cosmetology "to make people beautiful." Nease says, "If you look good, you feel good. If you can make people look better, you can make them feel better. It's all about self-esteem."

Holiday Throwdown

by Nicole Thomas

The semester is winding down. You've worked hard and given it your best shot. What better way to congratulate yourself and kick-off the holiday season than a good, old-fashioned party.

Student Activities is putting on a fun-filled, family friendly holiday party on December 3, 2011. The festivities will start at 1 p.m. in the 410 building on Main Campus with Cupcake's magic show. Pony rides by Windsong Farm, goodies from Santa, face painting by TTC Esthetics students, crafts by Partnership for Change, and a reception provided by Phi Theta Kappa are sure to get you and your family in the holiday spirit.

Ann Welty, Student Activities Director, says this is the biggest holiday party of the season. "Borrow a neighbor's kid if you don't have one. This is going to be a fun event!"

The event is free to everyone. There is no charge for anything

- not even the pony rides! Students and administration from all campuses are invited to attend. You are encouraged to arrive early as attendance is expected at around five hundred.

See you there!



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Significance

This trend has been of national interest for some time. Economists, policy makers, and analysts across multiple fields are trying to figure out why this trend is occurring and what the implications are.

The Boy's Project, a special interest group, states, "This gender gap has serious implications because a college degree is linked to higher earnings, increased civic participation, marriage and family stability, rates of incarceration, and national economic competitiveness in a global environment." With similar concerns, the American Council on Education is aiming to close the gender gap as part of the "Bridging the Gap" initiative, now that males are a minority in college.

So, Why the Shift?

Finding the answer to why the dramatic shift has occurred remains an elusive one, and there are drastically different opinions on the topic.

The Huffington Post on August 18, 2011, reports that most women surveyed felt that their college degree was valuable compared to only one third of men who felt the



same. The survey also revealed that "77% felt that a college degree was necessary for a woman to 'get ahead in life' while 68% said the same was true for men."

The Daily Beast claimed in a January 2010 article that "you'll be luckier in love," suggesting that women with college degrees have happier marriages and that if the men don't catch up there will be a slimmer pool of suitable bachelors to choose from, resulting in an increased incidence of unhappy marriages.

An article published by the Washington Post on August 8,

2011 states that women simply enjoy college more than men.

Sara Murray caused controversy when she published a January 2010 article in the Wall Street Journal entitled "Women More Likely than Men to Graduate College at 22." Readers weighed in. One accused her of being a feminist declaring that the statistics are "lies" and the "product of feminists." Another writes, "Women get financial support from the government and feminist organizations and men get nothing." Conversely, another argues, "Education provides certainty..."

Women need more certainty than men, hence the reason why women put education first."

Some praise, or condemn (depending on where they stand on the issue), the feminist movement as the catalyst for motivating women to move away from the patriarchal status-quo, resulting in a reinvention of women's roles in the workplace.

Others suggest that the jobs typically filled and/or sought after by women more often require a degree, whereas men have more options when it comes to non-degree job opportunities.

Yet others claim that "stay at home moms" are turning off the soaps and opening the text books. The claim suggests that tough economic times require both parents to bring in an income, and women must have a degree to be competitive in the job market.

What say you, TTC? Weigh in by taking a survey or sending your own opinion piece to roger.west@tridenttech.edu

Go to

<http://bit.ly/TTCsurvey1>

to participate in the survey.

The results will be published in the next edition of Trident Times.

There's an App for That!

by Nicole Thomas

Managing college life can be challenging, overwhelming and downright frustrating. From picking classes and wrestling financial aid to juggling a part time job and a full class load to navigating the 920 building, we can sometimes feel doomed. Have no fear, there's an app for that!

I would highly suggest that if you don't already have one, spend some of that financial aid on a smart phone, iPad or other device that supports "apps." There are apps for everything from games (hello, Angry Birds?) to calorie counting. But, the seldom discussed, most valuable apps out there are the ones for students!

This journalist, personally, is a big fan of iStudiez Pro. This



particular app, and similar ones, has features for assignment due dates/details, class schedule, professor contact info, a student planner and a greeting screen that gives you the "highlights" for the day. Because I didn't have class today, my greeting screen says, "Give yourself a day off! Go have some fun!" It's entirely customizable to suit your needs, and I have found it especially useful for online classes.

In addition to apps that assist productivity and organization, there are interactive flashcard apps, valuable study apps (Anatomy and Physiology app, a must) and

uncomplicated "documents on the go" apps. For those of you that are acquainted with D2L, you are familiar with the "Dropbox." There is a similar app by the same title that allows you to drop files, photos, projects and more into the Dropbox app on your computer, which can be accessed by any device or other computer in which the same app is installed. No more working on papers at home, emailing it to yourself to work on at school and then re-emailing it to yourself to print at home. This app allows easy, in-and-out access!

You will find many free apps: Dropbox and Docs on the Go,

to name a couple. Some apps do cost money, though, and are typically charged to your phone bill (if it's a smartphone) or the credit card on file (if it's an iPod or other device), so beware before you download. iStudiez Pro, for example, is \$2.99. I paid around twelve dollars for one A&P app, while another was free, but both were equally beneficial.

There are so many student apps! You would be doing yourself an injustice not to take advantage of this valuable tool. Several colleges are going over to the app side with features such as news/events, campus maps and sports updates/scores. While TTC hasn't yet signed up, I would like to officially announce my petition for a 920 Bldg. Nav. app!

Get out there and get app-ing!

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that the best medicine is normalcy. Keeping the schedule and tradition of the football season is part of this reliance on the mundane. Yet, no one seemed to complain. Despite the brief delay of the opening games of the season, football fans displayed their patriotism in stadiums across the nation, which made me very proud.

Nowhere is that more true than

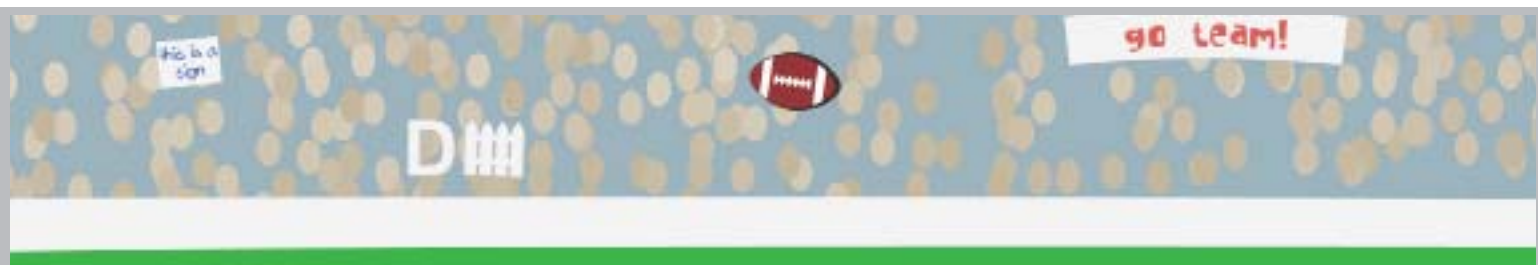
here in South Carolina. Football is not just a sport in the south: it is a cult. As football fans, we breathe, live, eat and soak it in for roughly five months a year. The pigskin enthusiasm is everywhere, and you can see it in our license plates, t-shirts, wallets and even personal checks. Everywhere we look, we can see symbols of the college and professional teams we embrace. It isn't just special because of the sport or the time

of year, but it is special because of the individuals with whom we spend those countless Saturdays and Sundays.

Before we know it, the season that we waited for all year will be gone. One more blink, one more yawn, one more nap, and it will all be over again. Then it will be the "wait 'til next year" talk and "we have the bragging rights now." How does it slip by us so quickly? How does it come and

go? Why did it grip us so tightly? No matter the answer to all of these questions, it does. Football clearly serves as not only a sport, but a pastime that has been bringing friends and family together throughout the years.

We may come together to remember the 10th anniversary of a national tragedy like 9/11. However, tragedy is not the only unifying element in our culture. We also have football.



Get Hooked on a Local Hobby: Freshwater Fishing on a Student Budget

by Taylor Hastings

Why fishing? South Carolinians are blessed with a wonderfully tangled web of water and land. Fish is a mainstay in our culture, recipes, tourism and economy. Charleston offers a great variety of fish, temperate weather, and numerous bodies of water. Fortunately, fishing is inexpensive, local, and without a dress code. Charleston's waterways never close up shop. And fishing can be whatever you want it to be, casual or competitive, enjoyed individually or with your friends and family. Did I mention it is for women too? Men can no longer keep the fun all to themselves. Fishing is for everyone.

To get started on your adventure, you will need to gather the necessary equipment. If money is tight, you could go to a big box store and find many items you may need, but the cheap way may prove more expensive. Purchasing quality equipment ensures you will not have to replace worn out or easily damaged equipment. Spending a few extra dollars now will ensure many successful fishing trips in the future.

A second option is to purchase your items online from a

reputable company like www.austinkayak.com, but this may not be the easiest option for a first time angler. The best option is to one stop shop at a local retailer like The Charleston Angler. Their expertise ensures you have the correct equipment accompanied by great advice, and what could be better than supporting local business? Mike Farmer, Manager of The Charleston Angler in Summerville, was nice enough to create a great list of items for the enthusiastic beginner:

- A rod and reel combo; for example, the "Mitchell" made by Avocet -\$39.99
- Terminal tackle; this includes swivels and hooks- \$10.00
- A cooler if you plan on making dinner with your rewards; you probably have one in your trunk if you are the outdoors type!
- Live bait: meal worms, cricket and earthworms found at many gas stations for dirt cheap.
- Most importantly, a fishing license, which can be purchased from Walmart, The Charleston Angler and other sporting goods stores for- \$10.00

This quality package will cost about \$70.00 and is a



solid investment. In case you need another reason to see the professionals at the Charleston Angler, they have been gracious enough to give TTC students with a current ID a 10% discount. We are proud to add them to our great list of businesses that support the students of TTC.

If you don't have all of these items or must purchase them in stages, ask friends to borrow their equipment, but be aware they will probably invite themselves to go with you: anglers can never get enough fishing.

Now that you have your equipment, you are probably wondering where to go. The beginner or casual angler has several great choices for fishing for free. Public piers like the North Charleston Waterfront Park and the old Navy Yard are great.

Newer communities like Wescott Plantation in Summerville and Crowfield Plantation in Goose Creek have stocked retention ponds. Also located conveniently behind TTC, you can go to the Goose Creek Reservoir. Don't forget our bridges and piers. Unless marked by signage, you may fish off of either of these.

What might you catch while freshwater fishing right now? There are several species of fish calling Charleston home. Most likely you will catch largemouth bass, bream, crappie, pan fish and catfish. Get ready for a fish fry!

For more information check out the South Carolina Department of Natural Resource at www.dnr.sc.gov/, The Charleston Angler at www.thecharlestonangler.com and www.southcarolinaparks.com.

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navigate across a street without looking both ways. Because a young child lacks this awareness, there isn't any way I would let my child ride an ATV.

I have seen the life changing effects of young people riding ATVs. On December 25, 2007, my wife and I were in the emergency room at MUSC because our two year old daughter was very sick. While waiting, we saw two different families that had bought their young children ATVs for Christmas. The young children, like most on Christmas day, were riding their ATVs, and were killed in fatal accidents. Had Governor Sanford not vetoed the bill in 2007, these children might be alive today.

There are several reasons why this new law is good for the state of South Carolina and our children. The first and most alarming reason is that, according to statistics gathered by the SC Children's Hospital Collaborative and reported in the Post and Courier, over 450 children are injured annually in the state of South Carolina due

to ATV accidents.

Another reason that supports enacting this law is the fact that young children don't totally understand the consequences that result from their actions. According to the CDC Child Development page, "8-year old children are developed enough to dress themselves, catch a ball more easily with only their hands, and tie their shoe. In addition, the National Network for Child Care reports that children at this age are beginning to see things from another child's point of view, but they still have trouble understanding the feelings and needs of other people and they are just starting to learn [how to] to plan ahead and evaluate what they do." I ask you, if children at the age of 8 are just starting to plan ahead and evaluate what they do, then how can anyone believe they know how to traverse rough terrain, and plan which way to go should an emergency arise while riding an ATV? Also, the brakes located on the handle bars require good hand coordination.

While some might argue that their child is developed enough

to operate an ATV at a young age, I don't agree. Attorney Lindsey O'Neill says that the American Psychological Association reports that "...the part of the brain that is responsible for good judgment and the control of impulses—the prefrontal cortex—is still immature; consequently, children of this age-period don't have yet the capacity to fully control their impulses."

Not everyone is in favor of Chandler's Law. One of the biggest opponents of Chandler's Law is SC Senator Larry Grooms, who argues that requiring children to wear a helmet is going too far. Dudley reports that he says, "I'm very respectful of individual liberties and freedoms, and I don't want it going too far." Former Governor Mark Sanford vetoed the passed bill twice because he believed it infringed on parents' rights.

While I respect the views of others, I disagree with the stance they have taken on Chandler's Law. We require children from birth to be restrained in car seats. Even at the age of 8 a child must have a seat belt on. Should an officer discover

a child has no seat belt on, the parent is cited. So if a seat belt is required in a car, and the child is surrounded by doors, and airbags, then at the very least, a child should have on a helmet when riding an ATV. If we are infringing on parental rights regarding safety on ATVs, then we might need to rethink the seat belt laws.

If we wouldn't think of letting young children ride in a car without some type of restraint, then why would we let a child ride an ATV unsupervised, without safety equipment? Doctors from MUSC told Dudley, "We can fix broken bones, abdominal injuries, and many other things, but brain injuries have a very poor prognosis for recovery."

People often resist being told how to parent their children. However, at times laws are made to protect those who can't protect themselves. Children often don't have the ability or opportunity to speak for themselves. We live in a society that was founded on the idea that everyone has a voice. This new law gives Chandler the opportunity for his voice to be heard.

Juvenile Offender Therapy Praised

by Tiffany Buchanan

Have you ever wondered why so many young kids who are convicted of crimes seem to never stay out of trouble? No matter how many different alternative schools and camps they attend to rehabilitate their behavior, the majority fall right back into the system. In 1992, researchers at the Medical University of South Carolina started making steps to solve this issue in the Lowcountry. They developed a treatment called Multisystemic Therapy, which offers in-home counseling to these young individuals and their families to help with behavioral issues. I believe this method of treatment is much more effective in guiding our young people in becoming upstanding citizens. Unfortunately, it's not locally available and it should be.

The conventional methods that are being used now are not effective in rehabilitating our youth.

Troubled kids are placed into group homes or sent to camps that separate them from their families. Dudley reports that the Vice President of MST services of Mt. Pleasant, Marshall Swenson, says that this causes many of them to feel a sense of loneliness, and in turn, they are "vulnerable to gangs and become more criminally savvy during long-term stays at camps and group homes." Swenson also said, "If you put a bunch of bad kids together, they will learn from each other. Judges like camps because they feel it's something positive for the kids. But you're taking them away from their families and putting them with other antisocial kids." I think that putting young people in an environment such as this will only lead to future imprisonment. The bottom line is that these programs aren't minimizing the number of youth who are repeatedly

making bad decisions.

The solution to this problem is Multisystemic Therapy. This treatment focuses on the family, not just the child. Dudley reports that the success of this program "relies on trained therapists providing intensive guidance to children and their families at their own homes several days a week for up to five months." It also relies on the families getting involved and working with the counselors and juveniles to figure out the source of their behavior and what can be done to correct it. "Families are usually skeptical." Swenson says, "Sometimes they would rather get rid of the problem child and have someone else try to fix them at camp. But what happens when camp's over?" Parents should not delegate the responsibility of disciplining their children solely to others. I firmly believe that the best way to tackle this issue is to start at home.

MST is being used in surrounding cities such as Orangeburg and

Florence, states such as North Carolina and Florida, and even in foreign countries, and is yielding outstanding results. Dudley reports that statistics involving "a group of chronic juvenile offenders who received the treatment with a group that did not are as follows: 54 percent fewer re-arrests, 57 percent fewer days of incarceration, 68 percent fewer drug-related arrests, and 43 percent fewer days on adult probation." The results were astonishing! MST works, and it is time for Charleston to get on board.

MST costs less. Dudley reports that if you look at the costs for MST side-by-side with other conventional programs, on average, it costs about half the price at \$59 a day for each family. The costs for other treatment plans range from \$70 to \$300 a day. Implementing MST would save Charleston County a substantial amount of money. She writes, "While the treatment lasts up to five months,

Continued on Back

“In the End”

by Jane Calfee

What started with a brave plan, ended in a silent gasp. Nothing. Empty. Blank.

His sturdy black boots stepped through the tinted glass door. He jumped at the sound of the bell, alerting the clerk that he had entered. Standing in awe at all the choices, he immediately looked down. He noticed an array of black, long, perfect finger nails. Intrigued, his gaze lifted up. His eyes met the stare of the silent, strange woman with a distasteful look upon her face. She was covered and draped with so much jewelry that he wasn't sure she was a real woman or just a jewelry

display.

“Can I help you?” She spoke as if she knew he had no business being in her establishment.

“Yes. I am here to be marked, branded. I mean, I want one of those...”

The snickers from his so-called supporter started. Trying to divert, he noticed that not only was this woman covered in man-made things, but nature had chosen to give her freckles as well.

“You got freckles on you but you're pretty.” His emphasis on the word “but” implied a grammatical shift in the statement, not actually stating that she had freckles on her butt, but suggesting it.

The woman, not amused continued to the back room in order to start the procedure. She brought

up prices and encouraged him to make a decision. Hours went on and still – no decision.

“Can I help you?” She spoke as if she knew he had no business being in her establishment.

“Do you know what you want?” She had asked at least 10 times, and this time she was about to kick him out if he didn't make up his mind.

“No, I am not quite sure. Just give me something unique, somewhere where only “CERTAIN” people can see it.”

They agreed on the upper left part of his rear. She had suggested a fighting cheetah, with fangs and blood. He was overly ecstatic with the suggestion, and yet it didn't stop the hours of screams, groans

and many SOB's. Then it was over; the mark, the brand, the tattoo that would signify him forever was completed.

He turned to look in the mirror. He gasped. Silence. He always had a comment, a joke or at least a word for everything, but this was it. He had met his match. He continued to stare at the forever black inked lettering on his rear.

Staring back at him in the mirror read, “You got freckles on your.....” with small brown specks placed perfectly all around the words.

He had finally got his in the end, literally.

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“The Sweater”

by Sharon Browder

“Hello, Amy, is that you?”

“Yes, this is Amy.”

“Hi, Sis, how are you? I know it has been months since we talked, but I thought you would at least recognize my voice!”

“I know Gail. Sorry. I was in the middle of something. Anyway I was afraid you would still be mad at me ripping your favorite sweater.”

“Yeah, I was pretty pissed. You are just never careful about other people's stuff. And besides you never did say you were sorry. You

never do.”

“Yeah, I know. I've been doing a lot of thinking about myself and how I'm always letting people down.”

“Please, let's not start the drama routine.”

“Gail, why don't you come over this afternoon for a glass of wine? You can get your sweater. It'll be as good as new. Everything will be perfect. Just knock. Door's open.”

“Fine. Sounds OK with me. I'm free now. I'll come on over. Give me 20 minutes. Oh. Sis...”

“Yeah?”

“I love you. Bye.”

“Bye.”

Amy went back to her closet, slipped the vintage, red, beaded sweater over her head, stepped onto the footstool, then put the scratchy noose over the collar of her sister's sweater.

She waited there until she heard the knock at the door, then stepped off the stool. Just in time...

The UPS man didn't need a signature and left the package by the door.

has proposed the next best option: “providing supervision for children after leaving lock-ups, group homes or camps.” This is certainly a step in the right direction. If your gas tank had a leak, would you continue to put gas in it every day hoping that it would stop leaking? Simply answered, no you would not. If we stop putting money into a flawed system and move in the direction being shown by Byars, we will make great improvement.

Multisystemic Therapy is the corrective treatment plan of the future. It is time for us to no longer accept the iniquities associated with conventional treatment

for bad behavior of our youths. Parents need to accept the responsibilities associated with their child's misconduct and be willing to work with therapists to make changes for the better. The results of MST speak for themselves. All that is left is determining how to best implement it. MST will pay for itself several times over once it is properly implemented. We can only hope that local officials see the value in MST in not only giving these troubled young people a chance to succeed, but also eliminating the back-breaking costs of ineffective treatment methods.

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other placements can be a year or longer.” Not only is it more cost efficient, it is a more sensible way to go.

Some might ask where the money would come from to fund this treatment program in our local areas. It seems that there is little political will to divert money from the traditional programs and the county is too broke to fund the new treatment otherwise. Right now funds are being misused on programs that don't work. William Byars, Director of the State Department of Juvenile Justice, is making efforts to bridge the gap in the cost for MST. He