

MIDDLE TENNESSEE UNIVERSITY

# DELTA SIGMA THETA

MARCH 14, 2012 | VOL. 89, NO. 22

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

# CAMPUS MARCH RESCUES STUDENTS OUT OF THE DEEP

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY • National Women's History Month

## Marlee Matlin

4:00 PM • Tuesday, March 22, 2012 • Tucker Theatre

(Limited seating available)

Book signing immediately following keynote presentation.

A reception honoring Ms. Matlin will be held in

the Studio Theater, Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building, Room 101 at 6:15 p.m.



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# SIDELINES LENS



Jackie Victory, director in the Office of Leadership and Service, and Donald Abels, assistant in the Office of Leadership and Service, work together as part of the Alternative Spring Break program. This year the Office of Leadership and Service had a record number of students dedicate their spring break to service around the Nashville area. Hands on Nashville provided several volunteer opportunities with different non-profit organizations including The Nashville Food Project, Warner Parks and Sophia's Heart (Compassion Nashville). Photo courtesy of Donald Abels.

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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY  
**SIDELINES**

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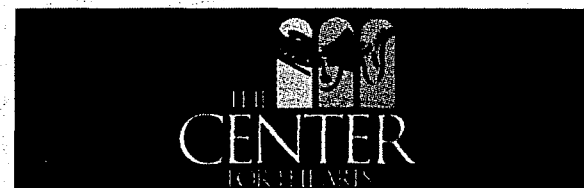
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# SGA elections name Coby Sherlock next president



Former Sen.-At-Larger, Casey McCullum discusses legislation during a weekly SGA meeting. McCullum was removed from the race for overspending on her campaign.



Members of the Student Government Association deliberate during meeting on Thursday, March 1. Photos by Asher Hudson, Multimedia Manager

by Alex Hubbard  
Sports Editor

**A**t-Large Sen. Coby Sherlock emerged March 2 as the winner of a controversial Student Government Association presidential election who won with 624 votes and took a 44-percent plurality.

The contest became mired in controversy when presidential candidate Casey McCullum was charged with violating campaign-spending laws and was subsequently disqualified after voting had begun.

After being disqualified, McCullum appealed the ruling but her appeal was denied, according to an SGA official.

Rachel Lee, executive vice president ran unopposed and won with unanimous support, while Jordon Hall was elected to vice-president of administration and public affairs in the same fashion.

Anit Patel finished first in a field of five to take the race for election commissioner with 431 votes and 33 percent.

Devin Lee Hawthorne, Haley Cobb, Tyler Sanders, Austin Heithcock, Melissa Lewis, Corey Franklin, Brent Andrews and Reiana Besy were elected senators

representing the College of Basic and Applied Sciences.

Mary Wolaver, Christopher Collins, Daschia Reed and Lechon Cole were elected as senators to represent the College of Business.

Jamia Richmond, Hannah Lee, Cameron Martin, Gerita Perry, Shavangi Sutaria, Jordan Mead, Nicholas Goff, Renisha Hall and Farah Hirani will represent the College of Behavioral and Health Science as senators.

April Richardson and Rosalyn Brown will represent the College of Education as senators.

Lauren Price, Hunter Barry and Katherine Tuter will represent the College of Graduate Studies as senators.

Lauren Campbell, Brandon Woodruff and Charles Spencer were elected senators that will represent the College of Liberal Arts.

Daniel Webb, Rebecca Subjeck and Everett Batten will represent the College of Mass Communication as senators.

Charles Jones, Anthony Rosser and Christopher Townsend will serve as at-large senators in the next semester.

No graduate senators were elected, due to the 73<sup>rd</sup> Congresses removal of the seats that were spread among

the colleges.

In the past two years a little over 1,000 students have voted in the SGA elections, which is fewer than 5 percent of the student body. ■

*Richel Albright contributed to this report.*

Executive Officer Winners: Percentage of Votes	
President: Coby Sherlock	44%
Executive Vice President: Rachel Lee	100%
Vice President Administration and Public Affairs: Jordan Hall	100%
Election Commissioner: Anit Patel	33%

# Renowned writer to speak

## Staff Report

Sebastian Junger, co-director of the 2010 Oscar-nominated documentary, "Restrepo," will speak at Tucker Theatre on March 20.

His speech "Dispatches from War: Stories from the front lines of history," is sponsored by Distinguished Lectures Committee, John Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies, Centennial Committee, Ideas and Issues Committee, School of Journalism, Paul W. Martin Honors College, Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma.

Junger has been a contributing editor for *Vanity Fair*, has covered many international stories contributing for ABC News, and landed on *The New York Times* best-seller list for three years after writing *The Perfect Storm*. He has been awarded the National Magazine Award and SAIS Novartis Prize for Journalism.

His documentary, "Restrepo," which

was co-directed with photojournalist Tim Hetherington, shows the yearlong journey the two took in 2007, with the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team in the Korengal valley of eastern Afghanistan. The documentary reports on the war from the soldiers' perspectives, spending much of his time on a remote outpost in an area that saw more combat than anywhere else in the country.

Junger's co-director, Hetherington, was killed this past year while reporting in Libya.

Partnered with the documentary is the book, *War*, is also written by Junger, which describes his time spent in Afghanistan more in-depth. The book was named a Top-Ten Non-fiction Book of 2010 by *Time*.

Junger's speech is slated for 2:40 p.m. in the Tucker Theatre. He will also be spending the day speaking to classes in the John Bragg Mass Communication Building. ■

# Congressman's visit rescheduled

## Staff Report

U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-Ill.) has rescheduled his visit to MTSU to April 6 to accommodate his re-election campaign, according to an MTSU News press release.

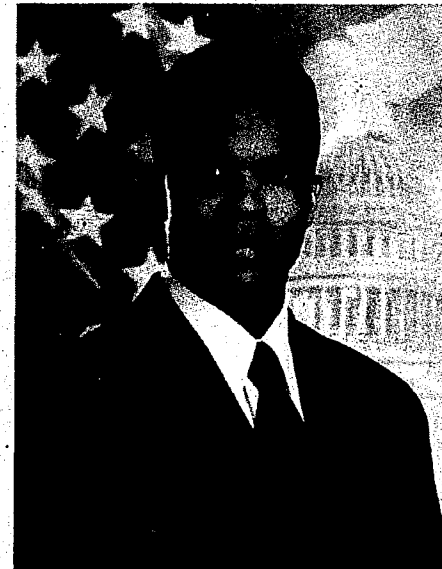
Jackson was originally scheduled to deliver a speech on March 2 as the keynote for the university's observance of Black History Month.

The speech is rescheduled to be delivered in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building at 7 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public.

Parking near the BAS will be limited due to campus construction, so Parking and Transportation officials are asking that visitors park in the South Rutherford Boulevard lot and take the Raider Xpress shuttle into the interior of campus.

Jackson is the son of two-time presidential candidate Rev. Jesse Jackson and Jacqueline Jackson.



U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr.

Jackson Jr.'s wife, Sandi Jackson, is Chicago's 7th Ward Alderman, according to the news release. Jackson Jr. was first elected to Congress in 1995.

This event is sponsored by the Paul W. Martin University Honors College and the Black History Month Committee. ■

# Visine offers scholarships

## Staff Report

Eye drop company Visine created a new program for students to receive scholarship money, launching for the first time this spring.

The program "Visine Students With a Vision" will grant 10 different students \$5,000 merit scholarships.

Visine's purpose for the scholarship is to provide students who have a vision for their lives with the assistance to become successful, whether it's to "design clothing, invent a video game or develop a life-saving vaccine," according to a Visine press release.

Potential applicants for the scholarship

must have a minimum GPA of 2.8 and be a college freshman, sophomore or junior. Applicants must also have financial need in order to apply.

In addition, students must submit an essay or video that demonstrates a clear vision or goal. Students also need to show academic success, involvement with school activities or any other extra-curricular activities.

Visine is not giving preference to any specific genre or field of study, so the application is open to a variety of students.

The application deadline is April 16, and the winners will be announced in mid-July.

Applicants can visit [www.visine.com/scholarship](http://www.visine.com/scholarship) to submit their application. ■



"Restrepo" filmmakers Sebastian Junger and Tim Hetherington at Outpost Restrepo in Korengal Valley, Afghanistan, Kunar Province in 2007. Photograph by Tim Hetherington, courtesy of Facebook.

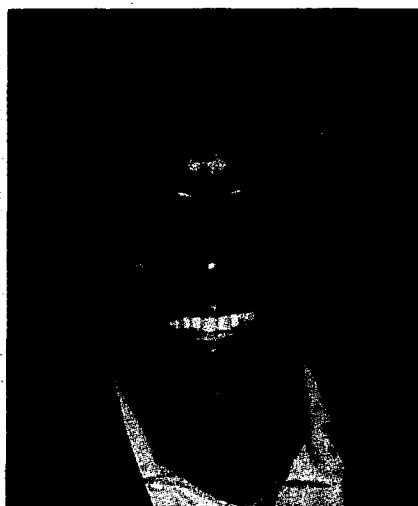
# Campaigns class gives students chance to compete in Washington, D.C.

## Staff Report

Members of Tricia Farwell's advertising and public relations campaigns class are competing for the opportunity to present creative ideas in Washington, D.C., for a campaign they're working on with American's Natural Gas Alliance.

"The team working on this campaign is off to a great start," Farwell said. "I'm really excited to see what they produce for the client. The students will have some unique opportunities working with ANGA that we haven't had with previous clients."

Emilie Maple, Justin Threlkeld, Kristen



Dwight Brooks,  
director of the School of Journalism

Walters, Brynne Henderson, Sheldon Pillow, Reid Young, Stephanie Petree, Amanda Terranova, Ian Weir and Danielle Turner are the students working on the campaign.

Five of these students will be chosen to represent the group.

The group has chosen to call themselves & Blue, to represent their pride in their school and community.

ANGA has teamed up with EdVenture Partners and MTSU to research and create a campaign for the campus, under the supervision of Farwell.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students in the campaigns class," said Dwight Brooks, director of the School of

Journalism. "And I think in this particular case this is a wonderful cause because it contributes in significant ways to our environment."

The group is planning an event to be held on campus April 3 to raise awareness for their campaign.

"I'm excited to be able to work with such a great group of people where we can put all of our skills together to work towards a good cause," said Kristen Walters, a senior majoring in advertising. "It's really nice to finally be taking a class that is able to provide us with some real-world experience and I am looking forward to seeing the outcome of our project." ■

## Campus & Community Crime Briefs

### Theft

Floyd Stadium

March 1, 8:41 p.m.

A complainant reported her iPad was stolen.

### Vandalism

Cummings Lot

March 2, 3:08 a.m.

A complainant reported that her vehicle was damaged while parked in the lot.

### Theft

James E. Walker Library

March 2, 8:54 a.m.

A complainant reported that his debit card and cash was stolen from his wallet.

### Vandalism

McFarland Health Services Lot

March 3, 3:25 p.m.

A complainant reported a hit and run to his vehicle.

### Alcohol

Baird Lane

March 3, 9:24 p.m.

Authorities arrested David Spence Jr. for

a first offense driving under the influence, violation of implied consent and two counts of simple assault.

### Alcohol

Rutherford Boulevard

March 5, 12:48 a.m.

Authorities arrested Ira Hixenbaugh, 47, for public intoxication.

### Trespassing

James E. Walker Library

March 6, 1:28 p.m.

Authorities issued a nonstudent a trespass warning for violating the university's computer use policy.

### Traffic

Alma Matter Drive

March 7, 7:50 p.m.

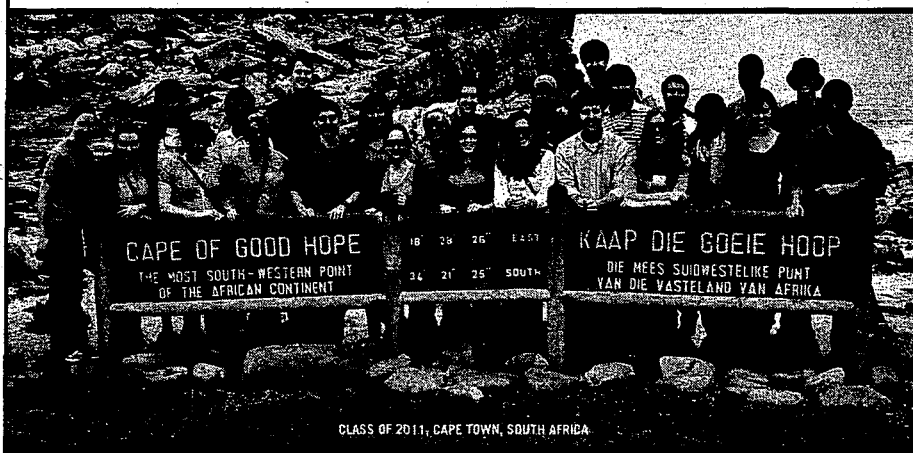
A complainant reported that her vehicle had been struck while parked on campus.

### Traffic

Miller Horse Coliseum

March 8, 3:46 p.m.

A complainant reported that his vehicle was struck while in the parking lot.



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## Thursday, March 15



**"Steel Magnolias"**  
The Center for the Arts, 7 p.m.  
110 West College St.,  
Murfreesboro  
Admission: \$13 (adults); \$11  
(seniors, students, military); \$9  
(children)

If you don't know the heart-warming classic story of "Steel Magnolias," you pretty much have no soul, as far as I'm concerned.

For those of you who loved watching the movie growing up (it seems to be a staple in every Southern woman's DVD collection)

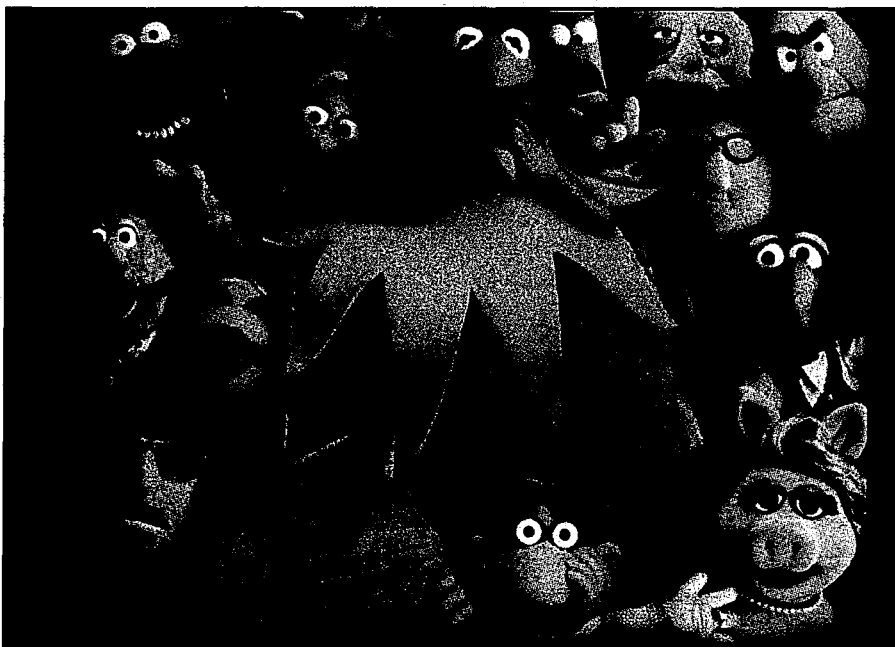
and immediately fell in love with the witty and lovable Truvy, the cranky lunatic known as Ouiser and the naïve Shelby, you can now see those characters come to life on the stage.

Murfreesboro's Center for the Arts will be the place to be for a night full of laughter and tears. If you aren't familiar with "Steel Magnolias," go and see what all the fuss is about—although, don't blame me if your friends never let you live it down that you cried hysterically that night. (Nataly Morales)

**"The Muppets"**  
KUC Theatre, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.  
Admission: \$2

You remember The Muppets, right? Their show was the only thing to look forward to at daycare—besides snack time—and the movies were like a godsend for parents who desperately needed to distract you from throwing temper tantrums.

Now, The Muppets are back with revamped felt and polyester costumes and some new friends—the hilarious Jason Segel ("How I Met Your Mother") and the sweet Amy Adams ("Enchanted"). The Muppets set out to save their old theatre with the help of Segel and Adams, and along the way they encounter some familiar faces: Zach Galifianakis, Ken Jeong and Rashida Jones. There are moments that are full of good ol'



Muppet comedy, and others that could be considered a bit too cheesy.

So, do I recommend you go see the film? After earning nearly \$90 million at the U.S. box office, debuting in second place and occasionally making me laugh until I cried, I'd definitely suggest you check it out. (Nataly Morales)

**Josh Thompson**  
Exit/In, 8 p.m.  
2208 Elliston Place, Nashville  
Admission: \$10

Ah, country music. Where would we be without the typical twang-filled, masochistic, tight-jeans-wearing, scruffy individual on stage with his guitar and heart on his sleeve? In a better world? No, no, we'd be in a world without Nashville and country music artists like Josh Thompson.

On Thursday night, Nashville's Exit/In will be hosting the music styling of Thompson, and if you're in the mood to hear a man's stories about blue-collar living, drinking beer and the inability to fall in love and stay in love, this is your ticket.

Thompson actually does have a good voice, in terms of country music, and unlike many of today's artists, his hair lacks luster and highlights—he, instead, pulls it back in a simple ponytail. He doesn't look like he spends too many hours in a tanning bed, or like he has a posse of wardrobe stylists on speed dial. Thompson seems to be a down-to-earth musician who can't wait to get off from a backbreaking job, so he can sit with a cold beer and write a song.

So go on down to the Exit/In, where they'll have plenty of whiskey and beer to help you pour your heart out and sing along. (Nataly Morales)



## Friday, March 16

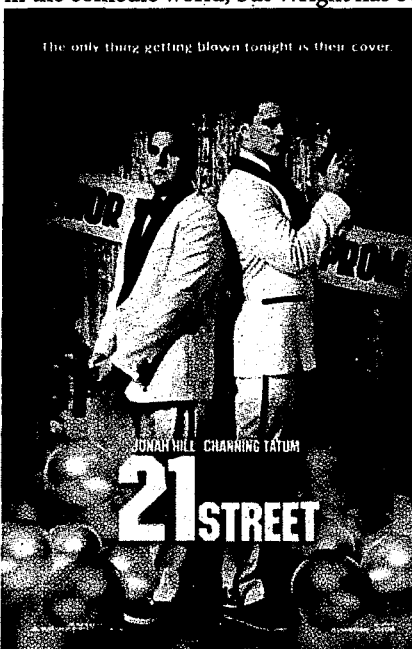
**Steven Wright**  
Schermmerhorn Symphony Center, 8 p.m.  
1 Symphony Place, Nashville  
Admission: \$34-\$64

Whether it be a teacher, boss, family member or friend, we've all known someone who is so monotone that you'd rather hear nails on a chalkboard than them for more than a minute—at least that would keep you awake.

However, for every person you know who is unfortunate enough to have little, if any, tone range, there is at least one person who gives them all street cred. Comedian Steven Wright has been making monotone, dry comedy something to cherish. His one-liners continually make people laugh, despite his deadpan delivery (that seems to make the jokes funnier).

It's rare for a person who could easily bore someone to tears be revered so much in the comedic world, but Wright has been able to break barriers and make stand-up comedy less about overwrought on-stage presence and more about content and owning whatever flaws a person may have.

Seeing Wright is one experience that I suggest everyone take advantage of. (Nataly Morales)



**"21 Jump Street"**  
Check your local theatre for show times and ticket prices

Channing Tatum is mostly known for his roles as a heartthrob who doesn't seem to own a shirt, yet can win a dance battle and for his uncanny ability to woo women everywhere with a quick smirk.

Jonah Hill, on the other hand, is mostly known for his goofy, curly afro and his ability to make people from all walks of life laugh hysterically with films like "Superbad" and "Knocked Up."

Put these two together in a film about undercover cops in a high school, throw in some action and comedic timing and you have



## RANTS & RAVES

"21 Jump Street." The film condenses five seasons of the popular 80s television show that included none other than an adorable Johnny Depp sporting a pre-British, Scandinavian, French accent (although I don't think anyone knows what accent he's trying to pull off).

Why not go out and catch this film? It's rumored to be quite funny and definitely entertaining. I personally love any movie that includes Hill, and I shamefully admit my affectation for Tatum since seeing him play a distraught soldier in "Dear John." I think it will be interesting to see how the two play off of each other on the big screen, and if Tatum can manage to make audiences laugh, there will be just one more reason to love him. (Nataly Morales)

### Saturday, March 17



**St. Patty's Day Festival**  
**Dan McGuinness Irish Pub, 9 a.m.**  
 1538 Demonbreun St.  
**Admission: \$10-\$15**  
 Finally! The one day out of the year where the ugliest of green colors are encouraged to be worn, pinching someone is acceptable and drinking to

celebrate your Irish heritage is the sole purpose of the day.

Dan McGuinness' Irish Pub will be hosting a daylong celebration that will start off with "Kegs and Eggs" and finish the day off with some traditional Irish activities (drinking Jameson will surely be one).

Don't push your Irish luck too much, though. Make sure to have a DD for the night! (Nataly Morales)

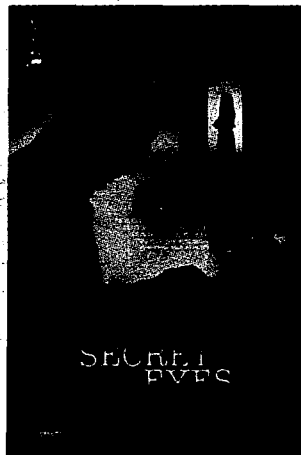
**"The Secret In Their Eyes"**  
**KUC Theatre, 6 p.m.**  
**Admission: Free**

As part of MTSU's International Film Series, the International Affairs and MTSU Films Committee will sponsor a screening of "The Secret In Their Eyes."

In an attempt to reopen a rape and murder case and find the guilty party, Benjamin Esposito decides to write a novel about it, while trying to confront his own past of failed love.

Director Juan Jose Campanella takes the viewer on an emotional ride as his characters go through love, loss and suspenseful situations.

If you love foreign films, especially those that have dramatic plots, this movie will most likely be the one to give you your foreign film fix for the week. (Nataly Morales)



### Sunday, March 18

**Bill Maher**  
**TPAC - Andrew Jackson Hall, 8 p.m.**  
 505 Deaderick St., Nashville  
**Admission: \$38-\$58**

You may know him from "Religulous," or you may know him from "Real Time." One thing is for sure, no matter where you know him from, you know that Bill Maher revels in controversial discussions on topics most people try to avoid.



For one night only, Maher will grace Nashville with his presence and witty take on today's political issues. Though his show is sort of like John Stewart's and Stephen Colbert's, Maher doesn't only poke fun at the seemingly idiotic world of politics, but he also provides insightful alternatives ways to think about America's problems.

Listening to the constant coverage of the latest Romney-Santorum catfight or Gingrich blunder may be the

last thing you want to hear, let alone pay to hear, but I promise Maher will put a hilarious spin on those topics that will make you appreciate the fact that other people are keeping up with the good and the bad in politics instead of you. (Nataly Morales)

**Karaoke Night**  
**Cyber Café, 10 p.m.**  
**Admission: Free**

It's that time again—the Cyber Café is the place to be on Sunday evening for a night full of music, bad and occasionally good singing and a great opportunity to make some wonderful memories.

Don't forget to bring a friends and a list of your favorite songs—they may have them for you to sing. Also, the event is free, so there's no reason for you not to join other students for a night of fun.

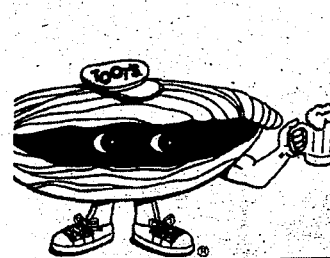
Go and belt your heart out! (Nataly Morales)

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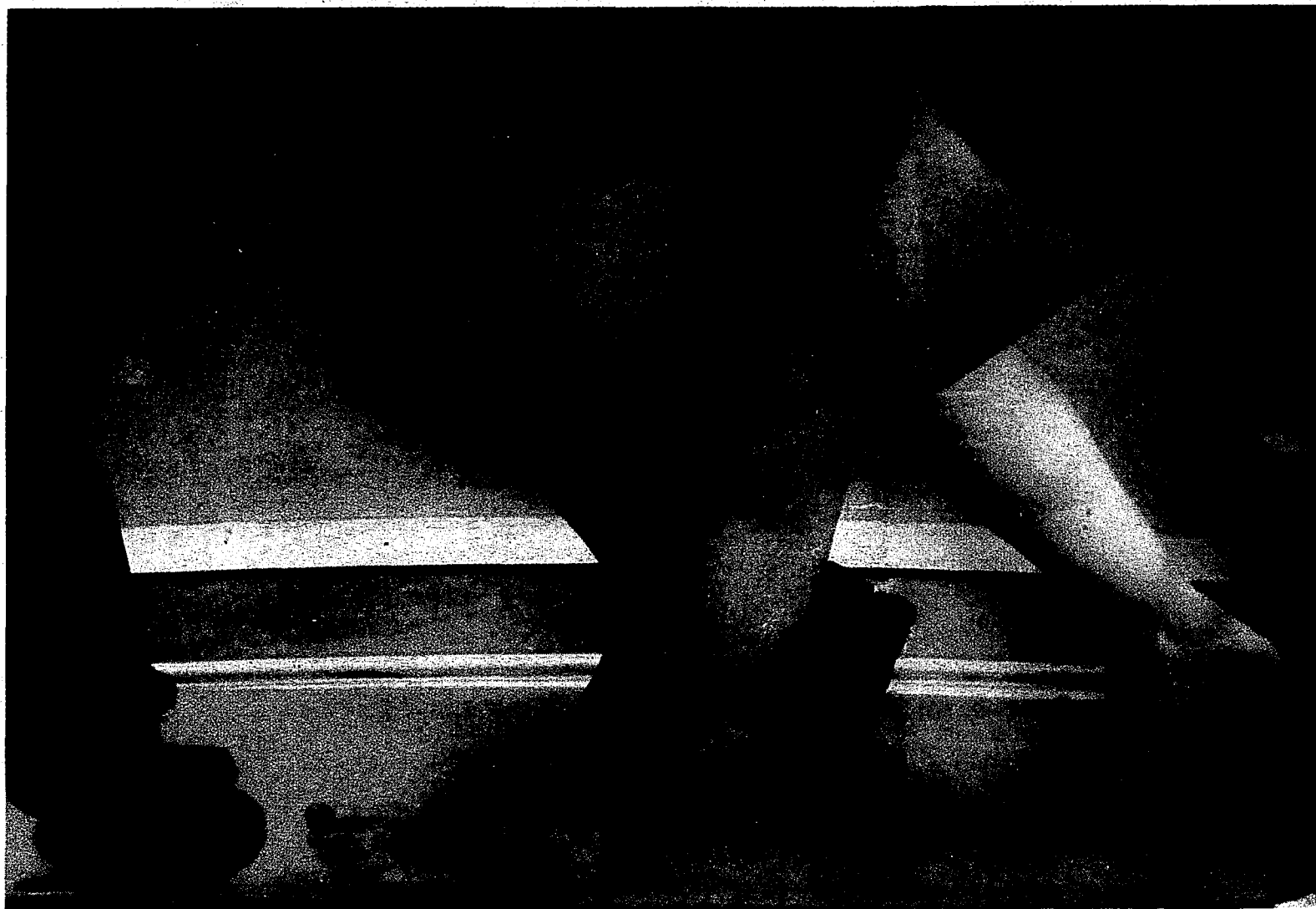
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COVER  
STORY

# Paralytics find new hope in underwater treadmill

by Emily West  
Associate News Editor



**M**

TSU researchers are exploring uncharted territory in the rehabilitation realm as paralytic patients with spinal cord injuries are being given a chance to spend time out of the wheelchair.

The idea behind the underwater treadmill research is to give patients who are partially or completely paralyzed the chance to get out of their wheelchairs and attempt to walk. A chance that, according to lead researcher Sandy Stevens, is hard to

find.

"The whole underwater treadmill is usually done for racehorses, and that is where it started," Stevens said. "Researchers have done work with dogs also, and it's not been seen as a rehabilitation form for humans. As far as I know, this is one of the few places even doing this type of research on it. This is pretty much all that there is."

Research for the spinal cord injury rehabilitation evolved out a cerebral palsy study headed by university professor Don Morgan in 2006. The idea of the study was to rehabilitate children who had the ability to walk,

but were still impaired. Morgan pitched the idea to the National Institute of Health to fund the study and receive the underwater treadmill.

Stevens has worked on the underwater treadmill project since 2009, and she started with 12 patients. Three years later, Stevens said she has compiled and seen enough data to prove that her research is working.

"I was so curious, and I wondered if there was some medical theory behind it," Stevens said. "We are just now getting people who have done this long enough to see outcomes. Not to the point to anyone who is walking yet,



but people are showing voluntary movement.”

Currently, the research has five patients who come two to three times a week for rehab. Patients come from across Tennessee, with some traveling at least an hour to an hour and a half one-way.

Carmen Thompson of Nashville, a patient, has a drive that requires her to travel for rehab. Thompson discovered the rehabilitation through an article in *The Tennessean* in December of 2010. She has been paralyzed from the waist down since a farming accident in 2007.

Thompson contacted Stevens and decided that she would like to undergo the rehab. She was the first completely-paralyzed patient to enter the program.

A normal rehab day consists of Thompson wheeling herself into the Alumni Memorial Gym's basement level with her dog Tink, who sits in a pouch under Thompson's seat.

She then prepares to walk and moves toward the tank of the underwater treadmill and waits as the water pumps from the holding area. Water is then transferred from the holding area to the tank so that the water raises her into the tank.

Thompson, like others, attempts to walk 45 minutes on the treadmill. While any patient undergoes rehab, Stevens is behind them in the water, tapping the bottom of the patient's feet to help stimulate movement.

“I would like to see her take steps outside the tank,” Stevens said. “I don't know if we will get there, and I don't if that is possible with her situation or complete injuries.”

While patients complete their rehab, graduate student Saori Ishikawa monitors their heart rates among other physical assessments.

“I have been here three years as doctorate student and when I first got here I met Sandy.

She was already doing her study and that is how I got involved,” Ishikawa said. “My interest is bone density among females across their life span, and this study is interesting because I am looking at bone density among a population that is primarily stationary.”

According to Ishikawa, women's bone density decreases the older they become especially after age 30. However, patients like Thompson demonstrate the opposite, and she has reversed her bone density loss.

“I scanned her before and after she did six month training,” Ishikawa said. “You usually do not see an increase. We can consider exercise protocol effective if it doesn't go down, but hers went up. It was very interesting.”

The program continues to flow with patients like Thompson who keep stimulating the rehab with their interests.

“There is nothing out there like this for things outside of your chair,” Thompson said. “In the normal rehab world, they consider it a waste of time to do anything outside your chair, and this is breaking a lot ground with all the ideas. Before I started this I couldn't stand up at all. My legs would crumble. I can now stand up at my house at my kitchen sink without my walker. It wasn't even a thought before now.”

Because this is a one-of-a-kind rehabilitation program, Stevens said she hopes to see it grow. As it stands, the program only has minor hiccups that revolve around parking, space and accessibility.

“As long as we keep moving ahead and growing, anyone who wants to start this has to model after us,” Stevens said. “We are in the lead. If we quit, someone else can take that spot. Funding right now is so challenging and difficult. We are trying to address this to a population that doesn't believe these people have potential to recover. If we can get a level of interest and support, it would be amazing.”



Researcher Sandy Stevens and patient Carmen Thompson work out on the water treadmill during one of the three sessions Thompson attends. For Thompson's gait to get started, Stevens lightly taps her feet as she walks behind her. The amount of time Thompson walks before a break continues to increase the more she goes to rehab.

# NEW CENTER FOR INNOVATION IN MEDIA AIMS TO CONVERGE OUTLETS

by Kelsey Griffith  
Staff Writer

The new frosted glass doors downstairs in the university's mass communication building aren't just for show— behind them lies the college's new Center for Innovation in Media.

The Center is a brand-new facility that houses all the student-run media organizations on campus. Now MTSU has a place for *Sidelines*, WMTS, WMOT, MT Records and MT10HD (formerly MTTV) to work together. That's the objective for the Center— to converge media and content.

The Center's main room is nicknamed "the egg," and it's filled with rows of iMacs for writing, designing and editing. Branching off the egg is Studio A, which houses WMOT and Studio B, the home of WMTS. The front of the studios are glass, so mass communication students walking by can see the DJs at work under the glowing red "ON AIR" signs.

Every morning at 9 a.m., students and faculty involved with *Sidelines*, WMTS, WMOT, MT Records and MT10HD meet in the conference room of the CIM to organize their plans for the upcoming weeks. These students mean business—they share ideas for stories, projects and resources. These meetings are open to anyone interested in pitching a story or getting involved.

The difference the new environment is making is simple: now, a story that used to be told through one format (i.e., an interview with an artist on WMTS) can be told via print, web, radio, still photos, graphics, podcast, television and video.

Stephan Foust, the director of the Center, shared the idea with other professors and students as early as 2005. It was a response to the rise of new innovations in media for journalists and communicators, and the Center was the solution to merge them all.

Although the robotics lab for MT10HD is in its final stages of completion, the other organizations are securing their footing to hit the ground running.

Students and faculty have experienced some growing pains during the process, but that's just a side effect of the expansion.

"It's in the early stages, and there's a lot of things that have to be hammered out," Foust said.

Foust was especially pleased with the university's understanding of the importance of technology and tailoring those advancements to our students directly.

"We've got the answer to what we think is going to provide our students with the environment to learn to operate in a multiplatform world," he said.

Jeremy Ball, general manager of MT10HD, agreed.

"I'm pleased with it," he said. "It's made the groups a lot tighter. Between us, WMTS and *Sidelines*, we actually know each other and see each other on a daily basis now. So it definitely works."

Ball is waiting patiently for the robotics lab to be completed so he and MT10HD can begin projects they are planning.

He and Ali Dorris, the general manager of WMTS, are thankful the Center is bringing their studios to the mass communications building and exposing their organizations, since their previous studios were hidden in the depths of the LRC.

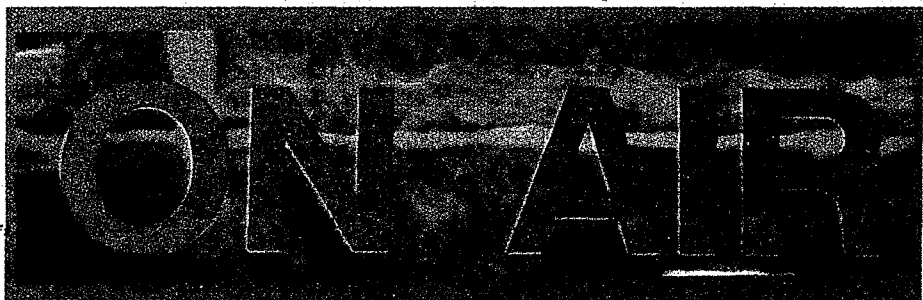
"We are completely exposed to everybody in the hallways," Dorris said. "This is becoming a huge showcase... People are looking at us literally all the time. It's a huge step up from where we were."

The Center for Innovation in Media is just that— a place where students can come together to share the latest and greatest advancements in media so they can better communicate their message. Now that the different media outlets have come together, they can merge content, share an audience and learn skills to stay on their technologic game.

"By giving us this CIM, they've given us a leg to stand on," Dorris said. "They've given us credibility that we didn't have before."



Ishmael Rodriguez, a junior electronic media journalism student, deejays his radio show, "Spanglish," which airs from 4-6 p.m. on Sunday.



Students work in the Center for Innovation Media for the different media outlets that it houses. Photos by Emily West, Associate News Director.

# GOOD CONVERSATION NEVER GOES STALE

## Talking about food can be a lifesaver in social

by Rozalind Ruth  
Blogger

**L**ets talk about food. That's all. Just talk about food. Eating delicious things and talking about food has become one of my favorite pastimes throughout the past year. I find it is a fairly universal conversation topic because it is versatile for every sort of company and it is limitless.

Lately, I have been in more and more situations in which I am meeting new people, something I have found becomes more difficult as I grow older. Maybe because it isn't fashionable to be drunk in certain situations, like work and baby showers.

Having started a new job in a different state, meeting new friends was necessary and unavoidable. I like to measure time by who it's with, rather than ticks on the clock.

Hanging out with co-workers has saved me from my mind turning to mush these past two months, but what do we talk about? Work? That's boring.

I have found my new co-workers have great cooking tips and excellent taste in restaurants. After a few minutes of comparing recipes and talking about cuisines we like, the conversation shifted to movies, fashion, work, themed-parties, you name it.

But I needed that gateway. I needed a way to let my nerves relax so I could be myself and not ruin a good relationship because I put my foot in my mouth.

Recently, I went to a baby shower. Talk about nervous. I knew everyone there would be talking about babies, marriage and showers— three things I'm not inclined to at the moment. So I hung around the snack table for a while and low-and-behold, someone else there liked the chicken salad as much as I did. While I don't know much about babies, I'm a really great eater.

What I had was a conversation starter, a delicious tuna salad recipe and a mean hankering for these ridiculous petit fours from a bakery in Dyersburg, Tenn.

The next thing I knew, I was comfortable. I was having natural conversations with the mom and aunts-to-be, I was catching up with a couple of old friends and the whole time we were noshing. I had a really great time.

Conversations about food somehow fit perfectly between gossip and the weather in the polite spectrum. I've found it is much harder to make a fool of myself or tell an embarrassing story

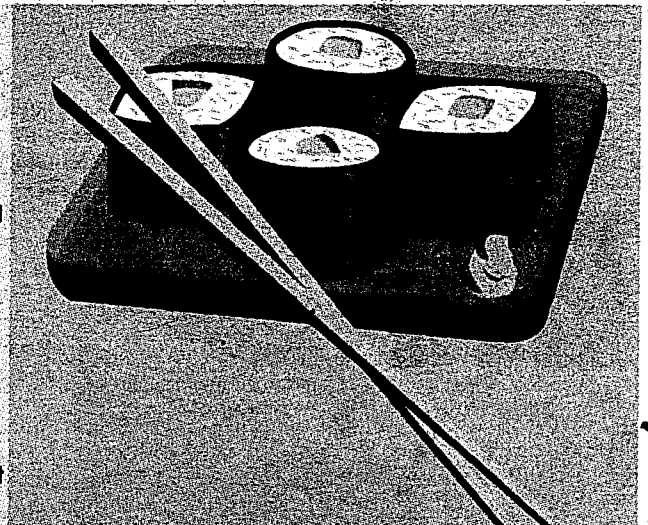
when food is the topic. I've also found it has more substance than the weather. I can actually learn something interesting about a person, and it is easy to segue into other topics as the conversation gets more comfortable.

As I have gotten older, I have better realized the importance of true friends, and the idea of hurting someone's feelings or accidentally insulting them is a trait I no longer feel so crass about. In other words, I'm trying not to be a mean girl like I was in high school.

This led to a bit more apprehension for social situations, but it has also led to a greater level of relationships that I've maintained for the past few years.

The friends that I have made these past few years have mostly been into cooking— some even keep their own gardens. I don't know if that's what attracted me to cooking or to them. Either way, it's nice to know there's something out there that we can all share and help each other out.

I would say talking about cooking and food is probably the best thing next to actually sharing a table with friends and knowing I have provided nourishment and entertainment to people that I truly consider friends. ■



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# 'War Horse' new win for Spielberg

by Mack Burke  
Contributing Writer



With "War Horse," director Steven Spielberg succeeds again in adding another quality film to his already-legendary résumé.

It's safe to say Spielberg is a film genius. He has had his hand—whether it be directing, writing or producing—in a wide range of critically-acclaimed pictures. "War Horse" is just another homerun to add to



his stat line.

Originally a British children's novel by Michael Morpurgo, "War Horse" transformed and flashed a sense of originality coupled with Spielberg magic on the big screen. It wasn't Spielberg's first adaptation of a novel. He's brought to life works such as *The Color Purple*, a Pulitzer Prize-winning piece written by Alice Walker.

"War Horse" isn't a film that most average moviegoers would drool in awe over after seeing its trailer. It seems quite ordinary and mundane. But once you force your way into the theater and settle

in a relaxed state, the film takes you over.

The cinematography, credited to Janusz Kaminski, is magnificent. It attacks you at the opening scene of the old English landscape and holds out to the end credits.

The war sequences are gritty, breathtaking and suspenseful, with traces of "Saving Private Ryan" splashed all over them—minus the blood and gore.

To take the story of a children's novel and mix it with the unrelenting feel of his previous war films is further evidence that Spielberg is a master technician.

An example of subtle camera use such as moving camera shots of Joey's—the leading horse—legs as he runs with Jeremy Irvine's Albert in the saddle are akin to Eadward Muybridge and the early history and start of the motion capture camera.

The musical score for "War Horse" was penned by John Williams, who has successfully worked with Spielberg in the past, and doesn't disappoint this time either.

The screenplay by Lee Hall and Richard Curtis was solid and well-played. The story ties together well and flows at a good pace, expertly avoiding monotony.

Spielberg's casting remains the same over time, as he has a history of casting the same actors for multiple movies—Tom Hanks, Tom Cruise and Shia Lebouf, for example. His cast is full of newcomers, and they

were excellent in portraying the many different attitudes and cultures that Joey had to endure during his adventure back to Albert.

The chemistry portrayed by the horses in the film was amazing. The horses acted as well—if not better—than the human cast members. The audience knew exactly what the horses were feeling at every moment in the picture.

"War Horse" will touch your heart as you follow the many different characters and events as they converge and come together in front of your eyes. Chalk up another win for Mr. Spielberg. ■



## Cudi's new release fails to make magic

by Stephen Hermingson  
Contributing Writer



Kid Cudi's highly-anticipated and controversial album *WZRD* finally dropped at the end of February. *WZRD* is a collaboration with Dot Da Genius, that looks to explore Kid Cudi's rocker side.

The album begins with a nearly three-minute instrumental that is dramatic enough to build some excitement and raise expectations. The next track, "High Off Life," is one of few songs from the album that will make its way to my iPod. The album delves into Kid Cudi's fear of a death too young. The theme of overdosing is prevalent throughout *WZRD*, and—with Cudi's background in drugs and addiction—is not surprising.

Despite being an album influenced by rock, Cudi manages to maintain his

generally relaxed sound while conveying his emotions in a relatable way. The trippy soundscape produced by Dot Da Genius is reminiscent of Kid Cudi's prior works, but unique enough to show real progress in musical style.

This isn't a rap album, this isn't a hip-hop album, this is alternative to the fullest with no apologies. Kid Cudi isn't trying to alienate fans here, but he isn't sorry if he does. It is another blended hip-hop and rock album that probably shouldn't have been made, but since it is, it may as well get some airtime until *Man on The Moon III* comes out in 2014.

*WZRD* doesn't have the tight-knit storyline or replay value of *Man on the Moon* and it's lacking the semi-mainstream appeal of *Man on the Moon II: Legend of Mr. Rager*. This album offers the perfect opportunity for other artists to remix and add their own verses, which could make it the album it should have been from the start. While Kid Cudi's struggle with drug abuse has brought out some of his best material, this album seems to focus too much on self-pity. Track nine, *Efflictum*, is the worst offender of these "poor me" lyrics that seem to come straight from the mind of whichever prepubescent grungy rocker Cudi was channeling when

writing *WZRD*.

The album will be a hit to some fans. This won't capture everyone's attention, and if you're not already excited about this album you may not give it a second glance. However, if you look deeper than the music, Kid Cudi's words will resonate, whether on this album or one of his prior works.

The album is a rock/hip-hop crossover, and history has shown us that these are never a good idea. *WZRD* isn't an incredible album, but Cudi does a better job than most at blending the two genres. His fan base could love it, others might like it and some will be left scratching their heads, but this renaissance man of music will have left his mark in history regardless. ■



# Reba reveals painful past, lessons in OWN special

Staff Report



McEntire was the star of her own hit TV show "Reba" for six seasons before it was taken off the air. Photo courtesy of Facebook

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — More than 20 years after a plane crash killed seven members of her band and her tour manager, Reba McEntire can still clearly see the hotel room she was in when she got the news.

The emotion comes flooding back when she revisits that tragic day in 1991 on "Oprah's Master Class" on the OWN network Sunday night. It's a rare break in composure from the queen of country music.

"I don't guess it ever quits hurting," she says on the show, recalling how she tearfully followed husband-manager Narvel Blackstock room to room as he called people to let them know. "It's the worst thing that's ever happened in my life."

From that tragedy, she learned to make each day count and not to put anything off until tomorrow. However, McEntire

said after the crash, she built up a wall so she would not get close to anybody, and it took time for her to open up to members of her touring family again. She accepted support from industry friends like Dolly Parton, who helped her put a new band together, and she took solace in her strong work ethic.

"I had a huge organization, and I needed to continue working, because that's their paycheck also," she told The Associated Press in a phone interview from just outside Dublin on Thursday. "I had to take care of the people who are still here. So it wasn't a thing where I could quit. I had to go on with my life, my career for them, for my family, for my sanity."

Hard work is a defining theme in McEntire's life, and it has served her "tremendously" throughout her career. It's something she learned early on from her father, Clark, when she was put to work as

a kid on the family's ranch in Oklahoma.

"If you do that in any job, if you can take direction, if you're coachable, and you give it all, you're going to be successful," she said on the phone.

McEntire is now a member of the Country Music Hall of Fame and has sold more than 55 million albums worldwide. She also runs a successful fashion and merchandise line.

In 2001, she performed in the Broadway revival of "Annie Get Your Gun" and she starred in the hit TV show "Reba" for six seasons before it was taken off the air.

"I didn't want to leave the sitcom business in the first place. Our show was canceled in December of 2006, not by our choice by any shape, form or fashion," she said. "We had a lot more stories to tell, and we were having a blast."

This year, McEntire is going back to television. ABC has picked up a pilot for the show "Malibu Country." McEntire plays a woman who divorces her rock-star husband and moves her three kids from Nashville to Malibu to resurrect her singing career.

"I thought it was very true to life," she said. "Kind of like 'The Beverly Hillbillies' once again, because it was very similar to Narvel, Shelby (their son) and myself moving to L.A. in 2001 to do the 'Reba' show. So I really got a kick out of it."

As much as she's accomplished, McEntire believes she still has a lot to learn.

"No matter how old you are or what you've been doing in life, you can always learn either a better way of doing things or just a better way of treating people," she said. ■

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# Do you need college?: Santorum speaks against liberal education

by Michael Finch  
Columnist

Presidential primaries have been the equivalent of a three-ring circus for quite some time now. More and more, the candidates seem more like reality television stars and less like the sort of people I'd want having their finger on "The Button."

However, after going to a Rick Santorum event a week-and-a-half ago, it doesn't seem quite as funny to me anymore.

Santorum's speech wasn't much different from what he's been saying on national news shows. Defend the family (with an implied "against gay people and birth control"), the founding fathers were all Christians, President Barack Obama is a snob for wanting kids to go to college. Nothing too out-of-the-ordinary – and the fact that I consider these statements "normal" shows just how out-of-hand this primary season has gotten.

One of the moments that seemed a little off-script, though, was when Santorum was talking about higher education. He slipped, initially, and said "not every kid needs to go to school." He got applause for that statement.

Santorum quickly corrected himself, saying "Now, of course I mean college."

But the fact of the matter stands that the crowd cheered wildly for the statement "not every kid needs to go to school," without any context provided that would allow them to assume Santorum was talking about higher education.

Then, when the higher education subject was clear, Santorum got a standing ovation for suggesting President Obama wants all young people to go to college so that "liberal college professors can indoctrinate them."

I know some people (no matter their age) will blindly accept statements said by authority figures such as college professors, but it betrays a real lack of confidence in America's youth that he thinks we could all be so easily "indoctrinated."

This argument is a crutch of those who don't want to see the youth as political actors. If they did, they'd have to stop speaking for us on policy issues. They'd have to realize that they can't use "do it for the kids" as a rhetorical tactic, when those very "kids" are speaking out against them and their views.

Santorum slipped at another point while talking about that same topic. While he ended up saying that some young people's dreams lead them toward a path other than college, he didn't say "dreams" initially. He said "skills." And I think that's

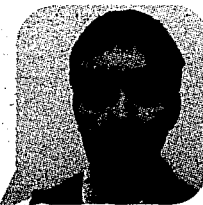
where he and the president really differ.

There is nothing wrong with not going to college, or with going to vocational school. I don't think the president is saying there's anything wrong with it. However, Santorum – who, it should be noted, has a bachelor's, a master's and a law degree – seems willing to accept that some students who may want to attend university have not been equipped with the skills that would allow them to succeed there.

President Obama, on the other hand, has suggested knocking down barriers to higher education in order to help those very young people whose disadvantages have them headed down another path.

In some aspects, Rick Santorum and President Obama are talking past each other, dealing with completely separate issues. But in other aspects, they are directly pitted against each other. And surprisingly enough, it seems that it's Barack Obama, not Rick Santorum, who has faith here – in this case, faith in America's youth.

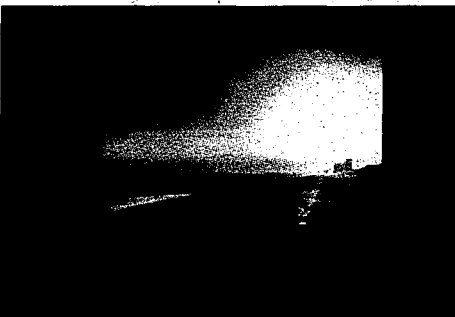
Michael Finch is a senior majoring in political science. He can be reached at [mfinch13@gmail.com](mailto:mfinch13@gmail.com).



## TOP 15

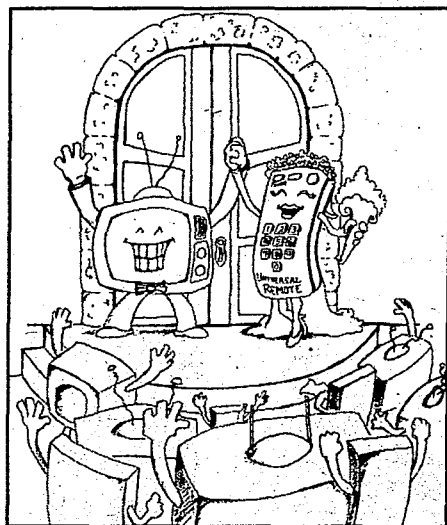
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4. EUROPE
5. LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
6. JAMAICA
7. CANCUN
8. NEW YORK CITY
9. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
10. SAVANNAH, GEORGIA
11. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12. MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA
13. AUSTIN, TEXAS
14. SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
15. NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

\*LIST BASED ON POPULAR STUDENT TRAVEL DESTINATIONS ON [WWW.STUDENTTRAVELER.COM](http://WWW.STUDENTTRAVELER.COM).



The TV family was truly happy for George, but deep down they know she would change him.



Doug's GPS had developed A.I.

THE FINER THINGS by Jeremy Ball



It was over. Bessie and the dirtdobbers could no longer compete with that pig and his spider next door.

Sidelines is the editorially independent, student-run newspaper affiliated with Middle Tennessee State University and the College of Mass Communication. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or the university.



# Dudley

## named All American

by Alex Hubbard  
Sports Editor

The Blue Raider women's track team received a national honor last weekend as junior jumper Ann Dudley became the eighth woman in MT track history to be honored as an All American.

Dudley highlighted a group of four Blue Raider athletes who competed in the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships in Nampa, Idaho. Her leap of 5 feet, 11.25 inches grabbed sixth place in the high jump event and the All American designation, the first for a MT woman in the high jump.

"This is simply a remarkable accomplishment for Ann," Coach Dean Hayes said. "I am incredibly proud of her performance tonight."

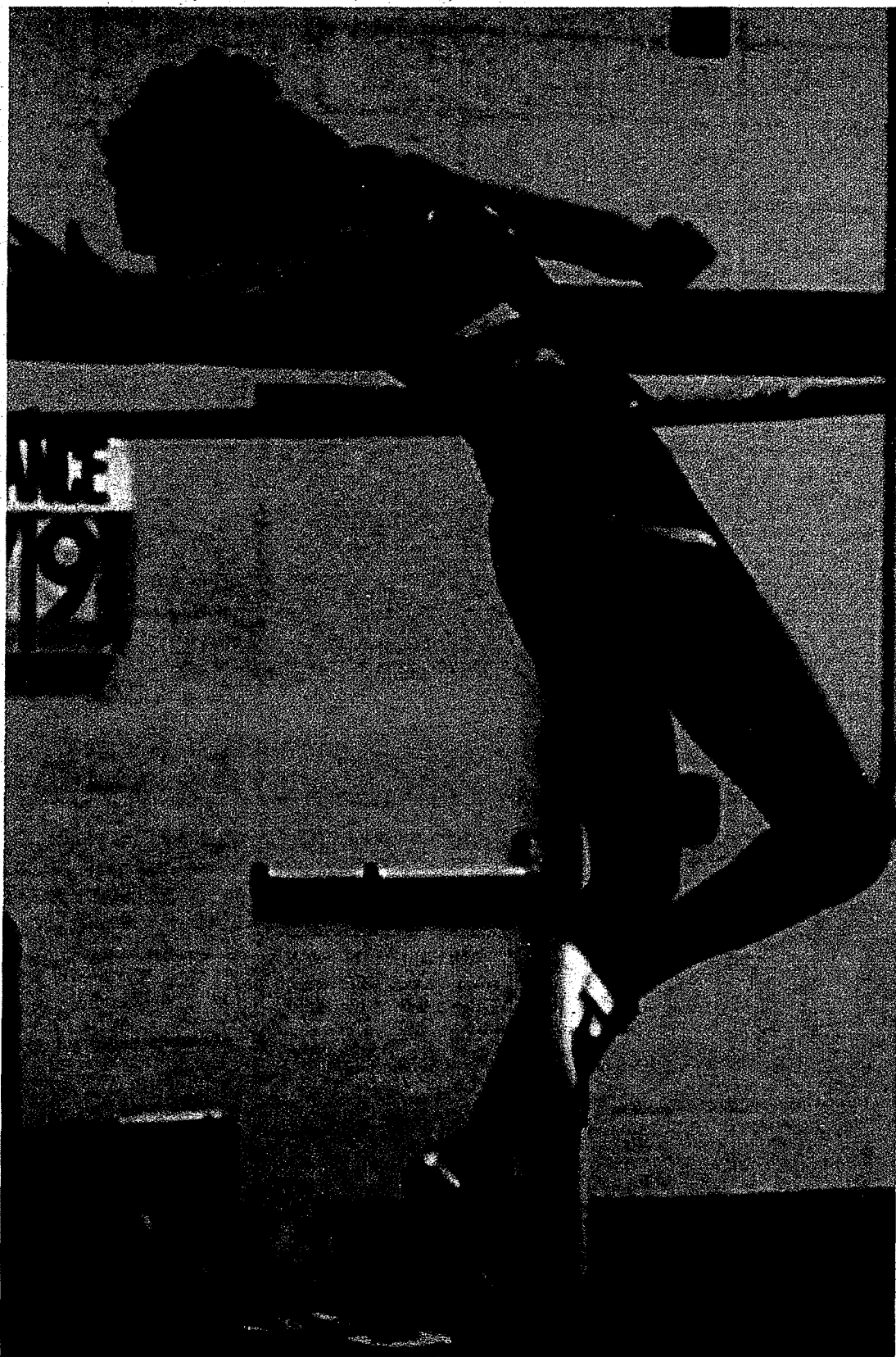
Dudley capped off a stellar indoor season with the effort. She set personal

bests in the high jump and 55-meter hurdles and claimed at least one victory in all but one competition in the run up to the national meet.

"I want to continue to keep the same energy every time I jump," Dudley said in an interview before she qualified for the national championship. "But at the same time when I'm at a bigger meet, like at the Sun Belt Conference or at nationals, I want to make sure that I am consistent, but I want to make sure that I am at the highest level of my competition."

France Makabu and Cordairo Golden also competed in national jump events—both in the triple jump. Makabu and Golden both finished in 14<sup>th</sup> place.

Makabu's mark of 40 feet, 6 inches placed her well out of the top five, but she closed the indoor season in fine form. She



Dudley set personal bests in the high jump and 55-meter hurdles on Saturday, March 10. She received sixth place in the high jump event with a leap of 5 feet, 11.25 inches—solidifying her All American designation. Photos courtesy of MT Athletic Communications.

continued

## Junior places sixth in high jump at national championship...continued from page 15

turned in seven top-five finishes in the triple jump on the campaign, and her finish in the conference championship, which earned her a place at the national meet, was a personal best.

Golden's leap of 51 feet fell well out of the top ranking as well, but the sophomore wrapped up an indoor campaign that saw him display vast improvement. He was named Sun Belt field athlete of the year and claimed two event titles in the Sun Belt Championship and recorded personal bests in four events.

Roscoe Payne participated in the 60-meter hurdles, the only Blue Raider running athlete to compete at the national event. His 15<sup>th</sup>-place finish in the preliminaries failed to pass him on to the finals, which brings to an end the senior's career in a Blue Raiders



Ann Dudley

uniform.

With the NCAA national championship complete, MT finished competition for the indoor season.

In conference competition, the women's squad claimed the Sun Belt Championship, the team's first since 2004. The title came at home as MT served as host of the event at Murphy Center.

The women claimed the title in style, as the squad needed the final event to clinch the title. MT's relay squad finished that event, the 400-meter relay, in second place, which was good enough to earn a one-point standings victory over runner up North Texas.

The men finished second in the conference competition to Western Kentucky. Springing off Golden's

jumping success, MT sprinkled top-five finishes in five running and sprinting events, highlighted by two in the top five of the 200 meters and four in the top eight of that event.

MT will now prepare for outdoor competition, beginning March 24 at Vanderbilt. In contrast to the indoor season, when MT hosted five meets, the teams will be hitting the road for every competition on the outdoor slate.

The schedule includes three trips to Nashville for competitions at Vanderbilt and Tennessee State, as well as trips to Knoxville, Memphis, Auburn, Atlanta and Philadelphia.

The Sun Belt championship will be hosted at Louisiana-Lafayette. ■

For up-to-date coverage of the basketball season visit [www.mtsusidelines.com](http://www.mtsusidelines.com)

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