

**TTU held its first Take Back the Night on April 5.**

page 2

**The new epidemic?**

page 4

**Take a look at Prom.**

page 6



**Tori's new album: too tame?**

page 10

**Bizarre Dates**

- 4/22 - National Jelly Bean Day
- 4/24 - National Pigs in a Blanket Day
- 5/1 - Save the Rhino Day
- 5/3 - Lumpy Rug Day
- 5/13 - Leprechaun Day
- 5/14 - National Dance Like a Chicken Day
- 5/17 - Pack Rat Day
- 5/25 - National Tap Dance Day
- 5/29 - End of the Middle Ages Day
- 5/30 - My Bucket's Got a Hole in It Day

## CHS to change to a six-period day *They've got Skills*

**Paige Bowman**  
Associate Editor

The schedule for the 2005-2006 school year has once again been addressed. At the March school board meeting, school board member Jan Tate moved to adopt an eight-period day with less than forty percent of classes double-blocked. The motion was passed with a 4:2 vote. This came as an astounding surprise to teachers, students and parents that had only expected and prepared for the passing of a six-period day. With an eight-period day, over twenty teachers would be cut.

On March 29, at a meeting about math textbooks for fifth through eighth grades, the high school administrators requested that the issue of scheduling for Putnam County schools be added to the agenda. Principal Joe Matheny of Monterey High School addressed the board and asked they vote for a six-period day. Adam Bernhardt made a

motion to adopt a six-period day, and Jan Tate seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4:2 with Roger Williams and Darren Shanks opposing the switch. Roger Williams also spoke and expressed his regret over the loss of block scheduling saying, "Block scheduling is being shut down over money."

At the April 7 board meeting, Dr. Michael Martin made his recommendations regarding the six-period day. He advised that each student should be required to take one math class per year for one credit each. Dr. Martin asked that students on University Path be required to adhere to a more rigorous science sequence.

He also recommended that Drama, Chorus, Band, Survey of Music, Music History, Physical Education, Economics, Government, Psychology, Sociology, Advanced Software, Media Production, Skills for Success, Peer Buddy, JROTC, Yearbook, Newspaper, Visual Arts and Dance classes receive just one-

half credit each semester. Also, it was asked that CPA classes be removed from the high school curriculum and be moved to middle schools because the majority of students were already familiar with the skills taught in the class.

A motion concerning these items was passed that included amending the credits required for graduation to twenty-one. Early graduation will still be an option for students who qualify.

**Grant Beaty**  
Charger Staff

On March 3, thirteen thousand people assembled for the skills USA competition. This competition has events for over seventy different vocational classes. The different competitions include written tests, oral presentations and practical assignments.

The first place winners for Cookeville High School were Corey Springston in Automotive Electronics, Josh Zent in Automotive

Technology and Kylee Broyles in nail care. Levi Holloway won second place in Carpentry. Third place winners were Paul Williams in Engine Performance, Laura Mobley in Job Skill Demonstration and Mike Razor in Steering. Erin Alsup came in fourth in Cosmetology. All of these winners will go to state conference in April.

### Comest thou to the Renaissance Fair?

**Anna Eisen**  
Charger Staff

The Cookeville High School Renaissance Fair on Friday, May 13, will feature a living chess match, a pirate's ship, a plague house, a knot garden and other activities relating to life in the fourteenth to mid-seventeenth century.

The Renaissance Fair is brought to CHS through a grant from the federally-funded Career Academic Technical Institute (CATI), awarded by the Tennessee Department of Education Vocational-Technical Division. The grant aims to integrate academics and vocational skills.

English, social studies, science, fine arts and vocational teachers have played pivotal roles in fulfilling CATI's goals. Some have been directly involved through class studies, and some have indirectly helped through their organizational services.

CATI grant committee members include Mrs. Burgess, Mrs. Dyer, Mrs. Fields, Mrs. Huffine, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Page and Mr. Pardue.

According to Mrs. Huffine, CATI grant committee member and

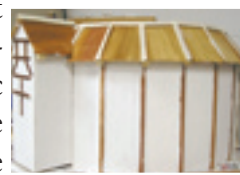
teacher organizer, all CHS students may attend. Classes will tour the fair throughout the day.

Interactive events such as hair braiding, henna tattooing, dance and bocce ball will help students learn about the period. Displays will enhance understanding of Renaissance writing, costumes, architecture and art.

Although most displays and activities will be set up in the commons area, some activities will occur in the gym and outdoors.

Students may participate in the living chess match by contacting Mr. Miller for further information.

"If you have a talent that would be appropriate to the period, please see any of the committee members," adds Mrs. Fields. "We hope everyone will dress in period dress for the festival."



**SHAKESPEARE** - A reproduction of London's Globe Theatre. photo by Brandon Riches.

## David McCormick joins the school board

**Jason Tripp**  
Charger Staff

The center of attention these past few months has been the school budget its impact on next year's schedule. All eyes have been on the Putnam County School Board. Recently, the school board has added a new member, Mr. David McCormick.

A graduate of Monterey High School, McCormick has dealt with public issues and has experience in managing people and budgets as a manager of Wal-Mart. Though he has only been on the School Board for two months, he is aware of all the changes that are occurring here at Cookeville High School. "I don't agree with all of the changes that

have been made," says McCormick, "but some of them have helped." He believes that to fix our budget, we have to take the problems one at a time and correct any errors piece by piece.

According to McCormick, the purpose of the school board should be to do everything with the students in mind.

Having money as an issue tends to blind people from what is really important. Doing everything with only the budget in mind does not always benefit the students or teachers.

He is also a parent. McCormick has two students enrolled in the Putnam school system, one in seventh grade and the other a freshman at Monterey, and will make sure

that any changes he offers help create better opportunities for higher educations.

Although he cannot tell now how he plans to make a difference in the way our school system operates, he is looking forward to being involved.

McCormick wants to be the voice of the students and teachers, not just someone who cannot see past the money issues.

## 2005 - 2006 School Calendar

- Monday, July 25 - Professional Development Day
- Tuesday, July 26 - County-wide In-service
- Wednesday, July 27 - School Inservice
- Thursday, July 28 - Registration, 10:00 a.m. Dismissal
- Friday, July 29 - Teachers Work Day
- Monday, Aug. 1 - Beginning of First Term (Full Day)
- Tuesday, Aug. 29 - Parent-Teacher Conference Grades 9-12
- Monday, Sept. 5 - Labor Day Holiday
- Friday, Sept. 30 - End of 1st 9 Weeks
- Monday, Oct. 10 - Friday, Oct. 21 - Fall Break
- Monday, Oct. 10 - Friday, Oct. 14 - Intercession
- Wednesday, Nov. 23 - 10:00 a.m. Dismissal
- Thursday, Nov. 24 - Friday, Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving Holidays
- Tuesday, Dec. 6 - Thursday, Dec. 8 - Gateway Testing
- Friday, Dec. 16 - Last Day in 1st Term
- Monday, Dec. 19 - Tuesday, Jan. 3 - Winter Break
- Monday, Jan. 2 - Professional Development Day
- Monday, Jan. 16 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

- Wednesday, Feb. 1 - Writing Test
- Tuesday, Feb. 14 - Parent Teacher Conferences Grades 9 -12
- Tuesday, Feb. 14 - Thursday, Feb. 16 - Competency Test
- Monday, Feb. 20 - Presidents' Day Holiday
- Friday, Mar. 3 - End of 3rd 9 Weeks
- Monday, Mar. 6 - Friday, Mar. 17 - Spring Break
- Monday, Mar. 6 - Friday, Mar. 10 - Intercession
- Friday, Apr. 14 - Good Friday
- Monday, Apr. 24 - Friday, Apr. 28 - TCAP Achievement Test
- Tuesday, May 2 - Thursday, Mar. 4 - Gateway Tests
- Monday, May 29 - Memorial Day
- Tuesday, May 30 - Work Day
- Wednesday, May 31 - Last Day 2nd Term, 10:00 a.m. Dismissal

**Important Dates**

- April 30 - Prom**
- May 4-5 - Gateway Exams**
- My 12-14 - West Side Story**
- May 13 - Renaissance Festival**
- May 18 - Seniors' Exams and Last Day**
- May 21 - Graduation**
- May 26 - Teacher Work Day**
- May 27 - Last Day of School**