

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010

VOL. 87, NO. 6

Controversy returns to campus

Allegedly assaulted preacher from last semester comes back to evangelize

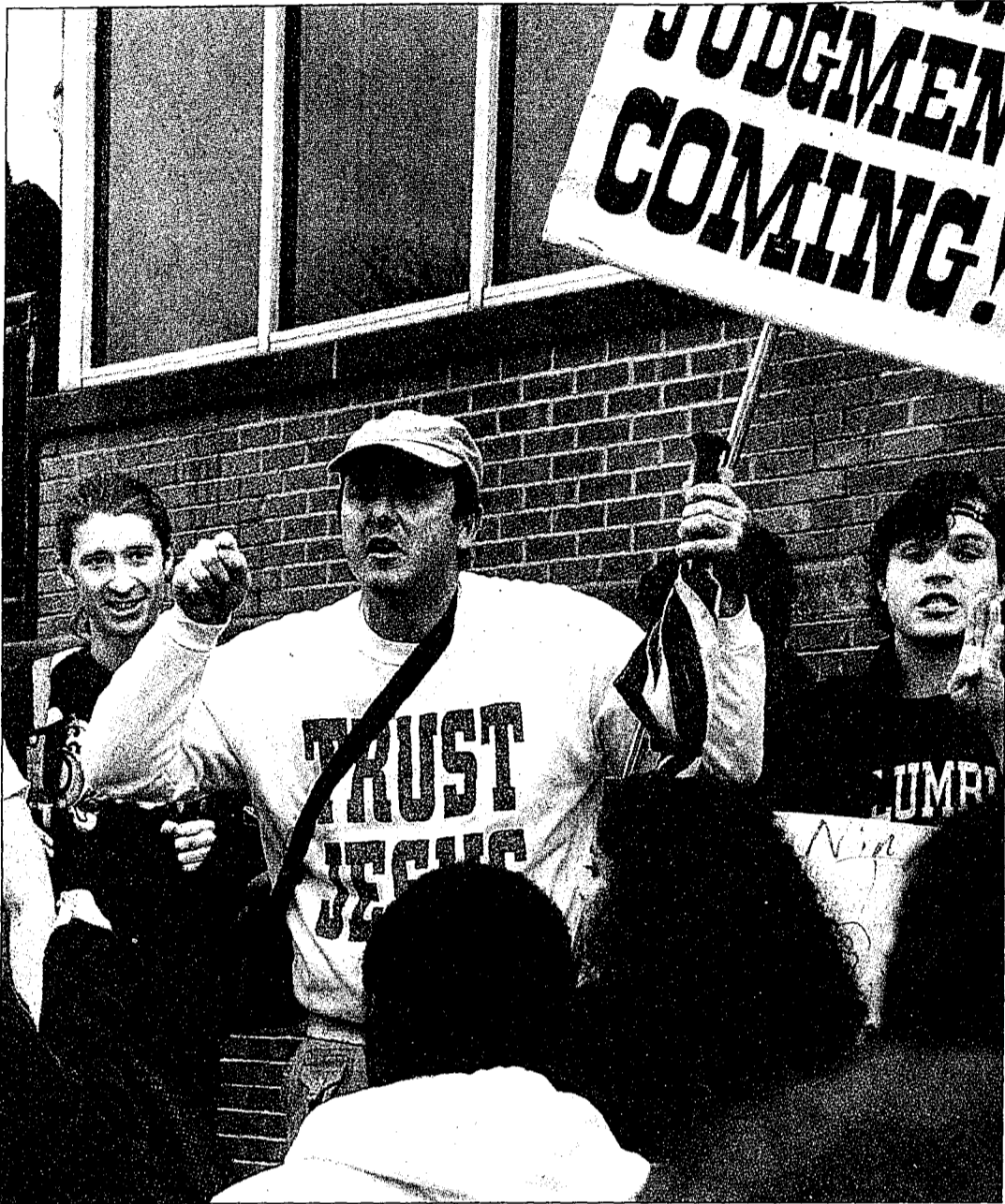


Photo by Brandon Cloud, contributing photographer
John McGlone, minister of PinPoint Evangelism, speaks to students last semester at the Keathley University Center.

By ROZALIND RUTH
Community News Editor

The evangelical preachers involved in an alleged assault by a student last October on the Keathley University Center Knoll are scheduled to return today at 11 a.m.

John McGlone, the minister of PinPoint Evangelism who was allegedly assaulted by former student Michaela Morales on Oct. 27, 2009, and other members of the organization have completed all of the necessary paperwork and received a permit from the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs to preach on the KUC Knoll.

Gene Fitch, associate dean of Student Affairs and dean of Student Life, said that the permit, which lasts from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., has stipulations including a designated area to be taped off for the ministers and two security officers to be provided by MTSU police.

Fitch also said that PinPoint asked to use a self-provided public address system, but the request was denied.

"I think people need to understand that the university is competing in a market place of ideas," Fitch said. "We may not always agree with the ideas that are presented, but there is a way to respectfully disagree, and that's what students need to keep in mind when they are here."

Fitch said that no organizations have filed paperwork as of yesterday to hold counter-protests, but accommodations can be considered for those wishing to assemble peacefully if space is available.

A Facebook event has been created by a group named Peaceful Protest of PinPoint Evangelism, in which students, according to the Web site, plan on gathering together on the KUC

Knoll to essentially ignore the ministers.

"If you look at [PinPoint's] Web site, you'll see that what they do is designed to do what they did last time they were here, which is provoke people walking by to engage him," Fitch said. "It will be up to our students whether to fall into that or just let it go."

Morales was arrested Oct. 27, by the MTSU Police Department. Her assault charges are still pending in the Rutherford County court system. Her court date is scheduled Feb. 10.

MTSU Police Chief Buddy Peaster said two officers would be acting as security for the event, though he does not expect a disturbance from the crowd.

"Because of the incident last time, there's certainly a sense that it would be good for us to be there," Peaster said. "Hopefully with our presence, it will keep anyone—whether it's a spectator or anyone involved with the event—from doing anything that would cause harm or injury."

Peaster said that his main concern with today's event is maintaining the safety of everyone on campus. He suggests that anyone who might not be able to participate in the event should avoid the KUC Knoll while the ministers are on campus.

Jason Rieneke, assistant journalism professor and expert on free speech, said that PinPoint is simply expressing its rights under the First Amendment.

"In terms of allowing particular speakers, generally institutions like MTSU can't discriminate on the basis of content," Rieneke said. "But they can take steps when there is potential disturbances or unrest that might result from communication in order to protect the safety and well being of everyone involved."

PREACHER, PAGE 4

Obama tackles energy prices, students become concerned

By MARIE KEMPH
Campus News Editor

Although Tennessee gas prices are lower than the national average, the cost of filling up a tank of gas is expected to rise later this year, according to a report released this week by GasBuddy.com.

The average retail price of gasoline has fallen 4.9 cents in the past week, bringing the statewide average down to \$2.54 per gallon, according to the report, but that is still 79 cents higher than December 2009.

The national average of gasoline is \$2.67 per gallon and is 81.5 cents higher than this time last year.

The report comes less than a week after President Barack Obama announced in his State of the Union Address that his administration is now open to expanding offshore oil drilling.

"We need more production, more efficiency, more incentives," Obama said during his speech. "It means making tough decisions about opening new offshore areas for oil and gas development."

Congress passed a bill lifting the ban on offshore oil drilling in 2008. The bill included a provision that left any decision to expand offshore drilling up to the executive branch.

Ultimately, the Obama administration will have to give the final approval before any additional offshore drilling can begin.

"Keep my money in my pockets," said Spencer Edelstein, junior accounting major, referring to the rising gas prices.

Edelstein said that he supports the idea of expanding offshore drilling, and that lower gas prices are always welcome.

Andrew Liles, junior marketing major, said he disagreed with the idea of expanding offshore



Photo courtesy of Morguefile.com
Gas prices set to rise in the coming months.

drilling for petroleum. He said he supports investing more in clean energy, instead of spending money on oil refineries.

"We have enough renewable energy sources," Liles said. "Fossil fuels would not be needed if more investments were made in solar and wind energy."

Liles said that although he agreed with some of what Obama said last week, he strongly opposes any energy policy that would do harm to the environment.

To read more, visit us online.

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www.mtsusidelines.com

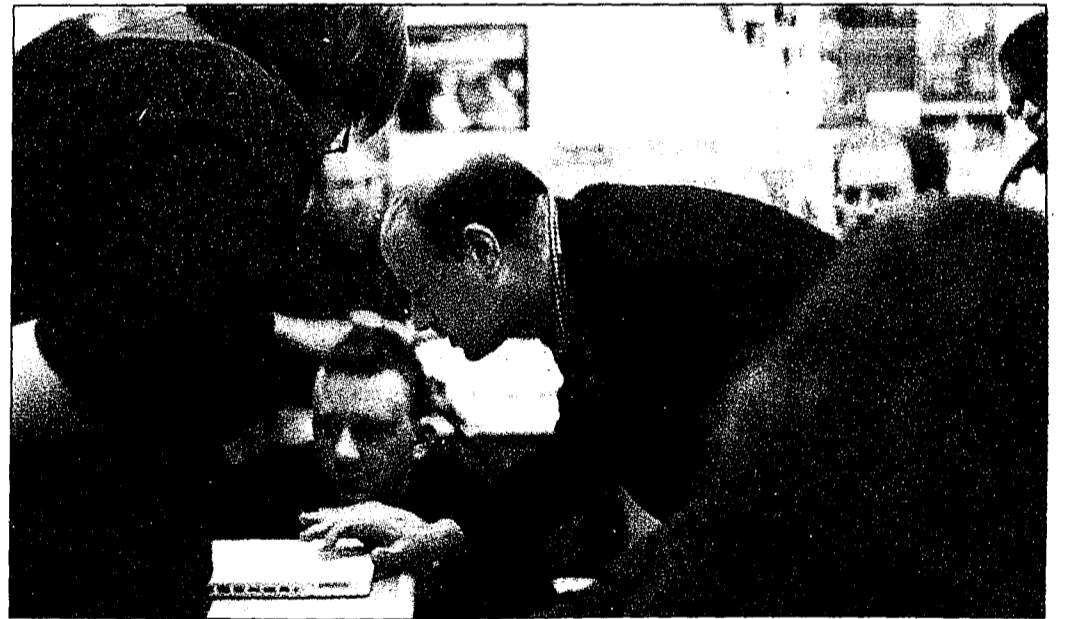


Photo by Sarah Finchum, staff photographer
Lobbyists help MTLambda learn how to get results in the Student Government Association meetings.

Lambda lobbies friendly legislation

By KELSEY FRANKLIN, ROZALIND RUTH
Staff Writer, Community News Editor

Monday night members of MTLambda Association, a LGBT rights organization, met with state government lobbyists to strategize ways to pass LGBT-friendly legislation through MTSU's Student Government Association.

MTLambda member and SGA Sen. Brandon Thomas, sophomore liberal arts major, teamed up with The Tennessee Equality Project in order to progress the gender identity bill in the SGA which would protect gender identity from discrimination.

"We're trying to show that we are visible on campus," Thomas said. "With the help of organizations like the TEP, we can advance our rights and keep bad bills from going forward."

According to TEP's Web site, "Tennessee Equality Project is an organization of individuals united in their collective efforts to ensure equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Tennesseans."

"The Goal of activism is policy change," said Chris Sanders, board chair of TEP. "No one else can represent your city but you."

Sanders, along with H.G. Stovall, TEP president, and Ryan Ellis, Ru-

therford County Chair of TEP, spoke with members of MT Lambda at an open meeting last Monday about how to approach lobbying with the SGA, including charts and graphs showing how the LGBT community can influence elected bodies through voter-turnout, campaign contribution and volunteering.

TEP lobbies local and state government levels to stop legislation, such as the Don't Say Gay bill, which would prohibit educating students in grades K-8 about LGBT issues from passing.

LGBT, PAGE 4

INDEX

Opinions
pages 5, 6

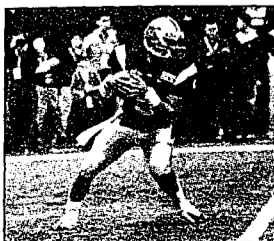
Sports
pages 7, 8

Features
pages 8-10



Letter to the Editor: Legacy should be left through education not buildings.

PAGE 5



ONLINE
Blue Raiders add 20 on National Signing Day.

mtsusidelines.com

THURSDAY FORECAST

PARTLY CLOUDY
30% CHANCE OF RAIN
HIGH 46, LOW 37

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending."
Maria Robinson

MTSU students get in-depth perspective with ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict

By KATY COIL
Staff Writer

The ongoing conflict between Israeli-Palestinian statehood has spurred debate at MTSU as part of a series on Middle East relations, which encourages students to educate themselves about issues abroad.

Karen Petersen, professor in the department of political science, spoke to students on Monday's installment of the lecture series, "Global Tensions: A Focus on the Middle East" focuses on Middle Eastern regional politics, culture and international relations.

"I want to argue that we have this simplistic view of the conflict that leads to some naive conclusions," Petersen said, as she introduced students to her lecture called "Problem Solved? The Political Implications of Palestinian Statehood."

Petersen said that the main point of her lecture was to discuss how Western policymakers address the various parties involved in that region.

"The policy that Western [politicians] have in respect to Israel and Palestine reflect this naiveté and these dangerous assumptions that our interests are the universal interests; that the interests of Western powers are in fact shared by the rest of the world," Petersen said.

Petersen specializes in international conflict and spent the majority of the lecture addressing the complexities within Israeli-Palestinian statehood.

The series is designed to get students and faculty engaged and talking about the ongoing conflict in the region.

"The general goal is to get acquainted with what's happening on campus and to encourage dialogue on campus," said Scott Carnicom, assistant dean of the University Honors College. "We just want people to be well informed and to form their own opinions."

Petersen said that the Western world has difficulty understanding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict because of this reason.

Among those mistaken assumptions, Petersen said that many believe that Palestine was at peace before Israel was created and that everyone involved desired peace. There is also the belief that the situation began in 1948 with Israel's independence, and that a Palestinian state would satisfy political ambitions on all sides.

She said that one of the problems is that

policymakers do not know the full history of the region, including Judeo-Christian history in the region involving the Crusades and the Holocaust.

Petersen said there were many different sides of the issues and how the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is often used for political gain or distraction by governments such as the United States and countries in the Middle East.

She said she believes peace is unlikely because of the complexities of external and internal factors often not understood by policymakers or ignored because of the political interest of those in power.

"I'm telling you to not base your hopes on some idea of international peace that doesn't exist," Petersen said. "It fits into our ideology, and it is in our interest to have world peace because we have the best technology, the best guns and all the power."

Some of those in attendance said although they had were informed about the basic facts surrounding the issue, attending events like these are still helpful. Others were not as knowledgeable about the ongoing conflict.

"I don't have a whole lot of interest in the Middle East, but it's good to be aware," said Ginny Schlitt, senior biology major. "Anything that happens to one part of the world can happen to another."

Schlitt said she believes it is important for students to attend lectures that are offered on campus for free, and said that she felt as though she left the lecture with a new understanding about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"I learned about the history, and it is interesting to see how the different sides of the fence view an issue in different ways," Schlitt said. "I think everyone seems to be looking for one answer but there isn't actually one."

The lecture series plans to address a wide variety of issues: jihad and holy war, gender issues, Iraq, torture and American foreign relations and policy in the Middle East.

Linda Seward, outreach coordinator for the MTSU Middle East Center, said she believes learning about the Middle East is important in a more globalized society.

"We live in a time when people can no longer ignore what is going on around the world, and the more we know about other cultures,



Photo courtesy of Morguefile.com
With ongoing turmoil in Palestine, MTSU is offering a lecture series to help students better understand the culture.

the better off we are," Seward said. "When we look at all the different regions of the world, the Middle East is the most misunderstood."

The MTSU Middle East Center, one of the co-sponsors of the event, promotes education about the Middle East as well as heads the Middle East studies program at MTSU.

Director of the MTSU Middle East Center Allan Hibbard said he was pleased to have the opportunity to co-sponsor the event.

Hibbard said that the series supports the center's long-term goals of promoting an understanding of the various populations and cultures of the Middle East among the student body and surrounding community.

"The lecture series topic responds to the increasing importance of the Middle East for Americans and the growth of programs in Middle East Studies here at MTSU," Hibbard said.

Hibbard said he hopes that the lecture se-

ries will help develop and encourage student to become more interested in the programs offered through the Middle East Center.

"The series will provide students with a great way to learn more about the Middle East," Hibbard said, "and at the same time be introduced to a fine and impressive cast of MTSU faculty with interest and expertise in the region."

A committee from the University Honors College decides the topic for each semester. This semester's series is being co-sponsored along with The Middle East Center.

"We asked students and faculty members what they were interested in, and this topic percolated to the top," Carinocorm said. "We have a lot of faculty studying this area and a lot of students studying this area as well."

The lecture series is set to take place every Monday at 3 p.m., in Room 106 of the Honors College Building Amphitheatre.

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april/may	FREE COOKIE 	FREE 8PC. NUGGET 	FREE REGULAR COFFEE 	FREE FRESH CUT FRY 	FREE 3PC. BUFFALO WING



Associate chemistry professor receives outstanding performance award

STAFF REPORT

Dwight E. Patterson, associate professor of chemistry, was awarded the 2010 John Pleas Faculty Recognition Award for his contributions to the university and dedication to MTSU's black students this week.

The award is handed out annually as part of MTSU's celebration of Black History Month, which is a na-

tional holiday observed each February, and is named after retired psychology professor John Pleas.

The award is presented every year since 1996 to a faculty member who has shown continued commitment to the MTSU community through outstanding research, teaching and service.

Patterson's previous recognitions include the 2005 MTSU Outstanding

Teacher Award and 2002 NASA Summer Faculty Fellowship Award.

A reception in honor of Patterson is scheduled for Feb. 10 from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m., in Cantrell Hall of the Tom H. Jackson Building.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the event may contact Adonijah Bakari, director of African-American Studies at abakari@mtsu.edu.

Historian set to give Latin American lecture

STAFF REPORT

This year's Strickland Visiting Scholar Lecture in History hosts Christon Archer Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. in the State Farm Lecture Hall in the Business and

Aerospace Building.

Archer is a leading historian on Latin America and the global military. His lecture is titled: "Winning all of the battles and Losing the War: How Insurgency and Counterinsurgency Forged Independent

Mexico, 1810-1821."

A graduate of the University of Victoria in Victoria, B.C., Archer earned both a Master of Arts and his Doctor of Philosophy from New York's Stony Brook. La Trobe University also awarded him

with an honorary Doctor of Letters.

To read more, visit us online.

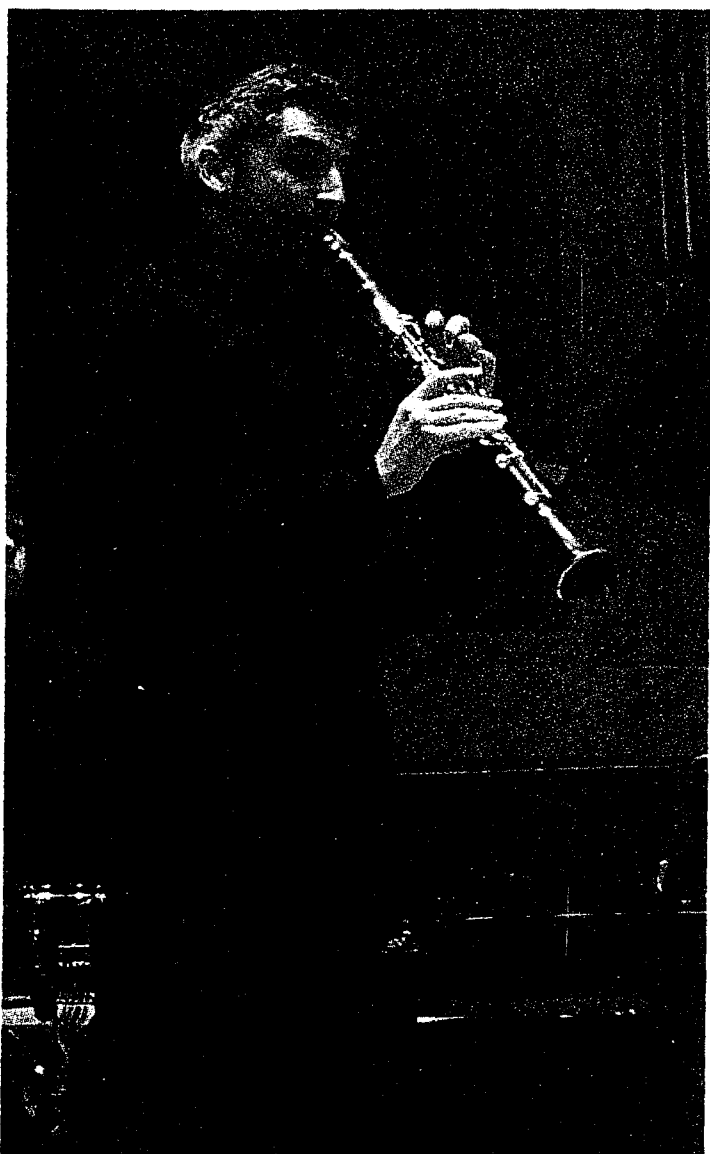


Photo by Erin O'Leary, staff photographer
Todd Waldecker plays the clarinet in Hinton Hall Monday night.

MTSU students treated to a night of 'Latin Flair'

By SARAH HAMACHER
Contributing Writer

The Stones River Chamber Players spiced up Hinton Hall Monday with "Latin Flair," a performance which showcased the talent of MTSU Students and faculty.

The program included an intriguing mix of traditional and contemporary music that included music from Latin composers, such as Manuel de Falla and Joaquin Turina and others.

Professor Lynn Rice-See, co-director of the Stones River Chamber Players, and Associate Professor Todd Waldecker said they considered the night to be a success.

"We try to give a variety in all of our performances," Rice-See said, adding that all of the faculty and students who perform do a fine job throughout



Photo by Erin O'Leary, staff photographer
Michael Arndt, trumpet player, performs on Monday.

performs only three times per year instead of four.

The chamber orchestra consists mostly of faculty from the music department, which includes doctoral graduates, award-winning soloists and

musicians from other universities and colleges.

Monday night's concert was different, however, because three MTSU students made a rare appearance by joining the group for the opening set.

Nick Enloe, Eric Messmer and Andrew Hale assisted the seasoned professionals by acting as "clappers" during a set by Spanish composer Carlo Surinach called "Ritmo Jondo." The piece was originally composed as a ballet and is inspired by flamenco dancing.

MTSU alumna Anne Durrant and her husband, Norman, have been attending concerts on campus since they retired to Murfreesboro four years ago.

Durrant, who graduated with a master's degree in 1977, said she still remembers the first time she attended a concert on campus after being away from MTSU for more than 30 years.

"I just enjoy music," Durrant said.

The chamber orchestra is set to perform its last free concert for the semester in March, and it is open to the entire MTSU community.

"If I could say one thing about all of the Stones River Chamber Players' concerts, is that if you could turn the sound off, you could see they love what they do."

CHRISTEN VANN
SOPHOMORE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

the year.

Christen Vann, sophomore elementary education major, said she has been attending concerts performed by the members of the chamber orchestra for the past six years, ever since watching an exhibition performance when she was still in high school.

"If I could say one thing about all of the Stones River Chamber Players' concerts, is that if you could turn the sound off, you could see that they love what they do," Vann said. "They play great music."

Rice-See said that faculty members from the School of Music created the performance group 21 years ago to create more opportunities for professors to perform, because several did not typically perform in solo concerts.

Rice-See said that solo performances by professors have become increasingly more common in recent years. She said as a result the chamber orchestra now

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*This project is funded in part by an agreement with the State of Tennessee.

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

THROUGH THE SIDELINES LENS



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor
As the parking lots become more and more crammed, drivers decide to take the ticket and park in the motorcycle parking lot outside the university's Honors College.

CRIME BRIEFS

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Jan. 25, 1:58 p.m.
Alarm Fire
James Union Building
A subject put ashes in a box and started a fire.</p> <p>Jan. 25, 4 p.m.
Assault
Womack Lane Apartment Complex
A complainant reported that verbal threats were allegedly exchanged between roommates.</p> <p>Jan. 26, 11:50 a.m.
Warrant
Keathley University Center
Marquata McMiller was arrested on an outstanding warrant for assault.</p> <p>Jan. 26, 12:24 p.m.
Traffic
Bell Street Parking Lot
A complainant reported damage to their vehicle.</p> | <p>Jan. 26, 1:58 p.m.
Theft
James E. Walker Library
A complainant reported a set of stolen drumsticks.</p> <p>Jan. 26, 5:08 p.m.
Theft
James Union Building
Someone reported a cellular phone was stolen from the building.</p> <p>Jan. 26, 6:58 p.m.
Theft
Peck Hall
A complainant reported property was allegedly stolen from their white F-100 pickup truck in the parking lot outside of the building.</p> <p>Jan. 27, 1:13 p.m.
Theft</p> | <p>Jim Cummings Hall
A complainant reported a stolen GPS device from a vehicle outside of the building.</p> <p>Jan. 27, 2:52 p.m.
Theft
Greenland Drive, Lot B
A complainant reported their car was broken into and textbooks were stolen from the vehicle in the parking lot.</p> <p>Jan. 27, 4:29 p.m.
Vandalism
Sims Hall
A complainant reported damage to the walls.</p> <p>Jan. 27, 7:04 p.m.
Burglary
Beasley Hall
A complainant reported multiple laptops were stolen from the building.</p> |
|---|--|---|

LGBT FROM PAGE 1

Sanders said the TEP members spoke about the current bills at the state level, which they said are often discriminatory toward the homosexual and transgender communities.

Other legislation being lobbied by the organization is the bill against the inelig-

bility for non-married couples to adopt a child. Neither of these bills has passed, a fact that TEP said it is glad to hear because they discriminate against the LGBT community according to a flier Sanders passed out during the meeting.

Sanders also said TEP is looking to pass a bill that would allow transgendered people to officially change their sex on

his or her birth certificate. Tennessee is the only state that outlaws the process.

The members of TEP recounted to MTLambda about days when constituents were allowed to meet with their state senators and representatives about circulating bills.

"Basically, this group came to encourage people to take action in order to see the change they

want to see," Sanders said. "It is going to take time and a lot of effort, but it can be done."

This year Tennesseans have that opportunity March 2, in Nashville where they are able to set up meetings with officials. There will be a reception at 8 a.m., at Rymer Gallery downtown before the meeting day so that groups can caravan to Legislative Plaza together.

CURRENT EVENTS

Wind Band Conference
Feb. 4 to 6
Location: Hinton Music Hall
8 p.m. Thursday: Tennessee Valley Winds Concert
8 p.m. Friday: MTSU Wind Ensemble Concert
1 p.m. Saturday: Honor Bands Concert
Admission: free

First Friday Star Party
Feb. 5, 6:30 until 8:30 p.m.
Location: Wiser-Patten Science Hall, Room 102
Admission: free

Tennessee Ultimate Fighting Event
Feb. 6, 7 p.m.
Location: Murphy Center
Admission: \$16 for students, \$21 for the general public

Flirtation, Fans and Flowers: Victorian Courtships Exhibit
Feb. 2 to 28
Location: Oaklands Historic House Museum

Roller Derby: Nashville vs. Atlanta
Feb. 6, 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Location: Tennessee Fairgrounds Sports Arena
Admission: \$6.01

Events Policy
Sidelines welcomes current campus and community events submitted by all readers. Please e-mail events to slcampus@mtsu.edu or slnews@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.

PREACHER FROM PAGE 1

Rieneke said that the same constitutional rights that are allotted to the ministers who proselytize are the same rights that protect all other speech.

"The most basic, overarching line between things that are acceptable and

things that are not is when speech crosses over from communication into action," Rieneke said. "Essentially, yeah, they can come and say whatever they want as long as they don't cross the line into inciting violence."

McGlone said that PinPoint operates regionally in the southeast region of the United States.

McGlone said he would be interested

in a question and answer session, possibly sponsored by a student organization at some point in the future.

"We'd really like [students] to know why we do what we do," McGlone said. "It would be a time to ask questions, to grill us from their perspective, and to have an open microphone where they could have a dialogue and debate with us on their perspective."

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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.

Newspaper party pics: a perception changer?

Are the booze and bare skin on publications' Web sites worth the hit counts and revenues?

As the journalism industry continues to be pushed into the online realm, media conglomerates have desperately tried to formulate new ways to make their Web sites more profitable.

Business gurus in the newspaper industry have attempted to bring higher advertising revenues in through the Internet by charging for online content, hyperlinking key words in stories as paid advertisements, such as a link to the word 'water' on the Dasani's homepage, and more eye-catching and possibly degrading photo galleries. The third method in this series, though monetarily successful, could possibly create bad reputations for newspapers because some of the photos they are publishing have no redeemable journalistic values.



From the opinions editor

Michael Stone

I haven't decided if somewhat questionable photos are worth the profits, so I will explain what is happening and let you decide.

Newspapers attempt to attract potential online advertisers by showing them their sites' hit count. Some papers, including those owned by Gannett Co., count each click to a new photograph as a hit. So if you were to go through a gallery with

100 photos, you've knocked the paper's hit counter up 100 points in a matter of minutes.

There's no better way to attract viewers to photo galleries than to title them things like "Bikini Oil Wrestling," "Burlesque at The Rutledge" or "FLASHED: Watching football at Hooters." If you were to visit BoroParty.com, a subdivision of the Gannett-owned paper *The Daily News Journal*, you would have those three galleries available for your viewing pleasure.

If you grow tired of looking at the curvature and bare skin at Boro Party, you could always cruise on over to PartyClarksville.com, a subdivision of another Gannett newspaper in Tennessee, *The Leaf Chronicle*, and view "Football Playoffs at Hooters," or you could

gander at the Chippendales during ladies night at the Kickers Country Club.

And don't worry folks - there are plenty more party pics to check out.

Many big-city newspapers - 64 to be exact - that are owned by either Gannett or Tribune Co. have similar party sites called Metromix. On *The Tennessean's* Metromix site, you could check out "Nashville Sports Leagues' Sexiest Players" or "Byrd's Eye View - Sexiest People of 2009" or "2009 Victoria Secret Fashion Show."

I could continue with the sexually provocative gallery titles for many more paragraphs, but I assume you get the idea.

Surrounding the plethora of PG-13 galleries are advertisements for bars, clubs and alcoholic drinks. It would

appear as though a ghost told newspaper CEOs in a dream: "Low-cultured content is the best way to rake in the ad revenues from nightlife spots." Keep in mind that it is the uppers, like the CEOs, that are pushing for the galleries, not the journalists at the low end.

All the low-culture sites appear to have different Web addresses than newspapers' news sections, but that doesn't mean they aren't visibly intertwined. For example, on the top right corner of its homepage, *The Tennessean* has six buxom beauties under the title "Ladies of the Tropics," which links to the paper's Metromix site. Newspapers are also advertising their party sites in their print copies.

There is a plus side to all the booze and bare skin: the hit counts are assisting with the

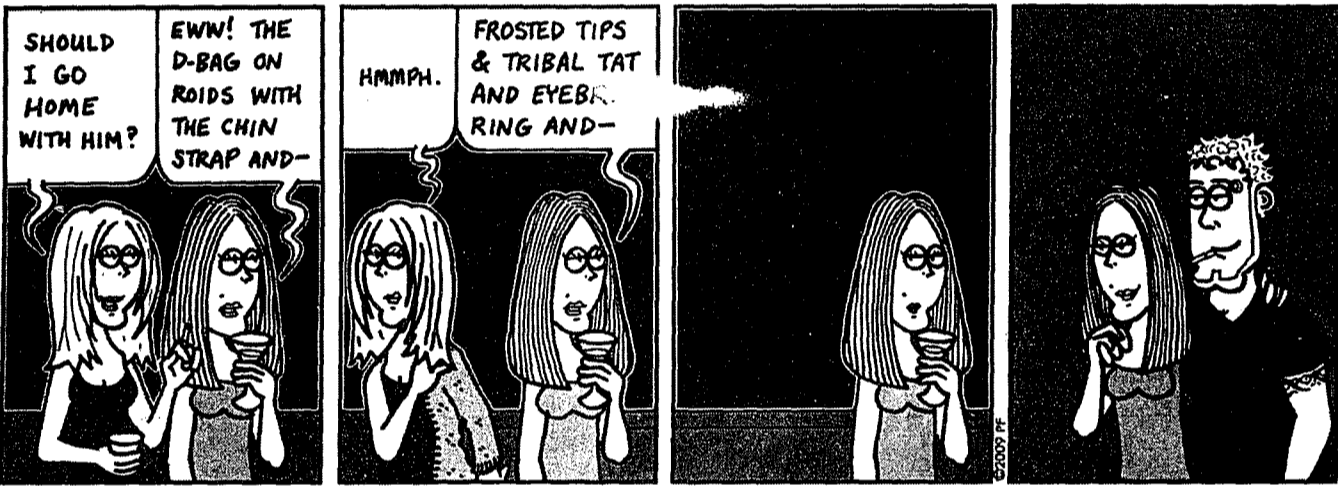
monetary fight for the dying art of true, hard-hitting, investigative journalism.

Since there is that advantage to "party galleries" to accompany their disadvantages, I will leave you with a question rather than try to sway your opinion and ask you to send me your feedback either by e-mail or commenting at mtsusidelines.com.

Does low-culture content, like party pics on the Internet, change your perception of a newspaper in a negative way, and if so, are you willing to overlook that perception knowing that it is bringing in money to help keep real journalism alive?

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

COMICS



Phil Flickinger

"Blundergrads"

www.blundergrads.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Where are the columnists of old?

I've been reading *Sidelines* faithfully for nearly 12 years and have, for the most part, enjoyed it.

Recently, I've noticed that there is a much greater emphasis on opinions than there used to be and more individual opinion columns. With a few exceptions, the opinions columns read more as soapbox rants - the kind that belong in a blog, not a newspaper.

Whatever happened to the Evan Barkers and Daniel Potters who could write a nuanced opinion that wasn't five columns of showmanship or beating a straw mean? Does every opinion in the opinions section have to be a frenzied battle cry?

The one that tipped the scale for me today was the reference to "thousands of countries" across the world which are being torn apart by war ("Relief needed for more than large disasters," *Sidelines*, Jan. 27). There are, at the most recent count, about 190 countries, depending how you count a few of them.

This is not to say that the problem is any smaller, only that if opinions writers took a more temperate approach to their writing, they might not inadvertently make stuff up while under the influence of their convictions.

Ric Morris, foreign language associate professor

Administrators encourage legacy through aesthetics, not education

I read, with some amusement, Debra Sells' attempt to justify disregarding the students' mandate that their fees not be raised for a parking garage ("Leaving legacy at MTSU worth fee increases," *Sidelines*, Feb. 1). Sells hangs her argument on the opinion that it is construction projects, not academic superiority, that are responsible for the creation of the "legacy" she feels we must leave. That argument fails for several reasons.

The administration thinks we need a parking garage in the wake of catastrophic budget loss, and the fact that they can say so with straight faces makes me ill. In 2010, building a parking garage at MTSU is like rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic.

What makes a university? Is it parking? No. A university is made solely on academics. If Harvard students had to park in a gravel lot for the privilege of attending, they would.

Our academic budget is a shadow of its former self. We have fewer tenure-track faculty members than a top-shelf university ought to. We use adjuncts where Ph.D.s are appropriate.

The administration, however, sees parking as our top priority in the wake of all of this. What are they smoking, and can we have some? So what if students whine about parking? For years, the administration has reminded them to simply show up early and catch a bus. Why change now when the money is clearly needed elsewhere?

There is only one justification for raising fees, and that is to bolster the academic excellence of our shoestring organization, which runs on an almost humorously low budget.

What kind of "legacy" will we leave? The "legacy" of lazy students who can park in a garage, but whose degrees are worth less and less every year?

Sells writes: "A final decision then must be made by the administration that is in the long-term best interests of the university." It's abundantly clear, then, what she feels our best interests are.

Evan Barker, senior English major

Never stop search for truth

Despite what the argument may be, logic makes it clear that there can only be one truth. The earth, for example, was only created one way, even though there are several conflicting theories explaining it.

However, 99.9 percent of them are lies. Only one can represent the actual answer.

All of us have heard endless amounts of suggestions on what truth is. With so many options to choose from, we cannot help but to question whether or not they should be believed in or disposed of completely.

Questioning the truth is a natural reaction when faced with contradictory suggestions. It is also very important.

Questioning encourages us to search for the answers we do not fully understand. For this reason, we should never neglect our misunderstandings.

Instead, they should be



Befürworter des Friedens

(Promoter of peace)

Nate Bernadini

studied and sought after. Clarity can oftentimes be delayed due to uncertainty. However, being uncertain is normal when topics are surrounded by conflicting views.

Physicist Richard Feynman once said, "I believe that to solve any problem that has never been solved before, you have to leave the door to the unknown ajar."

He said you have to permit the possibility that you do not have it exactly right

- Otherwise, if you have made up your mind already, you might not solve it.

Feynman makes a great point.

First of all, in the course of life, we must realize that we will never completely understand everything. The purpose of life is not a continuing struggle to find answers to every question that our limited minds cannot grasp.

The purpose, rather, is to come to the realization that we cannot know everything and humble ourselves beneath something greater. Without being humble, we close ourselves off from obtaining a better understanding of the truth.

We all have misunderstandings and questions to various issues in life. However, it is important that we do not become distressed. To give up or stop searching for truth, even though it cannot be entire-

ly obtained, is the greatest loss imaginable.

Ultimately, giving up replaces our valuable time with pointless actions, thoughts and goals.

Einstein wrote: "It's not that I'm so smart; it's just that I stay with problems longer."

Intelligence is dependent upon our motivation to solve problems. Therefore, it is vital that we endeavor to search for the truth. Truth leads us to freedom, even if we only discover it partially.

Finally, I would like to encourage everyone, including myself, to continue using our brains for that which they were intended: to utilize each day to discover the truth in a better light than we did yesterday.

Nate Bernadini is a senior German major. He can be reached at ntb2f22@gmail.com

Here are three ways *Sidelines'* opinions section can help you express yourself:

1

Apply to be an opinion columnist. Applications are available in Mass Comm 269.

2

Apply to be a cartoonist that draws either editorial cartoons or comics. Go to Mass Comm 269 for an application.

3

Send a letter to the editor by e-mail (slopinio@mtsu.edu). Include your full name and title.

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'Youth' is not a word for generalization

Extreme stereotypes of immaturity give younger crowd bad reputation; not always true

Because I am young, I am allowed to be stupid.

I am allowed to make irreparable mistakes that may change the course of my entire life. I am allowed to do shameful and spiteful things and say, in a blasé and bored manner, "I did it because I am young."

But just because someone is young does not make them stupid. Youth is the height of genius in some cases.

Alfred Tennyson wrote what was arguably some of his best poetry while he was 18 years old. A boy named Gregory Smith became a freshman in college at the age of 10. Zerah Colburn could mentally figure whether a large number was prime before he reached puberty.

These are exceptions, of



Pearl before swine

Pearl Howell

course. Nonetheless, the average brain has developed the ability to weigh right and wrong by the time it reaches adolescence. Why is it then that young adults are allowed to make stupid decisions and be held back from making responsible ones?

The word "young" is a synonym for "stupid" to

many. A responsible young adult is a novelty that must be oohed and aahed, but never really taken seriously.

In a way, our society encourages us to be dumb. Why have safe sex if an abortion clinic is just around the corner? What's so awful about brain-rotting drugs?

Some young people might say: "Nothing bad could possibly happen to me. I'm young - I'm supposed to be blindly enjoying myself and consider the consequences later."

It is almost as if our society smiles and turns its head every time some youngster has a little "fun."

When youth is a badge to be waved as an excuse for irresponsibility, our culture needs to check itself.

We aren't expected to have

morals or standards.

When "youth" is a badge waved as an excuse for irresponsibility, our culture needs to check itself.

"We aren't expected to have morals or standards," youths might say. "We couldn't possibly know what is important. We are too young to know what we need, and therefore, we should just do whatever we want."

Because a few young people use their youth to experiment with potentially dangerous and generally harmful activities, some may stereotype all young people as being the same. But we aren't all stupid and eager to destroy our lives and form bad habits.

This is the kind of generalizing that feminists, suffrag-

ists and civil rights activists fought and continue to fight against.

"All women are silly, emotional baby-makers."

"All black Americans are ignorant, spiteful criminals."

"All Arabs and Muslims are overly zealous, crazy terrorists."

We all know that none of these stereotypes are true. Instead, they are merely based on uninformed propaganda.

But why is it that all young people are considered irresponsible, misguided idiots?

Young people must work to change the stereotypes that surround themselves. There is nothing wrong with experimenting, but compromising personal beliefs is inexcusable. Activities

that harm others are never OK, no matter how young the person.

Experiment with art, beliefs, music, languages and classes; not drugs, promiscuous sex and binge drinking. Also, there is no reason to force experimentation on someone else. Peer pressure is the enemy.

In the end, people can do what they want within legal parameters, but what a person wants can often be far from - as well as detrimental - to what that person needs.

The best advice to American youth: Use some uncommon sense.

Pearl Howell is a freshman theater major. She can be reached at rph2t@mtsu.edu.

FACES IN THE CROWD

Do you think an event similar to last semester involving PinPoint Evangelist Ministries will occur when the organization returns to campus?



Ingram

"People might keep walking by [the preachers] this time. If they disagree, they might hold their opinions inside and not show them."

*Ryan Ingram
Sophomore business major*



Smith

"I think that anytime you talk about religion, there's going to be people that are passionate. So something definitely could happen, but I don't think anything will be violent."

*Casey Smith
Junior journalism major*



Damron

"I don't think it'll go down like it did last time. I bet people will watch their tongue a little bit more. But I may be wrong since this is a college, and people usually speak their mind."

*Thomas Damron
Senior marketing major*

One thing is constant: Change

We all complain about things in the world, but when is the last time you asked yourself: "What am I doing for change?"

Change seems to be the inevitable nature of humanity. It moves constantly even when we may still be trying to recover. Change is good.

From change, we learn lessons, gain experience and receive second chances. Now is a great time to change, to strive for goals that once seemed out of reach, to become something new and something better than ourselves, and to simply start again.

When change happens, it keeps us from thinking life is more than a daily drudgery and that we are somehow on a crash-course to whatever destination fate may bring us.

Life is short, but there is so much that can be accomplished and experienced if we would allow change to happen. We should accept change, good or bad, and perhaps there is something better in store as a result. If you really want to change because your results just seem to be the same, and everyday has become insufferable, then change your environment. Change is not for the weak.

If you're tired of the same people doing the same thing, then change the people you hang around. Oprah Winfrey once said: "Only surround yourself with people who will take you higher."

Life will throw you some curve balls. However, we should still swing as hard as we can to knock them out the park, tears, pain and all.

Each day is a second chance. If you don't get it right the first time, you have the next day to get it right. Then you can look back and see how far you have come.

You have to put your best foot



Perceptions

Jessica Harris

forward, continuing to give it your best everyday and not accepting defeat. Hopefully, we change with good intentions and for the right reasons.

For example, Jason Russel, Lauren Poole and Bobby Bailey, founders of Invisible Children, created a movement. The movement has been ongoing for almost five years.

It all started with a trip and a camera. People have rallied to help move legislation to end the war in Uganda. You should not be pessimistic by thinking that change won't matter.

Change for you. Change because you are walking on an aimless path. Change because you're hurting others or yourself. By all means, just change.

For those of you who think you can change someone, you are wrong. You can only influence them, but ultimately, they themselves make the decision. Change can't be demanded, but inspired.

David Bowie once sang "time may change me, but I can't change time." You should keep moving forward towards your dreams of becoming something better and stronger each day. Take it one day at a time.

How are you going to change?

Jessica Harris is a junior journalism major. She can be reached at jh3y@mtsu.edu.

Comments from www.mtsusidelines.com

"I completely agree with you. Americans are often too sensitive and offended when sex and [similar] things are brought into discussion.

As much as many people do not want these things, like oral sex, to exist, they are simply a part of life and always will be. Hiding sex away from our children is not going to solve anything.

I think that anyone can be informed about sex without becoming infected with perversion. In this case, the problem is not what is in the dictionary; it is how paranoid we become thinking that a harmless definition of oral sex will corrupt our children.

The dictionary can stay. The fear needs to go..."

-MTSU student on "Schools censoring books sometimes goes overboard," Jan. 31

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SPORTS

Old dog, new tricks, same Hicks

Former Blue Raider running back now sizzles in a new spotlight

By CASEY BROWN
Staff Writer

Just a few years ago, the only thing Dwone Hicks had on the menu was a headache for opposing defenses. These days, he's serving up something else entirely.

After a couple of stops in the National Football League and a few other business ventures, the former Middle Tennessee football stand-out returned to Murfreesboro and is currently co-owner and operator of Around the Way Dog, a specialty hot dog restaurant located on East Main Street near campus.

Hicks opened the location with Rachel Wilson, assistant professor of business communication and entrepreneurship at MTSU. The idea stemmed from Hicks' stint with the Chicago Bears.

"When I played for the Bears, my wife, who was then just my friend, used to take me around to all the hot dog restaurants, and I love hot dogs," Hicks said. "I told her I wanted to open up a restaurant of my own, and for the first time she actually agreed with me."

Hicks wanted to create an establishment that allowed diners to top their hot dogs with almost anything they would want.

"There's a lot of places where you can get a hot dog, and that's about it," Hicks said. "So I wanted to go crazy with it, where you could put a whole bunch of toppings on it, and build your dog the way you wanted to build it."

It would seem his goal has been achieved, as the menu offers more than 20 toppings, from traditional chili and cheese to more unconventional choices such as fried eggs, mushrooms and peanut butter.

Hicks also wants Around the Way Dog to become a regular stop for MTSU students. The walls are adorned with Blue Raider memorabilia, and the restaurant is beginning to market itself through MT athletics.

"More than anything, we want this to be the students' restaurant," Hicks said.

The former running back can recall a distinct lack of community and business involvement with the university during his playing days, an issue that MTSU still struggles with today.

"I would go to the mall and look at the little kiosks they had set up - I was looking for an MT chain, but all they had was UT, Alabama, Vanderbilt, Kentucky, everyone but Middle," Hicks said. "I decided

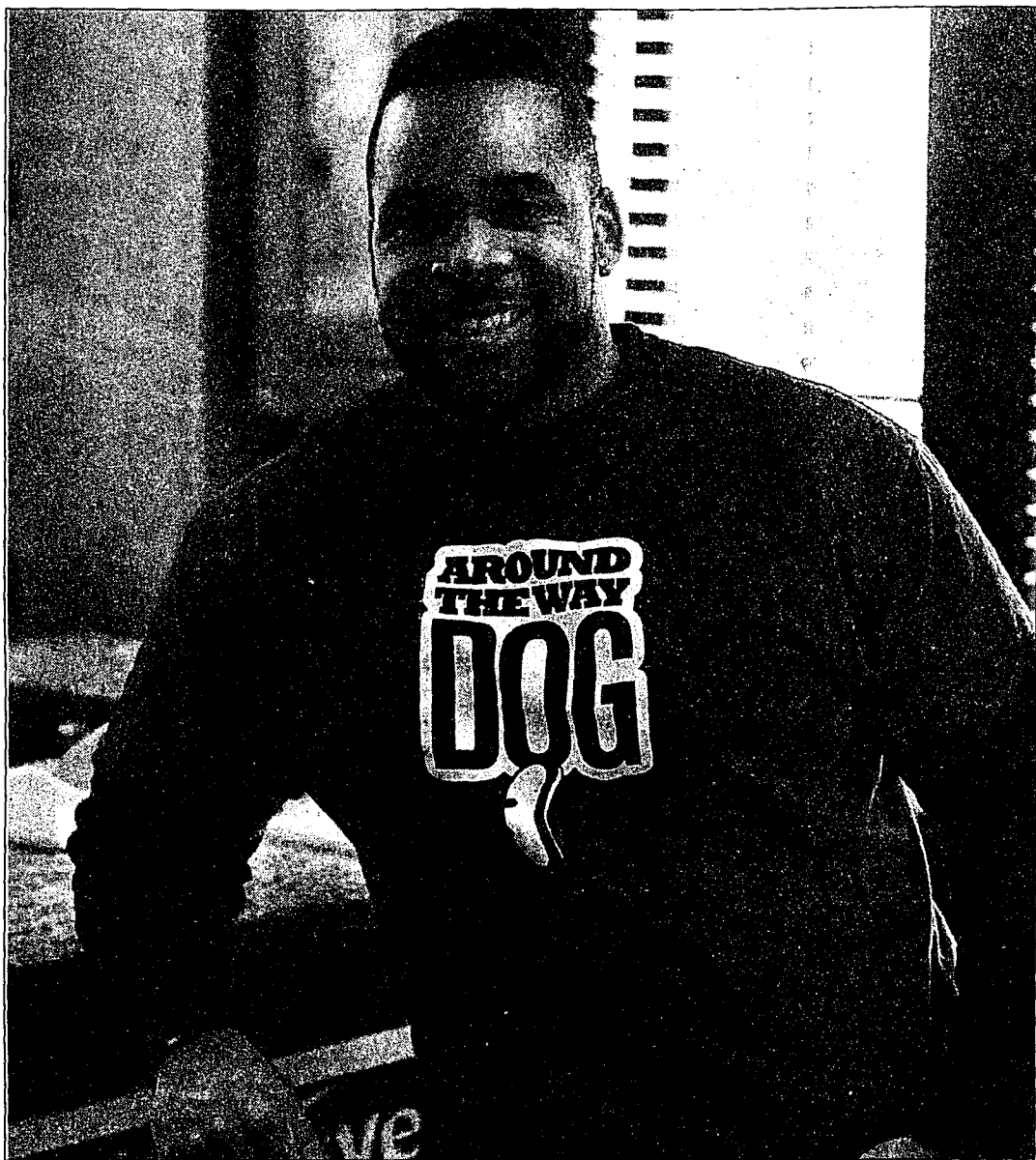


Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor
Dwone Hicks pauses for a moment at his recently opened restaurant, Around the Way Dog.

that if I was going to have a business, especially this close to campus, we were going to represent MTSU."

Though the restaurant has only been open for a few months, Hicks acknowledges the possibility of expansion.

"Maybe another location on the other side of town, or bringing the model to another college town," Hicks said. "If people continue to support us I think we can get there."

Hicks has also spent time as a personal trainer, and continues to do so on a limited basis. He feels that his time spent with a vari-

ety of strength coaches has given him a great degree of knowledge, which he enjoys sharing with others. In particular, Hicks hopes to coach at the high school level in the future.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

"I want to help student-athletes become men, to know that they don't only have to become football players," Hicks said.

"When I was playing I only had one focus, but on a team there would be 100 guys with the same focus. When we get out of school we don't know what in the world to do. It's like starting all over again, behind the pace of everybody else."

Still, Hicks achieved a great deal of success

during his playing days. While racking up gaudy numbers as a Blue Raider, the running back spawned MT's first attempt at marketing a Heisman Trophy candidate.

He then signed with the Tennessee Titans, and later saw action with the Bears, his favorite team growing up as a child. Not surprisingly, Hicks enjoyed his time in the professional ranks.

"It was an awesome experience to be in the locker room with the likes of Steve McNair, and see how down-to-earth and cool he, Eddie George and Brian Urlacher are, that they're there just to have fun and play football," Hicks said.

It's not uncommon for retired football players to attempt comebacks. Though he's only 28, Hicks insists that he's done with the game.

"When I walked away, I walked away for a reason. It's like a revolving door - once you're out of that loop it's hard to get back in," Hicks said.

He refers to his wife Alaina, and the recent birth of his son, Cannon, as motivation to stay put.

"It's about starting that next phase of life," Hicks said. "Sports only last so long, and I'm getting 'football old.'"

Even though he doesn't plan a return to the gridiron, the former Blue Raider still keeps close tabs on his alma mater. Hicks insists that despite the success of this year's squad, his 2001 team could give the current group a run for their money.

"If we had had this year's defense, we would have cracked the top 20," he said, "But our offense was explosive to say the least."

He continued with a laugh, "On their defense we would have easily put up 40-45. We had playmakers, we were a loaded gun."

Friendly comparisons aside, Hicks feels the program is on the right track, and sincerely hopes that MT's momentum will continue. He acknowledges that fan support will have to continue growing for the Blue Raiders to compete for national attention with certain otherschool in Knoxville.

"It's about changing a child's mind that's brought up a Tennessee fan, to recondition them to realize they have a team here to cheer for," Hicks said.

"There's going to be a day where there is blue, and then there's orange. Hopefully we'll be a state divided."

Dwone Hicks by the book

Owens the single-game record in rushing yards (311), touchdowns (6), and points scored (36)

Holds single-season marks in rushing touchdowns (20), points scored (148), and total touchdowns scored (24)

Is the career record holder in points (292) and total TDs scored (48)

In 2002, was a candidate for the Heisman Trophy, All-America Award, and Doak Walker Award Candidate

Graphic by Chris Carter, production manager

Blue Raiders look for sixth straight victory

By CASEY BROWN
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee men's basketball team has taken care of business at home so far, but another test remains for the Blue Raiders in Murfreesboro.

MT will put a five-game winning streak on the line when it squares off against Troy at 7 tonight at the Murphy Center.

The Trojans improved to 12-10 overall and 7-4 in Sun Belt Conference play with a 73-66 overtime win over South Alabama on Saturday. Troy overcame a 30-21 halftime deficit on the strength of 17 points from Brandon Hazzard and 15 from Michael Vogler.

A win against the Blue Raiders tonight would give the Trojans three consecutive wins for the first time this season and move them into a tie for first place in the SBC East Division. MT (13-10, 8-3) will attempt to maintain its lead in the East.

In its last outing, MT survived a strong effort from North Texas, and held on for a 69-64 win against the Mean Green in a foul-plagued contest that saw leading scorer Desmond Yates relegated to the bench for much of the second half.

Senior guard Calvin O'Neil continued his strong play, contributing 13 points and several key defensive stops. The Blue Raid-

ers benefited from balanced scoring and inspired bench play, as nine different players added to MT's tally.

MT will need a similar effort to defeat the visiting Trojans, who looked impressive in the win over USA. Troy went 17-21 from the free-throw line for the game and a perfect 6-6 in the last 21 seconds, after entering the contest shooting a league-worst 55.6 percent.

Tonight's meeting will be the first between the Blue Raiders and the Trojans this season. Troy notched a 70-64 victory over MT in the teams' last contest on Feb. 12 of last year, but the visitors have only won once in Murphy Center, a 71-57 defeat of the Blue Raiders in January 2007.

MT holds a 7-4 advantage in the all-time series. The two teams will meet again at Troy on Feb. 18. Tonight's game, however, is rife with Sun Belt Tournament implications, with the winner claiming the inside track on a top seed and a first-round bye.

A win tonight is critical for the Blue Raiders, who follow up with a trip to Mobile on Saturday to face divisional foe South Alabama before returning home to take on Denver. The Trojans head to Bowling Green this weekend for a rematch with a Western Kentucky team that Troy defeated 77-69 last week.

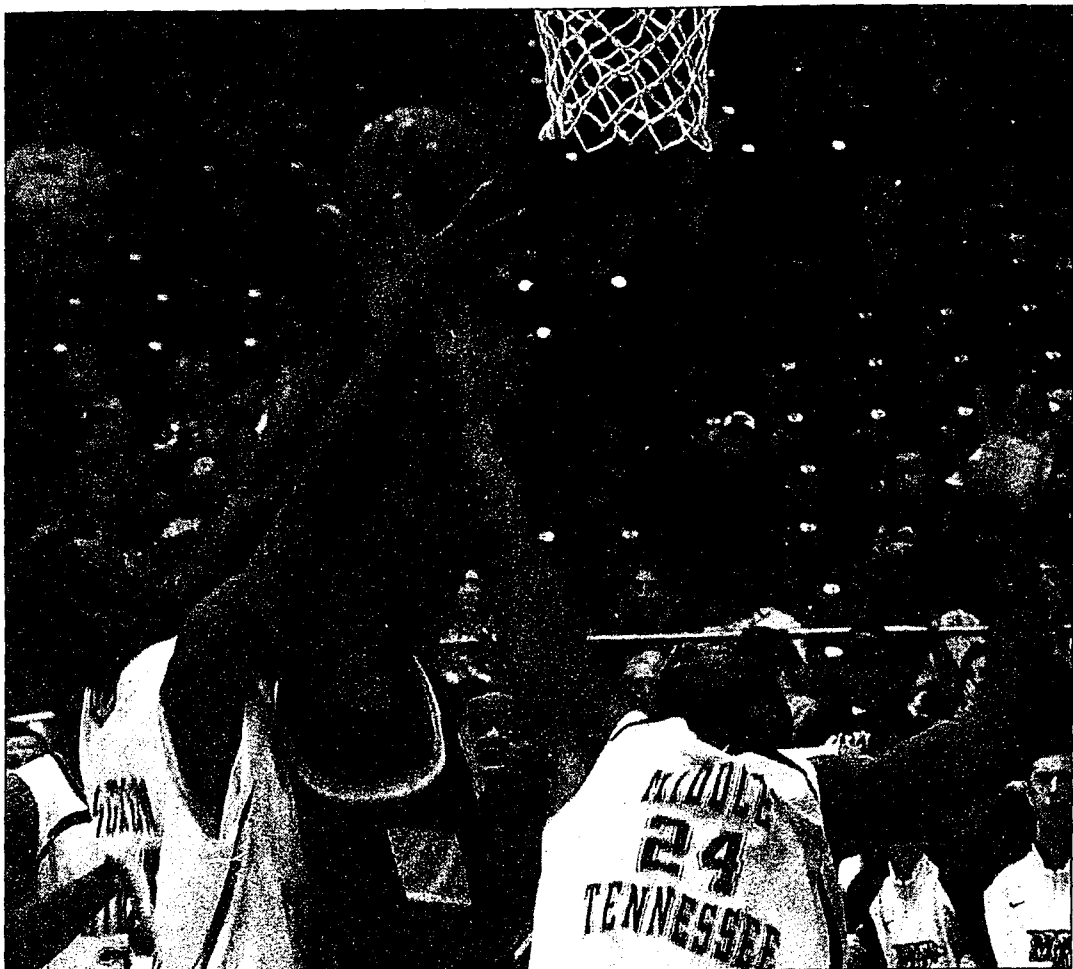


Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor
MT players fight for a rebound against UNO on Thursday, Jan. 28 at the Murphy Center Complex.



Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor
Senior Guard Chelsia Lymon looks for an open teammate against Shekinna Stricklen of the University of Tennessee on Nov. 25.

Lady Raiders aid Haiti Canned food drive gives MT chance to help

STAFF REPORT

The Student Athletic Advisory Council is set to have a canned food drive in hopes of benefitting the victims of the Haiti earthquake Feb. 6 at the Lady Raiders basketball game against the University of Denver.

SAAC President and Blue Raider soccer player Sara Beth Lee is organizing the event.

"We'll be there to meet fans at the door," Lee said. "It's a great opportunity for the community to come out and be active."

HAITI RELIEF

Representatives from SAAC will be at drop points around the Murphy Center to take donations at 6:15 p.m. The game is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Every semester the SAAC plans several community service activities, one of which is usually a canned food drive.

Saints defense has tough task against Manning & Co.

This week leading up to Super Bowl XXIV, the story you'll hear the most has more to do with emotional ties to the game, about the resurgence of the city of New Orleans and what the Saints' season is doing for morale.

After the opening kickoff, however, the story becomes entirely about football, primarily if the Saints' defense has any answers for Peyton Manning.

The Colts quarterback is coming off arguably the best playoff performance of his career, a 377-yard, 3-touchdown and no interception game against the NFL's No. 1 defense in the New York Jets.

Saints defensive coordinator Gregg Williams (former Titans DC from 1997-2000) has been quoted in the press recently saying that the way to beat Manning is to put pressure on him, and, in much nicer terms, knock him out of the game.

While every defensive coach in football is thinking about hurting the opposing quarterback, it takes a different breed to publicly talk about it.

The only problem with Williams' approach is that, while beating up Kurt Warner and Brett Favre worked brilliantly for them the last two weeks, it won't work against Manning.

The Jets thought it was in their best interest to pressure Manning and hit him early and often.

The Saints pride themselves on flying to the ball and forcing turnovers. The team had a +11 turnover margin in the regular season and bring a +6 postseason margin to Miami.

The trouble they're going to have with Manning is that he has proven that there are playmakers on that offense besides Reggie Wayne and Dallas Clark. Rookies Pierre Garcon and Austin Collie



Useless information
Stephen Curley

have turned into legitimate threats in the passing game, giving most defenses too many targets to try and cover.

Teams that have had success against Manning in the past have, while understanding that pressure is important, played it safe, dropping back as many defenders into coverage as possible in an effort to simply not give up the big play.

The Colts' defense will face just as tough a test facing Drew Brees. Like, Manning, Brees has multiple weapons in the passing game, nearly all of whom are threats to break a game wide open.

Colts all-pro defensive end Dwight Freeney is questionable after reportedly tearing a ligament in his right ankle. If he doesn't play, it only increases the already high probability that Brees can match Manning pass-for-pass and turn this game into a shootout.

Receivers Marques Colston, Robert Meachem and Devery Henderson all warrant a lot of attention, and tight end Jeremy Shockey provides a safe outlet if they're all covered.

The running game for each team likely won't have a significant impact, as both teams rank in the lower tier of the league in rushing numbers, Colts RB Joseph Addai is averaging just 3.8 yards per carry, but the Saints still have a solid split attack between Mike Bell and Pierre Thomas.

Despite the low league ranking, the Saints have the advantage on the ground.

After all the matchups have been broken down on paper, it's clear to me that this is one of the more intriguing games the Super Bowl has had in recent years. The teams are as evenly matched as anybody could ask for, but in the end, I'm going largely on a gut feeling and picking the Saints to win 38-31.

UPCOMING SPORTING EVENTS

MBB vs. Troy
Thursday, Feb. 4
7 p.m.
Murphy Center

WBB vs. Denver
Wednesday, Feb. 10
7 p.m.
Murphy Center

MBB vs. Denver
Thursday, Feb. 11
7 p.m.
Murphy Center

Lady Raider Softball vs. Ohio
Friday, Feb. 12
5 p.m.
Lady Raider Softball Field

MBB vs. Houston Baptist
Saturday, Feb. 13
7 p.m.
Murphy Center

Lady Raider Softball vs. TN Tech
Saturday, Feb. 13
2 p.m.
Lady Raider Softball Field

Track - MT Valentine Invitational
Saturday, Feb. 13
Murphy Center

Lady Raider Softball vs. Morehead State
Sunday, Feb. 14
2 p.m.
Lady Raider Softball Field

WBB at Troy
Wednesday, Feb. 17
7 p.m.
Trojan Arena

MBB at Troy
Thursday, Feb. 18
7 p.m.
Trojan Arena

Events Policy

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

Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The events listed are not necessarily associated with Sidelines or MTSU.

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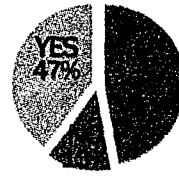
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FEATURES



DID YOU BUILD A SNOWMAN LAST WEEKEND?

BASED ON VOTES FROM MTSUSIDELINES.COM.

Locals go home, 'Get Sconed'

New Murfreesboro restaurant provides relaxing atmosphere, more bang for your buck

By LAURA AIKEN
Contributing Writer

If you stroll into this family-owned bakery on Memorial Boulevard, a teasingly scrumptious, mouth-watering aroma that smells of hot bread and fresh-ground coffee will waft through your nostrils, and you'll think life can't get any better – that is until you see the severely low prices.

The Get Sconed bakery opened its doors in 2009, and since then, it has attracted more than just coffee and pastry lovers – the credible catalysts being exceptionally low prices and get this – free Wi-Fi Internet.

According to Alicia Dodgion, co-owner of Get Sconed, having a hassle-free, relaxing atmosphere is the key to a successful, reputable restaurant. Granted, the glossy, 46-inch flat screens are also a plus.

"We always had in mind that we'd be like Starbucks, but a lot cheaper," Dodgion says.

You can purchase a giant cappuccino for \$2.75 at Get Sconed, and trust me, the heavenly, ambrosia-filled cup of coffee is worth every last cent.

If you are MTSU staff or a student, you'll receive a 10 percent discount, so scoot over Starbucks.

Tony Lehw, who has worked for the Murfreesboro Fire Department for 23 years, is a regular at Get Sconed. He said there is nothing better in a community than a local restaurant, commenting on the bakery's small-town charm.

"I prefer the people that are here, and I like the home feeling," Lehw says. "I watch people bring their kids in here and their faces pressed against the glass. It's what home is supposed to be."

One of his all-time favorite dishes is oatmeal bread, something his grandmother used to make. Unfortunately, he hadn't

found any oatmeal bread comparable to his grandmother's – until he stepped into Get Sconed.

"[The bread's] got to be made right," Lehw says. "It's got to be heavy and thick, and almost as chewy as a bowl of oatmeal for me to like it – these are the first people that got that right since my grandmother."

Originally, Dodgion, her sister and mother began selling cakes and pastries out of their home. Because the family bond was so strong, as well as their desire for people to benefit from their homemade creations, the three of them banded together to make their idea of a contemporary bakery a reality. They also wanted to keep the menu as widely ranged and diverse as possible.

"We offer a huge selection," Dodgion says. "And if we don't have it, we make an honest effort."

Dodgion says that since a student came proclaiming to be a vegan, she decided that she would extend the menu to include vegan options. Get Sconed is also implementing a new item for the manifold – a Chicago-style hot dog. So whether you're a vegan or carnivore, don't fret.

"There is a little bit for everybody here," Lehw reassured.

As far as coffee and espresso go, Get Sconed has all the calorie-cutting alternatives that carbohydrate-crazy customers can enjoy. When I asked what the secret ingredient is that sets Get Sconed apart from commercially owned bakeries, Dodgion claimed that a local, fresh-ground coffee bean manufacturer is responsible for the tasty beverages.

Get Sconed is also looking for local talent to perform in the eve-

nings. So far, there has only been one performer to entertain the Get Sconed crowd, but Dodgion is confident that will change.

"When people come into Get Sconed, they don't have to buy anything," Dodgion says pointedly. "Just being at the bakery and enjoying the atmosphere is the long-term goal for Get Sconed."

Many changes are on the horizon for Get Sconed, such as decorating the store, introducing more delicious items to the menu and advertising its alcoholic beverages. Lehw jokingly commented that Get Sconed is a great place for a beer and a doughnut. Get Sconed serves a wide variety of alcoholic beverages, similar to any other restaurant.

To be in business for less than a year, Get Sconed has already made a major impact on the locals in Murfreesboro. Dodgion said that a local restaurant is rewarding not only because of the people she meets,

but because it is able to put money back into the city of Murfreesboro, making Murfreesboro a better place.

As I was leaving, I bumped into a wooden cabinet against the wall that had a candle, a Wii, a used deck of cards and a remote to one of the flat screens – that's when I knew that Get Sconed wasn't just a doughnut-and-croissant shop, but more like a temporary home.

Photo by Laura Aikens, contributing photographer



Gets you more than just food!

February Deals

ASIAN EXPRESS One Item Combo \$4.99	Add a cup of Soup or Egg Roll or Donut! \$1.00	
STUJO! CHEESEBURGER FRY & DRINK \$5.00	2 MINTS & BREW \$3.00	TOURNEY BURGER FRY & DRINK \$4.99
GARDEN SALAD & DRINK \$6.00	CHICKEN SALAD SANDWICH COMBO \$6.00	SUPPER CHICKEN NUGGET COMBO \$4.99
4.99 Cheese Pizza Bogel & Drink	3 Cinnamon Sck & Large (Free)	4 Cup of Soup & Bogel
Blue Plate Special \$4.99	Add a cup of soup or dessert! \$1.00	
3 BREAKFASTS & DRINK \$3.00	ADD BREAKFASTS & DRINK TO ANY DEAL \$2.00	STUFFING PIZZA & DRINK \$4.99
4.99 HAWAIIAN PIZZA & DRINK	5.00 SALAD & DRINK	5.00 SANDWICH & DRINK

Upcoming events!

- black history celebration**
Tues. Feb. 2 Lunch @ McCallie
- super bowl pregame**
Thur. Feb. 4 Lunch @ JUB
- cheeseburger in paradise**
Fees. 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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Emphasize the 'party'

By DUSTIN EVANS
Managing Editor

As a Titans fan, the only thing more depressing than Sundays is the impending doom of what to do for Super Bowl Sunday. How do you get psyched for a football party when your favorite teams stopped playing on Thanksgiving and Christmas?

Well, this weekend, we will find the party – and we will rock the living hell out of it. These 10 ideas are sure to keep the masses entirely ready for the big game.

Let's count them down like Letterman, shall we:

10. Invite the "good" friends.

Now, while we would all like to believe that all of our friends are fun, we all know that that just isn't true. The last thing that your party needs is a big fat "Debby Downer." If anyone on your guest list has the remote chance of sucking more than the Indianapolis Colts – disinvite them, cheerfully.

9. Clean your house.

While this seems obvious to some people, guys like me tend to forget to make the entire house look like a comfortable place to be. These people are essentially coming over to watch the game. This means your couch should be a lot of fun to sit on. They should feel at home.

No one wants to be jacked up on your floor at a super bowl party. So either borrow some chairs and couch additions, or find a comfy alternative. My suggestion is to visit Old Time Pottery on Old Fort. They always have oversized pillows and extremely cheap prices. That way, if you can't get the preferable couch ratio, at least everyone can have a place to pop a squat. Remember the headcount.

8. Coolers or wells are essential.

There is no possible way to fit all of that beer in your refrigerator, and warm beer is the worst thing that could happen during this Sunday's festivities. Empty out those industrial-sized trash cans (or "borrow" one – wink, wink) for kegs, and remove your summer

Mini St. Muffalettas

- 2 pkg. of King's Hawaiian sweet rolls
- 1 lb of shredded pastrami
- 1 lb of shredded maple ham
- 2 pkg. of pepperoni slices
- 2 lb of provolone cheese – thinly sliced in olive salad
- 3 cans of jumbo black olives, pitted
- 1 large jar of pimento stuffed green olives
- 5 fresh basil leaves
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 1 tsp olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Finely chopped cilantro for garnish

Place olive salad ingredients into a food processor and blend until mixture is roughly chopped, but thick in consistency. The salad should have chunky pieces of the olives and not be stuck to a paste. Use ingredi-

ents to be chopped and mixed by hand. In a separate pan, slice the rolls in half and season on a skillet or griddle over medium heat. Grill the rolls in a pan until they are browned. Spread the olive salad on each roll, then add the provolone cheese and meat over the rolls of meat. Using a spatula, collect the meat and cheese stacks and place the rolls as a sandwich. Repeat the process until all stacks are prepared. Heat the bun stack the mushrooms on a plate and serve with the chopped cilantro.



Colts' Kickin' Quesadillas

- 12 oz bag shredded Mexican blend cheese
- 6 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- Budweiser Wing Sauce
- Crumbled bleu cheese
- 1 pkg 8 in. tortilla shells
- 1 tbl of Ranch dressing
- 2 tbs olive oil
- Finely chopped cilantro for garnish

Grill the chicken breasts in the olive oil. Remove and let cool. Chop the chicken into strips.

Return to skillet and saturate in the wing sauce. In a clean skillet or griddle, one by one, place the tortilla shells over medium heat. Cover one half of the tortilla shell with cheese, add about 5 oz of chicken, pour 2 tablespoons of wing sauce and fold in half. Grill on each side until golden brown. Cut the quesadillas into wedges. Arrange wedges onto platter, cover with blue cheese crumbles. Drizzle the stacks with ranch dressing and garnish with the cilantro.



Photos by Chris Donahue, staff photographer

clothes from your plastic storage bins so your friends can ice down their frosty delights.

I hate to suggest them, but Wal-Mart sells ridiculously cheap coolers if you are in a pinch. But keep in mind, coolers are so helpful in numerous situations – it may be great to have one anyway.

7. The television screen

This item, which would be much more essential in the event of a more interesting Super Bowl, is placed rather low on the list due to the obvious. However, keep in mind that there are people who are Colts or Saints fans.

The television should, if nothing less, be the centerpiece of your party. Although, wait for item No. 3 on this list – it's a killer idea for our current Sunday situation. There is no reason to go out and buy a nice TV for this event folks. Again, borrow a bigger, nicer TV from a friend.

6. Areas, areas, areas

Your party should have a place for everyone to have fun, kind of like Disney World. Make sections with the furniture placement. Have a spot to watch the TV, a place to eat, a place to smoke and more importantly – a place to move freely and enjoy the party.

5. You

must have fun too.

Nothing is more stressful than a party thrower who is too concerned, unnerved and under-medicated. Relax. Take it all in.

If you set up the party in the perfect way, you should have nothing to worry about.

But, to keep you happy, keep in mind a few things. You should have easy access to paper towels and emergency cleaning supplies in each area – and that way your guests will see them too. If you feel safe about your areas, you will breathe easy – plan ahead.

4. Have fun food/encourage pot-lucking

While you should not solely be responsible for the spread, you must take the lead in the unspoken race. It's your party – they should worship you for the evening.

This year I am doing indicative food items. Well, sort of. The local cuisine of Indianapolis is not conducive to football parties. So, I am going to make Colt's Kickin' Quesadillas.

However, the reason for the indicative food idea came from New Orleans. Rarely is the opportunity to serve the local cuisine of the Big Easy so perfect. I am also cooking up some Mini St. Muffalettas.

Keep the food bite sized and work to reduce the mess.

retrieving that, use a chisel (or something like it) and carve shallow trenches in curves from the

top to the bottom of one side of the ice block. The block is then propped up at a 45-degree angle with the trenches on the top.

One person holds a bottle of liquor at the top of the trench and slowly pours the shot through the ice luge into the mouth of the person eagerly waiting at the bottom.

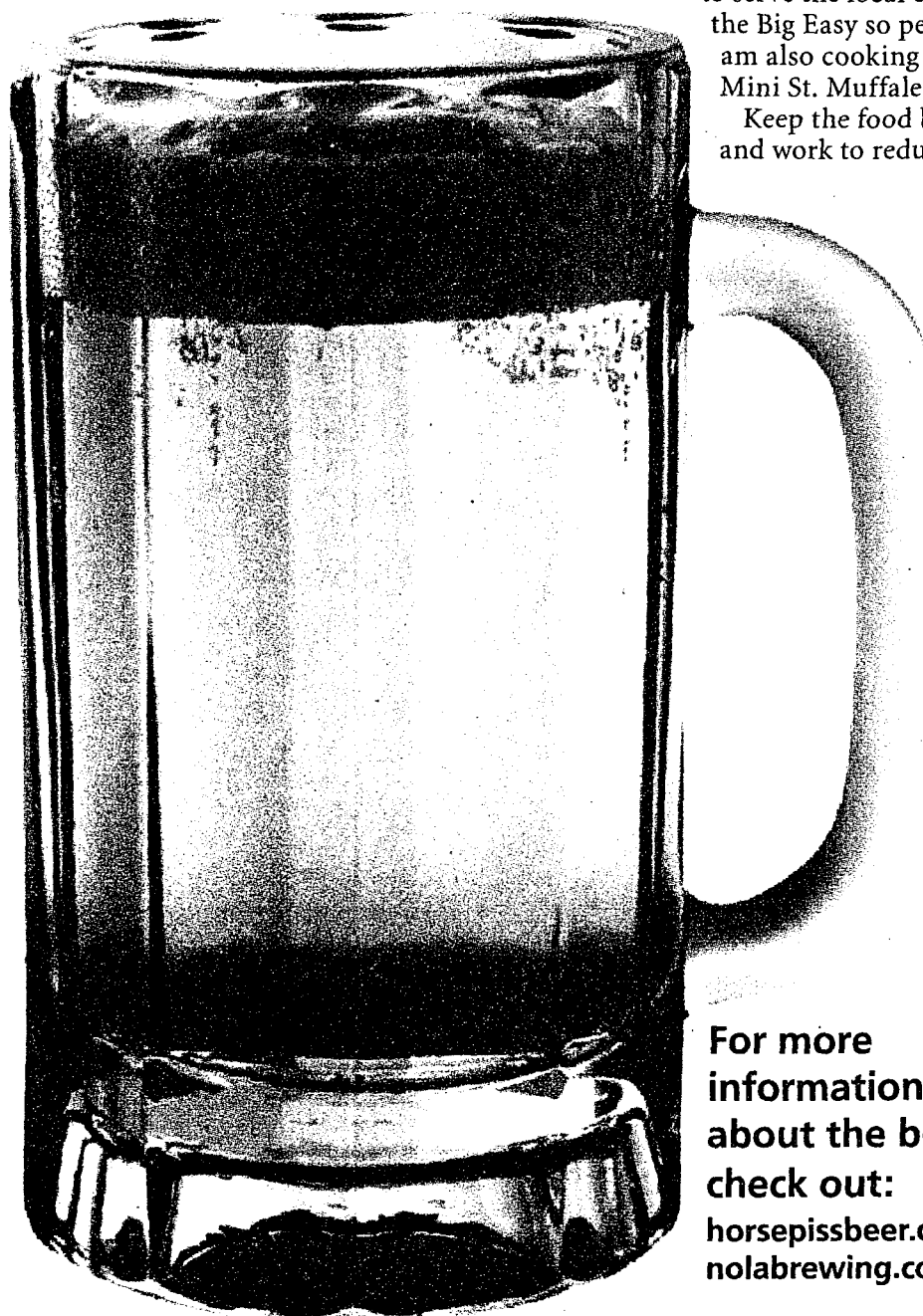
Instant fun, right? Considering the weather, it should be relatively easy to freeze your own block of ice outside. You can also carve the trenches in fleur de lis and horseshoes if you want to get creative.

An ice luge is the perfect distraction for those uninterested in the game.

3. Two words: ice luge

For those of you who have not been so fortunate to take part in the experience, I encourage you to Google these two words for visual stimulation.

In essence, you will need a large block of ice.



For more information about the beers, check out: horsepissbeer.com nolabrewing.com

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