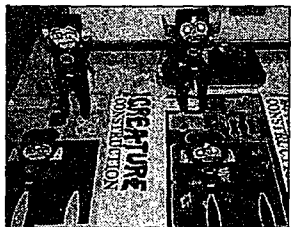


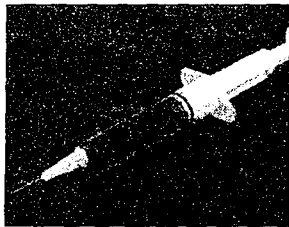
FEATURES



'Hype' surrounds MTSU art department's showcase of graphic design students' work.

PAGE 3

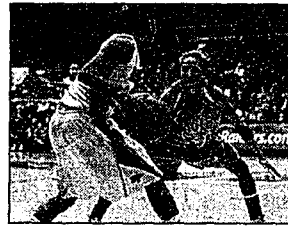
OPINIONS



Columnist explores the swine flu vaccine controversy via preventative medicine.

PAGE 5

SPORTS



Women's basketball team starts season with "sloppy" exhibition game against Carson Newman.

PAGE 6

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2009

VOL. 86, NO. 17

Juvenile reports sexual assault

Female claims she was sexually assaulted at the Sigma Nu House after midnight

By ALEX MOORMAN
News Editor

The MTSU Police Department found a suspect after last Sunday's report that a minor had been sexually assaulted at the Sigma Nu house on Greek Row.

MTSU police said that the victim filed a report on Tuesday and that the incident happened between 12 a.m. and 12:30 a.m.

on Nov. 1. Chief of Police Buddy Peaster said that the investigation is underway and that the police do have a suspect.

"We have the name of a suspect who we're following up on," Peaster said. "We're talking to as many witnesses as we can and we've talked to the victim and she's told us what's happened from her standpoint."

The MTSU Police De-

partment said that neither the victim nor the suspect are MTSU students. Police also said that the victim met the suspect at the Sigma Nu house, but Sigma Nu President Austin Tenpenny said that the male suspect was not being considered to join Sigma Nu fraternity.

Peaster said the department is gathering facts and reviewing information and

that the case seems strong.

"If the information turns out to be true, yes, we have a good prosecutable case, charging this guy with whatever the appropriate charge is," Peaster said. "I feel like because our victim in this case is a juvenile and the suspect is of age, that is he is 18 or older, it's very likely he'll be charged with something [but] until we get all the information, though, I can't say."

Tenpenny said that

no brother was involved in the incident.

"The alleged offender was not a member of the fraternity," Tenpenny said. "He was with a friend, who is a member of Sigma Nu, but when we were notified about the allegations, he was immediately removed from the house."

Greek Life Director Angela King said neither she nor the office of Greek Affairs knew much about

the assault but are keeping themselves informed as the case develops.

"It's early into the investigation and so I don't have much information right now, but I can that the Office of Greek Affairs does not tolerate sexual assault," King said. "When we get more information, we will be better equipped to decide our next step."

ASSAULT, PAGE 2

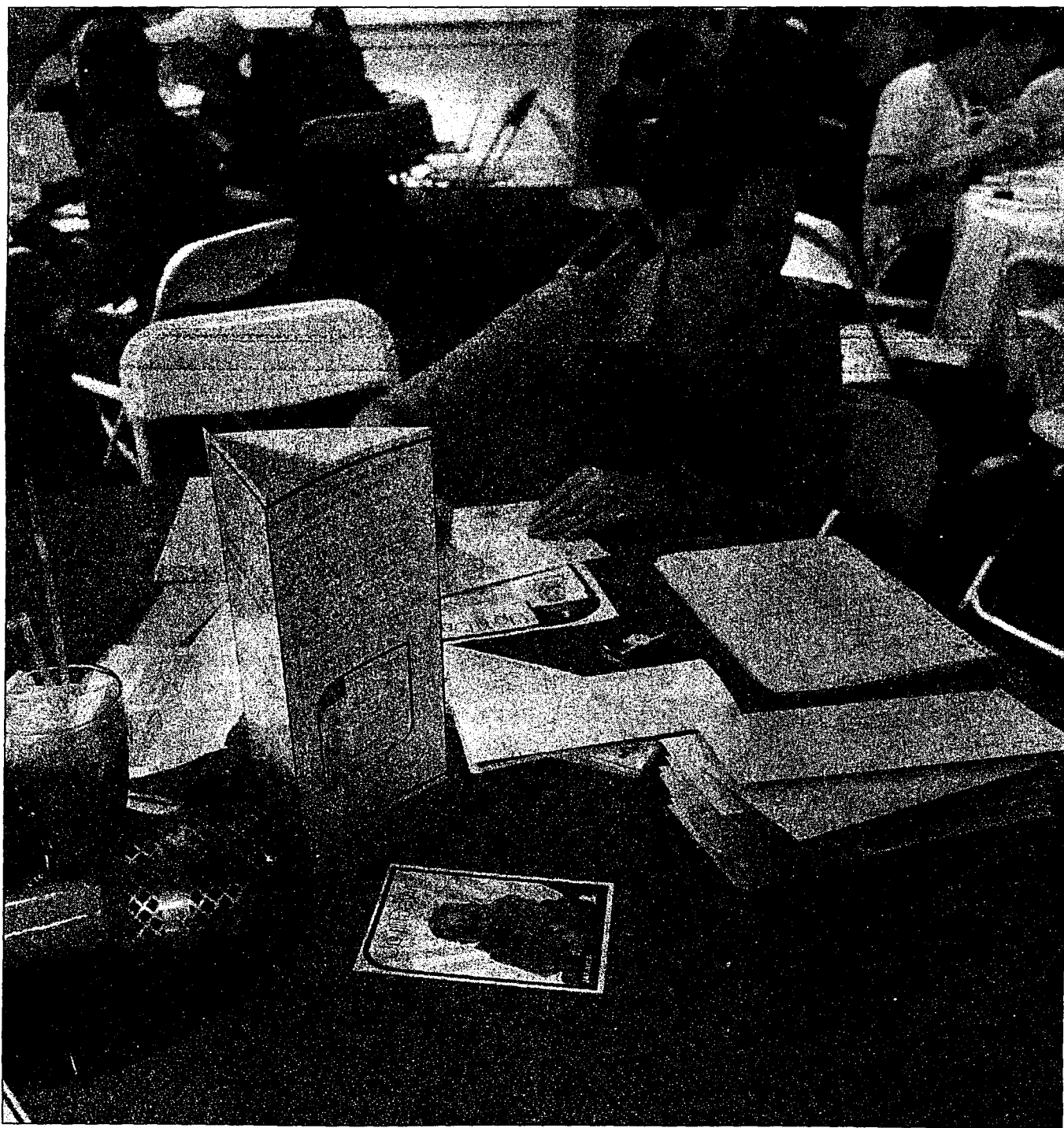


Photo by Sarah Finchum, staff photographer

Courtney Watson, an undeclared freshman, writes letters to help raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Students lick, hold St. Jude fundraiser

A fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital had participants to write letters to friends, family to ask for donations.

By EMMA EGLI
Assistant Campus News Editor

Organizations across campus licked and sealed numerous letters to their families and friends on Tuesday for Up 'til Dawn's "Great-Lick-Athon" in an effort to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Up 'til Dawn is a student-

led fundraising program hosted by universities nationwide. The goal of the "Great-Lick-Athon" is for each participant to send letters to friends and family requesting donations for the hospital's research.

"There are over 300 Up 'til Dawn programs across the nation," said Edgard Izaguirre, senior business major and associate director of Up

'til Dawn. "Together, they raise millions of dollars—the 'Great-Lick-Athon' is one of our major fundraising events this year."

Izaguirre said one of the best parts of the event is that students from numerous organizations come to participate and help raise money.

"We have students from honor societies, fraternities, sororities and other

clubs," Izaguirre said. "This is an event that has been done for 10 years, so obviously, it's been incredibly successful."

Jamie Nicholson, a sophomore recording industry major, said she heard about the event after joining the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

LICK-ATHON, PAGE 2

Professor's golden rule reinforces academic integrity

By DUSTIN EVANS
Assistant Community News Editor

Following an instance of cheating in his classroom, Thomas Li-Ping Tang, a professor in the department of management and marketing, distributed a contract designed to deter his students from cheating—lest they suffer eternal damnation.

The contract began with the Ten Commandments and concluded with the request of a oath that each student made no attempt to cheat during the previous week's examination. The contract states that if a student had cheated, he or she would have "violated God's Ten Commandments, will be sorry for the rest of [their] life and go to hell."

"I tried to make sure we all do the good deeds and good things for students to be responsible managers," Tang said. "I feel sorry if other students got hurt for that."

Tang said as the class was a graduate level course, they had previously studied business ethics and should have made an appropriate decision not to cheat. He said he feels it is important to realize that actions speak louder than words, and that we have to focus on our actions to make a better society and community.

President Sidney McPhee said the incident is something that the university clearly would not support and that he feels Tang realized that he went too far.

"We have a written code

of ethics," McPhee said. "All universities have a code of ethics—it is clearly stated in our student handbook."

Debra Sells, vice president of Student Affairs, said the faculty has the option of assigning a grade of "F" when cheating is suspected, or they can take the problem up with the department of judicial affairs. She said the administration recommends that faculty members clearly outline their academic misconduct policy in their syllabi or deal with the judicial review process as administered by the university.

"We want to make students feel that they are informed and the best way to have that in writing is the syllabus," Sells said. "Honors codes are not only to prohibit cheating, but to compel other students who see them cheating to turn them in."

E. James Burton, dean of the Jennings A. Jones College of Business, said he has left administrative decisions and disciplinary actions for the incident to the management and marketing department.

Jill Austin, chairwoman of the department of marketing and management, said she is going to conduct interviews with both Tang and his students to determine how she can make them feel comfortable in the class.

"Religion is not something that is typically part of a class," Austin said. "I want the students to feel comfortable in the class and we will be looking into ways to move forward."

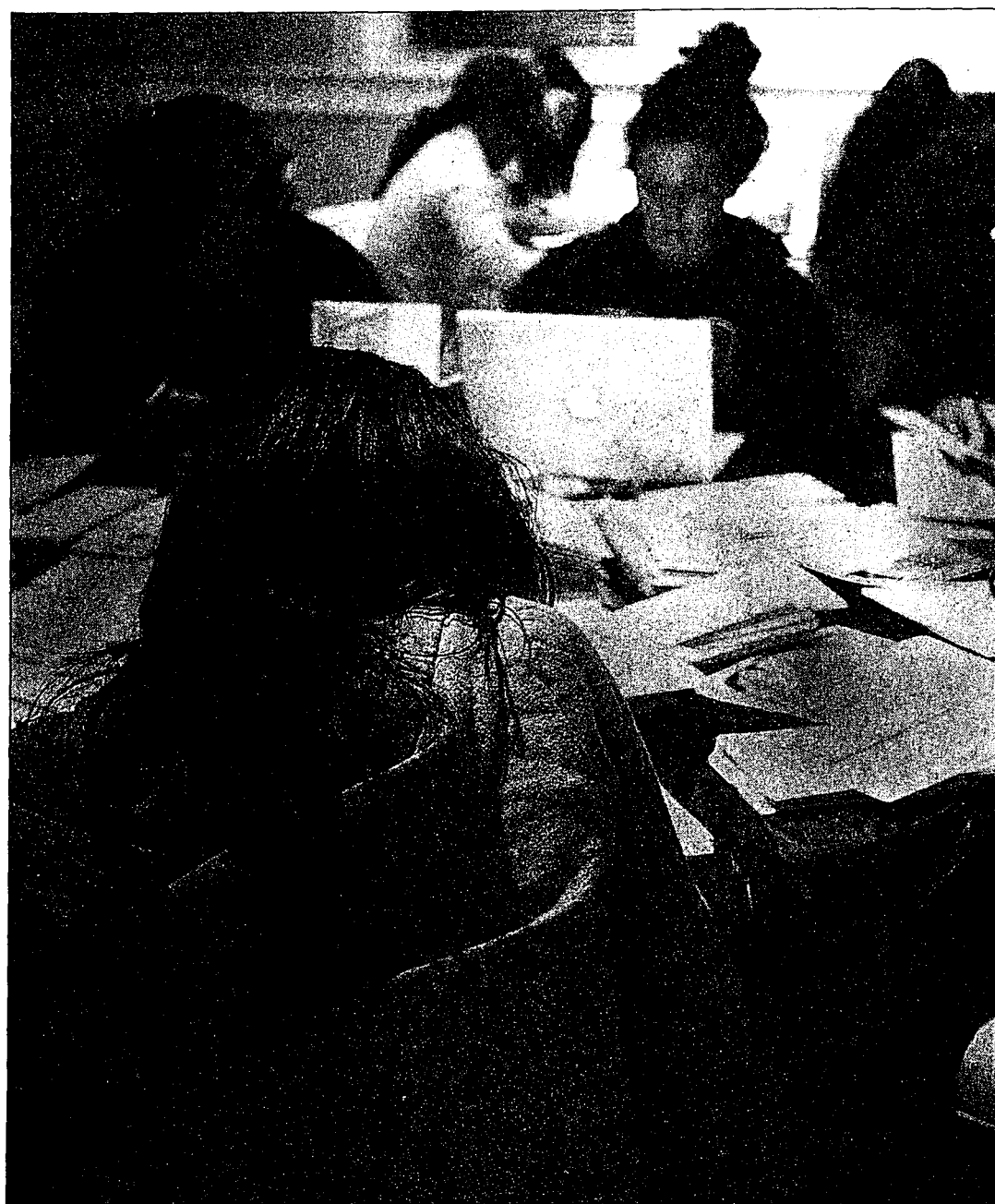


Photo by Sarah Finchum, staff photographer

Students look up the addresses of family and friends to send letters requesting donations for St. Jude.

LICK-ATHON FROM PAGE 1

"St. Jude has always been my favorite charity," Nicholson said. "I heard about Up 'til Dawn when I first came to MTSU, and I always wanted to find a way to get involved."

Students participating in the event, which lasted from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. in the Tom H. Jackson building, were required to write a minimum of 35 letters to people they thought would help support the cause and donate money.

"I've already... written about 60 letters and my goal is to write 70," said Derek Hickerson, a freshman elementary education major and member of 4-H. "It's really cool that MTSU stays grounded enough to where they are still doing things to raise money for other people."

Elizabeth Michels, a senior organizational communications major, said this was her first year participating in an Up 'til Dawn event.

"One of my [sorority] sisters in Zeta Tau Alpha is the president of Up 'til Dawn, and she really encouraged us to participate," Michels said. "My hand might be cramping, but at least I know it's for

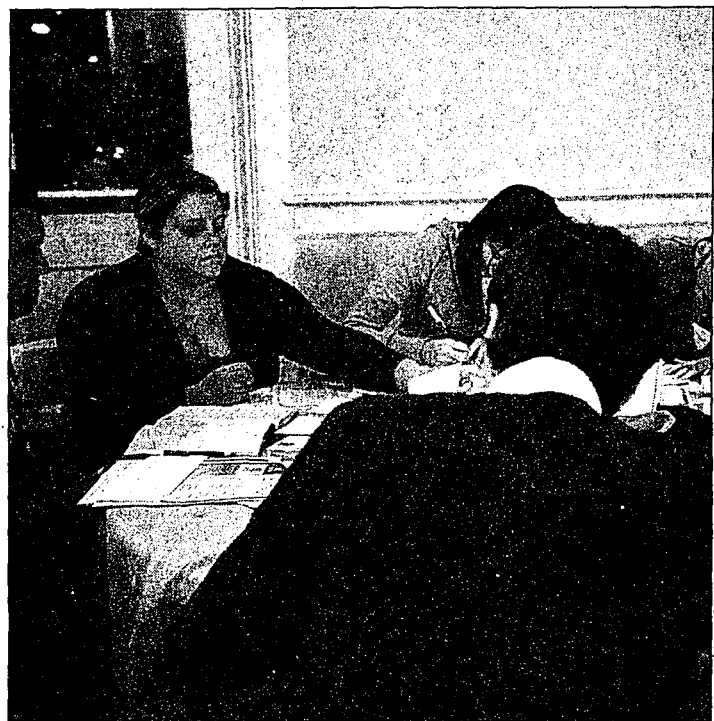


Photo by Sarah Finchum, staff photographer

Participants at the Lick-Athon write letters to raise money for children.

such a great cause."

St. Jude is one of the world's premier centers for research and treatment of pediatric cancer and other catastrophic childhood diseases.

"I'm hoping the people I send these letter to will want to contribute and help save lives," said Brittany Bird, an undeclared freshman. "I feel like if it were their child that needed this, they'd definitely want someone to help them."

The final event for Up 'til Dawn will take place in February at the Recre-

ation Center and will feature games, live entertainment and other activities for students and community members to participate in an attempt to stay up all night to raise money for St. Jude.

"This is such a great cause, especially when you can get those who are close to you interested in supporting your cause," said Claire Pointer, a senior accounting major and member of Chi Omega. "Once you help in one event, it's hard not to want to participate in more."

ASSAULT FROM PAGE 1

Tenpenny said he thought at one time the suspect was a student at the University of Tennessee, but he was not currently a student at MTSU. He also said the suspect's friend, a member of Sigma Nu, was working closely with MTSU police.

"We contacted the police and the brother that was friends with the suspect

has been working with authorities to identify him," Tenpenny said.

Peaster said the MTSU police officers were going to try and talk with everyone available but doesn't know the exact number of interviews have been conducted at this time or whether all of the Sigma Nu fraternity brothers present have been interviewed.

The MTSU Police Department said it is continuing their investigation and

in a e-mail, sent on Tuesday to all MTSU students, informed students how to stay safe on campus.

"Please be smart and be safe," stated the e-mail. "MTSU Police encourage everyone to watch out for one another, whether on or off campus, to walk in groups for greater safety or, when on campus, to use the on-campus walking escort service available 24 hours a day by calling University Police at 615-898-2424."

Recording Industry host Deep Fried Funk Night

By SARAH SHARP
Contributing Writer

Rich Barnett's Advanced Concert Touring Promotion class is set to hold a duet series of concerts locally as part of its final exam to bring the students a hands-on experience in the recording industry.

The Deep Fried Funk Night, the first of the series, will be Friday at the Walnut House off the square. The event will be featuring the local funk quintet, The Deep Fried Five and the popular Nashville psychedelic hip-hop DJ Kidsmeal of WorkForce Rebellion.

The 18-and-up show will start at 9 p.m. in the reception hall of the Walnut House. The cover is \$5. DJ Kidsmeal will be opening for the Deep Fried Five, who will be playing two sets, and the two performers will also collaborate throughout the night.

Jenni McCray, head of publicity for the project and senior recording industry and Spanish major, said a percentage

of the proceeds will go to the performers depending on how many tickets are sold.

"We are asking everyone to dress to impress for our Deep Fried Funk Night," said Bobby Licata, senior RIM major and head promoter for Friday's event.

Licata said appropriate attire would be clothing that resembles the funky-fresh style of the '70s.

"The students did all the research and negotiations for the event," McCray said.

McCray said each student in Barnett's class played a significant role in putting Friday's event together.

McCray said Barnett's students did everything from designing posters and flyers, to booking the artists, to promoting heavily around campus, locally and in Nashville. She said one way they promoted the event was by passing out flyers and putting up posters at the Pretty Lights show this past Wednesday at Exit/In.

McCray and Licata said they expect a huge turnout, and are hoping tickets sell out at the Walnut House, which holds 200 at maximum capacity.

"The fact that we have two great local performers is going to have a tremendous effect on the turnout," Licata said.

Although the Walnut House is primarily a recording studio, it's on its way to becoming a place for concerts and events. Licata said he sees the Walnut House as a "chance for a new venue in Murfreesboro," and that it offers musicians great sound quality, due to the soundproof walls, in addition to live video opportunities and live sound board recordings.

Licata said the venue was immaculate, and, if utilized correctly, the Walnut House could be the next best venue in town.

The next event put together by Barnett's students will be in early December, at the James Union Building, and will be a concert featuring local Nashville rock bands Autovaghn, Thief and Modoc.

CURRENT EVENTS

Nontraditional Student Week: Potluck Dinner and Pinnacle Honor Society Induction with guest speaker, Dallas Nichols
Nov. 5, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Location: Keathley University Center, room 322

For more information, call 898-5989

"Ragtime"

Nov. 5 - 7, 7:30 p.m.

Location: Tucker Theatre

For more information, visit mtsumusic.com

Leonard Cohen

Nov. 5, 8 p.m.

Location: Tennessee Performing Arts Center

Admission: \$60 - \$253

Homer Pittard Campus School 80th Anniversary Celebration

Nov. 6, 8 a.m.

Location: Homer Pittard Campus School

For reservations and information, call 895-1030

New Student Union Groundbreaking Ceremony

Nov. 6, 10 a.m.

Location: lawn east of the Paul W. Martin Honors College

First Friday Night Star Party

Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Wiser-Patten Science Hall, room 102

Admission: free

Off the Wall Lecture Series:

"The Center Cannot Hold: Europe Between two World Wars"

Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Frist Center for the Visual Arts Auditorium

Admission: free

Omega Delta Psi Recording Industry Management Scholarship Show

Nov. 6, 8 p.m.

Location: Tennessee Ballroom, James Union Building

Admission: \$5

Frugal Friday with VaKaTeD

Nov. 6, 8 p.m.

Location: The Boro Bar and Grill

Admission: free

Yard sale for Community Assistance for International and Refugee Students

Nov. 7, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Location: Blackman Community Center

MTSU Ideas and Issues Presents: Bakari Kiwana

Nov. 12, 5 p.m.

Location: Business and Aerospace Building in the State Farm Room.

Admission: free

Events Policy

Sidelines welcomes current campus and community events submitted by all readers. Please e-mail events to slstate@mtsu.edu or snews@mtsu.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 Wednesday during June and July. The events listed are not necessarily associated with Sidelines or MTSU.



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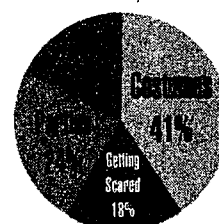
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FEATURES



WHAT'S THE BEST PART OF HALLOWEEN?

BASED ON VOTES FROM
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'Hype' shows best student designers

Showcase by department of art exhibits talent, gives awards for graphic designs

By SARAH CONATSER
Contributing Writer

MTSU's department of art is showcasing the variety of creative ideas and different pieces of graphic design students in a show entitled "Hype."

This was the first exhibition of juried work of MTSU's graphic design students this year. The show was judged by Red Pepper Design Studio, which is an Atlanta/Nashville based advertising and strategic marketing agency that specializes in creative ideas and marketing strategies to develop solutions to business problems.

The judges from Red Pepper said they thrive on the motto, "In an industry where imagination is the ultimate resource, Red Pepper works hard to create an environment where creativity thrives and produces results."

The event was designed to display the talents of the art students as well as illustrate the importance of graphic design to the community and to other students. There were various categories of design in the show, but all entries were limited to specifically graphic design concepts.

The categories for the designs were publication, interactive/motion, packaging, posters, photography, illustration and miscellaneous.

The show was organized by the American Institute of Graphic Arts Student Group at MTSU (AIGA) and was open for all art majors, but only a limited number of entries were accepted.

Out of the numerous entries there were five awards dispersed among three students. The awards given were "Best use of Typography," "Best in Concept," "Best in Interactive," "Best in Print Design" and "Best of Show."

The winners were Danny McClain for "Best in Interactive" and "Best in Concept," Josh Shearon for "Best Use of Typography" and "Best of Show,"

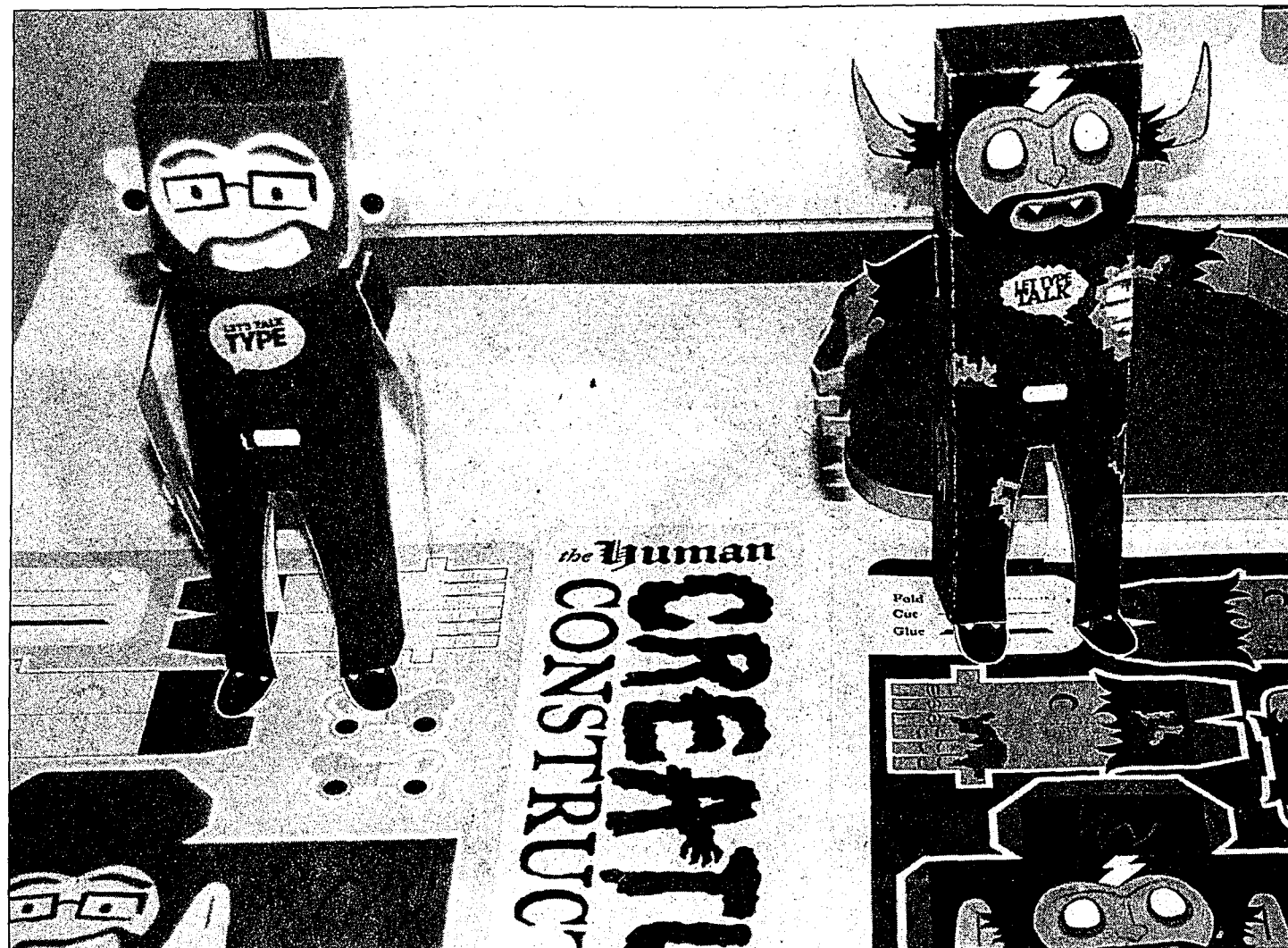


Photo by Sarah Conatser, staff writer

Danny McClain, who won "Best in Interactive" and "Best in Concept," designed these two paper dolls, which can be cut out and put together.

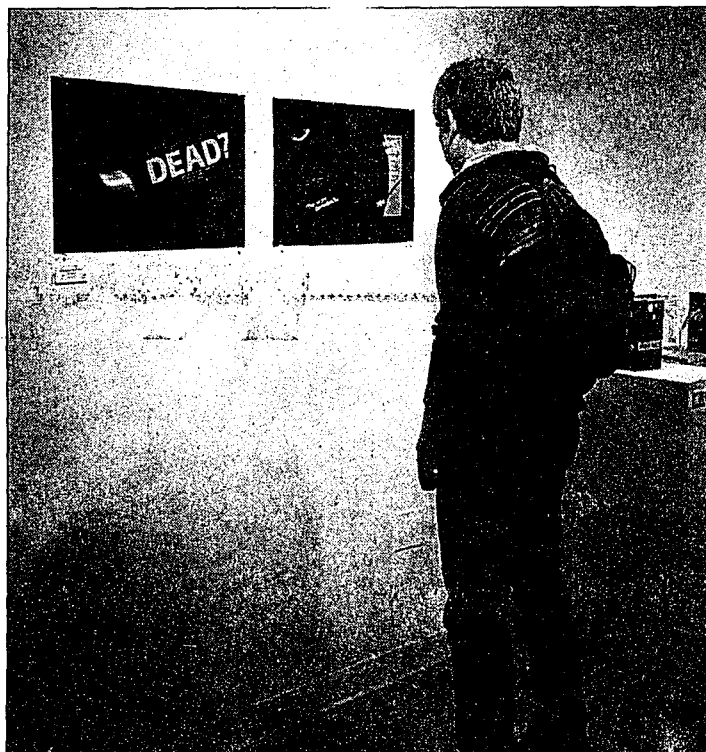


Photo by Sarah Finchum, staff photographer

Andrew Locke, a senior liberal arts major, examines posters designed by graphic arts students as part of the exhibit in the Todd Gallery.

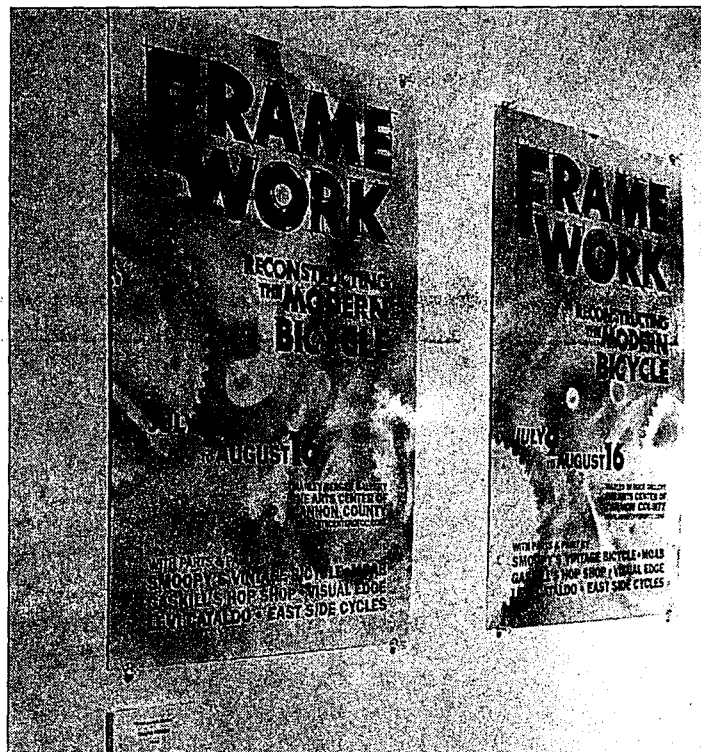


Photo by Sarah Finchum, staff photographer

Among the exhibits were posters designed by graphic art students for events ranging from concerts to club meetings to art shows.

and Kara Leiby for "Best in Print Design."

Shearon is a senior graphic design major who had several entries in the show. Shearon's projects were a combination of interac-

Be sure to watch out for the upcoming art exhibits in the Todd Art Gallery at their Web site frank.mtsu.edu/~art/

tive computer graphics and printed works. Shearon

created "Truck Stop Trophy" which was also in the

category of Interactive/Motion. He used his design skills to create computer graphics portraying an interactive "truck stop" love.

Leiby is also a senior art major and won "Best in

Print Design," with a poster advertisement. Leiby used brilliant colors and showed off her print and typography abilities with the design.

McClain is a senior working on his degree in graphic design, and is also the president of MTSU's chapter of AIGA.

His projects were computer graphic interactive pieces that were edgy and horror based. The pieces he created showed brilliant expertise and were cleverly executed. McClain designed paper doll -type cutouts of his villain for one of his projects that, when folded, create a doll-sized monster.

"My project that won 'Best in Concept' was inspired by my love for horror movies and old horror movie posters," McClain says. "I was motivated by a desire to create a rich, interactive experience in both print and web design. I loved the show. It was one of the best that I've seen."

Sophomore graphic design major Lance Garrison stopped by the show to check it out.

"I loved the show and thought there were many brilliant entries," Garrison says. "I actually hope to be in one of the shows next year."

Students and teachers from all over campus stopped by the gallery to check out the show this week.

Several students commented on the talent showcased at the art show, including Ashley Krulikowski, an alumna graphic design major who stopped by the gallery to examine the show.

"I loved the use of colors in Kara's advertisement," Krulikowski says. "It was very appealing and definitely eye-catching. I can see why they picked her poster as a winner."

Overall the show was a major hit, and all the entries were praised. The exhibit will be on display through Nov. 7.

Chinese Film Festival brings cultural awareness

By BRITTANY KLATT
Staff Writer

Bags of popcorn are passed around as the lights dim. Shock turns into laughter when a group of men suddenly burst into song and dance. An angry woman yells and points at the airplane that crashed into her roof while subtitles scroll across the screen translating her words.

Wait... subtitles?

In an effort to expand the student body's knowledge of Chinese movies, the College of Mass Communication is hosting a Chinese film festival.

"This is part of the college's effort to be more global," says EMC Professor Robert Spires. "In this case, to show you Chinese movies are more than kung fu and Jackie Chan."

For four nights, students will screen a film and then participate in a discussion led by Xu Xun, a master's of mass communication candidate.

While several students came because of extra credit being offered by some professors, others

felt that it is important to see films from other countries.

"I believe mass communication isn't just about us," says David Kamp, a freshman majoring in mass communication. "So what better way to learn about another culture than by either going there or watching a movie about it?"

To start off the festival, students were treated to the 2009 film "Gao Xing."

“What better way to learn about another culture than by either going there or watching a movie about it?”

DAVID KAMP
FRESHMAN MASS COMMUNICATION MAJOR

"Gao Xing," which according to Xu means "being happy," follows a farmer and his friend as they leave the countryside in hopes of earning a better living in a more urban area. When they arrive in the city of Xi'an, the two work as trash men who sell collected materials to factories that will recycle them.

While running his route, the title character Gao Xing becomes infatuated with a local masseuse girl who owns the same pair of shoes he carries in his suitcase for his future bride. As he continues to court the girl, many crazy tests and trials arise that could ruin his dreams of getting the girl and building his own airplane.

Yes, one of the dreams of the main character is to build his own plane out of some of the materials he collects.

This goal leads to some very interesting and hilarious moments in the film, including a scene where the entire city sings a song to the tune "Ode to Joy."

The film had something for everyone. Hopeless romantics cannot help but be drawn in by the adorable sight of a grown man blushing at a simple kiss on the cheek. Fans of comedy will have a hard time not laughing at the sight of the friend Wu Fu being chased by a woman in curlers and a robe.

be drawn in by the adorable sight of a grown man blushing at a simple kiss on the cheek. Fans of comedy will have a hard time not laughing at the sight of the friend Wu Fu being chased by a woman in curlers and a robe.



Photo courtesy of Filmko Pictures

A film poster for "Gao Xing" shows the many characters, whose separate quests for happiness comprise an inter-connected storyline.

Butterfly Boucher perseveres despite trials

Australian native becomes indie pop hit in America after struggle

By JESSICA PACE
Staff Writer

Butterfly Boucher is a force to be reckoned with, whether she is playing bass alongside David Meade in the quirky rock group Elle Macho, performing sets with Ten Out of Tenn or standing alone singing her own dreamy-strange pop.

With sharp angles on her face and closely cropped black hair, she looks tough but inviting onstage. The same words could describe her sophomore album, "Scary Fragile," which took five years to claw its way into existence. The future of the album was perpetually uncertain in its making, so while Butterfly may joke onstage, the path she took to get there was anything but.

Born in Adelaide, Australia to parents of an artistic strain, Butterfly is the fourth of seven sisters. The family moved around the Outback every few months in nomadic fashion.

Butterfly's father was very inclined to music, and with an upbringing so saturated in the romantic musical lifestyle, Butterfly honed her skills and learned to play keyboard, guitar and bass. The last time she played was in her older sister Rebecca's band, The Mercy Bell, when Butterfly was just a teenager.

After being so well-received down under, The Mercy Bell came stateside, but America chewed the band up and spit it out. The album the band was in the process of making was never released.

Butterfly, however, continued recording songs of her own until she had enough for a solo album, which would eventually bait A&M Records. She made a deal with the label in 2003 and released her debut, titled "Flutterby."

It is a pop album, but therein lie surprises: acoustic gems ("Drift On"), the dreary beauty in her slower numbers ("Don't Point, Don't Scare It") and sophisticated, warm vocals accentuated by her crystal-clear Australian accent.

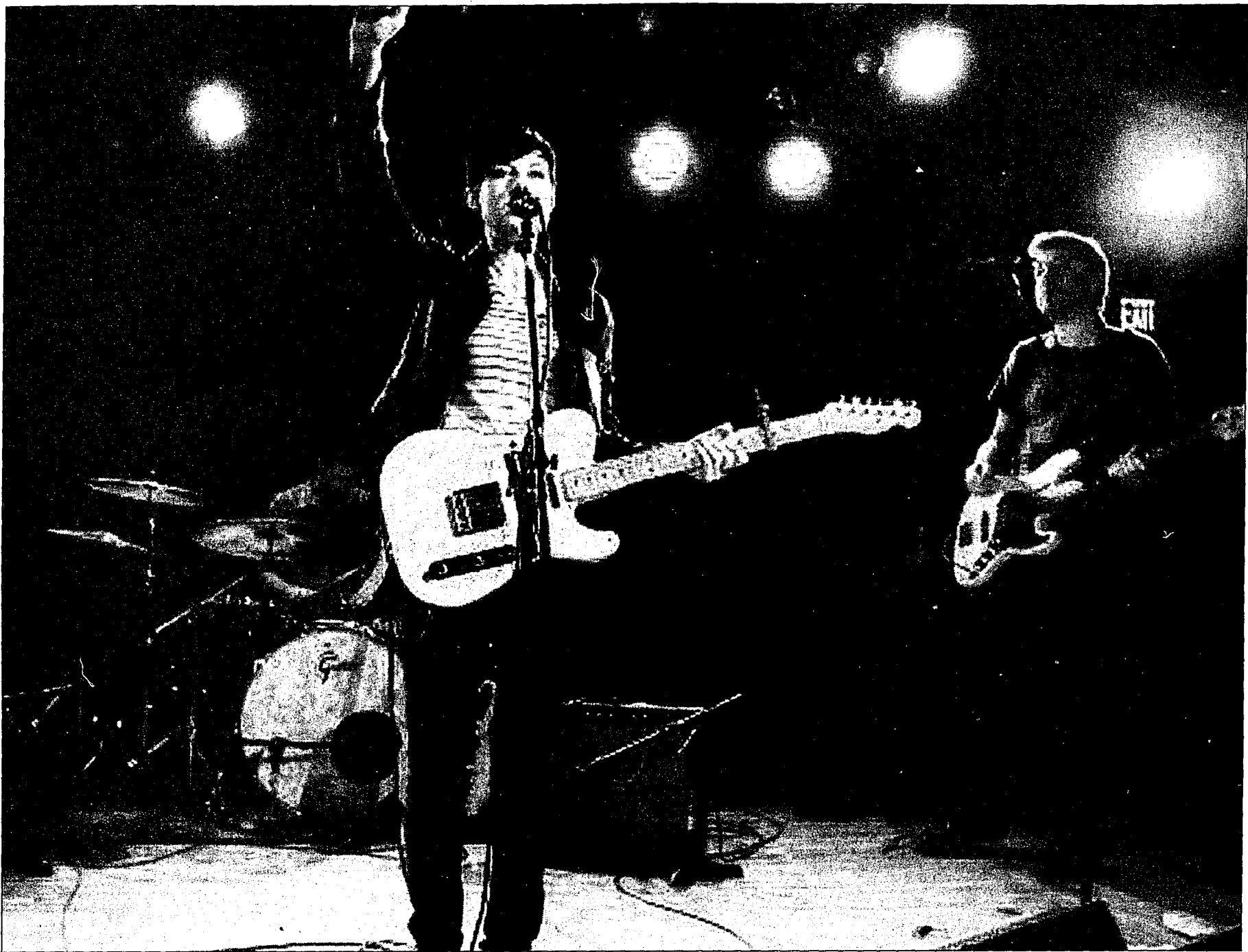


Photo courtesy of Butterfly Boucher
Though she started out playing in her sister's band, Butterfly Boucher has branched out as a solo artist, performing with her own back-up band and accompanying other bands.

"Flutterby" is a playful album, but with an element of mystery splashed across the cover, which features Butterfly with an intense

small successes along the way as she set to work on a second album.

She sang with David Bowie on the "Shrek 2" soundtrack, joined Sarah McLachlan on tour and had several songs featured on the hit show "Grey's Anatomy." But A&M was doing little to stand behind "Flutterby," and before Butterfly's second album could be released, she was dropped.

On June 2 this year, her 30th birthday in fact, Butterfly finally released her long-awaited follow-up "Scary Fragile." Though the title sounds appropriate, it is not meant to reflect the struggles Butterfly has had in the past few years or its

effect on her.

The album does, however, show all the faces of Butterfly, from her upbeat pop sensibility to the stranger side. There is a lot more intensity in "Scary Fragile," and an element of foreboding, like in the opening chords of "Keeper." In "For the Love of Love," she cries, "Why is it so hard to say," amidst a dance beat of haunting harmonics and tribal drumming.

Butterfly dresses up the serious with the whimsical in her music, and it is the little things that make her happy—even just the encouraging comments she receives through MySpace from fans—despite the long road it took to release "Scary Fragile." Her music invites her listeners into who Butterfly is, and yes, that is her real name.

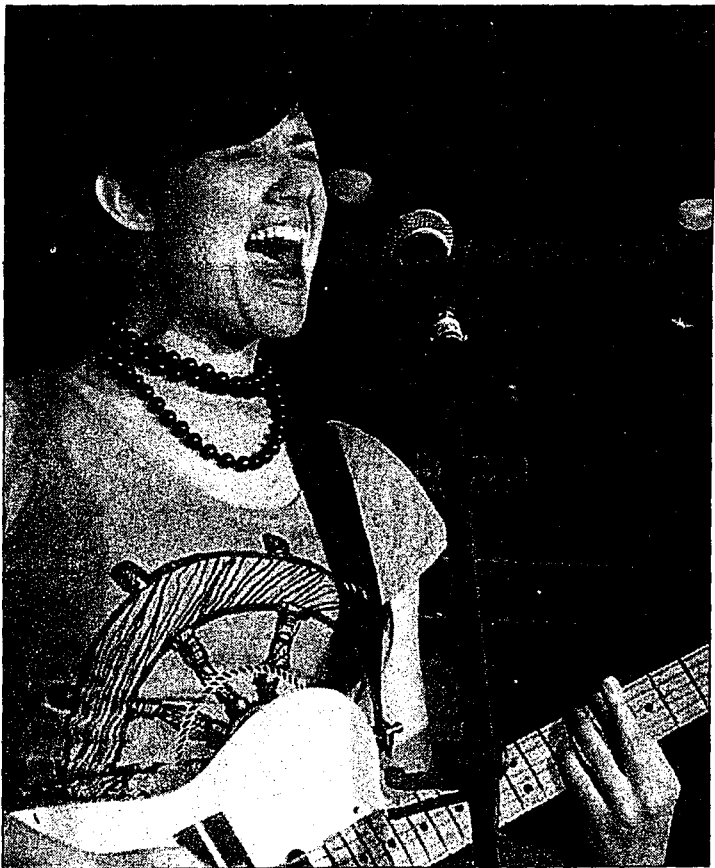


Photo courtesy of Butterfly Boucher
Boucher's brand of indie pop is considered to be as whimsical, like her name, and a true reflection of who she is as a person.



expression, though dressed in a comical preppy outfit. "Flutterby" was no pop trash, but that did not stop A&M from washing its hands clean of the artist.

The nightmarish power struggle for creative control between a record label and new artist is old news, but in Butterfly's case, it made no sense. She had multiple

CHINESE FROM PAGE 3

And for all those musical fans, there is an alleyway showdown worthy of "West Side Story."

Even though the film was made in China, it presented concepts that are known all over the world. The film highlights the value of hard work and determination as well as the importance of friendship.

Not only did students have the chance to watch a great movie for free, but the discussion after the film taught them something new about Chinese culture. Although the film was fiction, there were some realistic elements to it, including Gao Xing's choice of profession.

"The director is trying to portray the lowest level of society, and show that even these people can find happiness," Xu says. "But this is real-life."

Students were also introduced to some of the differences between American filmmaking techniques and Chinese filmmaking techniques.

According to Spires, American filmmakers will inform the public when a camera crew is going to be filming scenes on a particular street. In China, that is not always the case.

"Many [Chinese] movies are shot without the people knowing," Spires says. "It is the normal street life swirling around these people."

The film festival will be held every Sunday in November. Movies start at 6 p.m. in the John Bragg Mass Communication building Room 103 and a discussion will be held immediately after.

Upcoming movies include "You Shoot, I Shoot," "If You Are The One" and "The Sun Also Rises."

Fans of foreign films should definitely swing by and see what China has to offer.

The films viewed during the festival will not be films that are typically thought of as Chinese. After watching the films scheduled to be shown, most will probably be shocked that they ever thought "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" was the best movie to ever come from China.



Nov. 1: Gao Xing

Gao Xing is about migrant workers trying to find fortune and happiness in the big city. The former farmers are determined to banish any potential sadness. The production is based on a recent work of Jia Pingwa, one of China's most accomplished contemporary novelists. Wearing the director's hat is Ah Gan, a promising filmmaker known for his mind-boggling diversity.

Nov. 8: If You Are The One

After striking it rich with an idiotic invention, Qin Fen turns his ingenuity to online dating. Following a string of wild blind dates, he meets Smiley a gorgeous flight attendant who's way out of his league. But another chance encounter leads the duo on a surprise trip to beautiful Hokkaido, Japan, where an unlikely bond begins to blossom in this wildly popular romantic comedy

Nov. 15: You Shoot, I Shoot

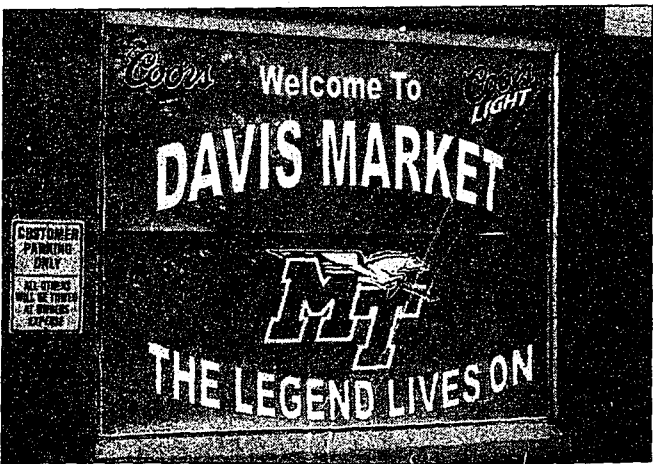
A hired killer pairs up with an amateur filmmaker to provide clients with satisfying footage of enemies getting whacked in this black comedy. Business is down, so hit man Bart is thrilled when Mrs. Ma hires him to kill her enemies -- and film the murders. But Bart's first video killing stinks, so he hires filmmaker Chuen.

Nov. 22: The Sun Also Rises

Five years in the making, distinguished actor/director Jiang Wen's latest film is gorgeously shot against breathtaking backdrops. The film juggles several timelines to explore the forces that make people cross paths and shape each other's lives.

Screenings begin at 6 p.m. with discussion following.
Discussion led by Mass Comm graduate student Xu Xun.
All screenings are in Mass Comm 103.

Local Myths confronted



MTSU Sidelines staff writer, Michael Stone tackles local myths floating around campus.

Stone focuses on rumors surrounding Kirksey Old Main and University Center Market (Davis Market).

It is rumored that the KOM is sinking and haunted, while patrons of Davis Market will never leave Murfreesboro.



Listen to this story online at
MTSUSidelines.com/podcasts



Photos by Jay Bailey, photography editor

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

Flu prevention, vaccine important

Lately, the flu epidemic has been at the forefront of many media outlets. Being that we are right here inside flu season, it is not completely shocking that it would be a popular topic of conversation. It is even less surprising with all the media coverage that is devoted solely to the H1N1 virus, its dangers and its controversial vaccine. Media hype has undoubtedly contributed to the swine flu hysteria, and has almost pushed seasonal flu to the back of the mind. This is extremely dangerous thinking, considering the seasonal flu kills 36,000 people per year.

Enter: flu shot concerns.

First and foremost, people are concerned about getting vaccinated against H1N1. This vaccination seems slightly too good to be true, being that the outbreak over the summer was the first one. The H1N1 swine flu virus is actually a brand new virus, making the vaccine for it a brand new vaccine. This seems like a slight cause for concern, being that there is no way for anyone to know if there will be adverse side effects of this vaccine.

The possibility of something going horribly wrong after having been vaccinated for any kind of flu is small. It is literally one in a million. The thing that often gets overlooked is that if you are that one in a million, that risk does not seem so small anymore.



My point, and I do have one
Mallory Boyd

Case in point, Desiree Jennings. She was a Washington Redskins cheerleader, which is probably why her case is getting so much attention. She had her flu shot, as many people do, thinking she was doing something good for her health and herself. Ten days after her shot, she came down with the flu. She was hospitalized for her flu, and then twice more for seizures.

It turned out that she had a rare neurological disorder called dystonia, which her doctors believe she developed from the flu shot. She can no longer walk or talk normally. She suffers seizures several times a day.

The strangest thing is that she can walk backward perfectly. She can run forward perfectly, and when she is running forward, she can speak normally. She is that one in a million.

The whole business of the flu shot

contains that risk. What most doctors say is that the benefits of flu vaccines outweigh the risks. For Jennings, that is certainly not true. Apparently, the most common (rare) side-effect of getting the flu vaccine is another neurological problem called Guillain-Barre syndrome, which causes weakness in the legs and can lead to paralysis. There is no known cure for either Guillain-Barre or dystonia.

The sad thing is that Jennings would have been more likely to recover from the flu, but because of trying to prevent it, she will never be the same.

In no way am I saying that vaccines do not serve a purpose. What I am saying is that this society is far too quick to medicate to ensure good health, and not willing enough to do the things in our lives that would really keep us from getting sick so much, such as eating mindfully, exercising regularly and getting outside once in a while, not to mention that age-old remedy, rest. Granted, seasonal flu and swine flu are viruses. They do kill people, but people need to realize that there is no such thing as a healthful quick fix.

I have never had a flu shot. It makes me extremely nervous to put the virus into my body on purpose, when there is no guarantee that this year's strain will not be completely different than last year's, making that vac-

cine perfectly useless.

For me, the benefits do not outweigh the risks. I do not think that it has to be that way for everyone, but I do think that people should educate themselves before placing all of their faith into unproven methods.

The H1N1 virus is bad news. Should people get the vaccination? I think that should be left up to them to decide. No one should be forced to get a vaccination.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a list of steps to protect your health. It is all common sense. Wash your hands, do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth, avoid contact with sick people and if you are sick, stay home. That last one is important, as so many people do not.

We cannot rely on a vaccination to protect us from illness. We have to do everything in our power to prevent it ourselves.

This society moves quickly, is generally exhausted and highly caffeinated. If we were to slow down and take care of ourselves, the vaccination may be a non-issue. If we take care of them, our bodies will fight. Leave the vaccinations for those who really need them, if they decide it is worth the risk.

Mallory Boyd is a sophomore history major and can be reached at mmb2v@mtsu.edu.

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Honesty good, honesty policy inappropriate

A professor's use of the Ten Commandments for an academic honesty policy has sparked indignation within the student body.

In general, there's nothing wrong with the Ten Commandments, but their use as an academic honesty policy is weak at best.

A copy of the policy is available on the *Sidelines* Web site, mtsusidelines.com.

Apparently, the policy was in response to an exam on which several students cheated. The policy includes the following:

"If I have cheated last week, then, I (your name) have violated God's Ten Commandments, will be sorry for the rest of my life, and go to hell."

Thus, a new spin on the perennial question of academic integrity. The only commandment relevant to academic integrity is probably number eight, "Thou shalt not steal [thy neighbor's correct answers]." Another candidate could be number 10, "Thou shalt not covet [thy neighbor's correct answers]."

Either way, at least eight of those rules are irrelevant to academic integrity, because we assume that students won't kill each other.

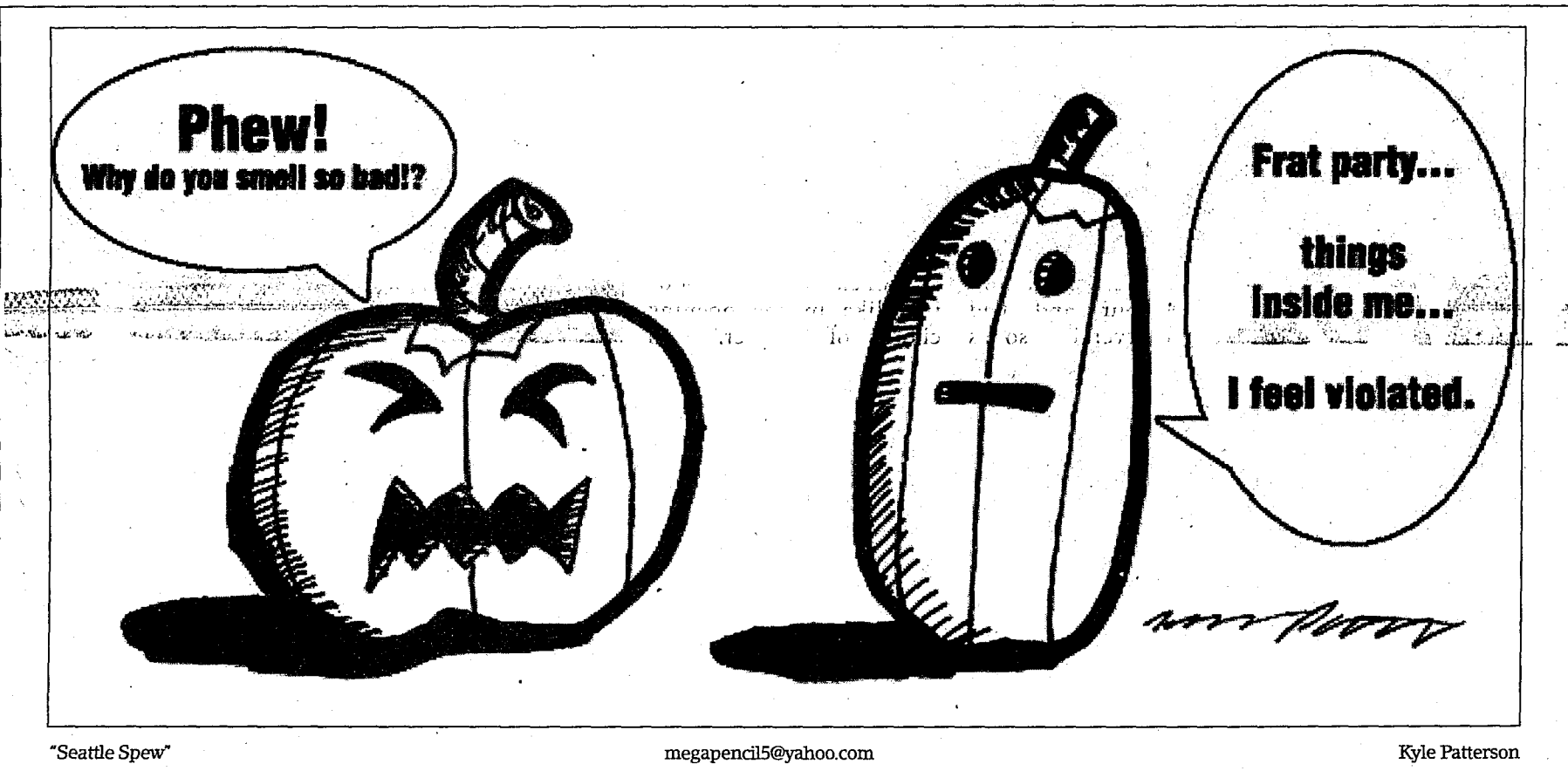
The university's academic integrity policy is perfectly acceptable in this case. If you cheat, you fail, and possibly get thrown out of school. Hellfire and damnation happen sometime after that, if that's what you believe.

Obviously, cheating is wrong, but so is welding a specific religion to everyone's class performance.

The professor said he did this to help make a better society. Good idea, bad execution. It's OK, though. We hear forgiveness is a virtue.



Listen to the editorial board podcast online at mtsusidelines.com/opinions



"Seattle Spew"

megapencil5@yahoo.com

Kyle Patterson

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Greek Affairs promotes hazing prevention

To the Editor:

In the Sept. 23 and Oct. 28 issues of *Sidelines*, it was reported that the Office of Greek Affairs did not offer hazing prevention programming during National Hazing Prevention Week.

It is important to note that National Hazing Prevention Week was, for the most part, created by a speaker's bureau approximately four years ago. Some university Greek communities take advantage of offering relative programs during that week, while others may elect to offer programs during different times of the year.

Although the Office of Greek Affairs did not hold hazing prevention programming during this specific

week, there are many programs held throughout the academic school year.

During the fall of 2008, Danny Kelley (Associated Dean of Student Life) facilitated an anti-hazing Greek Speak Out, and a member of the MTSU Police Department facilitated a risk management workshop during spring 2009. In addition, the Office of Greek Affairs held an anti-hazing workshop on October 7th, and will hold additional workshops on November 18, February 24, and April 14. In addition, new members are provided the university's Hazing Policy and must sign an agreement that reflects their understanding and agreement with the policy.

Both National Panhellenic Conference and North American Interfraternity Conference sororities and fraternities require their respective chapters to host at least

one risk management seminar for their members, which includes anti-hazing, and some of the national organizations require their chapters to host additional workshops.

Risk management education is a yearlong educational opportunity. The Office of Greek Affairs is committed to providing its fraternity and sorority members with quality educational program in support of their Greek experience.

Angela N. King
Director of Greek Affairs

Death penalty wastes precious state money

To the Editor:

At the same time that MTSU and the rest of public higher education is preparing to fall off a cliff

in terms of our state appropriation in July 2011, the state is still content to spend millions of dollars on the death penalty—a system that doesn't help anyone.

That's the finding reported by the Death Penalty Information Center, which concludes that states are wasting hundreds of millions of dollars on the death penalty that could be spent in other, much more productive ways.

A nationwide poll of police chiefs released with the report found that chiefs ranked the death penalty last among their priorities for crime fighting and don't believe it is a deterrent to murder.

During the period of 1982-2005, New Jersey spent \$253 million on its death penalty system—for only 10 death row inmates and zero executions—before it abolished the system in 2007. In the past 20 years,

Maryland spent \$186 million dollars more to prosecute capital murder cases than if the state had not sought a death sentence.

With 89 on Tennessee's death row, five executions, and two exonerations, how much is Tennessee spending?

In 2007, the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury testified to the legislatively created Committee to Study the Administration of the Death Penalty in Tennessee that the state has no centralized way to track such costs.

In other words, we don't even know what we are spending. With alternatives like life in prison without parole, why are we spending precious state dollars to educate offenders rather than to educate students?

Amy Sayward
Department of history, Chair



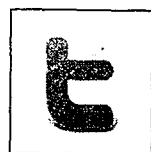
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Correction:

In the past issue (Nov. 2), a photo on the front page was incorrectly labeled as the cast of "Ragtime." The photo was actually of the cast of "Hamlet." *Sidelines* regrets the error.

Online Content:

Milk hormone use raises questions, concerns - by Jessica Harris in OPINIONS

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SPORTS

Lady Raiders exhibit winning strategy

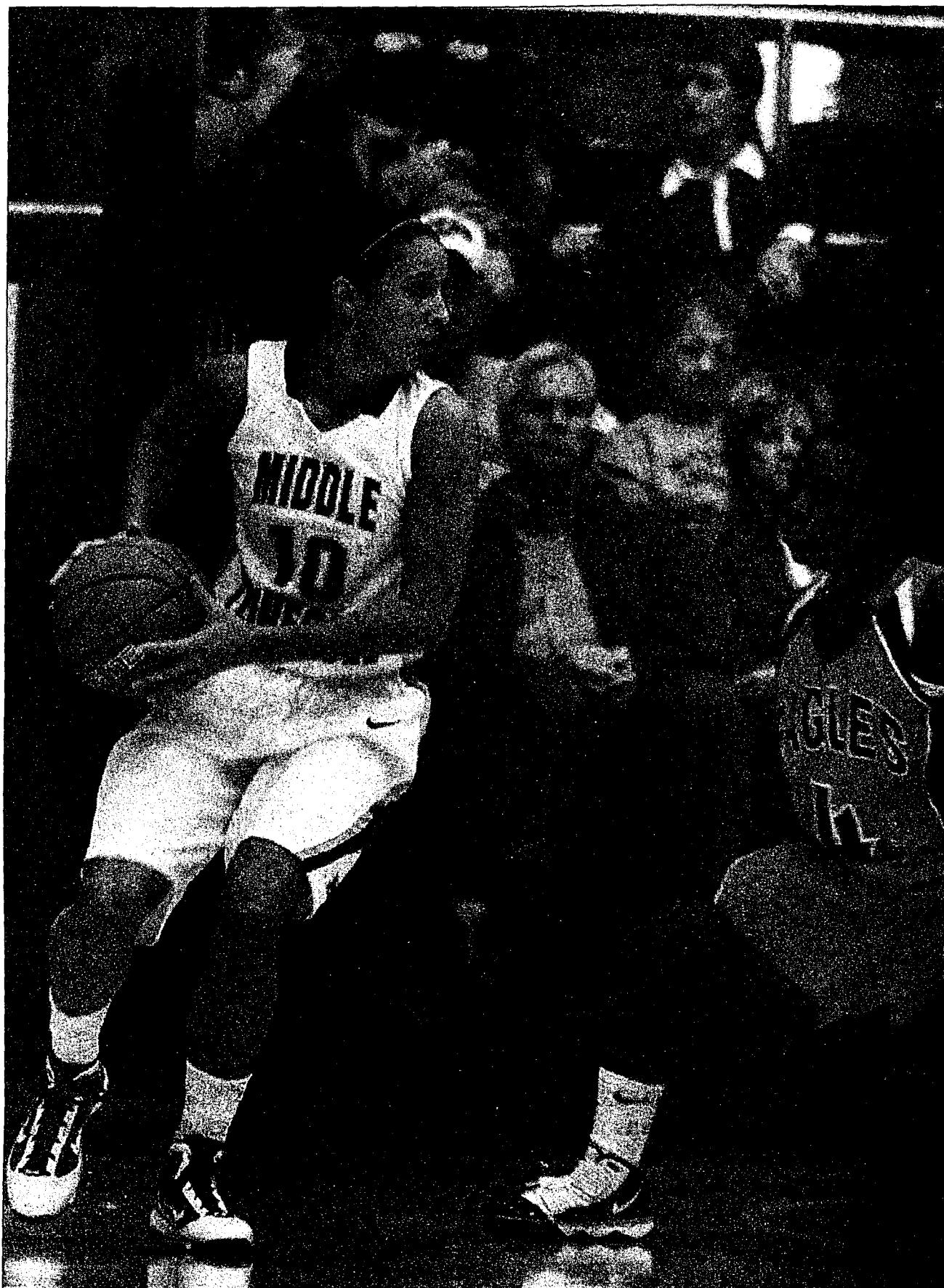


Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer

Senior guard Jackie Pickel looks for the pass against Carson Newman defender Candis Clear on Monday in the Murphy Center.

By CHRIS WELCH
Sports Editor

MT women's basketball managed to get almost every athlete off the bench and into the game for their first exhibition game-and first game of the 2009-10 season-against Carson Newman.

The nationally recognized Lady Raider squad hosted a "sloppy" game in the Murphy Center last Monday, but still managed to come out on the good side of a 96-68 score to open up exhibition play.

All starters from the 2008-09 season returned strong in the exhibition game, including seniors forward Brandi Brown, guards Jackie Pickel and Chelsia Lymon and forward Alysha Clark. Juniors, like forward Emily Queen and guard Anne Marie Lanning are also back in action this season.

Five newcomers support the team this year, three of which saw action in the first 20 minutes. Freshman guards Kortni Jones and Icelyn Elie and forward Dymon Raynor gave their hands to the team in the first period, and Jones even lent an assist to a Clark layup at 6:49.

With Lymon out of the game due to fouls in the first, it was up to the newcomers to step in and make up for the former Top-20 stealer in the nation.

"I thought both [sophomore guard Tina Stewart and Jones] did real well," said head coach Rick Insell. "Tina got up defensively and really caused some problems and that is what she has to do."

"Kortni Jones is like Chelsia was when she came in: not as quick and strong as Chelsia but sees the floor well and gets the ball to the shooters; and that is why we recruited her."

The senior guard recognized her problems and worked to remedy them in the second half.

"I was too jumpy on defense and ran over a few people, but that is what happens when you have not played anyone for so long; you just get anxious," Lymon said. "I told

the referee in the second half that I was not going to touch anybody anymore and play defense with my hands behind my back."

The Lady Raider defense started off the season strong, maintaining their abilities from last season by holding the Lady Eagles scoreless until 17:41 and forcing four turnovers in the first three minutes.

After Lymon was taken out of the game, Carson Newman took the opportunity to cut down on MT's lead and trimmed the deficit down to 16 after an Ashley Kyle jumper at 1:09 capped the four-goal streak the Lady Eagles started late in the first.

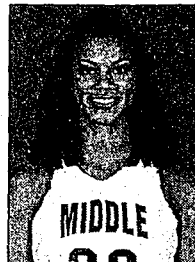
After the break, MT increased its lead to 26 in the first five minutes. The lead didn't drop below 26 for the rest of the game, and culminated in a 96-68 victory for MT.

Insell had mixed emotions about the exhibition.

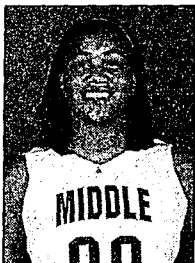
"We were sloppy," Insell said. "We did not execute our offense [well]."

"We got out of position a lot defensively; we have to do a lot better than that. They knocked down some early threes and we fouled too much. I want to be aggressive but I want to have some controlled aggression. Tonight, even though we fouled too much, I was not disappointed with our aggression."

MT will continue its exhibition slate with a 5:30 p.m. home game against Lincoln Memorial next Monday, Nov. 9. Regular season action will begin on Sunday, Nov. 15, when the Lady Raiders open up the Murphy Center to host Central Florida. Tipoff is set for 2 p.m.



Clark



Lymon

MT bowling for eligibility against Panthers

By STEPHEN CURLEY
Staff Writer

The Blue Raiders begin their push for possible bowl eligibility with a three-game home stand starting Saturday. The postseason wishes of the MT squad hang on the game day ability of the Golden Panthers of Florida International University.

Coming off a close win last week at Florida Atlantic University, MT will look to quarterback Dwight Dasher, who struggled last week despite scoring the game-winning touchdown with a dramatic 77-yard run. The running game as a whole stepped up big in the win, something the Blue Raiders haven't seen since running back Phillip Tanner went down with a knee injury.

Sophomore running back D.D. Kyles will have the opportunity to build on the career day he had last week when he rushed for 140 yards. He'll try to do this against a Golden Panther defense giving up an average of 225 yards per game and over five yards per carry.

"D.D. did a great job hitting the holes this past week and he has really stepped up as a player," said junior offensive lineman Mark Fisher.

For Dasher, going up against FIU could be just what he needs to bounce back after only throwing for

90 yards against the Owls, as the Golden Panthers have given up an average of 251 yards through the air per game. Combine poor pass coverage with the poor run defense, and it sets Dasher up to do well in all aspects of his game.

"I always thought Dwight could make all the throws and he has proved that this season," said head coach Rick Stockstill.

"There is no doubt in my mind that he can do everything we want him to do."

The confidence in Dasher's bounce-back ability is warranted, considering the monster game he had against Western Kentucky after performing poorly the week before.

Defensively, MT's biggest task this week will be containing FIU quarterback Paul McCall, who has thrown for 1,884 yards and 12 touchdowns to seven interceptions so far in 2009. But a shaky, less than protective offensive line has caused McCall to be sacked 22 times already this season.

"The hits he has taken this year and gotten up from shows he is an extremely tough young man," Stockstill said. "I don't know him, but I bet he is a great leader and a guy who practices hard and studies the game tremendously."



SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Sophomore wide receiver Malcolm Beyah could possibly return from his injury this weekend, in time for the home match against Florida International. If not, his return is expected no later than the Nov. 14 Louisiana-Lafayette game.



Senior cornerback Alex Suber is handling the concussion he sustained on a "day-to-day" basis. He is not expected to play against FIU on Nov. 7.

“The bottom line is that we have to get to 6-3. That's all we're focused on, and we're not worried about what happens in December.”

RICK STOCKSTILL
HEAD COACH, MIDDLE TENNESSEE FOOTBALL

The problems with the o-line should favor blitz packages with senior linebackers Cam Robinson and Danny Carmichael, who led the team with three and 3.5 sacks, respectively.

"With Danny and Cam playing behind us they make

up for a lot of mistakes the defensive line makes," said senior defensive tackle Brandon Perry.

The Blue Raiders are keeping silent about the elephant in the room the last few weeks of the season. The last time MT was bowl eligible

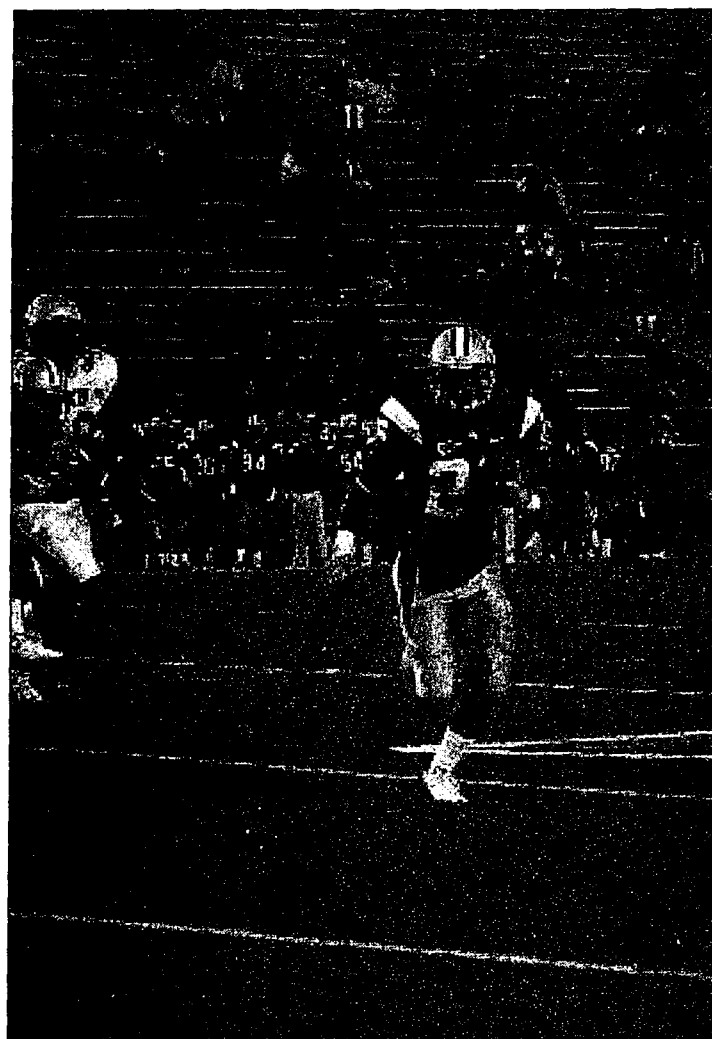


Photo by Brennan Sparta, staff photographer

Freshman RB Benjamin Cunningham looks for the gap in the WKU defense for the capping score at the MT Homecoming game, Oct. 24.

was 2006, and rumors of at-large bids are already swirling despite still being one or two wins away from securing anything.

"There's not one ounce of talk about it," Stockstill said. "The bowl deal is out there and we know it's out there."

"The bottom line is that we have to get to 6-3. That's all we're focused on and not worried about two weeks from now, three weeks from now, or what happens in December."

Kickoff for the FIU game is scheduled for 3:15 p.m. at Floyd Stadium Saturday.