



Flavored cigarette  
ban promises no  
impact on smoking.

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THUR  
76°/59°

FRI  
74°/49°

SAT  
68°/44°

Local restaurant  
provides satisfying  
experience.

Features, page 4



# MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2009

VOL. 86, NO. 9

## Students band together to help save music

By EMMA EGLI  
Assistant Campus News Editor

The Public Relations Student Society of America is partnering with the VH1 Save the Music Foundation to promote a concert featuring local artists this Friday at 6 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center.

Half of the proceeds will go to VH1's efforts to help keep music programs in schools

that can't afford it. The other half will go to other events PSSRA hopes to host throughout the year.

Tickets for the VH1 Save the Music concert can be purchased at the PRSSA tent in front of the Keathley University Center or at the door on the night of the show. General admission is \$5 for students, or \$7.

"This is the first time we have put on a production that's this

large," said Nicole Edmondson, president of PRSSA and senior public relations major. "We hope to do more like this in the future."

Featured artists include Kristi Neuman, a newly signed Nashville folk artist, DeRobert and the Half Truths, a funk band, and Nate Bernardini, another local folk artist.

"We also have two special guests which we are keeping a secret in an effort to

make people want to come," said Edmondson.

According to its Web site, the VH1 Save the Music foundation has provided \$43 million worth of new musical instruments to more than 1,600 public schools in more than 100 cities around the country since 1997.

Edmondson said Paul Bernardini, vice president of funding for PRSSA, knew someone with a connection to VH1.

"We were looking for a good fundraiser to do this year that incorporates students and schools and something for a good cause," Edmondson said.

Bernardini, who is a junior recording industry major, said that if it goes well, they would continue to host it in the future.

"I think it will be a great opportunity for people to come and support something this

beneficial," Bernardini said.

Edmondson said she thinks public relations should be bigger on campus and hopes that it will grow this year as a result of this event.

"We want to work with all the mass communications majors to make a more unified effort on campus," Edmondson said. "We all have these different majors but none of them really work together until we are in the real world."

## Volunteers help develop future technological growth in MT

By DUSTIN EVANS  
Assistant Community News Editor

The Rutherford County eCommunity Leadership Team and Connected Tennessee have recently published the Rutherford County Strategic Technology Plan, a project aimed at improving the county's economy through technological advancements, like Internet accessibility.

Connected Tennessee, a non-profit organization set up at the request of the governor's office, presented the plan to the Rutherford County eCommunity Leadership Team, a group of local volunteers, as well as residents, Sept. 17 at the Rutherford County Courthouse.

"In 2008, we studied the economic impact of broadband technology for Tennessee," said Larry Raybon, the project manager for Connected Tennessee's Middle Tennessee department. "If we had a seven percent increase in use of Internet-based technologies, then we would see a \$2.4 billion economic impact — which includes the creation and retention of 49,000 jobs."

The plan emphasizes efforts on nine sectors of the local community: government, community-based organizations, business and industry, health care, libraries, K-12 education, higher education, agriculture and tourism, and parks and recreation.

The plan shows where the county is today in terms of overall Internet connectivity, and where the county should be in two to five years.

Raybon said the main focus of the plan hinges on 100 percent availability of high-speed or broadband Internet across the county. He said there are rural areas throughout the county where there are no service providers to offer the Internet at high speed or broadband capacities.

"Based on a survey we took in 2007 for Rutherford County, 39 percent of the residents said 'Broadband is not offered in my area,' 20 percent

said, 'I don't need broadband, or I don't know why I need broadband,' and 13 percent said broadband is, 'too expensive,'" Raybon said.

Raybon said the team is compiling a database showing the need of residents in the county who do not have Internet access. He said the database will be sent to local service providers to show them where they need to expand their businesses to.

"Businesses and industries need to expand high-speed Internet to all parts of Rutherford County," Raybon said. "It is worth investing to put [their] products in those areas."

Rosemary Owens, coordinator for university strategic partnerships through the Office of Community Engagement and Support at MTSU who volunteered with the Rutherford County E-community leadership team, said one of the major goals is to get computers into the hands of senior citizens.

"The way our generation and younger generations communicate is through a computer," Owens said. "A lot of our seniors don't have a computer and aren't even trained on how to use them."

Owens said there are many state office computers that could be donated to senior citizen centers, however current state legislation only allows for those computers to be sent to public schools. She said this is one option that could help seniors remain connected and find "vibrant ways of communicating."

The plan stated that, in addition to assisting those without broadband access and senior citizens, the committee would like to see basic training for farmers on programs that would be useful, bring computer technology to health care facilities for a better exchange of patient data and upgrade computers in K-12 schools on a five year cycle.

For more information, including a copy of the plan, visit [connectedtn.org](http://connectedtn.org).



Photo by Andy Harper, managing editor  
Janea Peterson, research analyst for Institutional Research, participates in a kickboxing class at MTSU's Recreation Center.

## Pilates, striptease help fund cancer research

By ANDY HARPER  
Managing Editor

In an unconventional way to raise awareness, the Recreation Center is offering Pilates and striptease classes on Oct. 4 to earn money for the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

The classes are part of a national program called Pilates for Pink. The program is being offered at four Pilates studios in Tennessee, including two in Nashville. But Rec Center employee Jessica Hernandez decided that the program needed to come to Murfreesboro.

"I actually found out about [Pink for Pilates] by reading 'In Shape' magazine," Hernandez said coordinator of group fitness and personal training. "I saw an ad and thought that would be a great program for us to do."

Because October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Rec Center and Student Health Services are using the Pilates program as a kick-off event for their month-long promotion of breast cancer awareness. It will be the only gym in Middle Tennessee that doesn't require a membership

for community members to participate.

With more than 24,000 students and 10,000 plus faculty, Hernandez said Pilates for Pink would be a great community outreach program for MTSU to spread the word about breast cancer.

"We just started registration, but we will never be sold out of tickets," Hernandez said. "If we get more people than a regular aerobics room can hold, we will move the classes into the main gym. We want as many people as possible."

Pilates for Pink is a one-day program that partners women's fitness magazine "In Shape" with the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. "In Shape" runs a series of Pilates and aerobic-inspired workouts and donates 85 percent of the proceeds to the BCRF. The Rec Center, however, will donate all proceeds.

The American Cancer Society estimates over 190,000 invasive breast cancer cases will be identified in American women this year. The ACS estimates over 40,000 deaths from those cases.



Photo by Andy Harper, managing editor  
Janea Peterson (left) and Katrina Keller, (right) instructor for the course, participate in kickboxing class on Wednesday.

Between 1990 and 2005, the ACS documents a 2 percent decrease per year in breast cancer cases. Since 1990, trends have shown an average 2.5 percent decrease in breast cancer-related deaths.

The ACS attributes these decreases to a combination effort of early detection and improved methods of treatment. The most common form of early detection is the use of mammography, but the ACS also cites studies that encourage the use of magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI, to detect tumors in women who have a family history of breast cancer.

"As a trainer, I have seen many MTSU and Murfreesboro members that have been touched by breast cancer — either personally or through loved ones," Hernandez said.

Pilates for Pink will offer four classes including: Pilates, Zumba, butts and guts, and striptease aerobics. Each class costs \$5 and runs 30 minutes. A package deal is also being offered — all four classes plus a t-shirt for \$15.

Classes begin on Oct. 4 at 2:30 p.m. at the Rec Center. Hernandez said that pre-registration is preferred but walk-ins are welcome.

# Career day prepares students for future, hurdles in employment

By BRITTANY KLATT  
Staff Writer

The Career Development Center kicked off “Developing Your Future” week starting on Monday with a seminar introducing students to the Center’s services, called “What the Center can do for you.”

The presentation described ways in which students, along with help from the Center, can make their shift into the workforce a little easier.

“We’re here to assist you with the transition from book

come to visit the Center’s main office, located in KUC 328, Billings-Jones encouraged students to visit their Web site before coming into to their offices.

“We have a plethora of resources on our Web site to help you,” Billings-Jones said.

The online resources provide help in a variety of categories including job searches, interviewing skills, resume writing and career exploration.

Also located on their site is a virtual job interview program called “Perfect Interview.”

Students can adjust the

dents have to register for an account and wait one to two days for authorization.

Getting involved in campus organizations is just one of the resume boosters Billings-Jones suggested.

“Just making the grades isn’t getting you the job,” she said. “You have to couple that with being involved.”

Billings-Jones said one of the reasons that getting involved in organizations is important is because they give students a chance to develop their communication skills.

“Due to the advances in technology employers say that students lack basic communication skills,” Billings-Jones said.

“Just making the grades isn’t getting you the job. You have to couple that with being involved.”

LUCY BILLINGS-JONES  
CAREER COORDINATOR FOR THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

bag to briefcase,” said Lucy Billings-Jones, career coordinator for the College of Liberal Arts.

During the presentation, Billings-Jones described the various resources offered by the Center. Students who are unsure of what major they wish to pursue can take a variety of self-assessments to help them pair their strengths and interests to a career field. For those searching for a job or internship, the Center has resume guides and will critique students’ resumes and cover letters.

Students were also encouraged to attend the Majors Fair being held on Oct. 1. The fair will run from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m. on the first floor of the Keathley University Center.

“If you are deciding on a major,” said Billings-Jones, “or if you have decided and want to know more information on what you can do with that major, attend the majors fair.”

Although students are wel-

length of the interview and the level of position for which they are interviewing.

After they complete their interview, students can review their responses and note the areas that need improvement. A webcam is needed for this program, but students are welcome to schedule an appointment with the Center to use the program.

If a student is not sure of what he or she should wear to an interview, he or she should consult CareerTV. This site offers videos ranging from describing how one should dress for an interview to what phrases should not be used in a cover letter.

The Center lists all employment opportunities on Lightning JobSource. Through this site, students can find full-time and part-time positions as well as internships and co-ops. The site also has a calendar of events that shows when employers are visiting campus to interview students. To access the site, stu-

But joining an organization is not enough. Billings-Jones urged the students to work on developing their leadership skills by holding a leadership position in an organization.

Billings-Jones said that students need to be aware of how they are presenting themselves, especially because employers often look at candidates’ social networking pages.

“One of my students said that this is his job,” said Billings-Jones. “He searches the names of new candidates online and reports any suspicious pictures or text.”

This advice was found useful by some students.

“I learned a little bit on how to be professional, especially with Facebook and voicemail,” said Andrew McKinney, freshman aerospace major. “I didn’t think employers could find stuff like that.”

Students were warned about their voicemail messages. She stressed this point by describing a message that she heard on a student’s phone. She said the language used would have made any employer move on to the next candidate.



Photo by Jay Bailey  
In an effort to raise money for Project Help, the Martial Arts Club at MTSU is hosting a doughnut sale.

## Martial Arts Club brings in the dough

By MATTHEW JOHNSON  
Contributing Writer

The Martial Arts Club is collecting pre-sale orders for a Krispy Kreme doughnut fundraiser in an effort to support Project Help day care on campus.

Project Help is an early intervention program that offers services free of charge to families who have very young children with developmental delays or disabilities.

One box of doughnuts will cost \$5 and contain a dozen doughnuts. Money collected

from this fundraiser will go to the Project Help.

“We have worked with many different local charities in our 10 years, and the reason we like working for Project Help daycare is that it is here on the MTSU campus,” said Billy Colepaugh, co-founder and head coach of the MAC. “What better way for an MTSU sports club to support its community than right here on the same turf?”

Colepaugh said Project Help daycare is important because it is a day care for children

with special needs who cannot go to just any day care.

“These children required medicine and physical therapy from trained professionals, which most day cares do not offer,” Colepaugh said.

All orders must be turned in by 11:59 p.m. tonight by e-mail to mtsumac@mtsu.edu and should contain your building’s name, your room number, the quantity of boxes and the name of the office worker ordering. All doughnuts ordered will be delivered on Friday, the second of October, and money will be collected at this time.

## CURRENT EVENTS

**Rock Prophecies**  
Sept. 30, 7 p.m.  
Location: Hinton Music Hall  
Admission: free

**MTSU Women’s Chorale**  
Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Hinton Music Hall  
Visit mtsumusic.com for more information

**First Friday Star Party: “Atmospheric Fireworks: Aurorae in the Solar System”**  
Oct. 2, 6:30 p.m.  
Location: Wiser-Patten Science Hall, room 102  
Admission: Free

**Georgia O’Keefe and Her Times**  
Oct. 2 opening  
Location: Frist Center for the Visual Arts  
Admission: 8.50 adults, 6.50 students  
Admission: Free for college students Thursday and Friday 5-9 p.m.

**Coolio**  
Oct. 3, 11 p.m.  
Location: 527 Mainstreet  
Admission: \$15

**Mozart’s Requiem**  
Oct. 4, 3 p.m.  
Location: Hinton Music Hall  
Admission: \$10

**Career Professional Development Brown Bag Series**  
Oct. 6, 12 to 1 p.m.  
Location: James Union Building, Dining Room C  
Admission: Free

**Robin Spielberg**  
Oct. 8, 7:30 p.m.  
Location: The Arts Center of Cannon County  
Admission: \$15 adults, \$12 seniors

**Jeff the Brotherhood Solidarity Benefit Show**  
Oct. 9, 9 p.m.  
Location: Wall Street  
Admission: Donations taken at door

## CRIME BRIEFS

**Sep. 23, 8:40 p.m.**  
**Trespassing**  
Woodmore Cafeteria  
Officers responded to a report of an unruly subject in Cyber Café. Complainant advised subject was cursing at cashiers, and was described as an older white male with red hair. Subject was later located by officers and issued a trespass warning, barring him from the Cyber Café.

**Sep. 24, 4:44 a.m.**  
**Warrant**  
Sam Ingram Building  
Eldon Baldwin was arrested on outstanding warrants.

**Sep. 24, 11:03 a.m.**  
**Theft**  
MTSU Campus  
Victim reported that his vehicle had been broken into while parked on campus.

**Sep. 24, 12:16 a.m.**  
**Traffic**  
Greenland Drive Lot B  
Victim reported that his car had been struck while parked in the lot.

**Sep. 24, 5:41 p.m.**  
**Warrant**  
Peck Hall  
Jannika Newsom was arrested for outstanding warrant for simple battery.

REFRESHINGLY INDEPENDENT

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To: MTSU Community

From: Dr. Gene Fitch, Jr.  
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs & Dean of Student Life

Re: Call for Proposed Rules Changes

Date: September 23, 2009

As you are aware, the University Rules Committee annually reviews MTSU’s promulgated institutional rules. This material appears in the publication, Student Rights & Responsibilities, and in the MTSU Traffic & Parking Rules pamphlet.

Suggested revisions to our current rules should be forwarded to me no later than Friday, October 2, 2009. Proposals must contain the following information: (1) the text of the rule as it now appears in the Student Rights & Responsibilities publication; (2) the text of the rule as it would read with the proposed change (with additions bolded and deletions specifically noted); and, (3) a statement of rationale which supports or otherwise justifies the proposed change. In the event a proposal is for a new rule, rather than a revision, the same should be noted, and item (1) above disregarded. I would prefer that proposed rules changes be submitted through e-mail as an attached document in MS Word.

My address is gffitch@mtsu.edu

I should note that amendments to parking regulations are considered by the University Traffic and Parking Committee. Suggested changes in these rules can be directed to Ms. Nancy Weatherly (nweather@mtsu.edu) in Parking Services.

Notice of meetings of the University Rules Committee to the general campus will be made through the Sidelines and via e-mail.

Thank you.



Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to [slopino@mtsu.edu](mailto:slopino@mtsu.edu) and include your name and phone number for verification. Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit grammar, length and content.

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

VH1's Save the Music doing essential work for music ed

VH1's Save the Music Foundation is a pillar of educational philanthropy. It has helped over 1,600 public schools since its inception in 1997. The importance of its mission cannot be overstated.

Music education is extremely undervalued in the U.S., but its virtues have long been understood in cultures across the world.

Music held one of the four places in the quadrivium - the model for medieval education. The ancients felt that music was important enough to put it alongside arithmetic, geometry and astronomy as the four most important subjects from which other subjects were derived.

Nowadays, music is the first program to be cut from schools during budget crises. It is considered ancillary to the "core" subjects of English, mathematics, sciences and foreign languages. Administrators cringe and say "well, we'd really love to have a music program, but we just can't afford one."

As it turns out, American schools can't afford not to teach music.

Music is a discipline that requires the skills taught in the other subjects.

Interpretation of a piece of music requires counting complex rhythms, which includes and complements the study of mathematics. The indications on musical scores are usually in other languages: Italian, French, German, Russian and Spanish.

The subjective interpretation of a piece of music is an exercise in abstract thought, which is not easily taught in today's world of standardized testing.

Musical performance is a group activity, requiring both verbal and nonverbal communication, cooperation and teamwork toward a common objective. Performers don't score extra points by finishing first.

In short, music encompasses the study of most disciplines taught in modern schools, and this is exactly why American students miss out big time when they don't get to learn music in schools.

In the days of globalized industry, college graduates in the U.S. see their jobs fleeing to other countries or disappearing altogether. The hiring advantage is with the employee with the widest range of skills.

American students are behind students in virtually every other developed nation, in every category (except obesity and incarceration).

The Save the Music Foundation's work is of the utmost importance because it addresses an area in which our educational system fails its students. We need music, and VH1's foundation knows this. For that, it deserves commendation and support.

Listen to Editorial Board online at [mtsusidelines.com/opinions](http://mtsusidelines.com/opinions)



mtsusidelines.com



mtsusidelines.com/multimedia

OPINIONS

Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or MTSU.

Flavored cigarette ban useless

Sept. 22, 2009, the government passed a ban on flavored cigarettes with the reasoning that they appeal to children and encourage youth smoking.

How far it will go has yet to be determined, but brands such as Swisher Sweets and Black & Mild are on the line, and also the ever-popular hookah.

Are they serious? First of all, if kids are going to smoke, they're most likely to steal their dads' Camels and do it the old-fashioned way. They're not going to wait until age 18 and head down to the Shell for some Swisher Sweets, thinking flavors make things better.

Using that rubric, flavored condoms may as well be pulled off the shelves as well, because they sure don't go along with our abstinence-only health classes.

Besides, every kid knows that smoking flavored cigarettes is not nearly as cool as smoking a Marlboro. I mean, there's no Black and Mild cowboy or a movie called "Harley Davidson and the Swisher Sweet Man."

No, we all know that when it comes to smoking, "you



My point, and I do have one

Mallory Boyd

get a lot to like with Marlboro," and Camel is "where a man belongs."

If the government wants to pass a law banning tobacco, then that's one thing. It might be respectable to go after tobacco simply because it is addictive, toxic, makes teeth fall out and kills people. Banning one portion of a lethal product on the premise that children will be more likely to use it is absurd and 100 percent pointless.

If that is the criterion that they're going to use to ban things in this country, then they need to close all of the fast food restaurants that have a kids' meal, because that's promoting youth obe-

sity and Type 2 diabetes.

They should also ban all flavored alcohol, because that promotes underage drinking by making alcohol that much more drinkable.

For that matter, why don't they just go all out and ban Flavor Pops, because our mothers have told us a thousand times they rot teeth and addict children to sugar. Is that going too far? Perhaps, but it begs the question: how far is too far?

Did we not all learn the first time that prohibition does not work? The U.S. tried this exact type of thing in 1920. It didn't work then either. The purpose of the alcohol prohibition was to get rid of saloons, eliminate crime and essentially get people to straighten up and fly right.

Prohibition failed miserably. Underground pubs were everywhere. The business of making alcohol became extremely lucrative. Those that wanted to reduce the crime rate succeeded in increasing it, as there was no feasible manor in which to enforce this law. Anyone that wanted a drink knew where to get one.

Let us also note how successful we have been in keeping people from smoking marijuana. Each person reading this right now not only knows someone who smokes pot but probably 98 percent of them know where to get it.

This is not to say that all of these people are on drugs, just that the drug is accessible. Banning something does not keep it out of the hands of those that wish to have it.

These bans do not last. They cannot, because there is no possible way for our law enforcement officers to keep these things out of the hands of every single American citizen.

The only thing this ban will be successful in is bringing everyone's attention to the fact that there is such a thing as flavored tobacco and that it is now illegal to have it. There is no bigger appeal for a kid looking to rebel than a product that has been sensationalized by the adults around them. For that matter, it can increase the desire in adults as well.

Things like this have been tried, over and over. Ab-

senthe was banned for nearly 100 years for numerous reasons. Now it can be purchased at most liquor stores with or without the controversial wormwood ingredient. The bottom line is that if someone wants to smoke flavored tobacco, they are going to find it.

More importantly, if certain kinds of cigarettes, or any kind of cigarettes, are available to the general public, people will smoke them.

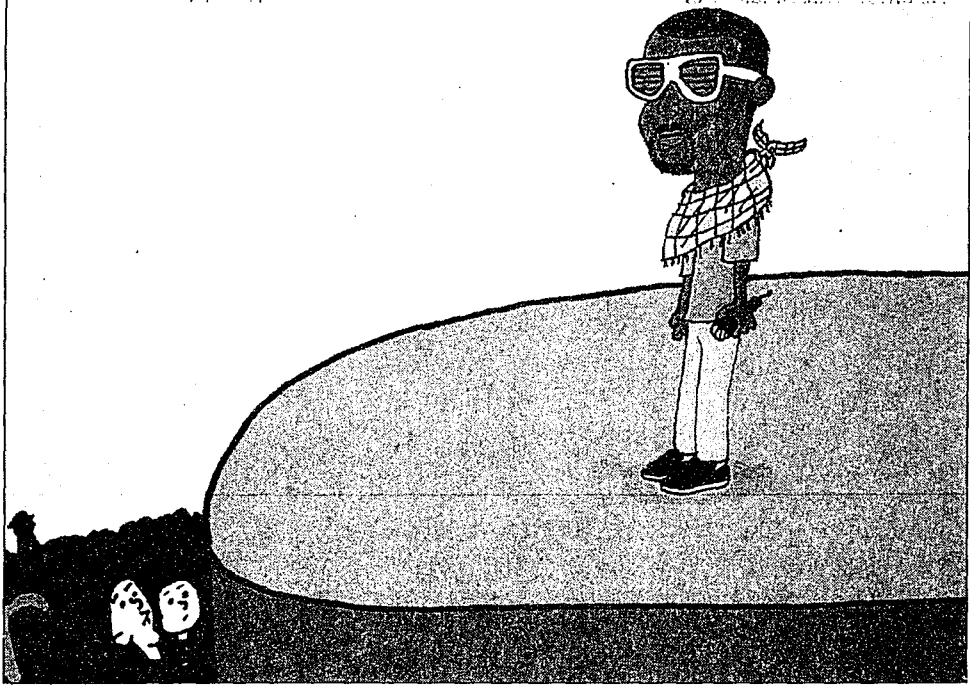
Finally, if we are really so concerned with the future of our children's health, how about passing a law so they can have healthcare, no matter what, for the rest of their lives?

How about passing a law that will ensure that they will be able to breathe when they are 40 and not be worried about a resource that exists in a finite amount?

How about not passing ridiculous laws that benefit no one and getting some real work done? Wake up, Washington, and make something real happen.

Mallory Boyd is a sophomore history major and can be reached at [mnb2v@mtsu.edu](mailto:mnb2v@mtsu.edu).

In the middle of one of his concerts, Kanye West suddenly realizes he's a total douche.



"Seattle Spew"

[megapencil5@yahoo.com](mailto:megapencil5@yahoo.com)

Kyle Patterson

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Gender identity illogical, unreal

I am in awe over the decisions that have been made in recent days regarding so-called "gender identity" at MTSU. All other beliefs aside, human beings are born one of two ways: male or female. This is based on fact, not on what one feels like. There is not a "both" person out there.

It really doesn't matter if a man is born a man but feels like he should have been a woman. What happens when a man who identifies himself as a woman enters a women's restroom? Is he allowed to do this? Or does the university need to fund a "Biological Male but Identifies as Female" restroom? The fact is, he was born a man.

Now, so we don't want to offend anyone who struggles with their "gender identity" we have to acknowledge their identity. In your (laughable) efforts not to offend any of the "gender identity troubled," you have succeeded in offending the rest of us who are confident in who we are.

You can't accommodate everybody and you will fail trying! How about racial identity? "I'm white, but I identify myself as black." Or, "I should have been born as a bald eagle, so I'd like to identify myself as one." Or how about this doozy, "I was born a man, but I identify myself as a lesbian female."

Get real. I have never seen such illogical happenings on this campus. It's garbage like this that makes me look forward to moving on from my four years at MTSU.

Gender identity? What a joke!

Chandler Hasemeyer  
Senior Aerospace Major

Get involved, vote in SGA election

When the founders of this nation wrote the Declaration of Independence, they recognized that every human being on earth has certain rights, certain things that we are entitled to because they exist.

These rights are simple and sensible. No matter how silly, dumb, intelligent or foolish a person may seem, we still have certain rights that cannot be removed.

In America, one of those rights is the right to vote. This week, we are holding student elections, and I know some are thinking about how ridiculous it all is.

There are some things to consider if you choose to vote. First of all, we live in a democratic republic. That means we vote to elect our leaders so that they will represent us in the decisions they make. It is a beautiful process that makes every single



Pearl before Swine

Pearl Howell

person responsible and accountable for the direction in which our country moves.

While it may seem like a farce, student elections are an echo of this incredible course of action that makes us each responsible for the way our university is run.

Therefore, when we don't take the initiative to vote, we have no right to complain. I am sick of hearing people

whine about the way things are when they have done nothing to change it. If you see something wrong with the world - change it!

Stop whining and make a difference. You could spend time picking up litter, posting signs, volunteering for organizations and attending protests. But, of all the ways we could promote change, voting is probably the easiest.

It may seem like none of the decisions made by the student government are important, but that is not true. Certainly it has no control over the healthcare system in America or the legalization of marijuana, but it does have control over certain small things that make our lives easier here on campus.

The SGA is in charge of judicial review. In other words, it decides whether or not you deserve to pay

your parking tickets.

I could use the rest of my space in this column to rant about how hard people have worked to create a democratic state. I could remind you of the people who sweated, bled and cried to allow us to vote.

I could cite historical sources of the pain and anguish suffered to ensure you have the freedom to go to the polls. I could do that, but I won't.

Instead, I will merely remind you that voting for student government ends tonight at midnight. Get online and fill out a ballot. Make a difference, even if it is only a little one. Once that's done, you can spend all the time you want complaining about your meal plan.

Pearl Howell is a freshman theater major and can be reached at [rph2t@mtsu.edu](mailto:rph2t@mtsu.edu).

Go online to see what you're missing in today's print edition:

Online Office suite improves teamwork - by Chris Müller in Opinions

SGA holds Homecoming, senatorial elections - by Emma Egli in News

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# FEATURES

17%  
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Active

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NO

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CHECKED FOR AN STI?

BASED ON VOTES FROM MTSUSIDELINES.COM.

## Puléo's not another chain

Local restaurant offers unique choices, leaving diners satisfied



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor  
Dinner at Puléo's is served with fresh bread and whipped butter.

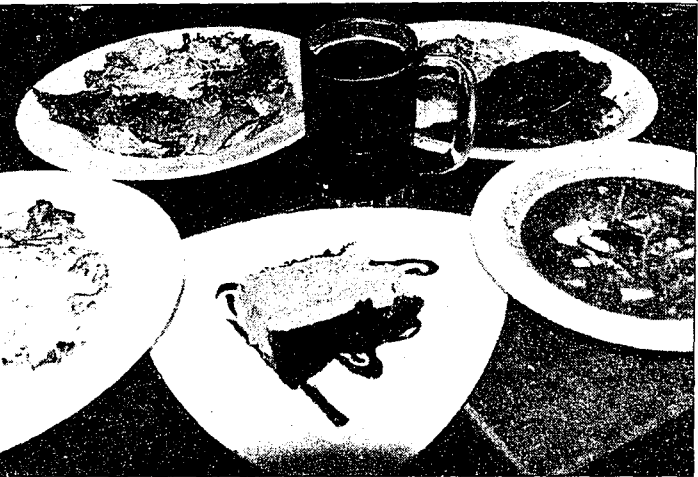


Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor  
An array of dishes including chicken marsala, chocolate mousse cake, chicken penne, chicken chili and a mug of Yuengling lager in center.



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor  
Puléo's fried green tomatoes over cheese grits and tasso gravy.

By EVAN BARKER  
Opinions Editor

The blending of Southern food and haute cuisine would seem to many an unlikely marriage. For Murfreesboro residents, Puléo's fills this niche, and fills it well.

I have eaten at Puléo's on Broad Street numerous times since I first came to Murfreesboro, and the food is always fresh and satisfying.

The atmosphere is casual, but with a collar. It's an ideal place to go on a sophisticated date. Everything, down to salad dressings and marsala sauce, is made on site, from scratch.

Sadly, it seems that more people dine at the cookie-cutter staples of Chili's and Logan's located nearby, where the food is shipped in frozen. If you want an authentic, innovative dinner prepared fresh, skip the pre-cooked chains and take your date to Puléo's.

Puléo's offers different drink specials every day of the week, making it easy and inexpensive to enjoy the proper adult beverage with dinner. Highlights include \$1 domestic drafts (including Yuengling) on Mondays, \$5 martinis on Thursdays and \$3.50 "Magic Margaritas" on Fridays.

Puléo's prides itself on its 12-strong martini menu. Choices include the avant-garde "Goose That Laid the Golden Egg," including Cuervo Gold and Grey Goose

Citron, and served with a salted rim. For purists, try the "Two Weeks' Notice." This is the classic shaken vodka martini made just a little dirty, with Chopin (a top-shelf potato-based vodka). Ask for Stevie to mix your drink.

For appetizers, the fried green tomatoes are a perennial favorite. The dish comes attractively plated with five thick slices fried to firm perfection. They're served over a scoop of Puléo's famous three cheese grits (provolone, mozzarella and Parmesan), and two kinds of gravy.

One of Puléo's salad dressings deserves special

section includes Puléo's classic shrimp and grits, loaded with the same rich tasso gravy used on the fried green tomatoes. Southern food aficionados, take heart.

Of the "Italian Specialties," several are reliably excellent, including the chicken penne and the seafood ravioli. The penne is served in a giant bowl with wilted spinach, mushrooms and stewed tomatoes, slathered in an artery-clogging cream sauce worth writing home about.

It is easily enough food for two, and comes with a choice of house or Caesar salad.

The seafood ravioli deserve special mention. Again, everything at Puléo's is made fresh from scratch, including the ravioli. Each ravioli is silver dollar-sized, stuffed thick with various shellfish and lobster, covered by a thick vodka cream sauce. For an extra charge, diners can choose to add a 6-ounce "Bistro fillet," but the ravioli alone are enough food for dinner.

For dessert, look no further than the tiramisu.

The servers are knowledgeable about the food, and will gladly make good suggestions to help you order.

As you make weekend plans, resist the urge to visit the old standby casual dining place, and give Puléo's a try.

You may never return to a corporate chain restaurant again, and for this, I give it three-and-a-half out of four stars.

Don't begrudge the extra half a star, because perfection is impossible to achieve, but Puléo's comes very close.

Location: 730 NW Broad St.

Hours: Sunday through Thursday 11:00 a.m. -10:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.

Contact info: 615-867-3312 or at [puleosgrille.com](http://puleosgrille.com)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## Gabe Vitek and the Ivory write relatable, changing music

Lifelong love of music, singer-songwriters have musical influence on pianist Vitek

By JESSICA PACE  
Staff Writer

Gabe Vitek found himself in Nashville on doctor's orders after a physical in his hometown of Bryan, Ohio, when his doctor told the then-high school musician he should look into Belmont University.

"In Nashville, we're all music snobs," says the now 22-year-old Vitek. "We've all heard it all."

And like budding, young music snobs in Nashville are wont to do, Vitek attends Belmont where he currently studies music business. While educating himself on the technical side, Vitek is doing what he has been doing his entire life as the leading man of Gabe Vitek and the Ivory.

"This will sound cliché and ridiculous, but I've been playing piano before I could walk," he says. "And I used to sit down with my dad, and he'd play 'Blue Suede Shoes' on guitar and I'd sing along."

Vitek says his father, a musician who played throughout the 1970s and 1980s, has had the most impact on his playing.

Unable to read music, Vitek has always simply played by ear. He used to fly solo on the piano before starting the band in 2007. That was the year he put the music on tape with the release of

a self-titled EP recorded in a house.

The six tracks shape a quintessentially guy-with-a-piano album reminiscent of The Fray. If nothing else, it explains the band name, "Ivory," referring to piano keys. The following year produced a more mature endeavor with the 11-track full-length "Voices."

The album earned its name from an extensive struggle on Vitek's part with the album's arrangement. Recording took about a week, and was done on Music Row, in a house and at Castle Studios in Hillsboro.

The recording days, however, were scattered randomly through the course of a year due to struggles for studio time and just "being 22-years-old," as Vitek says.

At certain points, discontinuing the project seemed possible, and Vitek worried about the cohesiveness of the album as a whole.

"There were all these different sounds, different voices during that doubtful time, and I thought the songs just sounded like a bunch of B-sides," Vitek says. "But by the time we were starting to

mix it, that was not the case at all, and when it came time to write the track list for it, it took like 30 seconds."

Vitek name-drops artists like Marvin Gaye, Paul Simon and Dave Matthews who have had a heavy influence on him as well, and he paid tribute to The Beatles' influence at his Exit/In show Sept. 23 with an amplified take on "Dear Prudence."

"Voices" is still of the same strain as the EP, but a lot of changes in just the past few weeks are evolving Gabe Vitek and the Ivory's sound drastically.

"Within the last couple of weeks, I've done a huge musician switch out, and there are all new guys on stage with me now," Vitek says. "Before, what we were doing kind of plateaued and it was like a poison almost, so I just needed to do something new."

On top of that, guitar has been replaced with horns layered underneath relentless piano. The brass instrumentation creates a worldly kind of vibe and permits the Motown and oldies on which Vitek was raised to bubble to the surface.

"It's the most comfortable thing I've ever done," Vitek says of the changing sound. "It makes me confident."

A change in the band name may even be in the future, which Vitek remains uncertain about since the band has been Gabe Vitek and the



Photo by David Shaw, contributing photographer  
Gabe Vitek sings his heart out as he plays his piano along with band at an Exit/In show.

Ivory for three years.

Vitek may be treading in the vast sea of generic music, but he is staying afloat on energy and enthusiasm in live performances. Vitek says a live EP is the next tentative project, possibly out in late spring or early summer. There is also a video on his Web site featuring the song "Fly High" from "Voices," recorded in a living room with friends on harp and guitar.

Probably most striking about Gabe Vitek and the Ivory is not so much the sound, but the approach to making it. Vitek is more easy-going about his band, treating it as a wait-and-see sort of thing with no rigid politics. He offered his recordings for free at the Exit/In show, and the EP is downloadable off his Web site free of charge as well.

Moreover, Vitek tries to steer away from trite sub-

jects in his lyrics. Every song is not about a girl. Instead, he opts to write about, for instance, what he hears on the news, and translates it into something relatable.

"I just try to write very hopeful, positive music for the people," Vitek says. "I hope different people will interpret it in different ways, and it will be medicine for whatever they're going through."



# SPORTS

## Increased media coverage aids MT

By RICHARD LOWE  
Asst. Sports Editor

On any given Saturday, you can find a select number of college football teams that are always on television. These days, you can count MT into that group.

Since the 2006 season, 57 percent of MT's schedule has been televised either locally or on a national platform, not including this season. Tuesday's game against Troy University will be broadcast on ESPN2 and will be one of 10 games scheduled to be televised this season.

When Director of Athletics Chris Massaro arrived on campus, one of his major goals was to make a presence for MT athletics on a local and national scale. So far he is pleased with the results.

"You always want an improvement but I am ecstatic about the amount of coverage we've been able to receive for the last two to three years," Massaro said. "It's one of those things where you would want more national exposure than what we've got."

In order to get to that point, Massaro and others in the athletic department had to be able to show media outlets MT was willing to do what it takes to promote MT athletics.

"We visit each [station and newspaper] and we ask them every year what we can do to make

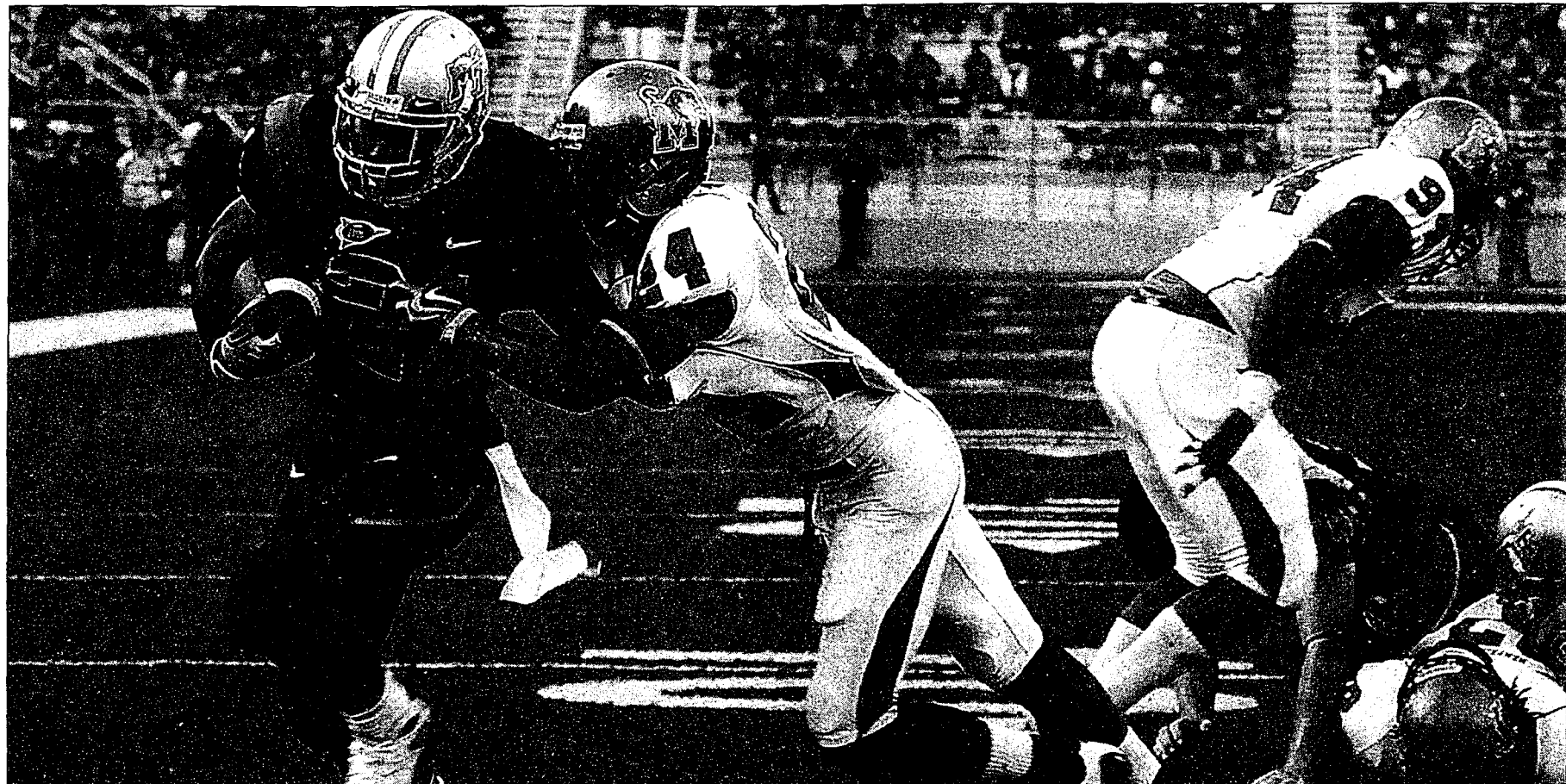


Photo by Brennan Sparta, staff photographer

Senior running back Phillip Tanner attempts to sneak past a Memphis defender in front of a record-setting crowd at Floyd Stadium. Tanner would eventually score on the drive.

it easier for them to deliver our content," Massaro said. "Mark Owens does a great job maintaining daily and weekly contact with them."

Television can be the great equalizer when it comes to recruiting against programs with larger budgets or wider mass appeal. Teams like Boise State University and the University of Louisville grew their national appeal because they were willing to play their games on Thursdays instead of the traditional

**"I am ecstatic about the amount of coverage we've been able to receive for the last two to three years."**

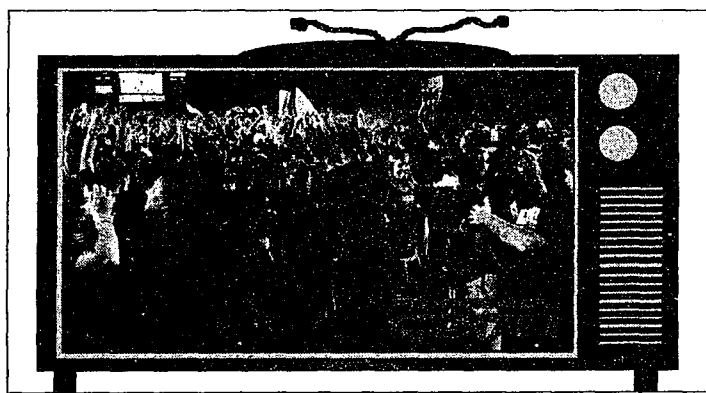
CHRIS MASSARO  
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Saturdays. The benefits are apparent – you're the only game on TV that night. But the hassles can be tremendous.

"When you're playing on a Tuesday night, you have to clear the weekend before and the weekend af-

ter so there's a great deal of adjustment that goes on there," Massaro said.

Despite the extra work, the spotlight being solely on MT helps the recruiting speech that is said each year. MT coach Rick Stockstill speaks to his recruits about



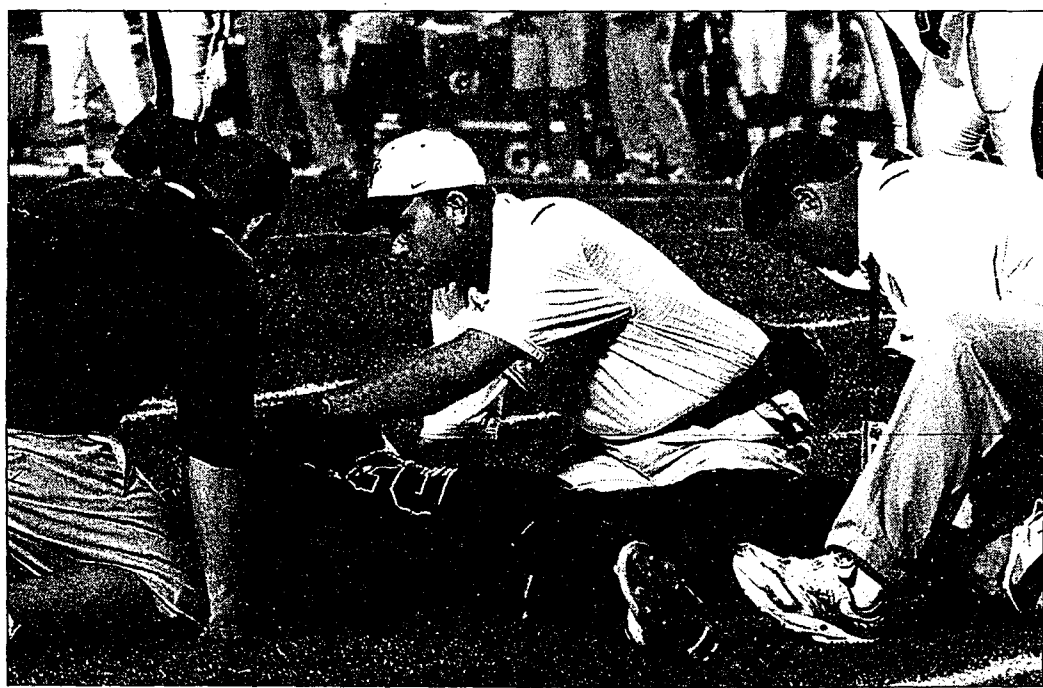
Graphic by Jay Bailey, photography editor

the football team being on television from week to week.

"We talk about it and we make sure [recruits] know

about it," Stockstill said.

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File photo  
Senior running back Phillip Tanner gets examined after a knee injury during the Blackout Game against Memphis. Tanner averaged 5.7 yards a carry on the day before his injury took him out of the game.

## Tanner knee injury may force redshirt season

By CRAIG HOFFMAN  
Staff Writer

MT's best offensive player going into the year wore #21, but for the rest of the year, Phillip Tanner might be wearing warmups.

In an interview yesterday, head coach Rick Stockstill said giving Tanner a medical redshirt following a torn MCL in Week 2 versus Memphis is being considered.

Stockstill said that the injury, which typically takes three to four weeks to heal, could turn into a season ending problem. "It might. We definitely have a decision to make."

Without a doubt, the injury will be healed by the season's end. However, since Tanner only played in the first two games and this is his final year of eligibility, Stockstill will have to decide what is best for the senior running back and

the team: wait out the injury, or sideline Tanner for the rest of the year, giving him another year of eligibility and allowing him to return next year.

"I'd hate to have him play in that 6th game or that 7th game and have his knee not be right," Stockstill said. "...then he loses his Senior year...I'll be real smart about this decision."

If a player plays in his team's 6th game, he is no longer eligible to be redshirted.

In talking to Stockstill and other team sources, a redshirt seems the most likely option at this point, as Tanner will not play Tuesday at Troy (7 pm, ESPN2) and would have to play an SEC opponent in his first game back against Mississippi State on Oct. 17. However, no final decision has been made. There are ten days in between the Troy and Mississippi State games so Tanner

does have extra time to heal before the decision is made.

Tanner was named to the pre-season Doak Walker Award watch list, an award given to the nation's best running back. Tanner struggled in the first game against Clemson, taking only 10 carries for 36 yards. However, he had a bounce back game against Memphis, averaging 5.7 yards a carry before his injury.

In Tanner's absence, sophomore D.D. Kyles has taken over the starting role, splitting time with freshman Benny Cunningham. Stockstill said this will continue to be the case if Tanner is out, and to also expect to see a little bit of sophomore Marquis Branton, as well as some of senior wide receiver Desmond Gee in the backfield alongside the team's leading rusher, junior quarterback Dwight Dasher.

## Soccer team pulls off overtime weekend win

Blue Raiders maintain best record in school history

By STEPHEN CURLEY  
Staff Writer

Junior Vanessa Mueggler netted the game winner nearly three minutes into overtime Sunday to give the Blue Raiders a 1-0 victory over Florida Atlantic University at Dean A. Hayes Track and Soccer Stadium.

The goal marks Mueggler's fifth goal of the season and her second overtime game-winner of the year. The goal came on a pass from senior Jen Threlkeld near the top of the 18-yard box, from which Mueggler fired a shot past FAU keeper Ashley Lantes.

Mueggler's other overtime winner happened August 28 at Wright State to give the Blue Raiders a 2-1 victory. She finished the FAU game with three shots on goal, as well.

"It is about being calm out there," Mueggler said. "I had some other opportunities where I did not score. This one just happened to be in overtime."

The win gives the Blue Raiders their best start in school history (8-1-1, 2-0 Sun Belt).

"Florida Atlantic certainly posed some challenges for us," head coach Aston Rhoden said. "We were able to create a lot of opportunities on goal but were unable to put most of them away. The great thing is we created one in overtime and it was a great finish to end the game."

Scoring chances were plentiful for both teams, but excellent goalie play prevented

anyone from gaining an advantage. Sophomore Rebecca Cushing earned her second solo shutout in a row, playing the entire 92:52 and finishing with two saves.

"I thought our defense played really well," Cushing said. "I thought we did a good job shutting Manna-rino down for the most part. It is a good team win."

For the Owls, Ashley Mannarino was tough to stop and led most of FAU's scoring drives. She finished with

a game-high six shots, as well as nine of the team's ten corner kicks.

MT extends its win streak to five games and bests the record of 8-2 that the 2006 team opened with. The Blue Raiders are unbeaten in their last six games, additionally.

The weekend will see MT travel to Alabama to take on two Sun Belt opponents, starting Friday at Troy University and ending Sunday at the University of South Alabama.

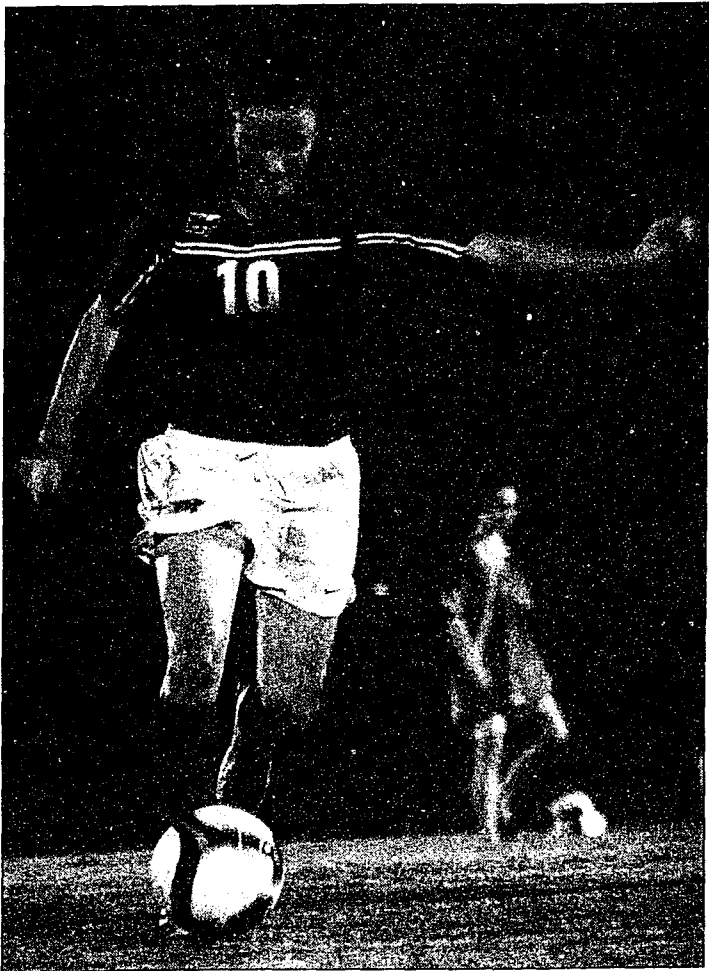


Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer

Sophomore forward Shan Jones powers the ball down the field. Jones would continue to show up throughout the match against FIU.



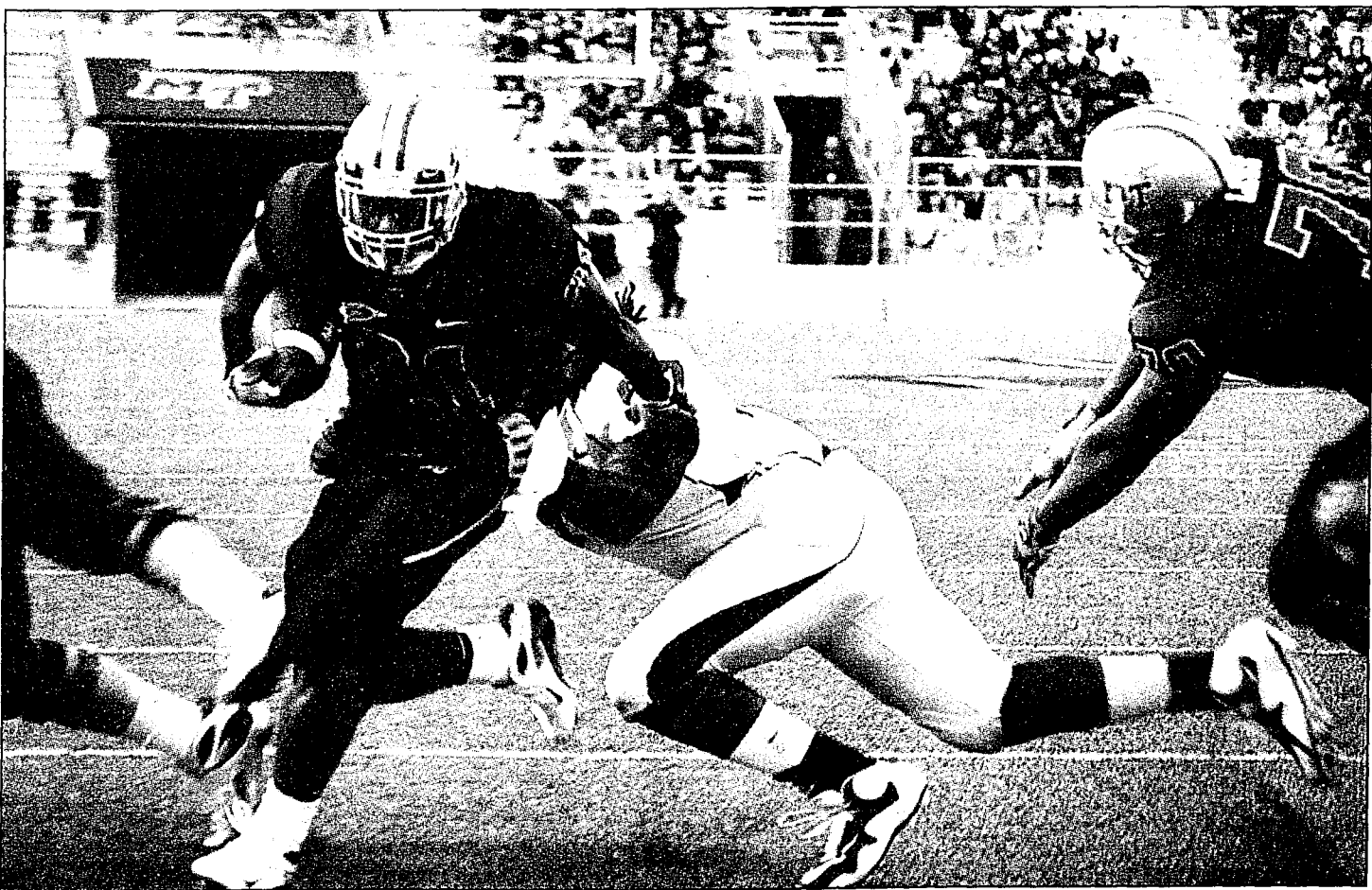


Photo by Brennan Sparta, staff photographer  
Senior RB Phillip Tanner looks to the endzone at the Blackout game. Tanner averaged 5.7 yards a carry on the game against Memphis.

# Brown earns Player of the Week award

STAFF REPORT

Blue Raider Safety Kevin Brown was named the Sun Belt Conference's Defensive Player of the Week this week, announced by the SBC on Monday.

This is the first time in his three-year career that Brown has received the honor.

Brown recorded his first multiple interception game when he picked off two North Texas passes on Saturday to

lead the Blue Raider defense. Brown also added six tackles and a pass breakup, helping MT to win its third game in a row.

Brown now leads the SBC with three interceptions and also leads with passes defended. The junior now owns five career interceptions.

This makes the fourth Player of the Week award for the Blue Raiders this season, and the 57th all-time, with 29 under Rick Stockstill.

## Player of the Week

**Kevin Brown**

Position: Safety  
Class: Junior  
Presidential Scholar  
Jefferson Award  
Honor Roll  
Height: 5'11"  
Weight: 200 lbs



**Sun Belt Defensive Player of the Week**  
-Sept. 28- Oct. 5

# Golf earns GolfWeek Team of the Week award

## Men's team's comeback effort garners national media attention

By CHRIS WELCH  
Sports Editor

Golfweek magazine has named the MT Men's golf team its National Team of the Week after the Blue Raiders rallied to take the Mason Rudolph Intercollegiate on Sunday.

The team, behind 11 shots on Sunday, came back to claim the championship at the Vanderbilt Legends Club.

"It is great recognition and publicity for our team," head coach Whit Turnbow said. "It was an unbelievable tournament last week and went a long way to showing people the type of program we have. It's not every day you take down two top 10 programs in the same day."

The team defeated 10th ranked South Carolina in a sudden-death tournament playoff to clinch the team championship. The Blue Raiders tallied a final round total of 273 on the par-71, 7,100-yard South Course at

the club.

MT and South Carolina both finished with an 11-under par, 556 (272-285). Third-ranked Georgia Tech placed fourth in the tournament, right under Arkansas State, who finished one stroke shy of MT and South Carolina with a 557 (272-285).

Senior Craig Smith, junior Jason Millard and freshman Hunter Green combined to shoot 12-under on Sunday to spearhead the first victory of the season. Millard opened with a 74 on Friday, but bounced back with a 5-under par 66 that included six birdies and a 31 on the front nine holes. Millard finished in a tie for 16th.

Senior Kent Bulle got back into the swing of things, steadying up with an even par 142 and a tie for 21st. His Sunday round included 17 pars and one bogey.

The Blue Raiders will be back in action Oct. 5-6 at the Squire Creek Classic in Ruston, La.

## MEDIA FROM PAGE 7

"It all goes in to building your program and selling your program."

The increased coverage has also helped build a fan base that was struggling to average 15,000 fans five years ago. Those struggles seem like the distant past lately. The home opener against the University of Memphis set the attendance record of 28,150. The highly anticipated upcoming home game, a contest against Mississippi State University, has the chance of being the first sellout in Floyd Stadium history.

The Memphis game was broadcast on CSS. In fact, every home game this season will be broadcast on either CSS or ESPN GamePlan. Outside of just showing the games for fans across the nation, TV can be looked as a way to reach out to local alumni.

"TV gives a stamp of validity to your product," Massaro said. "It gives some al-

ums, that might not have seen what our team looks like, some exposure."

A strong local fan base is crucial to increase local media coverage for MT athletics. Without the local fans, there is no need for local coverage.


"As our fan base grows, it also helps make the argument for better coverage," Massaro said.

As for this and future seasons, Massaro and the athletic department must keep up their strategy to continue the increased media coverage, especially in a crowded market like Nashville.

"We have to keep the message that there are two division 1-A teams in this market - Vanderbilt and Middle Tennessee."

However, for those fans that are pro-MT or fans of other schools that feel it's as simple as wins and losses, Massaro has a response for them as well.

"We've had on-field success with Vanderbilt and with Memphis so that helps."

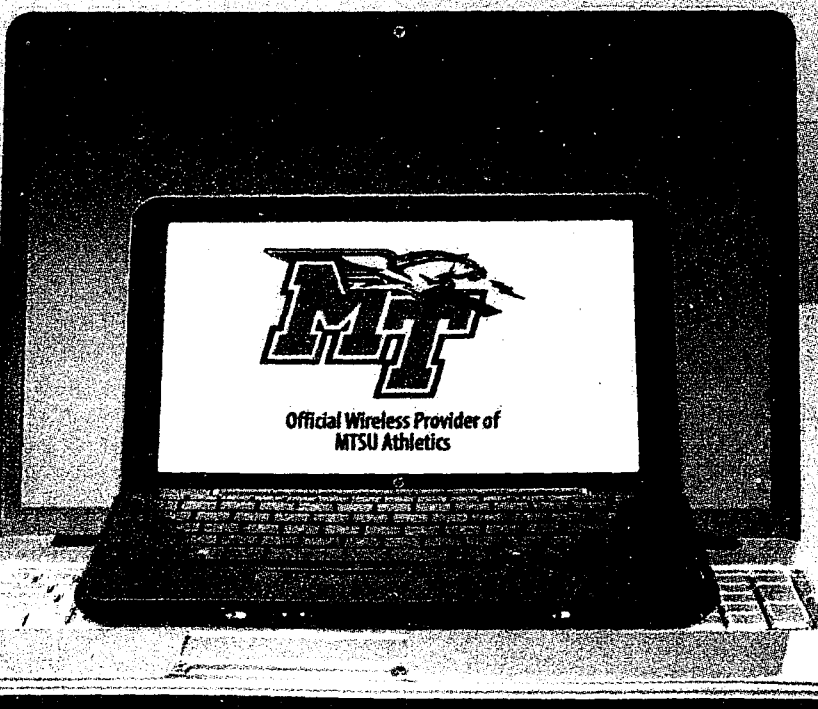


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