

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

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Student runs for city council

By MATTHEW HAMMITT
Contributing Writer



Moss

An MTSU student has announced he will be running for a position on the Murfreesboro City Council this year, and if he succeeds, he would become the youngest member of the citywide board of representatives.

Thomas Connor Moss, junior political science major, said he wants to inject new blood into local politics by running for the city council in the upcoming April 20 election.

The city is set to elect a new mayor, three city council members and three school board members.

Moss said he is running for a city council seat because he believes there is a definite need for improvement in Murfreesboro, and that he can facilitate much of that improvement by offering a fresh perspective.

"It is crucial to have someone of my age and background involved in local government," Moss said.

Moss, 21, has lived in Murfreesboro since 2006.

Moss said he hopes that if elected he can use his youth to give "young adults an avenue to talk to the city," and that those young adults include the MTSU student body, which make up a large portion of the city's population.

Moss said it is crucial for the MTSU student body to be a part of his campaign, and emphasized the importance of student involvement in achieving victory over his opponents.

"I can only win this election with help from voters in the university," Moss said.

Moss said he plans to have a table set up outside of the Keathley University Center on Feb. 16 to meet and greet students and faculty and to accept donations, in an effort to raise awareness about his candidacy for city council.

Moss said he is also planning a formal fundraiser during the month of February to raise money for his campaign.

Murfreesboro City Council members serve the city at-large; meaning council members do not serve in representative districts. Council members are responsible for representing all of the constituents within the city, not just certain areas.

Moss said he feels certain

groups of Murfreesboro residents are underrepresented in local government, and

that his primary motivation for running for city council is to offer a representative voice to local residents who share a similar set of circumstances similar to his own.

"I don't drive a Mercedes Benz, I walk most places I go," Moss said. "[Current council members] don't find themselves worrying about whether they are going to be able to eat or not."

Moss said that his agenda for the city is motivated by a desire to govern in the interest of his fellow Murfreesboro residents, including MTSU students, and less in the interest of big business.

"This includes the city's excessive annexation of land, which is creating a level of commercial development the city cannot sustain at the expense of people's property," Moss said.

The aspiring council member said he hopes to help the council remain vigilant in making smaller efforts to improve the city, such as making sure the city has more than one tornado siren.

Moss said he wants to initiate greater efforts to keep Murfreesboro more environmentally friendly, including problems with litter around local waterways.

"Ideally we should have a department dedicated to picking up trash in and around the city's water systems," Moss said, referring to the pollution and litter in Stones River.

Moss said he is focused on improving the city of Murfreesboro and that his political aspirations do not extend beyond the local level.

"Local government is a closer form of direct democracy than national politics anyway," Moss said.

Moss said he realizes that some potential voters may be hesitant about electing someone his age and said that he knows he is the under-dog in the city council race.

"If I don't win this time around, then we'll definitely go again in two years," Moss said.

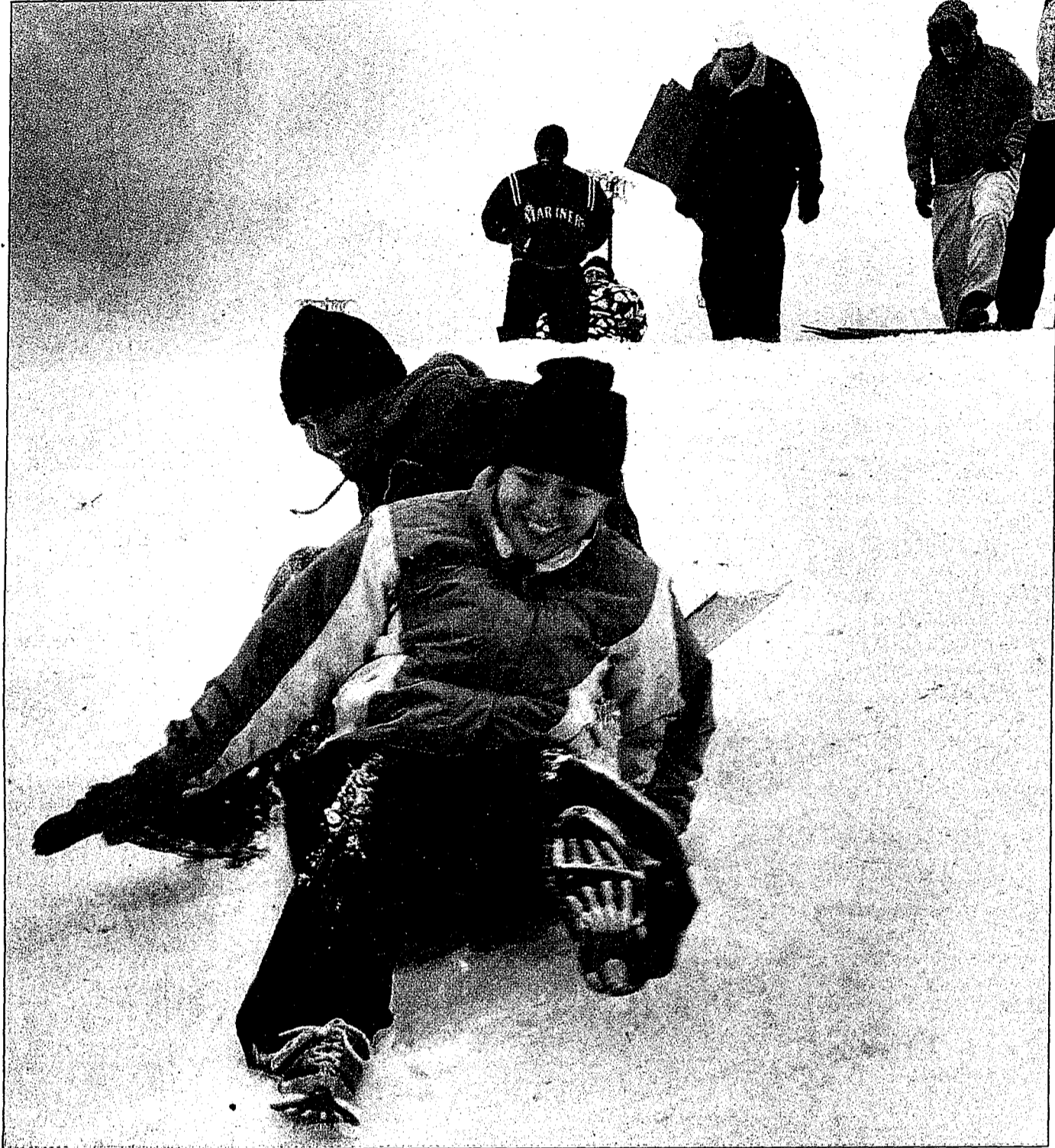


Photo by Erin O'Leary, staff photographer

Kerri Gass and Joseph Evers sled down the hill beside Greek Row on Saturday. Murfreesboro got four inches of snow last weekend.

Inclusion of dance major possible

By TAYLOR HIXSON
Contributing Writer

After years of preparation, faculty and staff from the department of speech and theatre are set to find out if the Tennessee Board of Regents will approve the addition of a dance major to the school's roster of programs.

Director of MTSU Dance Theatre and Director of Dance Kim Nofsinger said if all goes as planned and TBR approves the proposal, the dance major would be offered in fall 2010. TBR is set to finalize its decision in March.

Nofsinger said the program will also need approval from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission before the major can be offered, and that it has taken five years to get the necessary number of courses and professors to staff a dance major.

"We are quite excited and believe it will add much to the arts at MTSU," said Dr. Rebecca Fischer, chairwoman of the speech and theatre department.

Nofsinger said that the only arguments against MTSU adding a dance major are budgetary. However, he said, the dance major would be a revenue-generating program.

He said creating this major should come at a low cost to the school because many of the courses are already offered, and should not affect student fees.

"The dance major will be increasing [the number of] students at MTSU, and the program will have a high retention rate because of selectivity," Nofsinger said.

Megan Hall, junior theatre major, said she would definitely change her major to dance if the program is approved, especially since her major currently includes a dance cognate.

"The courses I have already taken will transfer to the program, and I will still graduate on time," Hall said. "I am really excited because I think the instructors here are phenomenal and supportive of students' success."

The dance major would be a competitive program and would only accept 15 students per year. Students will be able to apply for candidacy only after they have completed their freshman year at MTSU.

"We are looking for accessibility — physically, intellectually and creatively," Nofsinger said.

Nofsinger said he believed a growing number of people would

be more interested in attending MTSU if the university offered a dance major.

He said that after speaking with students who had auditioned for the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts, out of the 60 who did, 50 said they would be interested in attending MTSU if they could major in dance.

There are only three states in the U.S. that do not offer dance as a major within the public university system.

Tennessee is one of those states.

Nofsinger said that considering MTSU's proximity to Nashville, students who graduate with a degree in dance would be able to possibly work in the fields of professional performance, dance therapy, choreography, teach dance or even have a career in cultural history or anthropology, and that the opportunities are wide open.

He said the major would be designed to teach students multiple developmental skills that are needed to be marketable. He said some of the courses required for the dance major would be creative movement for children, women in 20th and 21st century dance and the teaching of dance.

Currently, more than 100 students are set to graduate with a minor in dance.

Nofsinger said that since he began teaching at MTSU five years ago, the number of students choosing to minor in dance has increased 80 percent. He said at that time there were only 20 students who minored in dance.

According to the MTSU dance program Web site, students are taught in an environment that is conducive to comprehensive training in dance technique, performance and choreography. Students will also acquire the necessary skills to function and contribute to the dance community within a global society.

The dance program at MTSU has hosted several performances by guest artists, such as Travis Gatling, Pulin Kala from India and Zelma Badu-Young, a dancer from West Africa. The program focuses on bringing in artists from minority backgrounds in order to provide cross-cultural understanding.

In the last two years, the dance program was accepted for Breaking Ground, a national showcase for choreography and performance in Arizona, and it has also been selected for the American College Dance Association Gala Concert, surpassing other universities with dance majors and master of fine arts programs.

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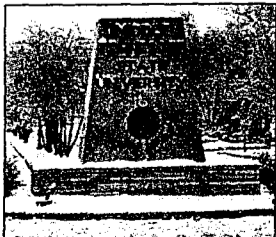
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"When in Rome" tackles romantic comedy stereotypes, leaves audience laughing.

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ONLINE
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MONDAY FORECAST

PARTLY CLOUDY
HIGH 43, LOW 29

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Getting an inch of snow is like winning 10 cents in the lottery."

Bill Watterson, cartoonist.

SGA set to hold senator elections

By MARIE KEMPH
Campus News Editor

Members of the Student Government Association are gearing up for the 2010 spring elections set for March 2-4, in addition to a student referendum on the gender-identity bill that will be held that same week.

"The gender-identity referendum and the SGA elections will be held at the same time," said SGA Election Commissioner Patrick Mertes in an e-mail Jan. 14. "The SGA will be promoting these elections with the help of our public relations committee."

The gender-identity referendum proposes to add gender-identity to the list of students' protected civil rights.

If the bill is passed "neither the SGA, nor any representative thereof, shall violate these rights on the basis of race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression."

Mertes said each student should receive an MTSU alert about elections week through their student e-mail account, which will provide information about the voting process.

An executive officer debate is set for Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. in the State Farm Room located in the Business and Aerospace Building. It is open to all MTSU students who wish to attend.

The spring elections are held so that students can vote for the 2010-2011 SGA senators and executive officer positions, and fall elections will also be held later this year to fill any subsequent vacancies from this semester's elections.

Although MTSU students must meet certain requirements outlined in the MTSU Rights and Responsibilities of Student's Handbook and be familiar with



Photo by Chris Donahue, staff photographer
SGA senators met on Jan. 21 to discuss the parking garage as well as the gender identity referendum set to be voted on in March.

the Electoral Act of the SGA, the 2010 spring elections are open to all those who qualify.

SGA senators and executive officers previously elected must also compete for re-election and are not guaranteed a position for the upcoming academic year.

During an SGA meeting, Jan. 21, Brandon McNary, SGA president, said that current senators and officers must abide by the same guidelines that the rest of the student body is required to follow.

"Current officers and senators are not allowed to campaign until the general body can," McNary said.

McNary said that any current SGA member is caught not following election campaign rules would be disqualified immediately.

Spring election packets will be available Feb. 2, and are due by Feb. 9, no later than 4 p.m., in the SGA office, which

is located in the Keathley University Center.

"The deadline is absolutely firm," McNary said. "There are no exceptions."

Eligible candidates are set to be announced Feb. 16, and a mandatory meeting for those qualified students is scheduled for Feb. 18 at 6 p.m., in Room 121 of the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building.

Any student who does not qualify to run for a position within the SGA would be notified prior to the meeting on Feb. 18, and the official campaign begins after the candidates attend the mandatory meeting.

In addition to the election of SGA members, students also have the opportunity to vote on a referendum to amend the SGA's recognition of basic human rights to include gender identity.

SGA election results will be announced March 5, the Friday before Spring Break.

Contact your SGA Senator

Abels, Donald Steele Adkisson, Aaron Sable Anthony, Jeremy Lee Batts, Brandon Tyrone Bounds, Deonna Elizabeth Brown, Seth M Cobb, Samantha M Crawford, Lauren Paige Curtis, Chelsea Daugherty, Meagan Desabetino, Jacob Richard Fosdyck, Megan A Gay, Travis Kyle Hall, Jordan Marcus Hall, Wesley William Hammond, Cody L Harris, Brittney N Hardy, Chad Allen Higginbotham, Jeff Harold Hill, Cara Lea Hix, Bonnie Abigail Hollis, Michael Craig Hoover, Sarah Leeanna Jones, Chris W Jones, Kara Vett Kirby, Gijuan Jamal Lee, Jennifer Nicole Lee, Rachel M Long, Abby Dean Luber, Shaun Patrick MacIn, Erica Sheree	dsa2k@mtsu.edu asa2q@mtsu.edu jeremyanthony3@gmail.com btb2x@mtsu.edu deb3a@mtsu.edu Smb4y@mtsu.edu smc5g@mtsu.edu lpc2g@mtsu.edu cbc3j@mtsu.edu mmd2z@mtsu.edu jrd4y@mtsu.edu maf2v@mtsu.edu travisgay88@gmail.com jmh8r@mtsu.edu www2b@mtsu.edu cjh5w@mtsu.edu bh2m@mtsu.edu chadhardy453@gmail.com jhh3g@mtsu.edu ch6z@mtsu.edu bah4a@mtsu.edu mch3i@mtsu.edu slh6a@mtsu.edu cwj2n@mtsu.edu kvj2b@mtsu.edu gjk2d@mtsu.edu jnl2v@mtsu.edu nm3c@mtsu.edu adl3a@mtsu.edu spl2h@mtsu.edu esm2m@mtsu.edu	Malovic, Merjema Mayberry, Justine Anafaynetta McCarthy, Daniel A McHughes, Matthew Tyler Mejia-Gomez, Sara Moore, Kendra A Motheramgari, Katyayani Nichols, Samantha Leigh Nicodemus, Robert Taylor Nitz, Karis A Ratliff, Veronica Reed, Danielle Jalisa Robinson, Chloe Elise Rosser, Moriah Chaurante Royer, Michele Clair Anne Russell, Kristen Marie Russell, Matthew Kevin Sawyers, Cassandra D Sceals, Brittney Evette Secrest, Courtney DeAnna Smith, JaMichael Tapree Sokoya, Toks Olubukola Slater, Scott M Standfill, Lucas Chance Thomas, Brandon Lashawn Wagner, Lance Fredrick Eugene Walsh, Stephanie Anne Wittenberg, Jacob Alexander Worles, Kenneth Donnell Young, Rachel Deshay	mm4a@mtsu.edu jam4r@mtsu.edu dam3n@mtsu.edu mtm3k@mtsu.edu sm3z@mtsu.edu kamp2p@mtsu.edu km2m@mtsu.edu sln2l@mtsu.edu rtn2c@mtsu.edu kn2g@mtsu.edu vcratliff@gmail.com djr3a@mtsu.edu cer3h@mtsu.edu mcr2z@mtsu.edu mcr2l@mtsu.edu kristen.marie.russell@gmail.com mkr2y@mtsu.edu cbs4r@mtsu.edu bes3e@mtsu.edu cds4y@mtsu.edu jts4b@mtsu.edu aos2d@mtsu.edu sms6g@mtsu.edu lcs3a@mtsu.edu blt3a@mtsu.edu lhw2d@mtsu.edu sav4y@mtsu.edu jav5s@mtsu.edu kdw3c@mtsu.edu rdy2c@mtsu.edu
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Students bridge cultural gaps to aid Haiti

By GARRETH SPINN
Contributing Writer

The Muslim Student Association hopes to unite with other student organizations in hopes of raising money for those affected by the Haiti disaster.

The fundraiser, a bake sale of international finger food and desserts, is set to take place at the Keathley University Center Knoll on Wednesday Feb. 3 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

"It happened so suddenly," MSA member Dima Sbenaty, sophomore basic and applied sciences major said. "We knew had to do something."

In attempts to get the word out and get more people involved, the MSA called upon the Jewish Student Association to help with the event.

"I know it seems strange, but we usually try to plan things together," said MSA President Mujtaba Alamir, senior basic and applied sciences major. "We're trying to

show that we have no issues towards each other and that it's merely political."

The MSA also attempts to work closely with the local Nashville Mosque, the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro, MTSU's Latin sorority, Lambda Theta Alpha and The Kurdish Student Association to properly promote their events and maximize awareness to raise the most money possible.

"This fundraiser is a group effort, not just an MSA effort," Sbenaty said. "The other student organizations are just as involved in promoting the event and donating the food."

The MSA members are very hopeful that even with the competing weather and the various events happening on the knoll that day, they will still reach their goal.

"As of right now, this is a one-time thing," said MSA treasurer Ana Shaikh, senior basic and applied sciences major. "If it succeeds we would love to get together with

other student organizations and do it again."

MSA group predicts it will raise \$500 -1000 for this effort.

"Once it hit, we knew we had to do something," Sbenaty said. "We really wanted to get involved, and, in order to make more money, we talked to other organizations."

All proceeds will be going to the Haiti Chapter of Red Cross and UNICEF, who work specifically to help children regain nutrition and obtain health care after the disaster.

Sbenaty said that Muslims are no stranger to charity. Of the five pillars of Islam, charity, or Zakat, is recognized almost daily. She said the saying "each wealthy person is responsible for a poor person," is something that is carried with every Muslim.

Besides this upcoming Haiti fundraiser, the MSA said they have done an annual fast-a-thon when they ask students during the holy month of Ramadan to give up food for one day. They do this to raise awareness about Islam and world hunger.

HAITI RELIEF

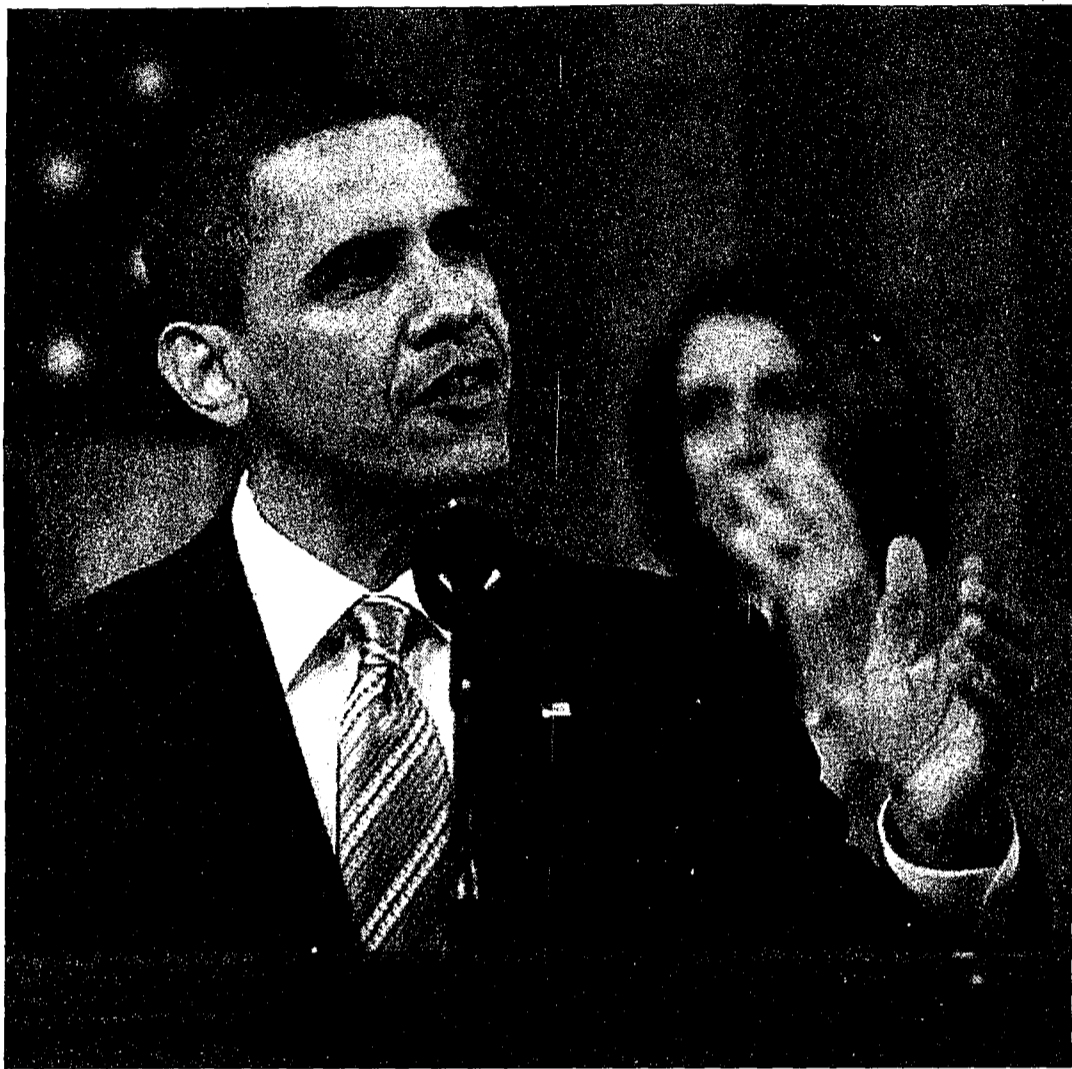


Photo by Steve Souza; courtesy of whitehouse.gov
President Barack Obama addresses a joint session of Congress during his State of the Union address last Wednesday.

Obama's State of the Union addresses student loans

By KAIT SCHARRINGHAUS
Contributing Writer

Students struggling with paying off loans after graduation are now being given hope by a new bill proposed by President Barack Obama in his State of the Union address last Wednesday.

"No one should go broke because they chose to go to college," Obama said in his address to the nation. "It's time for colleges and universities to get serious about cutting their own costs because they, too, have a responsibility to help solve this problem."

The Office of Institutional Research at MTSU said there are 25,188 students at MTSU. 72 percent of students receive on average \$10,350 in financial aid every year. The estimated costs per semester for instate undergraduates including, tuition, room and board is \$7,087 and for out-of-state undergraduates is \$13,051.

Obama said that after students graduate they would be required to pay 10 percent of their income towards their student loans.

This process will continue for a maximum of 20 years, after which all remaining loans will be forgiven. Loans for students entering a career in public services will be forgiven after 10 years.

Matthew Cox, sophomore mathematical education major, said that because he plans to pursue a career in public services as a teacher, his loans would be paid off in 10 years; which would help out his family.

Obama's bill proposed a \$10,000 tax credit to students and families for a four-year college education.

"I think it would be beneficial for everyone in general because the plan will not change your minimum payment requirements so you will not have any surprise increases in payments," Cox said.

John Elder, freshman nursing major, said that not having extravagant payments during our economy's hard times would be helpful to him and his family.

"This bill, in the long run, would give me the pos-

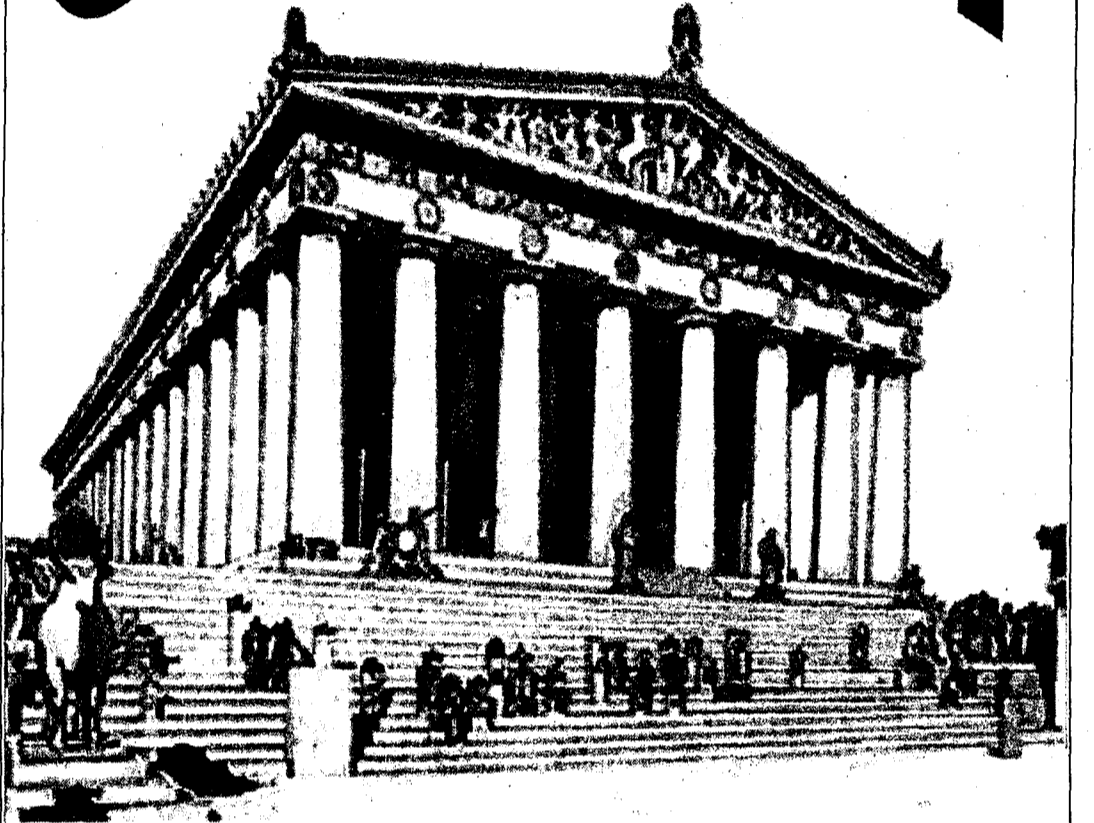
sibility of not having debt hanging over my shoulders for the rest of my life," Elder said.

Obama said students should not have to go without an education because they cannot afford it. Students need the opportunity of a college education to survive in today's economy and America should be able to provide that opportunity.

"I feel as though this bill would give a chance for children of our future generation to greatly excel without feeling pressured due to inadequate funding for their schooling," said Christina Grisom, sophomore criminal justice major.

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CRIME BRIEFS

The MTSU Department of Public Safety's online crime log has not updated since Jan. 25., this is in direct violation of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1990.

The Clery Act requires all colleges and universities, which participate in federal financial aid programs, to record and disclose any information about campus criminal activity at their respective institutions.

The law was renamed to honor a 19-year-old freshman at Lehigh University who was raped and murdered

in her dormitory in 1986.

The United States Department of Education maintains and upholds compliance of said act; violations can result in fines of \$27,500 for each violation or suspended activity within federal student financial aid programs.

Information regarding campus crimes will be updated on mtsusidelines.com as soon as the records are filed.

Comments and concerns regarding the Clery Act or MTSU's crime log should be directed to the Department of Public Safety at 898-2424.

CURRENT EVENTS

Art Exhibit: Ramblings and Dwellings

Jan. 20 until Feb. 9

Location: Todd Art Gallery
Admission: free

Campus Sing: Lift Every Voice and Sing

Feb. 1, 12 p.m.

Location: Keathley University Center Theatre

Admission: free

Red Cross Blood Drive


Feb. 1

Location: Tennessee Ballroom of the James Union Building,
Admission: free

Events Policy

Sidelines welcomes current campus and community events submitted by all readers. Please e-mail events to snews@mtsu.edu or scampus@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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New scholarship offers bright future

STAFF REPORT

Music students have a chance to broaden their musical culture by studying abroad with the Fulbright scholarship.

The program is designed to give students the opportunity to study some aspect of music, social activism, music in learning, music and the community and musical performance abroad in a specific cultural context.

Applicants are encouraged to consider all aspects of the power of music in developing their proposals, according to a press release by the Undergraduate Fellowships Office of MTSU.

According to the Undergraduate Fellowships Office, the purpose of the Fulbright program is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and people of other countries through the exchange of knowledge and skills.

Eligibility requirements:

- U.S. Citizenship
- 3.3 GPA or higher
- Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or the equivalent before the beginning date of the grant

The Fulbright scholarship program is funded by the U.S. Department of State and is the largest international student exchange program in the country. The scholarship was established by the U.S. Congress in 1946 and was named after Sen. J. William Fulbright who sponsored the legislation, according to the Fulbright Web site.

The application deadline is March 1 for the 2010-2011 academic year. The competition for the 2011-2012 academic year will begin May 1, 2010.

For more information visit us.fulbrightonline.org.

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Letters Policy

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

OPINIONS

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

Leaving legacy worth fee increases

Past students paid for projects; current ones have opportunity to continue tradition by funding parking garage

I appreciate the many viewpoints expressed following our recent presentation to the Student Government Association Senate concerning student parking fees and the construction of a parking garage on campus.



From the administration

Debra Sells

Colleges and universities have a long history of operating under the principle of "shared governance," which requires a careful balance between seeking legitimate input from interested constituencies with the ultimate administrative accountability of senior executive staff.

Shared governance commits the university administration to make informed decisions by soliciting input that must be carefully considered and weighed.

A final decision then must be made by the administration that is in the long-term best interests of the university.

The 2009 SGA Parking Referendum vote played an important part in the current decision regarding parking-garage construction and funding. Based on that referendum, we were sensitive to student concerns about raising parking fees by a total of as much as \$60, which was the fee included in the 2009 proposal.

We were also sensitive to the long-standing concern expressed by students that the campus did not provide them

with sufficient and convenient parking. For instance, one of the most common sentiments expressed among more than 3,000 members of one Facebook group dedicated to MTSU parking was this: "I wish there was some way to make them see that a parking garage would make life so much easier for everyone."

Finally, we also had to weigh the long-term best interests of future MTSU students. The parking garage project will provide convenient, well-lit access to major facilities that are used by nearly all MTSU students.

The Health, Wellness and Recreation Center is already heavily used by students, and we expect the new Student Union Building – with its food court, restaurant, theater, study rooms, bookstore, computer lab and recreational activities – to be equally or even more popular. These facilities, as well as the Paul Martin Honors Building and the new College of Education Building, will be served by the new parking garage.

The massive footprints of the new College of Education building and the new Student Union Building have eliminated around 530 student parking spaces in that area of campus. The garage is intended to be built with student fees, for student use.

To be exact, 970 of the 1,000 new parking spaces will be designated for student use during class hours. The remaining 30 spaces will be available for visitor parking. The garage is not designed to serve faculty and staff.

While I understand concerns for increasing fees for students, I strongly believe that this project will significantly improve the student experience on MTSU's campus.

Many of those activities that have the greatest impact on student satisfaction outside of the classroom – campus housing, health services, the recreation center, food service and parking – receive no state funding. Therefore, they must be entirely funded through student fees.

Leaving a legacy for future students is a proud tradition at MTSU.

Previous students have absorbed fee increases to support renovation of residence halls and construction of the Health, Wellness and Recreation Center and new Student Union Building.

Some of these projects were supported by a student referendum; others were supported by routine fee increases submitted by the administration directly for the Tennessee Board of Regents' approval.

In all cases – and in this case – student input was carefully weighed as one part of a thorough decision-making process.

Ultimately, I believe that the decision to move forward with the construction of a student parking garage, while reducing the initially proposed fee increase by almost half, reflects our very best attempt to share governance and balance current student input with the long-term needs of the future.

I hope, upon further reflection, you will agree.

Debra Sells is the vice president of Student Affairs and vice provost of Enrollment and Academic Services. She can be reached at dsells@mtsu.edu.

PARKING GARAGE

Schools censoring books sometimes goes overboard

A difference exists between the content of dictionaries and language that is inappropriate to young children

When I was in elementary school, teachers wanted students to learn how to use dictionaries, encyclopedias and reference systems. Now schools are taking these resources away because some of the materials in them are considered too vulgar.

Oak Meadows Elementary School in Menifee, Calif., recently banned the Merriam-Webster's 10th Collegiate Edition after a student stumbled across the definition of oral sex. Yes, a school actually banned a dictionary. How's that for irony?

The book's definition of oral sex is "oral stimulation of the genitals." Perhaps, it is age-inappropriate but certainly not lewd.

Besides, do parents actually think their children are never going to know what oral sex



Open mouth, insert foot

Tiffany Gibson

is? Sex is a topic that is hard to avoid, especially for teenagers.

What's going to happen when students read these terms in middle school or high school textbooks? Will the administration raid those shelves too? Without the proper reference books, students might have a difficult time completing

class assignments.

It seems like this whole ordeal has been blown out of proportion. It's not like the dictionary included a demonstration picture beside the definition. There is, however, a Merriam-Webster Visual Dictionary online, but I doubt it contains an oral sex how-to guide either.

The same definition for the term has been published in Merriam-Webster print dictionaries since 1973, and parents are just now pushing for its removal.

It's difficult to find a tactful way to describe oral sex, considering most people like to avoid using it verbally. But a dictionary's objective is to define terms and help people expand their vocabulary. Restricting students from doing this defeats the

purpose of receiving a well-rounded education.

The Menifee Union School District removed all of the dictionaries from schools and created a committee – consisting of parents, teachers and administrators – to read all of the definitions to determine whether the book should be put back on the shelves.

But before the committee began its thorough readings, members voted to return the books to fourth- and fifth-grade classrooms with strict regulations.

Students will not be able to access the dictionary unless parents have signed a consent form. Parents can also opt for alternative dictionaries, which will probably have a similar definition they can complain about.

Book censorship is a never-ending argument, but I think it's wrong.

Students haven't had the opportunity to read some of great literary masterpieces because of censorship. I can't imagine attending a school that prohibited books such as "Lord of the Flies," "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "Slaughterhouse-Five."

I've read book-banning articles before, but when I first came across this story in the *Los Angeles Times*, I couldn't believe schools were actually banning dictionaries.

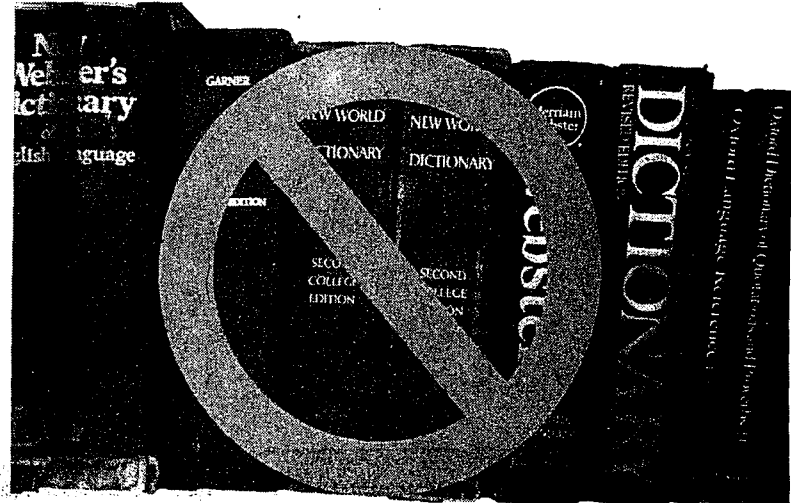
Has the world gotten so atrocious that parents are paranoid that their children might become sex addicts or criminals from reading the dictionary? If so, that's

just sad.

In 2007, *Clarksvilleonline.com* reported that there have been 1,607 challenges to sexually explicit material, 1,427 to material considered to use offensive language and 1,256 challenges of material considered inappropriate for a specific age group in the United States.

I'll admit that there needs to be a line drawn between educational and pornographic material, but I think it's pretty clear that a dictionary is strictly for educational purposes.

Tiffany Gibson is a junior journalism major and former editor in chief of Sidelines. She can be reached at tdg2w@mtsu.edu



Comments from www.mtsusidelines.com

"My tendency is to side with the old man in Germany."
-Charles Leeman on "Lust does not develop into lifelong fulfillment," Jan. 27

"What a great article Marie. It takes an open mind to look beyond the stereotypes of Greek life; the foundation is brotherhood. As an alum and a pledge brother to Chuck Russell, I am sincerely grateful and hope many current students stop by to see what Kappa Sig is all about during rush and make it out to Riverstone to help out a great person and my brother Chuck."
-Stilzy on "Kappa Sigma regains charter," Jan. 27

"Parking garage was coming either way. Vote was just on chance students were for it..."
-MC grad on "Overruling will hurt future vote totals," Jan. 27

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

All companies restrict free speech

Response to "Government employees should be held to same free speech standards," Jan. 27

What happens when men and women join a company and then blast the company they work for in a public forum? They get fired.

The Army isn't different from any other company, except that it provides health insurance, funding for a house

food, education, etc. In return, all the Army expects from its employees is for them to do what they agreed to do when they signed their contract.

Monica K. Smith

Restrictions display gov't neutrality

Response to "Government employees should be held to same free speech standards," Jan. 27

Your editorial about Marc Hall, who was arrested for his rap lyrics, shows a willful misunderstanding of the role of free speech and its limitations for members of the military.

Military personnel do have limits on their freedom of expression. Military personnel cannot attend political events, rallies or protests of any sort in uniform, they cannot actively campaign for or endorse political candidates in their capacity as members of the military, and they have restrictions on the amount of monetary contributions they can make to political candidates.

These limits are there for the protection of the political neutrality of the military, and ultimately help to uphold the principle of civilian control of the military, a principle with which I'm sure you agree.

As for Mr. Hall and his anger about stop loss, know this: Anyone who enters into the Army signs up for a period of eight years, during which, if the country requires it, the enlistee can be called back to military duty, even if his active duty obligation is over.

Nicholas Gray, senior liberal arts

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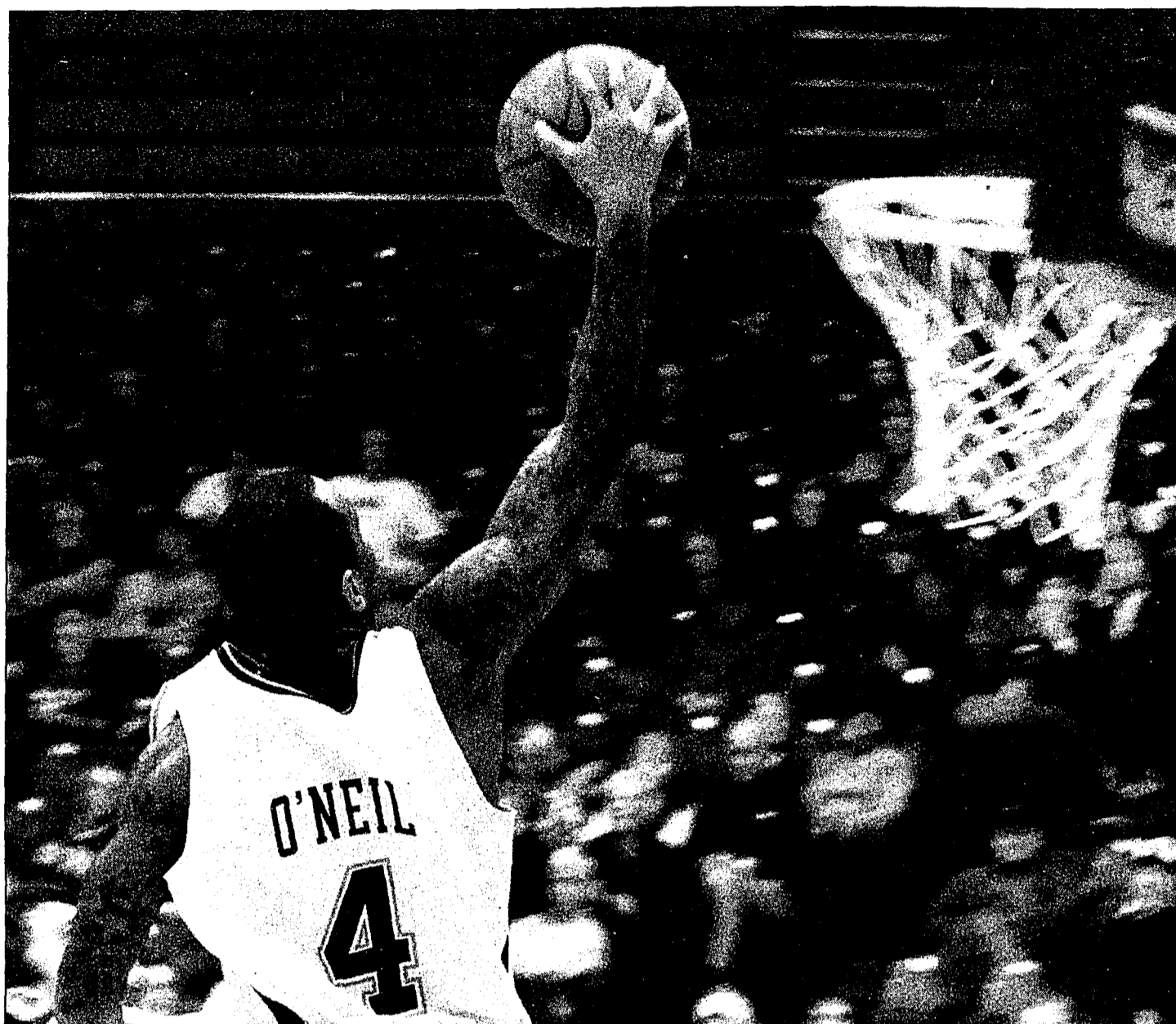


Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

Senior Guard Calvin O'Neil dunks the ball against University of New Orleans on Thursday, Jan. 28, at the Murphy Center Complex.

Blue Raiders knock off Mean Green, 69-64

By STEPHEN CURLEY
Sports Editor

On a night where Murfreesboro sat covered in ice, the action in the Murphy Center was anything but cold.

Senior guard Calvin O'Neil set the tone in one of the most physical games of the year as the Blue Raiders edged the University of North Texas 69-64 Saturday at the Murphy Center.

"I think everybody in the arena knew we beat a really good team," said head coach Kermit Davis. "It was a real gutsy win."

Four Blue Raiders had double-digit scoring figures, with senior guard Montario Haddock leading the team with 15. O'Neil finished with 13, with senior forward Desmond Yates and junior guard Rod Emanuel scoring 12.

Haddock led the team in rebounds as well, bringing down eight.

The Blue Raiders held North Texas to just 37.5 percent shooting, but couldn't pull away until the closing seconds of the second half.

"I think we executed well on defense, we were just getting some bad fouls," O'Neil said. "They shot 20 free throws in the first half, and that's pretty bad."

The teams fought their way to a 35-31 lead at halftime. The physicality of the game resulted in a large number of fouls, including three personals on Yates.

"It was pretty physical," O'Neil said. "Their bigs are pretty strong, and it was just a tough battle."

The second half looked much like the first, with both teams exchanging hard fouls and scoring, with the Blue Raiders seemingly controlling the action, yet never quite being able to pull away.

A three-pointer by UNT guard Collin Mangrum cut the lead to three with 2:25 to play. The Blue Raiders responded when Emanuel nailed a pull-up jumper to bring the lead back to five.

The teams traded three's for two's again when Shannon Shorter nailed a shot from beyond the arch to cut the lead to two with 1:35 left.

Josh White stole the ball from Washington on MT's next possession, giving the Mean Green a chance to tie the game or take the lead. A pass from Mangrum was intercepted by O'Neil, who passed it to Emanuel for an emphatic dunk to give the Blue Raiders a 68-64 lead with 24.5 seconds to play.



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

Senior Forward Montario Haddock powers down the court against University of New Orleans on Thursday, Jan. 28.

The Mean Green would be forced to foul after a missed UNT shot and defensive rebound. Haddock hit one of his two free throw attempts to seal the final score.

"I don't know if we out-toughed them," Davis said, "but I know we matched their toughness."

The win moves the Blue Raiders to 8-3 in the Sun Belt Conference, keeping pace with Florida Atlantic University in a tie for first place in the East Division.

MT is set to conclude its three-game home stand Thursday when the team hosts Troy University before traveling to Mobile to take on the University of South Alabama Feb. 6.

Tip-off Thursday is scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Murphy Center.

O'Neil elevates game, becomes more than No. 4

Everyone who has attended a MTSU Men's Basketball game over the past two weeks is asking the same questions. Who is wearing No. 4 and what have they done with Calvin O'Neil.

O'Neil, a fifth year senior, was known to be a "glue guy." One who did the little things, but was never going to fill the stat sheet despite the amount of minutes he played.

This was somewhat of a mystery to all those inside the program.

MTSU keeps statistics at their practices and assigns point values to everything from actual points and assists to negative points for turnovers and missed charges.

Calvin O'Neil wins nearly every practice.

So what has caused a man who came into the year with a career scoring average of 5.15 points per game to all of a sudden be averaging almost exactly double that (10.2 PPG) over his last five?

"Coach kept telling me to be more aggressive," O'Neil said.

It couldn't have been that simple. So what else did Coach Kermit Davis tell him?

"You've got to define you're career in this last 6 or 8 weeks of your senior year; Calvin O'Neil started a lot of games, nice player — or boy, Calvin O'Neil had an unbelievable senior year and ended it right," Davis said.

That sounds a little bit more motivational than "be more aggressive" but Davis said there were "no magic words."

With that, the "light at the end of the tunnel turned on the light upstairs" theory is probably only half the story.

In his one game played in 2007-2008, O'Neil had 10 points and four rebounds in only 16 minutes before tearing his ACL. It normally takes a player more than a full year to fully recover; and while this is just a hunch, Calvin probably is now finally feeling confident not only in his game, but in his knee.

So what has O'Neil's elevated play meant to the Blue Raiders?

How do five straight wins and the top spot in the Sun Belt's eastern division sound? Throughout their winning streak, the Raiders have been tremendous on defense, starting with O'Neil's tour de force performance against A.J. Slaughter and culminat-



The Basketball Buzz

Hoffman
ing in Saturday's win over North Texas.

"[North Texas] may be the best offensive team in our league, and we held them to 31 percent shooting in the first half," Davis said.

Other keys to the streak have been Montario Haddock, who has put up double figures in every game since the first week of the new year and exactly eight rebounds all but once in the five-game winning streak.

Rod Emanuel has also been in double figures the past two games. Emanuel worked with the coaching staff on some mechanical issues and has focused on shooting inside the arc, and the result has been major production and a newfound confidence that led him to take the biggest shot of the game on Saturday night, a contested jumper in the lane after the Mean Green had cut the lead to three with just over 2 minutes left.

Just over a minute later, Emanuel would provide an emphatic exclamation point in the form of a fast break dunk on a pass from none other than, you guessed it, Calvin O'Neil.

Which brings us full circle to No. 4.

While we all saw the potential of a 6-foot-4 inch guard with a condor like wingspan and a motor that never stopped, it's safe to say nobody saw this coming.

I sure didn't, and as a matter of fact wrote this immediately following the mid-December game loss to Tennessee in which O'Neil didn't score:

"O'Neil knows what to expect at the Division 1 level, and we should also know what to expect from him. He's a fifth year senior and has never really shined. He's solid, and a great practice player, but we shouldn't hold our breath waiting for Calvin to break out."

Sorry Calvin. I was wrong.

And I, and the rest of Blue Raider nation, couldn't be happier about it.

Men's Basketball Remaining Schedule

Blue Raider men are sitting at 12-10 overall with a conference record of 7-3

Feb 4 Troy	Murfreesboro	7 p.m.	Feb 25 FIU	Miami, Fla.	7 p.m.
Feb 6 South Alabama	Mobile	1 p.m.	Feb 27 FAU	Ft. Lauderdale	6 p.m.
Feb 11 Denver	Murfreesboro	7 p.m.	Mar 6-9 Sun Belt Tourn.	Hot Springs, Ark.**	
Feb 13 Houston	Bap. Murfreesboro	7 p.m.	<i>All times central, tentative and subject to change.</i>		
Feb 18 Troy	Troy,	7 p.m.	<i>Sun Belt Tournament will be held at a neutral site</i>		
Feb 20 South Ala.	Murfreesboro	7 p.m.	<i>Tip-off times to be determined at a later date</i>		

Lady Raiders set records, get win

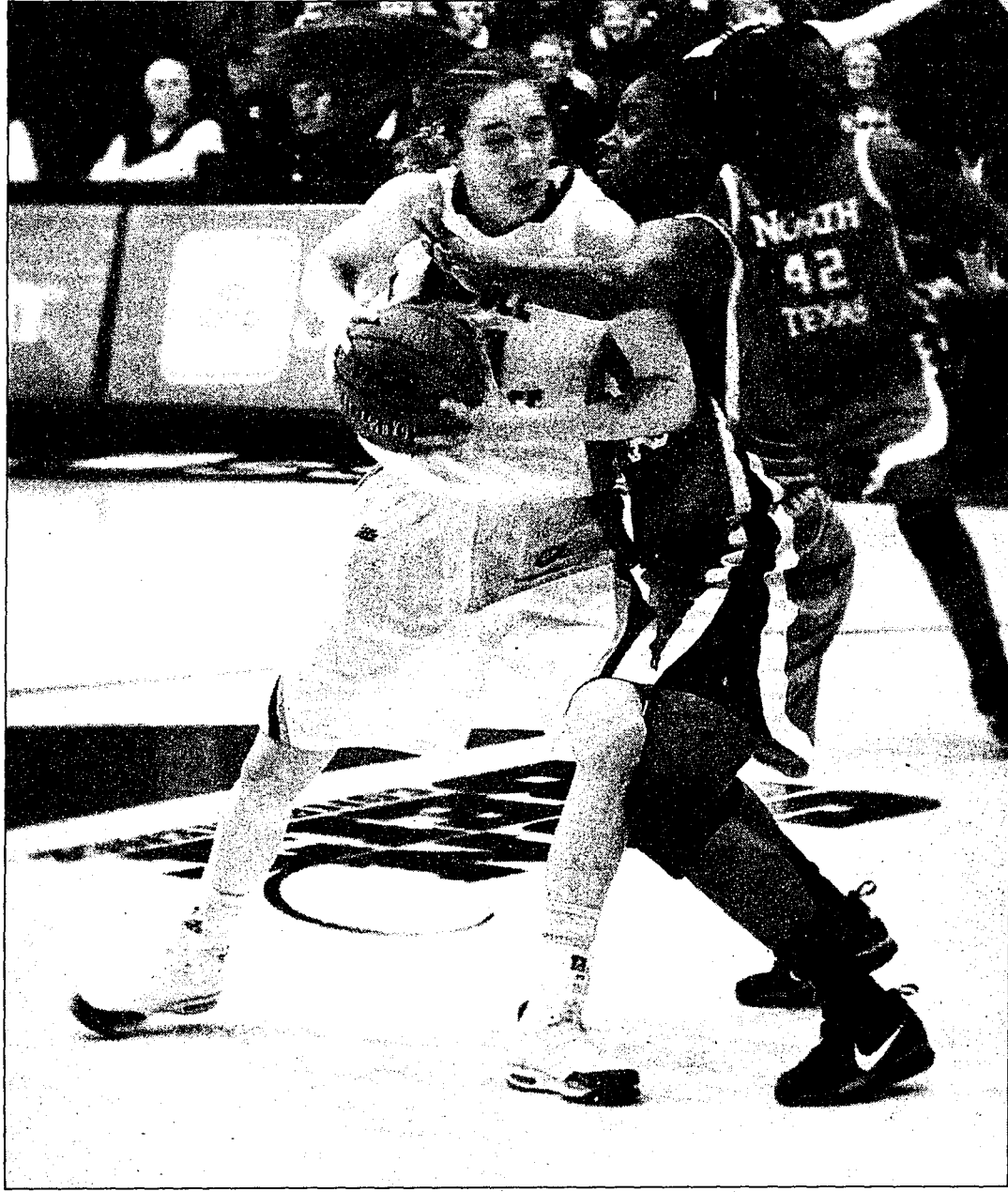


Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor
Senior Forward Brandi Brown fights off a North Texas defender as the Lady Raiders cruise to another victory.

By STEPHEN CURLEY
Sports Editor

The Lady Raiders have a new queen of the arch.

Senior forward Brandi Brown became the team's all-time leading three-point shooter Saturday as the Lady Raiders throttled the University of North Texas 119-51 at the Murphy Center.

"It's an honor," Brown said. "We're not focused on records, we're focused on winning, but it's an honor to do something like that."

MT also broke the previous NCAA record for most points scored in a game, with 116.

Three Lady Raiders had 20 or more points, with senior guard Jackie Pickel leading way, scoring 28. Brown contributed 27, including seven three-pointers.

As a team, the Lady Raiders knocked down 20 three-pointers, just one shy of the NCAA record for a single game.

"When we shoot three's and we hit them like we did today, we can play with anybody in the country," said head coach Rick Insell. "If we can maintain that for another 10 or 12 games that's gonna be the difference."

A quick start by the Mean Green to go up 4-0 early in the

first half was thwarted by the Lady Raiders with a 28-0 run over the next seven minutes, including Brown's record-setting three-pointer at the 16:36 mark.

MT swarmed to the ball in the early, forcing 10 turnovers before halftime.

Jackie Pickel looked like she had never been hurt, scoring 11 points before the middle of the first half, including a perfect 3-of-3 from beyond the arch.

North Texas finally ended its 7:12 scoring drought at the 11:19 mark with a three by Niq'ky Hughes.

The Lady Raiders ended the dominant first half leading 64-26 on the strength of 12 three-pointers, with Brown hitting all five of her attempts. As a team, MT finished 12 of 18 from beyond the arch.

Brown and Pickel led the team in scoring with 19 points each in the first half.

Defensively, the first half ended with the Lady Raiders having forced 19 turnovers, while committing 10 themselves.

The 64 first half points marked the second most in school history.

The Lady Raiders did not let up in the second half, continuing to swarm to the ball, forcing turnovers and

capitalizing on them to add to an already insurmountable lead.

By the time the final buzzer mercifully rang, MT had forced 34 turnovers, shot 50 percent from field goal range, as well as 58.8 percent from beyond the arch and held the Mean Green to 38.9 percent shooting and 25 percent from three-point range.

"If we're gonna be a great team, we've gotta go out there and play our game no matter what the score is," Pickel said.

The Lady Raiders conclude the three-game home stand Wednesday when the team hosts Troy University. From there, the team must travel to Mobile to take on the University of South Alabama, who trail the Lady Raiders by one game in the Sun Belt Conference East Division.

The team's remaining schedule includes trips to Troy to play the Trojans one more time, as well as Miami and Boca Raton, Fla., to play Florida International University and Florida Atlantic University, respectively.

"We've got some tough trips ahead of us," Insell said.

The Lady Raiders tip off against Troy Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Women's Basketball Remaining Schedule

Feb 3	Troy	Murphy Center	7 p.m.	Feb 21	South Alabama	Murphy Center	2 p.m.	Mar 20-23	NCAA 1st/2nd Rounds	TBA
Feb 6	South Ala.	Mobile	3:30 p.m.	Feb 24	FIU	Miami, Fla.	6 p.m.	Mar 27-30	NCAA Sweet 16/Elite 8	TBA
Feb 10	Denver	Murphy Center	7 p.m.	Feb 27	Florida Atlantic	Boca Raton	11 a.m.	Apr 4-6	NCAA Final Four	San Antonio, Texas
Feb 17	Troy	Troy	7 p.m.	Mar 6-9	Sun Belt Tournament	Hot Springs, Ark.				

All times central, tentative and subject to change. Sun Belt Tournament will be held at a neutral site. Tip-off times for tournaments to be determined at a later date.

HOUSING REAPPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR FALL 2010 / SPRING 2011

The Housing and Residential Life Office is now accepting housing reapplication forms from returning students for the Fall 2010/ Spring 2011 academic year. Students are encouraged to reapply for housing as early as possible, particularly if they are requesting to move to a different location on campus next year; as new assignments are made by application date.

Students requesting to remain in their same location on campus next year will be given first priority to do so as long as their reapplication and \$300 prepaid rent deposit are received by the deadline. The reapplication deadline with priority for the 2010/2011 academic year is **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2010 at 4:00 PM.**

Students may reapply by completing a reapplication form and paying the \$300.00 prepaid rent in the Housing and Residential Life Office in the Keathley University Center, room 300, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Students also have the option of reapplying for housing with priority online at www.mtsu.edu. The \$300 prepaid rent is paid by using a credit card, MasterCard or Visa, or by completing an online check. There is an additional \$18 nonrefundable service fee charged by the third party for processing the payment online.

To obtain a **HOUSING REAPPLICATION FORM**, please come by the Housing and Residential Life office during office hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, in the Keathley University Center; room 300.

**Summer '10 Housing Applications are also available in the Housing Office. Reserve your summer space now by completing the housing application and submitting it with the \$175.00 prepaid rent deposit. It is not too early!!

**MIDDLE
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For additional information or questions, please contact Housing and Residential Life during office hours at 898-2971.



One Night.

One Cause.

Our Campus.

If you have any remaining letters to turn in, please do so as soon as possible to KUC S326.

We will have team totals to the team captains soon, so be looking for those! Thank you for all your hard work raising money this year!

FINALE is February 19th at the Campus Rec from 7pm to 1am!!!!

Contact Chloe Robinson or Edgard Izaguirre at uptldawn@mtsu.edu with any questions or concerns.

DID YOU BUILD A SNOW-MAN LAST WEEKEND?

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Equine library honors equestrians legacy

By ALLISON ARMSTRONG
Contributing Writer

I stumbled across the Margaret Lindsley Warden Library for Equine Studies by accident, much as you might stumble across crumbling leaves pressed in your mother's Bible, or tattered photographs tucked in the back pocket of a picture frame. It was never a secret; it had always been there, but I never had the sense to look for it.

Just as the leaves might have fallen from the Bible or the photographs might have waved their tattered ears from behind the frame, the Warden collection had beckoned to me.

There are signs about it on the first floor of Todd Hall; I had walked past them every Monday and Wednesday for an entire semester without a second thought. There's a brochure about it in the MTSU Horse Science Center; I never even glanced at it. The collection had been at the university for nearly a decade; I'd been there for a year and I never knew.

It wasn't until my sister began volunteering at the Albert Gore Re-

search Center, home of the collection, that I found the leaves in the Bible.

She recounted the morning's events as she kicked off her shoes and hung her purse on the hook. I listened with one ear and nodded now and again, but nothing really stuck with me until I heard her say something about horses.

"What?" I said as my notebook slid to the floor.

"I said there's a whole section of the archives filled with horse books," my sister repeated patiently. "You should really go and check it out sometime."

"I'm there," I exclaimed, and headed upstairs to peck out an e-mail to the archivist.

The Albert Gore Research Center is located in a small suite on the first floor of Todd Hall. If you enter from the stadium side of the building, main hall right.

Archivist Matthew Brown greets me in the reading room with a hand and a shake a startling statistic.

"You know," he says, "You're the first student to request access to the Warden collection in the past 18 months."

The sadness of that statement doesn't really hit me until I see the collection in the Margaret Lindsley Warden Library.

A journalist who visited Warden's home in 1994 once remarked on the abundance of books in her house and how they climbed up the left and right sides of the stairs. Imagine, then, all of those books taken from a house and lined up on three long double-sided rows of shelves, and you've got the Warden Library.

Margaret Lindsley Warden's love affair with horses started early in life. I can only imagine that her passion for words began

around the same time, and those two great loves ultimately shaped the course of her life. In 1925, at the age of 21, she began writing a column for "The Tennessean" about equestrian events in the Nashville area. It ran every week until a lack of interest by the editors put an end to it in 1928.

Nevertheless, this brief stint served her well. In 1939, a new editor-in-chief at the paper remembered Warden's previous column and sought to revive it. As a result, Warden started writing again, spending every week following up one horse story or another. The fruits of these labors appeared as "Horse Sense," a sports column that appeared in the paper every Sunday until her retirement in June 1994.

Only love can explain why Warden spent 55 years on the same beat — love for the beauty and grace of the horse, and love for the dedication and hard work of horsemen. And only love can explain why Warden not only filled her head with knowledge of her favorite creatures, but her library as well.

In 1998, four years after her retirement from the paper, she donated her personal collection to the Albert Gore Research Center in hopes of benefiting MTSU students. The collection consists of several hundred monographs (or books), magazines and photographs, as well as Warden's personal research files from her years of writing for "The Tennessean."

"Much of the collection consists of serial publications," Brown tells me. "I can't give you an exact answer for how many titles or how many objects we have, but I do know we have about 750 to 1,000 actual objects."

Brown says they also have a good amount of rare books there, all of which come from Miss Warden's donation.

"There is a 1559 monograph written in Italian that's the oldest item in the collection as well as the whole archive," Brown says.

As I pick up a small blue book from the nearest shelf, I notice the sweet summertime smells of horses and pine shavings. Maybe I'm imagining them — or maybe they're seeping from the pages of the book.

Brown explains to me that although the collection has been in the archives for some time, it isn't available for public use yet. Nevertheless, the faculty and staff of the Gore Center are eager for the stu-

dent body to gain some knowledge about the collection.

"My impression is that there's a community here on campus that doesn't know about material that might be of interest to them," Brown explains. "I'd like to increase the likelihood that people who have an interest in equestrian history and culture would come in and find material of interest to them."

How can students access the collection? "For the short term, we would only allow access to the collection by appointment," Brown says. "We function similar to a library except people can't walk around and just discover things on their own."

Brown hopes that one day, several research guides for the collection will be in place so that students can visit the archives and accurately find the materials they need for researching papers and other projects.

"We work throughout the semesters with faculty members to teach students research skills," Brown says. "To come into an archive and research an index, identify material that is of interest to the researcher and then have that material put in front of the researcher is an experience that you just can't pick up from a library book."

It's an experience I'm beginning to like. As Brown escorts me through the collection, I notice titles like "Horses, Saddles, and Bridles, Questionnaire" and "The Horse in Motion." I crouch down to glance at some titles on the lower shelf and smile when I see two books that no self-respecting horse lover would be without: Marguerite Henry's "Justin Morgan Had a Horse" and Anna Sewall's "Black Beauty."

The rare books are on a shelf of their own, each one carefully swaddled in archival cardboard and labeled with the book's name, author's name, and the date of publication. The Italian monograph from 1559 rubs elbows with "A New Method and Extraordinary Invention to Dress Horses and Work Them," a piece written by the Duke of New Castle in 1667.

I can't believe that these ancient books have been on campus all this time and I never knew. After all, it's not every day that a horse kid from Middle Tennessee gets to see a horse book from 1559.

But that's what the Gore Center is all about: preserving materials from the past so that today's students can learn from them.

LIBRARY, PAGE 10

Eating healthy on campus not impossible

By SARAH WELBORN
Contributing Writer

Is the 'Freshman Fifteen' actually a myth or is it something that truly affects students? For some, it is a reality.

Students who are on their own for the first time may find it hard to eat healthy, especially when they are used to mom or dad's home-cooking. Others do not even know how to cook, and, due to the changes that are inevitable upon entering college, there are those that cannot find the time to cook even if they wanted to.

The 'Freshman Fifteen' is unwanted weight gain experienced by some students their first year of college. This campus myth leads some freshmen students to believe that they will gain 15 pounds upon entering college.

However, the amount of weight gained upon entering college varies from person to person. Some students gain more or less than 15 pounds, if any at all.

But there is a light at the end of this tunnel; it is not inevitable. Healthy eating is an excellent way to combat the seemingly avoidable myth.

In reality, is the "healthy" food offered on campus actually healthy?

"None of the options on campus are terribly healthy," said Megan Maguigan, fresh-

man education and behavioral science major. "Even the healthier options normally have longer lines so it is not something you can grab on the go."

In the Keathley University Center Home Zone, broccoli, carrots, green peas and a slew of other vegetables are offered, except they are covered in butter. While butter-smothered veggies can be healthier than say, a fried chicken sandwich covered in ranch dressing, these once nutritious vegetables quickly become another antagonist to a student's waistline.

There are always obstacles that stand in a student's way of eating healthy. One of the biggest for new students is finding the time to cook meals, especially while they are still transitioning from living at home where their meals were cooked for them.

"I live in an apartment, and I am on my own for the first time," Maguigan said. "When I am stressed and busy, it is so much easier to grab fast food or order a pizza than cook something healthy."

Some students are under the impression that they are eating healthy, yet their bodies think otherwise. However, does a student who has never been taught the difference between healthy and unhealthy meals know that what he or she is eating is unhealthy? How could they, especially when there is not enough information

on campus to help students understand how to make healthy choices?

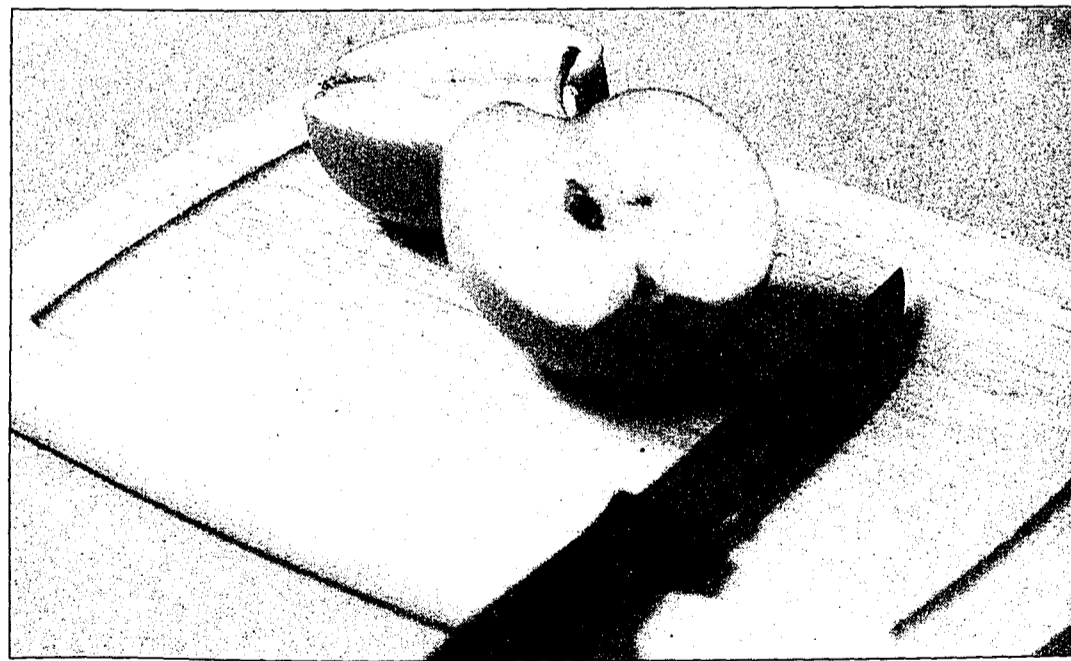
Time is another factor playing a role in students' diets. Going without food for several hours is not a healthy behavior or practice. Even visiting the vending machine can be healthy and not ruin one's overall healthy eating plan.

"Even if you only have time to visit a campus vending machine, you need to get some calories into your body," says Lisa Thomason, director of health promotion in health services located in the Health, Wellness, and Recreation Center. "But when you stop at the vending machine, look for options that are not going to be primarily sugar and fat."

Thomason suggests looking for peanut butter crackers, granola bars, or trail mix, which are often cheaper than the candy bars and chips. These options will give you the energy to focus during the time you are on campus.

Eating healthy on campus can be done. In fact, Thomason shares with students in the University 1010 classes several different ways that this can be achieved. Meal plans are great when trying to eat healthy because one's plate can be loaded with fruits and vegetable a-la-carte at McCallie Dining Hall, which is not an option at the KUC or the Cyber Café.

Thomason also encourag-



es students to use the "plate method," in which one visualizes his or her plate divided into sections. One section should hold a meat or protein-based food while another holds a starchy carbohydrate such as potatoes or bread. The remaining sections can then be filled with fruits and vegetables.

Using the "plate method" ensures that a student is eating a balanced meal whether at home or on campus.

She also encourages students to look up the nutrition information online for such places as Subway, Quiznos, Pizza Hut and Chik-fil-a. Familiarizing oneself with the healthiest items on each menu will make it easier to order on campus.



Photo by Gina DePrimo
Remnants of a fruit salad being prepared at Scarlett Commons.

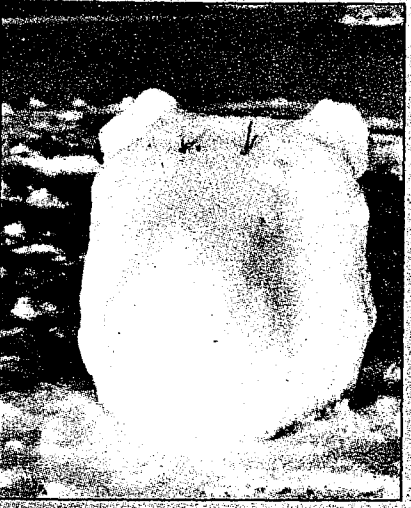
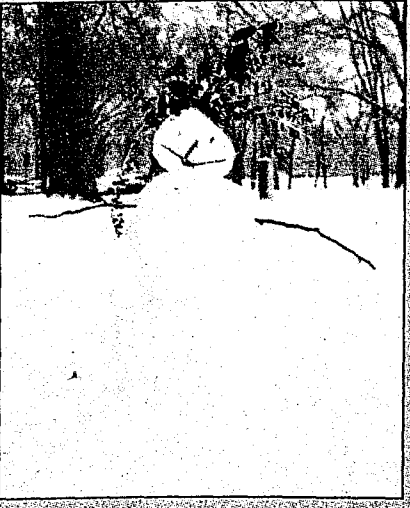
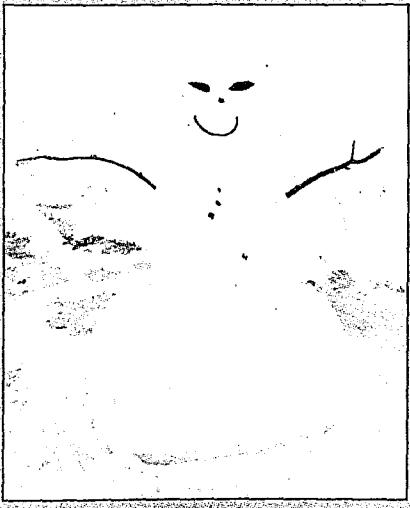
Other tips for eating healthy on campus, in the dorm room, or on the go are as follows: eat some sort of breakfast to jumpstart your day. Yes, even eating a piece of cake for breakfast is better than eating nothing at all.

Choose grilled or baked

meats over the fried ones, and choose vegetables over fries. Drink water, juice or milk instead of sodas. Choose parfaits, yogurts, puddings and smoothies as desserts over cookies, cakes and pies.

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5 snowman around campus



"When in Rome" proves surprisingly entertaining

By KATY COIL
Staff Writer

Most romantic comedies are predictable after seeing 30 second previews on TV. But sometimes the occasional film, like "When in Rome," gives plenty of laughs along the way, even if you anticipate the ending.

Mark Steven Johnson's film focuses on Beth Martin (Kristin Bell) a workaholic curator for the Guggenheim Museum in New York City who has no patience for love, magic or anything that isn't strictly work related.

When her flighty sister Joan (Alexis Dziena) gets engaged to a spur-of-the-moment fling, Beth finds herself in Rome at a lavish Italian wedding outside the Fountain of Love. She meets best man Nick Beamon (Josh Duhamel), who is a bumbling, clumsy, unlucky in everything sports writer who's claim to fame is being struck by lightning during a big football game in college.

Beth dances and drinks with Nick, ultimately finding herself drunk and dancing in the Fountain of Love. Failing to believe in the promise that a coin thrown in

the fountain brings love to the thrower, Beth takes five coins, making five men fall in love with her.

When she returns to New York, Beth finds herself being chased by a mad Italian artist (Will Arnett), a self-absorbed but dimwitted male model (Dax Shepard), an annoying street magician (Jon Heder) accompanied by his sidekick (Efren Ramirez), and the Sausage King of New York (Danny DeVito).

While she tries to juggle these unwanted advances, she finds her assistant (Kate Micucci) has inadvertently cancelled the centerpiece for the opening of the new art exhibit, leaving Beth in big trouble with her boss.

Beth discovers that the only way to cure her Rome-osis of their besotted state is to return their coins to the fountain. As Nick begins to court her, she wonders if his love is real and when she discovers his poker chip among her coins, she believes he is just another enchanted par-

Did you ever wish for the impossible?

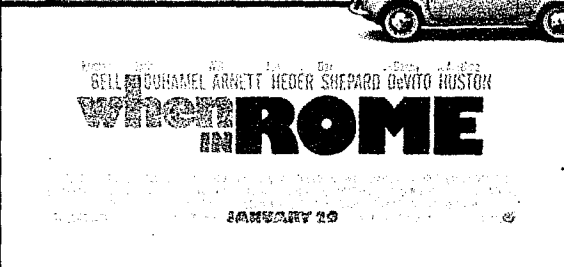


Photo courtesy of Touchstone Pictures

amour. As he helps her save face at work and tries to take her on a romantic literally blind date, Beth falls in love, which is against her strict workaholic rules.

The comedy in this movie is really about the thrill of the chase. Beth just wants to get her job done but she is hounded by men who break into her apartment, paint gigantic nudes of her on the sides of buildings, and send her gigantic gifts of sausages.

Beth is sort of the archetype of the romantic comedy heroine: obsessed with her job, doesn't believe in love or magic, but finds that lightning can strike twice when she meets the right guy.

Unlike many romantic heroines, Beth believes love is all about free will rather than destiny and wants a guy to choose her on the basis of real feelings and understanding rather than just to land a husband and end a romantic dry spell.

Kristin Bell turns Beth into one of your girlfriends, a grounded career woman who has to embrace taking risks for better or worse.

the unluckiest guy in the world. He stumbles into polls, falls into trap doors, crashes into cars and it's a wonder all of the physical comedy doesn't leave him injured for the rest of his life. He is the perfect foil for Beth, who has all the luck in the world and seemingly has it all together, despite a few nutty run-ins with her coin-charmed stalkers.

Of course, the humor in the movie is a lot more based around shtick than funny lines. The script, written by Davids Diamond and Weissman, has a few laughs in it, but with any other actor, the lines just wouldn't work. The actors, in a sense, make this script.

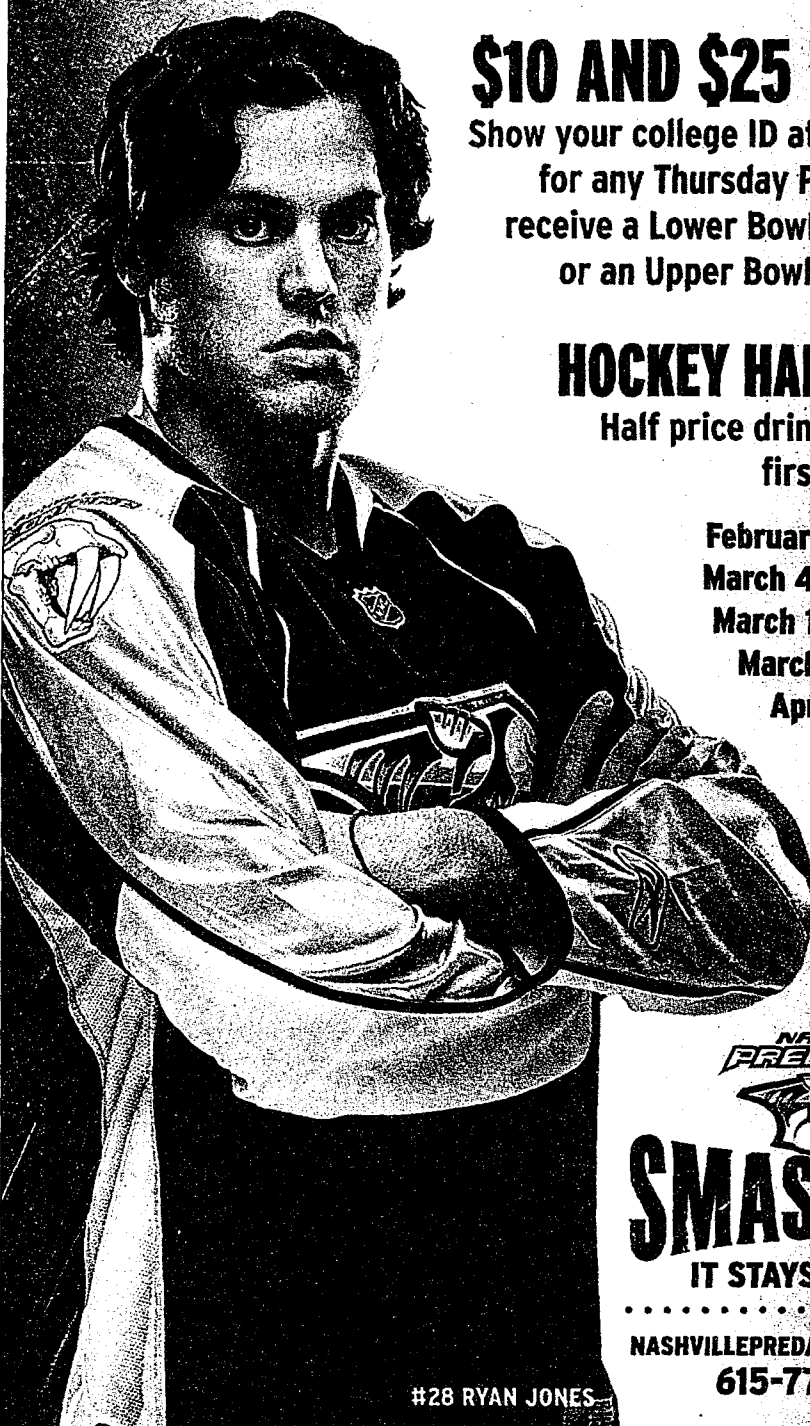
In fact, the scene-stealers in the film aren't the main characters, but Beth's harem of quirky suitors who try to win her heart by any means necessary. The hijinx they pull to win Beth's hand not only keep the script moving, but also keep the audience in stitches.

In the end, Beth's love-struck Lotharios turn out to be decent guys, who were just looking for the missing pieces in their lives.

And, after all, isn't that what we're all looking for?

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LIBRARY FROM PAGE 8

"We're here to support students and their research," Brown tells me. "We have unique documents here and we try to teach people how to research the historic record - we also want to teach people the theories

of history, how history is constructed and what the role of an archive or a library is in constructing the historic record."

He shows me a heavy black book from one of the upper shelves and I grasp it carefully, supporting its fraying spine with one hand and gently turning its golden pages with the other. The

book falls open to a particular page, as some old books with cracked spines do, and I stop to read a sentence or two.

"And the material is just fascinating," Brown says with a smile.

I couldn't agree more. I keep reading for a moment, then turn the page and stop. There are five small, oval

leaves, the souvenirs of some bygone autumn, pressed between the yellowed pages.

If you're interested in viewing the Warden Library for Equine Studies, contact Matthew Brown by phone at 615-898-2632 or by e-mail at mabrown@mtsu.edu. Visit the Albert Gore Research Center's Web site at janus.mtsu.edu

HEALTH FROM PAGE 8

Small refrigerators full of fruit, water and veggies can be kept in a dorm room for those late-night snacks. In restaurants or on campus, get a to-go box and save some food for later; it does not all have to be eaten at once.

No matter the location, when trying to decide how much to eat, it's good to remember that serving sizes for each food group is different.

Some helpful tips when trying to visualize portion sizes of the different food groups are a serving of bread is the size of a CD, a serving of meat should be proportional to that of a deck of cards and a serving of cheese is the size of a domino. A serving of fruit and vegetables each should be about the size of a tennis ball.

Jerry Langham, MTSU Fitness and Wellness Director, said that students do not realize that input is

supposed to equal output—calories in should equal calories out.

"The biggest problem I see is that students and faculty alike workout but do not eat before or afterwards," Langham said. "So their bodies do not change despite their efforts."

It seems twisted, but, to gain or lose weight properly, one must eat after they work out. Whether one gains or loses weight depends on what they eat after their workout.

Lisa Sheehan-Smith, didactic program director for Nutrition and Food Science, said to always remember the 80-20 rule.

"Eat healthy 80 percent of the time and don't worry about it for the other 20 percent," said Sheehan-Smith. "No one can eat healthy all the time."

Eating healthy is a mindset. It is a will to be healthy on the inside as well as the outside. The phrase "you are what you eat" is not so far from the truth. You are only as healthy as the food you consume.

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To apply to be a Student Ambassador, students must:

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Tues. Feb. 9 Dinner @ JUB
- valentine's celebration**
Thur. Feb. 11 PREMIUM Dinner @ McCallie
- fat tuesday**
Tues. Feb. 16 PREMIUM Dinner @ McCallie
- february birthday**
Wed. Feb. 17 Lunch and Dinner @ McCallie and JUB
- macho nacho**
Thur. Feb. 18 Lunch @ JUB
- root beer floats**
Tues. Feb. 23 Dinner @ JUB
- jazz brunch**
Thur. Feb. 25 Lunch @ McCallie

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