

## University aiding in students' return from Japan

By TODD BARNES  
News Editor

Re-establishing power to two of Japan's Fukushima nuclear reactor units Sunday was a step in the right direction, but student safety is still jeopardized, said the dean in the College

of Graduate Studies. "I've spent a lot of my life studying nuclear reactor accidents, and this is a particularly bad one," said Dean Michael Allen, a licensed nuclear engineer. "It's not over yet - it's just beginning." Provost Brad Bartel and

the Office of International Affairs urged the university's eight study-abroad students in Japan to leave for their safety, and Allen said he helped to make that decision. Allen, who studied nuclear reactor accidents for 12 years, urged the

university's study-abroad students, who were on spring break in Japan, to leave immediately. "We just want to get them out, and if they restore power to the plant in a few days," Allen said, "we will send them back, and the university will pay for it.

It's just best to spend a little money and get our students back home for a week" Nine students were in Japan, and one returned to Nashville on Wednesday. The students have been attending Toyo University in Tokyo, Kansai Gaidai University in Hirakata, and

Nagoya Gakuin University, Saitama University and Seinan Gakuin University in Fukuoka. Allen said although the students were in the southern region of the country, with one student

JAPAN, PAGE 3

## Percentage of women in workforce increases since 1970s

By KELSEY WELLS  
Staff Writer

The number of women in the workforce who have earned a college degree has at least tripled since 1970, according to a recent Bureau of Labor Statistics report, but locals have not seen significant changes yet.



Marcellus

Over the past several decades, the women's labor force in the United States and throughout the world has experienced many changes, according to the "Women at Work" report. The report was released earlier this month.

In 1970, 22.1 percent of workingwomen had a college degree, according to the report. In 2010, the percentage increased to 66.7 percent.

Jane Marcellus, an associate professor in the College of Mass Communication, said while women may have more jobs and colleges degrees, they might not have better or higher paying jobs.

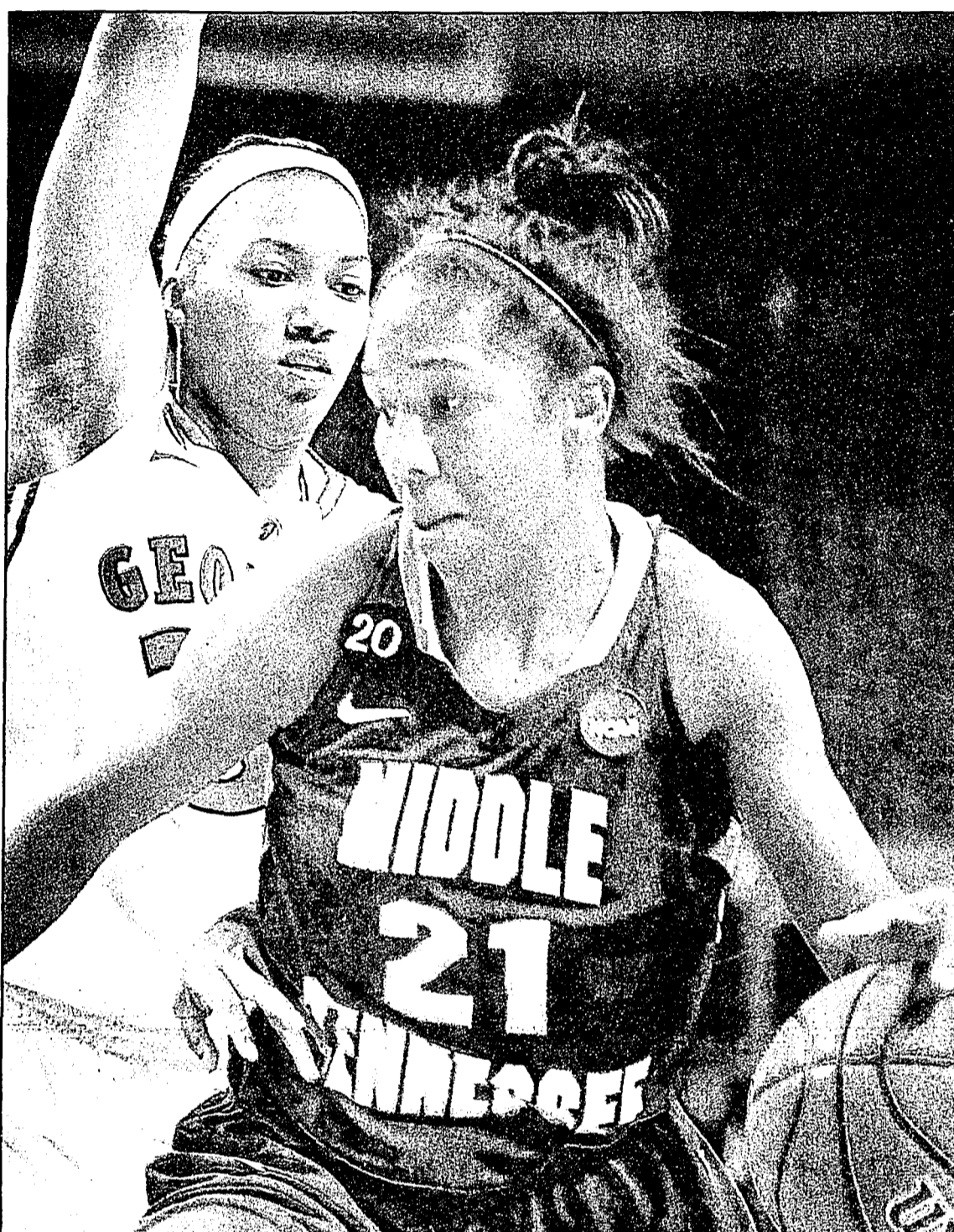
"Women still don't get equal pay," Marcellus said. "Women have been fighting since the 1910-20s for equal pay."

Graphs in the report show that not only are more women entering the work force as a whole, but more women are also working in previously male-dominated fields, notably those in math and science.

This statistic is backed by the gender demographic of recent college graduates. According to the report, 23.4 percent of women and 14.3 percent of men held bachelor's degrees by age 23.

Michelle Bradley, a consulting actuary at Sigma Actuarial Consulting Group in Brentwood, said she has not noticed significant

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## Too little, too late Lady Raiders lose to Georgia Bulldogs

By WILL TRUSLER  
Sports Editor

The MT Lady Raider's season came to an end Sunday by the hands of a much bigger and faster Georgia Lady Bulldog team out of the SEC.

Georgia's defense stifled MT's offensive attack from

every angle, limiting the Lady Raiders to a season-low 41 points. MT connected on only 29 percent of its shots and 15 percent of its 3-pointers.

Senior guard Anne Marie Lanning led MT in her final

BASKETBALL, PAGE 6



Photos by Bradley Lambert, MTSU Athletic Communications (Main) Forward Ebony Rowe battles Georgia's defense during the first round of the NCAA Tournament on March 17 in Auburn, Ala. (Right) Guard Kortni Jones looks for an opening against the Lady Bulldogs during the first half of the game.

## Batts names SGA senator as candidate for spot on TBR board

By TODD BARNES  
News Editor

The Student Government Association president congratulated the university's next Tennessee Board of Regents candidate Thursday during the organization's last weekly informal caucus.

SGA President Brandon Batts and Casey McCullum, TBR 2010-2011 student board member, chose a candidate



Batts

last week that will compete with more than 40 students to be the next TBR member for the 2011-2012 academic year.

"I want to congratulate [the university's TBR candidate]," Batts said. "Casey McCullum and I actually had interviews, and we selected the person whom is going to represent MTSU and that person is [At-Large Sen.] Gavin Mosley."

Each academic year the governor appoints a college student attending a TBR school to become a board member who will help in TBR university policies, such as tuition, budget cuts, tenure and any other issue regarding state universities.

"It's a focal point for me because it's something that will probably become my life's work," Mosley said. "It's a bit surreal because I'll be a little fish in a big pond, but I'm definitely, definitely excited because I'll be tackling the unknown."

The board consists of 18 members, including 12 lay citizens, with one each from the state's nine congressional districts and three grand divisions; one faculty member from among the system institutions; one student

SGA, PAGE 3

## Workplace bullying examined

By ALEX HARRIS  
Staff Writer

Bullying in the workplace, its acceptance in our culture, and its severe consequences were the topic of a lecture given by Gary Namie on Thursday.

Namie has 21 years of experience as an award-winning professor of management and psychology. He and his wife, Ruth Namie, began

the Workplace Bullying Institute in the late 1990s.

They decided to begin this institute when his wife was subjected to bullying by her supervisor at the clinic she worked at. Her supervisor was being verbally abusive and took Ruth's clinic hours from her, and ultimately got her fired.

"We had a little stash of cash and we said, 'We're going to do something about this. Whose doing

something about bullying in the U.S.?' Namie said. "There was no one."

The institute began as a toll-free line, run by Namie and his wife. Namie said he learned from the beginning that no two cases are identical, despite the similar methods of bullying.

All bullying involves control of others by one or more people who either take actions against others, or withhold social or material

resources, Namie said.

Namie explained that bullying could be seen on a negative impact continuum, which would start with an inappropriate co-worker, the mildest level of negativity in the workplace.

The next step on the continuum is incivility, followed by disrespect. Namie explained the

BULLYING, PAGE 4



Photo by Drew Gardonia, staff photographer Audience members listen to Gary Namie discuss workplace bullying on March 17 in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building.

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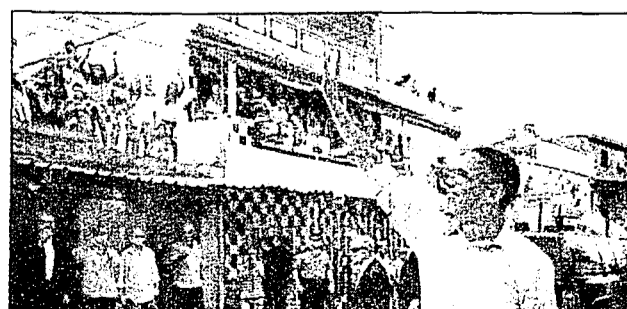
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### IN TODAY'S ISSUE



Find out how Randy Jack is raising awareness about Nashville's homeless community.  
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View more photos and analysis of President Barack Obama's visit to Brazil.  
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# NATIONAL AP NEWS

## South Carolina to bill target prisoners' social networking

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The proliferation of cell phones smuggled into prisons has some inmates routinely updating their status from the inside, and South Carolina is considering becoming the first state to make that a crime.

The measure would add 30 days to a prisoner's sentence if he were caught interacting on social networking sites via cell phone. The bill goes a step further, too, making it illegal for anyone to set up a page for a prisoner, which legal experts say violates inmates' free speech rights even if they are using contraband cell phones.

Rep. Wendell Gilliard, a Democrat from Charleston who proposed the law, says crime victims shouldn't have to worry about seeing or being threatened by a prisoner online. There's also a fear convicts are coordinating criminal activity.

## Zippo's Co. burning ambition lies in new retail expansion

BRADFORD, Pa. – Zippo lighters expects to produce its 500 millionth lighter when the northwestern Pennsylvania company celebrates its 80th anniversary next year.

Still, Zippo Manufacturing Co., officials say increasing pressure on folks not to smoke means the company's future depends on its ability to sell something other than lighters.

That's why the company in Bradford is planning an expanded line of products from watches to cologne that it hopes to sell through kiosks and Zippo-brand specialty stores.

President and Chief Executive Officer Gregory Booth says the company has been studying the move for more than a decade. He says marketing surveys show customers will buy Zippo products that match the lighters' rugged, durable image.

## Two former Bush officials up for FBI director position

WASHINGTON – People familiar with the search for a new FBI director say two officials who worked for President George W. Bush have a realistic chance of being asked to head the bureau.

James Comey and Kenneth Wainstein served in sensitive national security-related posts in the Bush administration, and both are being considered to succeed FBI Director Robert Mueller, whose 10-year term expires Sept. 4.

The people familiar with the selection process say the service of Comey and Wainstein as political appointees under a Republican is a key factor in their being considered.

President Barack Obama faces an expanded Republican minority in the U.S. Senate with votes to block any nominee who draws united opposition.

# LOCAL AP NEWS

## Chattanooga zoo to undergo inspection after animal deaths

CHATTANOOGA – The Chattanooga Zoo is set to undergo a progress check from a national accreditation group in September after a series of animal deaths over the holidays.

The Association of Zoos and Aquariums will conduct the check in September, zoo spokeswoman Robin Derryberry told The Chattanooga Times Free Press.

Derryberry said the organization found no medical or management connection between six of the eight deaths that happened at the zoo over a six-week period during the holidays. Derryberry said two tortoise deaths appear to have come from substandard winter housing, a problem that's been corrected.

Derryberry said liver disease and weight loss were factors in the deaths of two marmosets before an administrative error left the animals unfed for two days, while the four remaining deaths unrelated to other events.

## West Tennessee courthouse to prepare for disaster scenario

MEMPHIS – Memphis court officials are making plans to keep federal courts open if an earthquake or another disaster damages the courthouse.

Tom Gould, clerk of court at the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, told The Commercial Appeal that the absence of a court system in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina taught them to plan ahead.

Memphis officials are hoping the planning will allow them to have a federal court running within 72 hours of any disaster that makes the courthouse inoperable.

Those plans include placing computers and other necessary equipment throughout the city that can be used in an emergency.

The court also acquired a couple of specialized trucks that can drive in deep water and carry generators to provide power.

## Man sentenced to prison for burning cross in yard

KNOXVILLE – Prosecutors say a Tennessee man has been sentenced to six months in federal prison for burning a wooden cross at the Anderson County home of an interracial couple.

U.S. District Judge Thomas W. Phillips handed down the sentence to 30-year-old Steven D. Archer of Heiskell on Friday after his conviction last July of willfully interfering with the couple's federal housing rights because of their race. The couple lived in a home on his family's property.

In July 2008, a cross-wrapped in fuel-soaked cloth was set ablaze at the home. According to prosecutors, Archer admitted to burning the cross but denied a racial motivation.

A federal court jury convicted Archer of violating the victims' federal housing rights.

## Fraternity to host annual blood drive

STAFF REPORT

Blood Assurance, a nonprofit blood center, will host a blood-and-marrow drive tomorrow at the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity's house on Greek Row from noon until 5 p.m.

Donors can register to win one of two packages for season tickets to a minor league team of their choice, valued at \$600 a piece.

Winners will be drawn April 1. One pint of blood has the potential to save three patients in the local community, according to Blood Assurance.

Each donor will receive a free Blood Assurance T-shirt and a complimentary snack.

Of all eligible donors, 5 percent donate, while 95 percent of adults need blood by the age of 72, according to the Blood Assurance website.

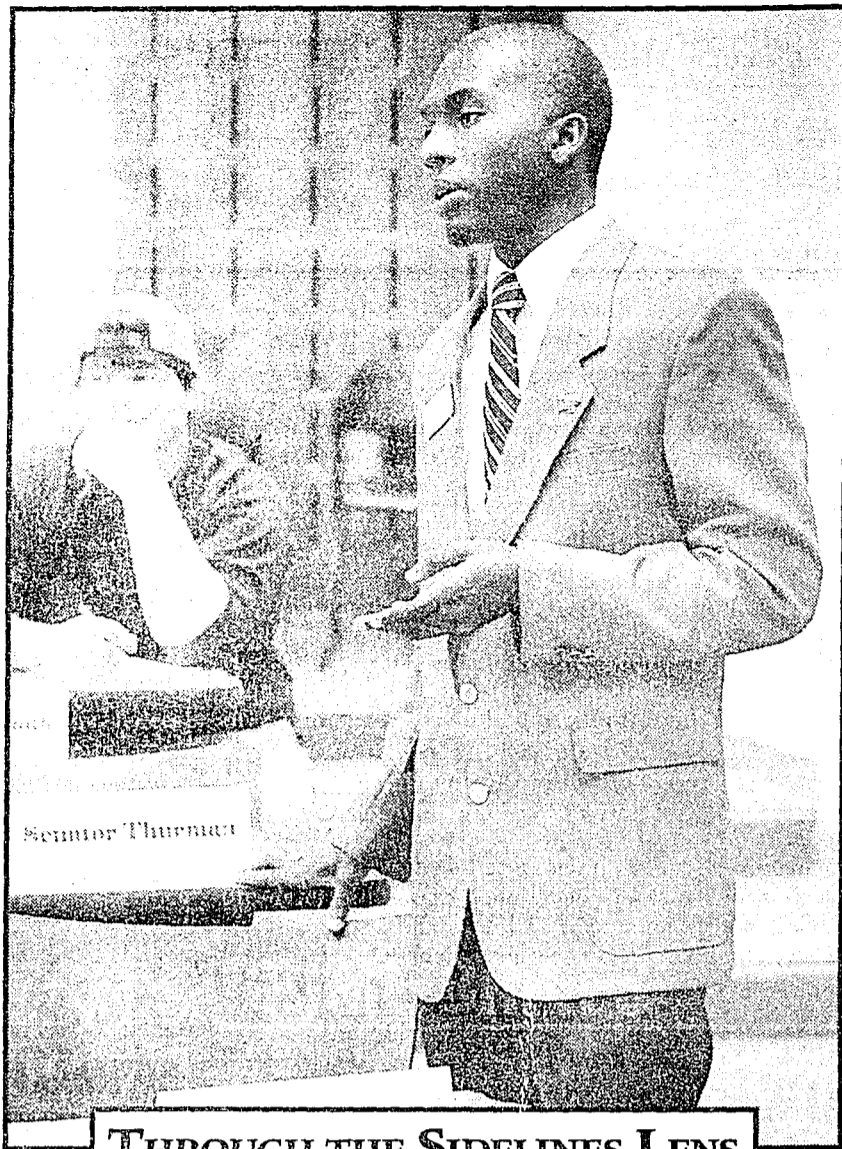
In order to participate, donors must be 17 years old, or 16 years old with parental consent.

Participants must weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health to donate.

The Greek organization hopes to raise 35 pints of blood for the nonprofit organization.

There will be a bone marrow representative available to register donors on the National Bone Marrow Registry, as well.

Blood Assurance currently services more than 50 healthcare facilities in Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina and Georgia.



THROUGH THE SIDELINES LENS

Photo by Drew Gardona, staff photographer

Sen. Jeremy Poynter calls for senators to apply for executive positions March 17 during the Student Government Association's meeting Thursday, held weekly in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building. Poynter was elected to be the SGA president for the 2011-2012 academic year earlier this month, and he is responsible for appointing the next philanthropic coordinator and attorney general.

## Sen. Bob Corker to visit campus today

STAFF REPORT

U.S. Sen. Bob Corker will be on campus today to discuss the Commitment to American Prosperity Act among faculty, administrators and students.

The senator is slated to hold a discussion in the Business and Aerospace Building's SunTrust Room at 2 p.m., and he is also scheduled to meet with the Jennings A. Jones College of Business advisory board, the Business and Economic Research Center, the Center for Economic Research and locally elected officials.

The CAP Act regards putting a 10-year glide path to cap all discretionary and mandatory spending that would lower the rate from 24.7 percent to 20.6 percent.

"It's something that over the course of a 10-year period would cause us to spend 7.8 trillion dollars less," Corker said.

He said he is concerned that the gap between

spending and revenue is almost four times the historic average, and by 2035, the United States' debt is expected to reach 185 percent of the Gross Domestic Product.

If this occurs, interest payments on the national debt will reach nearly 9 percent of GDP, he said, adding that this is more than the nation spends on national defense, education, roads and all government agencies combined.

Based on these statistics, Corker has delivered 43 presentations across the state discussing the unsustainable spending habits of the U.S. Congress and dangerous levels of debt.

"Cutting trillions of dollars from the federal budget in the coming years won't be easy or painless," Corker said. "It will require backbone and discipline on the part of policy makers and shared sacrifice

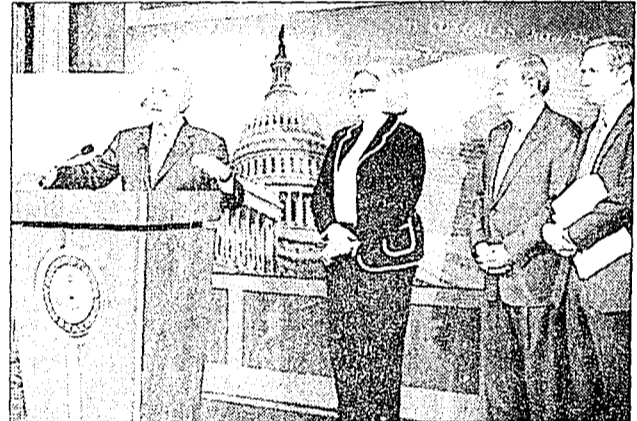


Photo courtesy of Bob Corker, www.corker.senate.gov

Sen. Bob Corker, joined by cosponsors Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.), Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.), and Mark Kirk (R-Ill), announces the introduction of the Commitment to American Prosperity Act on Feb. 1. If passed, the bill would dramatically reduce federal spending over the next 10 years.

for the country."

Under the act, if Congress fails to meet the annual cap, it would require the Office of Management and Budget to make evenly distributed, simultaneous cuts throughout the federal budget to bring spending down to the pre-determined level.

Only a two-thirds vote in both chambers of Congress could override the binding cap.

"I believe Americans will be willing to make short-term sacrifices for the long-term good of our country," he said, "and demand commensurate actions from their elected officials."

## LOCAL EVENTS

### ON CAMPUS

**"Axiom"**  
March 21 - 24  
Todd Art Gallery  
Tickets: FREE

**"Almost to Eden"**  
March 21, 3 p.m.  
University Honor College  
Room 106  
Tickets: FREE

**Angela Davis**  
March 22, 5 p.m.  
James Union Building  
Tennessee Room  
Tickets: FREE

**Gender Circles**  
March 23, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.  
Keathley University Center  
Tickets: FREE

**Junior Flute Recital: Roya Farzaneh**  
March 25, 6 p.m.  
Wright Music Building  
Tickets: FREE

**Guest and Faculty Recital of French Vocal Music**  
March 27, 3 p.m.  
Wright Music Building  
Tickets: FREE

### OFF CAMPUS

**The Growlers with Bad Cop, Majestic and Denny & The Jets**  
March 21, 9 p.m.  
The End  
Tickets: \$5

**ABK, AMB and Kung Fu Vampire**  
March 22, 7 p.m.  
The Muse  
Tickets: \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door

**"Building a Dance Routine" Workshop**  
March 23, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Rocketown  
Tickets: FREE

**Monthly Poetry Reading with Stephanie Pruitt**  
March 24, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
The Front Porch at Scarritt-Bennett  
Tickets: FREE

**"Jam for Cans" featuring Moonlight Matinee**  
March 25, 9 p.m.  
Gilligan's  
Tickets: \$6

**ARTini on Simen Johan: Until the Kingdom Comes**  
March 25, 7 p.m.  
Frist Center for the Visual Arts  
Tickets: \$7

## CRIME BRIEFS

**Traffic**  
March 15, 9 p.m.

Old Main Circle  
Zachary Perry, 25, was issued a state citation for failure to provide proof of insurance, and a campus citation for going the wrong way on a one-way street.

**Theft**

March 17, 1:54 p.m.  
Health, Wellness, and Recreation Center  
A complainant reported that her keys and cell phone were stolen out of a locker from inside of the building.

**Vandalism**

March 17, 11:35 a.m.  
Sigma Nu House, Greek Row  
Complainants reported that graffiti had been spray painted on the fraternity house.

**Vandalism**

March 17, 6:53 p.m.  
Greenhouse Parking Lot  
A complainant reported that her vehicle's convertible top had been slashed while parked outside of the building.

**Alcohol**

March 17, 9:53 p.m.  
Jordanland Drive  
Jordan Kiss, 20, was arrested for driving under the influence, underage consumption of alcohol, and possession of a fraudulent license.  
Matthew Neely, 21, was also arrested for having an active warrant.

**Alcohol**

March 18, 12:31 a.m.  
Friendship Street  
Andrew Tanner Jordan, 19, was arrested for underage consumption of alcohol and disorderly conduct.

**Vandalism**

March 18, 12:54 a.m.  
Beta Theta Pi House, Greek Row  
William D. Bennett, 20, arrested for vandalism under \$500, underage consumption of alcohol and criminal trespassing.

**Traffic**

March 18, 1:22 a.m.  
Middle Tennessee Boulevard  
Timothy L. Nelson, 21, was issued state citation for not having proof of financial responsibility and driving without a license.

### EVENTS POLICY

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

# Higher education helps bridge gap between men, women in career opportunities

## WOMEN FROM PAGE 1

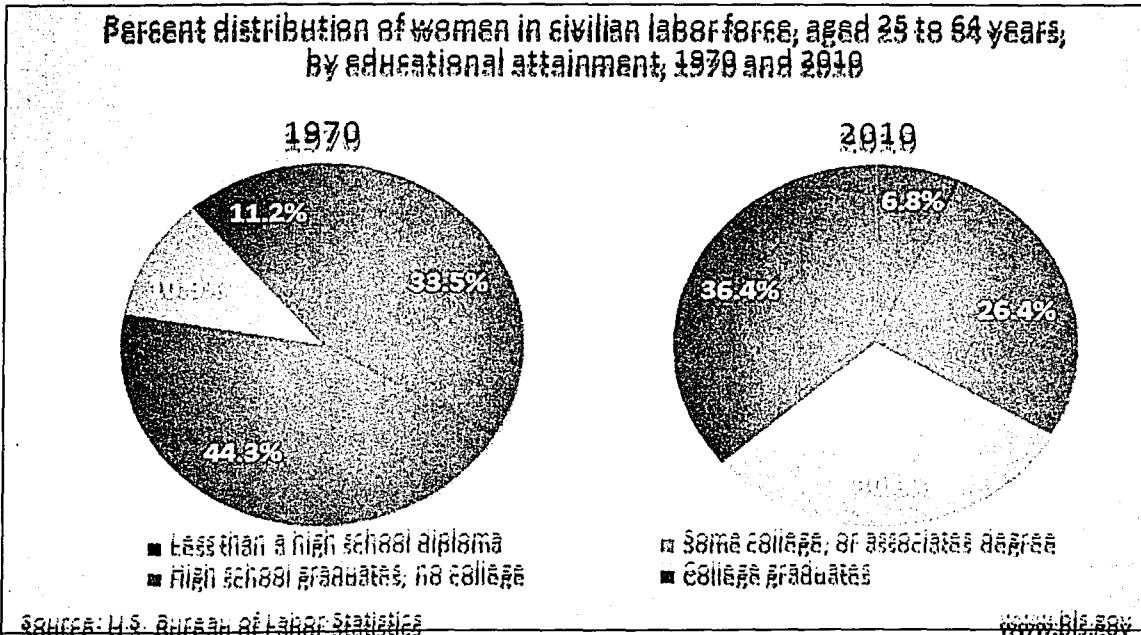
changes in her field throughout the past 20 years.

"There have always been equal opportunities for women to advance and succeed at high levels," Bradley said, noting that the professional actuarial exams allow for this equality. Bradley has a master's degree in math from Vanderbilt University.

Conversely, fields traditionally thought to have higher proportions of female employees, such as education and nursing, are not seeing significant changes, according to the report.

"Women have always worked," Marcellus said. "It's a complete misnomer that women have just started working- it's just not true."

Chelsea Fleet, a sophomore majoring in theater education, said gender demographics did not weigh heavily in her decision



The ratio of women's to men's earnings in the fields of food preparation and serving is 112.1 percent. In personal finance, the ratio is 58.4 percent, according to the data.

"We need to think about what kinds of jobs women are getting," Marcellus said.

Officials with the agency predict the women's labor force is likely to increase across all age groups 9 percent from 2008 to 2018.

Though it makes up a small portion of the total female work force, the division spanning ages 65 to 74 is expected to see the largest increase, at nearly 90 percent. The number of female workers over the age of 75 is also expected to increase by more than 60 percent.

But, the numbers of workers in groups between the ages of 16 and 19 as well as 34 and 54 are projected to decrease over the same time period, according to the report.

to pursue a career in education. "It really didn't cross my mind," she said, "but it does come up now in some of my classes."

There are equal numbers of female and male students in her

education classes, Fleet said. "I feel like [the field] is becoming more neutral," she said.

Along with attaining higher levels of education, the members of the female work force have

also experienced pay increases in proportion to men's earnings.

In 2010, the ratio of women's to men's earnings across all fields was 81.2 percent, but the proportion changes with occupation.

## Administrators concerned about possible health risks

### JAPAN FROM PAGE 1

in Tokyo, the closest student to the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, there was still a chance of crisis.

"The radiation might not reach most of our students in a [nuclear] cloud," Allen said. "If the wind happened to be blowing to the south, and a big plume hit Tokyo, it could completely shut down the infrastructure to Japan."

As of yesterday, the status of the students returning has not been issued, and the university will not release their names.

There are steps that Japan must take to ensure that the university's study-abroad students return safely.

Allen said Friday Japan's first step in preventing a nuclear meltdown must be to restore power to the plant immediately and power the plant's cooling systems that push water through the reactor units for coolant.

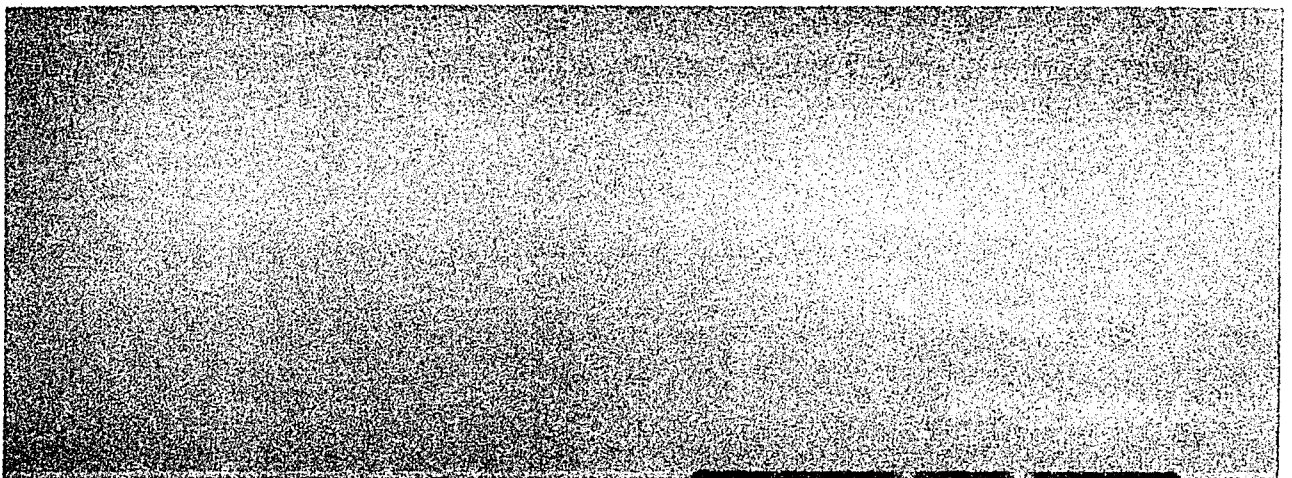
Japan restored power

yesterday to two units: Unit 1 and Unit 2. However, Unit 3 and Unit 4 are still powerless and are the most dangerous of the units, but Japan officials said progress is being made.

"Our desperate efforts to prevent the situation worsening are making certain progress," said Yukio Edano, chief cabinet secretary of Japan. "But, we must not underestimate this situation, and we are not being optimistic that things will suddenly improve."

If power is not fully restored to each reactor unit, the country may have to resort to different temporary solutions, such as pouring sand into the units and sealing the units with cement. However, the cement could crack and release radioactive materials into the atmosphere, Allen said.

"If you put sand and concrete over the [unit], it continues to heat," Allen said. "It continues to release gas and the concrete doesn't set up well. Is it a solution anyone likes - probably not."



When she said, "stop," I STOPPED.

WHEN I REALIZED I HAD THE POWER TO CONTROL MYSELF, I BECAME A BETTER MAN.

88% OF TENNESSEE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SAID THAT EVEN IF A GIRL IS NAKED, SHE STILL HAS THE RIGHT TO SAY NO.

## Mosley to interview with SGA presidents statewide this week

### SGA FROM PAGE 1

institutions; and the governor, the Education commissioner, Agriculture the commissioner, and the executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, who is a nonvoting member.

The process of choosing the student board member is thorough, including submitting a resume, letters of recommendation, and interviews with every SGA president across the state and a final approval by Gov. Bill Haslam.

The next step for Mosley will be an interview with every SGA president from all of the fellow TBR schools, in which they will choose up to three nominees.

"That individual will be presented to Gov. Haslam as a nominee, and they will take office in August after his approval," Mosley said.

Mosley said he is excited about the experience, and attributes the honor to many organizations he has been a part of, such as the Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the SGA, as well as his beginnings in student council during grade school.

"It just gets you exposed



Photo by Drew Gardonia, staff photographer. At-Large Sen. Gavin Mosley talks to fellow senators after the Student Government Association's weekly meeting March 17 in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building.

to different schools across the state," Mosley said.

As a secondary education minor, he said the position is just another step in his quest to become a teacher in his former high school after a career in law.

He said knowledge is the greatest benefit he will have if appointed to the board.

"We have all these questions, and we can never find the answer," Mosley said. "I think if I can find the answer, then if someone at MTSU has a question - as we always do - I can answer that question."

Mosley will interview with the TBR's student government presidents this week and will find out if he is appointed by Haslam no later than next week.

Educate yourself. Log on.

TENNESSEE coalition AGAINST VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT www.tcadv.org

TNblue.org

Planned Parenthood of Middle & East Tennessee, Inc.

\*This project is funded under an agreement with the State of Tennessee.\*

RAPE. It's a reality.

For immediate help, call the Sexual Assault Crisis Line at 615-494-9262.

# House votes to cut NPR spending

By AMANDA HAGGARD  
Associate News Editor

## Opponents claim 'silencing' of broadcaster

The U.S. House passed legislation Thursday that would bar National Public Radio or its affiliate stations from receiving federal funding.

The bill, sponsored by U.S. Rep. Doug Lamborn, a Republican from Colorado, passed by a 228-192 vote. Most Republicans backed the measure while every Democrat opposed it.

"I'm a strong believer in the free market," Lamborn said. "I'd like to see NPR rework its business model and begin to compete for all of its income."

Although the measure was predicted to pass in the House, controlled by Republicans, it is believed to have little chance in the U.S. Senate.

If it passes there, it will be sent to President Barack Obama, who can choose to sign or veto it.

Because of the Democratic majority in the U.S. Senate, and the fact that the president has voiced opposition to the cuts, the bill is likely to be stopped at some point during this process.

"Under the guise of saving taxpayer dollars, what they're doing is silencing NPR — not because it saves money, but because it is not on the same ideological frequency of the extreme right," said Rep. John Larson, a Democrat from Connecticut.

Democrats argue that NPR serves a fundamental public function, while Republicans seek



Schiller



Williams



Weiss

Photos courtesy of npr.org



to cut fiscal ties to an organization they perceive as being riddled with liberal bias.

"The problem is, we've seen NPR and its programming often veer far from what most Americans would like to see as far as the expenditure of their taxpayer dollars," said Majority Leader Eric Cantor. "That's the bottom line. Nobody is on a rampage. Nobody is trying to say that we don't like NPR for NPR's sake."

The move to strip funding

comes after a conservative activist named James O'Keefe, who secretly taped Ron Schiller, an NPR fundraising executive, criticizing Tea Party supporters and saying public radio would be "better off without federal money."

Schiller was fired for being unprofessional, according to NPR's website.

Following Schiller's dismissal, CEO Vivian Schiller made the choice to resign after NPR's board of directors said she was

"no longer fit to effectively run the organization," according to the organization's website.

Last fall, the company dismissed Juan Williams, an NPR news analyst, after he said on FOX News Channel that he gets nervous when he sees people in "Muslim garb" on an airplane.

After Williams was dismissed, Ellen Weiss, the senior vice president for news at NPR at the time, resigned from her position.

The board said it made its

choice concerning Vivian Schiller in light of the controversy concerning the dismissal of Williams and Ron Schiller.

The House also voted to cut \$50 million from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting Tuesday of last week, a program that helps support NPR. The bill still allows public stations to receive federal funds from Public Broadcasting, but would disallow them from buying NPR programs.

That measure was part of a larger bill to keep the government running for the next three weeks.

Forty percent of NPR's funding comes from member station fees, while almost 2 percent comes from federal grants.

In a letter from Rep. Diane Black to one of her constituents, she said both NPR and taxpayers would benefit from the cut in funding.

"With our national debt at more than \$14 trillion and growing and our annual budget deficit at \$1.6 trillion, our nation's taxpayers cannot afford to continue subsidizing radio and television with borrowed money," Black said, adding that NPR would have a better chance to make their content "creative and dynamic" without taxpayer dollars.

The outlet provides content to 900 independent stations and reaches 27.2 million listeners every week.

Michael Finch, assistant editor, contributed to this report.

# Expert advocates reform in effort to prevent mental, physical harm

## BULLYING FROM PAGE 1

difference as incivility not being personalized, while disrespect is. Employers will mention disrespect and incivility but rarely will address actual bullying, Namie said.

Bullying will move from mild to severe,

from simply stressful to abusive. Namie explained bullying as a form of abuse, just as destructive as child abuse or domestic violence.

"Bullying is a full range: from the mildest sarcasm and occasional glare or stare, all the way up to a systematic campaign of interpersonal destruction," he said.

Domestic violence is very similar to workplace bullying, Namie said, adding that until "we criminalized it, we rationalized it, and we rationalizing bullying."

"Bullying is domestic violence where the abuser is on the payroll," he said.

Namie defines workplace bullying as repeated health-harming

mistreatment, including verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, humiliation, work interference, sabotage and exploitation of vulnerabilities.

Using this definition, the institute conducted a nationwide survey and found that 35 percent of respondents have direct experience with bullying, 15 percent have witnessed it, and 50 percent have absolutely no experience with it.

In the national survey, they also found that most bullies are men and are equal-opportunity bullies. Women were found to target other women 80 percent of the time.

Bullying has been described as a silent epidemic because the targets choose to suffer in silence and not talk about it, due to the shame they feel from letting themselves be bullied.

"Hostile environments are not illegal, except in very rare, narrowly defined circumstances," Namie said.

Bullies are actually rewarded for their actions, either through the indifference of their superiors and co-workers, or because they have ingratiated themselves to their superiors to the point that any negative portrayal of the bully is seen as lying, Namie said.

"The No. 1 [problem is] this: Targets aren't believed," he said.

The target, for having made a complaint, has revealed himself or herself as a troublemaker and faces retaliation, he said.

"Bullying has nothing to do with work," Namie said. "It's about the bully's personal agenda, not company needs."

Jackie Gilbert, a professor of management, said she thinks that bullying remains unaddressed as a subject in college and that people are surprised when they encounter this behavior in the workplace.

"As managers, they need to know how to behave in an ethical fashion," Gilbert said.

Bullying in the workplace can also affect one's health negatively. The stress it induces will affect someone's cardiovascular system, gastrointestinal system, and it has a severe effect on your mental and psychological state, Namie said.

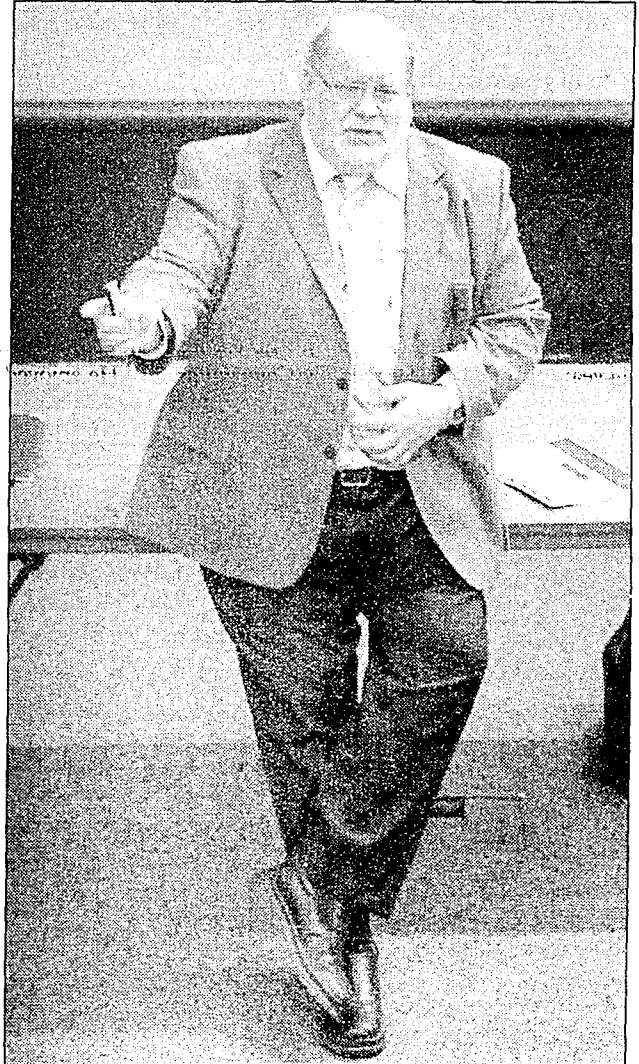


Photo by Drew Gardonia, staff photographer  
Gary Namie talks to students and faculty about the harmful effects of workplace bullying March 17 in the Business and Aerospace Building's State Farm Room.

The stress of being bullied will change someone's brain, causing it to lose capacity, stop cell replication, and cause accelerated aging at a cellular level, aging you more quickly the more stress you encounter, Namie said.

"Mypointis, stop writing off stress as something that can be imagined away," Namie said. "Stress will tear apart one of your biological systems, and that's what will bring you down."

Namie compared bullying in the workplace with sexual harassment. Bullying is not only more prevalent but also has more anger, depression and hostility associated with it because it is not illegal like sexual harassment is, Namie said.

"It's hopeless for an individual to get it corrected when the entire institution is against it," Namie said.

According to the institutes target survey, only 3 percent of employers in the U.S. are doing the right thing when it comes to bullying, by creating policy and enforcing it.

is that without this line in the sand the bully will say 'you have no right to correct me, because you haven't told me what's wrong,' Namie said.

The Workplace Bullying Institute is a national network of state coordinators who act as citizen lobbyists to work to pass the Healthy Workplace Bill.

"It rewards employers to do the policy enforcement, take the targets seriously, quit blowing them off, quit disbelieving them, quit discounting them, quit letting them get hurt, quit putting them in harms, quit backing off the bully, and you won't get sued," Namie said.

Though no states have passed it, the anti-bullying bill has been introduced in 20 states since 2003, and there are currently 13 versions of the bill active in 10 states.

"It was very informative and made a lot of people in the audience think a little bit," said Collins Eke, a senior majoring in geosciences. "It helped you to learn that there are people who are suffering right now, and they need help and guidance."

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# FEATURES

## All in a day's work

Formerly homeless, Randy Jack is not your average salesman.

Photo by Mark Brissie, contributing photographer

Formerly homeless, Randy Jack sells *The Contributor* in Nashville on March 19, where he works almost every weekend. His outgoing personality and perseverance have helped him to earn enough money to get a modest living space in East Nashville.

By JOSEPH ZIKE  
Contributing Writer

They sit there at a red light hoping it will turn green soon. A black Mercedes E-class sedan, a dark blue Land Rover, a red Volvo, a white Toyota Avalon and a silver Honda Accord are in line at Trader Joe's parking lot, waiting to leave the grocery store.

The occupants of these vehicles just finished shopping. They're probably on their way home now. They steal glances at the man to their right. Some of them look uncomfortable. The light turns green and they all pass by. No one stops. No one waves.

Randy didn't sell any papers to that group of people.

Thirty feet away, a young white couple and their child load groceries into a clean charcoal Cadillac Escalade with chrome trim and 18-inch rims. It's an impressive vehicle. It must be brand new, probably gets washed and waxed twice a week. Finished loading their groceries, they pull out of their parking spot and up to the red light. Randy is to their immediate right. They don't look at him.

"I bet that car costs as much as a small house," Randy says.

The price tag on a new Escalade starts around \$60,000.

It's been a slow day for Randy, who turned 44 years old on Jan. 3. He sells *The Contributor*, a newspaper about the homeless living in Nashville. The publication, printed once a month, claims a monthly circulation of about 120,000. It is a nonprofit organization that allows the homeless and formerly homeless to earn money without panhandling.

The paper's vendors must adhere to a code of conduct, which they are exposed to in a training session. One of the rules is that

live on and subjects he doesn't approach.

A native of Memphis, Randy played high school football, got married and had kids. He has four children: Tamara is 19 years old and wants to be a chef. Tania is 17 and is going to be a lawyer. Randy Jr. is 15 and also wants to be a chef. Reginald is 13 and plans on becoming a minister.

"I don't think he needs to be a minister," Randy says with a laugh. "He lies too much already."

He talks to his children every day. He plans to return to Memphis after he's saved enough money. If it weren't for the actions of his significant other, he might have never left.

"Mom's friend Dennis has been staying the night in your bedroom," Reginald had informed his father.

Randy had returned home from working in Alabama. It was 2007, and he had been there to help open a new restaurant for the Mesquite Chop House, which he worked for in downtown Memphis.

"What's been going on at the house since I've been gone?" he had asked his youngest son.

It was a seemingly innocent question. He got an honest response with life-changing consequences. It didn't take long for Randy to pack his belongings. He says he was out of the house before the end of the day.

He enjoyed working at the Mesquite Chop House. He had a long history in the industry. Nine out of the 11 years between 1992 and 2003, he'd worked at Macaroni Grill. It wasn't a great atmosphere because the executive chef and the chef were "assholes" stealing from the company and dealing drugs. It got to where "it wasn't fun anymore." It was a drag. Randy needed something else.

He got a job at Logan's Roadhouse and enrolled at the Southwest Tennessee Community College's Culinary School.

"I was a 37-year-old freshman in college," he says without shame. "I told my kids you are never too old to go back to school."

He graduated third in his class with a 3.8 grade point average and four semesters on the dean's list.

After finishing school, he took a job as the banquet chef at a Double Tree Hotel. It wasn't going to be permanent, and he chose to stay there only six months. He left there to take a job as the second sous chef at the Mesquite Chop House in Memphis.

He was doing good work, making good money, and things were going well. Then, his wife cheated on him. Some things are unforgivable.

He had some friends in Ripley, and that's where he spent the next 18 months.

While there, he became acquainted with Burnadette, a woman from Chattanooga. After a few short months, he moved to Chattanooga to be with her.

"She was crazy," he says of her. After a while, they broke up, but it proved to be dangerous. She was violent. She held a knife to his throat, putting it to his lips as she threatened him. Randy was working at a cafe and about to start a second job when her brothers threatened to kill him as well. He took the threat seriously and left that day.

That turned out to be a wise decision. Randy says he found out that they came by the same day, guns in hands, and shot up the place.

In January 2010, he arrived in Nashville with essentially three outfits that included one pair of shoes, one pair of work boots and two pairs of jeans. He hadn't had time to pack a lot of stuff. His \$500 set of Wusthof cooking knives were left behind in his haste to leave.

Alone in Nashville, with little more than the clothes on his back and nowhere to go, he went to the Nashville Rescue Mission, a nonprofit organization located downtown that serves the homeless.

"They don't make you shower," Randy says. "But, you have to go to church."

He saw a lot of people talking to themselves there.

"I was shaving one morning at the mission," he says. "The guy next to me was staring at the mirror and started yelling at himself. I don't know if he was crazy or if it was drug related. I've never seen as many people talk to themselves as I have in Nashville."

He moved to Room in the Inn, another nonprofit organization serving the homeless

in Nashville. It provided him with shelter, food and clothes. Shortly after that he started looking for work, and in April, he decided to start selling *The Contributor*.

A friendly exchange takes place as Randy sells another woman a newspaper. He walks back to his post on the sidewalk's corner by a streetlight. There's a car waiting at the traffic light with three people in it who avoid looking at Randy.

Sometimes, if people have to wait long enough, their conscience bothers them.

"They'll sit there and look, and then they'll look away for a while," Randy explains. "Then they'll look back again and they decide to just buy one."

About 20 minutes pass and a middle-aged white man in a black car is stuck perpendicular to the line of cars exiting the parking lot. He's about 15 feet from Randy. He looks then looks away. He looks over at Randy again. He looks down and reaches for his wallet then rolls his window down.

"About three-fourths of my customers are

They invited him over for Thanksgiving.

Two white-haired white men pull up in a white Econoline van. They don't pay any attention to Randy. They don't even notice that they've blocked him from everyone else's view.

"Man, I hate it when they do that," Randy says as he walks around the back of the van. After the van pulls away, Randy walks back. He made two sales.

"If I wasn't selling the paper, I have no idea what I'd be doing," Randy says.

A few minutes pass before he offers a vague answer to an implied question.

"I'd find some way to make some kinda' money legally," he finally responds.

Randy says he's going to be a chef again when he gets back to Memphis. He wants to get his bachelor's degree in culinary arts, and he'd love to own his own restaurant.

A car runs over the sidewalk nearly hitting a pedestrian, something that happens too frequently in this area.

"My dream job would be to walk around

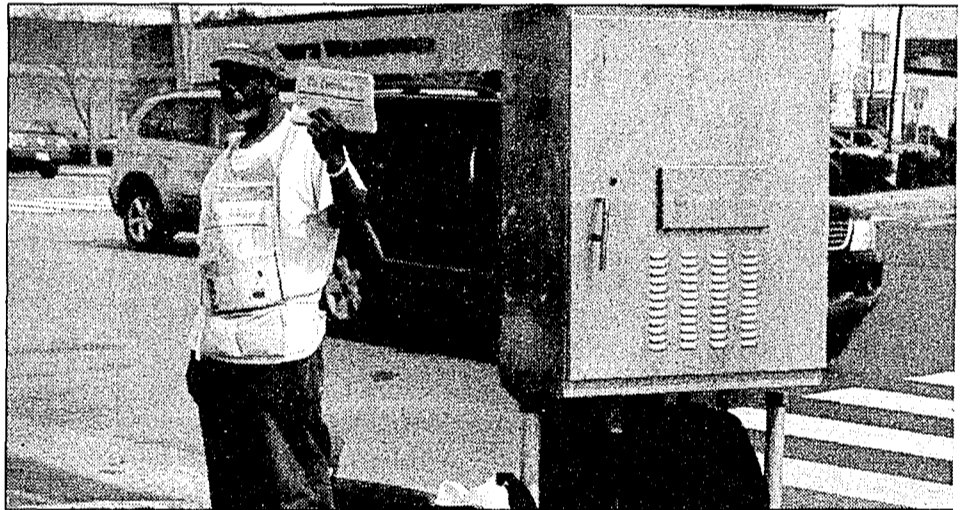


Photo by Mark Brissie, contributing photographer

Randy Jack takes advantage of the waiting line of cars in the Trader Joe's parking lot in Green Hills on March 19 to sell *The Contributor*.

female," he explains as an impatient driver in a red minivan honks her horn out of frustration. "And I can tell you who's going to buy the paper."

Standing on this corner has made him an expert.

"If they have a college on their license plate, Ohio State fans, Georgia, Alabama and LSU fans, they don't buy," he explains. "Pretty boys, they don't buy. Most blacks don't buy. Asians don't buy. I don't see any Hispanic people out here, so I don't know if they buy. If they wave at you, if they're wearing sunglasses or if they're eating, they don't buy."

And women wearing baseball caps don't buy. Black women don't buy the paper."

As soon as those words leave his mouth, two black women with large pretty smiles pull up in a red car and wave him over so they can buy the paper.

He walks over to them, sells them a paper and walks back.

"They just proved me wrong," he admits with a grin.

It's nice out today. The weather is cool, but the sun is out. The parking lot is busy, and Randy is doing pretty good business. Halfway across the parking lot a woman is walking his direction. She walks with confidence and a

**"It's important to me cause it's my means of survival, and it's important to Nashville because it keeps people off the streets and prevents them from committing crimes."**

**RANDY JACK**  
NEWSPAPER VENDOR

beaming smile. She waves and yells his name.

Smiling, Randy meets her half way. When they meet, she gives him a strong hug and asks how he's doing. They chat for a few minutes and before she leaves she pays \$20 for the paper, knowing that her husband and child bought the same issue yesterday for \$10. She heads into the store wishing Randy well, and he heads back to the sidewalk.

"That's Mrs. Freeman," Randy says. "She's great. I love the Freeman family."

The Freeman family treats Randy like family.

all day giving people a dumb-ass stamp on the forehead," he says.

Randy says the first to get stamps would be any and all government officials.

"I got a riddle for you," Randy says to a friend. "Say I locked you inside a car with a screwdriver and a hammer. How are you going to get out?"

"I guess unlock the door?" his friend asks.

"That's right," Randy says. "But do you know, when I ask people that question, eight out of 10 times they say 'break the window' or 'use the screwdriver.'"

This was Randy's first winter selling the paper. On one particularly cold day, Randy was selling the paper as snow flurries poured out of a gray sky. Occasionally, the snow would turn to ice. When it did, tiny bits of ice bounced off of Randy's nose as he stood facing oncoming cars, trying to sell his paper.

"I just wish the wind would blow from the other direction," he'd said after a strong gust hit his face.

The parking lot was full but not as busy as usual. Nobody cared to take on the weather.

"I can't wait to sell the rest of these papers and get out of the cold," Randy said. He was wearing layers. He had his gloves and his beanie and a cup of semi-warm hot chocolate.

But, sales were few and far between that day.

Seasons change. It's getting warmer, and the cars are lining up again.

There's a lot of activity in the parking lot on this sunny Saturday afternoon. Randy sees many of his regulars and makes a lot of new acquaintances. *The Contributor* means a lot to him.

"It's important to me cause it's my means of survival," he says. "And it's important to Nashville because it keeps people off the streets and prevents them from committing crimes."

Randy is grateful for every customer, sale and tip that he gets. He's also grateful for unexpected words of encouragement. A number of people express their gratitude to Randy for the job that he's doing.

"A lot of people say they really appreciate what we do," he says.

Three cars back, the passenger of a red Nissan Xterra rolls her window down and calls Randy over.

One more paper sold.

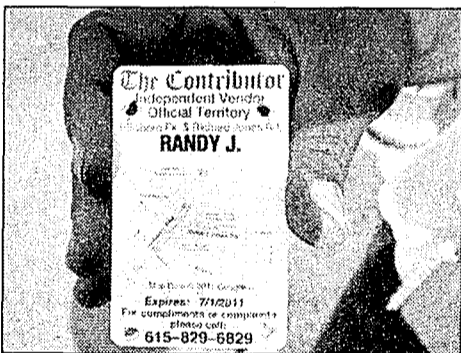


Photo by Mark Brissie, contributing photographer

Randy Jack shows off his vendor license from *The Contributor* on March 19 in Green Hills.

vendors are not allowed to sell the paper under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and another is that they cannot solicit tips.

Randy can buy 150 papers for about \$37. He sells each paper for \$1, and he can't ask for more than that. However, he does receive an occasional unsolicited tip.

An older black lady drives by in a brown station wagon. As she does, she glances at Randy sourly and looks away. She provides two more glances as she passes. Her looks change from sour to acrid.

"She always does that," Randy says. "Every time she drives by, she makes those faces."

The strongest and hardest or worst looks I get are from the white elderly and blacks."

Randy had never planned to sell newspapers on a street corner, but today he is standing at the exit of a Trader Joe's parking lot where Hillsboro Pike and Richard Jones Road meet in Nashville's Green Hills.

Since April of last year, he's been selling *The Contributor* to support himself. It's worked. He has a modest place in East Nashville. From there, with his backpack full of newspapers, he takes the bus to work in Green Hills.

Randy Jack is about 5 feet and 9 inches tall and of a medium build. He wears glasses and usually a hat.

When he slips that hat off, you can see his bare scalp. He carries a tidy white beard on his chin that stands out against his black skin. He has thick fingers, a good handshake and is quick to smile.

He is a devout Baptist whose favorite Bible passage is at the end of Acts, Chapter 4 through Chapter 5 in which Ananias and his wife lie about their possessions. He admires the devotion it takes to give up everything you have. He admires the story as a lesson about honesty.

Randy can talk if someone can listen. He doesn't mind answering questions. He'll tell you anything about everything. But when he tells his story there are gaps, places he doesn't

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Photo by Erica Springer, staff photographer  
Senior guard Anne Marie Lanning (30) protects the ball from Lady Bulldog's guard Meredith Mitchell (11) during the NCAA match March 20 in Auburn, Ala.

## Second-half run not enough for win

### BASKETBALL FROM PAGE 1

collegiate game with 15 points before coming out in the game's final minute.

The Murfreesboro native received a standing ovation from a strong showing of MT faithful who made the trip down to Auburn. She embraced her teammate Emily Queen before sitting on the bench in tears.

She was joined in double figures by freshman post Ebony Rowe, who chipped in 10 points in the loss. The Sun Belt Conference freshman of the year, however, struggled for much of the game and was held scoreless for the first 30 minutes.

"With Ebony going scoreless in the first half, it put us in a bind," said sophomore point guard Kortni Jones. "I think that is why our offense struggled because we are so used to her giving us point. But, give credit to Georgia. They did a tremendous job of guarding her."

Rowe was the primary focus of a physical Georgia defense,

and she faced a double-team every time she touched the ball. Combined with the size of Georgia's posts, Rowe was clearly rattled in her NCAA debut.

"They were really getting in there and putting a body on her," head coach Rick Insell said. "It gave her problems."

Even with the team's lack of offensive production, MT hung around for much of the first half and even had the lead after 13 minutes of play. Sophomore forward Icelyn Elie's spinning lay-up with 6:50 remaining put Middle up 15-13.

However, Georgia countered with an 11-0 run to go back on top.

Lanning halted their run with a 3-pointer, but Georgia raced down the court to counter with another lay-up.

A tip-in by Stewart cut the deficit to six with the score at 26-20 to enter the break.

"We were real confident at half time," Insell said. "Coming back out, we thought we were still in the game."

Georgia quickly crushed MT's confidence as they stormed out of the locker room to the tune of a 16-5 run in the first 10 minutes and put the Lady Bulldogs up for good.

Rowe scored her first basket of the game with 9 minutes remaining to spark a late offensive showing from the Lexington, Ky. native but MT was already in too deep of a hole. Rowe hit her last five shots after missing her first eight to reach her 10 points on the night.

Her struggle on offense manifested itself in other areas of her game as well, as she only managed five rebounds, tying her season low and well off her season average of 10 boards per game.

As a team, MT was out rebounded 38-31.

Despite the loss, the morale following the game was optimistic.



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics  
Ebony Rowe (21) leaps for the opening ball against the Lady Bulldog's on March 20 in Auburn, Ala.

Insell knows that his team is talented and young and summed it up best in his opening statement.

"I am proud of our basketball team and our program," said Insell. "I promise you, we'll be back."

He elaborated by praising the girls' efforts.

"There are some great things ahead for this group," he said. "They're young, they're willing, and they've got passion for the game."

Jones echoed her coach's sentiments. "As long as we take this as a learning experience, we can come back next year and make some more noise," she said.

The tournament comes on the heels of a tragedy resulting in the death of Lady Raider Tina Stewart, whose family was in attendance.

Jones touched on the struggles the team has been through.

"With everything that we have been through, it took a little bit more than pride for us to continue playing because no one around the country has been through what we have been through," Jones said.

MT will return to the court next season without Lanning, Stewart and Queen but with 12 experienced players.

"I am anxious to see what they bring," Lanning said. "I see a bright future for this team."

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## Raiders defeat Murray State

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The Blue Raider tennis team dominated in a 7-0 win over Murray State in front of its home crowd at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center.

Middle Tennessee began the match with a sweep of doubles.

Elliot Barnwell and Matthew Langley defeated Luka Milicevic and Renaldo Domoney 8-1.

The team won the point after Ben Davis and Shaun Waters took an 8-3 win over Jorge Caetano and Arthur Valle.

Kyle Wishing and Dimitri Pippas rounded out the action with their 8-4 win over Mason Johnson and Jose Berardo.

"We played really well today," said Jimmy Borendame, the men's head tennis coach. "I am pleased with the progress we are making so far this spring,

and this match really does a lot for the team's confidence going forward."

The Blue Raiders opened singles play with Barnwell defeating Milicevic in straight sets 6-0, 6-1.

Davis won his match 6-0, 6-2 over Domoney giving the team a 3-0 lead in the match.

Wishing sealed the win for the team with his straight set wins 6-0, 6-3 against Berardo.

Rounding out the match for Middle Tennessee were Waters, Langley, and Pippas. Waters and Langley took straight set wins while Pippas lost his first set but won the second and took the win in the super tiebreaker.

The Blue Raiders will be back in action Wednesday at 2 p.m. when they play host to Austin Peay in the final match of a three-match home stand.

**Letters Policy**

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to [slopinions@mtsu.edu](mailto:slopinions@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

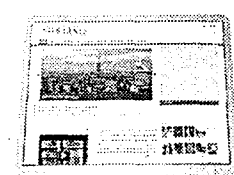
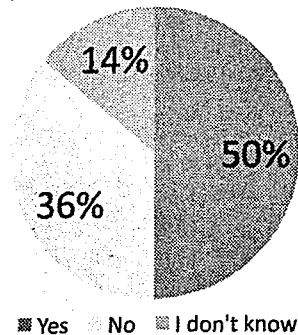
Sidelines is the editorially independent, student-produced newspaper affiliated with Middle Tennessee State University and the College of Mass Communication. Sidelines publishes Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and online during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or the university.



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### Hurtt: Facts, diligence needed after Stewart tragedy

“Excellent story! It’s more than important to use logic over emotion during events of this magnitude” – Chanera Yvonne Pierce

### SGA disappointed in voter turnout

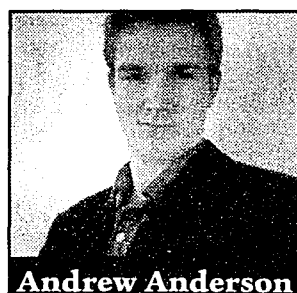
“The SGA officers shouldn’t be surprised by this, nor should anyone else. In recent months, the SGA folks have taken it upon themselves to imitate the worst behaviors of “real” politicians, whether in the form of whistle-blowing, finger pointing, grandstanding, or bickering. They’ve done nothing but underscore their irrelevance as a useful government body. I can’t wait for the reality show!” – “A Professor”

### Sharia lecture spurs mixed reaction

“The format whereby an MSA moderator screens all the questions does nothing to promote “awareness” of Islam. If you want to truly promote “awareness” and to clear up misconceptions of Islam, then allow the audience to ask questions for a period of time without screening out the questions you don’t want to answer. Your screening of questions just supports suspicions of “deception” by your group. The presentation appeared to “spoon-feed” misinformation to a bunch of [people] who don’t know any better.” – Anonymous

## Immigration reform must be addressed

With a \$1.5 billion shortfall in Tennessee, immigration reform is the right track to go. With House Bill 1378, 1379 and 1380, Tennesseans cannot go wrong.



**Andrew Anderson**  
Guest Columnist

insurance, or cannot speak English, they may be detained for suspected reasoning of being an illegal immigrant.

At the end of the day, illegal immigrants cost state taxpayers \$550 million every year. Imagine the savings, in a time like this where budget cuts are imminent and unemployment is high. That’s \$550 million we don’t have to worry about being insecure any longer and will lower the unemployment average with illegal immigrants being out of a job.

It’s time we Tennesseans get back to where we belong, and that’s at work.

Andrew Anderson is a freshman majoring in economics and can be reached at [andersona48@gmail.com](mailto:andersona48@gmail.com).

## Local newspaper is too offensive

For the past year now, I have been fascinated by a local publication called *The Reader*. This so-called “newspaper” is anything but a decent publication. Rather, I believe it’s a breeding ground of false information and neoconservative propaganda.

*The Reader* has been banned by local Kroger and KFC stores because of its “hate speech” against the Muslim community. However, your very own County Clerk’s office still allows for this publication to linger in its mitts.

It would be one thing if *The Reader* was a regular publication like *The Daily News Journal* or *The Tennessean*, but it crosses the line of journalistic integrity and objectiveness. In my opinion, *The Reader* has a political agenda and seeks to destroy the lives of those who don’t fit the publication’s agenda.

Case in point, in the Aug. 12, 2010 issue, a naïve columnist tried to equate Middle Tennesseans for Religious Freedom, an organization supporting the construction of the Murfreesboro mosque, to a group that of bussed-in college students who are Marxist revolutionaries from the North. So, does that mean those in support of religious freedom are now “Marxists” and “socialists?”

This publication also “quoted” a member by stating that one of the group’s organizers supported the Mexican Zapatistas, a leftist revolutionary group, and stated that this individual posted a phrase on their Facebook. Even though this person in question doesn’t have a Facebook and this so-called “quote” is



**Brandon Thomas**  
Opinions Editor

really a song.

It is obvious that journalistic integrity is only a Google instant away for *The Reader*.

I’m not a big fan of censorship, but if you are going to partake in opinion journalism, at least have the facts down to a point.

This publication is dangerous because it seeks to spout false information and fear about the construction of a local mosque and demonize those of the Islamic faith. This is evident in *The Reader’s* news or opinion section. That

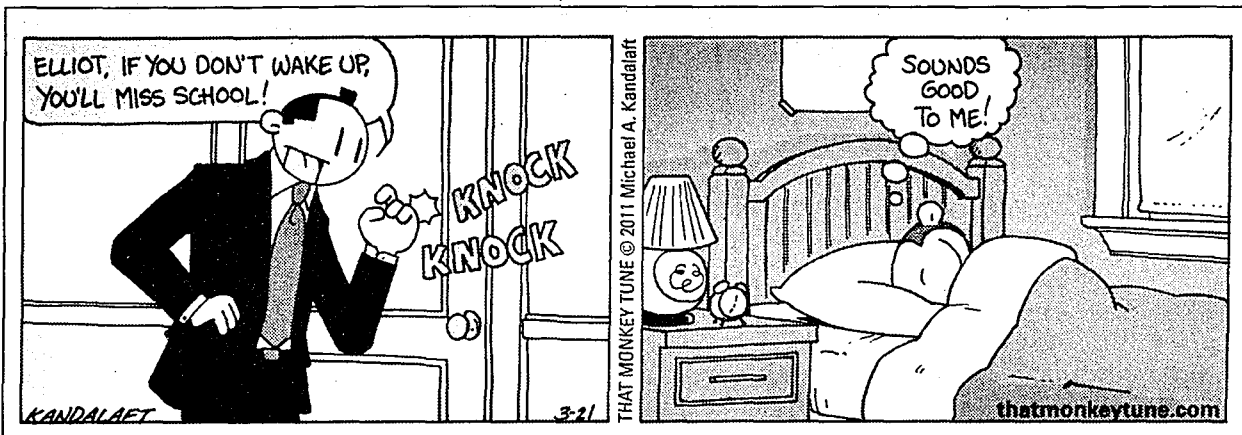
is, if you can tell the difference between the two.

I’m cognizant that my brief critique of this publication will probably land me in its pages. So let me give *The Reader* some hardcore investigative subjects: Is Brandon Thomas secretly a gay Republican Muslim? Is he an American citizen or an illegal immigrant? Is he a racist? I’m not a big fan of linguistic censorship – so keep it spicy.

For those who want to learn how hate-filled *The Reader* is and how it’s detrimental to our community, head over to Seth Limbaugh’s website on March 26 for the premier of Limbaugh’s documentary tentatively titled “Enough!”

Knowledge is power when combating falsehoods and lies.

Brandon Thomas is a junior majoring in political science and can be reached at [muckrakerthomas@gmail.com](mailto:muckrakerthomas@gmail.com).



## Too many defecting from Obama administration

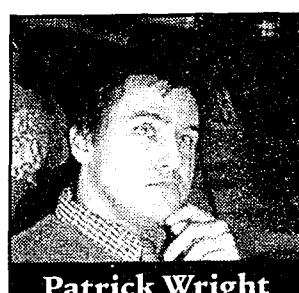
This past week has been full of speculation after U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton admitted during an interview with CNN’s Wolf Blitzer that she will not be a part of President Barack Obama’s administration after the 2012 elections.

Her announcement has led to much scrutiny. The most frequently heard assumption is that she plans on going against Obama in the 2012 election. Currently, her approval ratings are higher than Obama’s, though this doesn’t mean she would pull ahead in a hypothetical primary race.

Others have speculated that she is tired of public life. Perhaps, that is a true assumption. For the last two years, Clinton has been working her magic to help put the United States back in good standing with the rest of the world.

Before her current gig, she participated in and lost a tough primary battle against Obama and John Edwards. Preceding her appointment, she served in the U.S. Senate for eight years.

Regardless, I think this brings up the possibility of a dangerous



**Patrick Wright**  
Columnist

scenario for the future of the Obama administration. Is the Obama administration facing large scale defections? While it is relatively rare to have cabinet members stay for two entire terms, let alone one, there are usually political heavyweights lining up in the wings to take over.

This time there may be a shortage of political stars to be elevated to cabinet level positions. As it currently stands, the Blue Dog Democrats are distancing themselves from Obama, while progressives are angry at the administration for its failure to enact more progressive legislation.

At the same time, Republicans like Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, who are also a part of the Obama administration, could possibly be leaving by the time the 2012 elections roll around.

Assuming Obama wins reelection, he will have to heal partisan wounds not only with Blue Dogs, but with progressives like Sen. Dennis Kucinich. To ensure that he can refill cabinet positions with political heavyweights, he will have to do quite a bit of politicking.

The hardest part would be convincing Republicans to come aboard to foster a bipartisan atmosphere that is currently missing in politics. In the coming months, expect to hear announcements of people leaving the Obama administration from, not only cabinet members but to staffers and ambassadors. It isn’t a question of if they will leave, but who Obama will pick to replace those who do.

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