

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2010

VOL. 87, NO. 27

“QUOTE OF THE DAY”

“Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes.”

Mahatma Gandhi

Potential provost seeks change

King says university should look for outside funding

By DUSTIN EVANS
Managing Editor

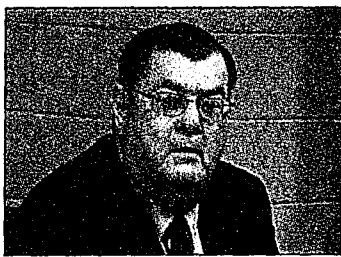
Joe King, the fourth candidate to apply for the executive vice president and provost position, said if he were to receive the position, he would look for funding outside of state resources to build stronger programs at MTSU.

“I think the university shouldn’t wait on funding from the state that isn’t happening, but find other sources in order to develop and sustain the programs it has,” King said.

King is currently the provost and vice chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs at the University of New Orleans.

King said he recently took over the university children’s center, which was running “in the red.” He said instead of outsourcing the financial problem, he went to the UNO business faculty to solve it – the children’s center is now running within its budget.

“That’s where we can use our resources to save money and also develop programs,” King said. “But it’s an institutional spirit if you want to make this a better



“I think the university shouldn’t wait on funding from the state that isn’t happening.”

JOE KING
POTENTIAL MTSU PROVOST

place – that is the way I view universities and my job.”

King said a major problem the universities are facing in Louisiana is recent legislation that would evaluate administration at its state universities by looking at its graduation rate, similar to the Tennessee education reform legislation passed in January. This legislation would move funding in higher education institutions to colleges and universities with higher graduation rates.

PROVOST, PAGE 2

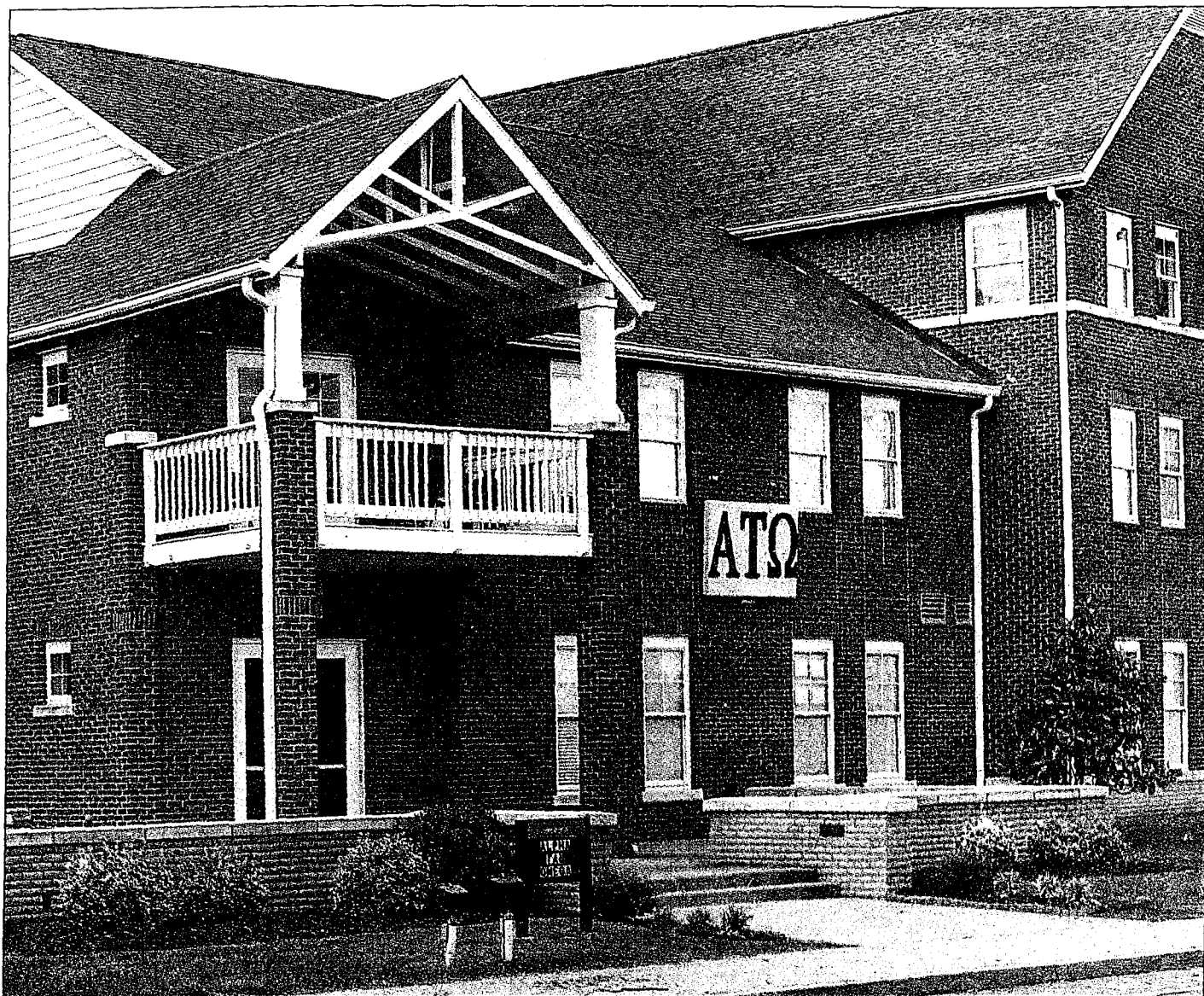


Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

The Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity house on Greek Row was damaged last Monday after a someone lost control of his vehicle and crashed into the side of the building. Police are investigating the incident but have said that alcohol was involved in the wreck.

ATO house wrecked

Car crashes into fraternity house, damage minimal

By CHRISTOPHER MERCHANT
Assistant News Editor

No one was injured when an intoxicated driver crashed his vehicle into the Alpha Tau Omega National Fraternity house on Greek Row before dawn April 19, which caused minor property damage, according to MTSU’s department of public safety.

Roger Berg, 19, and Brent Pewitt, 18, were each issued state citations for underage consumption of alcohol. Berg, who was driving the vehicle, was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence. Neither Berg nor Pewitt are students at MTSU.

“There were visible marks on the southbound lane of Rutherford Boulevard from where it appeared the driver had lost control of the vehicle,” accord-

ing the MTSU police report.

“Basically he was driving on the wrong side of Rutherford, and he veered away from the road, drove on to the Greek Row grass, and miraculously missed the cars parked in front of our house,” said Edgard Izaguirre, senior marketing and public relations major, who serves as public relations official for ATO.

Berg and Pewitt were each issued a criminal trespass warning, which prohibits both men from being on campus grounds.

Lt. Jim Fanguy of the MTSU Police Department said he “found it unlikely” that the men were members of ATO. He said he did not know why the two men would be on campus.

Izaguirre confirmed that Berg and Pewitt are not members of ATO and have no affiliation with the fraternity. He also said ATO members reportedly saw an underage female with the two men at the time of the incident.

However, MTSU Police Sgt. Broede Stucky said he was not aware of any report that included the alleged female



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor
The bricks on the front of the ATO house was the only area that were damaged from the car crash.

involved in the incident.

“Mr. Berg and Mr. Pewitt were the only two people that were charged or had anything to do with it as far as we know,” Stucky said.

WRECK, PAGE 2

SIDEFACTS

Cracking your knuckles does not actually hurt your bones or cause arthritis. The sound you hear is just gas bubbles bursting.

Cracking your knuckles (or any of your joints) can have therapeutic benefits. When you crack one of your joints you are pulling the bones that are connected at the joint apart from each other. This process stimulates your tendons, relaxes your muscles, and loosens your joints. Chiropractors do this for spinal joints when your back is sore and stiff, but you can do this on your own for your knuckles, toes, knees, neck, etc.

Unfortunately, there can be too much of a good thing. Cracking your knuckles will never lead to arthritis (despite what your mom keeps telling you), but scientists have discovered that it can cause tissue damage in the affected joints. Knuckle-cracking pulls your finger bones apart, which stretches your ligaments. Too much stretching of your ligaments will cause damage to your fingers akin to the arm injuries sustained by a baseball pitcher who throws too many pitches. In addition to making your hand really sore, this ligament damage can also result in reduced grip strength.

Fact courtesy of omg-facts.com

More than just the music

Nashville hosts ‘Naked Without Us,’ showing how fashion helps create musicians’ image

By JO-JO JACKSON
Staff Writer

Last week, Nashville was the stage for Naked Without Us – a weeklong independent fashion and music festival – in an effort to prove that there’s more to Music City than just country music.

NWU showcased designers, some of whom are MTSU alumni, and bands from the Nashville area. In addition, the show acted as a benefit for the Rob Bironas Fund, a charity founded by the

Tennessee Titans’ kicker.

The festival began with a kick-off party at the Hard Rock Café. There, designers, models, event organizers, musicians and fashion savvy Nashvillians celebrated the upcoming fashion shows.

NWU’s creators Billy Gemmill and Patrick Weber said that they came up with the event’s name by a tag line on Gemmill’s clothing designs. Gemmill, a Nashville native, said he was a runway model in Milan, Italy, for two years and got the idea of merging runway fashion and band performances from shows he modeled in.

Weber said he is a graphic designer by trade but got into fashion several years ago. Weber said he creates limited quantities of his designs as wearable art.



Photo by Jo-Jo Jackson, contributing photographer
A model who participated in the Boutique Showcase Fashion Show at Mercy Lounge in Nashville was part of the weeklong fashion and music festival, Naked Without Us.

FASHION, PAGE 2

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Bonnaroo’s back in Manchester, Tenn., with a star-studded and diverse lineup.

page 6
IN TODAY’S ISSUE



Older Wiser Learners awarded for academic accomplishments today.

ONLINE @
MTSUSIDELINES.COM

THURSDAY FORECAST

PARTLY CLOUDY
10% CHANCE OF RAIN
HIGH 79, LOW 55

Drunk driver collides with ATO's fraternity house

WRECK
FROM PAGE 1

In addition, the police report said Berg failed the field sobriety tests and refused to take a chemical test to determine his blood to alcohol ratio, and was charged with violating the implied consent law, as reported by MTSU police.

The implied consent law states anyone who operates a motor vehicle is, in effect, consenting to a DUI chemical test.

According to the Institute for Substance Abuse Treatment Evaluation, the refusal to submit to a blood alcohol concentration

test may result in revocation of driver's license for one year on the first offense.

Berg was transported to the Rutherford County Adult Detention Center, where he was charged and his bond was set at \$3,000, and is scheduled to appear in court alongside Pewitt on June 8 in Rutherford County General Sessions Court.

Izguerra said the damage to the house consisted mostly of chipped concrete, and much of the damage occurred near the front end of the house.

"The damage is not bad at all," Izaguirre said. "It's not substantial."

Provost candidate says university graduation rate calculation faulty

PROVOST
FROM PAGE 1

"Our graduation rate has to be 60 percent or better, or the chancellor is in trouble," King said. "LSU Baton Rouge has to be around 75 to 76 percent, that's not going to be easy for us or for them."

King said many state institutions are struggling with student retention plans because of the way the graduation rate is calculated. He said the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, the division of the U.S. Department of Education that is the primary education data collection agency for the government, does not take transfer students into account when processing the final totals.

"I was in front of the U.S. House Appropriations Committee, and I said, 'your measure's off,'" King said.

Sherian Huddleston, associate vice provost for Enrollment Services, said the system for calculating graduation rate involves creating a cohort of first year, full time freshmen and tracking their graduation success over six years.



Photo by Ray Ingram, staff photographer
Joe King, provost and vice chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs at the University of New Orleans, speaks to faculty, staff and about what he'd do as MTSU's provost.

King said when he spoke to members of Congress, he argued the usage of student credit hours to calculate a better, more accurate figure of graduation rate.

Read the full story
online @
MTSUSIDELINES.COM



Photo by Jo-Jo Jackson, contributing photographer
Models participated in the weeklong Naked Without Us, a fashion and music festival, campaign last week in an effort to raise funds and bring attention to local fashion in Nashville.

Nashville's fashion designers raise funds for education

FASHION
FROM PAGE 1

"When I came back [to Nashville] I really wanted to bring Nashville to life," Bemmill said. "It was just luck and grace to find all these people who had the same heart."

Marcia Masulla, NWU's fashion and marketing director, said that the organization's goal is to bring together the creative community of Nashville.

"The main focus is being a platform for the Nashville community, both music, fashion and really quite anything in the creative field," Masulla said. "We're calling ourselves the 'fashion music culture conspiracy.'"

The festival comprised an afternoon fashion and music industry networking event at Rumors East and a music showcase at the Rutledge Live Music Venue. Musical performances included local musicians Tristen, Mercy Birds and Jessica Campbell.

Doors at the Rutledge opened at 8 p.m., launching the ongoing silent auction of spe-

cially made garments by various designers in the event. The pieces were inspired by Yazoo's Hefeweizen beer, and 10 percent of the proceeds will go to the Rob Bironas Fund to help music and art education in Nashville's public schools.

The Exit/In hosted the Street Tees fashion shows the following Wednesday, which included New York designer Boy Meets Girl and local designers such as Marti McFly, Reign Fall and Mary Ink. Musical performances included Mikes Pawn Shop, Tesla Rosa and Sarah Silva, to name a few.

Troy Chairs, a Murfreesboro-based designer, also showcased his fashion line at the Street Tees show. Chairs said he runs Lovers & Fighters out of his screen-printing shop, Legacy Ink. Chairs is also a 2006 MTSU graduate with a degree in Fashion Merchandising.

Read the full story
online @
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SUMMER 2010

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- July Term S3 (5 weeks): July 12 - August 13
- June/July Term S4 (10 weeks): June 7 - August 13
- RODP Term R (10 weeks): June 7 - August 13

Don't Wait...Register Today!

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

Web: www.mtsu.edu/summer
Email: summer@mtsu.edu
Voice: 615-898-5783

MTSU, a Tennessee Board of Regents university, is an equal opportunity, nonracially identifiable, educational institution that does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities.

CRIME BRIEFS

April 19, 2:18 p.m. Theft Scarlett Commons A complainant reported stolen bicycles.	April 20, 1:52 p.m. Theft Recreation Center A complainant reported his vehicle had been broken into and his textbooks were stolen.	active warrants.
April, 19, 4:37 p.m. Assault MTSU police department A complainant reported threatening text messages.	April 20, 2:58 p.m. Vandalism Nicks Hall A complainant reported damage to property.	April 20, 9:58 p.m. Assault Wood Hall A complainant reported she was assaulted by another resident.
April 20, 1:48 a.m. Traffic Rutherford Boulevard Johnny W. McCully Jr., 19, was issued a state citation for driving without a license.	April 20, 3:24 Traffic Recreation Center Parking Lot A complainant reported a hit and run accident in the gravel parking lot next to the Recreation center.	April 22, 8: 45 p.m. Theft Recreation Center A wallet was reported stolen.
April 20, 12:46 p.m. Traffic James E. Walker Library A vehicle was reported to be involved in a hit and run.	April 20, 7:09 Warrant Greenland Drive Lot C Ryan Glenn Frank, 31, was arrested on	April 22, 10:11 p.m. Burglary Clement Hall Unlawful entry without force was reported at the dormitories.
		April 23, 12:56 a.m. Theft Recreation Center No description was given.

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Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@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.

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 online during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily *Sidelines* or MTSU.

Garage takes precedent over academics

With construction achieving final approval, administrators show where priorities lie

After a yearslong debate, it has been finalized: MTSU is going to build a parking garage.

The series of events leading up to the Tennessee Board of Regents' approval of the project in March has been a long, dramatic one, full of unexpected twists and turns.

For the better part of the past decade, university officials discussed the feasibility of and need for a garage. Students' concerns over the lack of parking near the center of campus – as well as the awful scenes of traffic that prospective students witness as they tour the campus – have fueled the debate.

In 2006, the large lot next to Rutherford Boulevard was completed in an attempt to improve the parking situation. This parking lot, which requires either a long walk or a sometimes long wait



Michael Stone
From the opinions editor

for a bus to get to campus, never seems to come close to its capacity.

In the spring of 2009, the administration proposed the "All-Access Campus Improvement Plan," a multimillion-dollar project that included additional Raider Xpress buses, new bike lanes, improvements to MTSU Boulevard, the construction of an entrance to campus from Wiles Court, and, of course, a parking garage.

The Student Government

Association voted in favor of letting the student body vote on the improvement plan. If approved, fees to fund the improvements would have been gradually raised over several years, capping at \$60 a semester.

In an attempt to sway the student body to vote yes on the plan, Ron Malone, assistant vice president of Events and Transportation Services, approved a \$10,000 contract for MTSU with a local marketing firm. Who could forget all the "Vote Yes" yard signs our administration so graciously cluttered our campus with last spring?

The student body instead voted the plan down. End of story, right? Wrong.

During an SGA meeting in January, administrators gave a hurried presentation on how they were planning

on disregarding the student vote and building the garage anyway. The cost to students will eventually cap at \$32 a semester instead of \$60 because the new plan only consists of the garage.

Since the meeting, administrators are yet to hold a public meeting to discuss their decision.

Many SGA senators were outraged by the university's disregard for the democratic vote. One of those was College of Business Sen. Danielle Reed.

"It is more money that we have to spend, and we cannot afford it," Reed told *Sidelines* after the meeting. "They are essentially downsizing employees for a parking garage."

What Reed said is true: MTSU's enrollment numbers are skyrocketing, and

its faculty numbers are dropping due to buyouts and unfilled positions. The total cost of the garage is projected to be \$34 million, an amount that engulfs the estimated \$34 million in budget cuts the university must make by the summer of 2011.

Debra Sells, vice president of Student Affairs and vice provost for Enrollment and Academic Services, has been a tried-and-true supporter of the garage, citing that its construction is an opportunity for students to "leave their legacy" on the university.

"We are asking you to invest in something that will be here long after you are gone," Sells said in January.

What Sells and the rest of the administration seems to be forgetting is that legacies

in academic settings are not established by way of construction and physical expansion; They are formed by improving the quality of education and making sure students leave college with the knowledge and critical thinking skills that they have paid thousands of dollars to earn.

But, thanks to shortsighted decisions – ones that allocate millions of dollars into buildings instead of saving and possibly expanding faculty numbers – our degrees are turning into little more than beautiful sheets of paper that display the proud golden insignia of "Middle Tennessee State Construction Site."

Michael Stone is a senior journalism major and opinions editor of Sidelines. He can be reached at slopinio@mtsu.edu.

Blundergrads

WHY ARE YOU ON MY XBOX? YOU DESPISE IT! COULDN'T YOU HEAR ME CALLING FOR YOU? I CAN'T FIND MY KEYS.



By PHIL FLICKINGER

OH, I'M SORRY! WAS I IGNORING YOU? I GUESS I WAS JUST SOOOO ENGROSSSED IN MY GAME OF MODERN WARFARE 2-



YOU'RE NOT EVEN HOLDING THE CONTROLLER RIGHT? OH I GET IT; VERY FUNNY.



www.blundergrads.com

A QUICK WORD

From the opinions editor

It's no secret that students feel very little guilt in printing excessive amounts of paper from the various computer labs on campus.

While I am not opposed to allowances regarding free printing, I do feel that every student should have a maximum amount for each semester.

This would encourage wiser printing methods, such as condensing multiple PowerPoint slides onto a single sheet and double-sided printing.

Printing off a sheet or five may seem like a small, inconsequential drop in the bucket as far as MTSU's printing budget is concerned. But, as all small things do, those drops really add up.

—Michael Stone, slopinio@mtsu.edu

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Have plans, but be flexible

I'm writing in response to Tim Johnson's article ("After college, what's next?" *Sidelines*, April 26). Now one year removed from the college experience, I feel that I can – with certain credibility – echo Johnson's comments.

You see, I had life planned out post-graduation: graduate school, important exit exams, followed by a lucrative professional career! Wrong.

I postponed – likely indefinitely – law school and moved to Washington, D.C., to work in the nonprofit world.

With just a bachelor's degree, I feverishly worked to connect with people who could offer me a hand up in the political realm.

For conservatives, Morton Blackwell's Leadership Institute is a start. Working as a conservative "community organizer," I met and trained hundreds – if not thousands – of conservative political activists, and I met many of those influential leaders in what we up here call "The (Conservative) Movement."

Post-graduation isn't about what you know, it's truly about who you know.

I wrote letters to everyone I met: congressmen, presidents of conservative organizations, and others; I introduced myself and offered my expertise, and it paid off. Just a few weeks ago, I changed jobs and am now working as a consultant on several state-level campaigns in the Mid-Atlantic region and offering advice to candidates in Tennessee.

My world changed dramatically last May, and I ran with it. Since then, I haven't looked back.

My advice is to have goals, but be flexible and willing to change your path if opportunities present themselves. Take chances and make mistakes. And most importantly, build connections with those who can help you in the future.

You need their wisdom, and they need your youthful exuberance.

—Matthew Hurtt, 2009 graduate

Prof. Hinton will be missed

Every time I see Dr. Marcie Hinton, I think of the things I have due, the things I've done well, and the things I'm able to do because she has advised me, taught several of my classes, and sponsored MTSU's chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America.

As a nontraditional student, I had Dr. Hinton in class five years ago and remember her infectious attitude, which once again drew me into the public relations program at this university.

She's the professor whose class you don't want to miss. She's the face in the hall-

way you don't avoid. She's the professor I'll miss the most out of my experience at MTSU.

Recently recognized as the College of Mass Communication's Adviser of the Year, she'll be setting sail to the golden waves of grain in Dubuque, Iowa, for Loras College, a smaller liberal arts school, in the fall.

On behalf of all the students and faculty she's influenced and encouraged, I'd like to say cheers and good luck to you, Dr. Hinton. You are a beacon of strength and enthusiasm.

MTSU's future students will be at a loss, but we count ourselves lucky and blessed for you having touched our lives.

—Aimee Schmittendorf, senior public relations major



Hinton

WE LOVE GETTING LETTERS

E-mail them to slopinio@mtsu.edu



Attention MTSU students:

Pass your collegiate expertise onto incoming freshmen

Customs orientation is right around the corner, and that means hoards of new students will be flocking to MTSU all summer long.

Many of them have no clue what they're getting into as far as college is concerned, but we want to help them find out beforehand. If you

have any advice that you wish you had heard as a freshman, e-mail it to slopinio@mtsu.edu for possible publication in *Sidelines'* Customs issue.

Please include your full name, year in school, major and telephone number for verification.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Of the planet, for the planet

New York Times best-seller encourages going green

By JESSE CLOWER
Contributing Writer

This book was written to save the world. “The Green Book,” a New York Times bestseller, is nothing short of a call to action. Its power grows at the turn of every page.

Written by Elizabeth Rogers and Thomas M. Kostigen, “The Green Book” is a dictionary of useful facts about perhaps the most desperate predicament man has ever faced.

The book is already leading by example. Published on 100 percent recycled paper and made from processed trees, this bright green book could be considered a living plant. Just like a flower turns carbon dioxide into the oxygen we breathe, the information taken from this book breathes life into Mother Nature, providing facts that will benefit our planet.

Elizabeth Rogers, one half of the driving force behind this go green book, is no stranger to the environmentally savvy community. She has worked with the Natural Resources Defense Council and is currently working as an environmental consultant where she resides in

Venice, Calif. Rogers is also creator and producer of the environmentally conscious MTV show, “Trippin.”

Kostigen, the more Indiana Jones half of the writing team, is somewhat of a pioneer. He has traveled all over the world to investigate and target the harmful effects man has produced on the planet. He has also traveled abroad to areas with fewer media outlets in order to educate people about environmental issues, global warming, social issues and government policies.

Kostigen writes the “Better Planet” column for Discover Magazine. He also works with CERES (corporate environmental responsibility), Coop-American, and has been affiliated with a host of other organizations that work to bring awareness to our current social and environmental crisis.

The book is written in a logical manner. Each chapter begins with “The Big Picture,” providing the facts on topics such as home, travel, shopping and work. But it’s the manner in which the authors relate the facts to real life scenarios that makes them stick.

“If everyone in the country saved just one gallon from their daily shower, over the course of a

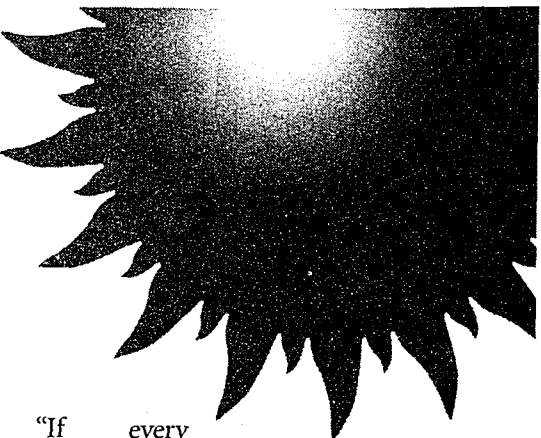
year it would equal twice the amount of freshwater withdrawn from the Great Lakes every day,” Rogers and Kostigen wrote.

Each chapter is then further broken down into “The Little Things,” bits of information that collectively make a world of difference. Remember the kid smelling the markers because of the strong fumes they let out? Those fumes are produced by harsh chemicals that can leak into the groundwater from the landfills they are disposed in.

One simple suggestion the authors of “TheGreenBook” makeistousenon-toxic, waterbased markers with refillable heads. The facts are deliberately plain and easy to retain, which is why this book is such a treasure.

Each chapter is concluded by a memo from a celebrity. They provide a breath of humor and emotion that sticks with the reader. Will Ferrell, Jennifer Aniston, Justin Timberlake and Tiki Barber are among the celebrities who provide their insight while endorsing this book.

Many of the facts presented not only save our planet’s natural fossil fuels and cut down on pollution, they help cut down on utility bills. This book provides facts that allow you to make wiser purchasing decisions - another highly practical motive to reading this book.

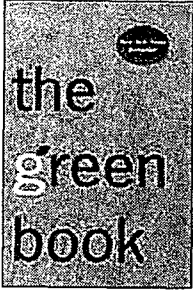


“If every American home changed out just five regular light fixtures or the bulbs in them with more energy-efficient compact fluorescent ones, we’d keep more than 1 trillion pounds of greenhouse gases out of our air - equal to the emissions of 8 million cars.

That’s \$6 billion in energy savings for Americans,” Rogers and Kostigen wrote.

The book is a must read. The facts are clever and entertaining to read, all while benefiting you and the impact you leave on this planet. Though much of the hard facts presented in this book are easily accessible online, “The Green Book” is still worth the purchase.

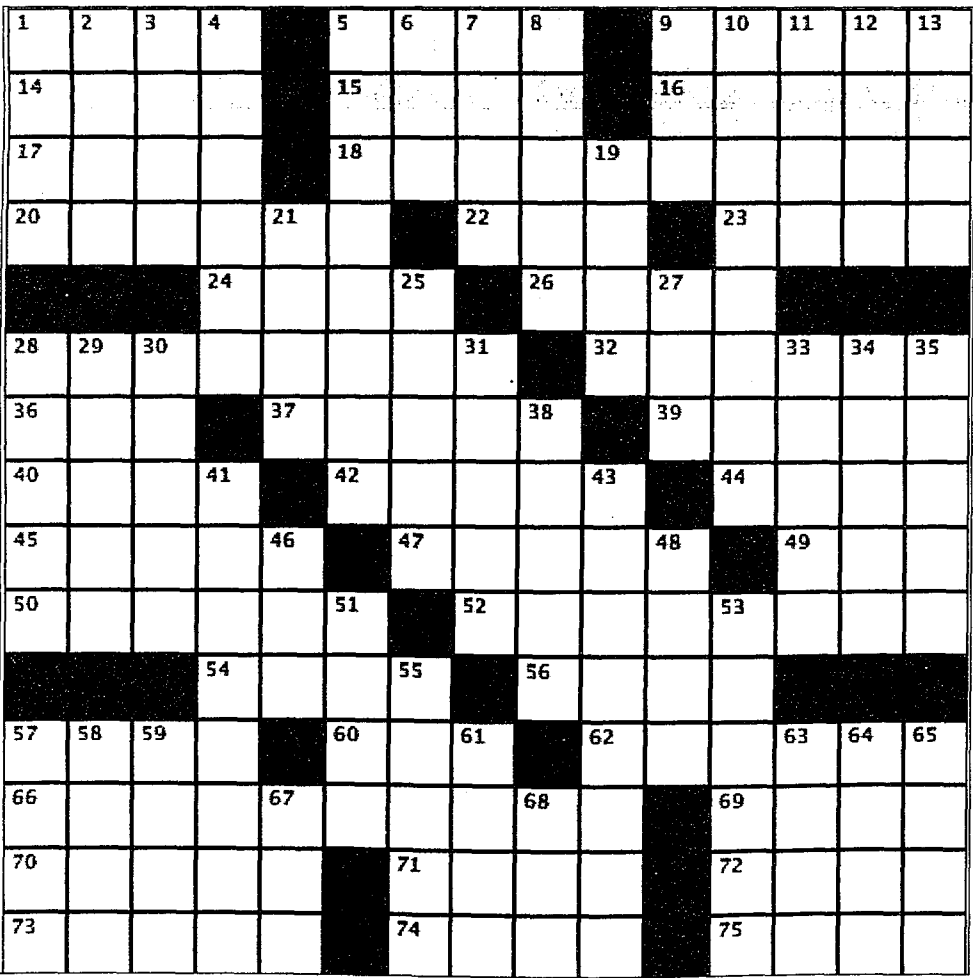
Aside from the fact that the information received from this book will in turn pay for itself, there is an incredible, positive outlook one will achieve after reading this book. “The Green Book” eloquently provides memorable facts, each coupled with humor and emotion throughout.



Published by
Three Rivers Press
U.S. \$12.95

SIDEWORDS

The weekly *Sidelines* crossword puzzle



Crossword courtesy of bestercrosswords.com

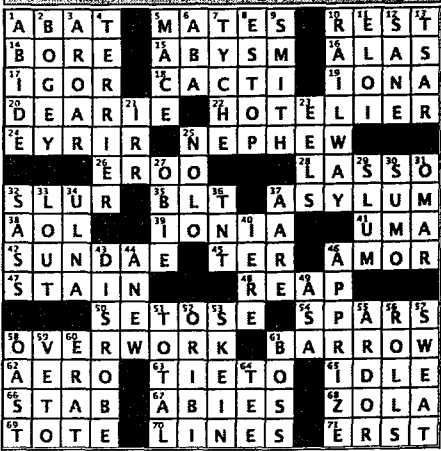
Across

1- Again; 5- Baby blues; 9- Make thirsty; 14- Hot rock; 15- Acting part; 16- Dicembre follower; 17- Get ready; 18- Routine; 20- Economize; 22- Debussy’s “La _____”; 23- “_____ quam videri” (North Carolina’s motto); 24- Cheerio!; 26- Monetary unit of Cambodia; 28- What senators play?; 32- Slants; 36- Actress Balin; 37- A bit, colloquially; 39- European wheat; 40- Speech issue; 42- Food and water; 44- Ashtabula’s lake; 45- Body of salt water; 47- Cobb, e.g.; 49- Plant; 50- Intense fear; 52- Mosque; 72- Smell; 73- _____ lift?; 74- Start of a counting rhyme; 75- Crash wherever convenient;

Down

1- Mountain range in Central Europe; 2- DEA agent; 3- At any time; 4- North American elk; 5- Outburst; 6- Hither’s partner; 7- K-6; 8- Cleave; 9- Compose; 10- Eland; 11- Whistle-blowers; 12- Leg unit between tarsus and femur; 13- Gap; 19- Goddess and sister of Ares in Greek mythology; 21- Floor coverings; 25- Green _____ is the place to be; 27- Golfer Ernie; 28- Guide; 29- In reserve; 30- Coherent light beam; 31- Water vapor; 33- Intrinsically; 34- Marner’s creator; 35- Simmers; 38- Go off-script; 41- Irrationally fearful; 43- Free from dirt; 46- And not; 48- Hamlet, e.g.; 51- Impetuous; 53- Hinder; 55- Influential offering; 57- Farm team; 58- Nothing more than; 59- Actress Heche; 61- Drug-yielding plant; 63- 1963 role for Liz; 64- Hastens; 65- Tibetan oxen; 67- Green shade; 68- Electrically charged atom;

Answers for April 21



Turn to page 6
for answers to this
week’s crossword

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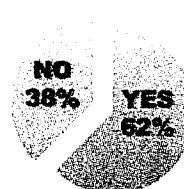
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This is *Sidelines*' last issue of the semester so there will be no poll today. Thank you for participating and have a wonderful summer.

FEATURES



ARE YOU PLANNING ON TAKING SUMMER CLASSES?

BASED ON VOTES FROM MTSUSIDELINES.COM.

bonnaroo's back...

Massive gathering of ultra-hippy awesomeness returns to the fields of Manchester, brings star-studded line-up

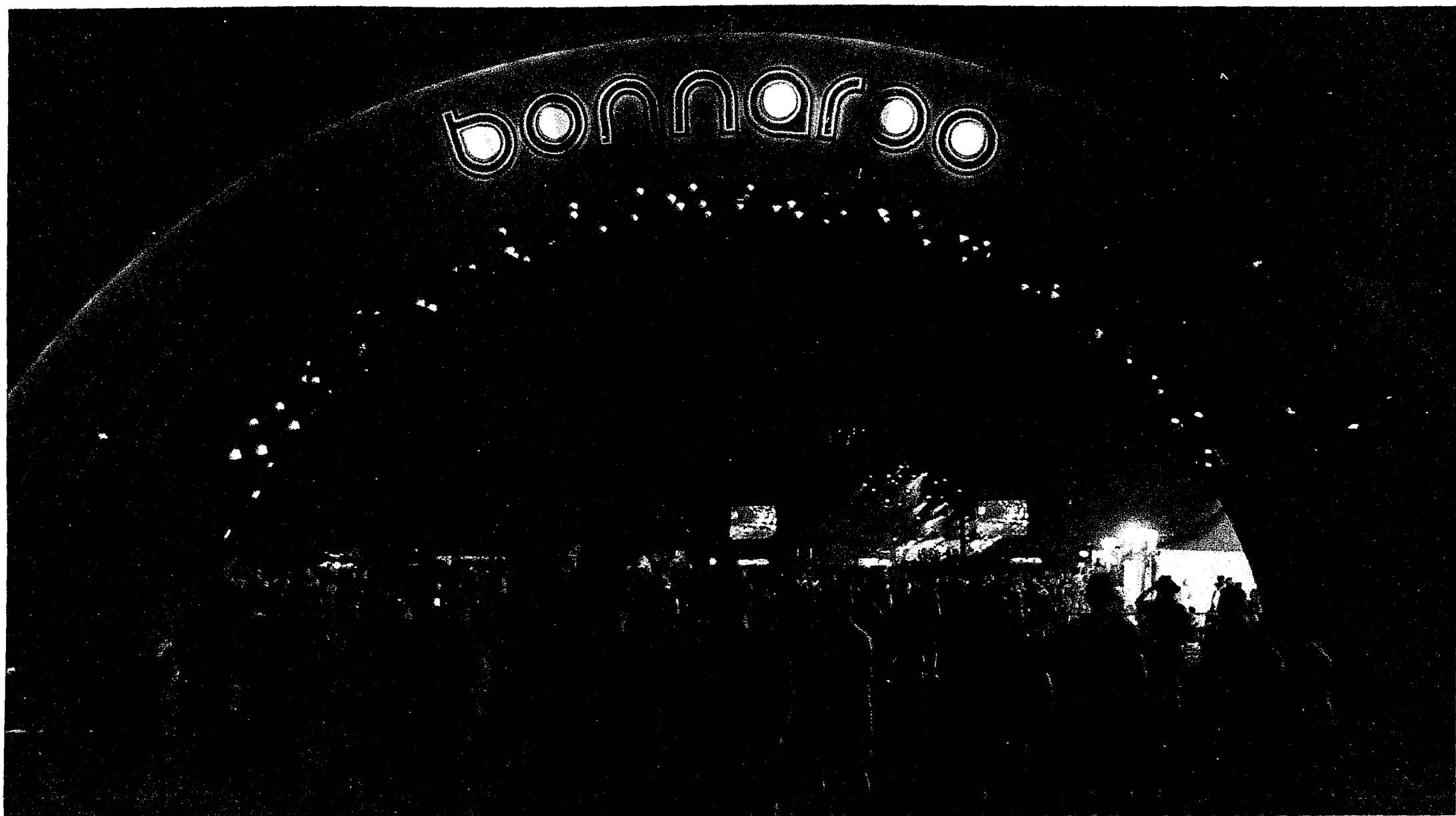


Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

American rock band Phish performs on the main stage at Centeroo during the closing night festivities of the 2009 Bonnaroo Music festival. Bonnaroo takes place on a 700-acre farm in Manchester, Tenn.

By GARRETH SPINN, EMMA EGLI
Staff Writer, Features Editor

Time to bust out copious amounts of sun-screen, your favorite Nalgene and your flip-flops: Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival is back in Manchester with quite possibly the most star-studded and over-loaded line-up ever.

This year's Bonnaroo is the most diverse it's ever been, with up-and-coming acts, notable long time indie acts and the biggest of the big mainstream acts – Jay-Z, Tenacious D, Kings of Leon, Jeff Beck, GWAR, OK Go, The xx and too many more to fit on this page.

There are endless activities to do during the downtime between the Dead Weather and the Flaming Lips set. You could drop by the Bonnaroo Cinema to kick back and watch whatever movie is playing, or for your yoga fix, stop by the Solar Stage in Planet Roo to stretch and perfect your downward facing dog pose in the morning.

You are also required to stop by one tent – The Silent Disco tent. Just grab a pair of headphones, throw caution to the wind and dance. You'll look stupid, but we swear no one will judge you.

If you are considering going to Bonnaroo this year, check out what to expect from some of our favorite acts and artists that will be rocking Centeroo June 10-13.

Weezer

After a serious tour bus accident, Weezer bassist Scott Shriner says front man Rivers Cuomo has recovered 100 percent. It's a good thing he has because Cuomo couldn't run this party without being 100 percent able.

Since its 2001 release, "Weezer (Green Album)," the band is seemingly embracing their inner pop side. Its reached a pop climax with last year's "Raditude."

"We are trying to be a little bit more diverse and playing some poppy stuff and some darker stuff and trying to mix it up a little bit more," Shriner says of the band's evolving sound.

While you might be stuck in the past with pop-punk classics like "Undone (The Sweater Song)," you should still go see Weezer with an open mind, as well as your dancing shoes. Shriner has even hinted that the band will be covering some of our favorite songs, as well as a few surprises.

"I think as of now we're playing the 'Kids' and 'Lady Gaga' kind of medley," Shriner says. "But we might be looking at some different things to play by that time."

John Fogerty

In a strange move by Bonnaroo, John Fogerty will make his first appearance this year. The '60s and '70s swamp-rockers are sure to slay the crowd with what my own mother calls, "killer riffs."

Certainly all walks of life will come to see the legendary singer-songwriter showcase his vast catalogue. With his last album being a covers album, charting only in Finland and forgotten faster than it was made, we can all safely assume he won't leave out "Bad Moon Rising" or "Born In The Bayou" for a cover song.

The National

With its new album "High Violet" hitting the racks just before Bonnaroo, the Manchester festival will be the band's first chance to showcase the new material since its release.

The National's Aaron Dessner says for fans to expect the band to "bang on the door" and "play the louder [songs]" at this year's festival.

In 2007, the band played Bonnaroo right after its latest release "The Boxer" came out.

"[The crowds reaction was an] early indicator that things were going to go well," Dessner says.

The band hopes the new record has as good as a reaction to give them confidence for the rest of their year of touring.

Rise Against

Chicago punk band Rise Against is in the minority. It is one of the heaviest bands at this year's festival, but it is proof that Bonnaroo caters to all kinds of musical tastes. Front man Tim McIlrath says its plan of attack is to "grab people with what [we're] doing and get them to check out what [we're] doing."

Other punks on this year's bill are the Gaslight Anthem, the Melvins, Against Me! and Dropkick Murphys. My inner-punk is bursting at the seams.

Dr. Dog

With the release of its newest album, "Shame, Shame," Dr. Dog has been kicking out the jams throughout clubs across the nation.

Dr. Dog will undoubtedly melt your faces off. Its perfect blend of Americana, rock 'n' roll and pop will have you humming their songs throughout your four days of Bonnaroo bliss.

During recent shows, the band has dropped the late 19th century mineshaft

worker shtick from 2008 and is presenting itself as itself; and having a great time while doing so.

Mumford and Sons

Bonnaroo newcomers and Paste Magazine buzz-band, Mumford and Sons will likely sweep you away with its pure folk and bluegrass sound. The band's namesake, Marcus Mumford, has an earthy howl that you'll be able to hear from Centeroo.

The debut album has been making headlines and catching ears. The UK band's debut album, "Sigh No More," debuted at No. 7 in the UK and No. 1 in Ireland. With recent appearances on Letterman and Craig Ferguson, Mumford and Sons will surely bring a crowd ready to sing.

Conan O'Brien

Conan's relationship with NBC might be over, but he will always have a special place in our hearts. Until he is legally able to appear on TV in the fall, the recently "let go" member of "The Tonight Show" will continue to march on with "The Legally Prohibited From Being Funny On Television" tour, one of the stops being Bonnaroo.

Members of Team Coco will get to experience all the humor from "The

Tonight Show," minus the desk and couch and without the restraint of NBC censorship. Don't miss our favorite ginger tossing out a slew of profanities in the Comedy Theatre tent.

Dave Matthews Band

Dude! Lighter-holding, visor-wearing, Budweiser-drinking bros unite! In all fairness, Dave Matthews band is our favorite jam band of all time.

And what's more, they are expected to close out the festival on Sunday, which is sure to be the cherry on top of a bonified Bonna-rific weekend. They may be short an original sax player – R.I.P. LeRoi Moore – but "Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King" left us hungering for more, and our wish will be granted at Bonnaroo.

There you have it ladies and gentlemen. This is simply a taste of the fun that is to be had during one of the greatest music festivals of the summer. So you may not get to shower for a few days. So you may be surrounded by 100,000 plus people who haven't showered as well. But at least you'll get to witness more than 100 fantastic bands during what is sure to be the best weekend of your summer.

2010 'Roo Headliners

DAVE MATTHEWS BAND

KINGS OF LEON

STEVIE WONDER

JAY-Z

CONAN O'BRIEN

TENACIOUS D

WEEZER

THE FLAMING LIPS PERFORMING

DARK SIDE OF THE MOON

FEATURING STARDEATH AND

WHITE DWARFS

THE DEAD WEATHER

DAMIAN MARLEY & NAS

PHOENIX

NORAH JONES

MICHAEL FRANTI & SPEARHEAD

JOHN FOGERTY

REGINA SPEKTOR

JIMMY CLIFF

LCD SOUNDSYSTEM

THE AVETT BROTHERS

THE VERY CRIPPLED BROTHERS

RISE AGAINST

TORI AMOS

THE NATIONAL

ZAC BROWN BAND

LIES CLAYPOOL

JOHN PRINE

THE BLACK KEYS

STEVE MARTIN & THE STEVE MARTIN BAND

CANYON RANGERS

JEFF BECK

Surge in computer science electrifies job market

By ZACHARY BOAZ, ROZALIND RUTH
Contributing Writer, Community News Editor

Over the past few years, students have been increasingly enrolling in their university's computer science programs.

And every year since the past decade, technology has increased, and so has the need for people adept at handling the increase of technology.

A computer science major doesn't come without its own rewards. In the fall of 2009, the Computing Research Association found that 99 percent of computer science students who received their doctorate have jobs.

According to the computer science newsletter, the field is expected to grow 40 percent from 2007 to 2012 compared to 15 percent in other fields.

These recent developments have not left MTSU from its effects. Students enrolled in computer science have increased since Fall 2003.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Computer science graduates earn higher than average salaries, employment growth in computer science is expected to be much faster than average and job prospects should be excellent."

So the high increase of students in this particular major is warranted considering students studying computer science can expect a job with a steady salary waiting for them after they graduate.

"It was totally helpful for the field that I went into, and I was glad that I selected that as my major," says Lisa Rogers, assistant vice president of administrative information systems services at the Information Technology Division.

Rogers says that because the field has broadened over the years, it is important to have its own program of study.

"I think it's a very diverse and changing field, and that's why there's probably people continuing to be interested in it," Rogers says. "And of course it's so pervasive now – technology pervades everything now we do."

Because of that diversity, Rogers says, the computer sciences can be customized to a student's interest and career paths.

"One person may like working with the hardware more," Rogers says. "They can do something like that as opposed to the developers who are sitting down and writing code and actually run on the hardware."

Tom Wallace, associate vice president of server, classroom and desktop services at ITD, said that his experience as a math major helped him enter the field as a programmer, which eventually led to his current position.

"It takes problem-solving skills and the ability to take an issue and break it down into little issues and find the solutions for the little pieces so that you solve the big problem," Wallace says about mathematicians and computer scientists alike.

"Computer science graduates earn higher than average salaries, employment growth in computer science is expected to be much faster than average and job prospects should be excellent."

U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

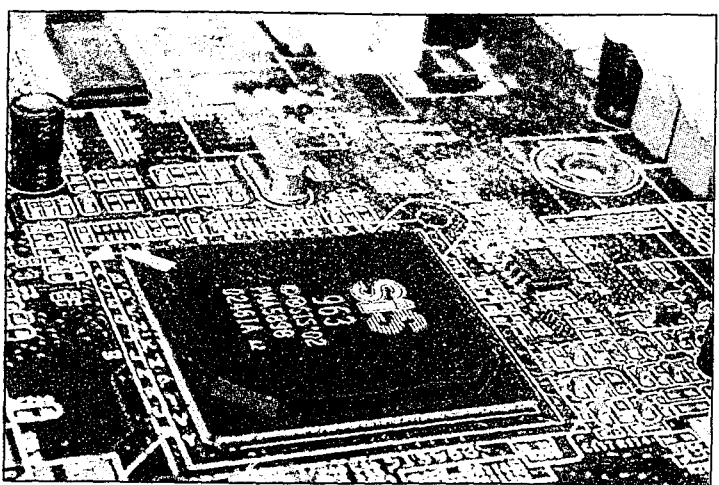


Photo courtesy of morguefile.com
More MTSU students enroll in computer science programs to help themselves acclimate to the growing age of technology.

Wallace says he thinks diversity in computer science is becoming more and more important in the increasingly competitive career. He says that familiarity with many different computer languages and programs is a new standard of the business.

"It used to be that [one] could get locked into a single type of system, whether it be an IBM or Xerox or something like that," Wallace says. "But these days, there is a lot of diversity with respect to systems, and the more exposure and experience one can gain in this industry the better."

Hip Happenings



Photo courtesy of myspace.com/beatrepeat

WMTS Spring Benefit Concert Featuring:

Geist
The Boroughs
Schtompa
Awake! Awake!
Don Coyote
Thurs. April 29, 7 p.m.
Club 527
18+ \$7, 21+ \$5

Fri. April 30, 9 p.m.
Club 527
\$5, Ladies free before 11 p.m.

Live at Walnut House Studio Featuring:

Boroughs
Dirty D plus 3
Fri. April 30, 8:30 p.m.
Walnut House Studios
\$4

Illumination Featuring:

Karius Vega
Truly Grimy
Dex
DJ Kidsmeal
This is Art
White Noise
DJ Bowie
Kraddy
Daedelus
Pretty Lights
Ana Sia
Sat. May 1, 5 p.m.
Limelight
\$25

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Schtompa
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Beat Repeat

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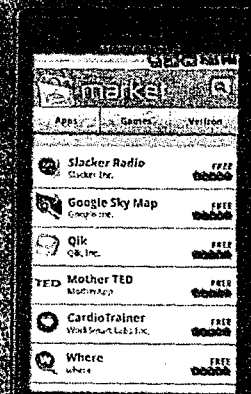
MTSU Improv Team
Tues. May 4, 9 p.m.
The Grind
Free

Events Policy

Sidelines welcomes current campus and community events submitted by all readers. Please e-mail events to sfeatur@mts.edu and include the name, date, time and location of the event, as well as your name and a phone number for verification. We reserve the right to refuse events at our discretion as our space is limited.

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 online during June and July. The events listed are not necessarily associated with Sidelines or MTSU.

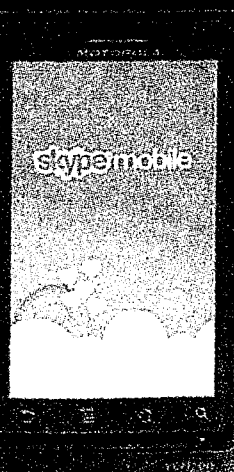
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This is the last regular issue of Sidelines for the semester, so the answers from today's crossword in the Arts & Entertainment section are below.

This Week's Answers

LIP'S	HEAL	RL'S
ULAN	ACRID	LOOP
AIRE	SOFFO	LUNE
UAKARI	SEM	OTIC
KITE	RENT	
SAD	EURL	SCHU'S
POP	KARAT	AESOP
ART'S	LENIN	SELA
STEPS	DELES	REN
MADEUP	SECT	SSS
CRAIG	SKAT	
UPSTAIRS	LYR	134
YOKE	SASHA	ACAR
EMIR	AZTEC	ONE
SET	ESME	ERSE

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SUMMER 2010
MTSU

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OPINIONS: 16 - 20

A&E: 21 - 23

Finders, keepers

A guide to getting a parking space on campus

By JOSH M. WARD, ROZALIND RUTH
Staff Writer, Community News Editor

Despite the low repeat rate of student parking tickets, the new parking garage should help to alleviate dwindling parking spaces, according to MTSU's Parking and Transportation Services officials.

The more than 25,000 students enrolled at MTSU will not see many changes to the state of parking on campus until 2013, when construction of the parking garage is complete. There are more than 11,000 parking spaces and 21,000 parking decals issued each semester.

MTSU alumnus Zach Barnes, 2009-2010 attorney general of the Student Government Association, said he thinks it is important for students to read their parking handbooks in order to avoid tickets.

"Many students just don't read the handbook,

but all of the rules are there," Barnes said. "They really do need to keep their parking book and map in their car – it is very informative and if you ever get a ticket you can always look at the handbook and get the rules.

There's a good way to kill it if you know and have read the handbook. Right now, parking isn't that bad if you just park farther away and come a little bit earlier."

Students have the option of appealing their tickets in either traffic court, consisting of three to six students, or through the attorney general's office.

Barnes said of the more than 1,000 tickets appealed through the attorney general's office, very few of them are forgiven, which can result in students paying anywhere from \$25 to \$200 per ticket.

Some of the reasons tickets are appealed, Barnes said, is because of erroneous reasons such as ticket writer error, or a mislabeled lot, but not knowing the rules in the parking handbook is not a valid reason for dismissing a ticket.

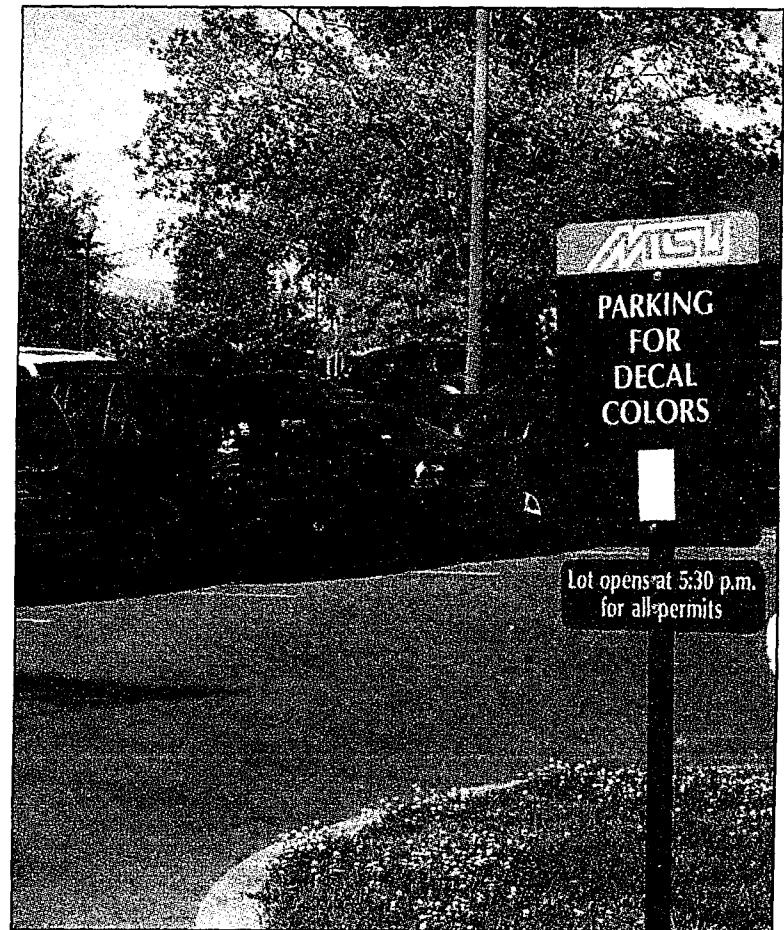


Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

Parking on campus can seem stressful during certain times, but coming to school early will allow students, faculty and staff to find a better spot.

PARKING, PAGE 8

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Education focus of governor debate

MTSU hosts open forum for gubernatorial candidates

By MARIE KEMPH
Campus News Editor

Candidates vying to be Tennessee's next governor focused on the economy and higher education during an MTSU gubernatorial forum April 29 in the Murphy Center.

Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam, Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey and U.S. Rep. Zach Wamp are competing for the Republican nomination, and Mike McWherter, who has never been elected to public office, is running uncontested for the Democratic nomination.

Ramsey and Wamp advocated for stronger states' rights, citing the 10th Amendment, while McWherter said he believed in proactively governing in coordination with the federal government.

"Our country will change but it's going to happen from the bottom up not the top down," Wamp said. "With strong leadership, standing on our sovereignty, limited government [and] low taxes, states like Tennessee [can] set the example and change this country."

Although the Republican candidates did not spend much time attacking one another, Ramsey did criticize Haslam's decision to raise Knoxville's property taxes.

Haslam said he is committed to conservative principles, including limited government and low taxes, but he also understands that elected officials do not "govern in a vacuum."

Haslam said because he was willing to make difficult decisions to lead Knoxville through tough economic times responsibly, the city is financially stable.

"Our next governor is going to face the most difficult time to be governor," Haslam said.

"Our state is ready for a civil but substantive discussion of the issues, [and] there's never been a more critical time to elect the right person."

McWherter, son of former Gov. Ned McWherter, also praised Gov. Phil Bredesen frequently, and he said that throughout the current governor's two terms, Tennessee has continued to improve.

"He's done a good job of managing the state's budget," McWherter said, referring to Bredesen.

The candidates answered several questions, some of which were submitted by MTSU students prior to the forum.

One issue candidates addressed during the hour-long debate was how to balance Tennessee's budget with its top priorities, which are often defined as health, education, public safety and transportation.

All of the candidates expressed the need for improvements within higher education.

"We need a governor who is focused on jobs and education," McWherter said,



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

Zach Wamp, U.S. Representative and gubernatorial candidate, advocates cautious budgetary spending to the Middle Tennessee community during the gubernatorial forum in the Murphy Center on April 29.

job market.

Noting the increase in student enrollment, Ramsey said MTSU is a vibrant campus,

"Our next governor is going to face the most difficult time to be governed. Our state is ready for a civil but substantive discussion of the issues, [and] there's never been a more critical time to elect the right person."

BILL HASLAM
MAYOR OF KNOXVILLE

adding that universities and colleges need to be able to develop programs that will better meet the needs of the

and it has become an economic engine that powers Middle Tennessee.

"We can't have a strong

workforce without having a trained workforce," Ramsey said, noting it is important for the private sector to work with the public sector to improve higher education.

Ramsey said he liked MTSU's new industrial concrete program because he believed it was designed to fulfill business needs locally in order to create jobs within the community, instead of outsourcing work. He said the nursing program has been an excellent resource for the medical industry in Middle Tennessee as well.

Haslam agreed with Ramsey, and he said that Tennessee's higher education institutions have begun tailoring programs for workforce development, but there are still

underlying issues affecting higher education.

"In higher education, we are 33 percent behind the national average of college graduates," Haslam said. "More people in Tennessee have dropped out of high school and don't have a degree or a GED, than have a college degree – that's not a good formula to compete in the job market."

Haslam said in order for the economy to improve and the job market to expand, higher education institutions must make certain that more students graduate from college, and he stressed the need for a strong educated workforce.

Housing decision not just about money

Other factors to consider when choosing a place to live in college

By SARAH GALLAGHER
Staff Writer

MTSU has the most affordable off-campus housing for students in Tennessee compared to eight other state schools and five private universities in the state, according to a report from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

According to HUD's Fair Market Rent data report, which specifies the standard rental payment amounts for each county nationwide. On average, Murfreesboro apartments rent for \$807 per month.

However, Rutherford County's data report is lumped in with Davidson County, and the cost of living in the Nashville metropolitan area is significantly higher than the actual cost of rentals in Murfreesboro.

Students can expect to pay an average of \$428 per month for a private bedroom and bathroom and a shared living space in an off-campus apartment. For every dollar spent renting off campus, it costs \$1.28 for on-

campus housing, totaling an average of \$547 per month.

According to MTSU's Housing and Residential Life, the university offers students two types of on-campus apartments: private and shared-bedroom spaces. Both Scarlett Commons and Womack Lane Apartments are rented per semester.

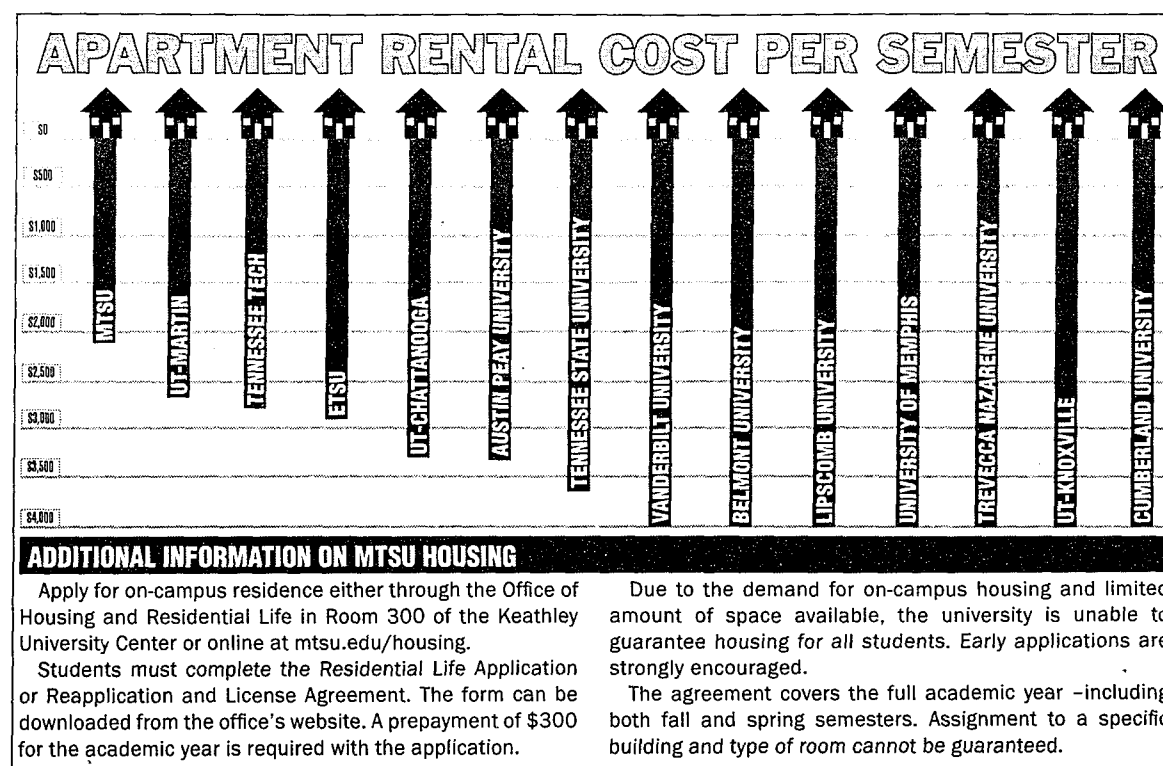
Scarlett Commons is priced at \$2,823 per semester, and Womack Lane is \$2,135. In addition, Womack Lane offers a family rate for students who are married or who have children for \$4,017, which includes the cost of daycare.

Andy Bickers, director of Housing and Residential Life, said there are numerous benefits to living on campus.

"We want people living with us to make the choice to have the on-campus experience," Bickers said.

Bickers said students who live on campus are more connected to the school's life and therefore stay in school longer and graduate with a higher GPA than if they lived off campus.

Though many students are



Graphic by Andy Harper, advertising editor; Information gathered by Sarah Gallagher, staff writer

drawn to on-campus housing because of the accessibility to classes and campus life, many off-campus apartments offer shuttle services to campus free of charge.

"We have an all inclusive rental package," said Adam Carney, leasing manager of Raider's Ridge Apartments. "It includes utilities, cable, telephone, and water."

Carney said each bedroom and the clubhouse is equipped with high-speed Internet.

Tiffany Miller, leasing manager of College Grove Apartments, said utilities are also included with the leasing agreement.

"We have the best prices in town," Miller said. "Students have every amenity at their fingertips."

Miller said College Grove's fitness center, which was recently renovated, and computer lab are open 24/7. She said the rental property's owners added an activity wall, which helps build hand-eye coordination and has been popular among residents.

Off-campus housing is not only affordable and entertaining, Miller said, it is safe too.

"We have security lights on all night," Miller said. "This makes us a big pick for parents because safety is their main concern."

According to the Raider's Ridge website, each unit is equipped with an alarm system.

Carney said although the apartment complex has many resources, the biggest draw for

students are the customer service and organized events.

"We throw parties all the time with the residents to create a better living experience," Carney said.

Bickers said that in addition to on-campus housing being convenient to classes, it also provides students with easier access to professors, administrative support, technical support, health services, the recreation center and dining.

On-campus housing offers easy accessibility to the Recreation Center, dining hall, library, and 24-hour computer lab, Bickers said. He said every residential area on campus has peer and professional staff at all times to support and assist students.

"They can walk right in to a front desk in their area 24/7," Bickers said.

Freshmen are not required to live on campus but are required to have a meal plan if they do. According to the Bursar's Office website, the \$653 meal plan is required for students living in Scarlett Commons or Womack Lane Apartments, and a \$1,232 meal plan for students who live in residence halls.

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Crime rate goes down on campus

Tips on how to stay safe on campus, help keep future illegal activity off university grounds

By **CHRISTOPHER MERCHANT**
Assistant News Editor

MTSU's crime rate has gone down, according to a recent report by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, and an MTSU police official said there are ways that students can contribute to continued safety on campus.

Police Sgt. Broede Stucky said that though the campus crime rate has gone down, students who are aware of the potential for crime on campus and show common sense can protect themselves and others.

"Campus is relatively safe," Stucky said, "but it's an open campus."

While the number of assaults reported at MTSU went down last year, the number of reported rapes rose. Stucky said it is important for students who are alone on campus to exercise caution and remain alert.

"Be aware of your surroundings," Stucky said. "Walk with confidence, with your head up – look around."

Steve Holt, program director at Bill Taylor's Bushido School in Murfreesboro, gave similar advice saying that being distracted opens students up to attack.

"People looking at the ground without any confidence when they walk and who aren't looking around are asking to be a target," Taylor said.

Taylor said many people consider taking some type of self-defense class, but then they never follow through.

"Get into a class," Taylor said. "Even if you only go once or twice, you will build a sense of confidence."

Stucky also said that at night most of campus has plenty of

lights outside, and that it is important to stay in well-lit areas. He said students should avoid walking alone, if possible.

"Student patrol does escorting until 1 a.m.," Stucky said. "Students can call the police department and ask for an officer to escort them."

Stucky said officers will escort students, faculty and staff to any part of campus, whether it is to their car in a parking lot or back to their dormitory room.

While the number of thefts at MTSU went down last year, the TBI reports, thefts from campus buildings went up last year.

"Campus is relatively safe, but it's an open campus."

SGT. BROEDE STUCKY
MTSU POLICE DEPARTMENT

Stucky said, most thefts on campus are crimes of opportunity, and that students should lock their dorm rooms and car doors.

Also, Stucky said, students should avoid leaving their belongings unattended on campus, and in locations like Phillips Bookstore where backpacks and bags are not allowed – students should put them in a locker.

Stucky had special advice for incoming freshmen on how to prevent theft.

"Leave the plasma-screen TV at home," he said.

If students do choose to have expensive possessions on campus, Stucky said they should keep a file with the items' serial numbers and identifying features so that they can be recovered.

"Often items get stolen and

then are sold at pawn shops for next to nothing," Stucky said. "Without their serial number, students have no hope of getting their items back."

If your personal information is stolen or you suspect you are a victim of identity theft, you should place a fraud alert on your credit, close the accounts that you suspect may have been tampered with and file a police report, according to the Federal Trade Commission's website.

You can also report identity fraud to the FTC at 1-877-ID-THEFT.

In addition, the FTC recommends that you shred all documents with personal information before disposing of them, and that you avoid giving personal information out to anyone you do not know. This includes unsolicited e-mails from banks, school or other institutions.

According to the FTC's website, people with roommates should take extra care to keep their personal information secure. It also advises against keeping your social security card with you, where it can be lost or stolen.

Taylor said that often people who come from smaller towns or cities can be more trusting with people they have just met, especially in a new place where they are eager to make friends.

"People should be careful in a new area about who they associate with," Taylor said. "It's hard to get mugged if you don't let yourself end up in the kind of place where it [could] happen."

If students see any suspicious activity, Stucky said, they should call the police department or use one of the emergency call boxes. These call boxes, which are located across campus, can be identified by the blue light on the top.



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

Emergency assistance boxes are set up around campus in an effort to cut down on-campus crime. The boxes contact MTSU police directly, and they will dispatch an officer to help.

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PREPARATION SUGGESTIONS:

- <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/clep/prep.html>
- iStudySmart.com – online study course
- Study the textbook the professors are using in classes
- www.instantcert.com – online (\$20 a month)
- Official CLEP Study Guide for a particular subject found in bookstores (approx. \$30)
- Linebaugh Library – Murfreesboro's library
- Cliff Notes
- CLEP Study Guide by REA found on Amazon.com (approx. \$15-30)

Writing Center gets new location

By TAYLOR HIXSON
Staff Writer

The Margaret H. Ordoubadian University Writing Center will now be located in the James E. Walker Library beginning this fall, and administrators within the department hope the move will make the on-campus lab more accessible to students.

Stacia Watkins, assistant coordinator of the Writing Center, said the two locations in Peck Hall and Ezell Hall will combine. The new location will be in Room 362 on the third floor of the library, across from the Learning, Teaching and Innovative Technologies center.

The new location will have extended hours, Watkins said.

She said she hopes it will remain open until 10 p.m. Monday through Thursdays, until 5 p.m. on Fridays, and eventually should be open for weekend writing workshops.

The new hours will not be finalized until the number of graduate tutors is determined, Watkins said. She said the Writing Center also intends to offer a walk-in tutor available for students, depending on the amount of graduate tutors in the program.

Watkins said the new facility will enable more hands-on, on-site guidance with five computers for student use, and a large space with at least eight tables for tutoring.

WRITING, PAGE 8

THROUGH THE SIDELINES LENS

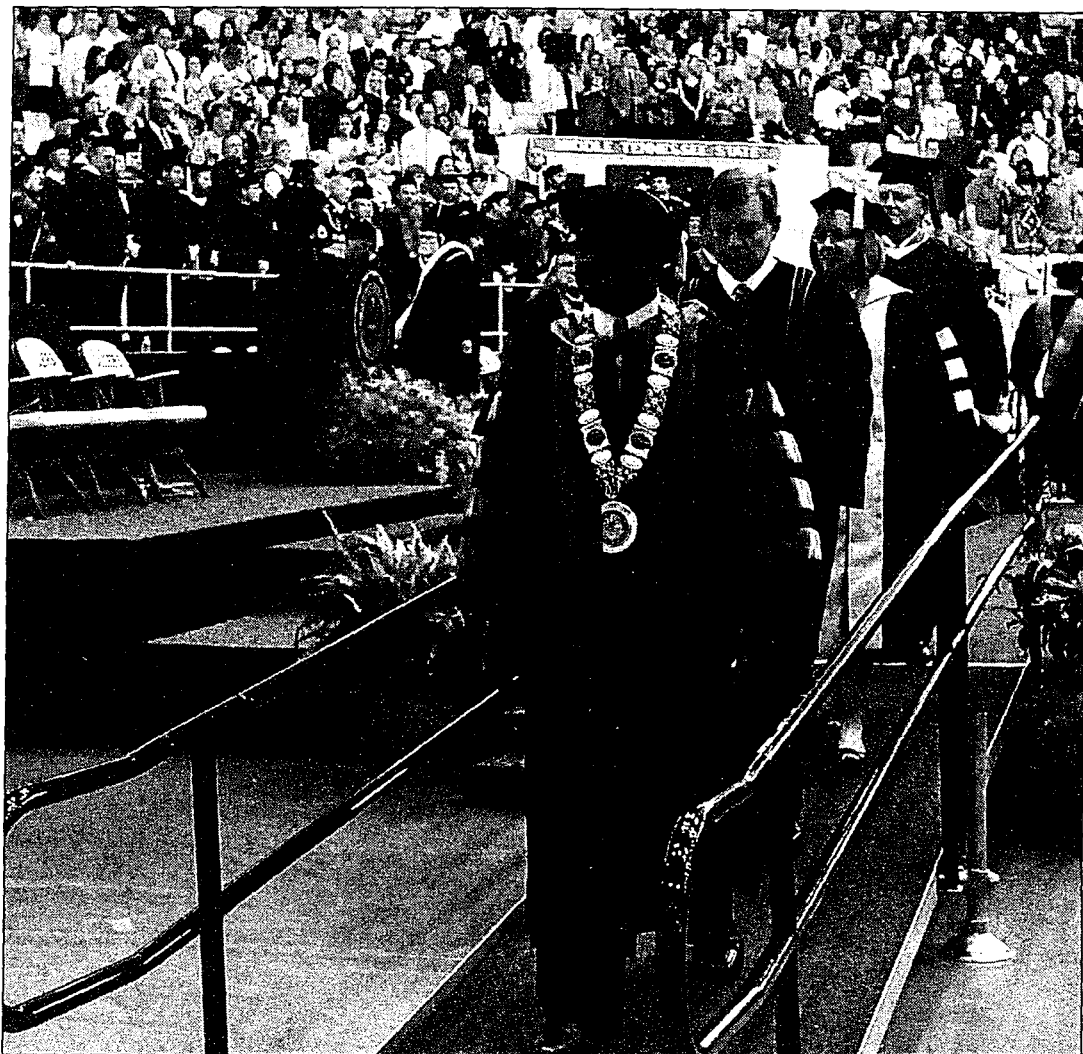


Photo by Erin O'Leary, staff photographer

MTSU President Sidney McPhee leads the 2010 Spring Graduation, which took place May 8 in the Murphy Center. 2,060 students graduated from the university during Saturday's event.

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Education key to better economy

FORUM

FROM PAGE 3

Because federal funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 were temporary, Haslam said, Tennessee's higher education budget will be cut by \$168 million dollars in 2011. However, he said, universities like MTSU have done a good job of preparing for next year's budget shortfalls.

"Money is not the answer," Ramsey said. "If money was the answer, Washington, D.C., would have the best school systems in the nation."

Ramsey said Tennessee educators should think outside of the box.

"In the higher education system, seven out of 10 kids that graduate from high school go on to college, but only three out of 10 graduates," Ramsey said, adding

educators need to concentrate on keeping students in school.

"We need to streamline the system between two-year and four-year schools," Ramsey said. "For too long, we've assumed that every child who graduates from high school needs a four-year degree, and that's not necessarily the case. You can get a very good job with an associate's degree from a community college."

However, if those students decide to go to those community colleges, Ramsey said, the Tennessee Board of Regents should ensure that there is a streamlined process so that when students transfer to in-state universities earned credit is not lost.

"It's really very simple, but it's hard to push down the throats of higher education sometimes," Ramsey said.

Wamp said Tennessee legislators must be careful about making commitments to fully

funding existing items within the state's budget for the next couple of years until the economy rebounds.

"As soon as we can see some daylight, we do need to put more money into education because frankly tuition can be a burden," Wamp said, adding that his daughter is still enrolled at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

"We should pay teachers more, but we should also expect more," Wamp said, noting that he thinks the success of Teach for America substantiates the importance of accountability.

McWherter said he believes pre-K programs initiated by Brede- sen, including HeadStart, should remain a top priority when determining how education is funded in Tennessee.

"If you capture those children at that young of an age, and you can get them fostered with the love of learning, that's what we have



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

Bill Haslam (center), mayor of Knoxville, addressed education issues during the gubernatorial forum on April 29 in the Murphy Center.

to do," McWherter said. "You've got to get them early on — get them involved in programs — it's that important."

During an interview after the forum, Ramsey said he disagreed with McWherter's position. He said as more tax dollars have

been spent on pre-K programs less money has gone toward high schools and colleges, which are in need of more attention right now.

The Republican and Democratic primary elections are set for Aug. 5, and the general election will be Nov. 2.



Saturday, June 12, 2010

Race begins in Downtown Murfreesboro at 7:30 a.m.

Awards presented in the City Plaza (on Vine Street)

The race starts on the west side of the Square and moves through the classic homes of Murfreesboro, historic sites like the Oaklands Mansion, and finishes with an inspiring run up Main Street, the county court house framing the view, right back into the square.

WHAT? Doughboy Challenge is an annual event that brings the community together to help great organizations focused on children, youth and families. General Mills employee volunteers manage the event and, working with city government, local business and individuals raise nearly \$30,000 annually for organizations like Room In the Inn, Books from Birth, Boys & Girls Club, and CASA. All profits from the event go directly to these kinds of organizations each and every year (for 10 of the last 11 years).

WHO? Participants range from first time runners (for an easy 5K) to seasoned participants looking for a way to give back. Our corporate partners include large, nation-wide companies to small, local shops. Volunteers come from the General Mills community (which includes nearly 800 employees between the Pillsbury and Yoplait locations). Everyone involved is committed to making a difference and having fun.

WHY? General Mills has a great dedication to supporting children, youth and families. By building relationships through programs like United Way (both contributions and Executive Sharing), we work hard to find organizations within the community that change lives and impact families ... and as a result, strengthen the community.

HOW? In exchange for uniting with General Mills and the Doughboy Challenge with funding or runners (or both), partners receive recognition in the community, opportunities to participate in training programs for two to three months, and the satisfaction of knowing their contribution and effort has improved the quality of life of children, youth and families in Middle Tennessee.

**For more information and registration,
go to doughboychallenge.com or call 615-225-1375**



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Appointed by judges, CASA volunteers work with abused and neglected children and the social welfare system, ensuring these children don't slip through the cracks and have a constant adult presence in their lives.

Library set to house Writing Center

WRITING FROM PAGE 6

Students will also be able to schedule an appointment to use the SMART board, an interactive, high-tech “dry erase” board, and be tutored on their presentation style, Watkins said.

“I think the Writing Center will finally be seen as a university writing center, rather than an English department writing center,” Watkins said.

A common misconception about the center, Watkins said, is that only poor or bad writers need help.

“There is no typical student that visits the Writing Center,” Watkins said. “Nontraditional, Older Wiser Learners, English

as a second language, graduate, freshman – anyone visits the Writing Center – there is no person that couldn’t benefit.”

Wesley Houpp, assistant professor of English and Writing Center director, said the main goal is to advance one-to-one tutoring.

“As director, I believe the [Writing Center] and the library are entering into a new, mutually reinforcing relationship – a logical and extremely practical collaboration that will enhance both our services,” Houpp said.

Megan McManus, who works as a peer mentor at the Writing Center, said the new location will be more accessible and easy to find, and it is where students are often seen studying and writing already.

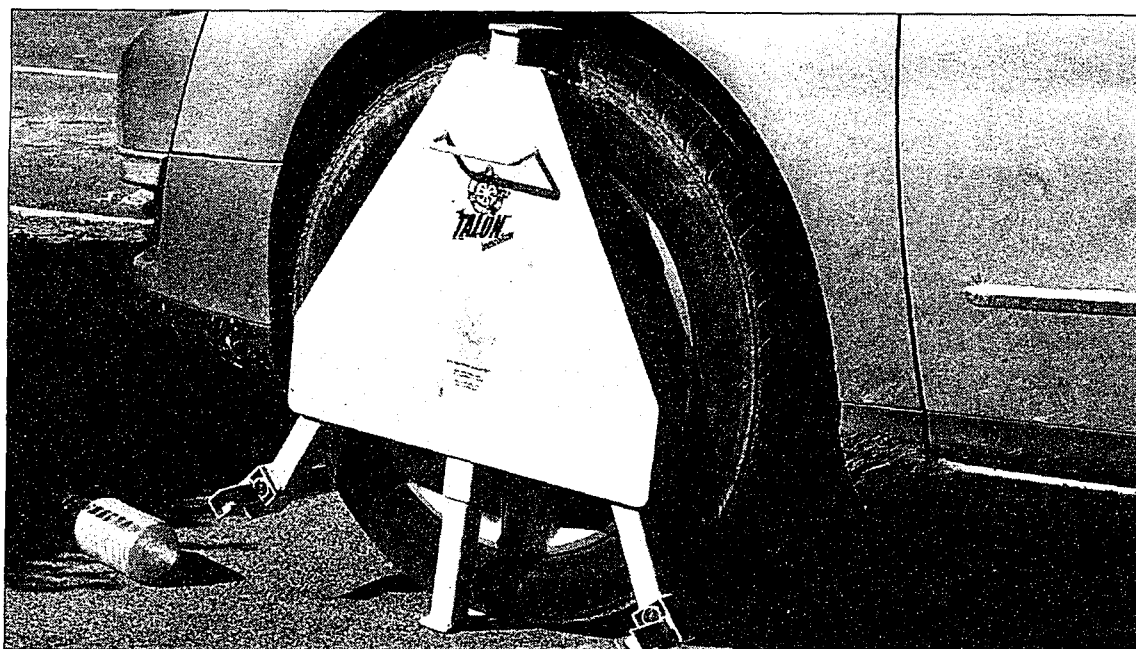


Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

Parking and Transportation Services reserves the right to boot any car that is illegally parked on campus. Keeping your car in your designated area could save you a lot of money.

Parking on campus made easy

PARKING FROM PAGE 2

Barnes said that though the decision is the attorney general’s, a staff adviser is available to guide students through the process.

Amanda Samsel, coordinator of Judicial Affairs and Mediation Services, currently serves as the adviser to the SGA attorney general.

The \$34 million parking garage voted down by a student referendum in fall of 2009, is scheduled to be finished in 2013.

“We’re extremely excited about the parking garage, the location is ideal when you consider where the new student union is being located,” Malone said.

Ron Malone, assistant director of Parking and Transportation Services said part

of the parking garage project will include a “one-stop-shop” in conjunction with the student union, and will include many university offices that are important to students.

**Read the full
story online @**

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SPORTS

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MTSU hockey team takes a 'hit'

By KYLIE KOLZ
Contributing Writer

After seven seasons on the ice, the MTSU ice hockey club was disbanded for the 2009-10 season and possibly the 2010-11 season.

To have a season, a team needs roughly 19 players: nine forwards, six defensemen and two goalies.

"If memory serves me right, there were only nine players at tryouts and three of them were goalies," said head coach Jeff Deluca.

Deluca had to split up the team succeeding the tryouts that were in August 2009, because there weren't enough players to facilitate a team. The club's season occurs from August through February, and could continue to March if the team makes it into playoffs.

"A club would not want to show up to play its competition with only six or seven players, and not be able to offer a competitive

game," Deluca said. "This creates a bad impression for the school and the club, and it makes future scheduling very difficult as well."

Deluca said there may be many hockey players enrolled at the university, but many may not actively participate in a club due to prior commitments.

"The most common reasons a player will choose not to play relate to the financial investment and the class load the player takes for the semester," Deluca said.

Players have to pay more than \$1,000 each session to cover renting ice time, travel, tournament entry fees and uniforms. Equipment is currently costing a player about \$1,300, which includes a helmet, shoulder pads, elbow pads, gloves, breezers or pants, jock straps, shin guards, skates and a stick.

Goalies are spending roughly \$2,500 because they require more equipment that is specialized for its position.

Tina Welch, volunteer organizer for MT Hockey, said players cannot receive scholarships because hockey at MTSU is considered a recreational club. She said the college, however, does give some money to the club, but it is not enough to cover the entire cost.

"The bulk of the cost to play came from the players themselves and most everybody couldn't afford it," Welch said.

Deluca said the club needs to have enough players in order for everyone to be able to afford to play.

The team also requires a lot of participation time from each player. There are weekly practices and games at Southern Ice Arena in Cool Springs, and additional games that require travel. The players, who typically live near campus, have to drive 42 miles, which is roughly 45 minutes, to get to their practices and games.

"The practice and game times are somewhat inflexible be-

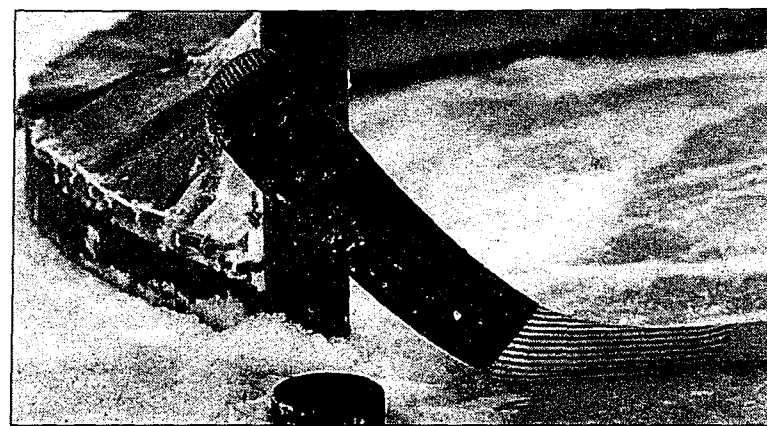


Photo courtesy of wikimedia commons

Hockey coach Jeff Deluca disbanded MTSU's hockey team due to the lack of interest in the sport on campus.

cause the hockey rinks schedule ice time based on age," Deluca said. "The younger the player is, the earlier the ice times, which means that most of our games and practices don't start until around 11 p.m."

Josh Carter, former forward for MT Hockey, said he felt let down about the season being canceled.

"We had a really good group of returning players and we just

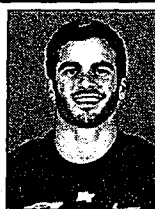
needed six or seven more guys with some decent talent," Carter said. "If we had that, I think we could have gone far into the regional playoffs and possibly made it to nationals."

The MTSU ice hockey team participates in the Southern Division of the American Collegiate Hockey Association. In its latest season, it finished the season No. 11 in the division.

NFL-BOUND BLUE RAIDERS

Only one former Blue Raider was drafted into the professional football ranks but several have found their way onto rosters. By Stephen Curley, Sports Editor

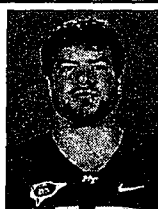
Ranked fourth all-time on the career receptions list at MT, the Pelham, Ala., native signed a free agent deal with the Denver Broncos. The Broncos are looking for help at the receiver position after trading all-pro Brandon Marshall to the Miami Dolphins. The Broncos do not have a lot of depth at the position, but it will still be a tough task to earn a roster spot as the Broncos took receivers Demaryius Thomas out of Georgia Tech and Eric Decker out of Minnesota in the first and third rounds, respectively.



Honeycutt

WR Patrick Honeycutt

The Woodstock, Ga., native who registered 94 tackles in 2009 will be used as a fullback for the Seattle Seahawks, opening up a better opportunity to make the roster. New head coach Pete Carroll works well with linebackers, but the position depth already in place will be too much for Carmichael to break through. However, the Seahawks only have two fullbacks on their active roster, and only one of them, Owen Schmitt, has ever seen the field.



Carmichael

LB Danny Carmichael

The Tallahassee, Fla., native signed with the Seahawks as well, and in doing so set himself up in a favorable position. Cornerback is another position of need for Seattle, and at the very least Udell will find himself in the mix for special teams work while competing with a handful of rookies for a corner spots, with Marcus Trufant as the only real veteran presence at the position.



Udell

CB Marcus Udell

The Hawkinsville, Ga., native signed his free agent deal with the St. Louis Rams, who are in the middle of a serious rebuilding project after selecting Oklahoma quarterback Sam Bradford No. 1 overall. With virtually no depth at the position, Perry will at least get a good look from the coaching staff.



Perry

DT Brandon Perry

MT BLUE RAIDER FOOTBALL 2010

SEPT. 2

Minnesota in Murfreesboro
Broadcast on ESPNU

SEPT. 11

Austin Peay in Murfreesboro

SEPT. 18

Memphis in Memphis

SEPT. 25 [Sun Belt Conference]

Louisiana-Lafayette in Lafayette, La.

OCT. 5 [Sun Belt Conference]

Troy in Murfreesboro
Broadcast on ESPN2

OCT. 16

Georgia Tech in Atlanta, Ga.

OCT. 23 - HOMECOMING

[Sun Belt Conference]

Louisiana-Monroe in Murfreesboro

Nov. 2 [Sun Belt Conference]

Arkansas State in Jonesboro, Ark.
Broadcast on ESPN2

Nov. 13 [Sun Belt Conference]

North Texas in Murfreesboro



File Photo

Senior quarterback Dwight Dasher runs past Western Kentucky players during Oct. 24, 2009, game.

Nov. 20 [Sun Belt Conference]

Western Kentucky in Bowling Green, Ky.

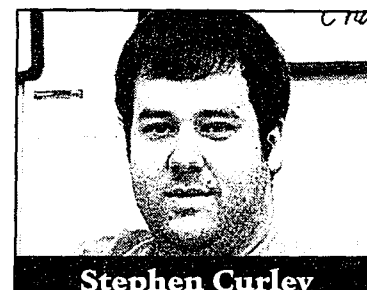
Nov. 27 [Sun Belt Conference]

Florida Atlantic in Murfreesboro

DEC. 4

Florida International in Miami, Fla.
[Sun Belt Conference Game]

'Shogun' is back, it just took an extra round



Stephen Curley

Useless information

No judge was going to take away a championship from Mauricio 'Shogun' Rua this time.

The Brazilian needed just one round to "solve the puzzle" for good as he thrashed former UFC Light Heavyweight champion Lyoto Machida en route to a TKO stoppage.

Rua was on the losing end of one of the most controversial decisions in the history of the sport at UFC 104 in October, when many fans, media figures, and fighters themselves thought Shogun had picked apart Machida, primarily using leg and body kicks to badly injure the champion and

control the fight from the third round forward.

Shogun's path to MMA redemption has been marred by two knee surgeries, an embarrassing loss to Forrest Griffin and a less than impressive victory over aging veteran Mark Coleman. He was even a decided underdog going into a bout with Chuck Liddell, whose career may nearly be over.

It's amazing to me that Shogun is still only 28 years old, and the former Pride FC champ had already once been declared the best 205-pound fighter in the world during his dominant run in Japan.

Machida had often been referred to as the biggest enigma in the sport, using his karate background to employ the most elusive and unique defensive style the fight game has seen. Shogun was thought to be the perfect fighter to put him up against if the UFC wanted to continue hyping Machida, as Rua had a reputation of being very aggressive and not as technical with his striking.

Where do they go from here? Rua will likely defend the title first against either Quinton "Rampage" Jackson or "Sugar" Rashad Evans, who meet later this month at UFC 114. Fans of the old Pride days should hope for a matchup with Jackson, as the last time the two met in Japan it was nothing short of wild. Though, this time Shogun can't use soccer kicks to finish Jackson off.

For Machida, the road back to contention will be tough. Fighters are already using the first fight as a blueprint for how to throw him off his "wait and counter" game.

Regardless of what happens in the future, the Rocky-esque return of Rua will be one of my favorite sports moments of this year.

Health and Human Performance

Athletic Training

This major prepares students for the profession of athletic training through a holistic integrated health care/medical model. Athletic training is a recognized allied health profession by the American Medical Association that has an extensive service/experiential learning component. Students who graduate from this program will be qualified to be employed in secondary schools, colleges and universities, professional athletic teams, hospital/sports medicine clinics, industrial/occupational preventative medical clinics, athletic/sport complexes, military and other armed forces.

Exercise Science

This degree prepares students for positions in corporate, hospital, and public wellness and fitness centers, strength and conditioning, and graduate degrees in exercise science, physical therapy, and cardiac rehabilitation. Coursework includes anatomy and physiology, nutrition, exercise physiology, and exercise prescription and assessment.

Health

Working in the community, schools, hospitals and worksites, our students apply their talents and passions to improve the health of us all. Our students have found career opportunities all over the country. Here are a few of the companies our students have found opportunities with: Murfreesboro YMCA - Vanderbilt Hospital - St. Clair Senior Center - Middle Tennessee Medical Center - Rutherford County Health Department - Nashville Cares - Domestic Violence Program - Sarah Kennon Research

Physical Education

This major prepares licensed K-12 Physical Education teachers through the study of sports, rhythms, aquatics and games in addition to Kinesiology, Motor Behavior, Fitness Education, Curriculum, and Adapted Physical Education. Teacher candidates gain experience teaching children and youth through two teaching methods courses.

Recreation and Leisure

This major offers opportunities for students to work in Recreation Administration, Recreational Therapy, and Outdoor Recreation areas. Employment settings include: municipal park and recreation agencies, special event planning, tourism industry, youth programs, recreational sports management, campus recreation, YMCAs, Boys and Girls clubs, camp management, aquatics, Armed Forces Morale, Welfare and Recreation agencies, church affiliated recreation programs, state and national parks, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, long term and residential care, and community-based therapeutic recreation.

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Physical Education Activity Courses are designed to prepare students for participation in lifetime physical activities. These courses are listed as prefix PHED.

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FEATURES

Gray's Anatomy

MTSU student overcomes illness, realizes 'normal' is overrated

By LAURA AIKEN
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Webster's Dictionary defines "normal" as conformation to a type, standard or regular pattern. What causes someone to not be "normal"? Is it merely straying from the beaten path? Marching to the beat of your own drum?

Jasmine Gray glides through the James Union Building where an announcer is waiting for her with a black-and-gold encrusted envelope. She has a warm smile and humbleness about her as she takes the familiar route to the podium, accepting her fourth award for the afternoon.

Following yet another jaw-dropping introduction revealing her long list of accomplishments – editor-in-chief of Collage magazine, owner of a nonprofit charitable organization and fellowship recipient to attend Syracuse University graduate school – she receives another award graciously.

She never falters.

Friends and teachers at the 2010 Mass Communication Awards Ceremony thunderously applaud. But when she turns to walk back to her seat, strangers blatantly spin around in their chairs to get a glimpse. That's because Jasmine isn't like every other student who walked across the stage that day – it's painstakingly obvious.

"I am never going to have a normal appearance," Jasmine confesses.

GRAY, PAGE 13



Photo courtesy of Jasmine Gray
Jasmine Gray (bottom left) and her family at the College of Mass Communication Awards Ceremony in April where she received several awards.

SOLO EXPLORATION PROVES BETTER TRAVEL

By ALEX BLACKWELDER
Staff Columnist

It's 3 a.m., I'm exhausted, and my butt hardly fits on this seat made for a Chinese person. All I can smell is the man's feet behind me, and it seems like every person on the bus over the age of 10 is smoking. Yet my heart still races with anticipation.

I was on the overnight sleeper bus to Yuanyang in China. All I knew was that Yuanyang was suppose to be an off-the-beaten-path destination, home to the minority Hani people and their rice terraces. I hoped my Chinese was OK enough to figure out which minibus I should take to make it to the village I wanted to stay in.

As the only foreigner on this bus, I received plenty of stares and questions. The most common being "why are you alone?" Chinese culture is very social and stresses the importance of community. They especially have a hard time understanding why a 20-year-old American woman would choose to travel without

a companion.

One of the first Chinese words I learned was 'accompany' because my friends used it so often. The day before I left on my trip I received text messages from friends of friends, telling me they would accompany me on my trip because they didn't want me to be lonely. I won't be lonely, I reassured them.

Friends and family might not understand my decision, but I believe solo travel is an experience everyone should try. And by traveling, I don't mean a weekend in Cancun or a guided tour of the Pyramids. I mean a few changes of clothes, a sense of adventure, a very general idea of which direction you're headed and enough money to get you there. During my several months of independent travel in China, I've come to love traveling alone for many reasons.

I always feel a sense of freedom unlike anything else. I don't have to plan with a friend, or try really hard to fill conversation during those boring bus rides. If I want to stay extra time in a city, I can without worrying whether I'm was ruin-



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, staff photographer

Huang Fu Cheng, 66-year-old retired soldier, waters his crops on the bank of the Xiang Jiang River in Changsha on Oct. 31, 2009. A drought in south central China has left the Xiang Jiang river water levels at a record low.


ing my friend's trip.

If I want to sit beside a lake all day instead of visit a museum, I can. I am the master of my trip's destiny, and I wouldn't have it any other way. Many people don't realize how much they accommodate themselves for their travel partner until they spend time traveling solo.

If immersing yourself into your host culture and learning about the country is your goal, traveling solo is the best way to achieve it. You are more inclined to approach locals and they are more likely to approach a single traveler, not a group.

TRAVEL, PAGE 15

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***Greek Affairs**
Director: Angela King - greeks@mtsu.edu
<http://www.mtsu.edu/greeks/>

***Intercultural & Diversity Affairs**
Director: Vincent Windrow - mulcuat@mtsu.edu (KUC 124)
<http://www.mtsu.edu/ida/> & <http://www.mtsu.edu/ipsa>

***June Anderson Center for Women and Nontraditional Students**
Director: Terri Johnson - trjohnso@mtsu.edu (JUB 206)
<http://www.mtsu.edu/jawc/> & <http://www.mtsu.edu/ocss>

***Leadership & Service and Student Organizations**
Director: Jaqueline Victory - mleader@mtsu.edu / camporgs@mtsu.edu
<http://www.mtsu.edu/leadandserve/> & <http://www.mtsu.edu/camporgs/>

*LOCATED IN KUC 326S

Note: For more details regarding event times and locations please visit our web sites closer to the event dates.

GREEK AFFAIRS

- ♦ National Pan-Hellenic Council Welcome Party: Aug. 30, JUB, TN Room, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
- ♦ Greekfest: Sept. 7, KUC Knoll, 6 p.m.
- ♦ National Pan-Hellenic Council Informational: Sept. 8, Tom Jackson Building, 6 p.m.
- ♦ Panhellenic Sorority Recruitment: September 16 - 20
- ♦ Interfraternity Council Recruitment: September 20 - 25

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

- ♦ Raider Outdoor Lightning Leadership: a unique overnight leadership experience for first year students: August 22 - 27 (SIGN UP AT CUSTOMS)
- ♦ Volunteer Fair: non-profit organizations will be available to answer questions and provide information on volunteer and community service opportunities: Sept. 7, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., KUC Courtyard
- ♦ Presidium: a retreat for student organization leaders, August 20 - 22
- ♦ Student Organization Fair: an opportunity to learn more about what MTSU student organizations you may be interested in joining: September 8, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., KUC Courtyard
- ♦ WE-Haul: campus organizations will be assisting student's moving into their residence halls: August 27 - 28, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. across from Cummings Hall
- ♦ Homecoming Week: October 20 - 23

INTERCULTURAL & DIVERSITY AFFAIRS

- ♦ International Bus Tour of Murfreesboro, Aug. 23, KUC 124, 9 a.m.
- ♦ Conversation Partners Meal, Aug. 24, 6 p.m., Presbyterian Student Fellowship House (Every Tuesday)
- ♦ International Bus Tour of Nashville, Aug. 26, Leave from KUC 124, 9 a.m.
- ♦ Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, Sept. 15 - Oct. 15
- ♦ Welcome Back Dance, Sept. 6, JUB, TN Room, 8 p.m. - midnight
- ♦ International Student Welcome Reception, Sept. 17, JUB Hazelwood Room, 5 p.m.
- ♦ Rep Your Roots Day, Sept. 15, all campus event

JUNE ANDERSON CENTER FOR WOMEN AND NONTRADITIONAL STUDENTS

- ♦ Open House for new freshmen and transfer students: Sept. 8 & 9, 8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m., KUC 320
- ♦ Idea Mapping Workshops: Open to all students, Sept. 16, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., JUB 100, repeated 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- ♦ Gender Circles: Wednesdays: JUB 206, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. beginning Wednesday, Sept. 8. Weekly conversations that address diversity issues with a special emphasis on gender related topics.
- ♦ Domestic Violence Awareness Month: October
- ♦ National Women's History Month: March
- ♦ Legal Clinics
- ♦ Sexual Assault Awareness Month: April

Student redefines beauty

GRAY

FROM PAGE 11

When Jasmine was born, the doctor noticed a dime-sized birthmark tucked in the crevice beneath her jaw bone and adjoined neck. He told Jasmine's parents not to worry about the birthmark on their daughter's face. So, her parents' worries left as quickly as they came.

Jasmine and her family grew up in Memphis. Her sister Kelsey Gray, 17, relishes the fond memories of she and Jasmine's early childhood, taking family trips to Branson, Mo., and shopping where there are outlet stores galore. She cherishes the time they spent together as a family.

At 9 years old, Jasmine's "normal" life came to a screeching halt.

And her parents' worst fears resurfaced. Jasmine's bottom lip had begun to swell rather quickly, and shortly after, she was diagnosed with Hemangioma, a nodule of excessive veins that quickly grows and then usually recedes over time.

The doctors "thought once they took the tissue out of my lip that my face would return to normal," Jasmine says with a grim expression. "They were wrong."

In time, the mass of tissue spread from her mouth to her right ear and swelled to aberrant proportions, ballooning the right side of her face. The misshapen area juts forward, forcing half of her mouth to pull downward into a permanent frown, impairing Jasmine's speech and eating habits.

"I can't eat blow pops," she admits regretfully. "I can't open my mouth wide enough."

Her lopsided smile doesn't distract from her piercing eyes. You can see Jasmine's soul through those penetrating, ocher eyes that glimmer with resilience.

As she grew older, Jasmine realized blow pops were the least of her concerns. Through the medical grapevine, Jasmine was able to retrieve the contact information for James Suen, a director and spe-

cialist at the University of Arkansas Medical Services.

"He was the only one who would be able to truly diagnose my condition," Jasmine says after meeting him.

And after extensive lab work, he did — Arterio-Venous Malformation (AVM).

According to the Mayo Clinic and the American Stroke Association, AVM is an abnormal connection between the arteries and veins that produces dilated and tangled blood vessels. Essentially, an excess of veins are pumping blood way too quickly.

"The problem with Jasmine's condition is that she had involvement of multiple areas — her right face, lips, chin, mandible, upper neck and much of her tongue," Suen says.

"All I see are people's reaction. I try to be kind so they know not to be afraid — they look at me with eyes that are so... scared."

JASMINE GRAY
MTSU ALUMNA

AVM affects less than 1 percent of the population, according to the American Stroke Association. Unfortunately, it is scattered all over Jasmine's face. After undergoing more than 20 surgeries, she swallows the hardships without any bitterness and is an "exceptional young lady," Suen says.

Now, Jasmine thrives in her school work and leadership roles on campus. As owner of Jaz's Jammies, a nonprofit organization distributing donated pajamas to hospitalized children, she tackles previous years of surgeries and anguish with fortitude toward academic achievement, says Beverly Keel, a recording industry management professor.

Keel says Jasmine has "an unparalleled seriousness about her studies and work, yet her enthusiasm for life is contagious."

Jasmine is exceptionally collected in conversation, which she attributes to the struggles she's had to endure

over the years. In her adolescence, Jasmine recalls the difficulties associated with that certain age when kids will do anything to fit in.

"At the mall, a group of teenage boys started cracking jokes with each other about how my face was bigger on one side," Jasmine winces, unable to mask the sting. "I didn't understand the mentality of people who could see you and just laugh in your face."

For Jasmine, it's the little kids who are the worst. The squirming toddlers gawk and shout inappropriately as if they have no filter. Jasmine says close encounters with children almost always result in crying, screaming and finger pointing.

"All I see are people's reactions," Jasmine says. "I try to be kind so they know not to be afraid — they look at me with eyes that are so ... scared."

There is no apprehension in Jasmine's eyes. Since high school, she's been channeling her pain and experiences into her studies and creative expression. On Saturday, Jasmine graduated from MTSU Summa Cum Laude. In the fall, she'll attend Syracuse University, taking part in the prestigious Turner Broadcasting Diversity Fellowship.

"Her going to Syracuse with scholarships is even more of a push for me to succeed in life and gives me no reason as to why I can't climb to the top as well," Kelsey says.

But, Jasmine doesn't look forward to reprieve just yet. Suen has more surgeries lined up for her this summer.

Suen says extraction and reconstruction of the mass of tissue is the next step to "give her a more normal appearance before she starts graduate school — Jasmine is unique because she does not heal well."

In a particular grisly instance, half of Jasmine's face was removed due to infection from surgery. With every procedure, Jasmine encounters side effects that in some way alter her life.

"For so long, she had so many surgeries that altered her face that she never got to experience the behavior of normal teenage girls,"



Photo courtesy of Jasmine Gray

Kelsey Gray (left) and Jasmine spent a lot of time together as children, and Kelsey says that Jasmine's strength has inspired her in her own life.

Kelsey says.

With everything she has accomplished and has yet to accomplish, it is obvious she's unique. Family, teachers and doctors refer to her as extraordinary and speak about her with admiration — reverent tones that are a rarity among so many in-

dividuals. If other unique students skip to the beat of their own drum, then Jasmine Gray is the whole marching band.

So, what is "normal"?

Perhaps, "normal" is in the eye of the beholder. And perhaps, "normal" is highly overrated.

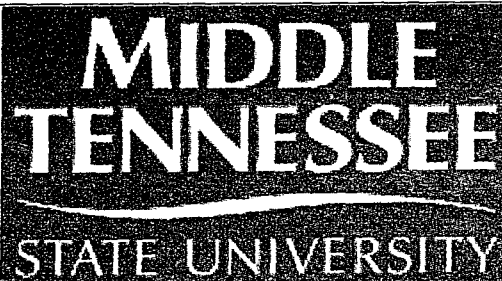
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GO GREEK!

MTSU Greek Recruitment 2010

Greekfest - September 7, 6pm - KUC Knoll

Greek Life CUSTOMS Information Sessions will be held at 6:30pm and 7pm on the following dates at the Recreation Center (review your CUSTOMS folder for room locations):

May 26, June 3, June 9, June 15, June 18, June 23, July 7, July 13, July 16, July 22, July 28

National Pan-Hellenic Council:

Informational:

September 8

6:00pm

Tom H. Jackson

Alpha Kappa Alpha

Alpha Phi Alpha

Delta Sigma Theta

Iota Phi Theta

Kappa Alpha Psi

Omega Psi Phi

Phi Beta Sigma

Sigma Gamma Rho

Zeta Phi Beta

Panhellenic Council:

Recruitment:

September 16 - 20

Alpha Chi Omega

Alpha Delta Pi

Alpha Omicron Pi

Chi Omega

Kappa Delta

Zeta Tau Alpha

Interfraternity Council:

Recruitment:

September 20 - 25

Alpha Gamma Rho

Alpha Tau Omega

Beta Theta Pi

Kappa Alpha Order

Kappa Sigma

Pi Kappa Alpha

Pi Kappa Phi

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Sigma Chi

Sigma Nu

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Sigma Pi

Tau Kappa Epsilon

Multicultural Greek Council:

Informational:

October

Lambda Theta Alpha

Lambda Theta Phi

For more information, visit www.mtsu.edu/greeks or email greeks@mtsu.edu

Study abroad provides priceless experiences

TRAVEL

FROM PAGE 11

My favorite and most insightful travel memories usually involve a friendly local. In a small village in southwest China, an elderly woman grabbed my hand and started leading me deep into the village. Confused, but interested, I gladly followed.

I ate dinner with her family in their one room clay home. The father kept apologizing that they didn't have electricity, but that was the last thing on my mind. I had the unique opportunity to see how the local people live and experience humbling hospitality from complete strangers. This might not have happened if I was traveling in a group.

When you are by yourself, your curiosity goes into overdrive, investigating everything around you and helping you achieve deeper insights. Without a friend, you leave the comforts of home behind and can completely throw yourself in the culture.

It is very unsettling to be having a conversation about '80s glam rock while you watch Tibetan pilgrims pray in temples. The solo traveler is free to watch, observe and process without distraction. Your aloneness intensifies every experience and focuses your energy to finding a deeper meaning to your travels.

Even though you start out alone, you probably will never actually be. Most travelers are open to share a lunch with other travelers, and if you stay in a dorm hostel to save money, there will always be someone to talk to.

Others use hospitality websites like couchsurfing.org to meet locals and other travelers while on the road. Some people will travel together for a short period, then part ways. The important part is that you have no personal obligations and retain your independence. Believe me, there is nothing worse than a trip where you end up hating your friend.

One of the main reasons people are reluctant to take a solo trip is safety, but many cities all over the world are safer than American cities. Thanks to Hollywood, many men in other countries believe American women are promiscuous and easy targets, so women should take extra care to avoid sexual harassment. Here are a few tips to staying safe while abroad:

Observe and follow the culture.

Watch how men treat the local women in a culture. If they treat you differently, you know something is happening. Never see a man hold a woman's hand? Then you should be concerned if he tries to hold yours.

When arriving in a new culture, many women don't know if a man's actions are normal and they are afraid to offend. If something makes you uncomfortable, stop it immediately. If the women dress conservatively, follow suite. Try to draw as little attention as possible.

Don't flash your gadgets.

Do you really need an iPod for a two-hour bus ride? Avoid showing people that you have expensive stuff, or better yet, leave it at home. That iPod might cost the equivalent of a year's rent in the country you're traveling in. Carry your passport and some cash on your body, so if your bag is stolen you can still get by.

Pretend like you know what you are doing.

A large amount of time traveling is

trying to figure out how to get somewhere. Criminals and scam artists target those lost, confused travelers, so try to exhibit a confident attitude. Even if you don't know where you are, stand tall, talk loud, and don't act nervous.

Trust your instincts.

Most travel horror stories include the traveler saying something like, "Something felt wrong, but I ignored it." Don't be afraid to get out of a cab or find a new hotel if you feel unsafe. Trust the vibes you get from people.

If you follow precautions and use common sense, solo travel isn't scary. The world isn't as dangerous as many think. There is nothing wrong with traveling with friends and family, but don't let going solo keep you at home. Pack light, wear a smile, and get exploring!

Alex is a junior global studies major studying in China thanks to financial help from the Gilman Scholarship Program and MTSU Study Abroad scholarship.



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, staff photographer

Hunan Normal University students play pick up basketball in Changsha, China last Fall.



Have you ever wanted to learn about the Middle East?

Have you ever wanted to learn Arabic, Hebrew or Kurdish?

This interdisciplinary minor in Middle East Studies is designed to provide a foundation for increased understanding of the people and cultures of the Middle East.

This fall we will offer a variety of courses, such as:

Hebrew

Arabic

Kurdish

Arab-Israeli Conflict

Communication in the Middle East

Media and the Middle East

Women of the Middle East

For any questions contact:

Dr. Allen Hibbard
Professor, English

Middle East Studies Minor Advisor

104 Midgett

(615) 494-7906

ahibbard@mtsu.edu

Visit our website at: www.mtsu.edu/~mideastctr

Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@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.

OPINIONS

Online only provides opportunity

Sidelines is the editorially independent student newspaper for MTSU, and in recent years we have had a print edition in both the spring and fall semesters, as well as June through July in the summer. However, due to budgetary constraints, our paper will be going online only during June and July, a first for the newspaper.

We at *Sidelines*, while resisting a bit the idea of no print edition, have decided to not only make the best of this new change but to excel during it. As I am sure many of you noticed, we made a dramatic change to our online edition earlier this semester. We completely reformatted the entire website to not



Alex Moorman
From the editor

only make it more user friendly, but also to make it more visually appealing to our viewers. With the new adjustment, we hope to make our website even better.

The journalism industry is expanding beyond print and, the Internet has played a ma-

jor role in what is expected of a newspaper. People now want their information faster than ever before and in many aspects, *Sidelines* has been lagging in the online area. From social networking to online content, people across the country and at MTSU are looking for news faster. I took a journalism class last semester in which the professor emphasized how important the online edition of a newspaper is, and I agreed. However, I had no idea how to actually achieve what some of these other papers were accomplishing. After numerous conversations with professors and scouring the Internet for ideas, I think the *Sidelines* staff and I have the tools to

make our website a dependable outlet for students, faculty and staff at MTSU.

This summer will help us learn how to fully use and develop these tools. Obviously social networking is important, and while we do use it, I don't feel we utilize it to our advantage. We also hope to work tirelessly to make our website more visually appealing while producing more content faster. The website, while it looks much better, still needs a lot of work, and we hope after this summer we can achieve a more visually appealing, interactive area for our community.

In the past, taking printing away from a newspaper seemed

outrageous, but in the case of *Sidelines* we feel that this summer will give us the option to make ourselves a stronger, better news outlet for our campus. Focusing on print has given many of us little time to really grow in the online arena, so we are excited about the possibility to expand our online edition.

I hope that our students, faculty and staff at MTSU will understand that while printing will not be our main focus in the summer, it will continue throughout the regular school semesters. Printing is very important to us, and by the end of the summer we hope to have an online edition as strong, if not stronger, than our print.

Now that you're here, make it happen

I haven't been able to get it off my mind all semester: What am I going to write about for my last column in *Sidelines*? After much thought, the decision is clear...

As I am typing this, I keep looking up at the clock – I'm less than 12 hours from becoming an alumnus of the place I've called home for the past five years. Am I sad? Of course. Am I ready? You're damn right I am.

The reason I'm ready is because I've found my passion here. I love journalism, just as much as some upperclassmen will tell you they love aerospace, nursing, music or whatever they spend countless hours in and out of class performing and perfecting.

That should be your goal



Michael Stone
From the opinions editor

at MTSU. Find your passion, work hard at it, and if you haven't found it yet, don't ever, ever, ever be afraid to put yourself out there and try new things.

I didn't know what I wanted to do with my life until the second semester of my junior year. Had it not been for the newspaper you're holding in your hands, which is the same one I've worked at for the past three years, I probably

never would have.

While some of you aren't, many of you attending CUSTOMS orientation are just like I was when I was a wide-eyed freshman: clueless about what you wanted to major in, worry-free, and simply happy to be in college.

Though – hopefully, of course – you won't feel clueless for the rest of your life, and some degree of worry will probably be progressively bestowed upon you throughout life, the happiness doesn't have to stop after college.

Work is constantly perpetuated as a thing completely separate from play in our society. But, as evidenced by the countless MTSU professors with seemingly permanent smiles on their

faces, you can actually love your job.

The harder you work here, the better the chances you have of finding and professionally working on that love.

It's no secret that for most majors, if all you have is your degree, even with a 4.0 GPA, employers won't take too kindly to your resume. That's why you must use your time here at MTSU to separate yourself from the rest.

Simply put: work hard. Keep those words in mind as you take my place on the racquetball courts at the Campus Recreation Center, behind one of the many desks in LRC 221, on the sidewalks, in the KUC, and within all the other nooks and crannies that make

this campus the place to be in Tennessee.

Now I realize that after reading this, you are undoubtedly more of a workaholic than you ever were before, but have a helluva a good time while you're here. You are hypothetically only in college once, so don't be afraid to crack open a beer (responsibly) and throw that ping pong ball into that red Solo cup like the champion you are.

God, I'm going to miss college.

Michael Stone ~~is~~ was a senior journalism major and opinions editor of *Sidelines*. Stone, who had the greatest time working for this newspaper and attending this university, he can be reached at michaelstone428@gmail.com.

HEY NEW STUDENTS:

Here are a few pieces of advice

compliments of the Sidelines staff



Emma Egli
Features editor

Be an informed textbook buyer

Hey freshman! Remember in high school when you were handed all your textbooks? Well guess what: Here in the college realm, you are about to get introduced to the concept of purchasing your own books on your own time and on your own dime.

Gasp! Yeah, it sucks, but welcome to adulthood.

But fret not. You should embrace this newly bestowed responsibility with intellect and frugality.

For starters, put away that \$5 Phillips Bookstore is trying to coerce you into putting down in order to get a box of brand new textbooks handed to you on the first day of classes. As alluringly

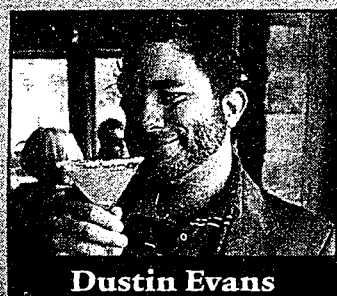
convenient as it may sound, taking the time to research and get your books via other methods can save you hundreds.

Use your resources! I'm talking about the interwebs, freshies. Half.com is superb at gathering prices from multiple online sites and showing you the cheapest prices for used and new books.

If the thought of buying your books from a nameless seller and awaiting their arrival for an undetermined amount of time turns you off, rent them.

Chegg.com is a great site that allows you to choose how long you want to rent a book, plus they plant a tree for every book you rent. So not only do you save a butt-load of money, you are doing Mother Nature a favor.

C'mon guys, it's a win-win situation.



Dustin Evans
Managing editor

College much more than class

After surviving the majority of a decade enrolled at this fine university, I have noticed a trend.

When I began school here in 1999, students were filled with interest – interest in learning and interest in change.

Now, students seem to attend class sometimes and leave.

During the last year, the Student Government Association had a massive election where the Greek party kept hold of its reign, every single candidate for governor visited campus to meet the five or six students that showed up, and the student body was told that its opinion doesn't matter to the administration as they decided to spend our money on a parking garage in spite of the current budgetary crisis.

That is the tip of the iceberg when it comes to major activity on the

campus, or what the campus has to offer.

Your college education is not merely about attending class. It is so much more.

Involved and active students, in whatever they may be interested in, will gain more than other students from college because they will be applying what they have learned and drive change and new ideas into society.

If the administration had challenged the students with the parking garage in 1999, this campus would have been loud, angry and enormously present.

As new members of this institution, you cannot let active college life pass you by – so get active and get involved. After that, do us all a favor and graduate.

Oh, and don't buy beer at Davis Market, because if you do, you'll never leave Murfreesboro. Cheers.



Roziland Ruth
Community news editor

Safety first, then do your thing

While I haven't attended MTSU for a that long of a time, I have picked up some advice I think is useful to students beginning their college career. In short: don't be stupid about sex.

Though I consider myself a sex-positive person, I think college students, for lots of reasons, can be a bit careless about their sex lives.

I won't go in to details, but I will say wrap it up, use multiple sources (namely latex) of birth control – “the pill” is not magic.

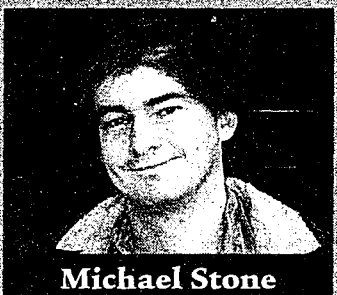
Think about sexually transmitted infections as well a pregnancy.

It has been a trend to put an “R” at the end of “safe sex” because sex at our age tends to be unsafe by nature. These aforementioned things will make you safer, but when in doubt, ask.

There is a Women's Clinic that is part of Student Health Services, which gives free HIV testing and relatively in-expensive STI testing. It's not just for women, as all students can ask questions or get tested there.

Sex is OK. Sex is good. It's how we populate the earth.

Just be smart if you're going to have it. Ask questions. Be informed. And “no” is a good answer too.



Michael Stone
Opinions editor

Skepticism a good attribute

The best piece of advice that I can offer anyone, regardless of his or her age, financial status, background, etc., is this: question everything.

Going through life based on the assumption that everything is OK leads to the types of injustices that run rampant through all aspects of our society.

Don't assume that just because you are attending an institution of higher education that those overseeing it will act in the best interests of academics. I assumed that when

I was a freshman, but as I started to investigate MTSU more and more, I became very pessimistic about the actions of the powers that be.

Here are some of those pessimism causers.

MTSU pays half of many of its coaches' salaries from academic funds. I confirmed that at least one, head football coach Rick Stockstill, doesn't teach his single assigned health and human performance class, which is the athletic department's rationality behind giving coaches academic funding.

Question Everything

SKEPTICISM FROM PAGE 17

The average business professor at MTSU makes nearly double the salary of professors in most other subjects. The said rational for this: These people would be making much more outside academia, so the university must pay them more to keep a functioning business school. The true injustices: Business students must pay more to go to school to fill these salaries, and the classes in the College of Business primarily use multiple-choice tests – something virtually worthless in terms of mind-expansion – for examinations.

The administration allowed students to vote on a referendum in 2009 that would raise fees to pay for a parking garage. The student body voted it down. A few months ago, administrators said, "Screw your vote, we're raising fees and building the garage anyway." The cost of the garage is similar to the many millions of dollars the university must cut from its budget by 2011. Administrators are yet to have a public meeting to discuss their disregard for democracy and misappropriation of funding.

A freshman living on campus is required to buy a meal plan, something that has absolutely nothing to do with his or her education. The contract that Aramark has with MTSU, meaning the food that is contractually obligated to students, is seldom kept up with 100 percent. Also, good luck finding proper food options on campus during the weekend, freshmen – soon you'll know exactly what I'm talking about.

I know this may all seem very doom-and-gloomish, but I think it's good that you get a varied perspective from the public relations game you've been exposed to thus far in your MTSU career.

Drink-curbing grant poor spending

Alcohol problems should not be made the government's problem

The U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has given Tennessee an \$11.5 million grant to curb alcohol binge drinking. The grant will be used to fund programs intended to reduce the amount of binge drinking among 14 to 25-year-olds for five years.

The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention says that the ultimate goal is to reduce the amount of teenagers and young adults who binge drink by 4.3 percent within the next five years.

According to the Chattanooga, "the grant will utilize evidence-based and emerging practices to positively impact the policies, practices, and attitudes that support unsafe alcohol consumption and create a hazard to public safety in communities across Tennessee."

The only evidence-based practice listed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration is the Good Behavior Game. This game is typically played by first and second graders who are divided into small groups and awarded as a group for good behavior with small items such as stickers.

In the long-term, 66 percent of those who participate in this game in the first two years of



Krissy Mallory
Es lo que ella dijo

(That's what she said)

elementary school later go on to use illicit drugs, whereas 99 percent of non-participants use illicit drugs at some point in their lives.

These statistics were drawn from a report released in the 2009 Institute of Medicine Report. The report also states that 86 percent of Good Behavior Game participants went on to receive high school diplomas, while 19 percent of nonparticipants received diplomas.

If this is the case, most children are already participating in programs that reward good behavior, as our graduation rate is much higher than 19 percent. Do we really need more funding to dish out stickers to kids for their good behavior? If this is a part of the master plan to reduce binge drinking among teenagers and young adults, it will fail to impact anyone within the specified age group in the

next five years.

All that is left to impact those ages 9 and older is "emerging practices." Let's face it: There is no sure way to keep the youth from drinking. Curiosity has a lot to do with this.

I remember in high school when someone came to our class to speak to us about safe sex and the dangers of drinking. Everyone got to wear the "drunk goggles." They were so much fun that some stood in line to wear them again. Sometimes the more someone talks about something, the more appealing it sounds, whether or not that is the intention.

Plenty of high school students also signed pledges not to drink on prom night. Most did. These programs do not work. There is one way to curb drinking in teenagers ages 14 and older, and it doesn't require the spending of federal funds. It's called parenting. Most attentive parents would know if their 14 year old was binge drinking. Hangovers are relatively obvious. The lingering smell of alcohol and excessive consumption of water are among warning signs.

Expanding education on the dangers of binge drinking is useless, especially at a collegiate level. Everyone knows that binge drinking is danger-

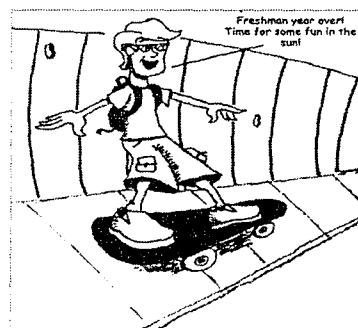
ous. College students who die from alcohol poisoning know it's a possibility, but when they first begin to consume alcoholic beverages, they aren't thinking of their fate that evening. They are thinking about how much fun they are having in the moment.

The same goes for drinking and driving. Those who drive under the influence don't think they are going to take someone's life when they do it. Often the biggest concern is a DUI. When drinking, most think they have everything under control until it is too late. Additional educational programs won't change that.

If we are to come out of the economic crisis any time soon, pork-barrel spending like this needs to be eliminated. Our tax dollars are being thrown into programs like this that have no documented rate of success. I could think of much better ways for Tennessee to use \$11.5 million. I'd prefer for it to go toward rebuilding our cities after the flood, but of course I, like most other citizens, have little control over how our federal dollars are spent.

Krissy Mallory is a senior majoring in journalism and Spanish. She can be reached at skm2i@mtsu.edu.

Seattle Spew

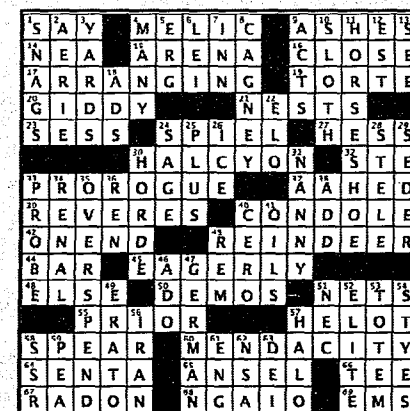


By KYLE PATTERSON
Staff Cartoonist



megapencil5@yahoo.com

This Week's Answers



Haslam triumphs in gubernatorial primary

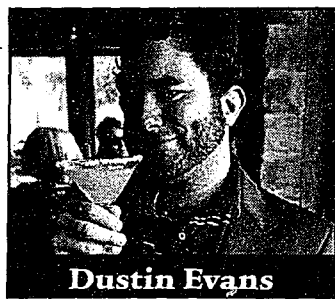
On April 29, a small handful of students and many faculty and staff, as well as local residents, were treated to a gubernatorial forum in the Murphy Center.

First of all, I cannot believe that MTSU would play host to every single gubernatorial candidate in Tennessee. It could have been truly thrilling, had anything important actually been said.

Throughout a sea of conservative bias, though, it is clear that Mayor Bill Haslam of Knoxville truly deserves control of the executive.

You read correctly, this liberal-moderate said Haslam.

What other option is there? On onesideyouhaveMikeMcWherter. While Ned McWherter was one of the best governors that Tennessee has seen, his political career in no way is relative to his son's – but that seems to be Mike McWherter's entire



Dustin Evans Cheers!

campaign strategy.

Throughout the evening, Mike McWherter made continuous references to his heritage and tried to build a bridge to his own merit. This fallacy will cost him the election.

This is truly sad, because, after Rep. Bart Gordon, D-Tenn., leaves the 6th District, it may actually mean the death of the Democratic Party of Tennessee, or at least a comatose state of it. The party, which was created in the heart of Rutherford

County, is failing miserably – and McWherter is certainly not helping.

On the other side, a duo of conservative extremists hope to beat out the man who has raised more than \$7 million dollars for his campaign, more than any other candidate in any other race in Tennessee – and Haslam hasn't even spent a dime of his own money to date.

Rep. Zach Wamp, R-Tenn., and Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey spent the evening attacking McWherter on his support of Bredesen in areas like the Pre-K education programs. What they should be focusing on is their inevitable loss to Haslam.

Ramsey and Wamp also chose to make radical religious comments on gay marriage and other hot topics, not surprising considering either of their histories. But their extra-conservative "moral values"

are simply not going to carry the weight of the Tennesseans in November.

Tennessee needs jobs, it needs a strong energy plan, it needs a stronger economy and, as every candidate seemed to realize – it needs major reform in all areas of education.

Ramsey and Wamp have no solid footing, and from the forum, it was difficult to see exactly where they stand on more serious issues.

Haslam has them beat because Tennesseans are looking for someone who is fiscally conservative. And it is next to impossible to find someone like that in the GOP these days.

Mayor Haslam has consistently strengthened the economy in Knoxville, and when placed on the spot in interviews, he is able to directly tell you about his plan for the future of Tennessee.

For years, the Republican Party has slowly turned into a group of radicals, who spend more than the liberals ever hoped to. They care about one thing, and one thing only – destroy the Democratic agenda.

Mayor Haslam is not interested in playing this needless game in government; he wants to strengthen Tennessee by changing the way things are done – to save money while protecting our state freedoms.

After seeing Ron Paul win the Conservative Political Action Committee straw poll, hope for the GOP may not be completely lost – and certainly not in this state.

Dustin Evans is the managing editor at Sidelines and a senior organizational communication major. He can be reached at slmanage@mtsu.edu

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McDaniel's leadership won't soon be forgotten

By MARK BYRNES
Guest Columnist

Shortly after becoming associate dean in 2006, I accompanied Dean John McDaniel to give welcoming remarks to a group of high school students visiting campus. I'd heard him do that sort of welcome several times, so I fully expected him to quote Shakespeare—which he did. I was surprised, however, when in the next breath he quoted Kenny Chesney, certainly a talented fellow but not quite in the same league as the Bard.

Never knowing exactly what he might say or do next was one of the many endearing things about John McDaniel. Among the most erudite people on campus, he never took himself too seriously. I remember the time

when, on his first day back from a vacation in Maine, he arrived at the office wearing a hat with a gigantic stuffed lobster on it. And the time when, at a banquet celebrating international culture, he donned a grass skirt and danced the hula. And the time when, at a crowded meeting about a review of the university being done by an organization with the acronym SACS, he commented that all SACS is good SACS.

I first met Dr. McDaniel in 1981, when as an MTSU undergraduate student I took one of his popular Shakespeare courses. The impression I formed of him then is much like the one I have now, after nearly 30 years have elapsed and I have had the good fortune to work with him daily. He was a highly intelligent, incredibly learned,

witty and caring man.

Dr. McDaniel came to MTSU in 1970 as an assistant professor of English. In 1978, he was made chair of the department, and became the dean of the College of Liberal Arts in 1984. He served in that position until his death, a stretch of more than a quarter-century. The average tenure for a university dean is around four or five years, so Dr. McDaniel's longevity indicates just how successful he was.

Much of a dean's time is spent with faculty members and administrators. To overcome that fact, which he saw as a major drawback of the job, Dr. McDaniel continued to teach his Shakespeare courses through most of his years as dean. Doing this kept him in close touch with the academic cycle of the uni-

versity and, more importantly, the students.

He thoroughly enjoyed his students, even the clueless ones (including the young woman, who halfway through a course entitled *Tragedies of Shakespeare*, remarked that she enjoyed the plays but wondered why they all had to end so unhappily). Moreover, he never forgot that serving students is the primary mission of the university.

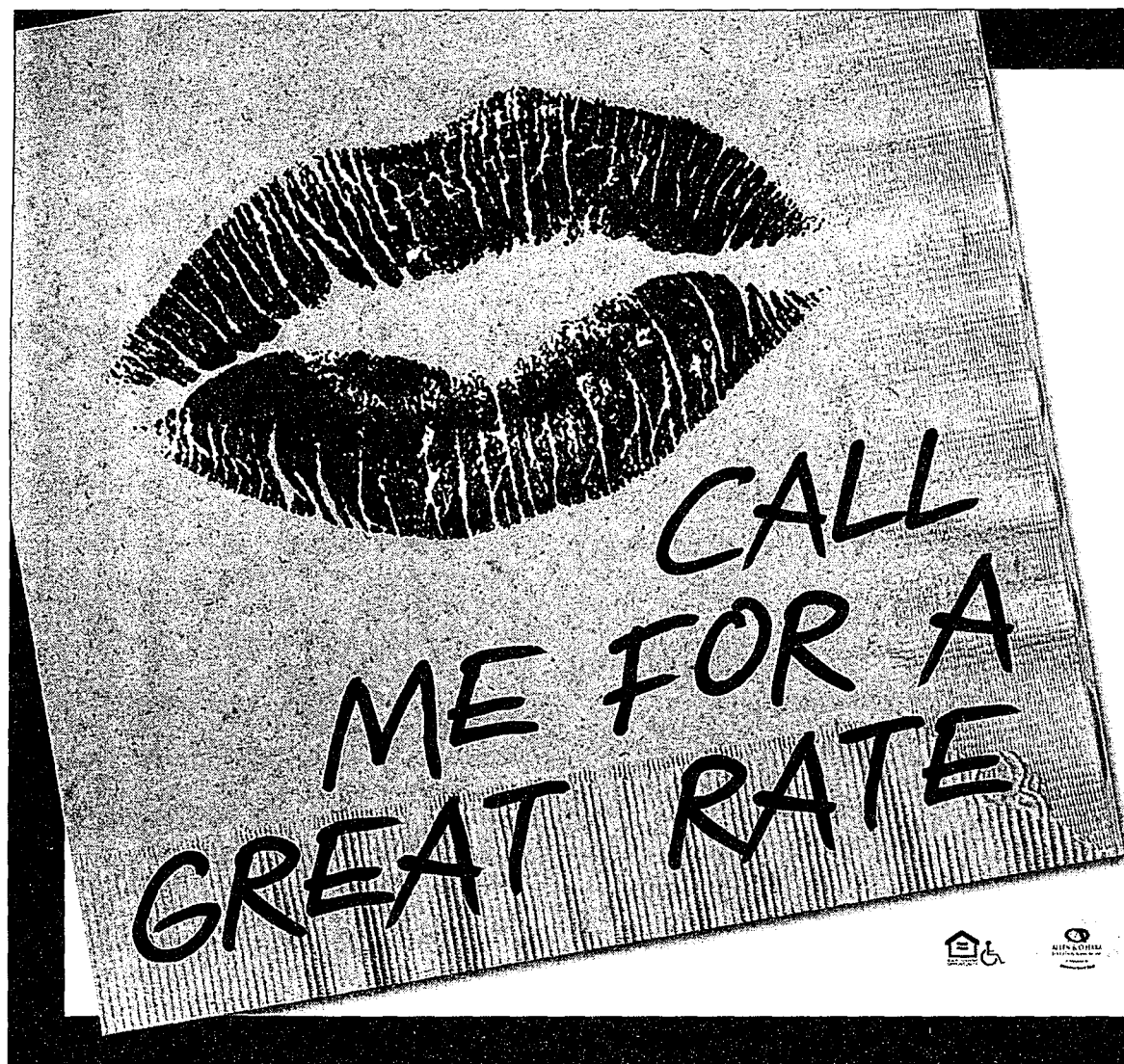
For most students, a college dean is an enigmatic figure. The title seems familiar, they realize that the position carries some power, but they aren't entirely sure what deans do.

I can report what John McDaniel—recently called “the dean of all deans” by President Sidney McPhee—did. He demonstrated his devotion to MTSU

in myriad ways. He cared about students. He mentored innumerable faculty members and department chairs. He gave wise counsel to people at all levels across campus. He helped found a statewide organization of Arts and Sciences deans. He made quips. He told stories. He was unflappable. He faced adversity with equanimity. He demonstrated an incredible generosity of spirit. And he loved his family.

John McDaniel worked at MTSU for 40 of his 69 years in existence. His legacy will be wide and enduring. He will be deeply missed.

Mark Byrnes is a political science professor and interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts. He can be reached at mbyrnes@mtsu.edu.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'Boro pub crawl

Local bar-hopping report card

By MATTHEW HAMMITT
Staff Writer

An important aspect of any college town is a thriving nightlife. College, after all, is as much about social emancipation and development as it is about late night cramming and pop quizzes.

How does Murfreesboro fare? Well, it is important to realize that the city is still finding its footing as a renowned college town. In the years since becoming the largest undergraduate university in the state of Tennessee, commercial development in the area has boomed, as has commercial development specifically targeted toward the MTSU student community.

As a seven-year resident of the city, I have seniority over many of these new late night hotspots. I have slowly and unassumingly watched the city transform. And so I can only haughtily assume that my seniority and advanced age (24, if you must know, a veritable careerist age for a partier) qualifies me to accurately measure and evaluate Murfreesboro's most popular drinking and dancing establishments.

So, without further ado...

Murfreesboro's Thursday Night Bar-Hopping Report Card

Thursday night is traditionally "college party night," because many of the student body's elder statesmen avoid Friday classes like the plague. If you wish to see the MTSU college student in its natural habitat, go into a building with a disproportionate amount of neon lighting sometime after 9:30 p.m. on a Thursday.

In the interest of full disclosure, I embarked on my journey with three close friends; this potentially perverts my ability to gauge an establishment's status as a fruitful social watering hole.

Additionally, I never exceeded spending two hours in any particular place for the purposes of this pub-crawl, perhaps this makes it more of a pub walk.

Blue Rooster Bar & Music Hall

The Blue Rooster is the 2009 Ruthie's Award winner for "Boro's Favorite Bar/Tavern," and a bar it most certainly is. Thursday night is "Ladies Night," and sure enough there are some ladies in attendance. However, the atmosphere is too loud and clumsy to actually meet people that you don't already know. Blue Rooster's prices are great as far as bars go, which ultimately means you only pay mod-



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

Gentleman Jim's has two locations in Murfreesboro, which both provide inexpensive drinks, proving to be one of the best local watering holes in town.

erately more than you would at any retail store for the same quantity. In good conscience, I can't rate the Blue Rooster too highly because of the paint-by-numbers simplicity of its concept. It is, for better or worse, what a middle school student thinks a bar is like. I am going to give Blue Rooster a couple bonus points for having a large Blue Rooster statue on display which serves to remind intoxicated bar-goers where they ended up, less the libation cause them to forget. Grade: B

Liquid Smoke

Liquid Smoke is a pillar of the MTSU late night community. It's always there to remind you how much better other bars are than Liquid Smoke. Let's put it this way, the most attractive attribute of this establishment is its restrooms - and they are nice restrooms. Outside of allowing you to gather yourself in luxury, Liquid Smoke is a place best suited for your schizophrenic barhops. After seven years, I still have no idea what crowd it is supposed to be catering to. It's kind of a sports bar in that they show sporting events on tiny TVs that are set up too high, but who would go to Liquid Smoke to watch sports? It's kind of a bohemian gathering place because they have frequent acoustic open-mics that are too embarrassing to actually attend. It's also a cigar shop, hence the "Smoke," but it's an age 21 or older establishment, and so 18-year-old customers can't even gain entry to the main facility. Grade: D+ (Because, really, they are nice restrooms.)

BARS, PAGE 23

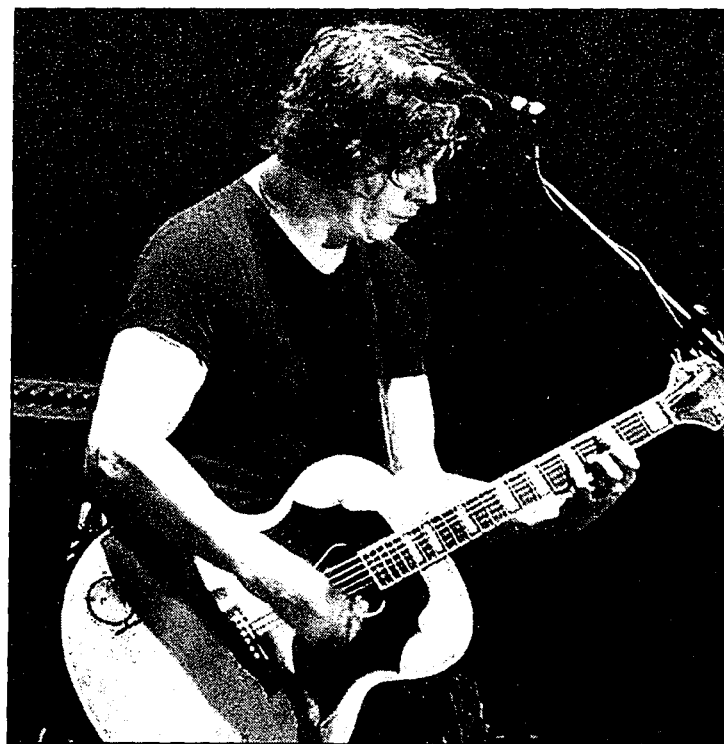


Photo courtesy of wikimedia commons

Jack White, member of The White Stripes, The Dead Weather and The Racoteurs, opened a recording studio in Nashville about a year ago and has proven that Music City is more than country music.

Beyond Nashville's country roots

By JASON GOUCHER
Contributing Writer

Admit it. Whenever you hear about the city of Nashville two things come to mind: cowboy boots and country music. You are not alone. Most people outside of Nashville, and those new to the area, don't realize there exists a rich and diverse musical scene that includes a gigantic following of rock music.

Sure, you know Dylan recorded his "Nashville Skyline" album in Nashville. And you may know Jimi Hendrix also spent time in Nashville. But what is the city like today?

Nashville's music scene is stronger and more varied than it has been in years. The success of the Next Big Nashville music festival, which showcases local and regional talent, has garnered the city

much attention. The event features four days of live music and conferences concerning the music industry.

Also helping the cause is one of the busiest men in the music business today, Jack White, who has been involved with The White Stripes, The Dead Weather and The Raconteurs, now calls Nashville home.

About a year ago, White opened the Third Man Records label in Nashville. The store, located on Seventh Avenue South, has a small record shop open to the public. It's dedicated to the artists on the label and to all things Jack White. Additionally, the building serves as a photo studio and distribution center for the artists that the label produces.

MUSIC, PAGE 23

Across

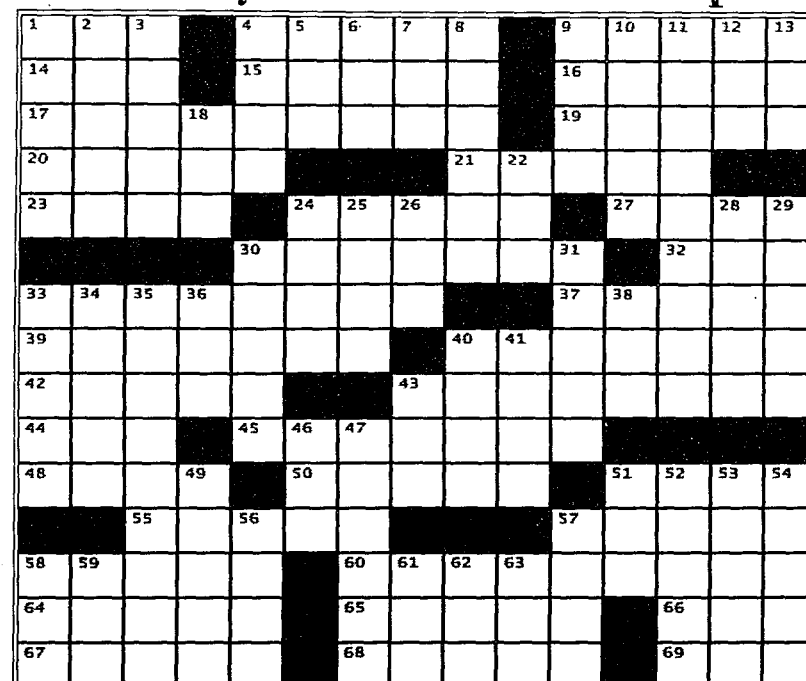
1- Express; 4- Pertaining to Song; 9- Barbecue Leftovers?; 14- Teachers' org.; 15- Concert venue; 16- Shut; 17- Organizing; 19- Rich Cake; 20- Dizzy; 21- Bird homes; 23- Cong. Meeting; 24- Long-winded speech; 27- Pianist Myra; 30- Tranquil; 32- ____-Foy, Quebec; 33- Devices for fishing; 55- Earlier; 57- Serf; 58- Chuckedd weapon; 60- Untruthfulness; 64- Actress Berger; 65- First name in photography; 66- Driving aid; 67- Radioactive gas; 68- Marsh of mystery; 69- Dash lengths;

Down

1- Jagged parts; 2- Lofty Nest; 3- Fenced areas; 4- Numerous; 5- Unit of energy; 6- Wreath of flowers; 7- B & B; 8- U.S. film actor; 9- After John in the NT; 10- Laziness; 11- Calk; 12- Cornerstone abbr.; 13- Date; 18- Commercials; 22- "Hold On Tight" band; 24- Wise; 25- In addition to; 26- Bump off; 28- Inscribed pillar; 29- Passover feast; 30- Multitude; 31- Nurse maid; 33- Examine thoroughly; 34- Of the kidneys; 35- Pay more than one can afford; 36- Cartoon dog; 38- Append; 40- Atlantic mackerel; 41- Lubricates; 43- "Losing My Religion" band; 46- "Much ____ About Nothing," play by Shakespeare; 47- Deutsch, here; 49- Muse of lyric and poetry; 51- Japanese computer giant; 52- Best of a group; 53- Emblem; 54- Eye sores; 56- OPEC member; 57- Circle of light often seen around the heads of saints; 58- Georgia, once: Abbr.; 59- Green shade; 61- Chang's twin; 62- Code-breaking org.; 63- Angus ____;

SIDEWORDS

The weekly *Sidelines* crossword puzzle



Answers on page 18

alumni

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Guide to Murfreesboro's nightlife

BARS

FROM PAGE 21

Club 527

The building in which Club 527 resides has a storied history as a failed nightclub. When I arrived in Murfreesboro in 2003, it was Inferno Bar and was at least the seediest and least appealing bar I've ever been to. Later it became, Sweetwater, which was like Inferno Bar but better because it wasn't Inferno Bar. By the time it became Club 527, I wouldn't have blamed Murfreesboro residents for being too disillusioned to give it a chance. However, Club 527 is by far

the best solution of a Southern watering hole to occupy the building yet. Its layout is intriguing, the upstairs billiards room is cool. Its prices are more than reasonable, and most importantly, it's the closest thing to a reliable music venue this "musically-inclined" town possesses. Standing in the shadow of Nashville makes it difficult for Murfreesboro to exert itself as a concert city, but Club 527 is trying. I saw the Drive-By Truckers there in the summer of 2009, and it was great. Grade: B+.

Gentleman Jim's

There are no less than two Gentlemen Jim's locations. There is "Dirty Jim's" on Greenland Drive, and "Clean Jim's" on East Main Street. Let not these qualifi-

ers confuse you; both are valuable components in the best bar dichotomy in the 'Boro. Both locations provide some of the best prices in the city. "Clean Jim's" is for your upstanding local, "Dirty Jim's" your more rowdy denizen, but both are excellent bars through and through. They are, however, bars and not likely to nourish your dance floor appetite, but as a destination to hangout with some close friends in public (and maybe make some new ones, people in dives such as these tend to be more outgoing and friendly) it can't be beat. Grade: A.

There are more bars in this city, far more bars. So many bars, you prob-

ably won't make it to all of them, even if you stay here for seven years. And as bars, most serve their purpose; they have happy hour specials, themed nights and frustratingly generic musical accompaniment.

It's romantic in a sense that Murfreesboro as a city is growing and adjusting to its new status. It's awkward, it's experimenting, much like its new residents. Ultimately, we trust that it will find its place even though it might go through some unconscionable haircuts and wardrobes.

So pick a place explore, and find out what's right for you. Go forth and be merry.

Music City has more than fiddles and pedal steel guitars

MUSIC

FROM PAGE 21

If you're a fan of Jack White, make sure to stop in and say hello at Third Man on your visit. No, you probably won't meet him, but this may be as close as you get.

As you can see, Nashville is redefining itself to be not only a place known for country music but for all kinds of music. So if you take a trip to Music City, avoid falling prey to the many tourist traps in downtown Nashville and spend some time off the beaten path to discover a different kind of Nashville.

Places to see/hear music

Live entertainment in Nashville is not only a business but a way of life. Each night, the city comes alive to the feedback of an electric guitar plugged into a vintage Fender amplifier. No doubt you will be hard-pressed to make a decision about which venue to visit. Here are a few of my favorites:

The Exit/In

REM, The Red Hot Chili Peppers, and more recently, The Decemberists and Kings of Leon are just a few of the notable acts that have performed at The Exit/In over the years. Comedian and actor Steve Martin performed here and mentioned it in his autobiography. And who could forget

the famous David Cross DVD "Let America Laugh!" in which Cross gets into an argument with the owner in the middle of his stage show?

The Cannery Ballroom/Mercy Lounge

This is a two-for-one deal. Both venues are located off Interstate 40 in an old flourmill building. The downstairs portion is dedicated to the Cannery and plays host to mid-level and larger acts with a capacity of 1,000. Jimmy Cliff, Iggy Pop and Janes Addiction have all graced the stage at the Cannery.

Upstairs, you'll find the Mercy Lounge. This space has half the capacity of the Cannery and plays host to industry showcases and local talent. If the room gets stuffy, just head toward the back and you'll find a door that leads to a deck with a great view of Nashville, especially at night.

So, you like vinyl?

Nashville is home to many record stores that not only stock the newest releases, but also carry a fine selection of older albums. If you have a relentless craving for vinyl, make sure to stop by two places on your visit to Nashville—The Groove and Grimey's.

The Groove is a hip, little record shop situated in the Five Points area. Full of used CDs and tons of vinyl, this is a good spot to hit its lunchtime. After perusing their

music selection, you can easily grab a bite to eat and a drink right across the street at 3 Crow Bar or the Red Door. A table of literature in the front of the store will be useful if you want to find out about shows and other events that may be happening in town while you are here.

Grimey's is located on Eighth Avenue South right off Interstate 65. Named the best record store in Nashville by Rolling Stone, Grimey's offers an enormous selection of music on vinyl and in CD format.

I feel like a kid in a candy store upon entering Grimey's, my eyes darting back and forth across the endless rows of records and CD's.

Cartons and cartons of albums may have you spending the better part of your day inside the cozy mom-and-pop-style store. There's something to be said for running your fingers through a stack of albums searching for the perfect gem. In a world where almost all music is digitized, it can be a nostalgic experience to see and touch the physical copy of your favorite album.

It may be best to save Grimey's for later in the day since you can catch a show right below the store. The Basement is a small music venue that lives up to its own motto of "a cellar full of noise."

Every Tuesday is new faces night at The Basement, offer-



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

Parker Gisbert, lead singer for the Whigs - a garage, Southern rock, grunge band - played at the Cannery Ballroom last year.

ing upcoming talent the chance to hone their musical chops in a small, intimate setting.

Rock memorabilia

After a long day of shopping for vinyl, you'll probably work up an appetite. Wouldn't it be great if you could find a reasonably priced restaurant with rock n' roll trinkets lining the walls?

Look no further than the Hard Rock Cafe Nashville. OK, I'll admit that this may not be off the beaten path, but it's a visit that will be worth your while. The menu features everything from hickory-smoked ribs to fajitas and will surely please everyone traveling with you.

While waiting for your food to arrive, you can walk around the cafe and see the impressive col-

lection of memorabilia used as decoration. An entire staircase is dedicated to the Beatles and features a handwritten note from John Lennon to his housekeeper, along with countless posters and gold records.

When visiting Nashville, it may be impossible to resist the urge to stop into one of the many shops and buy yourself a Charlie Daniels T-shirt or a cowboy hat. Hell, you may even find yourself trying on cowboy boots. Country music helped shape Nashville into the city it is today and remains an integral part of its history. Just don't sell Nashville short. Explore some of the lesser-known parts of the city and you may be surprised at what you find.

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