

## McCain promotes civility in America



Photo by Justin Bingham, staff photographer  
Meghan McCain poses with Drew Summers after her lecture on April 6 in the Learning Resource Center. McCain was a featured speaker for MT Lambda's SpringOut event.

By RICHEL ALBRIGHT  
Contributing Writer

Civility in politics are at the forefront of her mind, Meghan McCain said, as she aimed at bringing people of all sexual orientations and gender identities together during a SpringOut lecture last night.

MT Lambda, Raider Republicans, the Office of the University Provost, College of Graduate Studies, distinguished lecture series, student activities, Intercultural

Diversity and Affairs and the political science department co-sponsored the lecture.

Provost Brad Bartel introduced McCain as she began an evening of "conversation" with a speech explaining not only who she is, but also she discussed her new book *Dirty Sexy Politics*, originally titled *Sex, Drugs and Sarah Palin*.

The book takes a look at her time spent on the 2008 presidential campaign with her father, Republican Sen. John McCain, which

she said changed her life forever.

"I'm not saying let's abandon the core ideals that the Republican Party was built on," McCain said. "What I'm saying is make room for all of us, start evolving with the times."

Along with the night's theme of civility, political change was also a hot topic throughout the evening.

McCain said she is a self-proclaimed "progressive Republican" and admitted to initially registering as an "independent" as

"rebellion to my father," which backfired.

She said as a writer for The Daily Beast, she has a prominent voice that has even brought about drama among more conservative Republicans. In a well-publicized issue regarding her and conservative talk show host Laura Ingraham, McCain was criticized for her weight, among other superficialities.

The witty, 26-year-old writer responded on

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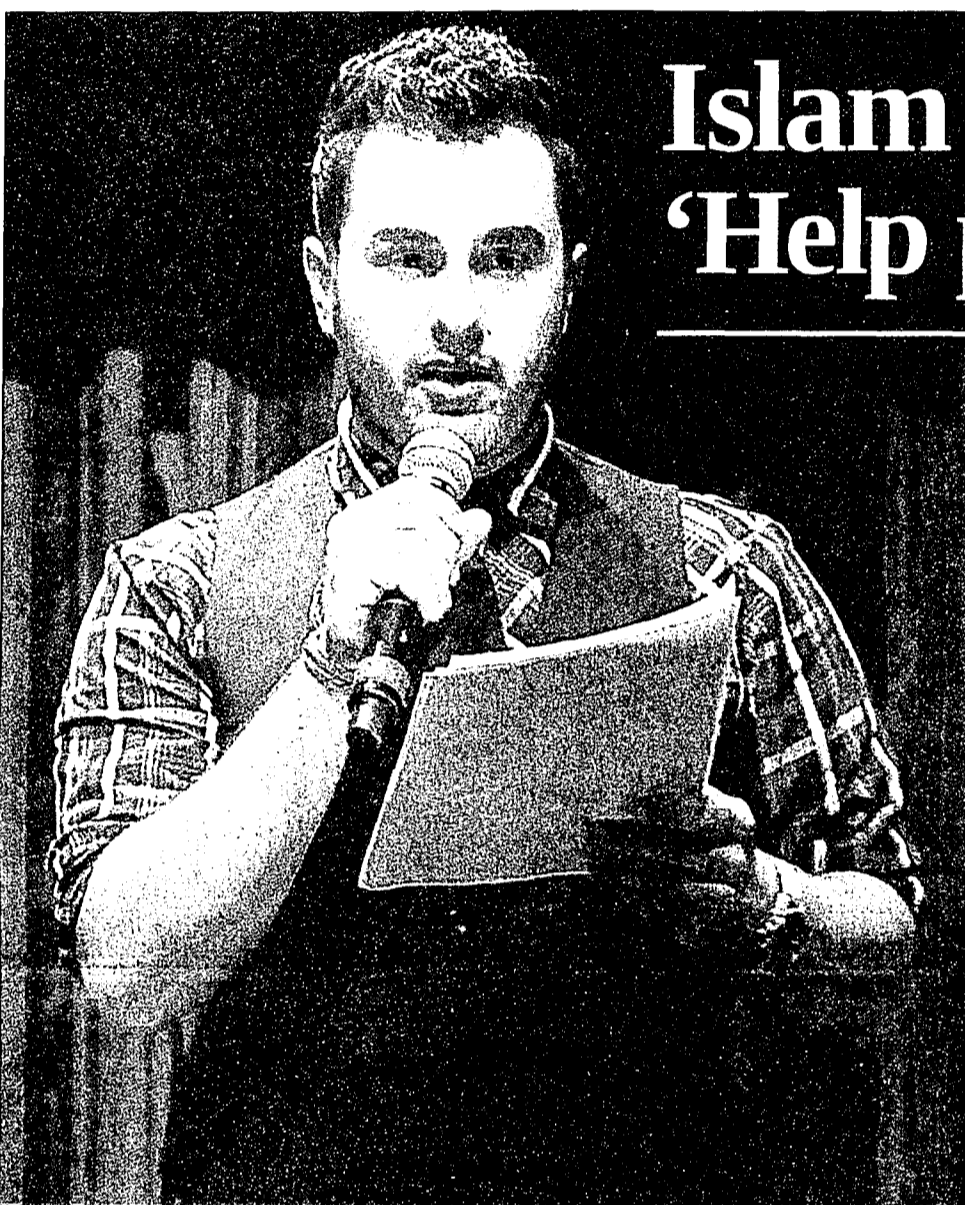


Photo by Drew Gardonia, staff photographer  
Kahim Mohammad, a senior majoring in international relations, read some original poetry April 6 about how he feels Muslims are unfairly portrayed during Islamic Talent Night.

## Islam Awareness Week: 'Help people understand'

### Muslim students bring to light love of religion through poetry

By ALEX HARRIS  
Staff Writer

The Muslim Student Association held its first annual Islam talent night Wednesday to spread the word that Muslims are the same as everybody else.

"I used to have classmates in high school who were shocked that I played soccer in middle school, and that soccer was my favorite sport, and that I actually wear pants when I play," said Hadil Numan, who helped coordinate the event.

Numan said it was a shocking thing for her friends to see that she was just like everyone else. She said she wanted to highlight that through last night's program.

The talent presentation was held as part of Islam Awareness Week, an annual event held with the intent to provide information and understanding about Islam to the rest of the community.

"The purpose behind this week is to help people understand the religion, not just in terms

of telling them, but in the form of different events like the talent night, to show that Muslims are regular people, just with a different religion," MSA President Kamal Saba said.

MSA held its talent night to show people of other faiths that they are not only a religious organization, but that they are also a social group who loves to have a good time and hold fun events and there is

TALENT, PAGE 3



Photo by Drew Gardonia, staff photographer  
Ron Messier, an adjunct professor in the Middle East Center, gives a lecture about Islam on April 5 in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building.

## Speaker highlights 'unity' of culture, art

By APRIL BAILEY  
Staff Writer

The Muslim Student Association celebrated Islam Awareness Week on Tuesday with a collaboration of lectures titled "Now a Muslim" and "Discover Fruits of Islam History."

The event was held in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building and began with a brief lecture from Ron

Messier, an adjunct professor in the Middle East Center.

Messier compared the Islamic culture of the medieval times, often called Classical Islam, to the traditional culture known today. He said many factors including values and perspectives could determine what is to be believed about Islamic history.

"People are under the false impression that the Islamic world was more

powerful in medieval times," Messier said. "Perspective is the key element in understanding what is going on."

Messier also explained the relevance of Islamic discoveries and what he understood to be the significance of those discoveries. Comparing Islamic art and architecture to the art and architecture of the Western religious world, Messier said the

key differences are the orientation and unity of the creations.

"The unity underlies the apparent diversity - it is a metaphor for divine creation," Messier said.

Following Messier's lecture, Jamie Sutton, a senior in the College of Liberal Arts, Matt Miller, a senior in the College of Mass Communication, and

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## SGA proposes freshman council

By TODD BARNES  
News Editor

The Student Government Association voted last week on replacing the freshman and graduate senate with a freshman council.

The senate voted on Bill 17-11-S, a bill to create a freshman council that is designed to allow more freshmen to participate within the organization.

"Establishing a freshman council that has the ability

to write and present legislation to the senate and work with the philanthropic coordinator, is a great way for freshmen to be able to get involved right out of the gate," Vice President Samantha Cobb said.

Although the senate was not scheduled to take a vote until today, Cobb, who co-sponsored both bills, told the senate that it was necessary to take action now.

"The reason I pushed these forward is because

these are both changes to the Constitution," Cobb said. "So, for the Constitution to change, it has to be passed by a two-thirds vote at two senate meetings, and then it has to be publicized for two weeks. Then it goes to a student referendum. So, in order for all that to happen before the year ends, we have to present those today."

Sen. Jeremy Poynter of the College of Business sponsored the freshman

council bill that would replace Article V, Section 2, Subsection C. The bill would replace freshman and graduate senate with a variable group of incoming freshman with less than 15 university hours.

The council would elect a chairman and vice chairman who would have the power to vote on legislation. Although, Cobb said she is not quite sure

SGA, PAGE 3



Photo by Drew Gardonia, staff photographer  
At-Large Sen. Gavin Mosley discusses legislation March 31 during a Student Government Association meeting in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building.

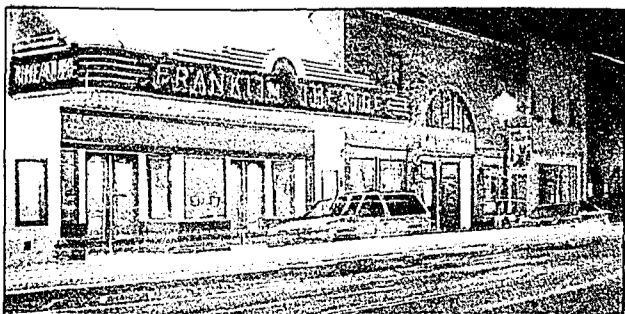
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# NATIONAL AP NEWS

## ACORN pleads guilty to voter fraud in Nevada

LAS VEGAS – The defunct political advocacy group ACORN has pleaded guilty in a case alleging that canvassers were illegally paid to register Nevada voters during the 2008 presidential campaign. The *Las Vegas Review-Journal* reported Wednesday that ACORN defense attorney Lisa Rasmussen entered the guilty plea to one count of felony compensation for registration of voters. Under a deal, 12 other felony counts were dropped against the organization. ACORN faces a maximum \$5,000 fine, and under the deal, prosecutors will not argue at the Aug. 10 sentencing hearing.

## Missouri senators offer to allow vote on jobless bill

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Several Missouri state senators who have been blocking a vote on extending federally funded jobless benefits say they will only relent if the governor agrees to the elimination of \$300 million in federal stimulus spending. The condition is a change from earlier Wednesday, when a senator leading the filibuster said he would allow a vote on the unemployment bill and instead try to block up to \$400 million of stimulus spending.

The senators later said at a news conference that they want Democratic Gov. Jay Nixon to share responsibility for rejecting federal money – even though they could do so on their own. Nixon did not directly respond to the Republican offer but said he will keep working with Senate leadership.

## Pennsylvania woman admits guilt in bank fraud scheme

PITTSBURGH – A Pittsburgh woman has pleaded guilty to bank fraud and money laundering for taking advantage of an online glitch that enabled her to make \$1.1 million in overdraft withdrawals. Regulators say that contributed to the failure of a tiny minority-owned bank. Forty-six-year-old Jammie Harris learned of the glitch from another woman. That woman was indicted in January on charges that she stole more than \$900,000 from Dwelling House Savings and Loan. Dwelling House closed down in 2009 because it couldn't absorb \$3 million in fraud losses. A federal prosecutor says Harris and the other woman are the only people charged "so far."

# LOCAL AP NEWS

## Free photo ID bill advances through General Assembly

NASHVILLE – A proposal requiring Tennessee to give free photo identification cards to people 18 and older is advancing in the Senate. The measure sponsored by Senate Democratic Caucus Chairman Lowe Finney of Jackson unanimously passed the Senate Transportation Committee 8-0 on Wednesday.

The companion bill is awaiting a vote in the same committee in the House. Currently, voters do not have to show photo identification at the polls, but a measure was proposed earlier this session that would require it. If that passes, Finney says his proposal is needed to avoid any legal challenges. He says not offering free identification could be "construed as an unnecessary burden" on a person's right to vote.

## Local walking horse museum looking for new location

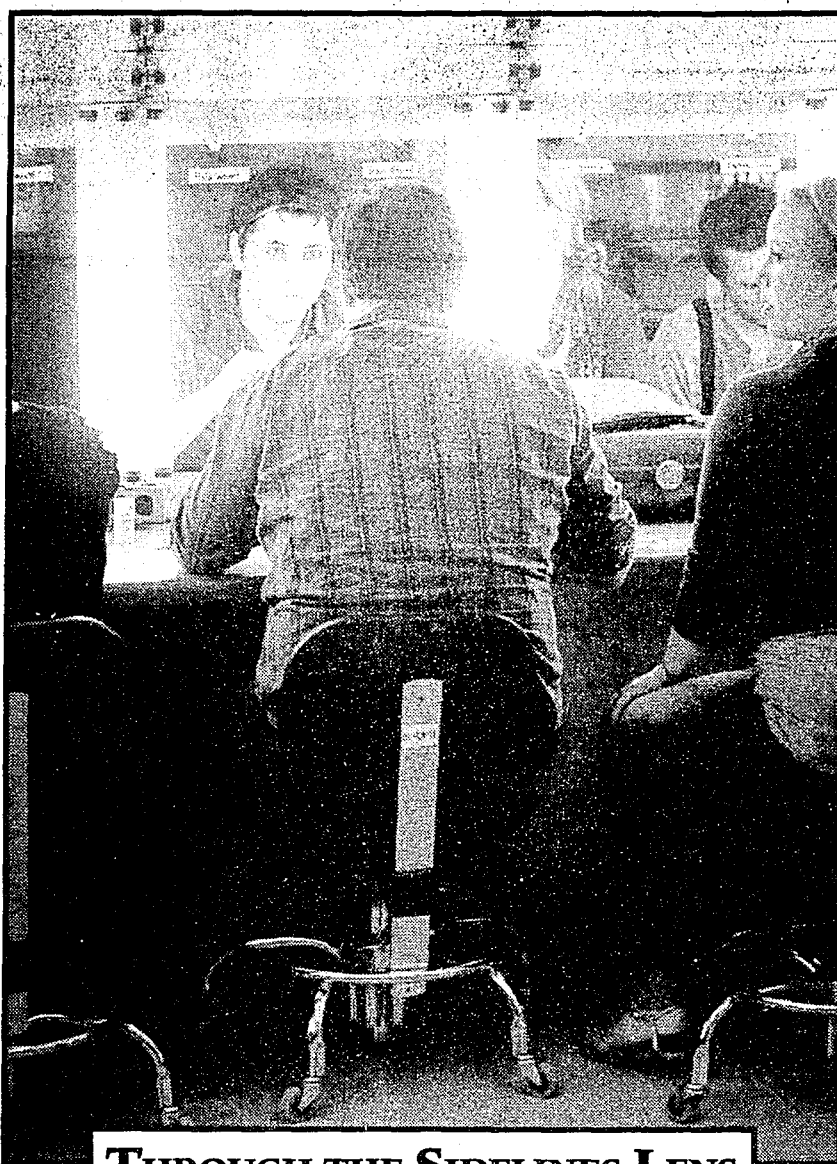
SHELBYVILLE – The board of directors of the Tennessee Walking Horse Museum in Lynchburg is looking for a new home for the attraction. According to the *Shelbyville Times-Gazette*, the museum is now in a building owned by Jack Daniel's Distillery, which needs the space for commercial use. Doyle Meadows, CEO of the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, said proposals are being reviewed from Lewisburg, Wartrace and others. The paper said the Fly Arts Center in Shelbyville also has expressed interest. Shelbyville hosts the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, where the world's champion Tennessee walking horse is chosen every September.

## Transportation employee pleads guilty to bribery

NASHVILLE – A Tennessee Department of Transportation employee has pleaded guilty to soliciting and accepting \$30,000 in bribes from a contractor that remains in good standing with the state. James Douglas Hagar pleaded guilty Tuesday in federal court, and his cooperation could result in the reduction of his sentence, expected to be between 18 and 24 months. According to TDOT documents obtained by *The Tennessean*, Hagar recommended an increase in work for Kingston Springs-based Lu Inc., which was installing crash cushions along Interstate 65 in Nashville. Lu Inc. has not been charged by federal prosecutors and is not identified in court documents.

## Rover to expand services, routes

Murfreesboro's Rover Public Transit System plans to increase its service area April 11 to North Tennessee Boulevard, Wenlon Drive and Pitts Lane. Nellie Patton, the Murfreesboro assistant transportation director, said one main reason the extension is feasible is because there has been a decline in traffic ever since Middle Tennessee Medical Center moved to its new location on Medical Center Parkway. Rover currently services numerous city roads in half-hour stop times from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. The route changes taking place include lengthening the route from the existing transfer hub at Walnut and North Burton streets to Highland Avenue via Maple and Lytle streets and East Highland Avenue and Northfield Boulevard, to North Tennessee Boulevard, Wenlon Drive and then Pitts Lane. The route will then reconnect with the current course stopping at Northfield Boulevard, Gold Valley Drive, New Lascassas Highway and Greenland Drive then connecting with Highland Avenue again and going back to the transfer hub at Walnut and North Burton Street. She said Rover bus stop signs will be placed along North Tennessee to accommodate residents of Cedar Park Mobile Homes and other access-challenged areas of the city. Current operation funding is being used to fund the route extension, Patton said.



### THROUGH THE SIDELINES LENS

Photo by Bailey Ingram, photo editor. Members of the "RENT" cast put on makeup before the April 6 showing at Tucker Theatre. The performances are being held until April 9, and the award-winning musical is being sponsored by the department of theatre and dance, which is a part of the College of Liberal Arts.

## New antenna system to boost campus signal

Longent LLC to install a Distributed Antenna System on campus to boost coverage and capacity. The system uses building runners to boost signals in isolated areas, he said. "Longent is a neutral partner providing the infrastructure for the system," said Steve Prichard, director of ITD telecommunications. "It's focused much more on getting coverage within a small geographic area. It's designed to cover the core campus." Petryshak said large on-campus events often hinder connectivity. "At a football game, for example, you can have a lot of people and density suddenly becomes important," Petryshak said. "Everyone is looking up a Web page or posting photos. The beauty of it is it's not vendor specific. Whatever carrier you have on campus that participates on the network will have top connectivity." Each carrier would

have its own equipment to carry a signal, but it would share a distribution infrastructure put together by our third-party provider, he said. "It's been estimated that it would cost \$1 to \$2 million to install the DAS," Prichard said. "If only two carriers sign on, it would be a 50-50 cost. If we get two carriers to come on right away, it will make it more lucrative for additional carriers to come on. Everyone would share the cost." Prichard said he believes that AT&T and Verizon Wireless, which service 80 percent of those registered with RAVE, will be two of the



Photo courtesy of Morguefile.com

first carriers to agree to "share the cost." The DAS will accommodate four or more carriers, Prichard said, adding that he hopes other phone services will become part of the program. "The carriers have seen the growth at MTSU and figured out that it would be nice to serve that market," Prichard said. "They have anticipated this explosion in smart phones, wireless devices, tablets and so on." Prichard said students should see a big improvement in making and receiving calls and the overall use of their data devices beginning in the fall.

## LOCAL EVENTS

### ON CAMPUS

- MTSU Health Fair  
April 7, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Keathley University Center  
Tickets: FREE
- "Building Bridges"  
April 8, 12:30 p.m.  
James Union Building  
Tennessee Room  
Tickets: FREE
- Paul C. Taylor: "What is a Black Artist?"  
April 8, 3:30 p.m.  
James Union Building  
Room 304  
Tickets: FREE
- Kappa Delta's 8th Annual Wing Fling  
April 9, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.  
Murphy Center Lawn  
Tickets: \$10
- Monoroo: Area 1 Music Festival  
April 10, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Monohan front lawn  
Tickets: FREE
- Outdoor Movies: "Tron"  
April 10, 7:30 p.m.\*  
\*Movie starts at dusk  
KUC Knoll  
Tickets: FREE

### OFF-CAMPUS

- "Oklahoma"  
April 8 - 9, 7:30 p.m.  
Murfreesboro Center for the Arts  
Tickets: \$12 for students
- 10th Birthday Celebration  
April 9, 10 a.m.  
Frist Center for the Visual Arts  
Tickets: FREE
- The Long Players perform The Beatles' "Let It Be"  
April 8, 9 p.m.  
The Mercy Lounge  
Tickets: \$15
- Night of the Living Cover Bands: a Tennessee Teens Rock 'n' Roll Camp Benefit  
April 8, 9 p.m. - 2 a.m.  
The 5 Spot  
Tickets: \$6
- Joe Doe and Jill Sobule  
April 12, 8 p.m.  
The Exit/In  
Tickets: \$15
- International Lens Film Series: "The String"  
April 14, 7 p.m.  
Vanderbilt University  
Tickets: FREE

## CRIME BRIEFS

- Assault  
April 1, 9:42 p.m.  
Murphy Center  
An officer responded to Middle Tennessee Medical Center Emergency Room to investigate an assault complaint. It was determined that an assault had occurred between two students, known to one another. The victim suffered from a broken jaw. The victim declined to prosecute at this time.
- Vagrancy  
April 2, 2:51 p.m.  
Recreation Center  
An officer observed an individual climb the fence into the climbing tree and obstacle course area. The student was referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs.
- Traffic  
April 3, 7:34 p.m.  
Blue Raider Drive  
Darnell Tennial, 24, was issued a state citation for driving on a suspended license.
- Alcohol  
April 4, 2:42 a.m.  
Greenland Drive  
Valerie M. Burns, 21, was arrested for driving under the influence and charged with assault.
- Alarm  
April 4, 3:49 p.m.  
Faulkinberry Drive  
A complainant stated that a tree limb had fallen on an electric line outside and the line was sparking.

## CORRECTIONS

In the article "SGA discusses election changes for new officers," Sen. Gavin Mosley was incorrectly identified as a co-sponsor of Bill 18-11-S. He is the sponsor. The Code of Ethics was incorrectly identified as going into the Student Government Association's "Constitution", and should be replaced with "bylaws."

The context of the conversation regarding Sandra Wilson's SGA experience in Samantha Cobb's quote should be clarified by inserting "[MTSU SGA]" between the words "zero" and "experience" in the article.

Sidelines regrets these errors.

### EVENTS POLICY

Sidelines welcomes current campus and community events submitted by all readers. Please e-mail events [shnews@mtsu.edu](mailto:shnews@mtsu.edu). Include the name, date, time and location of the event, as well as your name and contact information. We reserve the right to refuse events at our discretion as our space is limited.



Photo by Drew Gardonia, staff photographer

Hadil Numan, the Muslim Student Association event coordinator, performs a spoken word piece on April 6 about struggling to be close with God at Islamic Talent Night.

## Spoken word speaks to students

**TALENT**  
**FROM PAGE 1**

nothing to be afraid of, Saba said.

He said ever since Islam's peak, during the Ottoman Empire, people have been taught to always do their best, to explore themselves and their spirituality through art, poetry and songs, as well as architecture in the form of mosques, Saba said.

"We're doing a talent night to show that Muslims still have that aspect of trying their best and exploring themselves," Saba said.

A lot of Muslims will go into fields of math, engineering and science, Saba said. He said he attributes this to the fact that most Muslim art is geometric in design, which is due to the

fact that in Islam, it is forbidden to create artistic representations of people or animals.

"Spoken word and poetry are also forms of performing talent because the Quran is seen to be one of the most poetic books of all faiths and that inspired Muslims to become poets at the time the book was revealed," Saba said.

The first performance of the night was by Numan. She performed a spoken word piece about struggling to be close with God and feeling like one has fallen so far that they will not be able to be forgiven.

"Islam teaches that you can be the worst person in the world, but if all you desire is forgiveness - as long as you make the effort to repent - you will be forgiven," Numan said.

Following Numan's performance, Kahim

Mohammad, a senior majoring in international relations, read some original poetry about how he feels Muslims are unfairly portrayed.

"We are living our lives as we should as Muslims, but it's almost like it has to be in secret because of what people think they know," Mohammad said. "They let the media dictate their beliefs instead of learning for themselves."

The final performance of the evening was by Sufeia Yosuf, a sophomore with a double major in Spanish and international relations. She performed a spoken word performance about being similar, despite people's differences.

"We spend so much time fighting over our differences, but this land is for everybody," Yosuf said. "We're all equal human beings."

## Week's events educate on Islam

**LECTURE**  
**FROM PAGE 1**

Umar Dunlap, a Murfreesboro resident, shared their stories of why they chose to convert to the Islamic faith.

Sutton said he was raised a Seventh-day Adventist and never really interacted with Muslims until he joined the U.S. Marines and had to spend time in Iraq. He said that while in Iraq he discovered that Muslims are nice, and the extremists are a minority.

Although, he said it is not depicted that way in American media.

"It's easy to be afraid of someone you don't know - it's hard to be afraid of someone once you have a

better understanding of them," Sutton said.

Both Dunlap and Miller said they were raised Christian and often had religious dreams as children. Dunlap said he decided to explore the Islamic faith after being approached by a random man who asked him if he was Muslim. Miller said he spent about 10 years exploring the idea of Islam but did not convert until February 2010.

Members of MSA all agreed that the purpose of Islam Awareness Week is not to offend nor convert people of another faith but to introduce to some and remind others of the concepts of Islamic faith.

Jihan Abdulla, a sophomore in the College of Behavioral and Health

Sciences, said she knows there are a lot of misconceptions about Islam, which is why she encourages people of other faiths to come out to one of the events to get a clearer understanding.

Sufeia Yosuf, a sophomore in the College of Liberal Arts, said she was happy with the event's turnout and is looking forward to the rest of the week.

"The weather pushed us down a bit, but we are looking forward to what is to come," Yosuf said.

The MSA will hold an interfaith mixer and potluck dinner tonight at 5 p.m. outside the James E. Walker Library.

"We want people to actually learn about Islam and not depend on hearsay," Abdulla said.

## Bill could axe graduate senators

**SGA**  
**FROM PAGE 1**

how the council will appoint officials at this time.

"This is one of those, we'll just figure it out as we go," Cobb said. "After this passes, we're going to start hammering down more fine print."

Additionally, the SGA philanthropic coordinator would work closely with the council, according to the legislation. Its members would help plan activities, such as blood drives and The BIG Event, which Poynter said Philanthropic Coordinator Erika Maclin supports the idea.

"[Maclin] said sometimes it's kind of hard to get 74 senators to do all her blood

drives - all the stuff that she has to do," Poynter said. "So, that gives her a designated group that she can always go to whenever she needs anything done."

Some senators asked questions regarding how the legislation would work.

"I transferred in with 18 hours straight out of high school," said Sen. Sarah Hoover of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences. "So, as a freshman would that have made me ineligible to serve on this council?"

Cobb said even though students like Hoover would not be able to be part of the freshman council, there are ways to participate in the SGA while waiting for spring elections.

"There's all kinds of

things you can do besides being involved in senate," Cobb said. "There's homecoming committee, election commission, the BIG Event committee, traffic court - there's tons of things you can do besides just being on senate."

If the bill passes, graduate senators will no longer exist, but Cobb said they would merge into the colleges of their area of study.

"Honestly graduate senate is never full," Cobb said. "We promote it. We try our best to get graduate senators. We have two that have never been to a meeting - yet."

The legislation passed unanimously within the senate last week and will be voted on again during today's meeting.

## Lecturer encourages students to unite, embrace progressive ideas

**MCCAIN**  
**FROM PAGE 1**

the morning talk show "The View."

"I told her to 'kiss my size 12 a\*\*,'" McCain said.

McCain's brash attitude toward life and politics may strike a nerve with conservatives, but she is receiving plenty of praise for her forward thinking from many of the students here on campus.

"I love her way of thinking and writing," said Holli Harris, a 23-year-old MTSU alumna. "I feel like she's very relatable and approachable on so many levels."

After her speech McCain opened up the floor for a question and answer period where several attendees were eager to ask her a slew of questions ranging from where she would like to travel next to if she would ever run for office.

Worried as to where the United States is headed as a country, McCain addressed what she said is the next step to moving into a progressive society filled with communication.

"What is so inspiring about people talking and looking the same way?" McCain asked. "We shouldn't let people two and three times our age speak for us, we need to speak for ourselves."

McCain said the U.S. should "begin to fashion a new era of politics that will be more attuned" to the younger generation, while adding it should be "more civil."

MT Lambda's President Brandon Farrar said how "proud" he was with McCain's speech, adding that it took "four months of planning and fundraising with seven other organizations."



Photo by Justin Bingham, staff photographer

Meghan McCain signs her book *Dirty Sexy Politics* on April 6 after delivering a speech with a theme of political change and civility as part of MT Lambda's SpringOut.

"We strive to promote equality for all people, but specifically for people in the LGBT community," Farrar said. "We have four platforms that we work with: a social aspect, political aspect, a

Christ, said he calls himself an "interesting, weird, gay person."

"These are two things that are very important in my life," Farrar said. Farrar said he hopes his involvement in

**"What is so inspiring about people talking and looking the same way? We need to speak for ourselves."**

MEGHAN MCCAIN  
AUTHOR, *DIRTY SEXY POLITICS*

service aspect, and most importantly, support for our members."

Farrar, 28, a graduate student who is also involved in Raiders for

both organizations will exemplify that Christians and the gay lifestyle can be one in the same.

"God doesn't make mistakes," McCain said.

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# FEATURES

## Preserving a classic

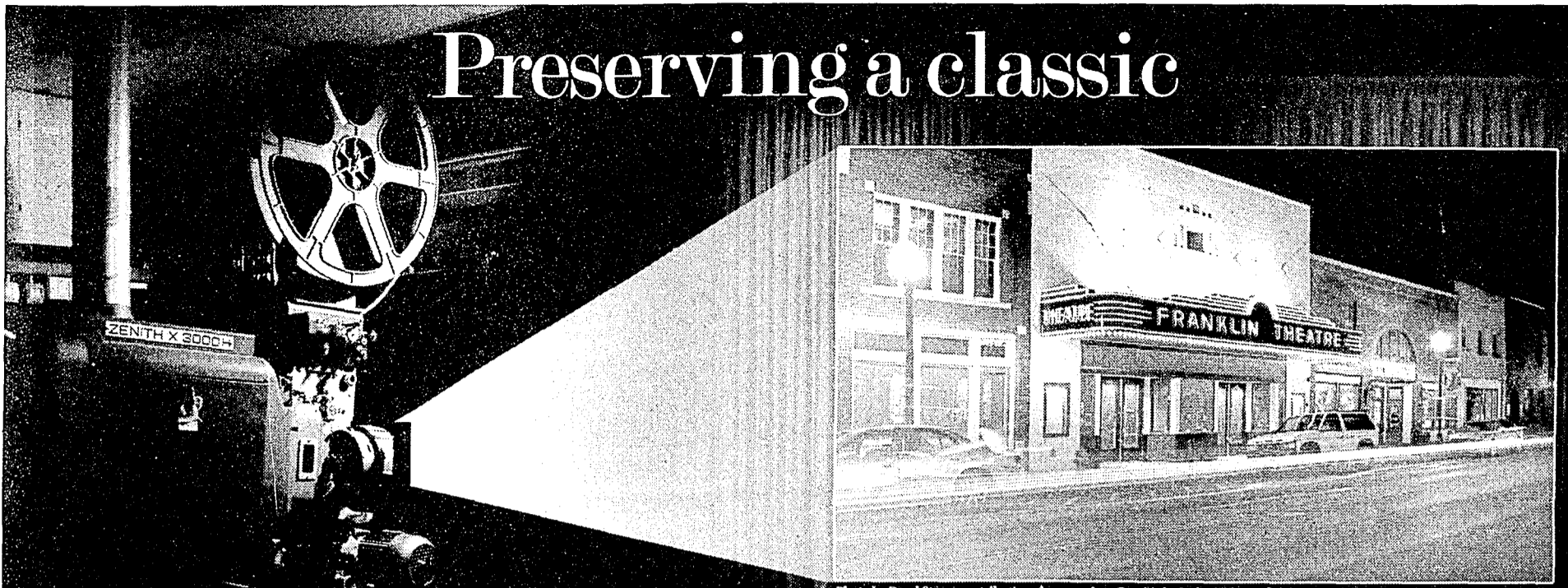


Photo by Daryl Stone, contributing photographer. Graphic by Jeth Fields, production manager.

## THE FRANKLIN THEATRE ENJOYS A SUPREME RENOVATION.

By JORDAN BRIEN  
Staff Writer

The newly renovated theater in downtown Franklin sits proudly like someone who has gotten a facelift and the pieces of her youth have been brought back to life. The brightly lit marquee, brought back this spring for the first time since the 1970s, shines its beauty down Main Street.

As I walk down the street, I am not the only one peering in its windows, anticipating its reopening. Many in Franklin fought to restore the theater, offering generous donations, totaling more than \$8 million, to the Heritage Foundation to buy and renovate the outdated structure.

I enter the Heritage Foundation and am directed to historian Rick Warwick's office. The office is cluttered and he's busy as he works on a little rocking chair he is making for a friend's grandchild.

"C'mon in," he exclaims, shoving his crafts out of the way to give me his full attention.

I sit down and catch a glimpse of pictures of Franklin from the early 20th century hanging on his wall.

"You just can't start with the theater we have now," he breaks in as he hands me an essay he wrote about the origins of the theater.

He scrambles around his office excitedly looking for old pictures and writings about the original theater. He pulls out a picture of the first theater built in 1924, which sat at 423 Main St., two doors down from the current one. It was owned by the Cumberland Amusement Co., which had a long history of bringing Hollywood to

Middle Tennessee.

The small theater, which had 360 seats, showed "talkies" – short films with synchronized dialogue and "Pathe News," a news broadcast.

Rick explains that before television, the only way to get news was through newspapers and flyers. The idea of watching the news was a new phenomenon, and the theater allowed the people of Franklin and surrounding areas to participate in this.

He notes that the number of Franklinites who remember this theater and the exciting events it held, such as Tuesday night drawings offering door prizes, is slowly dwindling.

However, there are many living in Franklin who still remember the theater where it sits today. This building was originally a Buick dealership and filling station owned by the Fleming family. In 1937, Mr. Fleming died and his wife, Cynthia Fleming, inherited the building. Cynthia spent \$14,000 in renovations after the Cumberland Amusement Co. contacted her about turning it into a theater.

Cumberland Amusement Co. began leasing the building from Cynthia and even spent an additional \$12,000 for new sound equipment, machinery, draperies, carpets, seats, lights and the newest type of screen. The first floor had a capacity of 600 and the balcony 130, totaling more than twice as many as the previous theater. It was also the first building in town with air conditioning.

Rick explains that segregation was still prevalent during this time and that African-Americans were only allowed to sit in the balcony. The only entrance to the balcony was from the outside,

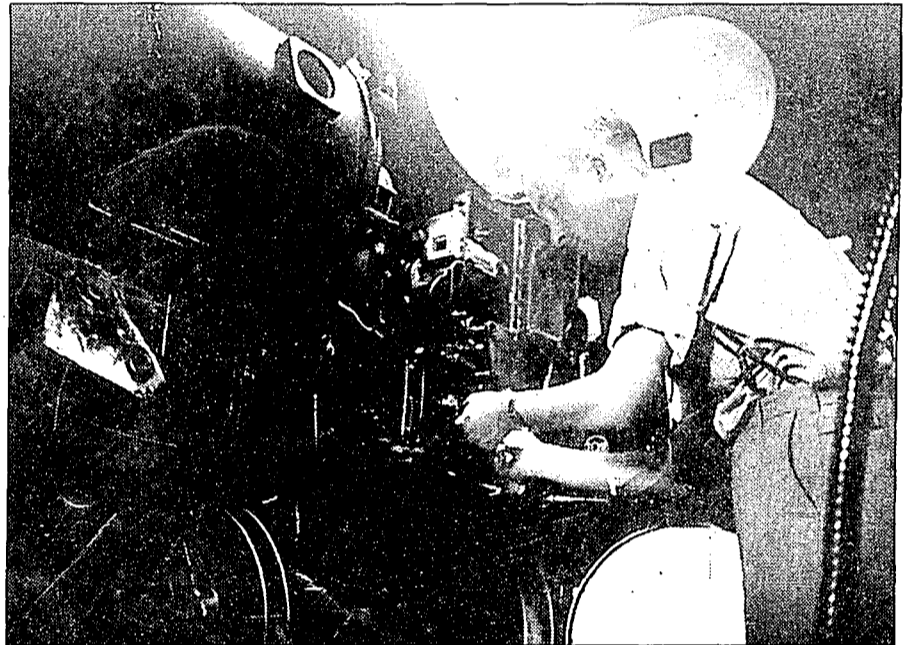


Photo courtesy of The Heritage Foundation of Franklin

(Above) Cecil Vines worked as the projectionist for the Franklin Theatre in the 1940s. The projectionist's job could be very tedious, involving switching reels of film at the precise moment to ensure smooth screening.

and because the bathrooms on the main floor were for whites only, African-Americans had to go from the balcony, down the steps, and across the street to a cafe to use the restroom.

"Segregation was everywhere back then," Rick says quietly.

Tom Brown, a member of the Franklin High School class of 1943, worked at the theater at the age of 16 in 1941. He smiles as he reminisces about it while we sit in his living room in Murfreesboro.

"I took up tickets while folks were coming in," Tom says. "Then when the movie started, we shut down the ticket booth, and I would walk up and down the aisle selling popcorn and candy or would sometimes relieve the projectionist."

Tickets for children under 12 years old were only a dime and those over the age of 12 got in for a quarter.

At the time, the concession stand was outside next to the ticket booth, so if you went in the theater and wanted a drink or snack, you had to go back outside to the front window to get it.

Tom chuckles as he recalls times when people, often young children, would try and sneak in by only purchasing a soda and walking in the theater as though they had just come out of the theater.

"I got 'em every time," he says smiling. "And the manager's wife, Mrs. Bowman, worked the concessions, and she knew everyone in town, so she knew the ones who would try to sneak in and often catch them in the act before they got to me."

In the early '40s, there were only about 4,500 people living in Franklin, so it was hard to be unnoticed, especially if you were doing something you shouldn't.

Rick describes how tedious of a job the projection machine was. The projectionist had to switch two reels back and forth every 20 minutes. The projectionist was notified by a small black dot on the top right corner of the film, where he would switch reels and get the next reel ready.

The late Cecil Vines was a projectionist, who Tom remembers well.

"Cecil was a lot of fun to work with up in the projection room," he recalls. "If a loud explosion was coming up in the movie, Cecil would turn up the volume real quick at the time of the explosion and everyone in the theater would jump."

The new theater, like it did for the past 15 years, will serve beer and wine, but Tom says that was not the case in the '30s and '40s since Williamson County was a dry county then.

Rick describes what a big day

Saturdays were back in the early years of the theater. People would come into town from their farms and spend the whole day downtown. The stores stayed open until 9 p.m. on Saturdays, as this was a major date night and center for young adults in Franklin, and the theater offered double features, comedies and serials to draw people in for a show.

The left part of the current building served as a pool hall until the '70s, when it was turned into a thrift store. Then, in the '80s it became part of the theater serving as a second auditorium.

With the size of the new theater doubling, it will now include a catering kitchen, green room, storage, backstage space and an elevator.

"Wanna' take a walk through it?" Rick asks me with excitement.

I eagerly agree, and we walk across the street from the Heritage Foundation to the new theater. He takes me through the back door where construction workers take on the finishing touches to the theater.

Its original "art deco" style is preserved with the deep red walls and dark purple ceiling. The stage is huge with lights all around it. A drop down screen is put in place, allowing for it to be pulled up for concerts or plays, something new for the theater.

What's ironic about the new theater is that the balcony is now considered the best seat in the house, with taller seats covered in sleek material. Rick explains that one wall in the balcony will serve as a memorial to African-Americans and the terrible time they went through during segregation. The wall is planned to exhibit photographs of African-Americans sitting in the old balcony and other photos of a segregated Franklin.

Finally, Rick brings me to the foyer which now includes a concession stand on one side and a bar that will serve beer and wine on the other. It matches the rest of the "art deco" theme of the building, preserving the old spirit of the theater.

There's much to look forward to for Franklinites and folks in surrounding areas. On June 3, the new theater's doors will be reopened to a new generation. It will host many functions and is anticipated to strengthen the community further, while drawing in people from all over to experience the history and future of Franklin.

As she gleams proudly on Main Street, the new theater flaunts her obvious renovations, leaving the people of Franklin curiously excited for whom and what she'll bring to this tight-knit community.



Photo courtesy of The Heritage Foundation of Franklin

The Franklin Theatre was built in 1937 and remains a gem to the historic downtown Franklin area. The newly renovated theatre is expected to be open to public by summer 2011.

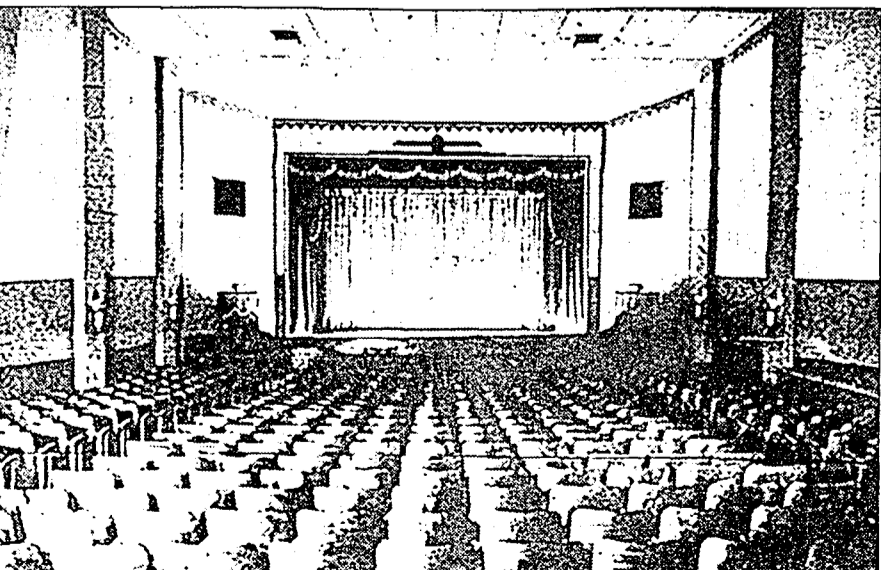


Photo courtesy of The Heritage Foundation of Franklin

The Franklin Theatre was renovated in 1937 to seat 730 show-going patrons. Segregation was prevalent at the time and African-Americans were only allowed to sit in the balcony.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

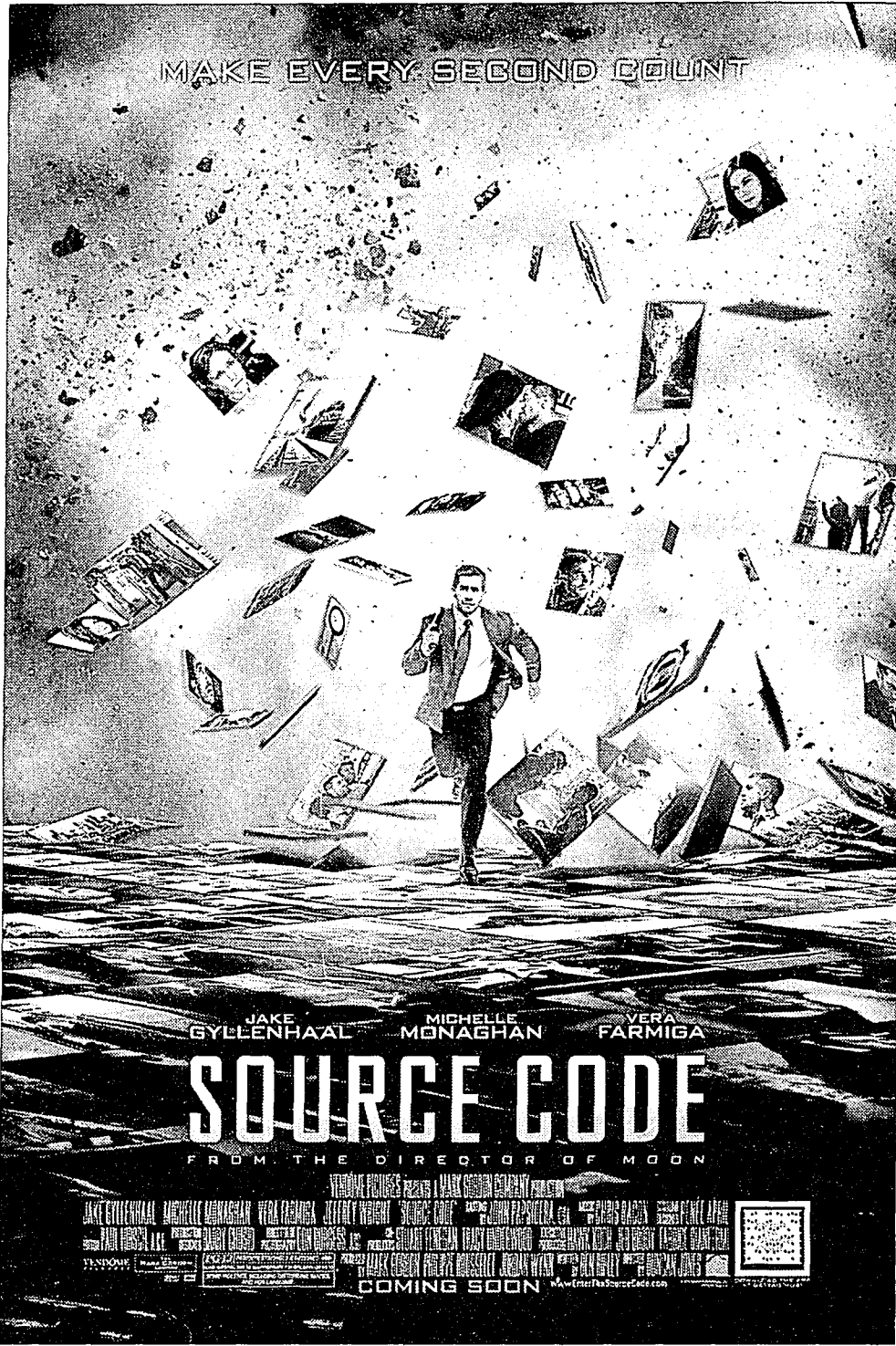


Photo courtesy of Summit Entertainment

## 'Source Code' a sci-fi train ride that makes every second count

By **JOSH FIELDS**  
Production Manager

The movies that I enjoy the most are the types that you walk out of with the feel that you are awakening from a dream.

"Source Code" takes us down the journey of obscene science, and thick plotlines to make us dream. The interesting dynamic of the film is that the underlying love story and story of intertwine perfectly with the conceptual science, but it never acts as a crutch for the film in fact, the film rarely relies on it.

Colter Stevens, played by Jake Gyllenhaal, opens up the movie throwing the audience into confusion. This confusion works to the movie's advantage perfectly because his character is just as confused as us; it's the first step that the director and screenwriter use to lure us into a connection with the character.



Photo courtesy of Summit Entertainment

Spoilers ahead. Is this really Colter Stevens? He seems sure of it, but the explanation of why he awoke on a train by a different name and an unfamiliar face eludes us until his eight minutes are up. In the mean time, we are introduced to Christina Warren, played by Michelle Monaghan, who has a captivating smile and a compassionate tone of an early romance. Her character slowly catches the eye of Stevens as well as the audience.

When the eight minutes are up, Stevens finds himself in what he believes is his helicopter cockpit, where we are introduced to Colleen Goodwin, played by Vera Farmiga. Goodwin is apart of a secret military project involving quantum mechanics, and lingering brain impulses with the mission to prevent further terrorist attacks. As to how that's done, it's never really explained, nor does it need to be.

The science is farfetched, but the movie isn't about the process but rather about

regrets, destiny, and death. The human touch of the movie involves the duplicity of spawning as someone else without being limited to their past actions. The free will that Stevens finds allows him to seek out the bomber of the train he finds himself on. The eight minutes are the only remnants that remain of the victim he embodies.

This isn't time travel; it's more of an alternative universe, where the actions even of saving the train in theory have no consequences. The captivating smile of Warren is limited to the last eight minutes of her life. Certainly, we are led to believe that this simulation of sorts has no effect on the current reality. What the story alludes to is a paradox of multiple realities, even though we are given the information that this isn't any more real than a dream, we still wonder.

Like a lingering dream upon waking we question our own reality. In the case of Stevens, it may be rightfully so. Stevens uses his free will to find his identity, which may serve to further add to the mystery of what exactly is going on. Luckily, the movie explains things just enough for it to matter, but not so much as to take away from the human experience we endure.

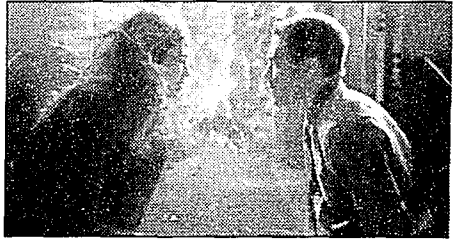


Photo courtesy of Summit Entertainment

The concept of the film is a combination of "Ground Hogs Day" and "12 Monkeys" both of which deal with time loops and fate. What sets "Source Code" apart from other sci-fi films in its genre is its ability to keep so many story lines in focus without losing sight of the core.

I came into the movie expecting it to be a love story from start to finish, but that was never the case.

The climax of the film deals more heavily with the struggles of regret and death than it relies on a kiss. In the end, everything is going to be ok and when you step away from the screen, the vivid reality is found worn on our sleeves as we struggle to brush off the dream.

**Consensus:** ★★★★★

**Highs:** While you can connect with the character played by Jake Gyllenhaal and Michelle Monaghan, it felt as if Vera Farmiga's character could have had more opportunities to connect with the audience.

The story is one of love and fate, but it never strays too far into that territory making its mark as a sci-fi film to be reckoned with. The casting and story both shine and the climax scene with Gyllenhaal's character is an emotional surge.

## Fashion ME Something

From March 29 through April 2, a number of prominent designers came to Music City to celebrate and participate in Nashville Fashion Week by Lexus. Popular designers such as Betsey Johnson and Christian Siriano from Project Runway were featured, as well as some homegrown talent.

Julianna Bass, an MTSU alumna, showcased her own stunning collection on Friday night. Her pieces reflected inspiration from past eras and revealed an air of romanticism and femininity with the use of puffy sleeves, big bows and high waist skirts.

The designs were composed of very edgy and bold cocktail dresses, to soft and subtle ensembles. Bass, who was selected as a designer to watch by Women's Wear Daily and New York Magazine, displayed beautiful pieces that seem to be on the cusp of the future of fashion.

Friday night's runway shows included other designer collections such as Coquette, Norma Clare, Katharine Kidd and Gustavo Cadile.



Photo by Dylan Reyes, Nashville Fashion Week

In light of summer being just around the corner, I was pleased to see Coquette swimwear by local designer, Brooke Shipley, as the first collection on the scene. It featured sensational pieces inspired from both vintage and modern design. These adorable swimsuits looked like something you would see on a 1940s pinup girl.

Quite frankly, I found it very refreshing. It seems that these days there are very limited options of styles to choose from in swimwear, but women don't all fit into the same cookie-cutter shape. She combines trends from the past and the present to create truly unique designs.

Some of the bottom pieces had a high waist and boy-short look that is guaranteed to make your bum look great, while



Kathy Fleming

embracing your natural curves. The fabrics included solid black, natural nude, metallic silver and black-and-white stripes.

Norma Clare is a collection designed by Anna Redmon, who named her line after her grandmother. The line was comprised of vintage pieces that the original Norma would have loved, and it appeared to be the most wearable and comfortable line of them all.

She incorporated quaint and flirtatious elements with the use of ruffles, puffy sleeves and draped fabrics in pale pink and dull blue hues. The fabrics seemed to glide gently and move comfortably with the models.

Katharine Kidd was presented by Gus Mayer, and her exquisite line showcased feminine pieces with traces of sophistication and chic style. Her collection was the most coherent line presented at Friday's exhibit. Kidd's great attention to detail was evident in her stunning pieces featuring lace finishes, ruched and sheer overlays and textured fabrics.

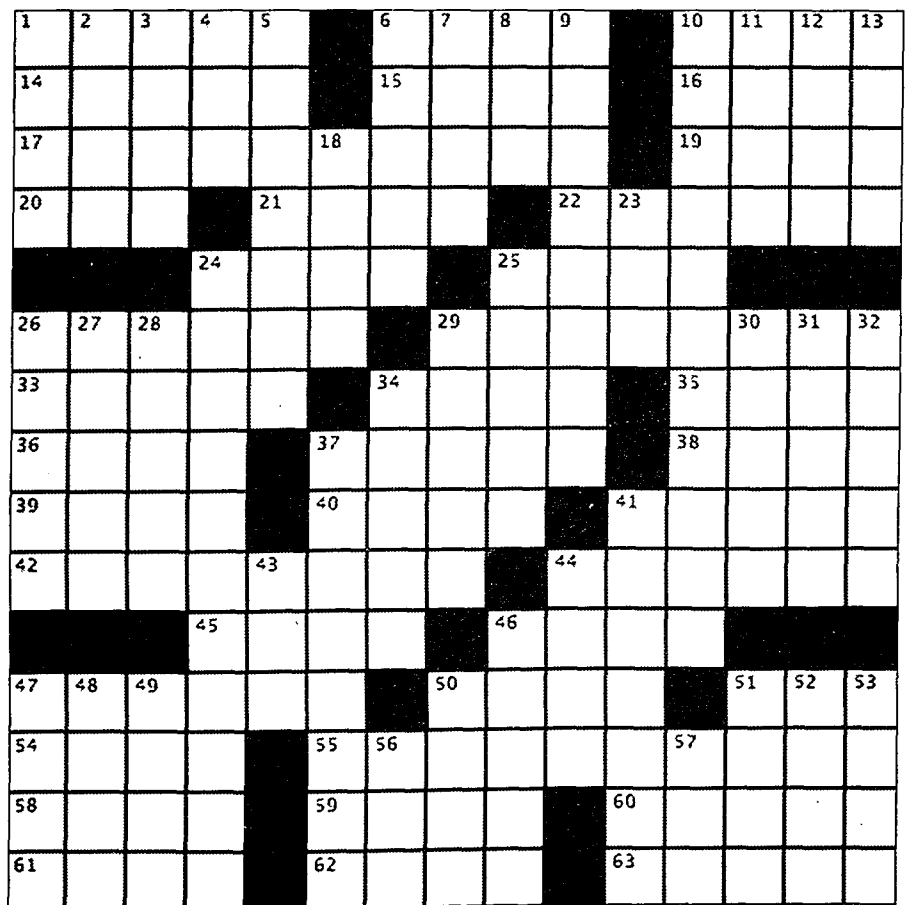
The last designer collection displayed was Gustavo Cadile, also presented by Gus Mayer. Celebrities like Catherine Zeta Jones, Reese Witherspoon and Eva Longoria, among others, have worn his designs on the red carpet. Cadile's dresses were simply breathtaking. His fine-tuned pieces were composed of ornate evening gowns and stunning cocktail dresses.

The connecting theme to practically all of the designer collections at the runway on Friday was the synchrony of fashion trends from past eras merged with fresh and modern styles.

All of the collections portrayed the image of a distinguished and feminine woman. It was truly inspiring to see the talent that has emerged from Tennessee, in addition to those collections of both renowned and up-and-coming designers.

## SIDEWORDS

The weekly *Sidelines* crossword puzzle



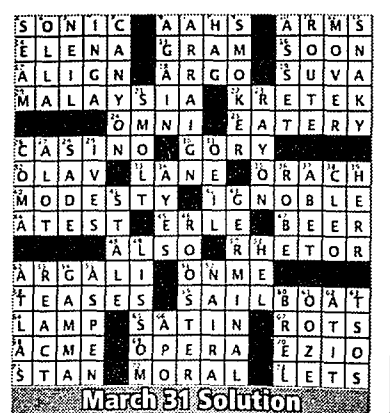
Crossword courtesy of bestcrosswords.com

### ACROSS

- 1- Flowering tree of Hawaii; 6- Antlered animal; 10- "No Ordinary Love" singer; 14- Crackerjack; 15- Dies \_\_\_; 16- Coil; 17- Suitable for winemaking; 19- Caspian Sea feeder; 20- Aliens, for short; 21- A big fan of; 22- Capital of Canada; 24- Bohemian; 25- Bed support; 26- Evaluate; 29- Open building; 33- Minimum; 34- Nota \_\_\_; 35- Ashtabula's lake; 36- Waist band; 37- Fear greatly; 38- Bundle; 39- D-Day beach; 40- Bit; 41- Subdued; 42- Not extreme; 44- Spuds; 45- 9th letter of the Hebrew alphabet; 46- Search thoroughly; 47- Elder; 50- Mrs. Chaplin; 51- Blubber; 54- Gator's cousin; 55- Fertilize an animal; 58- Dog star; 59- Cave dwellers; 60- Component of organic fertilizer; 61- Repeat; 62- "\_\_\_ quam videri" (North Carolina's motto); 63- Brother of Moses;

### DOWN

- 1- Wash; 2- Prepare a book or film for release; 3- Coop group; 4- News letters; 5- Initially; 6- Grimy; 7- Switch ending; 8- Seine contents; 9- Determined; 10- Gossip; 11- Ambience; 12- Sketch; 13- First name in jazz; 18- Tolkien tree creatures; 23- Mai \_\_\_; 24- Concerning the appreciation of beauty; 25- Capital city of Yemen; 26- Anthology of artwork; 27- Handle; 28- Cobb, e.g.; 29- Golfer Calvin; 30- Angry; 31- Crude carrier; 32- Food and water; 34- Thin soup; 37- Harangue; 41- Capital of Nicaragua; 43- Stutz contemporary; 44- Air; 46- Stallion, e.g.; 47- Con; 48- Gaelic language of Ireland or Scotland; 49- \_\_\_ bene; 50- Chooses; 51- River to the Moselle; 52- Conductor Klemperer; 53- "It's \_\_\_ real"; 56- Barker and Bell; 57- Heston's org.;



March 31 Solution

# I'm just sayin'

Are Angelina and Brad having another child? Angelina has a tattoo of lines that represent the birthplaces of all of her children. Recently though, a seventh line was added, sending people into a frenzy of wonder. The actress is currently helping Libyan refugees, and many thought she had adopted a child from there. Others thought the picture of the tattoo, which was very grainy and hard to see, showed the coordinates for Algeria.

Apparently, the coordinates aren't for any children, though. A source close to the couple says the seventh line represents the birthplace of Brad Pitt.

This seems a little odd to me. I obviously don't know the actress personally but I think if she wanted to dedicate a tattoo to the father of her children, she might want something more individualized. All I'm saying is that I won't be surprised at all if the new tattoo is for a new child the couple is trying to keep secret.

### Twilight Break Up?

Word on the street this week is that "Twilight Saga" power-couple Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart are taking a break. It's said that their hectic work schedules keep them from seeing each other as often as they'd like.

Call me a non-believer, or maybe just call me in denial, but I never really believe these two were actually dating. I've always thought they "dated" to promote the "Twilight Saga." "Breaking Dawn Part 1" doesn't hit theaters until November. Maybe that's



Catherina Davidson

why they haven't been seen together recently.

### Held against her

The video for Britney Spears' second single, "Till the World Ends," premiered yesterday, and one thing was on everyone's mind: Britney just can't dance like she used to. Before every new video, Britney fans seem to think, "This is going to be the one! This will be the dancing video, old Britney is coming back with this one." It never happens and we all get a little disappointed.

I think everyone needs to realize that Britney has two kids, two knee surgeries, is turning 30 this year and has already been to crazytown and back. This is pretty much as good as it's going to get.

### Snooki's Speech

Nicole Polizzi, a.k.a. Snooki, from "Jersey Shore" was recently paid \$32,000 to speak at Rutgers University.

Yes, I know what you're thinking. I'm thinking the same thing.

Not only that, but she was paid more than Toni Morrison, a Nobel Prize-winning author, who was paid to deliver the university's commencement last May. Rutgers University used the mandatory student activity fees to pay the "star." As a student I'm a little peeved that a school would do this.

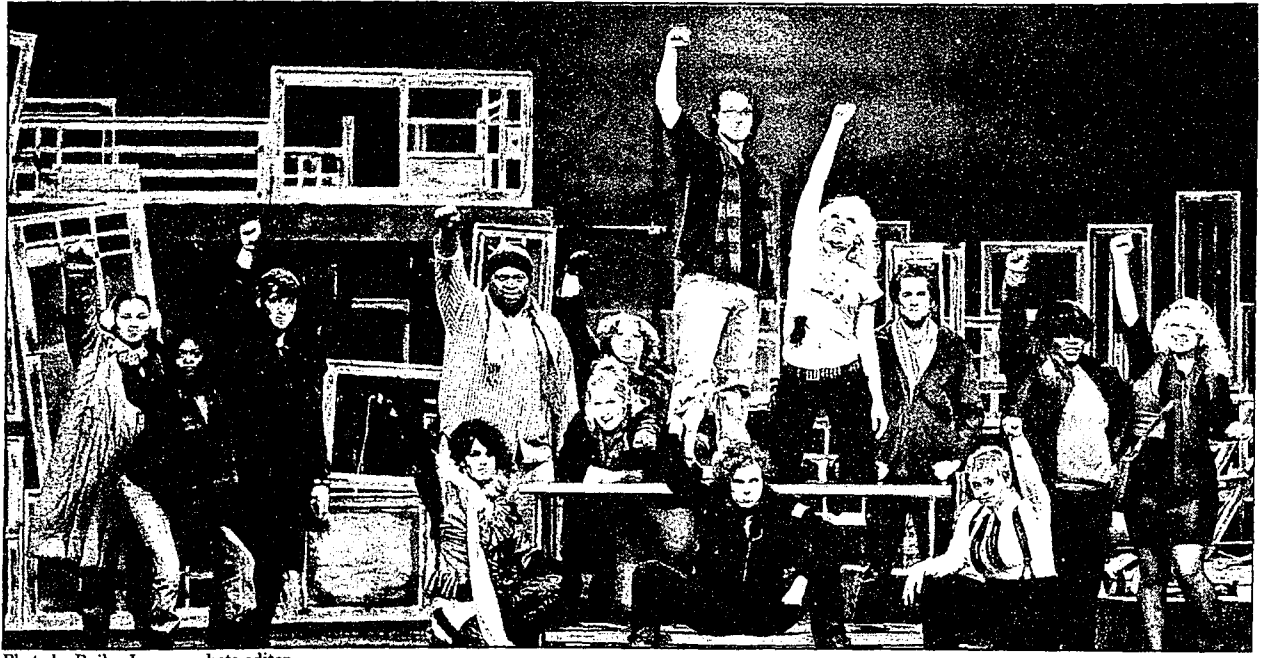


Photo by Bailey Ingram, photo editor

The cast of "RENT" strikes a pose March 30 for the opening performance at Tucker Theatre.

## 'RENT': A musical triumph for students

Jonathan Larson would have been pleased as punch if he had been in Wednesday night's opening night audience. Granted it wasn't a "standing room only" opening, being a weeknight, but the orchestra-level seats were filled with many supporters.

"RENT," the timeless story of love, loss and the ravages of AIDS is filled with great songs and dialogue. The masterpiece that took home the coveted 1996 Best Musical Tony Award and the Pulitzer Prize seemed right at home inside The Tucker Theatre.

It is a masterpiece, effectively delivered by the talented theater department.

A modern rock opera and fresh take on Giacomo Puccini's operatic masterpiece

"La bohème," produced a deserving response from the crowd. However, I can guarantee you that 90 percent of the audience knew nothing of Puccini, or even the reference to Musetta's waltz in the crowd. If you place a great show in front of a discriminatory audience of college students, they're bound to respond.

They did.

The grittiness of Scott Boyd's urban set design, Margaret May's clever costuming, Richard Browder's energetic choreography and the wonderful direction of Deborah Anderson are to be praised and highly commended.

Similarly, the cast and ensemble roundly deserved the standing ovation they were duly given Wednesday night.

Both Jon D. Bumpus and Ian Hunt are excellent as the two male leads, Mark Cohen and Roger Davis, respectively. I must shout Bravo to them both for carrying the show so well.

Z Lewis is a revelation as Mimi Marquez. She's not only physically beautiful, but she has an amazing voice and a stage presence all her own. This being her theatrical debut, she certainly did very well. This girl deserves undivided attention during "Out Tonight."

Graham Shelton brought the house down with his uncanny, humorous and loving portrayal of Angel Dumott Schunard. Who knew that drag queens could make people

laugh and cry? Look for sass and pizzazz in "Today for You," "Santa Fe," and unmistakable warmth and love in "I'll Cover You." His costumes were excellent as well.

Playing Angel's love interest, Tom Collins, Shawn A. Lewis is simply superb, and his voice equally magnificent. Lewis's gut wrenching solo on "I'll Cover You" in Act 2 will move you to tears, if it doesn't then you don't have a soul.

I have to hand it to Alexandra McNamara, whose turn as Maureen Johnson is spot on and divine. "Over the Moon" was one of the big highlights of Act 1. Thank you for making the audience laugh with "Moo."

"RENT" is a show not to be missed by anyone. I truly enjoyed opening night, and I do wish that MTSU's production could have an open run. The men and women who spent weeks working on this production deserve to play sold-out houses for a good while.

MTSU's production of "RENT" runs until April 9.

You have no day but today to see "RENT," and I truly hope you do, regardless if you can pay this year's or even last year's rent.



Photo by Bailey Ingram, photo editor

Alexandra McNamara (playing Maureen Johnson) and Jennifer White (playing Joanne Jefferson) dazzles audiences with their voices in the musical "RENT."

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### Don't Wait...Register Today!

If you have any questions or just want to talk about summer possibilities, please feel free to contact us.

Web: [www.mtsu.edu/summer](http://www.mtsu.edu/summer)

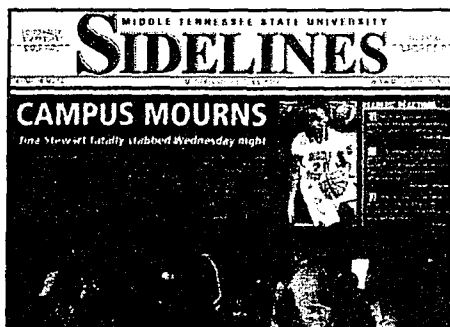
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is looking for the next editor-in-chief.



For the Summer of '11 or Fall and Spring semesters of '11 MTSU Sidelines is seeking an editor-in chief and additional staff.

Candidates for the positions must currently be enrolled, and have a good academic standing with a 2.5 GPA or higher.

To apply, complete a Sidelines Editor application and attach a resume, cover letter, three letters of reference and at least three bylined clips. Deliver the application to:  
Leon Alligood Comm 232C

Editor selection interviews will be held April 15, 2011.

Applications are available in the Sidelines office, Mass Communication Building, Room 269.

We are also hiring the following positions:

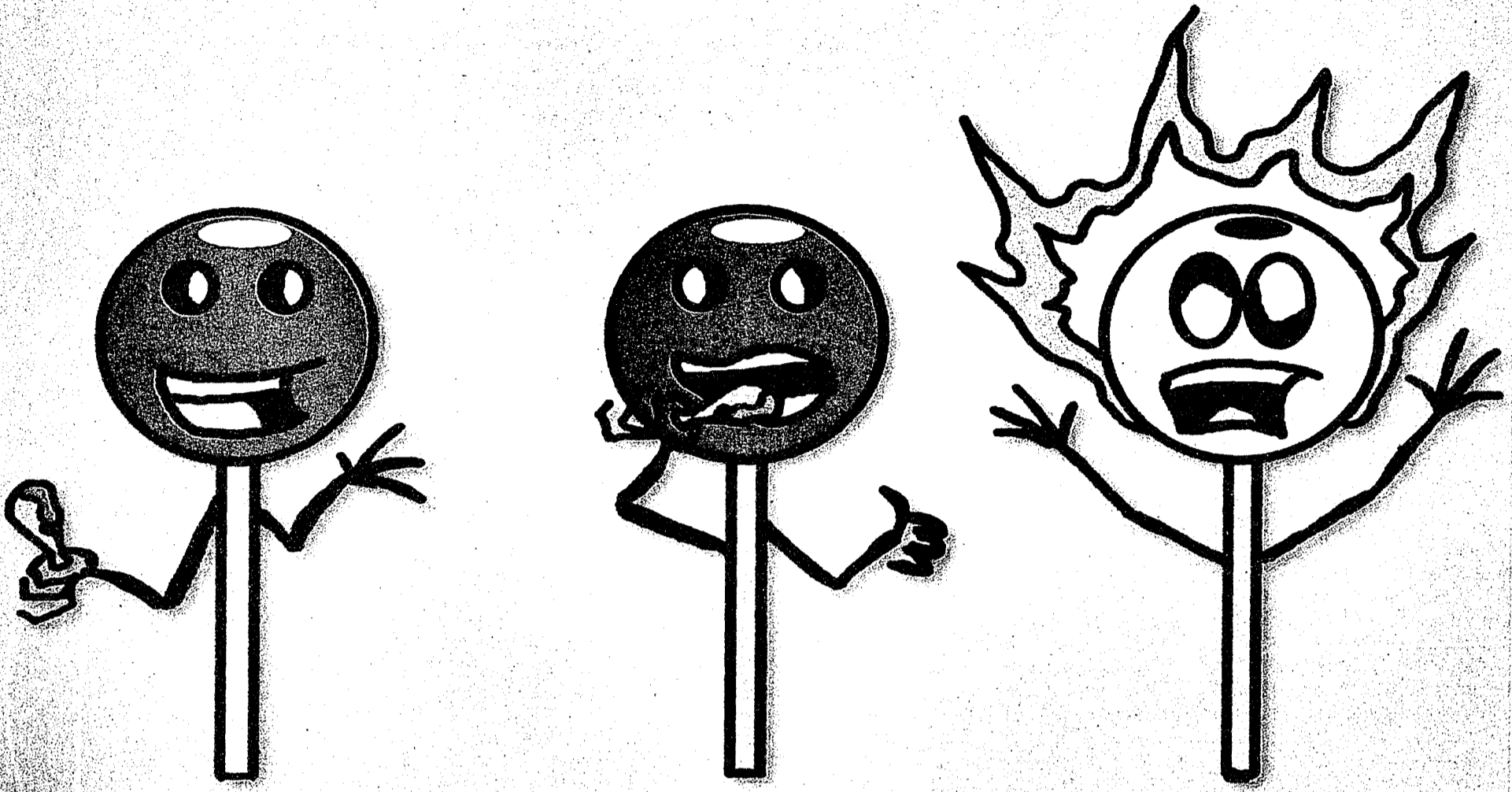
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Friday, April 8, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.



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|  | Small Salad, Pita Bread, and Fountain Drink                  |  | Cheeseburger and Fountain Drink    |
|  | 1 Item Combo<br><small>*excludes bottled beverage</small>    |  | Chicken Teriyaki Combo             |
|  | Blue Plate Special<br>Chicken, Side, Roll and Fountain Drink |  | Calzone and Fountain Drink         |