

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

[EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT]

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TBR chancellor's salary reduced

By CHRISTOPHER MERCHANT
Assistant News Editor

The Tennessee Board of Regents unanimously voted to reduce Chancellor-elect John Morgan's salary by \$80,000 Friday, during one of its quarterly committee meetings.

"In my opinion, especially with state employees not seeing a raise in three years, [the TBR] should not be giving any raises," said state Sen. Jim Tracy, who attended the meeting. "We are in tough financial times, so salaries should



Morgan

"In trying to determine the appropriate salary for the chancellor's position, I understand that the board was attempting to adjust the compensation to a level consistent with other higher

stay the same."

Morgan volunteered to reduce his salary to \$305,000, the salary that current Chancellor Charles Manning draws, as *Sidelines* reported Thursday.

education systems of similar size and scope across the country," Morgan wrote in an Aug. 18 letter to TBR officials. "However, it is clear to me that the continuing conversation about the chancellor's salary has overshadowed what the conversation needs to be about."

Morgan said that he proposed his salary be revised after criticism from the media and attention from the state legislature.

"I think it's a good idea on his part,"

Tracy said.

No further comments about Morgan's salary adjustment were made during the meeting, said Mary Morgan, director of communications for the TBR, who is John Morgan's sister.

Once John Morgan begins his tenure as chancellor on Sept. 30, Mary Morgan will relocate to the campus of Volunteer State Community College, where she will be doing market research for the TBR system.

VOTE, PAGE 2

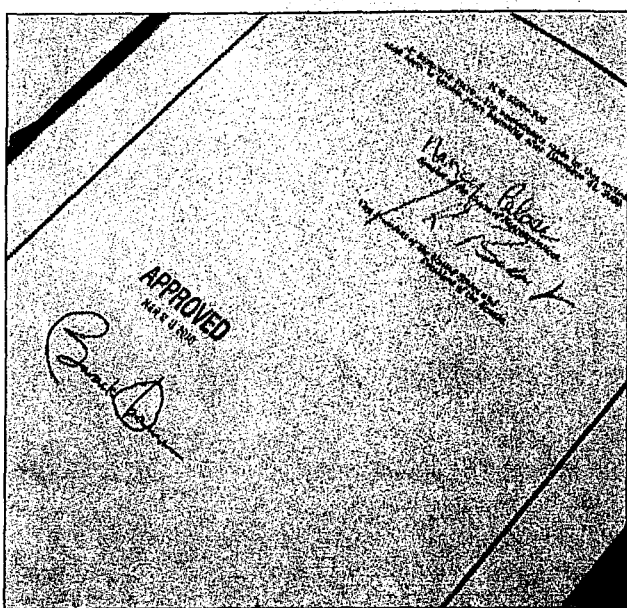


Photo courtesy of Chuck Kennedy, photographer for the White House
President Barack Obama signed the Affordable Care Act into law on March 23, but the heated debate continues.

Health care legislation remains hot topic

By ASHLEE GRAY
Contributing Writer

In light of the recent health care provisions that went into effect Thursday, faculty and staff have expressed varying opinions about how access to insurance should be regulated by the federal government.

"It is a county's responsibility to provide the essentials of life for its citizens, and that includes medical treatment as well," said Jenna Hows, a senior majoring in business administration, who supports President Barack Obama's health care reform bill.

As part of the new regulations, companies are not allowed to drop coverage of children diagnosed as having chronic conditions, such as leukemia or diabetes, as reported in Thursday's issue of *Sidelines*.

"I'm not able to work a full-time job, and it is helpful to have the option being under my parents' insurance," said Kaci Allison, a freshman majoring in mathematics. "But, after I graduate it is my responsibility to get a job with health insurance."

In addition to the new provisions regarding access for children, the new rules stop insurance companies

from denying uninsured applicants with pre-existing illnesses. Insurance companies, at no charge to insured consumers, also now pay for preventative care and routine screenings.

Kenneth Sanford, a professor of economics in the College of Business, said that particular aspects of the reform bill will increase the demand for health services, pushing the demand up.

As a result, Sanford said, supply will go up. However, he said, it is hard to fathom any technological advances could lead to lowering prices.

Young adults may now stay on their parent's health insurance plan until they are 26 years old, instead of being dropped from coverage when they turn 22 or graduate from college.

Although she appreciates being covered by her parents' plan, Allison said she believes college graduates should accept personal responsibility for their own welfare.

"Once a student has graduated, he or she should be working toward finding a job that provides benefits, including health care," Allison said. "I do not like freeloaders."

HEALTH, PAGE 3



Photo by DuWayne Sterling, contributing photographer
New members rush to join Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity after accepting their bids on Saturday. Bid Day marks the conclusion of rush week and the initiation of new members into MTSU's Greek community.

Greeks put a stop to hazing

STAFF REPORT

Hazing awareness and prevention in the Greek community is slated to be highlighted by the Office of Greek Affairs with campus-wide events in recognition of National Hazing Prevention Week.

The week, which runs from Sept. 26 through Oct. 3, will include banner raisings, where each Greek organization has the opportunity to raise a placard to increase awareness about hazing, information tables set up in the Keathley University Center lobby, meet-

ings with the four Greek councils on campus, and a button campaign.

Along with the interactive exhibits, "Haze: The Movie" will be shown in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building. The 2008 documentary has been called "...a terrifying 'Scared Straight' tale aimed at parents, educators, legislators and young adults who underestimate the dangers of youthful, alcohol abuse and binge drinking," John Horn reported in the *LA Times*.

More information about

Upcoming Greek Life Events:

"HAZE: The Movie" Screening
Monday, 7 p.m.
Business and Aerospace Building, Room S102

"What Would You Do?" Forum
Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Wiser-Patten Science Building, Room 102

Raider's Against Hazing - a Pledge to Heal
Wednesday, 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.
Keathley University Center Knoll

NHPW Guest Speaker
Thursday, 7 p.m.
McWherter Learning Resources Center, Room 221

National Hazing Prevention Week can be found through the Office of Greek Affairs or the information tables featured in the KUC throughout the week.

RIM program hosts master class

STAFF REPORT

Ariel Hyatt of Ariel Publicity and Cyber PR will be offering a master class on music marketing tomorrow in Room 101 of the John Bragg Mass Communication Building, according to an MTSU press release.

"Musicians' Online PR and Marketing Master Class," is set to begin at 6 p.m., and she will teach participants how to use social media to "create online conversations" in



Hyatt

combination with traditional marketing techniques.

Using the techniques will make it easier and faster for musicians to amass a large fan base and earn money for their work, both online and offline, according to the press release.

Hyatt is the author of "Music Success in Nine Weeks: A Step-by-Step

Guide on How to Use Social Media & Online Tactics to Supercharge Your PR, Build Your Fan Base, and Earn More Money."

In addition, Hyatt's New York-based digital firm "connects artists to blogs, podcasts, Internet radio stations and social-media sites," according to the press release.

While the class is free and open to the public, seating will be limited and will be first come, first serve.

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IN TODAY'S ISSUE



Check out the workout schedule for the Health, Wellness and Recreation Center

ONLINE @
MTSUSIDELINES.COM

MONDAY FORECAST

MOSTLY CLOUDY
60% CHANCE OF RAIN
HIGH 69, LOW 52

EYH reaches out to community

By MARIE KEMPH
News Editor

More than 200 girls from Middle Tennessee spent Saturday developing their knowledge of science and mathematics' skills with the help of cadets from the Reserve Officers Training Corps through MTSU's Expanding Your Horizons program.

Twelve girls were treated to a topography workshop, titled "Finding Your Way," that was taught by six ROTC female cadets.

"It went really well," said Courtney Fultz, a senior in the College of Behavioral and Health Services. "We taught girls from Nashville and Franklin, and some who said they traveled more than an hour to attend."

Fultz co-presented the workshop alongside Elizabeth Juergens, a senior in the College of Behavioral and Health Services, Rachael Lezon, a graduate student in the College of Business, and Kelsey Kirby and Kimberly Isham, both of

whom are juniors in the College of Basic and Applied Sciences.

Fultz attended EYH in 2000 with a Girl Scout group when she was in sixth grade, and she maintained her association with the program for the past four years — teaching younger generations of girls about science-related fields.

She said she believes it is important for young women to know certain life skills, even though technology as advanced.

"Also, it's a blessing to be able to give back to the community, since I was once a participant in EYH," Fultz said, in an MTSU press release. "I remember how excited I was coming in to learn about math and science — EYH is definitely an event young ladies will never forget."

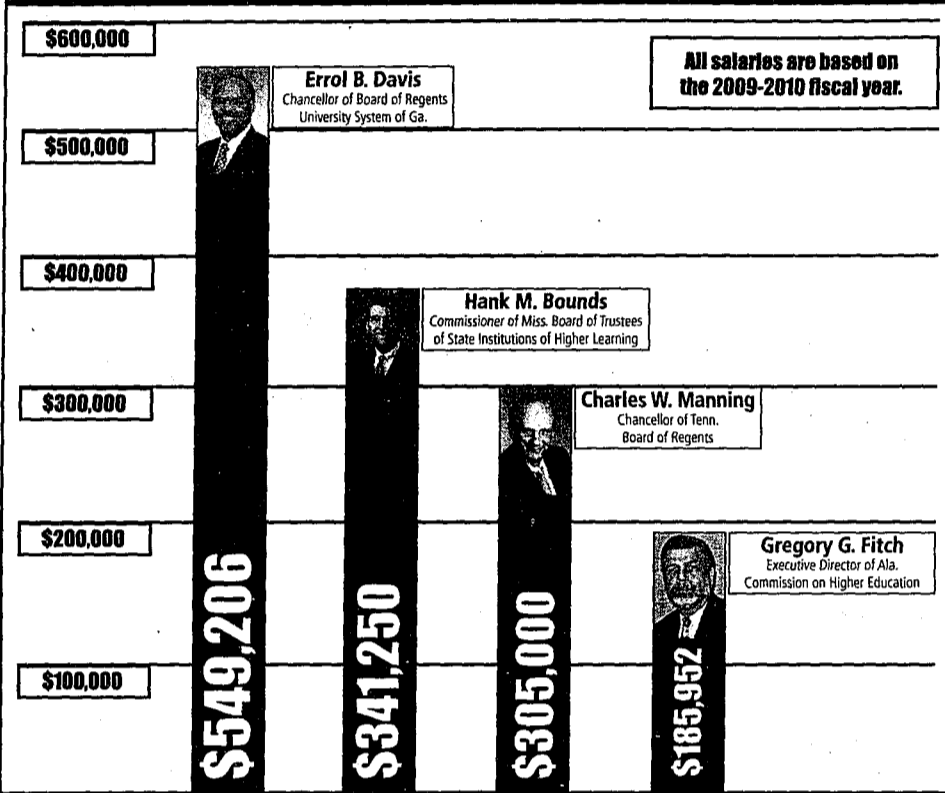
Fultz said most importantly, it is important for young women to know anything is possible.

"It's so important to provide girls with opportunities in science," Fultz said. "Women are capable of doing just as much as men."



Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor, courtesy of News and Public Affairs
Heather Brown, an associate professor for engineering technology, showed how to calculate the maximum weight capacity of concrete during an Expanding Your Horizons workshop on Saturday. EYH is a program dedicated to the enrichment of middle school and high school girls with an interest in math and science.

EXAMINING THE COMPETITION: TBR Chancellor vs. Surrounding States



Graphic by Andy Harper, production manager

Board votes to redact pay raise

VOTE FROM PAGE 1

TBR officials will be present at a meeting of the State Education Commission of the Tennessee General Assembly tomorrow to discuss Morgan's hiring process, which has also been an issue with the state legislature because he has not earned a doctorate degree.

Members of the Student Government Association who were in attendance at the committee meeting expressed their approval of Morgan's proposition to modify his salary.

"For him to do that is very commendable," said Brandon Batts, president of the SGA. "For him to say 'I'm doing this job because I really want to, not for the money' is really admirable."

After wishing Manning well and expressing how they had enjoyed working with him as chancellor, they moved on the other business at the meeting. Morgan is scheduled to begin serving as chancellor on Sept. 30.

The board formally recognized Ryan Peters, Tennessee Technology Center's 2010 Outstanding Student of the Year. Peters, who was chosen out of a pool of students from TTC locations across the state, said that he was very thankful for

the new 2009 Chevrolet Aveo that he received as part of the award.

Peters, who is pursuing his degree in computer information technology, said that he was shy and was intimidated by public speaking, but that his education at the TTC at Whiteville had boosted his confidence and self-esteem.

President Sydney McPhee welcomed TBR officials with a speech and the presentation of a film entitled "What Makes MTSU Special." The video, which was produced entirely in-house at MTSU, highlighted a variety of the university's achievements.

According to the video, MTSU has received \$3.5 million in the past five years for the Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics program to invest in technology and training methods for students in primary and secondary schools.

In addition, MTSU received external and private funding of \$38 million in the 2006-2007 school year for science research, according to the video.

While the plans for the proposed science building have been discussed and designed, MTSU is still awaiting funding for construction, according to the video.

"I am very impressed with MTSU and the job they have done hosting this meeting," Tracy said.

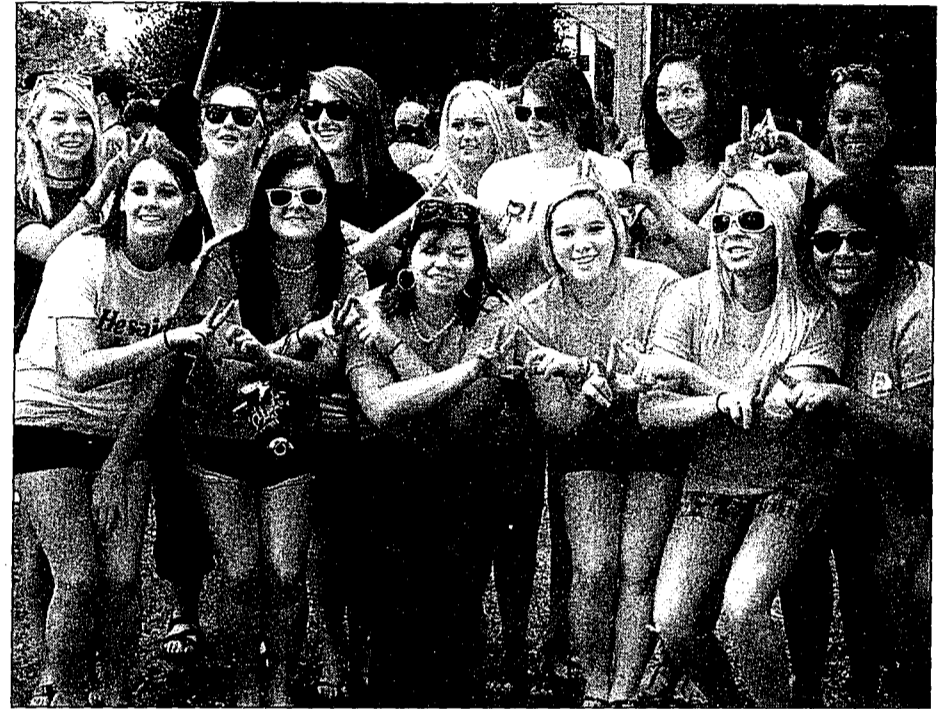


Photo by DuWayne Sterling, contributing photographer
Members of the Kappa Delta Sorority promoted their organization Saturday during the Greek's annual Bid Day. They will have booths set up all week to collect purses for the YMCA women's shelters.

Kappa Delta Sorority collects for shelter

STAFF REPORT

MTSU's Kappa Delta Sorority is collecting purses for their "Go Confidently Collection" to donate to the Nashville YMCA women's shelter, according to a press release from the sorority.

Kappa Delta is accepting preloved or gently

used purses at the Keathley University Center, 2nd floor lobby until Sept. 30, according to the press release. Contributions by students and anyone else in the community are being accepted.

"By collecting these purses, we hope to instill a form of confidence in women

and girls," said Brittany Davidson, vice president of public relations for Kappa Delta. "A girl can feel more confident just by carrying the right bag, the bag that makes them feel better about themselves. This is the kind of confidence we want girls and women everywhere to have."

Caption Contest



Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor
Tell us what you think the caption on this photo should be. E-mail your captions to slnews@mtsu.edu. The winning caption will be featured in Thursday's issue of Sidelines.

CRIME BRIEFS

Sept. 21, 4:33 a.m.

Vandalism

Greek Row
A bicycle was reported damaged on Greek Row Tuesday morning.

Sept. 21, 10:07 a.m.

Vandalism

Greek Row
A window was reported damaged in the Beta Theta Pi fraternity house on Greek Row.

Sept. 21, 10:22 a.m.

Theft

Business Aerospace Building
A subject was advised that a golf cart had been taken from the building.

Sept. 21, 12:40 p.m.

Theft

Womack Lane apartments
A bicycle was reported stolen.

Sept. 21, 1:03 p.m.

Traffic

Rutherford Boulevard parking lot
A damaged vehicle was reported at the scene of the accident in the parking lot.

Sept. 21, 3:21 p.m.

Alarm

Tennessee Livestock Center
A smoldering dumpster was reported at the Tennessee Livestock Center.

Sept. 21, 10:09 p.m.

Stolen Vehicle

Nicks Hall lot
A blue Honda Accord was reported missing from Nicks Hall lot.

Sept. 21, 11:25 p.m.

Armed suspect

Woodmore cafeteria
Michael Bradshaw, 27, was charged with possession of a

weapon on school grounds.

Sept. 22, 6:14 a.m.

Theft

Business Aerospace Building
A bicycle was reported stolen from the BAS computer lab.

Sept. 22, 8:27 p.m.

Harassment

Mary Hall
A subject in Mary Hall reported receiving harassing phone calls and messages.

Sept. 23, 11:30 a.m.

Theft

MTSU campus

Sept. 23, 12:09 p.m.

Theft

McFarland Health Services lot
Medication was reportedly taken from a vehicle in the McFarland Health Services parking lot.

Bill plans to keep uninsured Americans afloat

HEALTH
FROM PAGE 1

Ashleigh Hines, who graduated from MTSU this past spring, said she supports Obama's plan for health care reform because this bill accommodates her needs at the moment.

"I graduated in May, and I was about to be released from under my parents' insurance plan," Hines said. "I was really afraid about how I could find a job in six months, start paying students loans, and have a job with insurance."

"It is our responsibility to make arrangements for health care," Allison said. "People will take advantage of this new bill."

According to my.barackobama.com, a website operated by

eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, but for whatever reasons are not participating in those programs, Sanford said.

According to the Cato Institute, 16 percent of the American population is uninsured because they are impoverished and are not able to afford health care. However, according to the institute's website, this number is divided between the voluntarily and the involuntarily uninsured.

Also, uninsured Americans receive various and significant amounts of health care from government programs, private charitable groups and donated care from physicians, according to the website.

"I do not have insurance," Hows said. "If something were to happen to me today, and I fell ill, I would expect for my

"Every person should have a basic level of health coverage... Do you just leave them to their fate? It seems so inhumane"

LOUIS HAAS
PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

the Democratic National Committee, 62 percent of all bankruptcies filed in the United States were linked to medical expenses, and health care reform will prevent bankruptcies by capping annual out-of-pocket costs for families who receive insurance through government exchange programs or small businesses.

"Every person should have a basic level of health coverage - accidents happen and life happens," said Louis Haas, a professor in the history department. "Do you just leave them to their fate? It seems so inhumane."

It is estimated that 47 million Americans are uninsured. However, Sanford said there is data that suggests otherwise.

The number 47 million is an exaggeration of the truth, he said. Some of those people may be

government to take care of me."

The number of voluntarily uninsured Americans is estimated to be 16.2 million, according to the institute's website.

"The U.S. may never get the money back that is being spent on insurance, but it provides a safety net for the people and college students," Haas said.

According to a report by the U.S. Government Accountability Office in 2008, 20 percent of college students between the ages of 18 and 23 were uninsured.

"My daughter is 24 years old, and she is still covered under my health care plan," Haas said. "That is very helpful."

Both sides of the debate have expressed concern about the long-term effects.

"We need to just stop everything now and build from scratch," Haas said.

Honors College explores China

STAFF REPORT

The next installment in the 2010 fall semester's Honors Lecture Series will be delivered by associate professor Yuan-Ling Chao today at 3 p.m. in the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building amphitheater.

The lecture, "Confucianism and the Scientific Tradition in China," is part of the fall series entitled "China: The Middle Kingdom in the Modern World." The series is being co-sponsored by MTSU's Confucius Institute.

The lecture will be free and open to the public.

Chao, an associate professor of history, has been a faculty member at the university since 1995. ac-

ording to a press release. Her teaching fields include China, Japan, world history and the history of medicine.

Her further research interests include the history of Chinese history and the comparative study of the history of medicine, according to the press release.

Chao obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1981 from Hong Kong Baptist College. She earned her Master of Arts degree from the University of California-Santa Barbara and graduated with a doctorate degree from the University of California-Los Angeles, according to the press release.

This will be the second lecture in a series of seven planned for this semester.

THROUGH THE SIDELINES LENS



Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor

Andrea Dawson, on viola, (Left); Tyler Loucky, on the cello, (Middle); David Loucky, on trombone, (Right); played Serenade No. 6 Op. 44 by Vincent Persichetti, for more than 99 people during a faculty recital last night in Hinton Hall, which is located in the Wright Music Building.

LOCAL EVENTS

On Campus

Lecture:
Honors Lecture Series: Confucianism and the Scientific Tradition in China
Monday
3:00 p.m. - 3:55 p.m.
Honors College Room 106
Presented by: Yuan-Ling Chao - Associate Professor of History

Political:
Brown vs. Black
Tuesday
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
KUC Theater
Lecture on race relations in Honduras.

Social:
IDAC Conversation Partners Meal
Tuesday

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Presbyterian Student Fellowship
This free meal is designed to help international students meet American students and gain experience with the English language.

Movie:
Night at the Movies
Wednesday
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
KUC Theater

Social:
Wacky Wednesday Program
Wednesday
9:30 pm - 10:30 pm
Corlew Hall
Programs that are designed for First Year Students

Off Campus

Sports:
National Walking Horse Championship Show
Mon, Sept. 27 - Oct. 02 Held at the Tennessee Miller Coliseum

Social:
Game Night! Wii bowling, Guitar Hero, beer pong and more... Rock Band
Monday
5 p.m. - 3 a.m.
Blue Rooster

Sports:
Hot Yoga
Tuesday
5:30 p.m.
Tall Grass Dance Studio
25 Public Square South,

Murfreesboro, TN

Social:
Story Time
Wednesday
10 a.m.

Myrtle Glanton Lord Library
For families and preschool age children

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, nonprofit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. *Sidelines* publishes Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and online during June and July. The events listed are not necessarily associated with *Sidelines* or MTSU.



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SPORTS

Wind beneath Lightning's wings

Columbia native reflects on his time as MTSU's mythical mascot



File photo

By WILL TRUSLER
Sports Editor

JaMichael Smith has never minded standing out in a crowd. The boisterous senior from Columbia is most comfortable with all eyes on him.

Thus, it is only fitting that Smith don a winged-horse costume in his spare time to liven up the crowds at MT sporting events.

Lightning, as we know him, came to be in 1998 when the Athletic Department updated its image in preparation for its upgrade to Division I-A football and transfer to the Sun Belt Conference.

The mythological being was chosen as representation for the university's aerospace program and its rich regional history in the walking horse industry. Lightning serves as a symbol to students for the soaring spirit they hopefully experience at sporting events.

According to "The Legend of Lightning," the thundering horse of the gods was entrusted to carry lightning bolts and could only be harnessed by a noble being with a pure heart. Character, talent and strength were required to mount and ride the fabled, winged horse.

Smith embodies these qualities and has used his time here at MTSU to both make a name for himself and make a difference for his fellow students.

In his tenure as a Blue Raider, Smith has served on the SGA for two years, acting as senator his junior year. He was a student athletic trainer for the football and tennis teams, as well as serving as the student representative for the Athletics Committee. The senior attended the Blue Raider Leadership Summit in the spring of 2010 and won "Mr. Congeniality" at the 2010 Mr. MTSU pageant, a benefit for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Smith sat down with *Sidelines* to discuss his duties and experiences as our beloved mascot.

SL: How did you come to be Lightning?

JS: They were looking for a new mascot, and I was recommended by one of the cheerleaders. They let me perform the fight song during Homecoming Week 2009, and I've been Lightning ever since.

SL: What's your job description like?

BLUE RAIDER SPOTLIGHT



JaMichael Smith

Class: Senior **Major:** Exercise science

Hometown: Columbia, Tenn.

Role Model: "My cousin, Qua"

Favorite Movie: "Enough"

Favorite Band/Singer: Gucci Mane

Favorite Food: Fried chicken

Pre-Game Rituals: "I tailgate with the team, socialize with friends, and stretch and warm up for the game."

JS: I attend all the football and basketball games, and I'm obligated to several public appearances throughout the school year. At the games, I just try to get the student body involved and pumped up.

SL: Does the craziness come with the horse head and wings?

JS: I'm definitely this crazy all the time [laughs]. The only difference is I just get hot and crazy when I put on the suit.

SL: How do you get the crowd involved?

JS: I do whatever I have to. I just get wild and crazy and jump around usually.

SL: Have you ever had any interesting interaction with other mascots?

JS: Yes, in New Orleans. [The University of Southern Mississippi's] mascot was an eagle, and we started having a mascot battle. We both had the fans really loud and pumped. Nothing bad happened, but it was just really fun and intense.

SL: What are your thoughts on your experience as Lightning as a whole?

JS: I'm really grateful for the opportunity I got being Lightning. I'm going to miss all the little kids the most. This is something that will stick with me for the rest of my life.

Blue Raider golf starts season in full swing

By ALEX HUBBARD
Contributing Writer

Members of the MTSU golf teams kicked off their seasons last week, with the men competing in Burlington, Iowa and the women in Waynesville, N.C. Both teams overcame slow starts and improved to finish in the middle or top of the standings.

At the Golfweek Conference Challenge, the Blue Raider men used solid showings from veterans Jason Millard and Hunter Green coupled with impressive performances from a trio of freshman to finish ninth in a 15-team field that comprised 10 teams that played in the NCAA tournament a year ago.

As a team, the Blue Raiders improved their scores after each round, finishing the 54-hole contest with an eight-over-par mark of 872.

"I am encouraged about this group," Head Coach Whit Turnbow said. "We played better every day as the golf course got harder."

Millard, a senior from Murfreesboro, finished fourth in the individual standings, racking up 11 birdies and one eagle en route to a score of 210. Meanwhile Green, a junior from Evensville, Tenn., finished twenty-sixth on eleven birdies and a score of 218.

Brett Patterson led the group of true freshman in the MT lineup, finishing tied for 43rd on eight birdies and an eagle, while Paul Sansom and Jordan Jennings finished 58th and 60th, respectively.

Despite a slow start, the Lady Raiders used a second-round score of 289, the third-best score in the team's history, to finish fifth at

the Great Smokies Invitational.

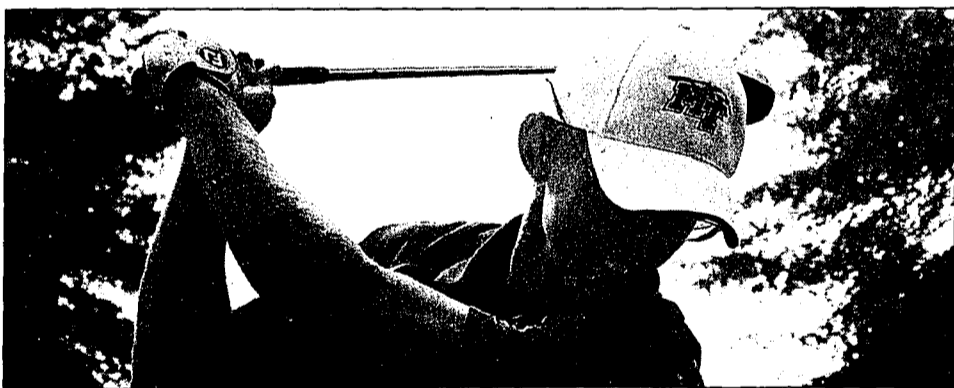
"I was very proud of our play today after we put ourselves in a hole on Saturday," said Head Coach Chris Adams after the tournament concluded. "I think we may have had some first tournament jitters on Saturday, and I'd love to have another shot at the first round."

Ashley Haggard, a sophomore from Savannah, Tenn., posted the second-best individual round on the second day of play with a score of 67 and finished twelfth in individual standings. Sophomores Olivia Love and Stephanie Smith rounded out the top 25 for MT, tying for 25th.

The Blue Raiders will play a compact fall schedule, playing in a total of five tournaments through Oct. 19. They will travel to Tampa, Fla., Durham, N.C., and Baton Rouge, La. MT will take the customary break over the winter and resume play in the spring with a series of tournaments that will play a large part in determining MT's post-season positioning.

The Blue Raiders will travel back to Florida, Louisiana and North Carolina for tournaments in Tampa, Ruston and Charlotte, respectively, while also taking two trips to the state of Alabama for a tournament in Mobile and the Sun Belt Conference Championship in Muscle Shoals.

After losing Kent Bulle and Craig Smith to graduation, two players who figured prominently in MT's run to the NCAA regionals last year, the Blue Raiders will have to rely on the leadership of Millard and



Photos by Andy Harper, production manager

Hunter Green takes a few practice swings yesterday before the Mason Rudolph Championship.

Green while getting production from the younger players who dominate the rest of the roster. For the players who were around to witness last year's difficult ending, falling just two shots short of qualifying for the national championship, achieving that national success may serve as a driving force for this season.

After finishing runner up in the Sun Belt Conference Championship a year ago, the Lady Raiders return six players from that squad. Their five-tournament fall schedule includes trips to Oklahoma, South Carolina and Florida. The spring campaign has not yet been released.

Sun Belt Conference women's golf has been dominated by Denver for most of the last decade with DU winning the last seven conference tournaments in a row. Despite having just one senior on the roster, MT boasts an experienced lineup that will ensure the coming season will not be dull.



Photos by Andy Harper, production manager

Jason Millard tees off in Franklin on Sunday.

GAME PLAN

<p>Palatial Concerts Reggi Wouton and Friends Thursday, Sept. 30 at 4:30 p.m. Recreation Center Lawn</p>	<p>Women's Volleyball vs. Florida International Friday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m. Alumni Memorial Gym</p>	<p>Women's Volleyball vs. Florida Atlantic Saturday, Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. Alumni Memorial Gym</p>
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Submit your own club events at sisports@mtsu.edu or at mtsusidelines.com online

Softball
vs. Lipscomb University
Saturday, Oct. 2 at TBA
Lipscomb University

Football
vs. Troy University
Tuesday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m.
Floyd Stadium and ESPN2

Canoe & Camping
with Campus Recreation
Friday and Saturdays
\$20 - Space is limited

Women's Yoga and Backpacking
MTSU Outdoor Pursuits
Friday and Saturdays
\$25 - Space is limited
Call 615-898-2104 to sign up.

Canoe & Camping
on the Caney Fork
MTSU Outdoor Pursuits
Friday and Saturdays
\$20 - Space is limited
Call 615-898-2104 to sign up.

Events Policy

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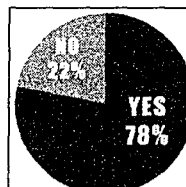
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FEATURES



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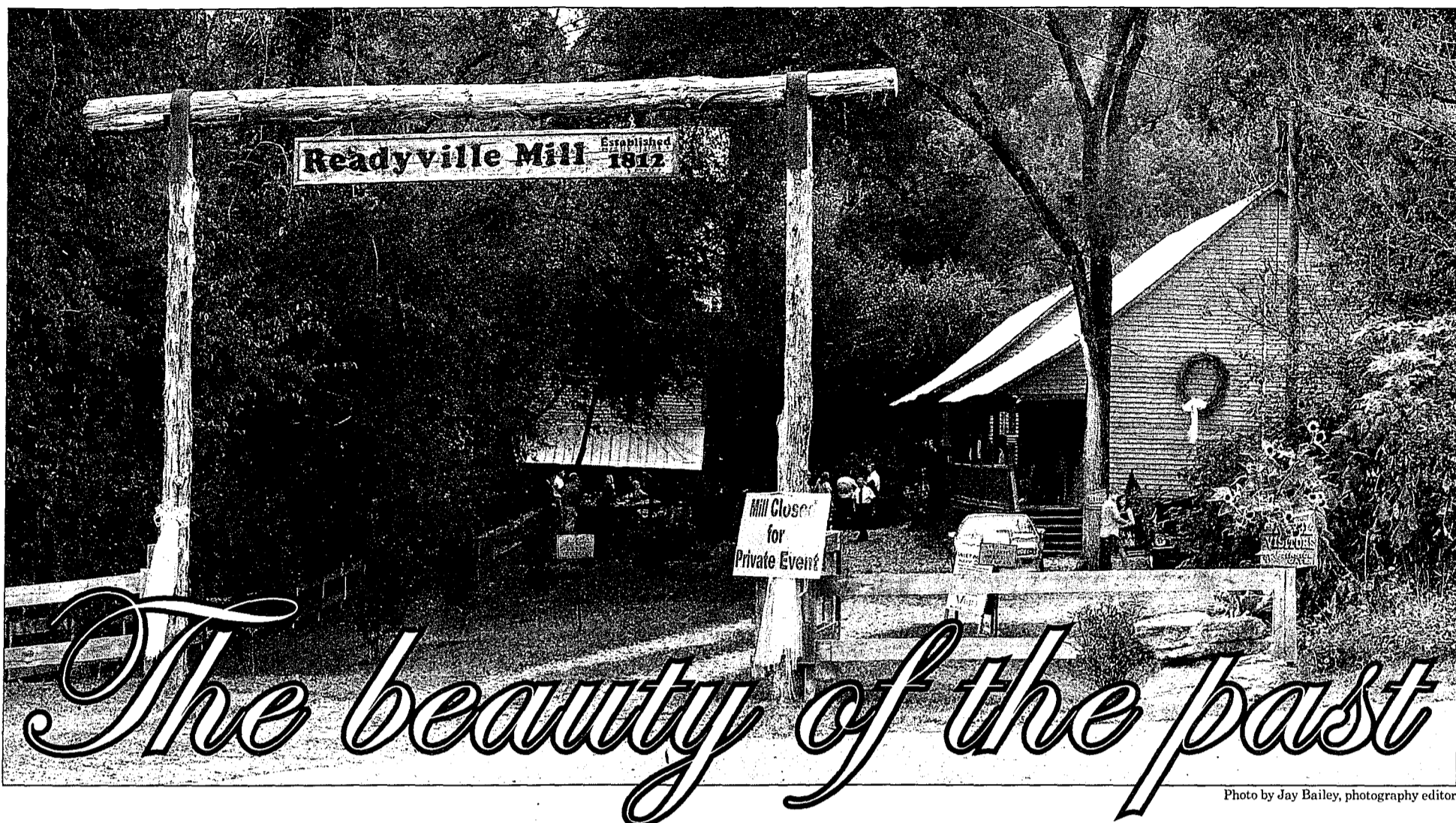


Photo by Jay Bailey, photography editor

The beauty of the past

Local couple preserves history through treasures, memories

By REBECCA BROWN
Contributing Writer

Upon entering the gate, it feels as if you're stepping into an old snapshot from long ago, except it's not black and white — the colors and details are more vivid than even the finest camera can portray.

At once, you're enveloped by the greenest of green — grass, trees, flowers, shrubs and ivy. Antique knickknacks, including farm equipment, a well pump and a dinner bell, are scattered across the property among the sea of verdure.

The old dirt and stone path is worn away from walking and driving visitors. They may have come for one of the frequent weekend weddings or reunions at the mill. Maybe they came to buy some fresh ground cornmeal and grits, homemade

jams and jellies, molasses, or honey. Perhaps, they just came to enjoy the scenery, to relax and chat.

Five restored buildings — the Mill, Granary, Icehouse, Miller's Cabin, and Smokehouse — are the main attractions. The Readyville Mill is one of only six mills in Tennessee that still actively grinds grain, and it is the only mill in the state whose products are certifiably organic.

Tomm Brady is a lanky, tall, yet unobtrusive man with facial hair resembling the bristles of a wire shoe brush. He stands in the granary, waiting to work the cash register for the first customers of the day — a pair of older women sampling the homemade jams.

Tomm and his wife, Martha, purchased the rundown mill in 2006 and went to work on restoring it. He claims to have

taken on the task because he "needed a project to work on," but his love for history and agriculture might have had some influence, too.

Shortly before the Mill's gates were open to the public, Nora Robinson moved to Tennessee in to an old house just up the road from Tomm's renovation project. She and Tomm discovered they had a good deal in common, such as their passion for irreplaceable antiques.

Nora now volunteers as Tomm's right hand at the Mill. Her most frequent and favorite duty is booking and helping plan the increasing number of weddings held at the Mill.

"You can't help but enjoy a celebration," Nora says. "If your job is a party every weekend, it doesn't suck for you."

Nora also has a passion for gardening, and visitors have her in part to thank for the lush vegetation surrounding the Mill. But, she knows that the beauty and significance of this place goes far beyond its appearance. The Mill has seen a lot in its 200 years, including slavery, the Civil War and

the Trail of Tears.

Standing outside, surrounded by old buildings that have survived some of the most significant events of our country's history, one might wonder who else has stood in that exact spot, perhaps even thinking the same thing.

The Mill allows visitors to get to know people from the past and learn what life was like for them. As Nora believes, their lives were most likely a great deal more exciting than their pictures might suggest.

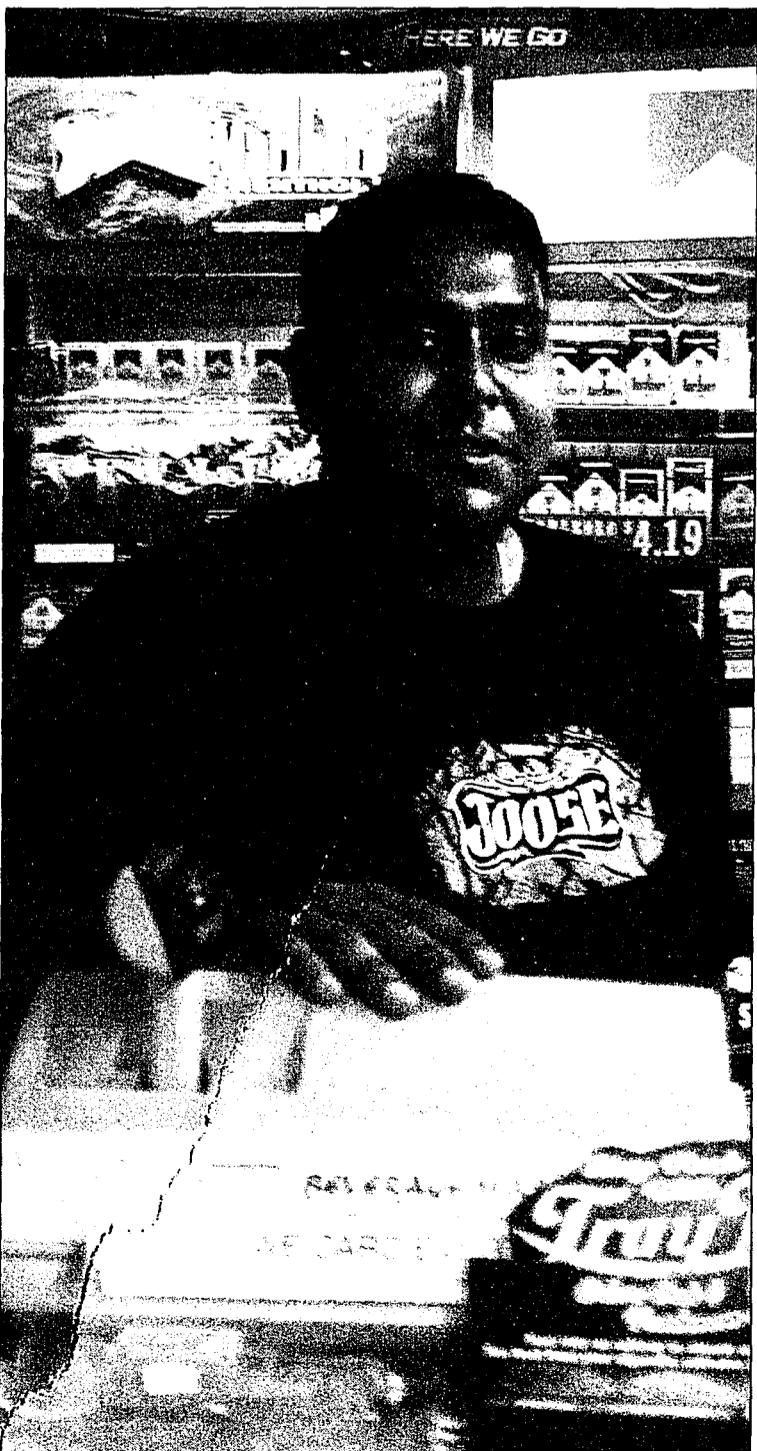
"So much of history is black and white photos," Nora says, "so we don't think their world is very colored."

The Readyville Mill certainly isn't lacking in any type of color; it is a far cry from a black-and-white photograph.

Mother Nature's colors combine with a one-of-a-kind historical hue, which mixes with the spectrum of personalities who visit the mill, like Tomm and Nora's. The end result is a rainbow cocktail that cannot be found anywhere else but in Readyville.

Sometimes customers do come first

Local business strives to maintain approachable, familylike atmosphere



Photos by Anna Houser, contributing photographer
Local patrons wandering into Beveragemart are sure to find Anil Patel waiting to greet them from behind the counter with a smile.

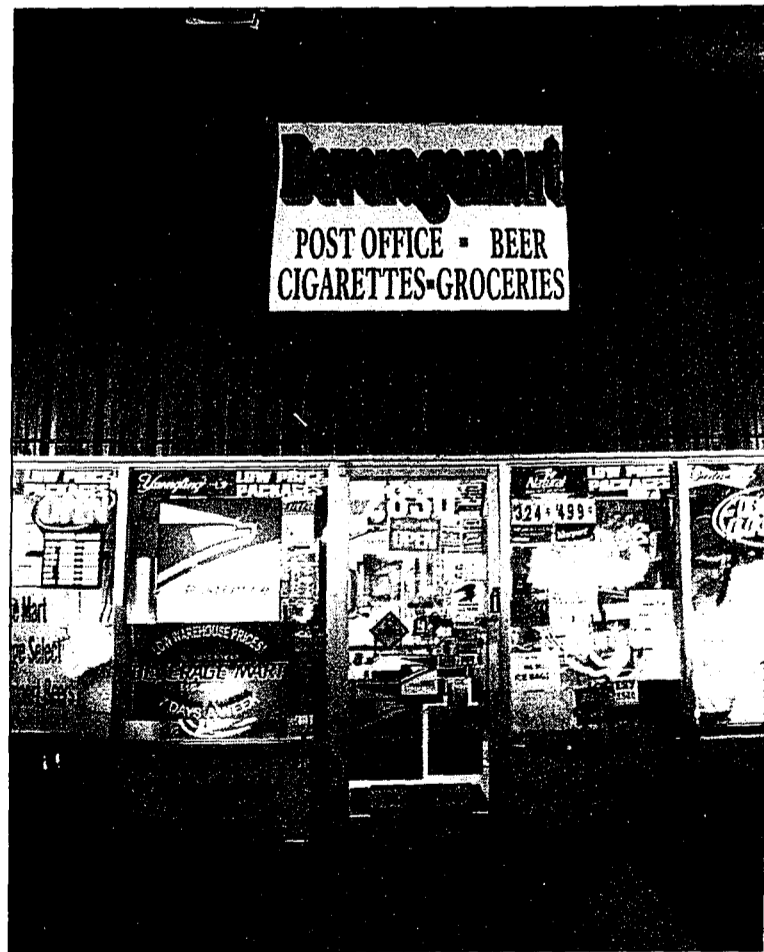
By TODD BARNES
Contributing Writer

From the moment the door opens, a helping hand waits to guide you through a place that holds more than just your basic necessities — it's a place to make a friend during your daily routine.

Beveragemart, a convenient store located on Middle Tennessee Boulevard, is an independent business that was established on July 4, 2008. The Patel family, Girish (Gary) Patel, Ansuya Patel and Anil Patel, runs this mom-and-pop, one-stop shop that is designed to help students purchase items at lower prices. Beveragemart carries typical items, such as cigarettes, beer and snacks. Beveragemart also has a minismoke shop, which appeals to more than just your average convenience-store shoppers. A postal service is located in the back of the store to help students send a letter off to relatives, while grabbing a cup of Joe.

The Patels started working on their American dream when they emigrated from England and moved to the United States in 2000. Anil Patel said that he and his siblings felt like they should give back to their parents, who are reaching retirement, in the way that their parents gave to them throughout their upbringing. The Patels did not always know what business outlet they were going to pursue but whatever they picked, it was going to be in honor of Gary's dream.

"It had always been my dad's dream to be an independent business owner," Anil said, "and mine too."



Their plan was simple. They just wanted to create a place that was not just an in-and-out experience, but rather something that catered to their customers and left them smiling. Through Beveragemart, the family plays an active role in the college community and service with a smile is the trademark.

"I knew customer service would never be a problem," Anil said. "We just hoped for a great customer clientele."

James Wickwire, a senior majoring in recording industry management, said he goes to Beveragemart frequently for

his convenience-store needs. He said there is no substitute for a place like this.

"You just don't get service like that anymore, and I'm a server," Wickwire said.

Wickwire said he believes the prices are just the icing on the cake, and it amazes him that they treat him as if he were family. By family, he means the way they remember his name and what he likes or dislikes, which is a part of customer service that he believes is slipping away.

The secret lives of a postman

Lifelong friends talk about two decades as letter carriers

By REBECCA BROWN
Contributing Writer

Glenda Shearer and Jimmy Carver sit across from each other in a restaurant booth, munching on chips and salsa in between bits of lighthearted conversation. The two mail carriers have worked together for 22 years and have developed quite a friendship along the way.

Carver has worked for the United States Postal Service for almost 28 years. Shearer joined him at the Murfreesboro office in 1988 after working for a year as a mail carrier in Nashville.

Throughout the years, they have seen a few changes in the postal-service system. The most significant of these is the development of automatic sorting. Instead of putting mail in order manually, machines sort it according to intended destinations.

"We still have to put up some of it by hand, but not as much as we used to," Carver says, "not near like we used to."

A typical work day for a mail carrier goes something like this:

"We go in, we have some mail at our case, we sort that, then we have to go pull our letters and our flats, and we case that," Shearer says. "When they're done, we go and get those and go through 'em, and then we get our accountable mail — stuff people have to sign for — and then we go out and deliver."

It would seem that with online bills and e-mail replacing traditional bills and letters, mail carriers' loads would be much lighter. However, they say it's opposite. Carver says he believes that while letters have decreased, magazines and catalogs have increased.

"When I started, there was no such thing as online," Carver says with Shearer nodding in agreement. "People order stuff off the Internet, and it puts them on a mailing list, so now they're getting catalogs that they didn't get before."

In addition to magazines and catalogs, they say they deliver mostly Netflix and medicine that people order online.

Not all of their deliveries are so predictable, however. So, what's the strangest thing they've ever had to deliver?

"A dead body!" Shearer exclaims. She refers to the time that she delivered cremated remains to a funeral home.

"It was my last stop, but the day, that I delivered it, it was my first stop," she says. "[Because] I wasn't ridin' around all day with that behind me."

Carver has delivered human remains twice before, one of which he can't forget.

"I'll never forget, he was goin' on a cruise and gave me the card to hold his mail and he said, 'I'll see ya next week,' and he did — he was just in a box," Carver says. "So I carried mister back to mistress."

Another change that Carver and Shearer have experienced is the transition from delivering on foot to delivering solely from trucks. Shearer delivered for 10 years on foot, and during that time, she had two unfavorable encounters with dogs.

"Once a dog bit my [substitute carrier] and then later bit me," she says. "When a man got bit, they didn't do anything about it, but when it was a woman that got bit, they killed it."

She reflects on women's roles in the postal service.

"Us women used to get picked on quite a bit," Shearer says. "There were some routes

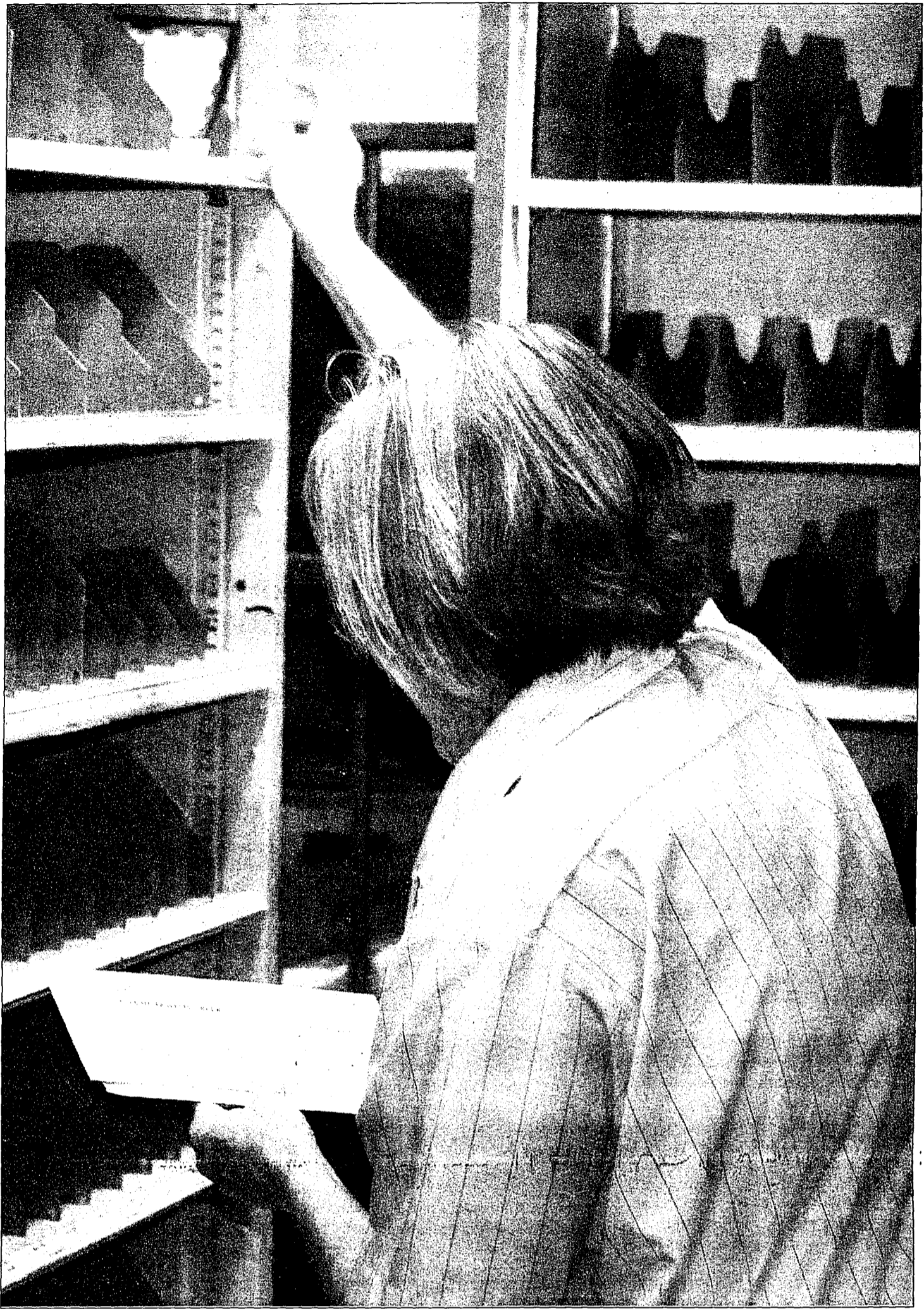
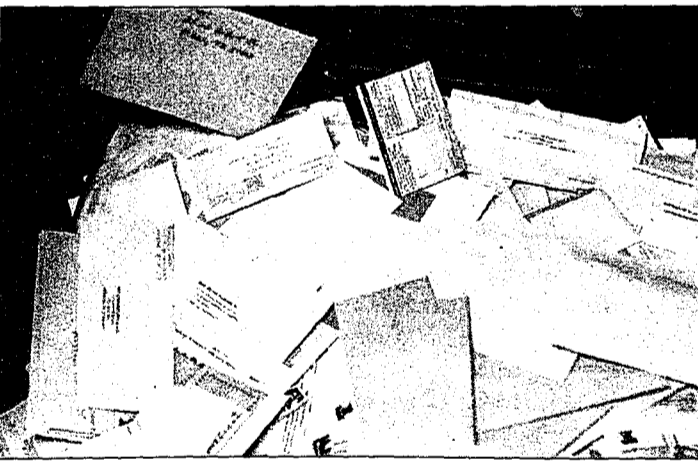


Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor

On Saturday, Glenda Shearer sorts through her last batch of mail for the day. For 22 years, Shearer has worked as a Murfreesboro postman.



Photos by Jay Bailey, photo editor

Glenda Shearer (right) cleans up the overflow mail from this weekend's deliveries.



here that they wouldn't let us carry, and that was hard on us."

Carver recalls that there were only a couple of women carriers when he started at USPS, and that most of the men were former military.

There have been significant changes in the postal system in the past 20 years, and Shearer says she is glad to have been there to experience them.

"I have to admit, without a college degree, I mean — I've been blessed," Carver

says. "You know, you're not gonna get rich, but I've raised three kids and been able to take vacations and stuff."

For Shearer and Carver interaction with customers makes their jobs worthwhile. Although mail carriers have been told not to talk too long with customers, Shearer can't help it.

"I'm known as 'Miss Congeniality' cause I do," she says with a laugh. "I'm gonna be old one day too, and I would want somebody to talk to me, ya know?"

Shearer and Carver agree that the most rewarding aspect of mail carrying is serving the public.

"You are providing, maybe not as much anymore or you don't feel that way because it's mostly catalogs and stuff," Carver says. "But used to, you know, birthday cards from grandsons ... they're important,"

And as the value of Shearer and Carver's work increases, so does the value of their friendship.

Store more than convenient

BEVERAGE FROM PAGE 5

The Patels are not only famous for remembering your name, but they seem to pick up on the last conversation you had, as if you had never left at all. They pride themselves on treating every customer with love and kindness, like a family, and have no problem giving back to the students that make their store unique. For instance, on MTSU game days the family goes the extra mile for loyal customers by providing free

food at a cookout. They support several charities in the process.

"We always try to do free barbecues," Anil said. "If we get our hands on free T-shirts, glasses, key chains, etc., it's yours."

Finding Beveragemart is like finding the key to the secret garden — it's difficult to locate. You literally have to hear about it, or stumble upon it by accident to find it. The store is hidden behind a Mapco and Shell station next to University Packages and Sammi's Hookah Bar. Most businesses that are hidden

behind larger businesses usually have a sign at the entrance of the shopping center, but Beveragemart does not. Currently, the Patels rely on word of mouth for people to find where they're located.

The Patels enjoy their life at Beveragemart, and the fact that they are not easy to find does not bother them. They are happy with the clientele they have, and each customer adds a little something to the atmosphere that the Patels strive to preserve.

"I like the vibe here," Anil said. "I would never change it."



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OPINIONS

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Ten ways to assist

Having respect for disabled students helps their experience

On behalf of several disabled students and friends:

10. Do not leave your trash on the sidewalks, or anywhere for that matter. You never know when a blind student will trip on the item, or if it will get tangled in the wheels of a wheelchair. It also helps keep MTSU beautiful.

9. Save the handicapped stalls in the restrooms for disabled students. They are made to accommodate a wheelchair.

8. Never lock your bikes to the inside or outside black railing on a ramp. Peck Hall, Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building and McCallie Dining Hall are common areas where this occurs. Leaving your biked locked to the rails can cause injury to students and could cause damage to your bike. Also, be aware that if your bike is blocking access, it is considered a fire hazard and the MTSU Office of Public Safety can be called to remove your bike. Speaking of ramps: Please do not sit, skateboard, stand, or smoke on the ramps.

7. Open doors and hold them open, or allow room for doors to open when disabled students push the button.

6. If you see a disabled student that looks lost or confused, ask if



Dianna M. Melton
Contributing Columnist

they need assistance. The other day while passing the Keathley University Center, I saw a blind student with his dog turning in circles. It was the day classes started and at lunchtime, so the area was quite busy. While fighting my way through the crowd, I watched as people passed this student, swore at him to get out of the way, and almost run into him with their bikes. Turns out he was lost and he said he was asking for help, but not one person would help him. It took all of 5 minutes for me to lead him to his destination.

5. Do not pull your vehicles so that the tires are touching the curb. In most instances, this literally cuts the sidewalk in half.

4. Don't block sidewalks, ramps, drive-

ways or park on sidewalks. This includes MTSU vehicles and golf carts. One day this summer, an MTSU truck was parked completely on the sidewalk, causing wheelchair students to maneuver around the vehicle.

3. Never park in a handicapped parking spot without the appropriate decal. It is illegal. This means do not borrow a decal, just to park close to the building. I have seen a student park in a disabled parking spot, get out of the car, and run into the Business and Aerospace Building.

2. If the elevator in a building is full and a disabled student is waiting to get on, be kind and step out so they can get on. If you can park your vehicle half a mile away, surely you can stand a few minutes, or take the stairs instead of the elevator. This is particularly important in the BAS between classes.

The No. 1 thing you can do to assist disabled students: talk to us as human beings, college students, colleagues or even as a friend.

Dianna M. Melton is a senior majoring in business education in the College of Business, and she is an avid wheelchair user. She can be reached at dmm4g@mtmail.mtsu.edu.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"The fault, dear Brutus, lies not in our stars," wrote William Shakespeare some 400 years ago. "But in ourselves, that we are underlings."

That line, from "Julius Caesar," was most likely considered remarkably prescient when read by any one, at any point, following the moment it was written. Today, for me, its prescience was realized, along with a twinge of guilt, while I sat in my living room, eating Chinese food and watching "Jersey Shore."

I love "Jersey Shore." In many ways, its very existence is testament to all great things that the United States of America has achieved as a nation and democracy as an ideology — more on that later. However, this particular episode presided over my subconscious with more than the usual amount of resonance, because of a piece Catherine Davidson wrote in Sidelines on Monday, Aug. 30.

In her article, Davidson wondered aloud, assuming you read her article out loud, if the American public had become too celebrity obsessed?

With all due respect to Davidson, this is hardly a new notion for people who have the free time to wrestle with notions. In fact, I'm not so sure there is an opposing side to the argument; every time this particular question is raised, the answer seems to be a resounding 'yes.'

I do not agree with the insinuation that we are somehow culturally compromised by living in a world where "The National Enquirer" gets nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for breaking a story about a former presidential candidate fathering a child with a campaign worker, while his wife was being treated for breast cancer during an election year, that found him a very likely candidate for vice president. In deference to Ms. Davidson, I can also fully understand being suspicious of the nobility of the Enquirer's motivations.

So when this issue of celebrity obsession comes up, the bulk of the discussion seems to be centered on whether or not the audience or the media instigates said obsession. Which came first, the chicken or the throngs of other chickens slavishly concerned with the minutiae of that chicken's daily life? Who's she roosting with?

However, dividing the complicity between the media and its audience for our celebrity-obsessed existence is simply not reaching the heart of the matter.

This is where Billy Shakespeare comes in. "The fault, dear Bru-

tus, is not in our stars. But in ourselves..." This is the part of that quote that everyone can recite it gets referenced in popular culture repeatedly when someone is forced to accept responsibility for whatever situation they've created for themselves. But it's that last bit, "that we are underlings," that intrigues me most.

The dilemma is not that America is obsessed with celebrity, it's that Americans are encouraged, and through increasingly available means, quite capable of aspiring to celebrity status.

Facebook, Myspace, Twitter and other new technologies, empower every citizen to become their own publicist. To expand the spectacle of their daily existence to whatever magnitude they see fit.

And now that most people are armed with camera phones, any one of us are a few Coronas and one bad karaoke selection away from potential YouTube superstardom.

The celebrity obsession that the average American slowly cultivated throughout the 20th century, when technological breakthroughs created television stars and Hollywood royalty at breakneck speeds, created an inherent feeling of inferiority in many of us who live lesser lives.

And now, with a plethora of user-friendly Internet resources at our fingertips, the common man need be an underling to the stars no more.

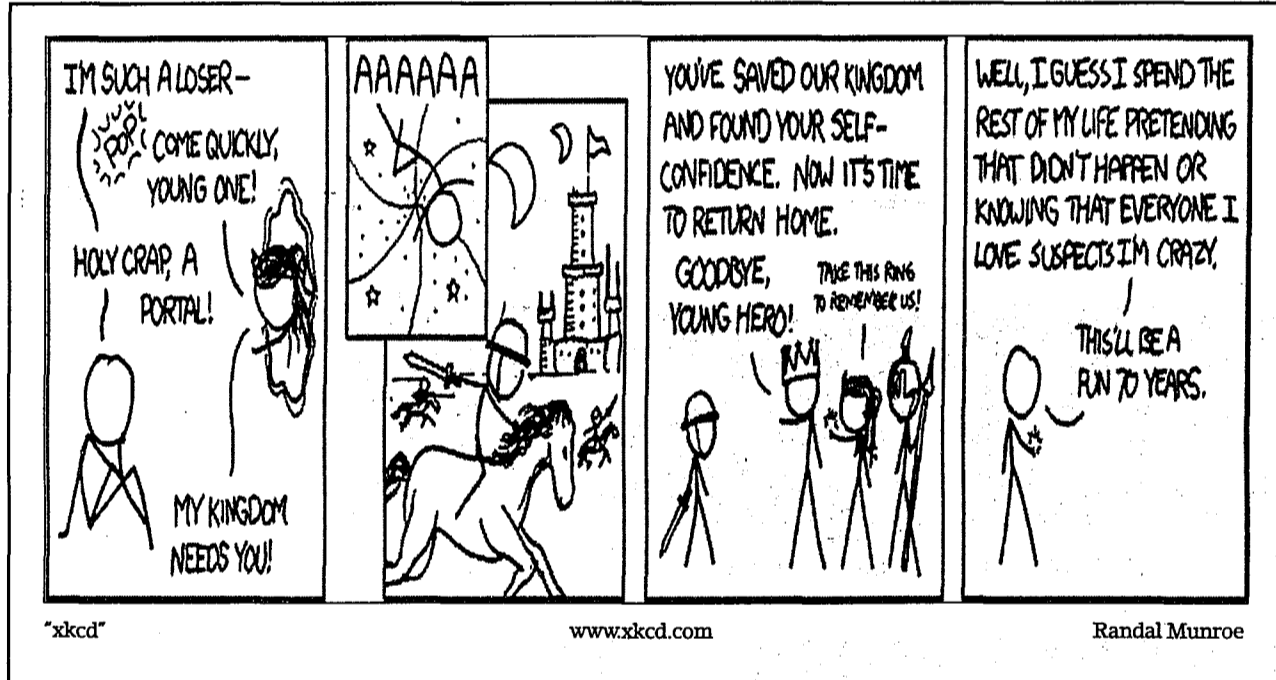
I am not condemning this development. Given enough time, social networking websites may take the luster off of celebrity enough that people become less invested in the concept and silence the critics of such compulsions altogether. Especially in 30 years, when every person seeking political office is documented doing keg stands, or dancing around to Lady Gaga songs in their underwear on streaming video.

So the guilt I feel while I eat General Tso's chicken and watch "Jersey Shore" has nothing to do with "Jersey Shore" (although the quart of General Tso's may bear some of the blame,) but rather with this feeling that I've been indirectly programmed to feel guilty for enjoying something that is so thoroughly and outrageously enjoyable.

Reality television and social networking are potent drugs, and like all potentially destructive substances, must be consumed responsibly.

Matthew Hammitt is a senior majoring in journalism in the College of Mass Communication. He can be reached at mch2m@mtmail.mtsu.edu.

COMICS



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I was less than delighted on my first day back from summer vacation to see that the golf carts are juiced up and revving up for another fast-riding year at MTSU.

On Aug. 23, an Aramark employee pulled on the sidewalk in front of Todd Library, approaching the KUC dock area. The driver was zipping down the sidewalk and never slowed down as he approached me from behind — pretty much making me jump out of his way.

I immediately let Aramark know, and I hope they approach this situation strategically.

To all of the departments who still think having golf carts on campus is a great idea, here are some thoughts on making them more pedestrian-friendly:

1) No one likes diving for the bushes whenever they hear the whirl of a golf cart from behind. Please take it easy. Not everyone can hear you coming, and despite your obvious presence on campus, people really don't expect to be buzzed by

golf carts on the sidewalk, especially on a campus cross-hatched with perfectly functional streets.

2) Remember, you're a motor vehicle and should only be on sidewalks if you have to be there, which means this should seldom occur.

3) If pedestrians are yielding to you, you're not giving them the right of way.

4) Drive slowly. Though it's called a golf cart, you're not on a golf course.

5) Remember, most departments on campus don't use golf carts and survive just fine in their day-to-day business.

Having them is a privilege that should never be exploited. If the university can ban writing in chalk on the sidewalks, it can also ban golf carts.

6) Consider labeling carts with identifying information so that drivers and departments may be held accountable for misuse.

7) Consider — again — the repercussions of a single collision with a pedestrian on a sidewalk,

both for the individual at fault and the university.

Richard E. Morris, Ph.D. is a professor of Spanish & linguistics, and is the advisor for Linguistic Studies in the Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures. He can be reached at (615) 898-2284.

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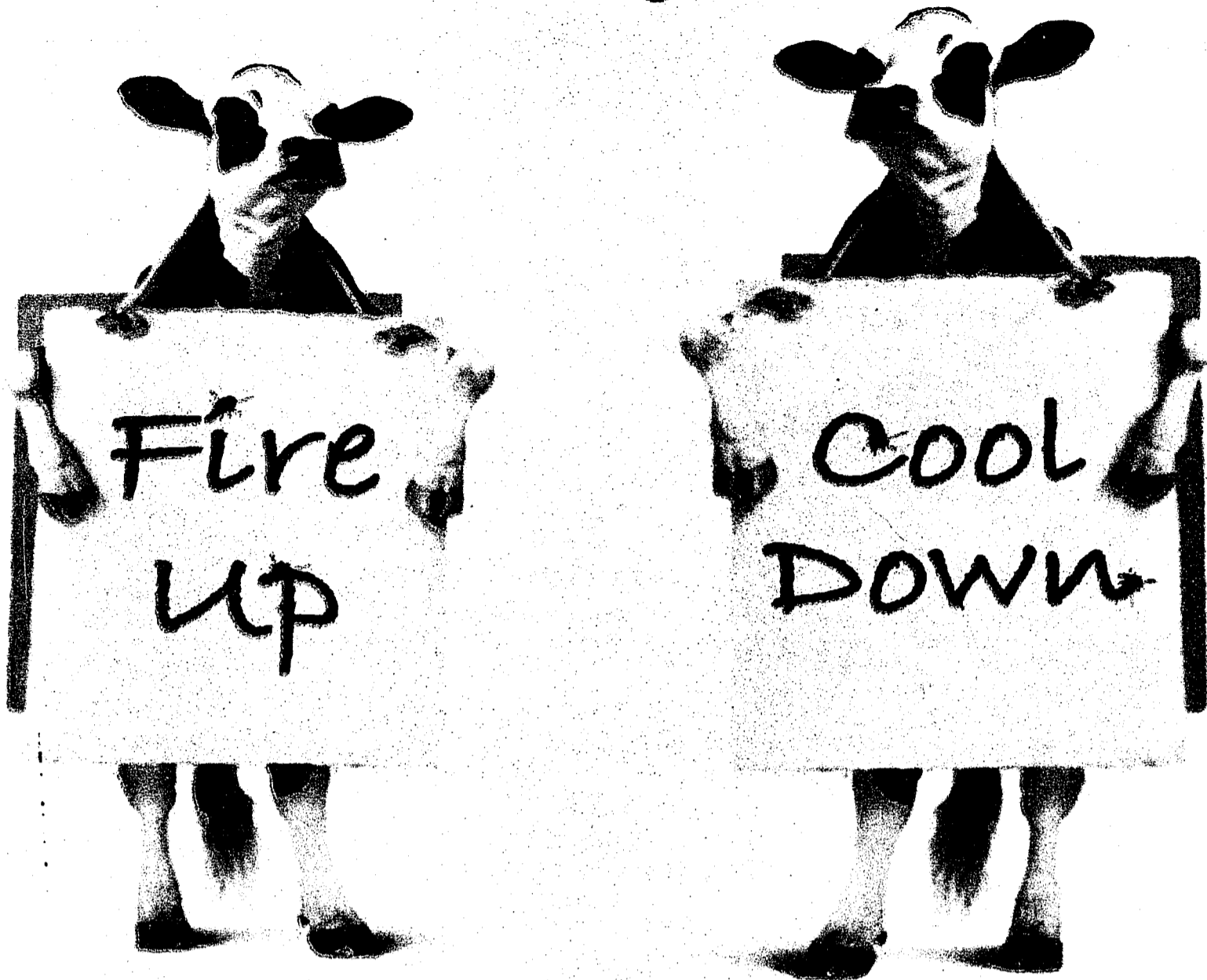
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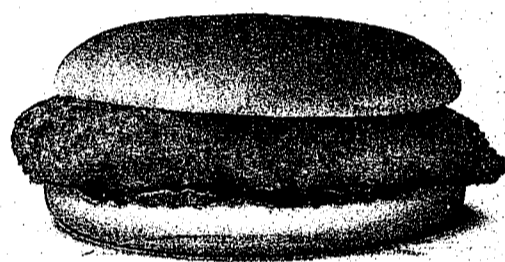
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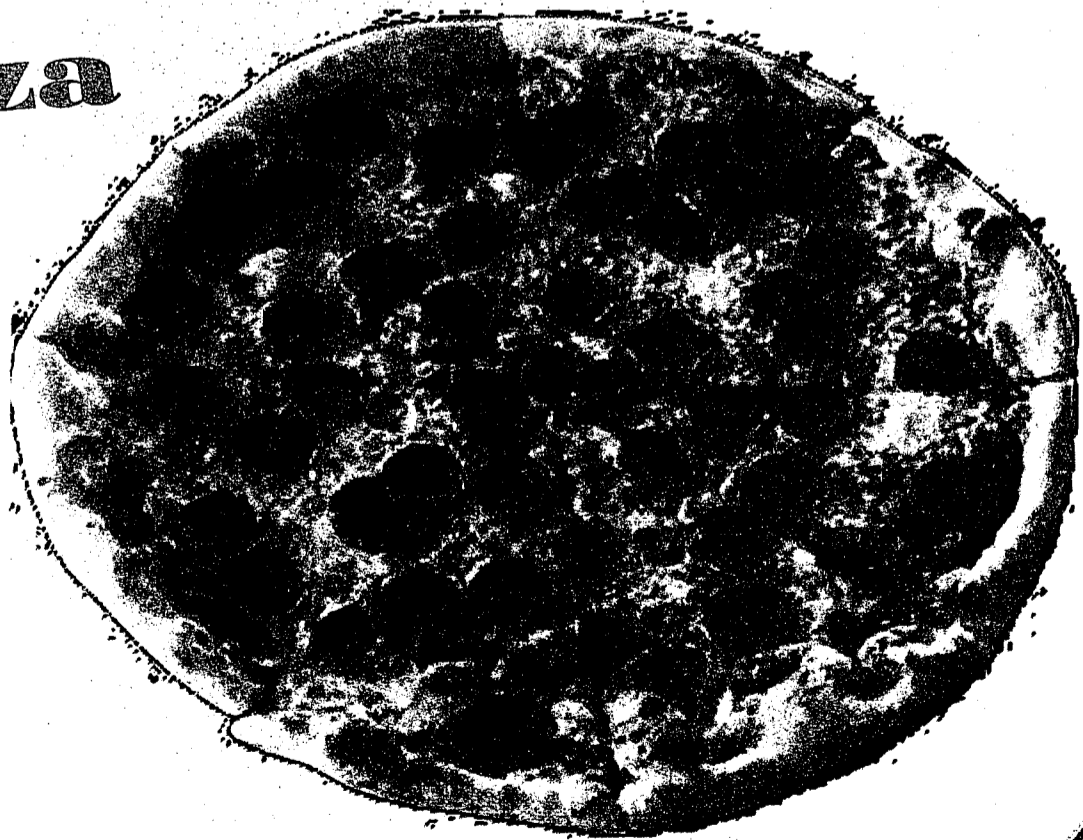
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