

# MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2010

VOL. 87 NO. 15

## Budgets still spooked

**Halloween predicted to generate billions, but students remain thrifty**

By AMANDA HAGGARD  
Staff Writer

Halloween spending is likely to provide a \$5.8 billion economic boost nationwide, according to the National Retail Federation, but local Murfreesboro consumers claim that they will be dialing down the budget this Halloween.

According to an unscientific survey conducted by Sidelines, more than half of MTSU students and locals residents said they would buy their costumes from a thrift store or would compile items they found around the house, while 20 percent said they would be buying their costume from a large retail store like Halloween Express.

"Halloween provides a welcome break from reality, allowing many Americans a chance to escape the stress the economy has put on family and incomes," said Matthew Shay, CEO and president of the National Retail Federation, in a press release.

While consumers are slated to spend almost \$70 per person on greeting cards, candy and decorations, most of their holiday spending will wind up going toward their costume, according to the organization.

Suzanne Kay-Pippman, director of public relations and communications

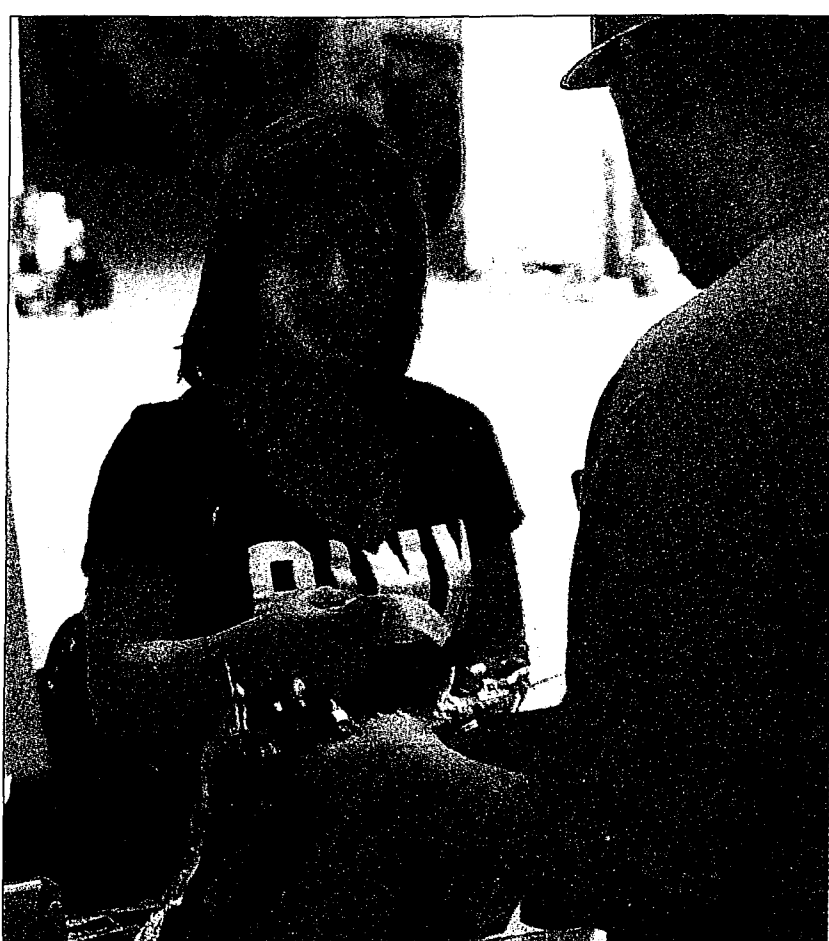


Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor  
Nashville resident Jordan Shechter purchases her Halloween costume in Murfreesboro on Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2010, at the newly opened Halloween Express.

for Goodwill Industries of Tennessee, said that Goodwill recently did a segment with the television show "Talk of the Town," in which they sent parents, college students and adults into a Goodwill store to find inexpensive costumes. "They went in looking for complete-

ly original costumes," Kay-Pippman said, "Most of them came out spending around \$10 dollars for some really fabulous costumes."

ECONOMY, PAGE 3

## Private scholarships overlooked

By CHRISTOPHER MERCHANT  
Assistant News Editor

While MTSU students borrowed more than \$83 million in federal loans at the beginning of this semester, less than \$3 million in private scholarships have been awarded so far, according to officials.

Private scholarships may not be fully utilized because students are not aware of them, according to an employee in the Financial Aid Office.

"I think many students don't apply

for private scholarships because they don't know about them," said Bonnie McCarty, the assistant director of scholarship staff.

The Division of Enrollment and Academic Services expected enrollment to increase by about 3 or 4 percent since last year. The amount of federal Stafford loans had increased by more than \$4 million since last fall, and financial aids officials said they expect more federal loans to be processed in the spring, as reported in the Aug. 29 issue of Sidelines.

However, the number of private

scholarships processed by the Financial Aid Office only increased \$18,165 since the 2008-2009 academic year, to a total of \$2,036,787. This is actually a decrease of nearly \$64,000 from the private scholarships processed during the 2007-2008 academic year.

The number of individual scholarships processed has also decreased by 99 from the last academic year, and by 128 scholarships from the 2007-2008 academic year.

FINANCES, PAGE 2

## Students uneasy funding campus name change

By TODD BARNES  
Staff Writer

Students are against an MTSU name change, especially if it would cost students money, according to an unscientific survey conducted by Sidelines on Tuesday.

Fifty MTSU students were randomly surveyed regarding the Student Government Association's passage of Resolution 08-10-F, which regards beginning discussions of changing MTSU's name from "Middle Tennessee State University" to the "University of Middle Tennessee."

At-Large Sen. Gavin Mosley, the legislation's sponsor, said MTSU is entering into a new "era" of academic excellence. Mosley said he believes that it's time for MTSU to unveil a new name on its 100th birthday that could possibly give the university a new positive connotation, and boost the university's progression as a top college in the nation.

The survey consisted of asking two questions: Were for, against or had no preference in regards to a name change? Were they willing to pay for the cost of the change?

Of the students polled, 44 percent were against the name change, 28 percent were for it and 28 percent had no preference. However, when asked if they supported a raise in tuition in order to pay for the change, numbers against the measure increased to 82 percent. Half of the students who previously said they were for the bill said they would not support it if it would cost them money.

Michael Ehlinger, a sophomore majoring in anthropology, was one of the students surveyed who was for the name change and said that "change was good," but switched to the opposition in regards to students paying for the cost of the change.

SGA, PAGE 2

## Enforcement heightened this holiday

By BECCA ANDREWS  
Staff Writer

Law enforcement officials will be stepping up patrol efforts this Halloween weekend in an effort to prevent alcohol-related accidents, in addition to taking extra measures to ensure that minors will be protected against registered sex offenders.

The Tennessee Highway Patrol will be setting up checkpoints all over the state from Oct. 29 until Oct. 31 to catch drunk drivers.

According to statistics released by the Center for Disease Control, Halloween is the most dangerous day out of the year for pedestrian injuries and deaths among the 5-14 age group.

The CDC has found that deaths among pedestrians under the age of 16 is four times higher on All Hallows Eve than any other evening of the year. Alcohol involvement was reported in 48 percent of

### HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

- ✓ Plan your entire route and make sure your family knows what it is.
- ✓ Make sure you are wearing a flame retardant costume.
- ✓ Wait until you get home and your parents check your candy before you eat it.
- ✓ Accept treats only in the doorway never go inside a house.
- ✓ Don't play near a lit jack o' lantern.
- ✓ Visit only houses where lights are on. Walk, do not run.
- ✓ Walk on sidewalks and driveways.
- at the corner or in a crosswalk take a cellular phone and watch with you if possible.
- ✓ Carry a flashlight.
- ✓ Wear a bright-colored costume with reflective markings.
- ✓ Costumes should not drag the floor. Costumes should
- resistant material.
- ✓ Swords, knives and similar costume accessories should be made of soft and flexible material.
- ✓ Always use common sense.
- ✓ Young children should always go trick-or-treating with an adult.

Information courtesy of the City of Murfreesboro

traffic crashes that resulted in pedestrian fatalities, 38 percent of which occurred between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Both of the crashes that killed two people in Tennessee last year involved alcohol and took place between midnight on Oct. 31 and 6 a.m. on Nov. 1, 2009, according to the THP press release.

"Halloween is often one

of the deadliest nights of the year for impaired drivers," said Dave Mitchell, commissioner of the Department of Safety. "The decision to prevent a horrible accident from happening is easy—don't drink and drive. Our state troopers are prepared to patrol and remove any and all drunk drivers from our roadways."

THP Colonel Tracy Trott is pleading with motorists to "keep the party off the road."

"If you've been drinking, don't make the poor decision to get behind the wheel—it could cost someone their life, maybe even your own," Trott said. "So please be smart; it's not worth the risk."

SAFETY, PAGE 2



Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor  
MTSU's Performing Arts Company dances in the Tom Jackson Building on Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010, during "Project: Awareness."

## Colors for causes

**Facts and colors combine to raise awareness for various causes**

By REBECCA BROWN  
Staff Writer

Volunteer models walked the runway last night wearing outfits in a variety of colors to represent issues not usually identified with fashion.

"Project: Awareness," an annual event held by

the June Anderson Center for Women and Non-traditional Students, was held in the Tom Jackson Building. The event was designed to raise awareness for various causes by correlating colors with statistics.

AWARENESS, PAGE 2

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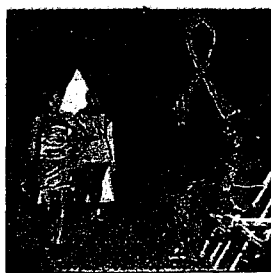


### Features:

Halloween's history sheds light on current trends.

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IN TODAY'S ISSUE



View our slideshow of the "Project: Awareness" event.

ONLINE @  
MTSUSIDELINES.COM

### THURSDAY FORECAST

SUNNY  
NO THREAT OF RAIN  
HIGH 64, LOW 36

# 'Project: Awareness' struts colors, informs community

## AWARENESS FROM PAGE 1

"We're putting a face to the facts," said Eric Pegues, a senior in the College of Liberal Arts.

Music played and statistics were read, while models showed off outfits in colors representing the respective causes. Pink was worn for breast cancer, red for AIDS, yellow for dating violence, teal for sexual assault, periwinkle for eating disorders, navy blue for child abuse, and purple for domestic violence.

Disability awareness was added to the roster just yesterday. Laurence Tumpag, a senior in the College of Behavioral and Health Sciences, has personal experience with disabilities and child abuse.

Despite his struggle with anxiety, Tumpag spoke to the audience about the importance of raising disability awareness.

"Disability is a big influence in my life," Tumpag said.

The models wore a variety of clothing styles, from jeans and sweaters to formal gowns. Many of the clothes were donated by JcPenny and Dillard's from Stones River Mall, while

others came from the models' closets.

Members of the MTSU Performing Arts Company gave a performance depicting domestic violence through dance. The choreography was inspired by an MPAC member's best friend, a victim of domestic violence.

Chanera Pierce, a senior majoring in political science, was in charge of "Project: Awareness." Pierce said she has been planning the

**"I am a woman before I am anything else."**

**CHANERA PIERCE**  
A SENIOR MAJORING IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

event since September, and due to budget cuts, she had to "take [the event] and revamp it."

Pierce said she tries to stay very active with JAC because she respects and appreciates the work it does for women.

"I am a woman before I am anything else," Pierce said.

Pierce said domestic violence is a cause particularly close to her heart, due to a family history of domestic abuse. She said that "Project: Awareness" is important because it addresses multiple causes that are important to different people.

"A lot of these causes are things we see on our campus and in our community," Pierce said.

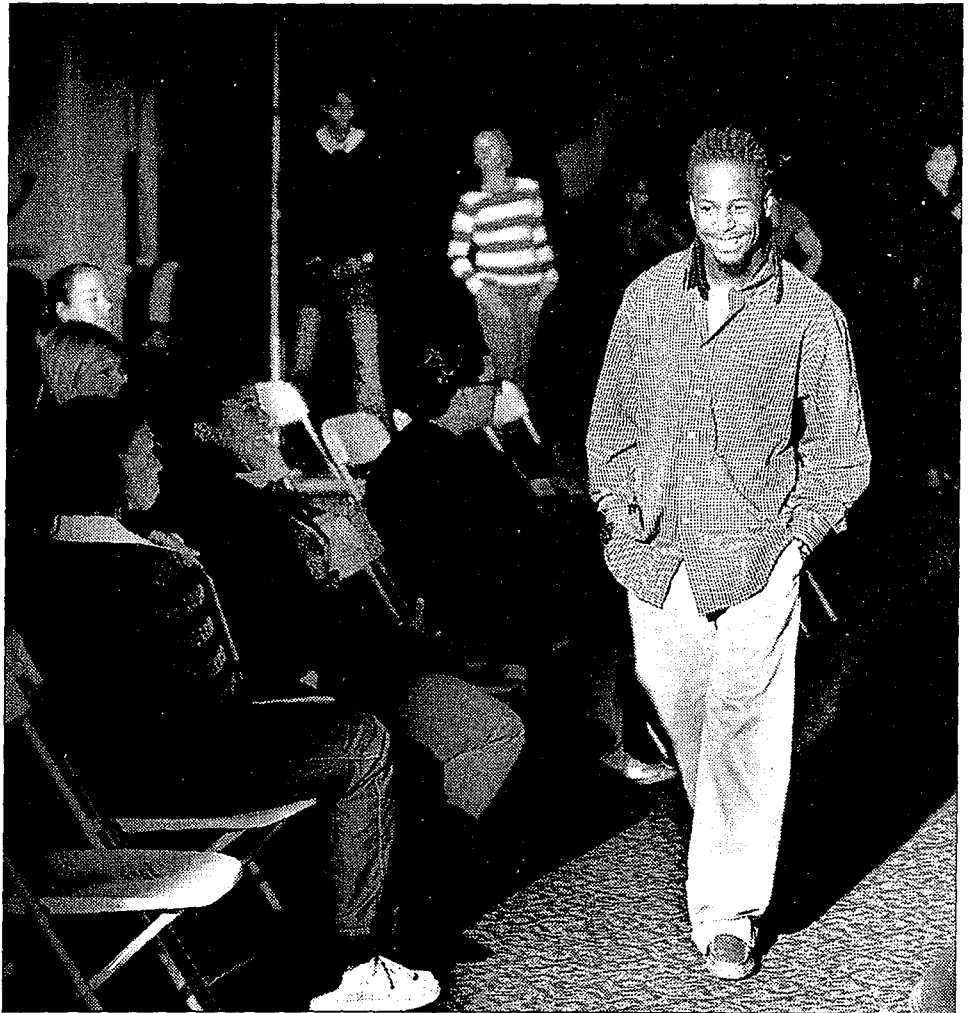


Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor  
Stanley Springer walks down the runway in the Tom Jackson Building during "Project: Awareness" on Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010, to raise awareness for various causes.

## National organizations distribute less

### FINANCES FROM PAGE 1

Like the number of federal loans, the number of private scholarships will likely increase next semester, said Julie Hughes, a financial aid assistant in the Financial Aid Office.

"We are nowhere near the ending totals by the end of the year, because a lot of donors only pay one semester at a time," Hughes said. "In December and January I will get a lot of money coming in because [scholarship organizations] pay for students starting in the spring."

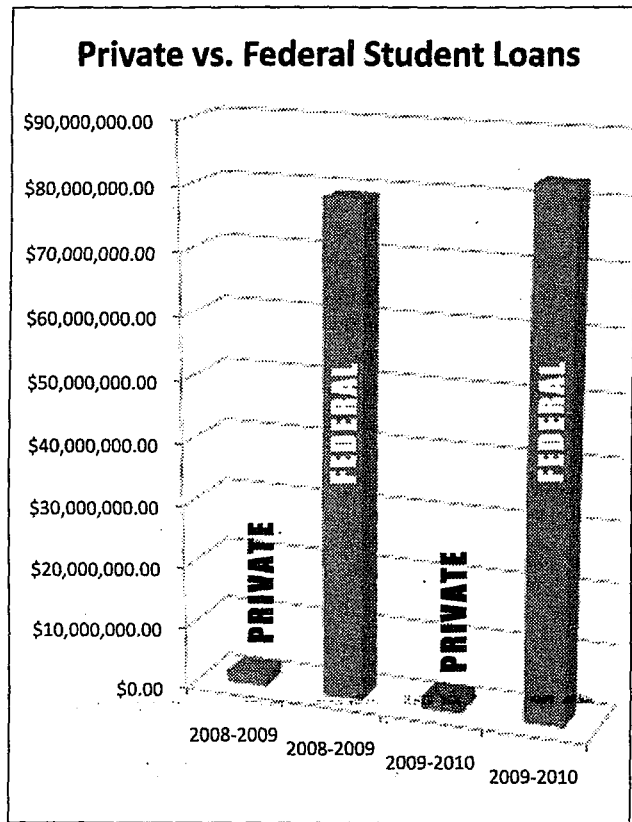
This trend appears to be continuing at other institutions across the country, said Mark Kantrowitz, publisher of Fastweb.com and FinAid.org.

"The growth has been flat to slightly increasing for the past two years," Kantrowitz said, adding that many private scholarship programs to not release information like the number of awards they gift or the dollar amount such scholarships are worth.

Fastweb one of the leading providers of private scholarships, serving more than 34 million students, according to the company's website. One service that the organization provides is a free scholarship questionnaire that links members to scholarship institutions.

Kantrowitz echoed Hughes' comments on the way scholarships are often processed from semester to semester, rather than at the beginning of the school year.

"Counting the total number of awards is somewhat difficult because there is a lot of sea-



Graphic by Andy Harper, production manager

sonality to the figures," Kantrowitz said.

Another major national scholarship organization reported a decrease in the number of individual scholarships it gifted and the dollars provided since last year.

Scholarship America reported that the number of recipients of gifts from its Scholarship Management Services division went down from 72,770 last year to 63,993 students this year, a decrease of 8,777. The company reported that the amount of money that they distributed went down from \$167.8 million to \$151.5 million.

Scholarship America is the nation's largest nonprofit, private-sector scholarship and educational support organization, according to the company's website. The dollars awarded and the individual recipients for the organizations second-largest program, Dollars for Scholars, also

decreased slightly.

"The numbers, across the board, show a slight decrease in the number of students receiving scholarships, and the totally available to them," said Michelle Showalter, the communication manager for Scholarship America.

However, the number of students applying for scholarships at Scholarship America has gone up slightly, Showalter said, from 352,949 applications last year to 354,036 applications this year.

While the number of scholarships processed has gone down, Showalter said, the fact that private scholarships are still available for people looking to continue their education in a struggling economy is a good sign.

"I think the news is really positive, that in this economy, scholarships are still a popular benefit from corporations, as well as a popular focus for charitable giving," Showalter said.

## Sex offenders banned from all Halloween celebrations

### SAFETY FROM PAGE 1

"If you've been drinking, don't make the poor decision to get behind the wheel—it could cost someone their life, maybe even your own," Trott said. "So please be smart. It's not worth the risk."

The State of Tennessee Board of Probation and Parole is taking precautions to keep sex offenders from disrupting this year's festivities. Registered sex offenders have been sent a letter of rules, issued by the BOPP, restricting them from participating in any Halloween festivities.

"During the rest of the Halloween season, officers will make additional visits, both announced and unannounced, to verify that the sex offenders on their case-loads are in compliance with these restrictions," said Gary Tullock, the field services director of BOPP.

The list of restrictions will be enforced

by BOPP officers throughout the month of October.

"On many of these visits, the probation and parole officers will be accompanied by local law enforcement officers for added emphasis on the seriousness of our restrictions," Tullock said.

Registered offenders will not be allowed to distribute candy to trick-or-treaters, wear a costume, host a Halloween party, or accompany any child while trick-or-treating. Offenders are also prohibited from posting decorations at their homes, attending haunted houses, corn mazes, hayrides, or any other seasonal activity, and going to any function at which children are gathered, according to the BOPP press release.

The letter closes by telling the offenders to "please keep in mind that these guidelines serve as a protection for you, by helping you avoid situations in which you could be falsely accused or suspected of wrongdoing, or where some may be tempted to re-offend."

## Cost of proposal still uncertain

### SGA FROM PAGE 1

"Words are words," Ehlinger said. "I'd rather have tuition cheaper."

Kelsey Wells, a sophomore majoring in journalism, is part of the 14 percent that said they were for a name change even if it caused an increase in tuition. However, Wells said she wants more research to be done to add more confidence to her answer.

"Clearly, no one likes an increase in tuition," Wells said. "I think if it could be better for MTSU 10 years down the road that I would be okay with a small increase, but [only] if it improved the appearance of this school on a larger scale. If someone could say that it did, then I wouldn't be against it."

Landin King, a senior majoring in public relations, said that he, like Wells, was one of the students that was in complete support of the name change.

"I think there is a lot of brand recognition with 'MTSU,' but I think 'University of Middle Tennessee' sounds more prestigious," King said. "So, I'm into the change."

Megan Johnson, a junior majoring in early childhood development, said she is against changing the name. Johnson said

she believes that the 'MTSU' name is a tradition not worth breaking, and enhancing school pride is implausible.

"I don't think by just changing the name that it would enhance school pride or school spirit because it's still the same school," Johnson said. "If you didn't have school pride before, why would a name change enhance that? It wouldn't."

Johnson said that there is a bigger issue that SGA should be facing before ever considering a name change.

"The parking situation is much worse," Johnson said. "The number of students [MTSU] gets increases each year. They are eventually going to run out of parking, so I think that should be addressed first."

Of the 28 percent of students that had no preference regarding a name change, 24 percent changed to the opposition when asked if they wanted to pay for it, and the remaining 4 percent said that they are funded grants, scholarships or benefit from the G.I. Bill of Rights.

Although the name change legislation has only taken its first steps, cost will be an issue for SGA to tackle. The poll shows that SGA will need to assure students that the cost of the name change will not be an issue, while convincing them that the name change is beneficial.

# SIDELINES

AND THE SEARCH FOR NEW CONTRIBUTING STAFF

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY presents a SIDELINES production "SIDELINES and the Search for New Contributing Staff"

starring NEWS SPORTS FEATURES OPINIONS PHOTOGRAPHY with ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT GRAPHIC DESIGN and ONLINE

executive producers EDITOR-IN-CHIEF MANAGING EDITOR visual effects PRODUCTION MANAGER music ADVERTISING MANAGER

to pick up an application MASS COMMUNICATION Room 269 for more information SLEDITOR@MTSU.EDU

**A** AWESOMENESS  
MAY CONTAIN AWESOME PEOPLE AND AMAZING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

# Students cautious of spending during Halloween festivities

## ECONOMY FROM PAGE 1

Kay-Pippman said October is by far Goodwill's busiest month of the year.

While retail stores may offer more of a selection of obvious costumes and "easy picks" for those who are creatively challenged or extremely busy, many cost roughly between \$40 and \$50, if not more.

Temporary businesses like Halloween Express help add to the economic boom, both by offering consumers costumes quickly and creating a few local jobs, if only for just the Halloween season.

"I've spent \$70 to \$90 on a costume at a Halloween store in the past," said Mitchell Stem, a sophomore majoring in international business. "This year, I will probably buy a costume but not spend as near as

much money on it."

Connie Smith, a Murfreesboro resident, said she plans to either buy her costume from a thrift store or assemble something from items around the house.

"I've already bought two costumes for my son," Smith said. "I got one at a thrift store and the other from a retail store."

Smith said she bought a phantom costume at the retail store for about \$20, but she found items for a Harry Potter costume at a thrift store for less than \$10.

Sara Gilbert, a junior majoring in social work, said she does not plan to buy a costume at all this year. In the past, she said she hasn't spent more than \$20 on a costume.

"Last year, I was the devil," Gilbert said. "The year before, I was Betty Paige. Neither of those costumes cost very much at all."

Even if people are spend-

ing less on the costume itself, the Retail Federation said the amount of people planning to dress up this year has risen 7 percent from 2009.

More than 80 percent of students surveyed said they did not judge a costume based on how much it appeared to have cost, but on the originality.

In addition to having a unique costume, Kay-Pippman said there are other reasons for going thrifty during the holiday season.

"You're re-purposing something that someone kept out of the waste stream," Kay-Pippman said. "If it's something you use once, it will still save you money and keep that item from going to the dump."

Phi Rist, the executive vice president of BIGresearch, the company that compiled and handles research for the Retail Federation, said consumers are spending but erring on



Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor  
Stefanie Roberts shops with a friend in Murfreesboro on Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2010, for costumes at the local Halloween Express.

the side of caution.

"Americans are excited about Halloween but are still being frugal and pinching their pennies where they can," Rist said.

Smith said this is definitely her sentiment this year.

"I love Halloween," Smith said. "But, this year, it's all about saving money."

## LOCAL EVENTS

### On Campus

**Student Life:**  
**"Trunk or Treat"**  
Sponsored by Alpha Delta Pi Sorority  
Oct. 28, 6 p.m.  
Tennessee Livestock Center Outdoor  
FREE

**"Rocky Horror Picture Show"**  
Presented by Student Programming  
Oct. 28, 10 p.m.  
Keathley University Center Theater  
Tickets: \$5

**Diversity Town Hall Meeting**  
Oct. 29, 3 p.m.  
Tom Jackson Building  
FREE

**"Ghostbusters"**  
Presented by Student Programming  
Oct. 29, 7 p.m.

Keathley University Center Theater  
Tickets: \$2

**Events:**  
**Free Legal Clinic**  
Sponsored by the June Anderson Center  
Oct. 28, 6:30 p.m.  
Keathley University Center, Room 320  
For more information: 615-898-2193

**National Academy Championship Horse Show**  
Oct. 29 - Oct. 31  
Tennessee Miller Coliseum  
For more information:  
nationalacademychampionships.org

**Middle Tennessee Scratch Battle**  
Nov. 1, 7 p.m.  
James Union Building  
Tickets: \$10

### Off Campus

**Concerts:**  
**Jakob Dylan**  
Oct. 28, 8 p.m.  
Exit/In  
Tickets: \$17

**Rascal Flatts**  
Oct. 30, 7 p.m.  
Grand Ole Opry House  
Tickets: \$39 - \$54

**Thirty Seconds to Mars**  
Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m.  
Rocketown  
Tickets: \$25

**John Mellencamp**  
Nov. 3, 6:30 p.m.  
Ryman Auditorium  
Tickets: \$42 - \$97

**Events:**  
**Moonlight Festival**  
Oct. 29, 7 p.m.  
The Center of Symmetry  
FREE

**Beer, Bourbon & BBQ Festival**  
Nov. 6, 12 p.m.  
Nashville Municipal Auditorium  
Tickets: \$20 - \$40

#### Events Policy

*Sidelines* welcomes current campus and community events submitted by all readers. Please e-mail events to [sicampus@mtsu.edu](mailto:sicampus@mtsu.edu) or [slnews@mtsu.edu](mailto: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.

## CRIME BRIEFS

**Theft**  
Oct. 22, 10:47 a.m.  
James E. Walker Library South parking lot  
A complainant reported that he had been sold a stolen cell phone.

**Alcohol**  
Oct. 22, 11:19 p.m.  
Womack Lane Apartment D  
A complainant filed a report that a party involving underage drinking had taken place at a Womack Lane apartment, and that one individual had been transported to the emergency room. The patient was released prior to the police being notified.

**Alcohol**  
Oct. 23, 1:34 a.m.  
Blue Raider Drive  
Dylan Dewayne Kelly, 18, and Casey Michael Wood, 19, were each issued a state citation for underage consumption of alcohol.

**Alcohol**  
Oct. 23, 5:20 p.m.  
Peck Hall  
John Archer, 20, was issued a state citation for underage consumption of alcohol. Matthew Higney, 18, was arrested for underage consumption of alcohol, public intoxication, and criminal impersonation.

**Disorderly Conduct**  
Oct. 23, 5:36 p.m.  
Peck Hall  
Cameron Armes, 23, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

**Burglary**  
Oct. 24, 2:41 p.m.  
Jim Cummings Hall  
Complainants reported that their room had been burglarized and laptops and other electronics had been stolen.

**Theft**  
Oct. 24, 8:53 p.m.  
James E. Walker Library  
A complainant reported that his wallet had been stolen.

#### Drug Abuse

**Oct. 24, 5:58 p.m.**  
Felder Hall  
A small amount of marijuana was recovered in a dorm room. The students involved were reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs and Mediation Services for disciplinary action.

**Fire Alarm**  
Oct. 25, 1:07 a.m.  
Midgett Business Building  
A fire alarm was reportedly activated by a steam leak. No fire was found.

**Burglary**  
Oct. 25, 2:20 a.m.  
Corlew Hall  
A complainant reported that his laptop was stolen from his dormitory room.

**Assistance**  
Oct. 25, 12:46 p.m.  
Andrew L. Todd Hall  
A university official requested assistance in removing a student from class for being disruptive. The student was referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs and Conflict Management for disciplinary action.

**Theft**  
Oct. 25, 2:44 p.m.  
McFarland Health Services parking lot  
A complainant reported that her vehicle had been entered and items were stolen.

**Assault**  
Oct. 25, 2:52 p.m.  
Stark Agriculture Center  
A complainant reported that an older white man had inappropriately touched her on the buttocks. The complainant described the suspect as an older white man, approximately 6 feet tall, 160 pounds, dark hair, no facial hair, wearing dress shirt and dress pants.

**Theft**  
Oct. 25, 4:08 p.m.  
Greenhouse parking lot  
A complainant reported that his

vehicle had been entered and items were stolen.

**Traffic**  
Oct. 25, 6:46  
Greek Row  
A complainant reported that his vehicle was struck while parked.

**Warrant**  
Oct. 25, 7:53 p.m.  
Off Campus  
Josh Simon, 24, was arrested for an outstanding warrant for a drug violation.

**Alcohol**  
Oct. 26, 2:47 a.m.  
Alma Matter Drive  
Robert Simcox, 18, was issued a state citation for underage consumption of alcohol.

**Theft**  
Oct. 26, 9:06 a.m.  
James E. Walker Library  
A complainant reported that her bicycle was stolen.

**Theft**  
Oct. 26, 1:47 p.m.  
Stark Agriculture parking lot  
A complainant reported that his bicycle had been stolen.

**Forgery**  
Oct. 26, 5:53 p.m.  
Woodmore Cafeteria  
A complainant reported that a counterfeit bill had been used at the cafeteria.

**Traffic**  
Oct. 26, 6:35 p.m.  
MTSU Boulevard  
A complainant reported that a vehicle had struck his vehicle and then left the crash scene. The complainant was transported the emergency room for treatment.

**Theft**  
Oct. 26, 8:11 p.m.  
Call Box 1, Greenland Drive  
A complainant reported that someone had attempted to break into his vehicle. No entry was made into the vehicle, as the security alarm had been activated.

## CRIME STOPPERS

A cash reward of up to \$1,000 is being offered for information that leads to the arrest of the person or persons who stole computers from the second floor of Peck Hall. The thefts occurred sometime between 10 a.m. Sept. 29 and 8 a.m. Sept. 30, and between 4 p.m. on Oct. 1 and 8 a.m. Oct. 4. Two Dell Small Factors Computer were reported stolen from Rooms 200 and 213 of Peck Hall, with the serial numbers 8RKTTHK1 and 8RJVHK1. Two Dell Optiplex 780s were stolen from Rooms 214 and 219, with the serial numbers 96HMKM1 and 96J3LM1.

A cash reward of up to \$1,000 is being offered for information that leads to the arrest of the suspect who unlawfully entered Room 220 of the Davis Science Building, forcefully pried a lockbox off of a shelf and then stole it. The felony was committed sometime between 4:45 and 6 a.m. on Sept. 29. The suspect was described as a male of average to large build who was wear-

ing a large coat and something over his face.

A cash reward of up to \$1,000 is being offered for information that leads to the arrest of the person or persons who broke into and burglarized two vehicles in the Bell Street parking lot sometime before 1:50 a.m. on Sept. 30. A 1994 green Ford Crown Victoria was broken into, and a JVC stereo was stolen out of it. A 1995 maroon Ford Ranger pick-up truck was also broken into and "rummaged through," but nothing appears to have been stolen.

A cash reward of up to \$300 is being offered for information that leads to the arrest of the person who stole a women's wallet from Room 704 of Corlew Hall sometime between 11:30 p.m. on Sept. 30 and 7 a.m. Oct. 1.

Anyone with information about these incidents should contact the MTSU Department of Public Safety at 898-2424.

## CORRECTION

In the Sept. 9 issue of *Sidelines*, the story titled "Political science adds new minor" included a factual error. The title of the political science course mentioned was incorrectly reported as

"Civic Advocacy." However, the correct name of the course is "Democratic Participation and Civic Advocacy."

*Sidelines regrets this error.*

# GUILIGANS

Eat DRINK Party

527 West Main Street • Murfreesboro  
615-439-6090

THURSDAY  
OCTOBER 28

Hell on Heels  
Ladies FREE  
Guys \$5<sup>00</sup>

One lady with the hottest heels will win a \$100 Gift Card to A'Gaci

FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 29

Pre-Halloween Party  
with MODERATELY SAUCED  
Nashville's Ultimate Party Band  
Twisted Tea Girls  
In The House

Full  
Menu  
and  
Drink  
Specials  
Every  
Night

SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 30

Halloween Party  
With STEREO HYPE  
Costume Contest and  
Tons of Prizes

SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 31

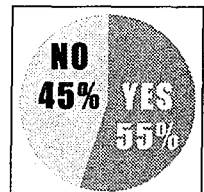
Cornhole Tournament  
\$25 Prize  
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# FEATURES



**DO YOU THINK MTSU SHOULD CHANGE ITS NAME?**  
BASED ON VOTES FROM MTSUSIDELINES.COM.

## Ghosts, ghouls, goblins! Oh, my!

### Myths explain history behind Halloween festivities

By ALEXIS ROBERTSON  
Contributing Writer

Chewy, crunchy and sweet – it's every dentist's worst nightmare.

Many view Halloween as a cultural facade, when kids and young adults dress like kooks, collect tasty treats, and carve Lady Gaga's face into jack-o'-lanterns. Based on recent reports, Halloween is the second largest commercial holiday in the United States. But where did the fascination with this spooky day originate?

Legend has it that Halloween originates from the Celtic festival of "Samhain" in Ireland. The Celts believed that on this night, the ghosts of the dead returned to haunt loved ones. The name for Halloween came about when the Celtic territories became immersed in Catholicism and nicknamed Nov. 1 as All Saints' Day, better known as All-Hallowsmas. Halloween, or All Hallow's Eve, which was the day before All Saints' Day, celebrated for the first time in the eighth century.

During the celebration, the Celts sported costumes, usually animal heads and skins, to mask themselves from relentless evil spirits.

But, there are some who believe otherwise.

"A lot of girls use Halloween as an excuse to dress scandalously and to get attention from guys," says Nevada Bianca, a junior majoring in recoding industry management.

While that may be true, there are many who have a different take on spooky attire.

"The whole idea of Halloween



is just a different and exciting feel that intrigues anyone interested in the holiday," says Cara Gray, a junior majoring in behavioral and health sciences.

Embracing imaginative costumes is not the only insight historians have gathered from the Celts' folklore. An adopted symbol for this holiday is the jack-o'-lantern, which the Irish created and continued for centuries. The practice of carving

jack-o'-lanterns out of pumpkins originated from the Irish myth about a man people called "Stingy Jack."

Legend tells us that Stingy Jack tricked the Devil twice but made him promise that he would not take his soul if he died. Shortly

after tricking the Devil, Jack died, and because God did not want to let such an unpleasant person into heaven, the Devil would not break his promise. So, the Devil sent Jack into the dark-

ceive food and gifts in exchange for going door-to-door and praying on All Souls Day, Nov. 2.

Trick-or-treating came to the United States in the late-1950s, with people who wanted to participate in decorating their doors with spider webs, witches and jack-o'-lanterns. Back then, candy was not the main treat kids would receive; rather, the normal treats for kids would be coins, toys, fruits and nuts. Candy made its stamp on this holiday in the mid-to-late-1960s, but nowadays most children expect to get a large bucket full of assorted candy on Halloween night. This recent trend has helped Halloween become the second most profitable holiday in the United States.

For some, it's more than just receiving candy.

"You get to be someone that you're not for the day, [and] you get to go out and have fun with friends," says Jessica Lister, a sophomore majoring in nursing. "It's not really based on religious things anymore so everyone can celebrate, [plus] it makes everyone feel like a kid."

When asked about his take on what Halloween means to him as a college student, Sam Thomas, a sophomore majoring in business, said he loves filling up his pillowcase with candy, but enjoys spending time with friends more.

Misty Ragland, a senior majoring in recording industry management, says everyone should experience make believe.

"I also think everyone loves to be a little scared every once in a while," Ragland says. "What better day to give yourself a little fright than the day the dead roam the Earth?"

Just in case, bring a flashlight with you on this ghoulish holiday weekend.

ness with only a fiery coal to guide him on his path. The Irish began referring to this ghostlike figure

as "Jack of the Lantern" or, more simply, "Jack-o'-Lantern."

Many people's favorite part of the Halloween holiday is trick-or-treating, which dates back to the Middle Ages. During this time period, underprivileged children in Ireland and Britain would re-

## Pink replaces orange in October

By CASEY WARREN  
Contributing Writer

Remember when pink was just a color? Well, the truth is that it hasn't been just a color in quite some time. Pink has been a powerful color for a different reason through the years, and it continues to be more powerful than ever.

Thanks to Elvis Presley, the pink Cadillac became a symbol of early rock-n-roll in the mid-1950s. Almost 30 years later, Bruce Springsteen had a hit when he sang about a

pink Cadillac. In 1997, Aerosmith boasted that pink was their favorite color. Pink is the name of a popular pop singer, an investigating cartoon panther and an old-fashioned sticky treat.

For some reason, pink has always grabbed people's attention, but the most recent couple of decades have been dedicated to giving the color a whole new meaning and level of empowerment.

Susan G. Komen battled breast cancer, all the while thinking of ways to help others fight the disease. Her sister, Nancy, kept a sole

promise that she would do everything in her power to find a cure. In 1982, Susan G. Komen for the Cure was born.

Now, the organization is the largest network of breast cancer survivors and activists who work together to inform, empower, save lives, and find a cure. It is the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to fighting against a specific disease.

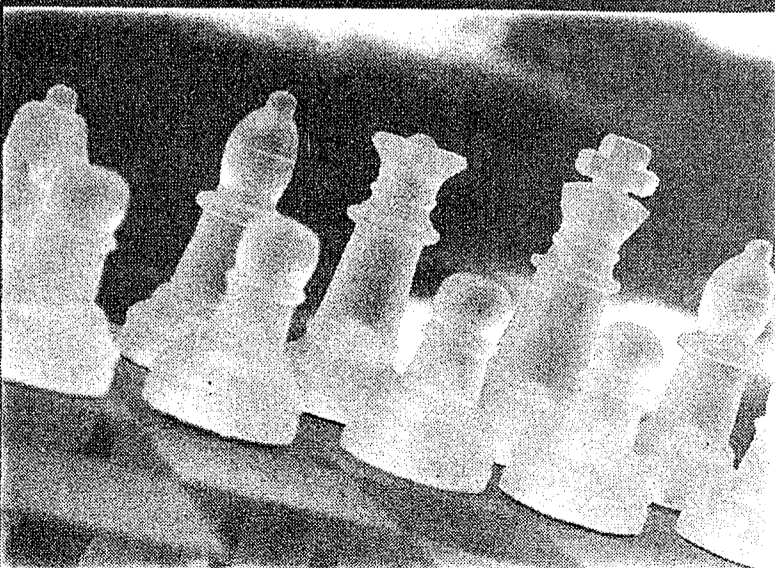
Pink began surfacing in 1992, when the 10-year-old organization adopted its symbol. Alexandria Penney, the editor-in-chief of "Self" magazine at the time, was a breast can-

cer survivor and senior corporate vice president of Estee Lauder. She collaborated on the logo for this organization. The pink ribbon symbol emerged and rapidly became the national symbol for awareness of breast cancer.

"I changed my Facebook profile picture to a pink ribbon to help spread the word and build awareness," says Joel Richards, a recording industry graduate who has returned to MTSU to complete a bachelors of science.

PINK, PAGE 5

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## Students connect through campus worship services

By MEGAN BRYAN  
Contributing Writer

College: It can be an intimidating place for freshman students. Large groups of people milling around can be daunting for many college students, especially on a campus of more than 26,000. Finding a place to fit in and meet new people on a campus of this size is a task that many students shy away from.

However, there's a glimpse of hope for the frightened freshman and nervous transfer student. Christian college ministries, both on and off campus, provide fellowship, community and a place to hang out for students of every denomination and background.

Many of these ministries offer special events, worship services, retreats and meals throughout the week. Students can get involved, meet other students, and have learning experiences – all while having a good time.

For the student looking for an inter-denominational ministry, Campus Crusade for Christ, known to its members as CRU, may be the perfect fit. CRU offers a wide variety of activities for students, such as fall retreats, weekly worship services, and what is known as "Friday Afternoon Fun" every Friday in Walnut Grove.

MINISTRIES, PAGE 5



Photo by Erin O'Leary, staff photographer

There are several campus ministries available for students, such as the MTSU Catholic Center, which is located at 2853 Middle Tennessee Blvd., in Murfreesboro.

## Campus organizations provide religious sanctuary

### MINISTRIES FROM PAGE 4

There are ministries for specific denominations as well, such as the Wesley Foundation, which is affiliated with the United Methodist Church. Wesley offers many opportunities to get involved, explains Sheryl Mabry, the administrative assistant for Wesley. Members of the Wesley Foundation are active in mission trips, drama productions, intramural sports, homecoming and many more activities.

"The best way to be involved is simply to come visit our building," Mabry says. "We are open all day long as a place to study, hang out or find a friend to do something with."

Along with CRU and the Wesley Foundation, the Baptist Collegiate Ministry offers a wide assortment of activities for students, such as Noonday, which is a lunch and devotional offered on Wednesdays. Weekly gatherings are on Thursday nights at 7 p.m., with worship and Bible study.

"Noonday is a time for community, fellowship and, of course, a home-cooked meal," says Katelyn Searcy, who works at the BCM, with a laugh.

Raiders for Christ is the Church of Christ ministry on campus, but it welcomes students of any denomination, says Shea Antunes, who is actively involved in the ministry.

"We meet every Monday night at 7 p.m. for our weekly devotional aimed at college students," Antunes explains.

"We also have a Wednesday night college Bible study at North Boulevard Church of Christ at 6:30 p.m."

Ministries such as the Presbyterian Student Fellowship offer activities throughout the week as well as on Sunday nights. "Feeding Frenzy" is a free meal every Thursday night at the PSF house. Local churches prepare

the meal for the ministry each week. Following the meal there is a praise and worship time located in the PSF house.

PSF also incorporates the local church into the ministry by holding Sunday night worship and Bible studies at First Presbyterian Church.

The Catholic ministry is an

active college ministries. Third Baptist Church, Calvary Baptist Church and First United Methodist Church offer worship services specifically geared toward college-aged students.

Marc Hall, one of the college worship leaders at Calvary Baptist, emphasizes the importance of student involvement.

"God calls us to be a part of the church and not just one worship service," Hall explains. "We have [students] that help out in the nursery, help with the youth group [and] sing in the choir. Every week, we have people serving somewhere and it's so awesome to see!"

Dave Odom, the college pastor at Third Baptist, agrees with Hall's stance on church involvement, but he also stresses the importance of community within the ministry.

"We don't really focus our ministry on events, but rather having community with other believers," Odom explains. "I think the best way to sum up

how we encourage students to get involved with our ministry is to get involved with the students in our ministry."

One of the best ways to get involved, Odom says, is to join one of the community groups at Third. The community groups are small, gender-based groups of six to seven students each that meet each week for Bible study and other activities.

Julianne Lang, a freshman majoring in behavioral and health sciences, grew up attending Third Baptist and echoes Odom's thoughts on the notion of "community."

Lang nails it on the head as she expresses the thoughts of many students – the fear of meeting new people. However, college ministries are always interested in meeting new people and building relationships.

"I was scared to death [when I started attending the college ministry]. After a few months, I started getting a lot more comfortable and the people were genuinely interested in getting to know me," Lang recalls. "It makes getting plugged into the ministry a lot more fun."

**"God calls us to be a part of the church and not just a worship service... Every week, we have people serving somewhere and it's so awesome to see."**

MARC HALL  
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

other of the campus ministries. The Catholic Student Center is the only Catholic ministry on MTSU's campus. It offers a variety of events for students and is located on Middle Tennessee Boulevard across from the MAPCO Express gas station.

For students more interested in worshipping in a church environment, several churches have

## Power of pink raises awareness one ribbon at a time

### PINK FROM PAGE 4

Nowadays, not only do we sport pink ribbons and wear them proudly, but also we buy all sorts of pink paraphernalia, from household items to clothing, key chains and bumper stickers.

"I wear the pink ribbon that Zeta Tau Alpha hands out," says Kelsey Lehew, a freshman who is undeclared. "Stuff advertised on TV really makes you aware as well."

The pink ribbon has taken off in the media. Even NFL football players support the cause by wearing pink cleats, gloves and other garments during games in the month of October.

"It's because of media coverage, such as lighting the White House pink to honor the start of breast cancer awareness month, that the pink ribbon equated with breast cancer stays on the forefront of everyone's minds," says Mary Matthews, a freshman who is undeclared.

Breast cancer is the second-leading cancer among women, with an estimated 40,000 deaths expected this year. One in eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer in the course of their lifetime.

"I've met several breast cancer patients and survivors while shadowing a local doctor who specializes in breast cancer," Richards says. "In many cases, the masses were removed by lumpectomy, but I have met a woman who had a double mastectomy who was a sweetheart and had so much will power."

The power behind the pink ribbon is a symbol that unifies and represents a

movement that is geared toward creating self-awareness. Encouraging men and women alike, it represents the ability to teach, learn, prevent and cope. It helps give us the ability to spread the word on the importance of early detection and prevention. It allows survivors and loved ones to unite, giving them the power to cope and to continue finding a cure for this malignant disease. It represents the fight.

"It symbolizes empowerment – people coming together to overcome a silent killer that affects millions of women," Richards says. "It brings people together for a cause."

One of the most powerful things about the pink ribbon is that it doesn't just color our lives during the month of October, but all year round.

"I think it's powerful in the sense that it's so synonymous with breast cancer awareness," Richards says. "When I see the color pink, I think girls, [and] when I see a pink ribbon, I think breast cancer."

Creating such awareness with this vibrant color has become an iconic way for people and communities to become involved with the efforts.

"It's a great thing not only for women but men too," Lehew says. "It has been used for a long time and seems to get the message across – the power is making people aware of the importance of early breast cancer detection and saving lives."

As more pink items are purchased and more people are wearing the ribbons, people are becoming increasingly aware of the cause.

"It's a good way of supporting breast



Photo courtesy of the Susan G. Komen website

Nancy G. Brinker, who was promoting her memoir "Promise Me," joins efforts April 18, 2009, in bringing awareness to the struggles of breast cancer and the need for a cure.

cancer survivors and making it aware to those who might not be so informed," Lehew says.

The pink ribbon seems to be doing its job, always present during fundraisers, offering a symbol of hope and empowerment.

"It's a great idea that keeps the issue on people's minds," Matthews says. "Another color would not have as much impact or relevance as pink, because al-

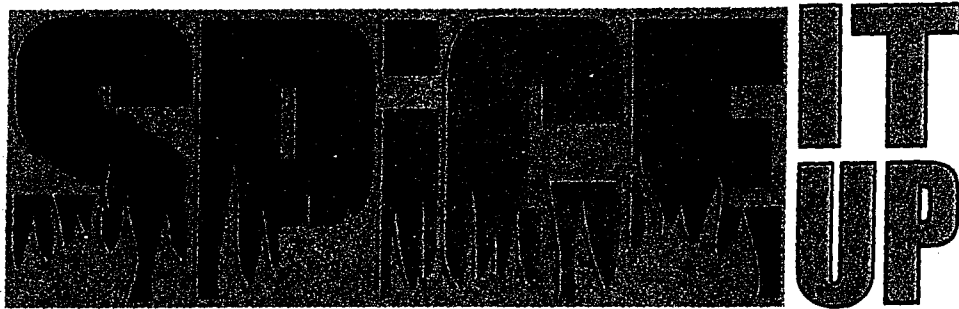
though breast cancer is [also] found in men, predominately it's a woman's disease, so it works."

Like each survivor and each victim, this lopsided pink bow has a face, spreading the word and bringing millions of people together to support this cause.

Because of women like Susan and Nancy, pink now permanently equals empowerment.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Creepy foods that tastes great



By ROZALIND RUTH  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

This may be the only time it will be acceptable to have unappetizing food on the snack table at the party. Live it up while possible.

Modern American culture has made Halloween into something synonymous with weird and disgusting. Instead of shying away from this, embrace it. Guests will be intrigued and delighted by the spread of odd-looking but tasty treats the host lays in front of them.

One thing to say about these goodies is

that they are really great to start a conversation. Let guests mingle over a conversation of, "What's in this?" and "How did he think of these?"

As with any party, it is important to think about healthy options. The deviled-egg eyeballs, made with hummus and not the traditional yolk mixture, makes these a heart-healthy option for the normally high-calorie holiday. Baked pumpkin seeds yield sinless treats full of fiber.

But, for those hopeless sweet-tooths out there, the brainy, crispy rice treats will most certainly satisfy that itch.



### BRAINY, CRISPY RICE TREATS:

**You'll need:**

- 1/4 cup of margarine or butter
- 10.5 ounces of marshmallows
- 6 cups of crispy rice cereal

Melt butter in a saucepan. When the butter is liquid, add marshmallows to pan and stir, stir, stir. If left still for too long the concoction may burn. Add 10 drops of red food coloring and two drops of blue. Mix in cereal until covered with ooey-goey goodness and place in blobs on wax paper. Let cool and serve to zombie friends.

Photos by Jay Bailey, photo editor / Design by Andy Harper, production manager



### BAKED PUMPKIN SEEDS:

**You'll need:**

- Pumpkin seeds
- Cayenne pepper
- Coarse kosher salt
- Olive oil

Save the seeds from a pumpkin after a fun night of jack-o'-lantern carving, be sure to remove pulp from seeds and wash them in a colander. Place in bowl and toss with cayenne, salt and olive oil. Bake on low heat for 30 minutes. Let cool and enjoy!



### DEVILED EGG EYEBALLS:

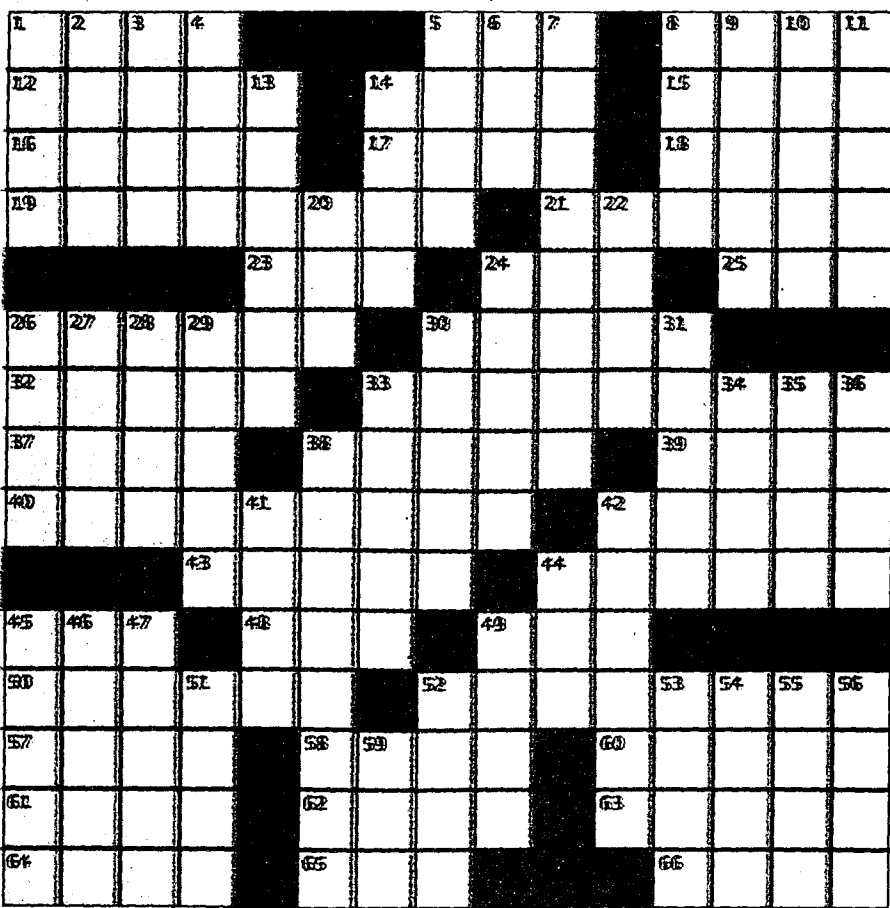
**You'll need:**

- Eggs
- Hummus
- Green, pimiento stuffed olives

Hard-boil eggs and remove shell. Slice the white in half long ways and pop out yolk. Replace yolk with a spoonful of hummus. Slice olive and place silver in the middle of the hummus so to make the eye's iris.

## SIDEWORDS

The weekly *Sidelines* crossword puzzle



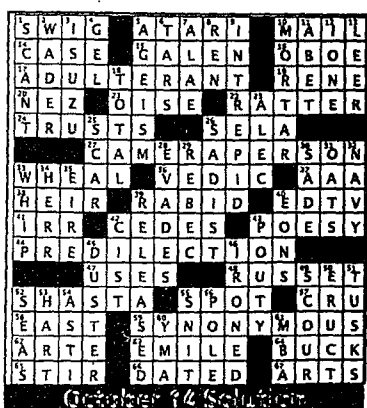
Crossword courtesy of bestcrosswords.com

**ACROSS**

- 1- Attack a fly; 5- Large container; 8- Swell; 12- Boat often made of birchbark, canvas, or fiberglass; 14- Domesticated cattle of India; 15- Hoodwink; 16- Nut of an oak; 17- Make \_\_\_ for it; 18- Formerly, formerly; 19- Pecuniary; 21- Water channel; 23- TKO caller; 24- Cornerstone abbr.; 25- Botanist Gray; 26- Passes by degrees; 30- Flower segment; 32- White poplar tree; 33- Storage building; 37- Dextrous, lively; 38- Prehistoric chisel-like tool; 39- Some nest eggs; 40- Breeding stallion; 42- Dice game; 43- Immerse; 44- End of a threat; 45- Dadaist Jean; 48- Blotto; 49- Clean air org.; 50- Large beer mug; 52- One who lives in a small cozy house; 57- Bread spread; 58- It may be floated; 60- Chou \_\_\_; 61- Defense grp. since 1949; 62- Assns.; 63- Tempest; 64- Student's final; 65- Born; 66- Competent;

**DOWN**

- 1- Con; 2- Baylor's city; 3- Bartlett's abbr.; 4- Raced; 5- Extremely; 6- Aladdin's monkey; 7- Rare lustrous metallic element; 8- Sharpen; 9- Artery that feeds the trunk; 10- Urns; 11- More; 13- Dinner course; 14- Middle Eastern coffee holder; 20- Loser to DDE; 22- D-Day beach; 24- Clearing goose bumps; 26- Puts down; 27- Blind as \_\_\_; 28- Andean country; 29- Snow conveyances; 30- Analyze a sentence; 31- France's longest river; 33- Sausage; 34- Orsk's river; 35- Enervates; 36- "\_\_\_ quam videri" (North Carolina's motto); 38- Clear broth; 41- Gap; 42- Boxes; 44- Choose; 45- All together; 46- Make less tense; 47- Michelangelo work; 49- Seemingly forever; 51- Adverse fate; 52- Prison; 53- Organization to promote theater; 54- Dollop; 55- British nobleman; 56- Hoar; 59- Metal-bearing mineral;



October 14 Solution

Song list compiled by Rozalind Ruth, arts and entertainment editor

Don't get stuck this Halloween without a playlist to narrate your holiday shenanigans. Check out these songs to help compile a "spook-tacular" mix.

1	"Living Dead Girl" Rob Zombie	"Do They Know It's Halloween" N.A.H.P.I.	11
2	"Zombies" The Cranberries	"I Put A Spell On You" Screamin' Jay Hawkins	12
3	"Werewolves of London" Warren Zevon	"Time Warp" Rocky Horror Picture Show	13
4	"Spooky, Spooky, Lend Me Your Tomb" Spike Jones	"Psycho Killer" Talking Heads	14
5	"Thriller" Michael Jackson	"Bad Things" Jace Everett	15
6	"Disturbia" Rihanna	"Ghostbusters" Ray Parker Jr.	16
7	"The Munsters" Television Theme Song	"Black Magic Woman" Santana	17
8	"The Addams Family" Television Theme Song	"Somebody's Watching Me" Rockwell ft. Michael Jackson	18
9	"Monster Mash" Bobby "Borris" Pickett	"People Are Strange" The Doors	19
10	"Halloween" The Misfits	"Dead Man's Curb" Jan and Dean	20

## Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to [slopinio@mtsu.edu](mailto: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, 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 opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or MTSU.

## Look what's coming

**Halloween icons Freddy and Jason might be pitted against killer Michael Myers.**

By TIFFANY GIBSON  
Media Convergence Director

As Halloween approaches, I always find myself watching movie marathons of Michael Myers, Freddy Krueger and Jason Voorhees. My overall consensus is that no one can go on a killing spree quite like they can.

And when you pin two of these horror icons up against one another on the big screen, you have the opportunity to entertain fans worldwide and collect a lot of money. This was exactly the case when New Line Cinema released "Freddy vs. Jason" in 2003.

The film's budget was about \$30 million and brought in more than \$114 million worldwide.

The drive-in theater I went to was packed full of people chanting and taking the side of one of the villains as they ripped each other apart in their own worlds. Afterward, some people even began talking about a sequel that would include more monstrous characters such as Myers, Chucky or Leatherface.

In the last seven years there have been talks of sequels and prequels with Myers that would feature leading ladies from the late-1970s and early-1980s. None of them have been successful.

In 2005, sources from Hollywood.com said Krueger actor, Robert Englund, was commissioning two scripts, one that would be a prequel to "Freddy vs. Jason" and include Myers. The film was planned to take place in the '90s.

I, of course, loved this idea!

But if Jamie Lee Curtis, who played Laurie Strode in the 1979 original "Halloween," signed on for the project it would have to take place before "Halloween: Resurrection" in 2002 because of her role in it. Note that I'm leaving my explanation vague because I'd hate to ruin the film's twist for newbies.

Now, it's 2010 and it's hard to say whether "Freddy vs. Jason vs. Michael Myers" will ever make it past post-production. It's too bad because I really think a lot of horror fans want to see Myers in on the action.

It would also be interesting to see what directors and screenwriters Wes Craven, John Carpenter, Sean S. Cunningham and Victor Miller could come up with collaboratively.

Notice director Rob Zombie was not included in that list. His portrayals of Michael Myers, in his remakes of "Halloween" in 2007 and 2009, have completely changed the series by mixing some of its later films with beginning characters. Overall, I thought this was confusing and destructive to the plot for fans of the original.

And with all of these remakes hitting Hollywood, isn't it time some of our classic characters return to the screen?

Looking at the list of Halloween horror films this year was a little depressing. The only one I'm particularly interested in is "My Soul To Take," which was directed by Craven ("Nightmare on Elm Street.")

I can't speak for all horror fans, but the "Saw" movies seem to be redundant and predictable at this point. When the series began in 2004, the idea of Jigsaw's *schadenfreude* was something audiences gravitated to, but now the films have become gory flicks with a disintegrating plot.

The latest one is in third dimension and opens on Oct. 29. I'm hoping the seventh film will relaunch the series, especially if plans for an eighth installment are approved.

## Memories best part of holiday

'Twas the night before Halloween, when all through the haunted house every creature was stirring. Booms, bangs and bonks shake the house. The streets are full of monsters; it's not the "Thriller" video – it's Halloween.

Behind the masks, decorations and costumes lies a celebration of one of America's top holidays. Halloween is celebrated on Oct. 31. It's a full moon, cool crisp air and all the leaves are parachuting to join their myriad friends. Children dress up in funny, scary costumes, traveling, trotting, sometimes trampling their way door-to-door and saying those oh-so-magical words, "Trick or treat!"

But, was Halloween always this way?

The holiday dates back to Celtic rituals thousands of years ago. Celts believed the season of life met the season of death. Priests would try to foretell whether villages would survive the winter. The Celtic people lit bonfires and disguised themselves in costumes to confuse or fend off the spirits.

It was a pagan practice until Pope Gregory III established it as All Hallows Eve, a day honoring all saints known and unknown on Nov. 1, History Channel explains.

Although it is not certain where trick-or-treating originated, it may have derived from 'souling,' when the poor would go door to door praying for souls in exchange for small cakes to eat.

The face of Halloween changed and began making its way into mainstream America in the early 20th century. No longer were raging bonfires used, but lanterns made from gourds, which became the first jack-o'-lanterns. In some northern parts of the United States, the holiday is referred to as "beggars' night."

### Fun for All Ages

"I remember being more excited about it when I was younger," recalls Kelly



Jessica Harris

### Columnist

Smallwood, a first-time mother who will be taking her 18-month-old daughter, Claire, trick-or-treating for the first time. Claire will be dressed as a 1950s girl, with poodle skirt and "little black and white saddle shoes."

"It's dumb," Kelly's husband, David Smallwood, remarked. "My mother is making the outfit."

The Smallwoods live in a large suburb with winding roads, paved driveways and decorative lawns. They are looking forward to the holiday, "It's my favorite time of the year...we're expecting several trick-or-treaters if we're home," Kelly declared.

### Tales from the Crypt

For almost two decades husband and wife Chris and Walker Kirby have been running Bell Witch venue where many have visited to find out what the fuss is about. Bell Witch Cave is located in Adams, 75 miles north of Nashville.

"I think it's the unknown, people's curiosity," Mrs. Kirby explained. "I hear people say, 'I hope I see or hear something, that we get weird pictures.' If they do, they're usually in a hurry to leave."

The Kirbys give cabin tours and cave tours, and they are open until the end of October. Mrs. Kirby says they get several thousand guests that vary from year to year. For the holiday, they'll be offering haunted hayrides, food and psychic readings.

Jessica Harris is senior majoring in journalism. She can be reached at [jh3y@mtmail.mtsu.edu](mailto:jh3y@mtmail.mtsu.edu).

online To read more, visit us online. [www.mtsusidelines.com](http://www.mtsusidelines.com)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tim Johnson relies too much on the media to form his opinions. He sounds just like one of those awful campaign ad commercials on TV, and they are all awful. If he's going to write about his opinions, why doesn't he add something new to the conversation? Everything in Mr. Johnson's article has been said before. It's been said every day for a few months now. You know what you don't hear a lot of – specifics.

The media is just full of these general statements that don't really mean anything.

To quote Mr. Johnson's article as an example, "the Obama administration has been successful in bringing on... an abandonment of the free market... hostile takeovers of big companies, banks and the financial industry, and a worldwide 'apology tour.'"

What does that really mean?

How did President Barack Obama abandon the free market? Did he instantaneously abolish the institution of money or something? Let's be real, a country can't abandon a centuries-old capitalist system in two years.

Another unhelpful comment: Obama gives money to Palestine, which hates the U.S. Non-person entities don't have feelings, so are you saying a majority of Palestinians hate the U.S.? What scientific poll is he getting that from? I doubt that arrogant assumption very much.

What does this list of Obama's betrayals mean? When he says, "borders, language, culture, abortion, taxes and debt," what does that mean?

"This administration endorses illegal immigration." The only policy that could come close to an actual endorse-

ment of illegal immigration is amnesty – suing Arizona is not in the ballpark. As of yet, there has been no legislation regarding amnesty for illegal immigrants introduced in the U.S. Congress.

Exaggeration does not help in creating a worthwhile discussion on politics. These are just emotionally charged statements aimed at goading people into blind anger and fear. I know I'm not the only one tired of these counter-productive exaggerations and generalizations. Assertions must be backed up by facts.

Michelle Powell is a junior majoring in biology at Middle Tennessee State University. She can be reached at [mlp3s@mtmail.mtsu.edu](mailto:mlp3s@mtmail.mtsu.edu)

To read more, visit us online. [www.mtsusidelines.com](http://www.mtsusidelines.com)

## Parking is a Problem



Oct. 27 at 2:34:32 p.m.

Due to the construction of a new Education Building and Student Union Building the parking lot beside the University Honors College has been reallocated to faculty and staff parking only. Sidelines has noticed that regardless of the time of day, the lot is almost always empty. So, we have decided to continue to run a photo of the parking lot that is timestamped until the problem is addressed.

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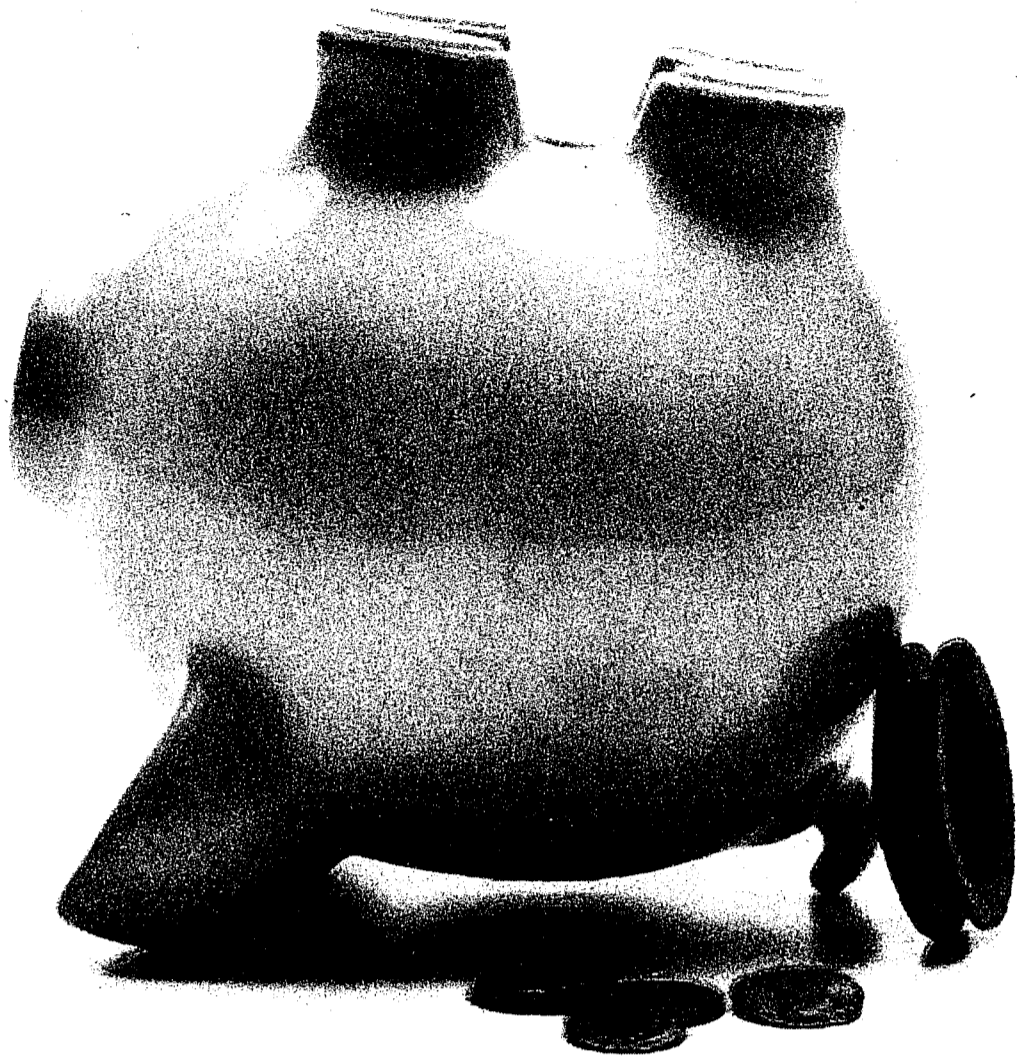
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# November Specials




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 Bagel Dog and Regular Drink


 Small Turkey Sandwich, Chips, and 22oz.


 1 Piece Chicken, 1 Side, Roll, and 22oz. Beverage

 1 Item Combo  
\*excluding bottled beverage

 Any 1 Topping Pizza and 22oz. Drink

 Burger and 22oz. Drink

 6" Meatball Marinara Combo

 1 Topping Pizza Slice, Side Salad & 22oz. Drink