



Girl Talk

'The Vagina Monologues' discusses women empowerment, individuality.

ADRIAN McCANDLESS
PHOTO EDITOR

Vagina. Some may be uncomfortable saying the word and some may call it a different name. Nonetheless, it's making its way to MSU.

The MSU Theatre will present Eve Ensler's play *The Vagina Monologues* beginning Feb. 15 in the Fain Fine Arts Theatre.

The Vagina Monologues is based on real women's stories of intimacy, vulnerability and sexual self-discovery. The play depicts the liberation of women becoming sexual beings.

"She [Ensler] spent two years interviewing hundreds of women of all nationalities, occupations, including everyone from prostitutes to professors," theatre professor and director of the play Laura Jefferson said. "The monologues are compiled from several different women's stories, or sometimes it is one woman's story."

The stories are usually about a defining moment in a woman's life, Jefferson said.

Jefferson insists this is not a "male

bashing" play, but a play about enlightening people's perceptions of women everywhere.

"It's a play about celebration. It celebrates women's health, sexuality and empowerment," she said.

The Vagina Monologues contains adult situations, includes profanity and is not suited for junior high students or younger. It is recommended for high school students who will have to have parental consent to view the play.

Haley Moore, a 19-year-old sophomore, acts as a tour guide throughout the play for the audience. She said her role is more of a public speaker rather than an actress in the play.

"Usually there's a fourth wall with the audience, but this is a change," she said.

Moore said she was worried at first about some of the things she had to say during the play, but also said she is a warm person and hopes the audience does not feel as if she is being rude or male bashing the entire time.

"It was kind of funny, the people I told about it. My dad didn't like the play. I told my mom I was going to be in it and she was like, 'Is it rated X? Are you going to be naked?'" she said.



ADRIAN McCANDLESS | THE WICHITAN
Sydney Stockton expresses anguish in "The Vagina Monologues" as Haley Moore (left) and Carrie Sheets look on.

"I'd gone to Barnes and Noble to buy the play and the saleslady looked at me funny for saying the word 'vagina' out loud. But it's an important play for

both men and women. It incorporates the experiences we've all had, ones

See **Monologues** page 6

Tuition increase to come

CARRIE SULLIVAN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

MSU will raise tuition this fall, President Dr. Jesse Rogers said Tuesday night.

Rogers made the announcement at a Student Government Association meeting, which had also been billed around campus as a public hearing.

No firm figures were given but Rogers said tuition would need to be increased a minimum of \$12 per credit hour. Students are currently paying a board set tuition of \$66 per credit hour. A state-set tuition fee of \$52 per credit hour is added to this amount, he explained.

Rogers blamed the hike on a lack of state funding and said many other Texas schools are shooting for about \$80 per credit hour in designated tuition.

Rogers said MSU would ask for a \$12-per-tuition-hour increase with the authority to go to \$18.

"My hope is we won't have to do that," he said.

Rogers said he plans to present a plan to the Board of Regents to cap enrollment. He said he would also propose that tuition for entering freshmen be regulated so it only rises a limited amount over a four-year period.

Rogers said tuition is low in Texas compared to other states.

Rogers said MSU's budget would be balanced by cuts and some reor-

See **Tuition** page 6

EXPRESSION



HERSHEL SELF | THE WICHITAN

Acclaimed poet Sekou, "tha misfit," expressed himself on Feb. 1 in the Comanche Suites during the Poetry Slam.

Police cite illegal salesmen

RACHEL TOMPKINS
FOR THE WICHITAN

Two men were cited for selling without a permit on campus at the Sunwatcher Village Wednesday afternoon.

The pair told police they were working for United Subscriptions Agency in Florida. They were going door-to-door trying to sell magazines for the company.

Matthew Rowley, 26, and Michael Palmer, 20, were given a ci-

tation for selling without a permit. Rowley had a driver's license from Minnesota.

Palmer was also arrested for outstanding city warrants. He had a suspended driver's license from Virginia.

Police talked to a 19-year-old resident of Sunwatcher Village. She agreed to buy some magazines from the men, but changed her mind when the men wanted cash for the order.

According to police, the men refused to leave until she gave them

the money. She finally gave the two men some money so they would leave her alone, police said.

"This happens every year: These guys come on campus and they sell magazines to people that give them cash, and never get the magazine," Police Chief Michael Hagy said.

The girl then called police and filed a report. Officer Albert Jimenes found the two men and explained that they had to return the money to the student. Jimenes said the money was refunded.

RAs show love to residents

DEON NEWSOM
FOR THE WICHITAN

Barely a year after their own wide-eyed arrival, many sophomores are now resident assistants. Despite hours of training and a few weeks on the job, the newfound authority can take some getting used to.

"It was a little strange at first because now I have that title, but I don't feel any different from any other student at MSU," elementary education major Jordan Guse said.

For Guse, an RA in Killingsworth Hall, it was her experience with her own RA that inspired her to apply for the job.

"I wanted to do a better job than she did," Guse said. "She never invested time in us. I got the feeling she didn't really care."

Guse believes building relationships with her residents is vital.

"If a resident needs to talk, I am always willing to listen," she said.

And that she does. Guse said she has held two-hour, and some-

times more, conversations with her residents. Their favorite subject... "Boys! Guys are so stupid," Guse said.

With memories of their first year fresh in their minds, sophomore RA's can find themselves in a perfect position to help their residents.

"I'm able to see their perspective," said business management Cody Magana, an RA in Pierce Hall. "I was in their shoes just a year ago."

Magana said he enjoys the job. "I like it a lot. I am basically there to make sure people have a good time," he said.

Though many RAs in freshmen and sophomore housing are only sophomores themselves, juniors and seniors are on the staff. Working with these seasoned pros has its rewards.

"Those guys know what they're doing," Guse said. "It's easy to go to them and ask questions."

Other RAs agree.

"The returners are cool. They offer advice and share how they handle things," elementary education

major Michael McCall said.

McCall, a transfer from Western Oklahoma State College, said he thought being an RA would be a good opportunity to meet new people.

"I found out about the position on the MSU Web site," McCall said. "I called and they sent me an application in the mail."

Pierce Hall Director Richard Whatcott appreciates the novices.

"Sixty percent of my staff is new," Whatcott said. "I think that is the perfect amount. They inject new ideas and bring a new level of creativity."

After endless hall meetings and all the new information of orientation week, the new RAs are now beginning to understand how important their job may be.

Magana said he has recently had to help one of his residents who was contemplating dropping out.

"I wake up at seven every morning so we can study together. I don't mind. I would want someone to do the same for me," he said.

See **Residents** page 6

'The Messengers'

This horror flick leaves everyone a bit disappointed, well, except for the tweens.

page 4



Restaurant might please

Little things compete with good food at the new Atlanta Bread Company restaurant.

page 4



Four seconds to go

The Lady Mustangs take the win against Angelo State University, 53-51, with only four seconds left in the game.

page 7

