

Campus 2009

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BURGLAR
SU 2010

APRIL 11, 2012 | VOL. 89, NO. 26

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

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crime statistics VIOLATIONS

burglery MOTOR VEHICLE
Theft MT. LARCENY
murder freshboro

Dr. William M. Bass

LIFE AT THE BODY FARM



Legends in
Forensic Science
Lectureship

Thursday, April 19, 2012

6:30 p.m. / Murphy Center

free and open / book signing afterward

presented by the Forensic Institute for Research and Education



SIDELINES LENS



A red double-decker bus known as the Red Bus Project parked in front of the Keathley University Center April 2, giving students the opportunity to buy and donate clothes. The clothing ranged from \$1 to \$25 and included everything from shoes to dresses and pants.

The Red Bus Project is on its first tour across the United States, and it was founded by college students. All proceeds from the Red Bus Project are given to Show Hope, which is an organization that is designed to help orphans across the world. Photo by Emily West, associate news editor.

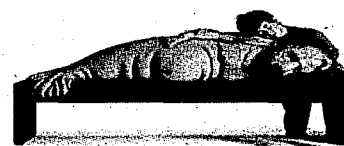
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Cover art by Kelsey Klingenmeyer and Asher Hudson

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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
SIDELINES

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Center for Innovation in Media to hold grand opening

by Kelsey Griffith
Staff Writer

The new Center for Innovation in Media will showcase campus media outlets MT10, WMTS, WMOT, MT Records and *Sidelines* in an all-day media event tomorrow beginning at 10 a.m.

The John Bragg Mass Communication Building is slated to host a grand opening ceremony that will start at 4:30 p.m. in the Center.

The Center is a brand-new facility that houses all student-run media organizations on campus. Now MTSU has a place for *Sidelines*, WMTS, WMOT, MT Records and MT10HD (formerly MTTV) to work together. That's the

objective for the Center—to converge media and content.

The Center's main room is nicknamed "the egg," and it's filled with rows of iMacs for writing, designing and editing. Branching off the egg is Studio A, which houses WMOT and Studio B, the home of WMTS. The front of the studios are glass, so mass communication students walking by can see DJs at work under the glowing red "ON AIR" signs.

Every morning at 9, students and faculty involved with *Sidelines*, WMTS, WMOT, MT Records and MT10HD meet in the conference room of the CIM to organize their plans for the upcoming weeks. These

students mean business—they share ideas for stories, projects and resources. These meetings are open to anyone interested in pitching a story or getting involved.

The difference the new environment is making is simple: Now, a story that used to be told through one format (i.e., an interview with an artist on WMTS) can be told via print, web, radio, still photos, graphics, podcast, television and video.

Stephan Foust, the director of the Center, shared the idea with other professors and students as early as 2005. It was a response to the rise of new innovations in media for journalists



The robotics lab for MT10 was completed in March, allowing them to begin programming. The other organizations have secured their footing to hit the ground. Photo by Andy Heidt, MTSU News and Public Affairs.

continued on page 16



MT10 now works out of a new robotics lab where they are able to use many virtual sets. Photo by Andy Heidt, MTSU News and Public Affairs.



The Center for Innovation in Media's main room is nicknamed "the egg," and it's filled with rows of iMacs for writing, designing and editing. Photo by Andy Heidt, MTSU News and Public Affairs.

Nursing students await medical mission

by Emily West
Associate News Editor



Brandi Lindsey, assistant professor

For more information about this missions project, students can go to churchmissionsnetwork.wordpress.com.

In mid-July, one professor will lead seven students to Kenya on the first university-affiliated medical mission.

Headed by assistant professor Brandi Lindsey in the school of nursing, the group will be traveling to Kenya, Africa, July 16 through July 29 with Church Missions Network from Lebanon, Tenn. Lindsey's church, Crossroads, works with the group.

"The director of Church Missions Network goes to my church," Lindsey said. "So when he invited me to go on the medical mission trip, I thought about inviting my nursing students and what a good opportunity it would be for them."

In addition to partnering with the missions organization, Lindsey worked with the International Affairs office to get the trip sanctioned through the university.

Students will not be receiving any type of course credit or hours for the trip.

"This trip is for our own benefit," said Sara Bailey, a senior nursing student going on the trip. "We primarily are on our own collecting as far as funding goes, but we have had some small fundraisers here and there."

The trip costs is \$3,900 for each student, but International Affairs is donating \$500 toward the trip.

Lindsey and her students will be working with the clinic, which is set up six weeks in the summer. The missions network travels there each year.

"I have been to Nicaragua and Poland, but I have never been to Africa before," Lindsey said. "I have seen so many things on my other medical missions before, and I primarily worked with orphans. I generally saw a lot of poverty, wounds, malnourishment, head lice, scabies and genetic disorders."

Other students, like senior nursing student Kerby Pruett, traveled out of the country on her own time to serve in other mission opportunities.

"When I talk about my missions trips, it is hard to even relate it," Pruett said. "There is no comparison, and it is completely different to anything we see here. Like wearing two shoes that match is a big deal for some of kids there since they might not have shoes that match. Their clothes don't match, and they have to go to a well to get it [water]. Life is just different there."

As Lindsey puts it, one of the main purposes of the trip is to provide students with a global perspective, while dealing with major life struggles on a daily basis.

"I think it will be a great growing opportunity as a nurse and as a person, spiritually and [for] my ability as a nurse," said Staci Whyte, senior nursing student. "There are so many reasons I want to go. It will be something to learn from and gain a perspective on the world, since I am stuck in my little bubble here."

Students in the nursing program currently only get experience outside the classroom through their clinical work.

"Our education doesn't let us learn everything in a classroom, but what we have learned here so far has prepared us," said Sara Bailey, senior nursing student. "But what we gain over there will be something we can bring back to help us, as well and to help our profession."

In the future, Lindsey said she hopes to see the trip reoccur so students can continue to get this type of experience.

"Nursing is a very competitive field, especially in Middle Tennessee with several major hospitals," Lindsey said. "With this on their résumé, it will help them in the long run and might be something very few people have done."

Lindsey is currently working in conjunction with International Affairs to see what can be done for course credit. The process is just in the beginning stages, and the details have not been fully developed.

Any students interested with helping this year's students on this trip are encouraged, Lindsey said. Items such as sun block, bug spray and over-the-counter medicines like Tylenol and Motrin will be accepted and can be donated to Lindsey in the Cason Kennedy Nursing Building. ■

Campus & Community Crime Briefs

Vandalism

Scarlett Commons Apt. 5
April 2, 10:48 p.m.

Authorities responded to a complainant of vandalism and an altercation between two roommates. The roommates were separated for the evening and Residential Life was notified and asked to move the parties.

Theft

Beasley Hall
April 2, 11:31 p.m.

A complainant said that he had two textbooks stolen from Beasley Hall. Vandalism

James E. Walker Library
April 4, 8:20 p.m.

A complainant reported graffiti at the Walker Library.

Traffic

Lytle Street
April 4, 8:33 p.m.

A complainant reported a hit-and-run accident at the intersection of East Main Street and Middle Tennessee Boulevard.

Theft

Greenland Drive Lot B
April 5, 1:05 p.m.

A complainant reported the registration sticker had been stolen from her license plate.

Theft

Fairview Building
April 5, 1:35 p.m.

A complainant reported that her purse was stolen.

Alarm

Jim Cummings Hall
April 5, 4:05 p.m.

Authorities responded to a fire alarm pull station activation. Murfreesboro Fire

Department found no signs of fire. There are no suspects this time.

Traffic

Middle Tennessee Boulevard
April 5, 5:11 p.m.

A complainant reported that he had struck another vehicle at the intersection of Bell Street and Alma Mater Drive. The complainant reported that the other vehicle fled the scene after the accident.

Theft

Keathley University Center
April 5, 6:24 p.m.

A complainant reported that some items were stolen from Dwight's Mini Market.

Assault

Recreation Center
April 5, 8:20 p.m.

Authorities responded to a fight at the Recreation Center. The individuals had a disagreement over a recreational soccer game. Neither party wanted to pursue charges at this time.

Vagrancy

Wright Music Building
April 5, 11:43 p.m.

Authorities found a non-student trespassing on campus. The individual was loitering around the Wright Music Building. The person loitering had been asked to leave the area by custodians earlier.

Alcohol

Rutherford Boulevard
April 6, 1:42 a.m.

Authorities arrested Jerome Collins, 21, for driving under the influence.

A professor of sustainability



Cindi Smith-Walters, biology professor

by Quint Qualls
Contributing Writer

Biology professor Cindi Smith-Walters, whose work over the years in environmental education has helped spawn generations of students now working to sustain the world, was named a National Project Learning Tree Outstanding Educator early last month.

PLT, an education program of the American Forest Foundation whose goal is to instill an environmental consciousness in students, names five outstanding educators each year based on their commitment to environmental education and their implementation of PLT strategies.

"It's just so nice to be nationally recognized out of only five people for doing something that I love," Smith-Walters said.

A native of the Oklahoma countryside, Smith-Walters said she spent her childhood outdoors working and playing in the natural world that would come to define her life's work.

She said she sees the award as an affirmation of her long career as an educator working to instill ideas of sustainability and conservation in the future stewards of the earth.

"We should all be concerned about the environment, because we all depend upon the environment," Smith-Walters said. "Clean water, clean air, what we do with our waste— it doesn't just go into a vacuum. We need to be aware of the environment and our impact on the environment, so we can have a sustainable world."

As an educator, she doesn't believe in forcing her views upon her students but rather challenging them to think for themselves and come to their own conclusions.

"My goal is to get people to think," Smith-Walters said. "If they're thinking, they're asking questions. They don't have to agree with me. I want them to be able to defend their answer. It's when we're using emotions and anger rather than logic that we get into problems with each other in making decisions."

Smith-Walters' field of environmental education revolves around increasingly pressing issues. With the rapid expansion of industry, exponential population growth, and the influx of pollutants in the ecosystem, environmental sustainability has come under fire.

"Human technology has a high environmental cost," Smith-Walters said. "As we continue to grow, we demand more of the natural resources."

Smith-Walters said what worries her about big-business, which are commonly some of the worst offenders against the environment, is not big-business itself.

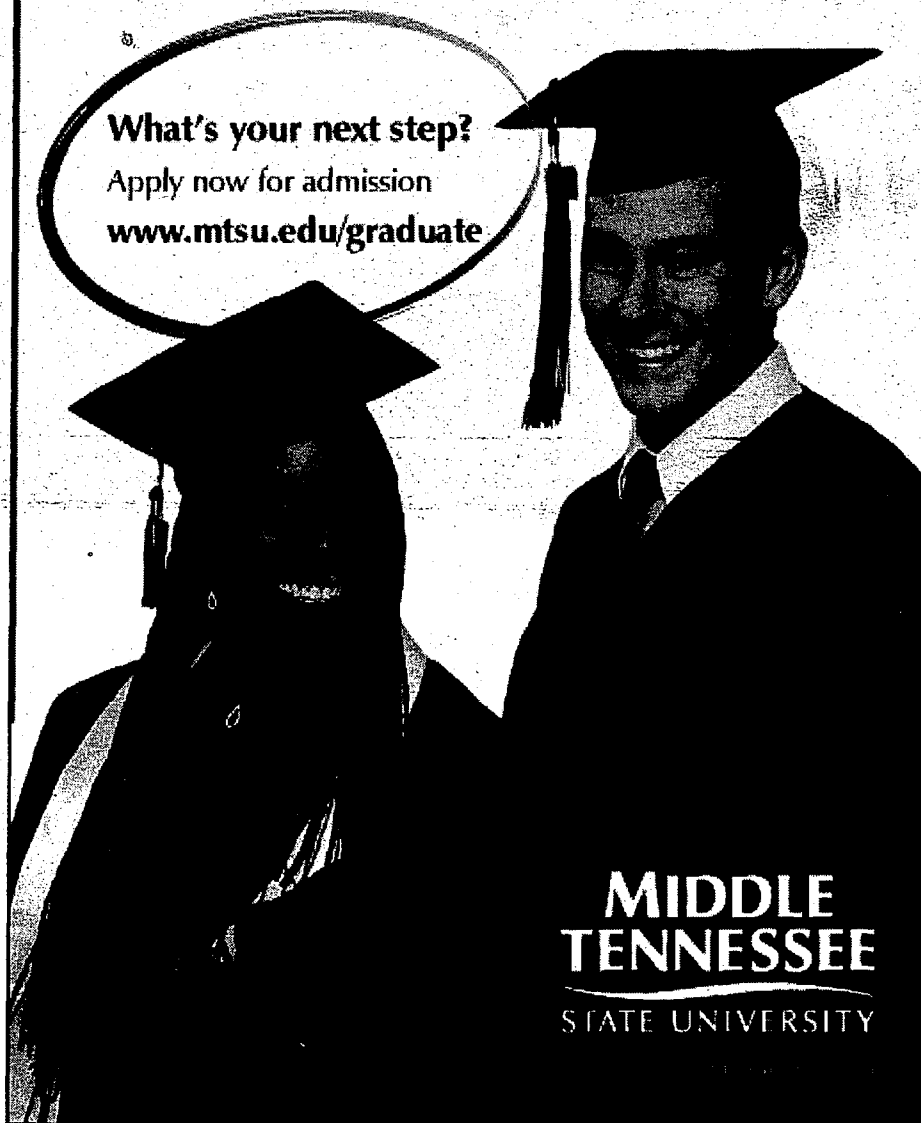
"Do you know who owns big business?" she said. "We do. We have consumer power to change things. Every little thing you do has an impact on the environment."

Awarded for her work in educating future environmentalists, Smith-Walters will continue to do just that: to make sure her students will see the necessity in making a difference in environmental sustainability, however small or great it may be. ■

Seniors, are you thinking about Graduate School? Think MTSU!

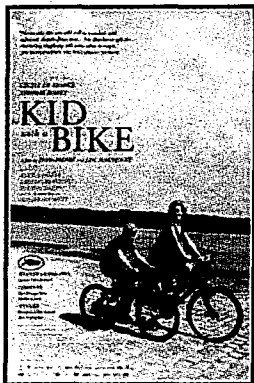
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**MIDDLE
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STATE UNIVERSITY

Thursday, April 12



"The Kid with a Bike"

Belcourt Theatre, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.
2102 Belcourt Ave., Nashville

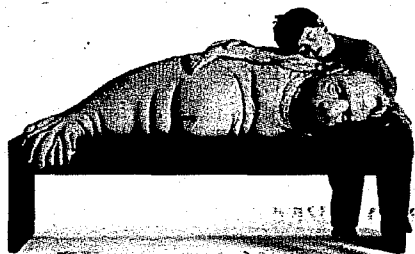
Admission: \$6.75 (student matinee), \$7.25 (student)

French cinema seems to receive every film award. Sometimes I think it's simply because it was made by an up-and-coming French director or just because people expect nothing less. However, "The Kid with a Bike" completely deserves the recognition it received at Cannes and the buzz that's finally catching on here in the States. Rotten Tomatoes even gives it a 96 percent—that's, like, receiving the Oscar of online-film reviews.

The movie jumps right into the story—there's no fluff, no 30-minute introduction. Instead, the main character, Cyril, finds out some information that determines the rest of his life and the rest of the plot—his father abandons him. Cyril, from that point on, stays

with a local hairdresser, who becomes more than just a friend—she becomes his caretaker. As Cyril struggles to deal with his father's abandonment, he channels his anger and hurt feelings into finding his bike, hoping to hang on to the last bit of his father that he can.

I really do recommend you go see this movie. There are no French twists, no red balloon and sad clown in a corner, no mimes, not even one. "The Kid with a Bike" actually tugs at the heart and makes you appreciate the people who have or continue to help and take care of you. (Nataly Morales)



Fairy Tales, Monsters, and the Genetic Imagination

Frist Center for the Visual Arts, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
919 Broadway, Nashville

Admission: Free with student ID

Have you ever wondered what a manatee and your grandmother would look like if you crossed them together? Have you ever wondered what the monster that kept you up at night as a child would look like as a sculpture or as a beautiful painting?

Leave it to someone to

create these art pieces and actually make them worth your while. The Frist is hosting an exhibition that features anything and everything you can (or perhaps can't imagine) in the imaginary world. Some pieces have that it's-so-ugly-that-it's-cute factor and some are just plain weird. Either way, the exhibit will surely satisfy your curiosity.

Grab a friend who isn't scared of out-of-the-ordinary art and head downtown for a night full of interesting, life-like sculpture and colorful, creepy paintings. (Nataly Morales)

Friday, April 13

"Friday the 13th"

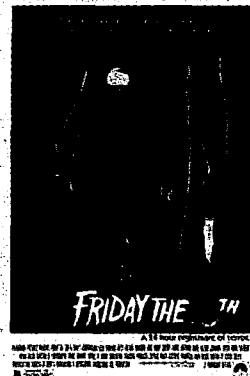
KUC Theatre, 9 p.m.

Admission: Free

If you're a fan of old horror cinema, here's your chance to see one of the classics, "Friday the 13th"

Before horror films became the platform for actresses, like Paris Hilton, to take their top off and show their...ahem...talent, and before horror film plots became too stupid to sit through, there were good ol' fashion slashers. This movie is one of them.

I'll admit, unless you're a fan already, the original versions of popular horror films, like "Halloween" and "Nightmare on Elm Street," can seem corny and of poor quality; however, if you are a



fan, these reasons may just be why you are. As I mentioned already, there aren't any flashy special effects and no distracting music from a hardcore band (anyone remember that awful scene in "Scream 3" with Creed blaring in the background—I'm still recovering).

Trust me when I say, there is nothing better than seeing the original versions of today's popular slasher movie remakes. It may make you appreciate old film, or it may make you appreciate today's technological advancements in film. Whatever the end result may be, old horror films are just fun to watch, so head over to the KUC for a screening of this classic—what do you have to lose? (Nataly Morales)

Video Game Night

KUC Lounge, 4 p.m.

Admission: Free

The semester is almost over—by the time you read this issue, there will be about three weeks left in the semester—and that means activities on campus are winding down as well.

Unfortunately, for you gamers, Video Game Night will be closing the curtain on its monthly sessions, but there is still one more chance for those of you who want to play some free video games. Friday night will be the last chance you'll have for a while to get your hands on some free controllers and play some great games for free.

So take full advantage of this opportunity, grab a friend and head over to the KUC Lounge for a night in gamer's paradise. (Nataly Morales)

The Jacksons: Unity Tour 2012 tickets on sale

Ryman Auditorium, Ticketmaster, 10 a.m.

They're back and ready to go full force with this tour.

It's no doubt that this tour was thought up after the tragic death of Michael Jackson and perhaps is a sort of homage to the late and great king of pop. However, before Michael wooed us with "Billy Jean" and "Thriller," he created music with his brothers Jermaine, Tito, Jackie and Marlon as the Jackson 5.

This is your chance to relive any Jackson 5 memories or experience for the first time. Either way, the show, I'm sure will be great. Tickets go on sale Friday at 10 a.m. and if I were you, I wouldn't wait until the last second to jump online and purchase my tickets—there's no doubt that they will sell fast.

So what can you expect at the show? The Ryman website states that the group of brothers will perform the singles everyone knows and loves, like "I Want You Back," "ABC" and "I'll Be There." Jermaine Jackson will also get to showcase his solo career by singing a few of his songs also.

I wouldn't miss the chance to see these brothers, if I were you. They may be missing an important member, but the music is still there for everyone to enjoy. It will undoubtedly be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. (Nataly Morales)



Saturday, April 14

The Deep Dark Jungle Underground Techno Party

Vanderbilt Student Life Center, 9 p.m.

Admission: \$10

Who doesn't love to dance all night to techno music, especially when it's for a good cause? OK, I personally don't unless I've had a couple of those cute, little tube shots of tequila, but that's a whole other story we won't get into.

Vanderbilt will be hosting an "underground" techno dance party, even though Vanderbilt is far from underground. However, for only \$10, you can get into this event and you'll be helping fund the fight against childhood obesity in the process. All proceeds



4/14

twitter: @HopelnRhythm
facebook.com/HopelnRhythm

RANTS & RAVES

earned at the event will go to the Nashville Mobile Market, which helps low-income areas around Middle Tennessee receive healthy food alternatives.

The theme is jungle, so dress appropriately—I know, nothing says “help fight childhood obesity” more than slutty leopard print dresses. As long as it’s for a good cause, why not put on your best Snooki-esque outfit and dance the night away, right? (Nataly Morales)

Bela Fleck & the Fleck Tones
 Ryman Auditorium, 8 p.m.
 116 Fifth Ave. North, Nashville
 Admission: \$29.50 - \$45.50

First of all, can I just say I absolutely love this band’s name—it’s adorable and makes me feel warm and happy inside. Fortunately, their music has the same effect on many fans. Let me repeat: their music has the same effect of happiness on many of their fans. That’s right, Bela Fleck and the Fleck Tones don’t muddle their instrumental genius with lyrics about heartbreak or living a musician’s lifestyle—they just play music.

For some, this may sound incredibly boring and hard to believe, but they’ve maintained an awesome reputation for being true musicians who actually care about creating good music, without any synthesizers or computer-generated vocals.

Their performance on stage is quite entertaining, too. Unlike some other bands that like to grab the mic from its stand and walk around the stage touches their fans’ hands, the Fleck Tones really feed off one another’s energy, while still considering their fans who paid to attend the show. They hardly ever veer away from actually playing their instruments and giving the crowd their money’s worth. Needless to say, I definitely recommend this band and, more importantly, this show to everyone. (Nataly Morales)

Sunday, April 15

Karaoke Night
 Cyber Café, 10 p.m.

Admission: Free

If you haven’t been to MTSU-sponsored Karaoke Night, now’s your last chance before next year.

Sunday night at the Cyber Café will be the chance for you and your friends to enjoy an evening of laughs, music and why not make some great memories in the process. There’s no reason for anyone to miss out on this event—it’s on campus, so there’s no need to drive anywhere, and it’s absolutely free.

So grab your best friends and head over to the Cyber Café to sing your best rendition of your favorite songs. (Nataly Morales)



Margot & the Nuclear So and So's
 Exit/In, 8 p.m.

2208 Elliston Place, Nashville

Admission: \$10 advance, \$12 doors

Anytime I hear the name Margot & the Nuclear So and So’s, I immediately perk up and think about my senior year in high school. You can say it was the time when I moved from the typical emo stage to actually hearing good music that had some meaning.

The So and So’s have been around for a while and have made some incredible music along the way. They’ll always hold a special

place in my heart with songs like “Vampires in Blue Dresses” and “German Motor Car,” but I must admit, their new material really lives up to their reputation. Since this material will probably take up the majority of their set list, I’m glad the material doesn’t completely stray away from their originality.

So do I recommend you go to this show? Absolutely. Even though they’ll probably play the newer stuff, I’m sure they’ll throw in some oldies for the fans that have been around since ‘07. Go and have a good time—get lost in the awesome sound of Margot & The Nuclear So and So’s. (Nataly Morales)

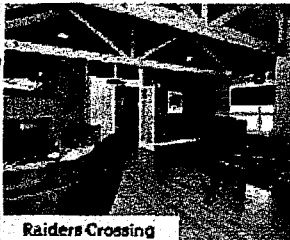
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UNIVERSITY GABLES ON APRIL 11 FROM 1 PM TO 8 PM

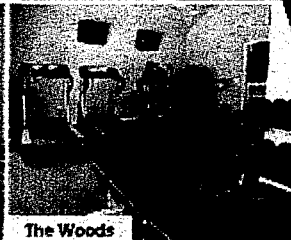
RAIDERS CROSSING & THE WOODS AT GREENLAND ON APRIL 12 FROM 1 PM TO 8 PM



University Gables



Raiders Crossing



The Woods

UNIVERSITY
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THE WOODS &
 RAIDERS CROSSING

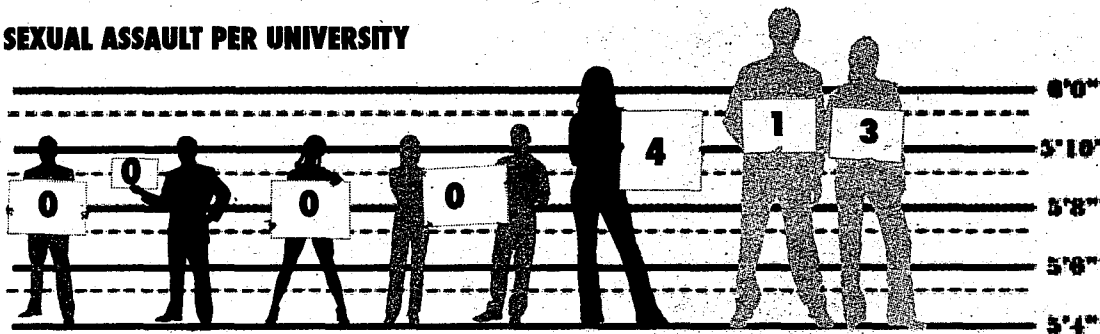
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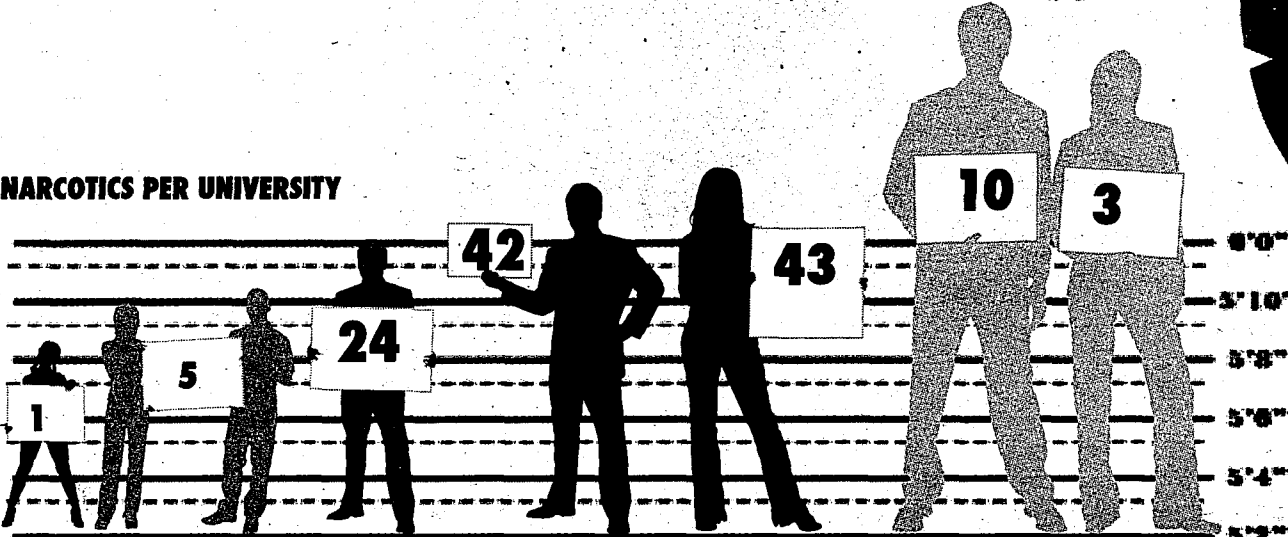
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UNIVERSITY CRIME STATISTICS 2011

SEXUAL ASSAULT PER UNIVERSITY



NARCOTICS PER UNIVERSITY



ASSAULTS PER UNIVERSITY



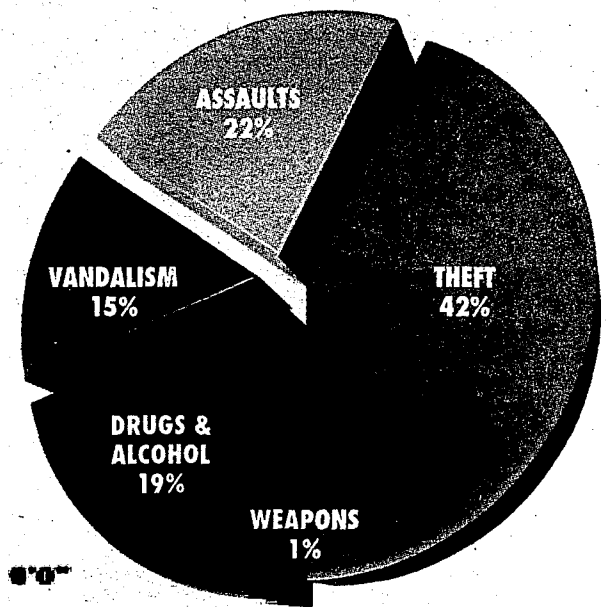
CRIME STATISTICS PER UNIVERSITY 2011

- Belmont University
- Fisk University
- Lipscomb University
- Middle Tennessee State University
- Tennessee State University
- Vanderbilt University

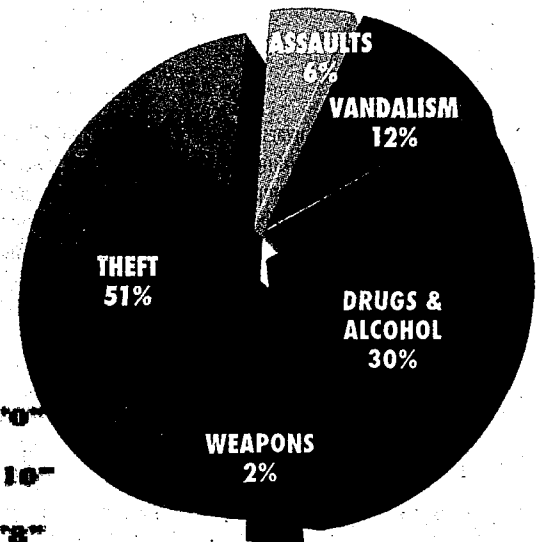
NUMBER OF STUDENTS AS OF 2011

- 5,888
- 580
- 3,742
- 26,492
- 8,930
- 12,714

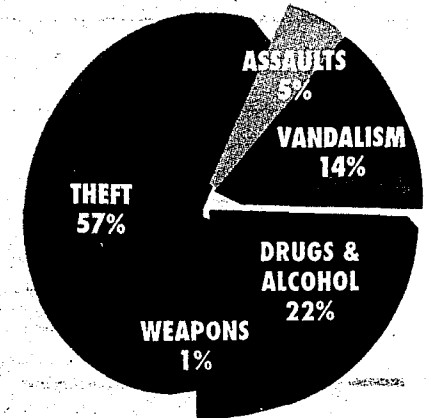
MTSU CRIME RATES 2010



MTSU CRIME RATES 2009



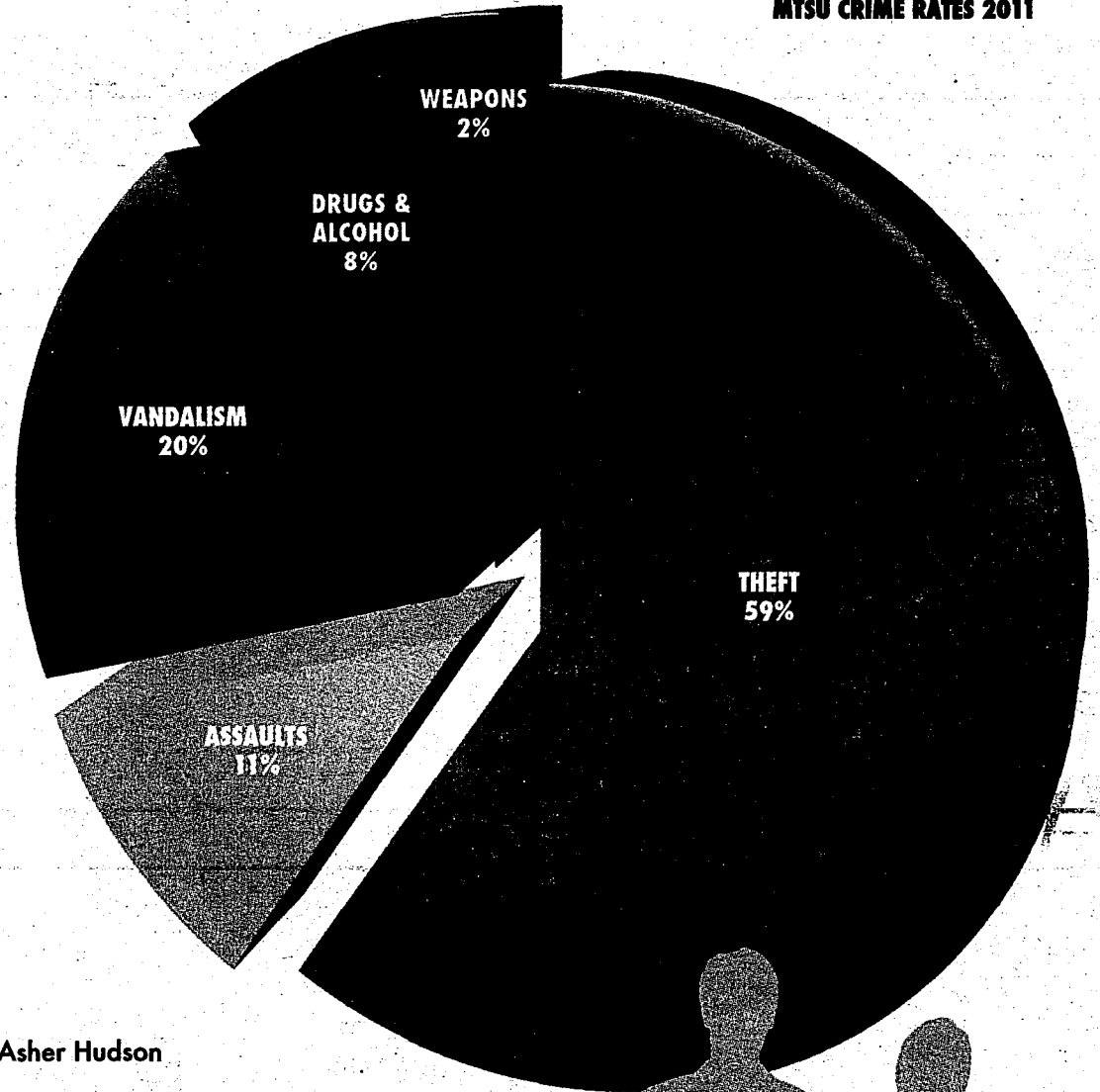
MTSU CRIME RATES 2008



MTSU LIQUOR VIOLATIONS PER YEAR



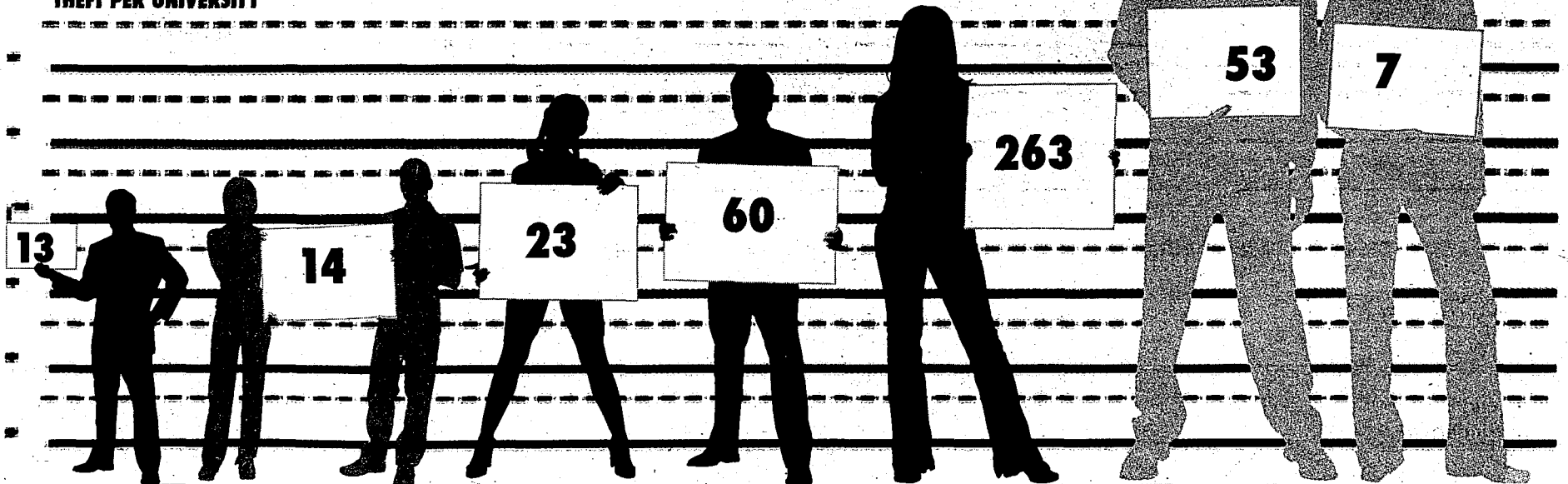
MTSU CRIME RATES 2011



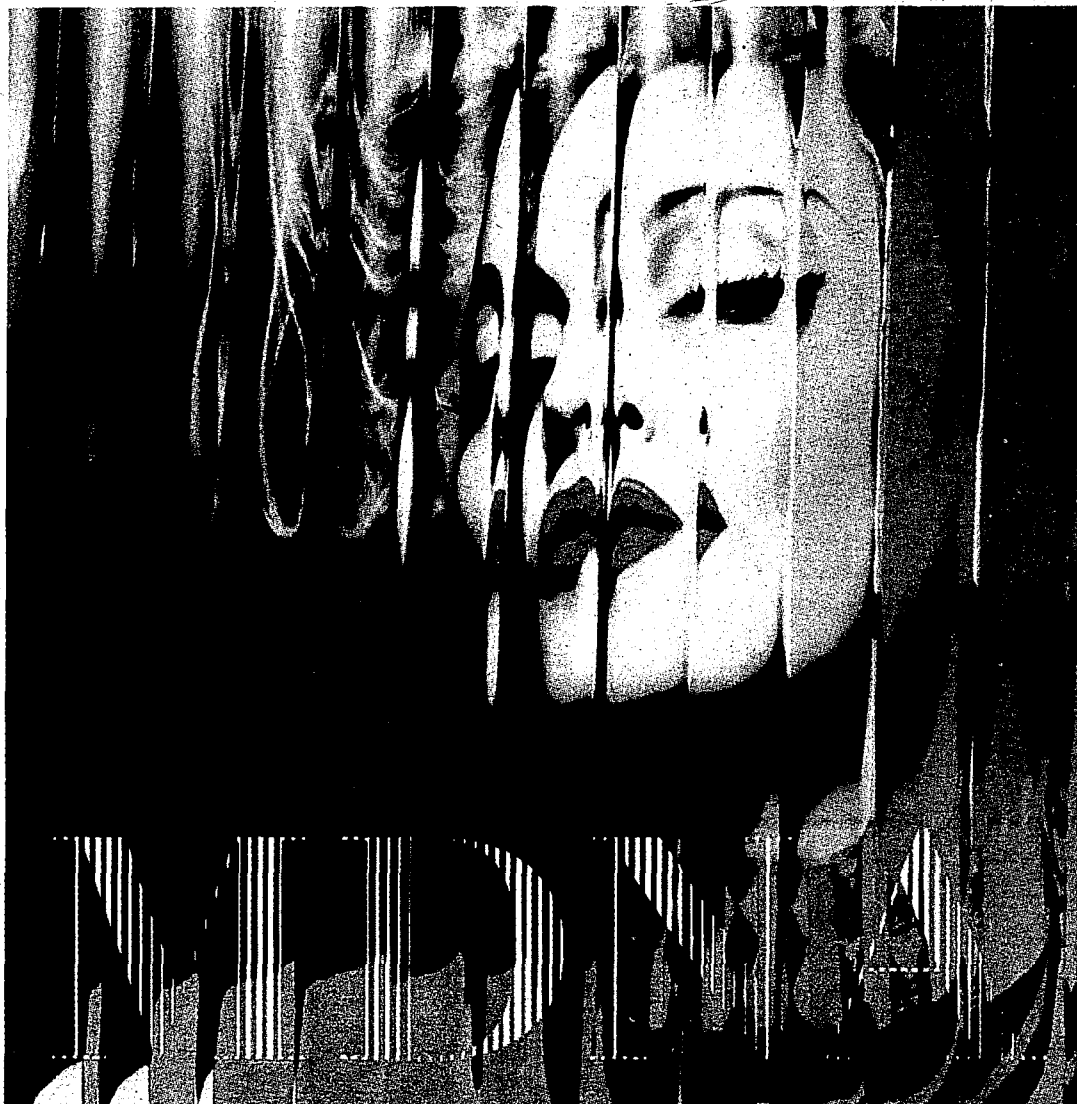
Overall crime at the university in 2011 increased more than 10.5 percent over 2010, according to the most recent Tennessee Bureau of Investigation Crime on Campus report. Reports of crime are submitted to the TBI by law enforcement through the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System program as required by the Cery Act. More than 600 total crimes were reported on campus in 2011.

Compiled by Amanda Haggard, Kelsey Klingemeyer and Asher Hudson
Designed by Virginia Erinozova

THEFT PER UNIVERSITY



MATERIAL GIRL LACKS SUBSTANCE WITH LATEST RELEASE



by Tyann Nelson
Contributing Writer



Madonna may want to portray herself as a "Girl Gone Wild," but this riotous woman isn't releasing pop gold. The reality of Madonna's twelfth studio album, *MDNA*, is an overall OK album, but the gratuitous auto tune usage and controversial lyrics make

for a somewhat disappointing experience. Fans shouldn't expect a great deal of collaboration on the record. The only two artists featured are rappers Nicki Minaj and M.I.A. Madonna could have extended a few more invitations to the party. The album begins with "A Girl Gone Wild," an awesome track and, most importantly, an attention

grabber. Lyrics like, "I got that burning hot desire, no one can put out my fire" show off her sexy confidence that melts into a little cockiness. The song has a likeable techno-pop beat.

"Gang Bang" is dark and gloomy, but it maintains a pop beat that you can dance to. Lyrics such as "Bang bang, shot you dead, shot my lover in the head/ Bang bang, shot

you dead, girl I have no regret/ He deserved it" are a little controversial. The song appropriately ends with the sound of police sirens.

The next song on the album, "I'm Addicted," has a beat similar to "Gang Bang." This song should have been cut from the album, or the order of the album should have been changed. Madonna is obviously using autotune, and her voice sounds so far away the lyrics are barely decipherable. The song is about her addiction to someone, but unfortunately it fails to keep the listener's attention.

However, the strong beat on her following song, "Some Girls," will regain your interest. The song was about how some girls seem to always get their way, but she never does. "Some girls always get what they wanna wanna/ All I seem to get is the other." As a whole, it was a pretty cool track.

On "I Don't Give A," featuring Nicki Minaj, Madonna sings about being in a relationship where giving all you have is never good enough. Nicki Minaj's verse is great and she ends with, "There's only one queen and that's Madonna" Then the sounds of opera voices begin to sing "ha ha ha" in a dissonant tone until the song concludes. I liked it—it was a great final touch.

On Madonna's next song "Turn Up The Radio," she sounds exactly like a chipmunk, I'm assuming due to autotune. Fortunately, the song is positive, motivating, and inspirational. She tells listeners and fans to turn up the radio when things in life aren't going so well. "When the world starts to get you down and nothing seems to come your way/ There's a glow of the distant light calling you to come outside to feel the wind on your face and your skin." It's a nice song with a pop beat.

Madonna's 2012 Superbowl performance song, "Give Me All Your Luvin," featuring rappers Nicki Minaj and M.I.A., was a good song, but both of the rappers' verses were very short. Minaj delivered, however, M.I.A.'s verse seemed pointless and

could have been eliminated. Minaj's verse should have been extended.

Next on the album is "B-Day Song" which should have been named "Birthday Songs for Hippies." The song was slow, dull, and made me think of hippies and the '70s. On a positive note, this song is the first time Madonna plays up her vocal strengths. Other than that, there was nothing exciting about the song.

"Superstar" is cute, but sounds a lot like a nursery rhyme. Fortunately, it has a great beat and catchy lyrics.

The next controversial song on the album is "I'm A Sinner." It includes the lyrics, "I'm a sinner and I like it that way..." This song's lyrics may receive some negative attention amongst religious listeners.

In "Masterpiece," Madonna shows off her voice in its most natural form with bare minimum of autotune. It has a nice, slow beat and is quite different from all the other songs on the album thus far.

Madonna's voice sounds amazing as she sings the next track, "Falling Free." However, the song is mediocre. The violin instrumental on "Love Spent" was an amazing idea. This track has a techno-pop styled beat, and it sounds great. When the song ends, the beat noticeably and nicely fades out.

Madonna's voice sounds the best on "I F***ed Up," which is one of my favorites. Madonna sings about being in a relationship that she eventually ruins. "I f***ed up, I made a mistake, no one does it better than myself... I wish I could have you back maybe one day." The song starts off slowly and then increases to a rapid pace, which is a great touch.

"Beautiful Killer" is the last track on the album and, although it has a nice beat, it shouldn't have been the last song on the album. Madonna didn't end the album as strong as she began. Whatever happened to going out with a bang?

The album has its moments, but it's doubtful that it will be the best thing you hear this year. Excessive auto tune, weak writing, and a lack of flair all make for a second-rate album. ■



'This Way to Honey Bee Hill' tackles LGBTQI rights issues

by Meredith Gaylon
Contributing Writer



In the midst of the current political campaigns, many citizens find themselves trying to decide what issues are most important and what can be done to help their cause.

Professor Bob Pondillo, electronic media communication professor, has recently tackled the issue of LGBTQI rights with a short film utilizing an unexpected element—a cast of children. The film has received criticism from Sen. Bill Ketron,

who is rumored to have received letters opposing the movie. Ketron is most known for his controversial 'Don't Say Gay' bill, which would forbid teachers to speak about sexuality in school.

"The Miracles on Honey Bee Hill" is a short film written and directed by Pondillo and produced with the aide of several MTSU students.

It has already been awarded Best Achievement in Short Screen Writing at the SoCal Film Festival in Huntington Beach,

Calif., and received the opportunity to reach an even bigger audience.

The first screening was presented as a "work-in-progress" by MT Lambda as part of the Spring Out celebration, with the premiere of the final product scheduled tentatively for early May.

The story focuses around a girl named Millie, who is desperate to find her true love. She goes to church every Sunday and is well-liked by her peers.

All of that changes when Millie meets her special someone, another female, and introduces her to the church congregation.

They immediately condemn her and force her to leave. But when a force from above intervenes, the judgmental mob begins to reconsider what they had once believed so wholeheartedly.

With a cheerful narration and sharp-witted dialogue, the film successfully captures the gravity of the situation while providing comedic relief to the tension.

The animated backgrounds and bold color

scheme add a fairytale component that plays up the youth of its cast.

Only one adult actor was featured in this movie, and at first, the reasoning behind that decision may not seem clear.

Pondillo said he believes the casting of child actors was essential to the message the movie is intended to portray.

"I think this is the civil rights issue of our time," Pondillo said. "And I thought, if I could just take the sex out, it would be a different story. There would be a different sense of innocence and children. The children are this movie's heart. They will show us, they will teach us by this example."

The film was well received by the audience. Sydney Guinn, a junior majoring in mass communication and a blogger for gay rights, was emotionally overwhelmed by the story.

"I am that little girl. I've gone through all of those things," Guinn said. "People need to realize that this is more than just a movie. This is a real issue." ■

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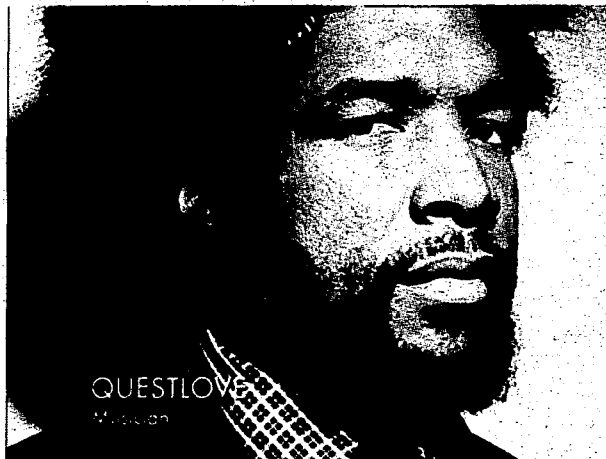
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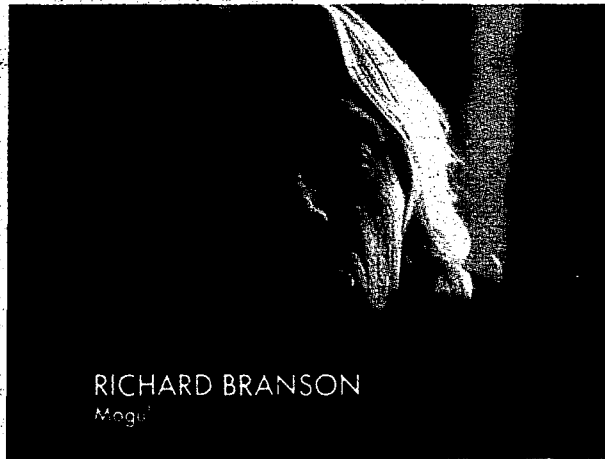
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'A Day in the Life' is true reality



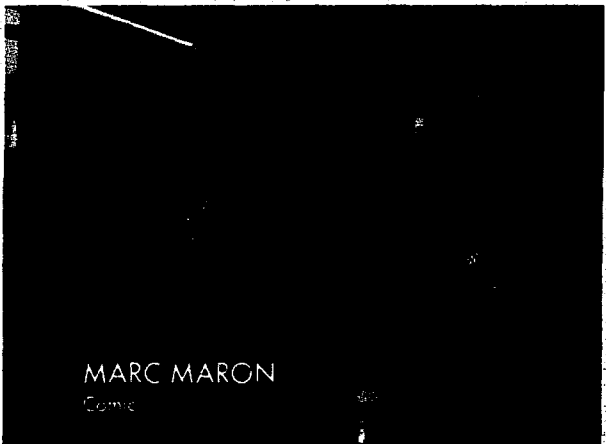
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MR. BRAINWASH
Street Artist

by Matt Masters
Contributing Writer



"A Day in the Life"

proves reality TV doesn't need spray tans, hair gel or drunken brawls to make good entertainment—it only needs honesty.

Last year, Hulu.com took a chance with its first long-form original program, and now it's back for a second season. Hosted and co-created by filmmaker Morgan Spurlock ("Super Size Me"), "A Day in the Life" follows influential artists, celebrities and entertainers in their struggles for success.

The season two premiere stars veteran comedian Marc Maron, who has been performing stand-up for more than 20 years and hosts the popular interview podcast "WTF."

The day starts at 9 a.m. in Los Angeles with Marc feeding his cats and making coffee before preparing for his interview with Mindy Kaling ("The Office") and for his stand-up spot at the infamous Comedy Store.

The traditional single camera technique keeps the show simple and familiar. It is interspersed with interview segments offering an insight into how Marc began his comedic career and the struggles that have shaped his personal and private life.

Some viewers may find the show's slow pace unappealing, but it is helped along by Marc's jokes and neurotic nature. For example, when Marc's espresso machine fails mid-brew, he doesn't miss a beat as he looks at his ruined coffee and exclaims, "A half-realized mocha—

there's nothing sadder than that."

Because of the slow pacing and lack of a climax or resolution, "A Day in the Life" is not traditionally entertaining, but this is, in some ways, one of its strengths. This show is meant to document the sometimes unglamorous and mundane daily lives behind the personae of our entertainers, and Marc is the perfect subject. Who can't relate to compulsive coffee drinking or the struggle to self-define and self-express?

The episode wraps up with Marc performing a hilarious stand-up set, leaving the audience feeling satisfied and wanting more of Marc's jokes and more episodes.

This season so far doesn't deviate from the model set up in season one, but an interesting aspect of this episode is the isolation of the

subject. Previous episodes (which viewers can stream at any time) feature subjects such as Richard Branson and WILL.I.AM surrounded by assistants and entourages, but Marc is shown in almost complete isolation. Even when Marc is performing, there is a strange separation between the audience and the performer, and that honest and humbling lens is the success of this show.

"A Day in the Life" has an economical 22-minute running time and an even more economical price: free. In a world dominated by reality television, viewers owe it to themselves to take in one of the only true reality programs. Because, as Marc says, "there's no, you know, almost there You're there— this is it." ■

E-BOOKS: THE NEXT GENERATION OF READING

by Colleen Casey
Contributing Writer

In the battle between books and e-readers, bibliophiles of all ages have been forced to choose sides: traditional or modern, physical books or empty shelves. Not unlike the journey from vinyl records to intangible MP3s, the book industry is facing a shift in how people read.

Advancing on the traditional paper book, e-reader devices allow you to access millions of titles at the tip of your finger without having to go to a store. Barnes & Noble and Amazon are among several dealers selling e-reader devices such as the Nook and the Kindle.

Customers may wonder why they should shell out anywhere between \$100 and \$200 for an e-reader when access to their local library is free. E-readers offer a variety of benefits such as an 11-hour battery life and the ability to download movies. You can also watch movies on Netflix or Hulu Plus.

A popular reason for purchasing an e-reader is space—both on the device and at home. Without a memory card, it can hold 1500 e-books. Space is not an issue, unlike on a bookcase in a living room.

"I've never used e-books before, but I've seen other people use them. If I had the chance to use them, I would try them ... it would save paper if you read e-books instead," said Shayna Strong, a junior majoring in digital animation.

Alan Woolard is the manager of The Grumpy Book Peddler, a Murfreesboro used book and DVD store. He knows e-readers are affecting his business, but they still have customers that want traditional books—including customers who also have e-readers.

In the long term, Woolard thinks that e-readers will eventually affect the industry dramatically.

"Time will tell; it depends on publishers and public demand whether or not people want traditional books or e-books," he said.

With e-readers available, people have different points of view as to whether they prefer them.

Sophomore business administration major Ryan Cooke prefers the real thing to the technology of the e-book.

"I like paperbacks because I like having the physical copy of the book," he said.

Not all readers agree with Cooke, however. April Floyd, co-owner of e-book deal site The Cheap, is a strong supporter of the new reading technology.

"Seventy-five percent of our readers are 25-54, and 33 percent said they were 33-44," she said. "I think e-readers are more popular with people older than 30. It is rare when we see anybody in college or high school on here."

College students claim to be on the fence when it comes to the debate.

"I like paperbacks for reading for fun, but textbook e-books are better. They are cheaper—I would like it if all the textbooks were e-books," said sophomore nursing major Crystal Owens.

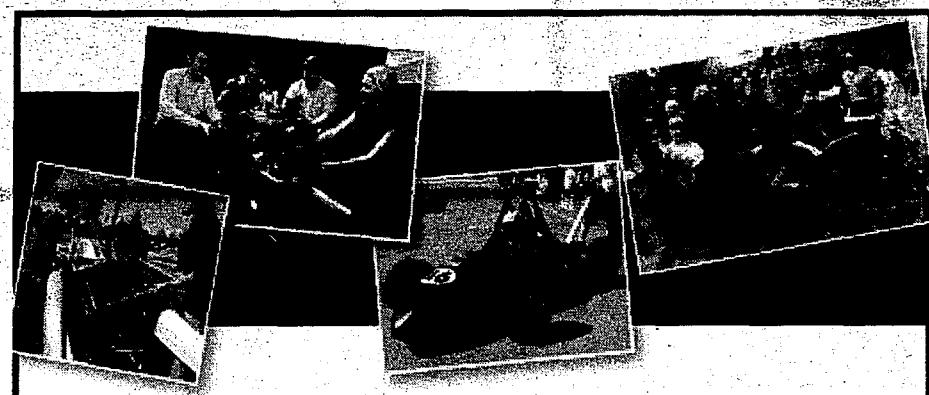
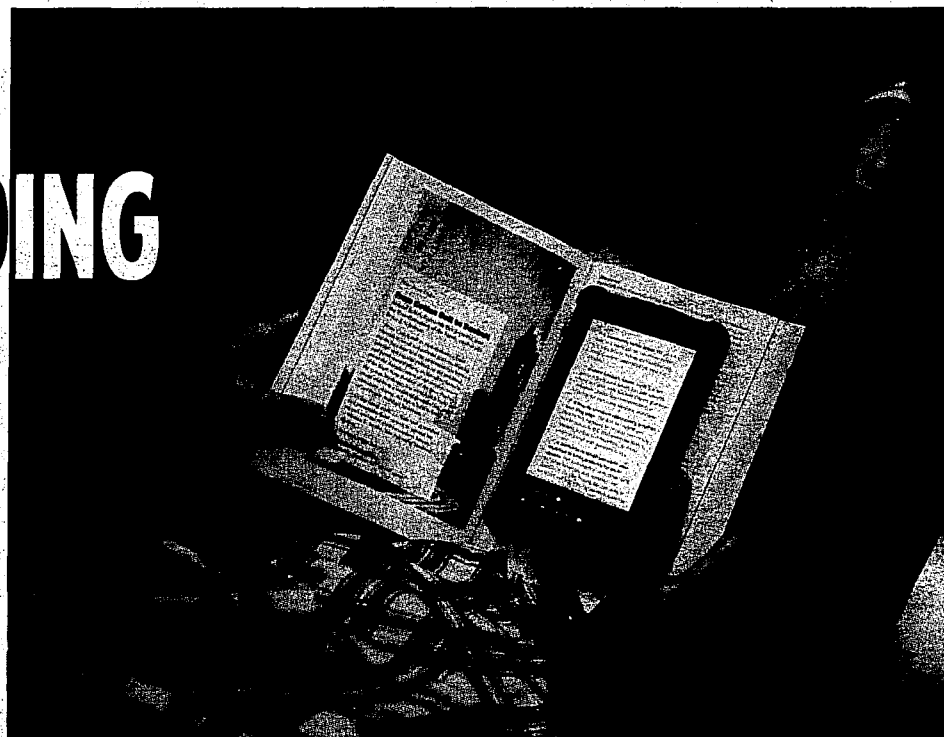
Jordan Todd, a junior majoring in public relations, is on the fence.

"I like the convenience of the e-reader devices, but I like the paperback books just for the sake of having them," Todd said.

Other students, such as senior recording industry major Marty McCarter consider themselves traditionalists.

"I'm not a big fan. I wouldn't buy one—I would prefer to buy the traditional paperback books," he said.

Sales of e-books are expected to rise in the coming year, though paperback books will not be going away completely. And if the public opinion on campus is any indication, traditional books still hold power over readers of all ages. ■



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Why Christian films aren't there...yet

by Ty Johnson
Contributing Writer

Many describe the vast majority of Christian films like a porno: Poorly lit, poorly acted and we all know how it ends. Combating this description and expected norm are "Fireproof" and "Courageous," two films that seem to be the forerunners for the new age of Christian cinema. Another two big films in this genre require time to see what they do to the cinematic landscape: "October Baby" and "Blue Like Jazz." The former pair carry a redeeming, wholesome message, but at the same time are viewed as rather stale.

What the latter pair have done a better job of is being more realistic and carrying bolder messages and themes. A big reason Christian films aren't as successful as they can or should be is that the filmmakers and producers in the Christian arena aren't thinking big enough,

or— an even better description— thinking differently. Also, they seem to be ineffective in reaching and speaking to Christians and non-Christians alike.

I believe the Christian film industry needs to approach its message-crafting and movie-making with the mindset that our Lord and Savior had— communicating God and His love, His powers of redeeming, rewarding, and restoring, and let us not forget the juggernaut— eternal salvation. Jesus loved and pursued all kinds of people: Doubters, the sexually promiscuous, tax-collectors, those who hated Him and wanted to murder Him, the poor, the sick, believers and non-believers. This a huge audience that the Christian film industry seems to not break-through to on a large scale, or possibly don't target through the evangelistic scope.

We can't overlook the fact movie-viewers worldwide include the huge number of non-

believers. People have been unreached by Christian movie-makers, with the unrealistic and boring product that has been distributed thus far.

Reason being, even though Christianity isn't meant to be entertaining, it is still being presented through a medium that is meant to entertain and affect, to potentially start movements, and also to give audience members the means of living the story vicariously through the characters on the screen.

Christianity in many ways could be considered a grand epic. It's a story, and even more so, it's a relationship. One of the many reasons we go to the movies is to establish a relationship with the characters and the story itself, and how it might relate to our personal life-story.

People want Christian films to have edgier, realistic storylines, more balance with equal grit and finesse; and they want star names (i.e.

Leonardo Di Caprio and Robert Downey Jr.).

If we hope for the Christian film industry to communicate the message of Jesus Christ and to reach any and all moviegoers like we hope and dream for, it needs to honestly realize the necessary adaptations, while excluding distasteful compromise, and start incorporating a mass-level, the younger audience. ■

Ty Johnson is a junior majoring in electronic media communication and can be reached at tylynnjohnson.emc@gmail.com.



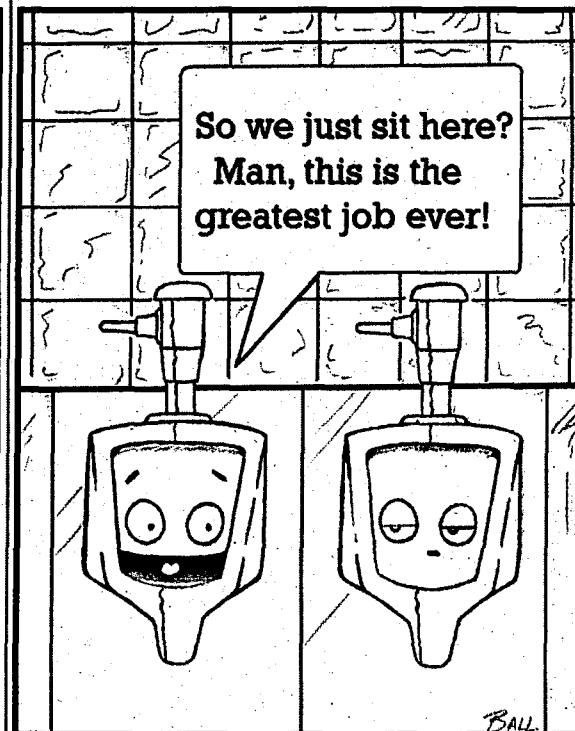
Sidelines is the editorially independent, student-run newspaper affiliated with Middle Tennessee State University and the College of Mass Communication. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or the university.



Bobo the clown always enjoyed visiting his friends at the local psyche ward



A cold day in hell



It was Carbs first day on the job

Women's golf team looks to pull upset

by Alex Hubbard
Sports Editor

The Blue Raiders women's golf team is looking to end the eight-year reign of Denver as Sun Belt golf champions in the upcoming SBC women's golf tournament, held April 16 through 18.

The team, ranked No. 80 by Golfweek.com as of April 1, is looking to avenge a five-shot defeat in last year's tournament and has the evidence of a strong spring season to suggest it can be done.

"With my lineup, from top to bottom, it's gotten better," Coach Chris Adams said. "And with the bottom of my lineup getting stronger, it's making us more competitive."

Karisa Akin emerged as the squad's top performer, beginning with the last tournament of the fall season and extending through the spring campaign. During that time, Akin won two tournaments and displayed a strong resilience.

After winning the Blue Raider Invitational last October, the senior from Elizabethtown, Ky. opened the spring by tying for 17th out of a 179-player field at the Kiawah Island Intercollegiate and then won the UALR Women's Golf classic in March, a performance that earned her an SBC golfer-of-the-month award.

Her three-round mark of one under 215 at the UALR classic, which was held in Little Rock, Ark., fell a single stroke back of Taryn Durham's school record.

"It was definitely fun considering that it is probably one of my favorite tournaments," Akin said. "We stay with host families, so there is a lot of people that get to enjoy it with me and it just kind of shows that all the work I have been putting in is paying off."

Akin's finish atop the leader board also signified something greater: her ability to make needed corrections.

In the previous tournament, in Pinehurst, N.C., Akin entered the final round tied for No. 13, but in the final round she shot a seven over 79 and dropped 15 places to finish No. 28.

Akin quickly found and corrected the problem, and in the first round in Little Rock, fired a hole-in-one.

"I tried to figure out what went wrong in that last round, and the only thing that was different from the other two rounds was my putting," Akin said. "So I put in a little extra work around the green."

The overall team has delivered significant finishes, despite falling just short of grabbing a tournament win.

At Kiawah Island, S.C., the Blue Raiders finished seventh out of 33 in a field that contained 17 top-150 teams.

The squad struggled in the Pinehurst Challenge, finishing 10th out of 16, but rebounded at the UALR classic to tie for third out of 19, finishing two strokes back of first.

The Sun Belt tournament, which will be held on the Fighting Joe Golf Course at the Shoals Golf club in Muscle Shoals, Ala.,

is a tournament that the Blue Raiders have had success in, finishing second each of the last two years.

Adams said she expected the lineup to remain largely unchanged from recent weeks.

The top four, made up of Akin, juniors Ashley Haggard and Olivia Love, and freshman Allie Knight, has remained unchanged the entire spring.

Sophomore Natalie Chrisopulos, who began the spring competing as an individual before working into the team slate, missed the Samford

Women's Intercollegiate on April 9 through 10, but Adams said Chrisopulos's improving confidence and ability would likely place her back in the lineup at Muscle Shoals.

"She has gotten a lot more consistent and is making a lot better decisions on the golf course," Adams said. "[She is] probably one of the best ball strikers that I have on the team. She's just probably a little behind as far as playing tournaments, so the more tournaments that we get her in the better she is going to be."

The tournament took place on the Schoolmaster course last year—a different course at the same golf club—and although the team has some familiarity with Fighting Joe, Akin is not willing to get too far ahead.

"It's a lot different than Schoolmaster," Akin said. "I can't get ahead of myself and think I am going to play really well. I think I need to still stay focused and think about trying to shoot par or better every day." ■



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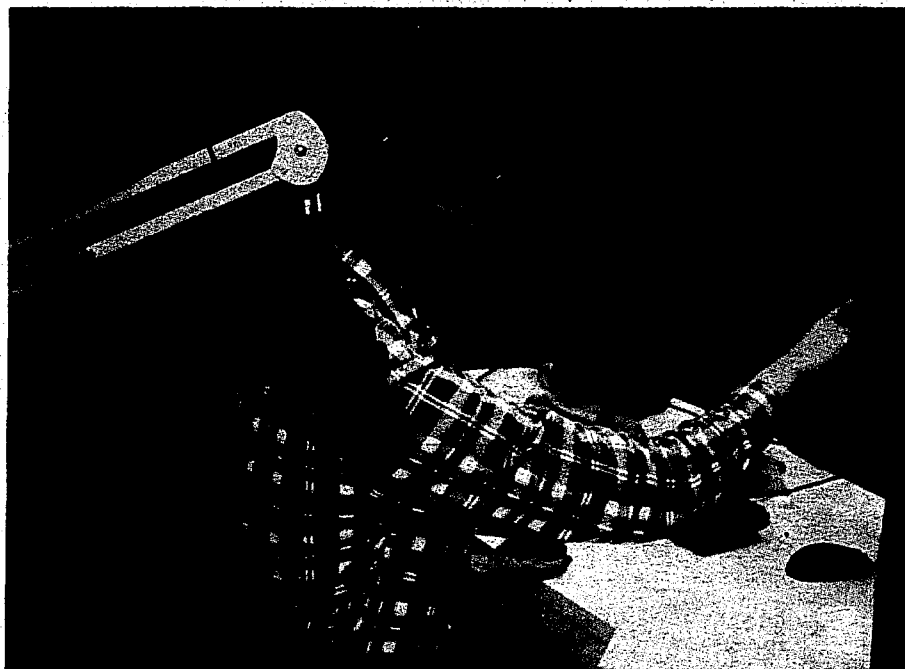
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continued

Center to provide new opportunities for communication students: continued from page 3



Ishmael Rodriguez, a junior electronic media journalism student, deejays his radio show, "Spanglish," which airs from 4-6 p.m. on Sunday. Photo by Emily West, associate news editor.

and communicators, and the Center was the solution to merge them all.

The robotics lab for MT10 was completed in March, allowing them to begin programming. The other organizations have secured their footing to hit the ground running for future semesters.

Students and faculty have experienced some growing pains during the process, but that's just a side effect of the expansion.

"It's in the early stages, and there's a lot of things that have to be hammered out," Foust said.

Foust said he was pleased with the university's understanding of the importance of technology and tailoring those advancements to students directly.

"We've got the answer to what we think is going to provide our students with

the environment to learn to operate in a multiplatform world," he said.

Jeremy Ball, general manager of MT10, agreed.

"I'm pleased with it," he said. "It's made the groups a lot tighter. Between us, WMTS and *Sidelines*, we actually know each other and see each other on a basis now. So it definitely works."

Ball said he waited patiently for the robotics lab to be completed so he and MT10 could begin projects they were planning.

He and Ali Dorris, the general manager of WMTS, are thankful the Center is bringing their studios to the mass communications building and exposing their organizations, since their previous studios were hidden in the depths of the LRC.

"We are completely exposed to everybody in the hallways,"

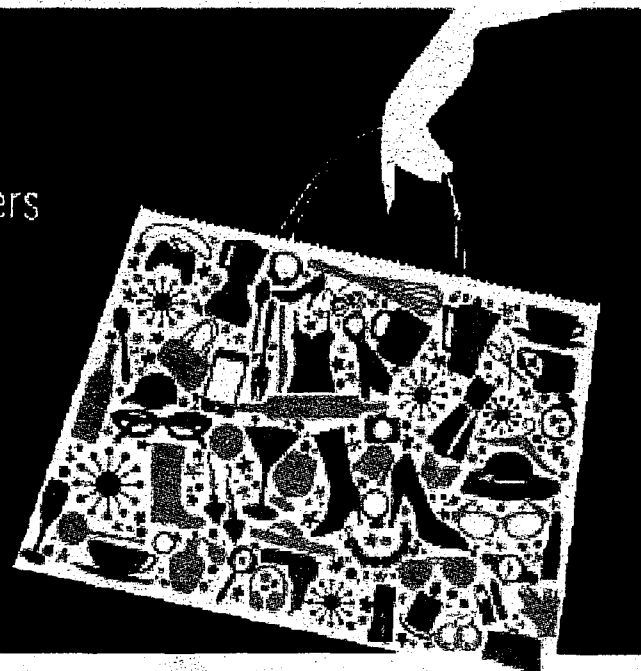
Dorris said. "This is becoming a huge showcase. People are looking at us literally all the time. It's a huge step up from where we were."

According to student media, the Center for Innovation in Media is just that—a place where students can come together to share the latest and greatest advancements in media so they can better communicate their message. Now that media outlets have come together, they can merge content, share an audience and learn skills to stay on their technologic game.

"By giving us this CIM, they've given us a leg to stand on," said Dorris. "They've given us credibility that we didn't have before." ■

Amanda Haggard, editor-in-chief, contributed to this report.

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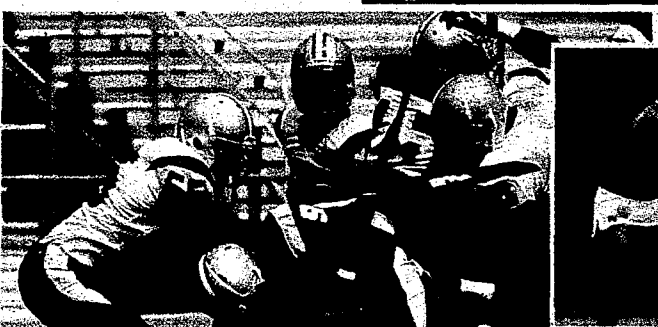
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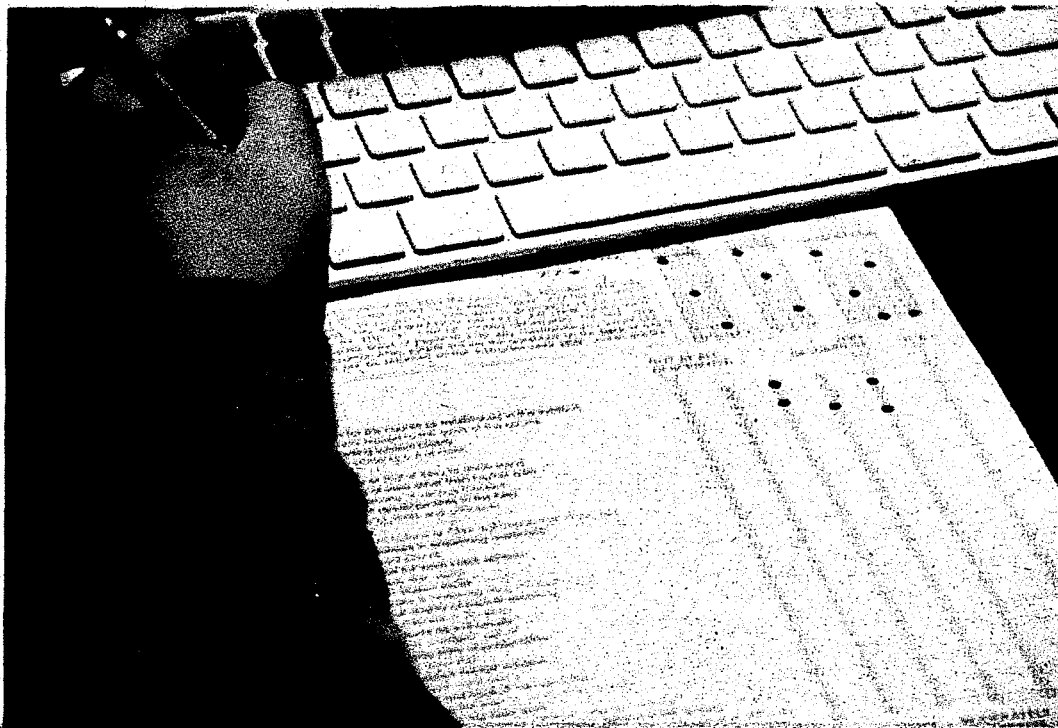
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At the end of each semester, students are required to fill out teacher evaluations for each individual course they are enrolled in. The evaluations serve as a way for university administration to record student experiences. Questions include topics like lecture style, grading policy and ability to take criticism. Students rate their professor in each category based on a scale from "not very descriptive at all" to "very descriptive." A rating for overall class effectiveness and course content in relation to other classes at the university is also part of the evaluation. Photo by Kelsey Klingenmeyer, photo editor.

Visit us at www.mtsusidelines.com



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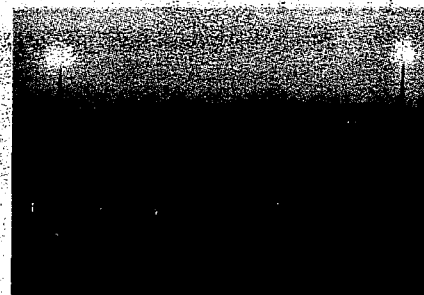
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TOP 10

tips for parking at MTSU

Compiled by Tyreisha Tubbs

ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY

PARK AT MTSU

Photo courtesy of quickmeme.com.

1. LEAVE EARLY TO FIND A CONVENIENT PARKING SPACE.

Always make sure you have enough time to find parking.

2. DON'T BE AFRAID TO WALK.

Park in the lot across from Greek Row or the Gravel Lot. These are the best solutions from finding available parking.

3. USE YOUR TURN SIGNAL WHEN YOU ARE ABOUT TO PARK.

Let drivers behind you know when you are about to park to avoid confusion.

4. ALLOW PEDESTRIANS TO CROSS THE STREET.

They do have the right away.

5. MAKE SURE YOUR CAR ONLY TAKES UP ONE PARKING SPACE.

Other drivers who park next to you will have limited space, which can lead to them hitting your car with their door.

6. DO NOT SPEED IN THE PARKING LOT.

How can you see if someone is pulling out if you are going to fast?

7. WATCH FOR DRIVERS WHO ARE BACKING OUT OF BLIND SPOTS.

Smaller cars that are parked next to bigger cars cannot see if they are backing out. Be alert and give them a break.

8. RESIST TEMPTATIONS TO ACT AGGRESSIVELY, THIS CAN CAUSE THE OTHER DRIVER TO DO THE SAME.

Take measures to reduce stress so it won't lead to this kind of behavior.

9. DO NOT BLOCK OTHER DRIVERS LOOKING FOR PARKING.

It is different if the car you are waiting on is actually backing out. When other drivers can't go around you, you are holding up traffic. It is disrespectful when you are waiting for someone who is walking to his or her car. It is disrespectful to other drivers.

10. LOOK AROUND FOR OTHER CARS BEFORE PULLING OUT OF A PARKING SPOT.

When backing out of a parking spot, make sure to look both ways before doing so. You can simply avoid an accident by doing this. ■

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A New Raider's Guide to Parking: CUSTOMS edition

by Richel Albright
News Editor

Spring 2012 Parking Map

Parking on campus is a challenging feat students face nearly every day, whether they live on campus, off-campus or commute to school.

With over 26,000 students and faculty on campus, it is inevitable that the school, which recently celebrated its 100th birthday, needed to grow to accommodate the ever-increasing addition of students.

At the start of the spring semester, students arrived on campus to find some of the student parking lots fenced off or changed to faculty parking.

The recreation center parking lot and Telecommunications Building lot were both fenced off in preparation for two new parking garages and a student services building that will be attached to the parking garage next to the recreation center, and feature a skywalk connecting it to the student union building across the street.

Additionally, the lot between the library and the John Bragg Mass Communication building went from a 'green' student parking lot to a 'white' faculty lot.

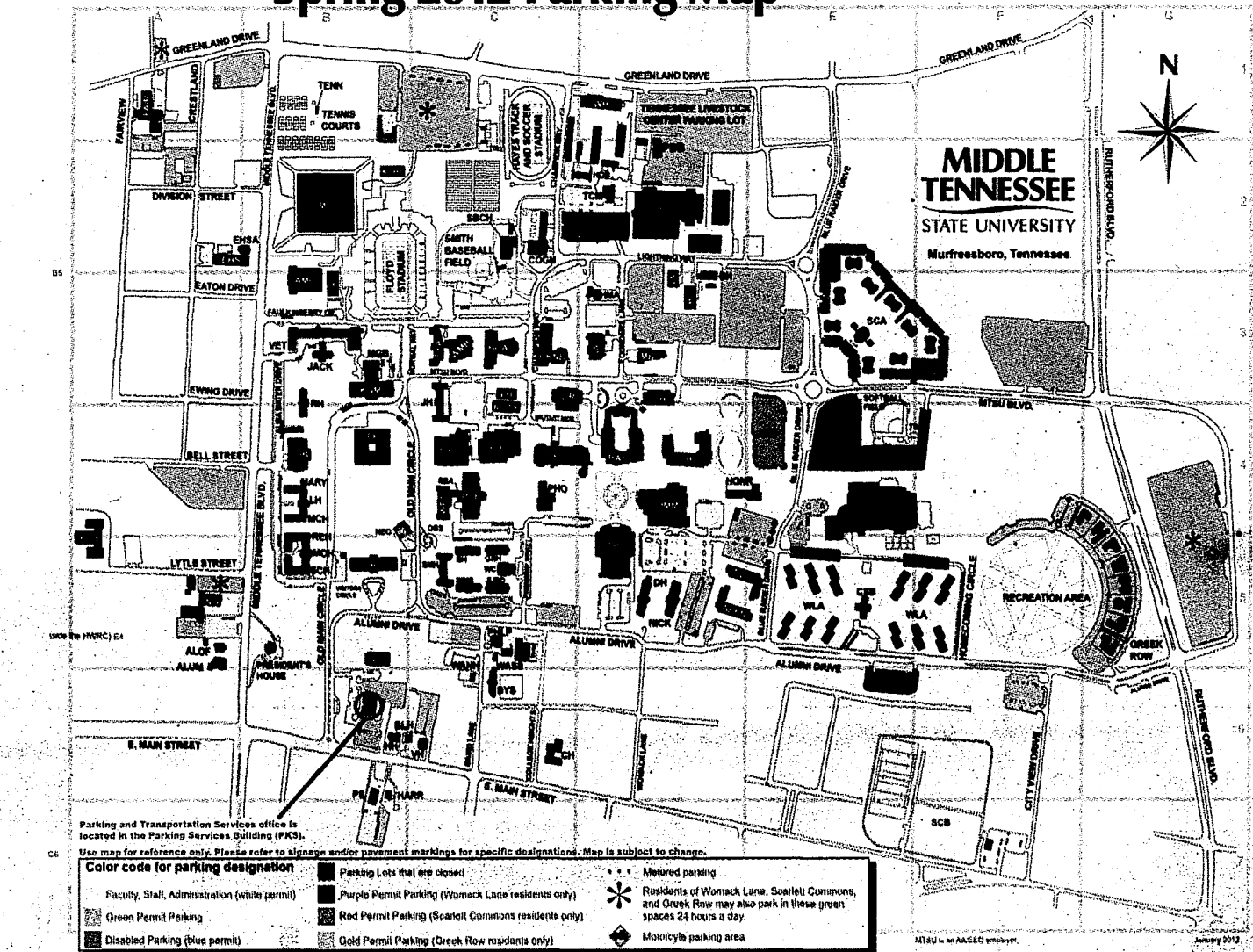
"It is problematic to have students driving through a white decal lot and then searching for parking spaces. It creates traffic flow that can be detrimental to pedestrian access and things like that," said Ron Malone, MTSU alum and assistant vice president of Events and Transportation. "So, we decided to reverse these. We gave the entire honors lot to students and gave the remainder of the library lot to the white decal."

With the change the faculty gained about 40 spaces, according to Malone.

Beyond the construction of the two parking garages, which will create about an additional 1,000 parking spots, construction is almost complete on the new Student Union Building and ground broke on May 3 for the new science building.

Completion for the parking garages is slated for March 2013.

"All these services, and I know it's inconvenient at this time for students and people that come to campus, but it's progress for our university, we're a growing campus," said Sidney McPhee, university president. "But we're trying to catch up with that growth in providing the kind of facilities a campus this size needs for the student population."



The initial change in parking was a frustration for many students who weren't accustomed to utilizing the gravel lots off MTSU Boulevard, and the parking lot across campus off Rutherford Boulevard.

"The parking situation is ridiculous," said Danielle Vaughan, a senior majoring in electronic media production. "Now you have to walk 20-plus minutes to get to class or wait for a bus that will likely be full before you get on it. Spring semester is already incredibly busy, I can't believe they would choose to do construction on an already horrible parking situation."

There are currently four bus routes that run

throughout campus- blue, green, red and the new silver route- to help transport students across campus. Due to construction, some of the routes tend to run slower than others.

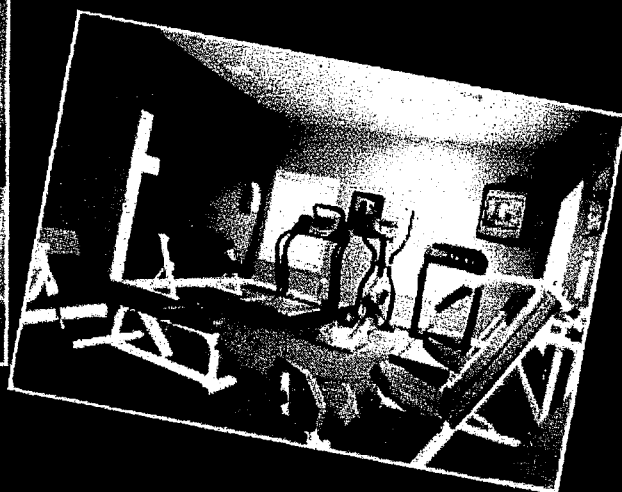
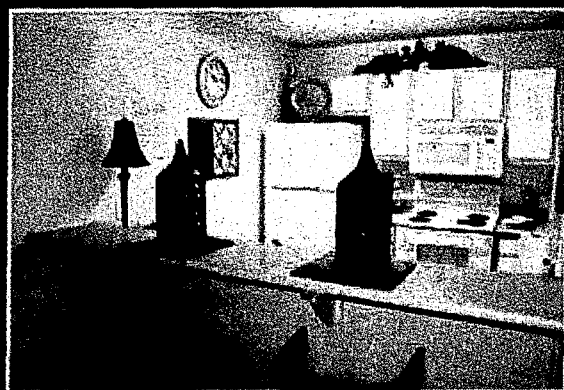
"We're more congested than many major metropolitan cities, and if you're in New York City, you don't attempt to drive your car to Wall Street. You find the nearest public transportation system, you park your car in the available lot, and then you hop on the subway or something like that, and you use the public transportation system that's available to you," Malone said.

"That's what we have to start seeing happen on MTSU's campus, because with the large number

of individuals, we are just as congested as major metropolitan cities. There this to be a mindset that, 'I'm going to get up a little earlier, I'm going to get to a perimeter lot and I'm going to give myself about 20 to 30 extra minutes.'

Students who have yet to experience these growing pains should take advantage of walking or riding their bikes if they live close to campus. Also, many off-campus apartments offer shuttles to and from campus throughout the school day.

"I know students are frustrated, we've heard from them, and I know people who come to the campus are frustrated," McPhee said. "But that's the price of progress." ■



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Community group aims to provide women with confidence



The executive board of the Beautiful U organization dressed in pink for the Boys and Girls Club lock in. The group also built a house for Habitat for Humanity and volunteered at a senior home. Photo courtesy of Kendra Dickerson.

by Britney Simmons
Contributing Writer

As the spring 2012 semester began, sophomore education student Kendra Dickerson jumpstarted the community group Beautiful U, which is designed for young women to find their niche on campus.

"When I got to college I had a hard time trying to fit in, so I wanted an organization for girls like me," Dickerson said. "So we could have a place to bond and come together."

The organization includes women with the same mission: to succeed in both education and self-empowerment stemmed from networking, mentoring and community service, Dickerson said.

Beautiful U has a list of goals and objectives that keep the organization

structured and active.

"At the first meeting, there was automatic order," said Janani Webb, secretary of Beautiful U. "Kendra is very well put together, and the organization of it all keeps me involved."

Webb said she experienced similar challenges to Dickerson's when she came to college. Fitting in was not an easy task, but after hearing about Beautiful U from a friend, that challenge was no longer an issue.

"Being a part of this organization has let me know there are women like me, who think like me, and that made me more comfortable," Webb said. "I found sisters that I can come to and be around."

The community has grown to about 50 members and has participated in 11

community service events. In addition, weekly activities are also held for its members.

Beautiful U participated in various activities during the semester, ranging from a car wash to a movie night. The group also built a house for Habitat for Humanity, packed food for the homeless, volunteered at the senior home and arranged activities with the Boys and Girls Club of America.

The women of Beautiful U said they have found friendship and inspiration while uniting for an empowering cause. What started as one young woman's idea to fill a void on campus has become a blossoming cause, according to the group.

Cenetra Davis, a senior majoring in behavioral and human sciences and

Beautiful U community chair coordinator, says she has always been a role model, being the oldest of three sisters. She sees Beautiful U as an opportunity to continue her natural role to help other women that need her guidance.

Even though Davis said she seeks to help others, Beautiful U has found a way to help her too.

"I have grown to embrace me and my flaws," Davis said. "I love being a part of this."

In conjunction with the other officers of Beautiful U, Dickerson said she has worked to bring about an organization that promotes confidence and hard work. During weekly meetings, all the members brainstorm new ideas for upcoming events and the fall 2012 semester.

Beautiful U said they have already begun to plan out next semester with changes to protocol and organization requirements to expand and diversify the organizations demographic.

"I want to reach a broader spectrum of women, all women," Dickerson said.

Dickerson anticipates a larger group with even more on the schedule for Beautiful U in the near future.

"I want Beautiful U to still be here after I graduate, but I want to take it with me too," Dickerson said. "It is going to be a global business that brings women of all walks and cultures together. And men too, Handsome U is coming." ■



ITD seeks more accessible specialized programming

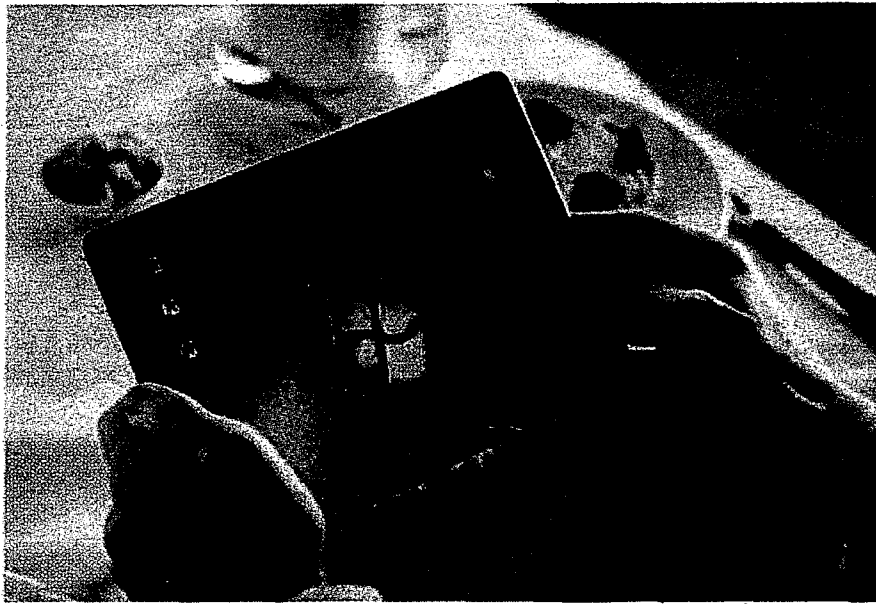


Photo courtesy of Windows.

by Asher Hudson
Multimedia Manager

Information Technology Division (ITD) will be rolling out the Cloud At Middle (C@M) project over next year to create a virtualized campus environment to make specialized programming more accessible to students.

Students sometimes need to complete a project using software, such as Adobe InDesign or AutoCAD and without a computer that has the software installed they are unable to do so from home. In order to work on projects from home, it could mean spending hundreds of dollars, or obtaining it through less-moral means. This will soon be changing on campus.

"The project will extend the software that our students use beyond the physical location of the classroom," said Lorenzo C. Hines Sr., assistant vice president of classroom technology.

When fully functioning, it will allow students access to software and applications that they currently use in the classroom from anywhere they have access to a Web browser, which will save students the cost of software. It will also allow students to work from their dorm or home, whereas

they would otherwise be forced to be in a lab to do their work, according to Hines.

The ultimate goal of this system is to allow students to connect to a virtual machine from any Wi-Fi connection using their web browser, and be able to open applications and save files that can later be opened in a classroom. This does away with the common mistake of leaving a 10-page research project on a USB thumb drive on the coffee table at home.

C@M will be able to be accessed from anywhere on any device that has a Web browser, whether it be an iPad, MacBook Pro or Windows7 Notebook.

"It will give the MTSU community access to software that it would normally use on campus from anywhere, at any time, and on any device," Hines said.

A limitation of the system is that it will only deliver to Windows7 virtual machines, which means the software will be available on Windows only.

"It is not that the Mac OS cannot be virtualized, the reason is that Apple won't license it to be virtualized," said Tom Wallace, associate vice president for information technology.

ITD also said it was taking steps to upgrade campus networks to accommodate this new system— the campus Wi-Fi network being one of its top priorities. An upgrade for the Wi-Fi had already been planned but is being expedited in light of rolling out C@M.

"The MyMTDesktop project will virtualize the MTSU desktop computing community," Hines said. "It will give the MTSU community access to software that it would normally use on campus from anywhere, at any time, and on any device. The project is currently in the process of being rolled out, and we ask that students look at the MTSU ITD webpage to stay informed of which rooms have been converted. We will keep that page up to date." ■

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FEATURES

Start STRONG:

A How-To Guide for Knocking Out Your Freshman Year

by Emily Kubis
Features Editor

To the incoming freshman and hopeful graduates of the class of 2016, there is only one thing I can say that will apply to all of you, and that is this—welcome. We're glad you're here. Middle Tennessee State University is a great school, and you've joined a fantastic community of students.

From there, my advice to you can only be general. "College" contains a wide range of experiences, and every person on this campus sees their time here differently. But there are certain things that we all face, and certain things I wish I had known on the front end of my experience here.

For some, moving away to college is the best thing that's ever happened. Some students relish their chance to get away from home and start over, and to that group, I say "congratulations." You've already knocked out a huge hurdle in the college experience. For others, and I include myself here, starting college requires a period of adjustment.

Don't fret if this sounds like you. Come to MTSU with an open mind, and allow yourself some time to feel scared or homesick or confused. It took me weeks before I stopped feeling like I'd made a horrible mistake, but from that moment on, I knew this was the college I was always truly meant to attend. Give yourself some well-deserved time to adjust.

I don't want to sound like your mom or guidance counselor right, but an awesome way to adjust quickly is to get involved. MTSU has a lot of ways to get out of your dorm or apartment and into campus life. There are Greek organizations, student government, clubs and intramural sports, all of which are a great way to meet people. Check out athletic events too, especially tailgating in Walnut Grove for football games.

If you know what you want to study, find out what the affiliated groups are within your major—this is a pro-tip, because these are the people you're likely to have classes with throughout your time here. Study buddies, anyone?

Academics might pose another adjustment challenge. If your high school teachers were anything like mine, they threatened your future on a regular basis with tales of college professors who would not care about you in the slightest and would let you fail



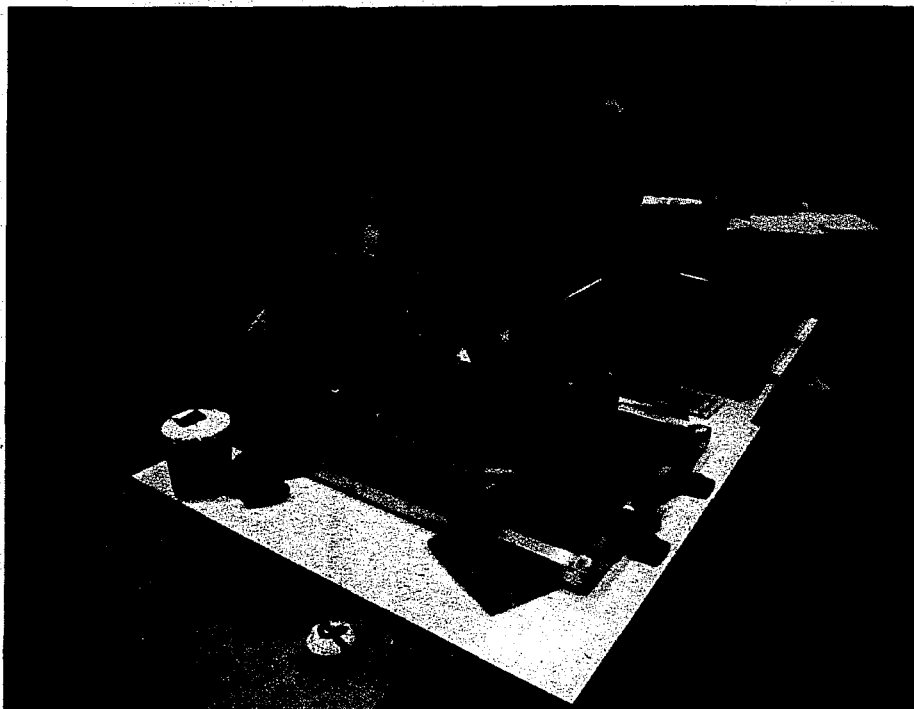
There are many events held each semester that can aid in finding much needed companions while in college. Joe Robinson, winner of Australia's Got Talent, and Call It Dope played a show that was co-sponsored with the MTSU Department of Recording Industry on March 28.

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FEATURES



Getting involved in the kind of work you want to do in the future will help you meet people with similar interests. In January, MTSU Printmaking held an event in the Keathley University Center called Prints N Giggles and allowed students to participate in screen printing their own T-shirts.

without remorse. This is (mostly) exaggerated.

Every professor is different, but in general, the faculty here is more than happy to help you. But you will need to become accountable for yourself. On the first day of class, find out how your professor likes to be contacted and then don't hesitate to ask them for help or advice. Do not wait for them to contact you about missed classes or make-up assignments— they are not your babysitters.

If you miss a class, own up to it, and make sure you stay on top of your workload. Some college courses have a tendency to go weeks without assignments, and then all of a sudden, around midterms and finals, you're looking at four tests, two research papers and a presentation. Save yourself some trouble and don't get behind.

Another thing you will need to become accountable for are your graduation requirements. Expecting your adviser to carry you on their shoulders until you walk across that stage in four years is a huge mistake. As soon as you decide on a major, you should download or print out an upper-division form. These vary by major, but explain literally everything you need to accomplish before you graduate. This way, if (when) your adviser makes a mistake— hey, they're human too— you won't end up with another semester or summer classes on your plate.

The campus bookstore is expensive. Sorry, Phillips, but it's true. Check online and at some local bookstores for your course texts and see if you can save yourself some cash.

While you're here, enjoy some of Murfreesboro's unique elements. Dine at the Slick Pig for barbecue or Camino Real for some south-of-the-border fare. Check out the downtown square for some quaint shops, yummy restaurants and cool bars. Murfreesboro also has a great music scene, thanks to MTSU's recording industry program. If you don't go to a house show at some point in your time here, I'm sorry to say that you're not a true graduate (kidding—kind of). Nashville is only 45 minutes away, so if you've got a car and are new to the area, be sure to check out Music City.

And in general, enjoy your time here. Approach all of your classes with an open mind and a strong work ethic, and you'll get through each and every trial and tribulation without too much stress—and you might just knock out your freshman year and finish strong by 2016.

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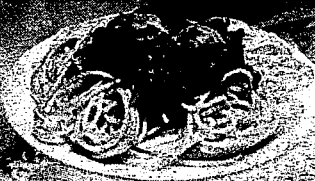
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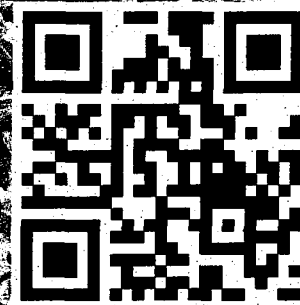
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SUMMER STRUGGLES: SWIMSUIT SHOPPING MADE SIMPLE

by Jane Horne
Associate Arts & Entertainment Editor

With the end of the spring semester drawing to a close, most students are stressed to the max about final papers, projects and tests. It's all over and you are finally ready to head to the beach or lake with your friends and you remember— you've yet to buy the perfect bathing suit! Sure, stores started putting them out months ago when you were still wearing boots and scarves. With the craziness that spring can bring, bathing suit shopping was the last thing on your mind. Fret not, dear fashionistas. There is still plenty of time to find the perfect swimsuit for your body without breaking the bank.

Pair a fringe top with high-waisted shorts and some flip flops and you're ready to hang out in a field on a hot day for a music festival, or just to take a walk down the beach.

If your style is more feminine than the hippie vibe that fringe lends, there is still plenty of options. Try tops with embellishments or ruffles to still add that extra volume on top to get the look you want.

Curvy

Vintage-inspired bathing suits have finally made a comeback, and they're absolutely perfect for any young lady who wishes to cover up a little bit more. These bathing suits usually have a dainty top paired with a fabulous high-waisted bottom. Thanks to their recent rise to trendy stardom, this style can be found in almost any mall and in a large range of prices.

If vintage isn't your style, the one-piece bathing suit has never been more popular. Monokinis come in a variety of styles and cover up most of the midriff while still showing just the right amount of skin.

When it comes to finding the right bathing suit for your body, it comes down to finding the perfect style just for you and wearing it with confidence. All women are beautiful, and that's biggest style advice everyone should remember this summer.

Modcloth Top \$29 Bottom: \$79

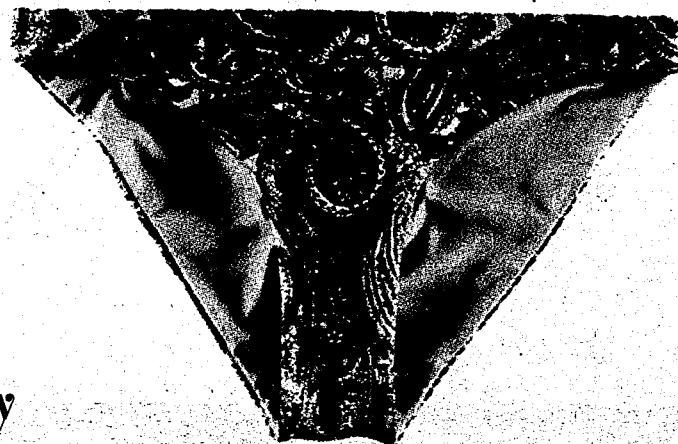


Target. \$14.99

Petite

When it comes to bathing suit shopping for petite young women, there is one word to keep in mind: fringe. This trend is huge right now, and it's perfect for these ladies. The extra fabric on top will add to your curves and make you look even more fabulous than you already are. This style is also great for that laid-back, casual look.





Busty

For women who have been blessed with a little extra on top, bathing suit shopping can be a bit of a challenge. You want to still look like your fabulous self, but you still want a top that will give you the support you need. Luckily, finding trendy bikini tops with underwire is now incredibly easy. But most stores that sell bathing suits are offering these perfect options for those ladies who want to look their best on the beach—while still maintaining some sense of modesty.

The great thing about the availability of underwire tops is the large variety of styles they come in. From perfectly sweet to stylishly sporty, there's a bathing suit out there for busty girls no matter their personal style. ■

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TOP THREE ALBUMS TO LOOK FOR SPRING AND SUMMER

by William Carrington
Contributing Writer

For many music lovers, spring is long-awaited. Bands spend the winter season recording and mixing just in time for the spring, so people can listen and buy tickets to any of the hundreds of festivals that take place over the summer. Here are a few records to keep an eye out for in the coming months.

THE WALKMEN - "HEAVEN"

The Walkmen are one of the most consistent bands around, with six good-to-great records under their belt. Their seventh, released on June 5, is unlikely to buck that trend with several of the album's 13 tracks already performed live. The Walkmen create easygoing and non-fussy rock music but with a bitter edge that has slightly softened since their debut 10 years ago. *Heaven* looks to be their mellowest record yet, and frontman/lead singer Hamilton Leithauser said of the record, "The detachment you can feel throughout our younger records is gone. We felt like it was time to make a bigger, more generous statement."

SIGUR ROS - "VALTARI"

Sigur Ros has undergone a fairly substantial, if gradual, change. Over the course of their career, the famous Icelandic musical act has moved away from the glacial, alien soundscapes that marked their early records, and moved more toward conventional songwriting. If the first song from *Valtari*, "Ekki Múkk," is any indication of the sound, the record will be fairly similar to their others—strange, but beautiful in a way that's almost unexplainable. Expect your thirst for Icelandic music to be quenched on May 28.

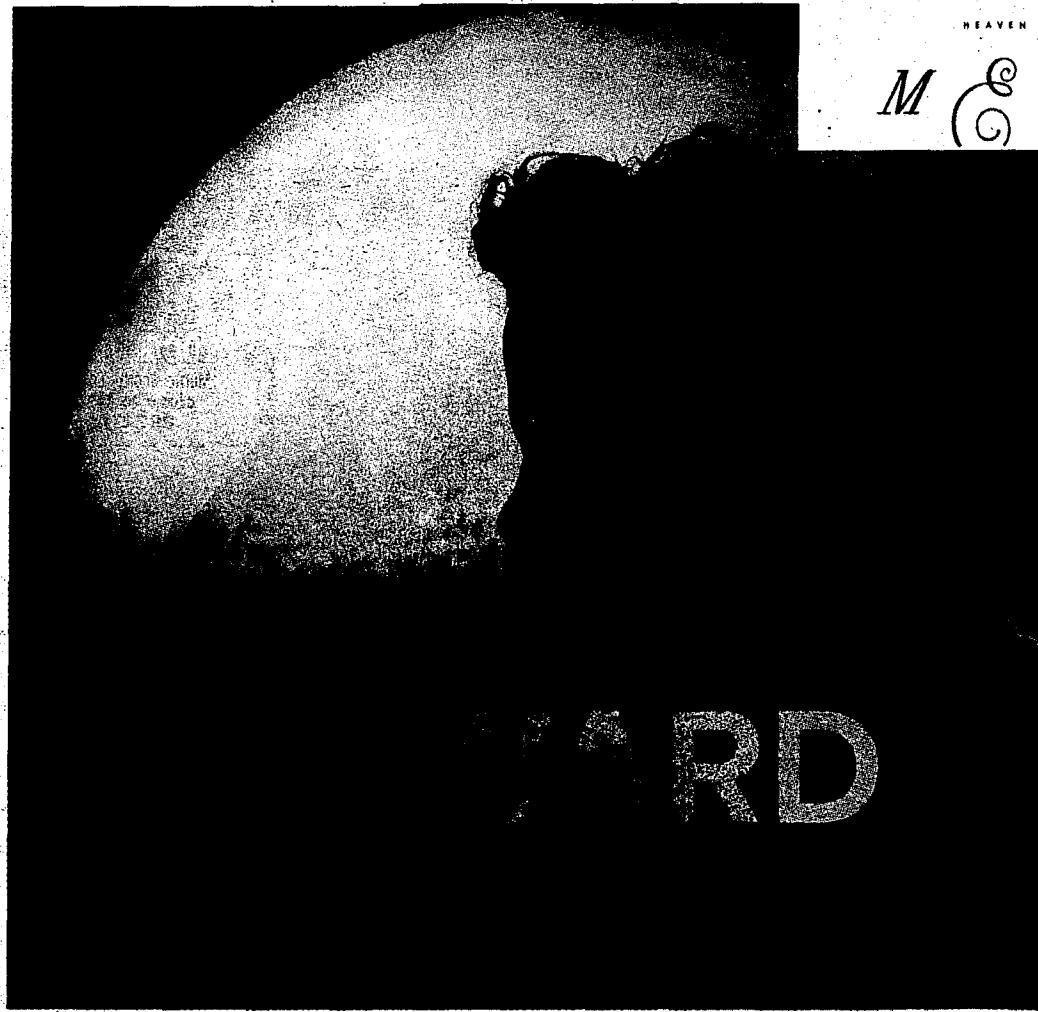
M. WARD - "A WASTELAND COMPANION"

M. Ward already has several albums under his belt, but he experienced a career renaissance with his involvement with *She & Him*, a two-piece group. Ward fills the role of "Him" and actress/singer/hipster princess Zooey Deschanel is the "She." *A Wasteland Companion* was released on April 6, and is fairly similar to the rest of his work. Deschanel accompanies him on a few of the tracks, and her presence adds a lighter note to an otherwise-downbeat affair. The lead single for the album, "The First Time I Ran Away," is one of the best songs of the year so far.

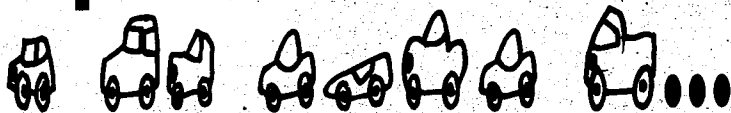
These are only a few of the records music lovers should be anxiously awaiting this spring and summer. Nothing helps allergies and strange-weather blues like heavy doses of new music. ■



THE
WALKMEN
HEAVEN
M & N



Top Ten Summer Destinations



Compiled by Colleen Casey

1. Orlando, Florida— With the Disney Theme parks, water parks, Sea World and others, what's not to love? The World of Harry Potter in Universal Studios is also a new attraction that draws tourists to this area.

2. Charleston, South Carolina— Charleston is a city "where history lives." Fort Sumter marks the start of Civil War. This is a beautiful historic city that draws many tourists. There's always something to do in the city, from shopping, to sailing, or visiting the gardens.

3. Ireland— Ireland is the home of many lakes, mountains and beautiful landscapes. A great deal of history and myths are told there. If your wallet can take it, plan the trip.

4. Yellowstone National Park— Established in 1872 in Wyoming, Montana and Idaho, Yellowstone is America's first national park. There is an outdoor recreation in this wildlife territory, such as bike trails for you to go on. It is quite possible you might run into a bear here.

5. The Bahamas— These beautiful islands are warm year round, but the best time to visit is September-May when the temperatures are cooler. Nassau on New Providence Island is the capital of the Bahamas.

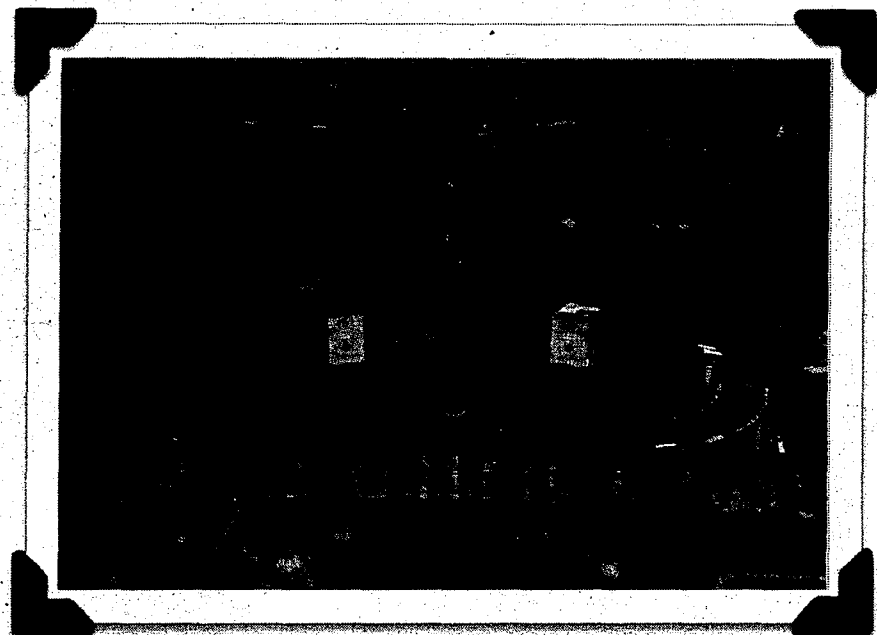
6. Hawaii Islands— There is six beautiful islands in Hawaii. This is one of the places where the weather is perfect to visit at any time of the year. Feel free to go surfing or whale watching while you are there.

7. The Grand Canyon National Park— This is another majestic park in our nation. Its natural features draw many people to see it because it is like no other canyon around.

8. Cancun, Mexico— Cancun is on the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico. This is where you can experience water sports, beaches, eco-parks and Mayan archaeological sites or sunbathe on a beautiful beach.

9. Rome Italy— "When in Rome, do as the Romans do." The best way to tour this city is by feet, to grasp as much detail as possible. The food and the culture experience make this trip memorable!

10. Atlantic Canada— The Maritime Prominence commemorates the connection it has to the Titanic 100 years ago this year. The Maritime Museum of the Atlantic has several artifacts from Titanic according to CNN.com: ■



One of the easiest ways to see the sites in Rome is a "Hop on, Hop off" bus. The bus stops all around the city at various stops including the famous Vatican City. Photo by Richel Albright.

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MONICA CONFIRMS HER DIVA STATUS WITH NEW ALBUM



by Tyann Nelson
Contributing Writer



Monica gives her all on her seventh studio album, *New Life*, every time the beat drops. This newly-released album begins on a personal note. She's on the phone with R&B singer Mary J. Blige, who compliments Monica, saying, "You are a great mother, great friend and a great wife..." Monica ends the interlude with, "Packing up my yesterdays... Won't look back, come too far for all of that... gotta embrace my new life." It's a great introduction to the album, and fans will appreciate the personal touch.

After years of feuding, Monica and Brandy have their first collaboration since 1998's "The Boy Is Mine." "It All Belongs To Me" shows these two vocally talented women giving their guy the boot. "So log off your Facebook... it all belongs to me." The strong piano notes add musical intensity to the song.

"Daddy's Good Girl" is a track every woman can relate to. Monica sings about needing love, and how shopping sprees can't be love's replacement, it can only make her happy for the moment. At first, the song sounded simple but the hook spiced it up a bit. "As long as I know you got love for me... I'mma be G-O-O-D." The way she sings it adds the flavor.

Every man can appreciate "Man Who Has Everything." The track starts off with a slow, funky beat and then switches into a reggae-styled tune. Lyrics include, "You deserve to love someone who's going to love you back cause even a man who has everything needs something that money can't buy." It's a great song with strong, true, down-to-earth lyrics.

"Big Mistake" starts off a cappella. The sounds of fingers snapping come in, and then the actual beat kicks in. Monica talks about being in a past 10-year relationship, during which she gave too many chances, and wasted a decade of her life. "Make no mistake; you won't be my mistake no more."

"Take a Chance" featuring Wale, is next. Hip-hop rapper Wale shares a few words at the beginning of the song and then Monica begins to sing, "I know you kissed a lot of girls, told a lot of lies, broke a lot of hearts... I just want to believe you met a girl and felt something different."

"Without You" is a beautiful song. Monica's voice is strong. Love birds will adore this track. Lyrics include, "Ain't nobody gonna change my mind/Don't think twice I been looking for you all my life."

"Amazing" is another song for the lovers. It has a nice, slow beat with verses such as, "You are amazing, when I thought I seen it all, you showed me I hadn't seen nothing at all."

Monica leaves listeners in awe with her next track, "Cry." She remade R&B singer Jasmine Sullivan's 2010 version. The lyrics of the original song were altered, and Monica's style is written all over it. Monica's voice is very soulful. She recreated this track and made it her own.

The following track, "Time To Move On" is a drag and sort of a bore. The song is slow with an old-school bluesy beat. It's just not the Monica we are use to. However, Monica's vocals are incredibly soulful. Maybe she wanted to end the album by showing off her vocals to the max and by doing something different. If that's the case, Monica did just that. Despite the negatives, her powerful voice pulled the song through and stole the show. She ends the track nicely with, "It's time to move on, when the love is gone." ■



Sidelines staffers offer advice for freshman year



by Becca Andrews
Managing Editor

Three years ago, I came to MTSU as a quintessential small town girl— Southern drawl and all, terrified of the campus that hosted more people than my hometown. In the past three years, I have changed more than I ever imagined. My accent is virtually gone, and I am preparing to take my place as editor-in-chief of the newspaper that has had my heart for years— *Sidelines*.

In coming here, I had no idea what I was capable of. My fears of failure almost defined me. However, with encouragement and the occasional kick-in-the-pants from professors, I gained a confidence that freed me from missing opportunities because of my paranoia. In the past year alone, I've had amazing interviews and have worked to achieve my dream of leading my collegiate newspaper.

But above all, my advice to you is to have fun and enjoy being young. Work hard, but make time for the people you love. Growing up is scary and exciting, and the people you surround yourself with will mean everything. My friends and my *Sidelines* family are my world, and I would be nothing without them.



by Kelsey Klingemeyer
Photo Editor

When I first came to MTSU, I started my college career by doing the bare minimum: going to class and doing the homework. My first two semesters were a struggle for me. I didn't hang out with anybody who was in college, and I ended up missing a lot of classes, which directly affected my grades. At the beginning of my third semester, I began to be more involved in my classes.

I started getting involved by sitting on the front row of class. This is beneficial because, even in a larger class, the teacher will recognize you. I also started building relationships with my teachers by staying after and talking to them about the class and career goals.

Building relationships with your teachers is beneficial because it motivates you to be in class everyday, and the teacher will be more willing to help you if you don't understand.

In the fall of 2011, I began working for *Sidelines*, and I love my job. Now I am more involved with MTSU than I ever thought. This has helped my grades and helped create a network of people that will benefit my future and my career.



by Daniel Kreipe
Arts and Entertainment Editor

The only regret I have about being at MTSU is that I didn't get here sooner.

I came here as a junior after completing my first two years of school at University of Alabama-Huntsville, and it was an incredible change to say the least. MTSU is huge compared to Alabama-Huntsville, and it was amazing to get to see the incredibly diverse group of people the school houses.

I came up to Murfreesboro for Recording Industry Management (like everybody else), and found my passion for writing along the way. MTSU is a great place to figure yourself out, and transition into being an adult.

There's a group on campus for just about every clique, a specialization for just about every passion, and with such a massive student body, you won't be hard-pressed to find friends. Here you will find people who share your passions and interests, and are also wildly different from what you are accustomed to.

I'm proud to be a part of the largest school in Tennessee, and I know all our incoming students will be too. Go Raiders!



by Richel Albright
News Editor

After transferring from the University of Alabama, I had a difficult time adjusting to how different the lifestyle of the campus was. I wasn't a happy camper, and certainly didn't jump on the Blue Raider bandwagon in the beginning. I also dreaded the hour-and-fifteen-minute drive from my house to campus.

With that said, after I became more familiar with the professors in my major and faces in the halls of the John Bragg Mass Communication building, I found myself excited about being a Blue Raider.

Being a commuter student, I made excuses not to get involved on campus. When I was asked to join the *Sidelines* staff at the end of the fall 2011 semester, I was so excited for the opportunities that lay ahead.

Don't pass up on any opportunity that excites you. You never know the relationships you could miss and the connections across campus that could help you in your future beyond school.

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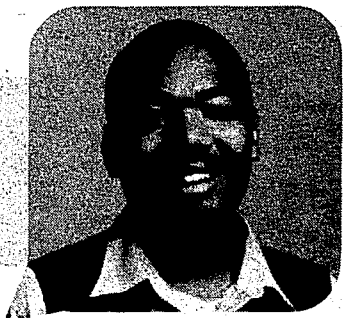
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Sidelines staffers offer advice for freshman year



by Brandon Thomas
Opinions Editor

The summer between my sophomore and junior years of high school, I went back to my school to pick up my report card. A teacher went to retrieve it from the office, and when she handed it to me, she remarked, "If you keep this GPA up, you could get some college scholarships."

As I walked out of the building, there were a lot of thoughts swimming through my head. College had never really been on the radar for me, because I'd always thought I would never be able to afford it.

But the idea that I was doing well enough to receive scholarships changed everything. I started caring significantly more about my grades, and was accepted to MTSU on a full ride.

High school me would have been surprised by how quickly I took to leadership, becoming the public relations officer, and then the vice president, of MT Lambda, MTSU's queer/allied student organization. I also co-founded a colony of Sigma Phi Beta, a queer/allied fraternity.

When I was asked to be the opinions editor for *Sidelines*, I was stunned. I had never expected to be involved in the paper in that way, but I have enjoyed it immensely. I love giving people the opportunity to express their opinions.

I believe that the most important thing for any MTSU freshman to know is that there is an amazing community on our campus, as long as you are willing to look for it.

No matter how many times other people have told you – and maybe you've even told yourself – that you'd never accomplish anything important, know that all you have to do is find a cause you are passionate about, and be willing to reach out to others for help. The rest will hopefully fall into place, the majority of the time.



by Emily West
Associate News Editor

As I wrap up my first year of college, I challenge you to do one thing as you begin yours: chase what you love.

My first full day of school I felt lost and alone, and I had no idea what I was going to do. I am not going to lie and tell that your first day isn't going to be scary or challenging, as you will probably get lost among the buildings on this huge campus, and feel awkward with 26,000 other students walking around you.

I can tell you, though, not to lose hope because the next two weeks get so much better once you get acclimated. Somewhere in those two weeks, I found my way to the *Sidelines* office and begged for something to do. The news editor gave me a chance, and from then on I have completely immersed myself into this school paper.

Journalism is something I want to do for the rest of my life, and *Sidelines* is my stepping stone to continue my love for writing. I know writing isn't everyone's niche, so what is yours?

Yeah, I know. You have four years before you have to be a real adult and figure it all out. It's a weird thought to think that you have so little time to realize whatever it is that you love to do.

However, if you already know what is that makes your heart tick, go for it. Don't let the fact that you are a freshman stop you.

If anything, it should encourage you. You have four years to wholeheartedly chase your passions and desires. I jumped into this newspaper headfirst without hesitation because I find so much joy in what I do.

Find what it is that gives you joy. You won't regret finding it early.



by Jane Horne
Associate A&E Editor

I didn't love high school. I had my group of friends, and I have plenty of fun nights to remember, but those four years were not the favorite four I've had so far.

It was as normal as any high school career could be, but the entire time I was there, I knew there was something bigger for me out there. I knew that I was different from a lot of the people in my hometown.

When I graduated high school in 2009, I still felt lost. I had no idea what I wanted to do or where I wanted to do it. As a result, I spent my freshmen year at a private college, and it felt the same as my high school. I began to change, but it still wasn't quite right.

That's what brought me to MTSU. It wasn't something I had to think about, I just came. My best friend transferred with me, and we moved into the dorms together, and now have an off-campus apartment with our two cats.

Going into my final year of college, it's amazing to see how much I've changed in the past three years, and how I really haven't changed at all. It's like I've become more of myself. I've become more me. I've become more of the person I've always been.

College is the perfect opportunity for everyone to find themselves. At a place like MTSU, you find there are people who have the same interests and career goals. You realize that the years spent in high school don't really matter, and that it was just one tiny portion of your life.

Life is what you make of it. So is college. Make your college career what you want it to be. We are here to not only develop our future careers, but ourselves. Let those two go hand in hand. Get involved. Find internships early on. Make mistakes. Be confident. Take risks. And I promise that you'll find you've become the version of you that you've always wanted to be.



by Alex Hubbard
Sports Editor

As hard as it is for me to write these words in this newspaper, the truth is that at one time I hated MTSU.

I really wanted nothing to do with the campus in the beginning, and the fact that I saw so many people who were proud to be Blue Raiders made my dislike grow.

But I found out that I was not the only one, nor did I become the first to execute a complete turnaround.

Due to family or financial considerations, geographic proximity or simply convenience, MTSU becomes almost a default choice for a lot of students. For me and for many others, the campus was a place to land to get an education, but it was also where a lot of other people went, including people from high school who weren't all that likable anyway, and were not people I particularly wanted to see for another four years.

Things change though. Some people experienced a defining moment, such as discovering a treasured friendship in a new roommate or a favorite professor.

For me it was this newspaper. Not only did I find an outlet to write, which is something I love doing, but I also found a major—journalism—that I enjoy and a career that I want more than anything else.

I also found new friends and people that I had much in common with—people that I probably would never have known any other way. But more than anything, I learned that MTSU is anything you want it to be.

This campus is more than 26,000 students and growing. You have the room and ability to grow, get involved in things that you are passionate about and discover dreams and opportunities you never knew existed.

Always give it a chance, and never give up hope.



by Todd Barnes
Online Editor

As I enter the next chapter of my life called my career, I wonder how a going-nowhere, down-on-his-luck, 1.6-GPA kind of guy like me could finally reverse this situation to achieve graduating with a 3.4 GPA. The answer is as simple as it is painful: sacrifice.

Look, I'm not one to get on a soapbox and rant about how my way is the best way, but I must say that sacrifice is inevitable in the world of achieving a college education. Unfortunately, I resisted sacrifice when I

first entered the MTSU "crampus," which is probably why I am graduating at 28. I thought I could manage a hefty social life with working 30 hours a week intertwined with making good grades— and boy, was I wrong.

Luckily, I thought hard about who I wanted to be in life and what I needed to do in order to accomplish it. So, I split my social group in half, stayed close with my family, cut my hours at work slightly and became as active as possible within my area of study: journalism. Four years later, my hard work and sacrifices paid off.

So, pick your classes wisely. Don't take on too much that you cannot handle as well as managing your time when it comes to the all holy balance of work and play. And of course, make a sacrifice, whether it's cutting those midnight rendezvous to once or twice a week, reading a textbook rather than watching reality television, or meeting with a professor for help over a project that you regard as worthless — believe me, it will happen. Sacrifice is the one variable that will ensure your success, so embrace this painful foe, because in the end, the sacrifices you make come back as the rewards toward a happier life.



by Amanda Haggard
Editor-in-Chief

When I came to college, something I hadn't realized I would learn was that the one thing I really wanted in life was happiness. It seems so vague and cliché to tell you to find happiness, but I promise your life will change if you commit to taking the following steps toward your bright (and happy) future.

1. Attempt to change the way you look at things. Always look at the bright side. The mind may drag you to think about negativity and

difficulties.

2. Think of solutions, not problems.
3. Listen to music. Lots of it.
4. Do not envy people who are happy. Be especially happy for their happiness. It will pay off in the end.
5. Each day, devote some time to reading a few pages of an inspiring book or article.
6. Watch your thoughts. Whenever you catch yourself thinking negative thoughts, start thinking of pleasant things.
7. Always look at what you have done— not at what you haven't.
8. Each day do something good for yourself. It can be something small, such as buying a book, eating something you love, watching your favorite program on TV, going to a movie, or just taking a walk.
9. Each day engage in at least one act to make others happy. This can be a kind word, helping your colleagues, stopping your car at the crossroad to let people cross, giving your seat in a bus to someone else, or giving a small present to someone you love.
10. Always expect happiness. Don't settle for less. It won't be worth it, and you'll regret choosing anything that won't ultimately make you happy.

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How to be a Blue Raider fan

Hall of fame seeks to teach history of MTSU athletics

by Alex Hubbard
Sports Editor

Without doubt, the highlight for many first-time freshmen will be the opportunity to attend a football game at Floyd Stadium. Once basketball season arrives, it will be time to go inside Murphy Center to witness both the Blue Raiders and Lady Raiders basketball squads, which both managed more than 20 wins last season.

There is also the Reese Smith Jr. baseball field, the Dean A. Hayes Track and Soccer Stadium, and running beside all these fixtures is Faulkenberry Drive. Each of these names were once people who, in their own ways, marked MTSU athletics since the school held its first football game in 1911.

However, the truth is that few people who traverse this campus for four or five years ever realize that these names mean something rich and deep to this university, and one campus institution, The Blue Raiders Sports Hall of Fame, is here to change that.

The building, adjacent to Murphy Center, was completed in 2004 and was the dream of the successful businessman and 1938 graduate for whom the building is named, Emmett Kennon. He donated \$1.5 million toward the construction of the building.


"Mr. Kennon became very successful in his business ventures," said Jim Simpson, who oversees the hall of fame, "and decided in the early 2000s that he wanted to give back a substantial amount of money to honor the history of athletics here."

However, the institution has been around much longer than the building. Composed currently of 117 members, the hall of fame inducted its first class in 1976.

In one of the first classes of inductees, 1979, was Johnny 'Red' Floyd, who was a football and basketball player, but is better known as one of the first MT football coaches. Floyd produced the team's first undefeated season, going 7-0 in 1917, a remarkable feat considering the limitations upon him during World War I.

Floyd returned in the 1930s to coach another undefeated season and post a 30-8-1 record from 1935 to 1938.

"Longevity and being the first carries a lot of weight in remembering history," Simpson said of Floyd.



The Dean A. Hayes Track and Soccer Stadium is named for 1982 MTSU Hall of Fame winner, Dean Hayes. Hayes has been MTSU's track coach for 47 years and counting and is considered a legend in MTSU athletics. Photos courtesy of MTSU News and Public Affairs.

Faulkenberry Drive is named for a 1977 inductee, Frank Faulkenberry, who was a master of MTSU athletics in the 1920s and 30s.

At one time coach of football, basketball and women's basketball, Faulkenberry was also a Latin professor and reputedly loved by anyone he impacted.

"His alumni group lived for all of their lives and were called the Faulkenberry boys," Simpson said. "They loved their coach."

Faulkenberry's influence wasn't just limited to his boys though. His most successful teams were his women's basketball squads in the late '20s, which participated in several highly-ranked tournaments and won a number of today unrecognized regional and national championships.

MT's involvement in basketball and sports for women set the university apart in a day and time that few athletic opportunities were available to female students.

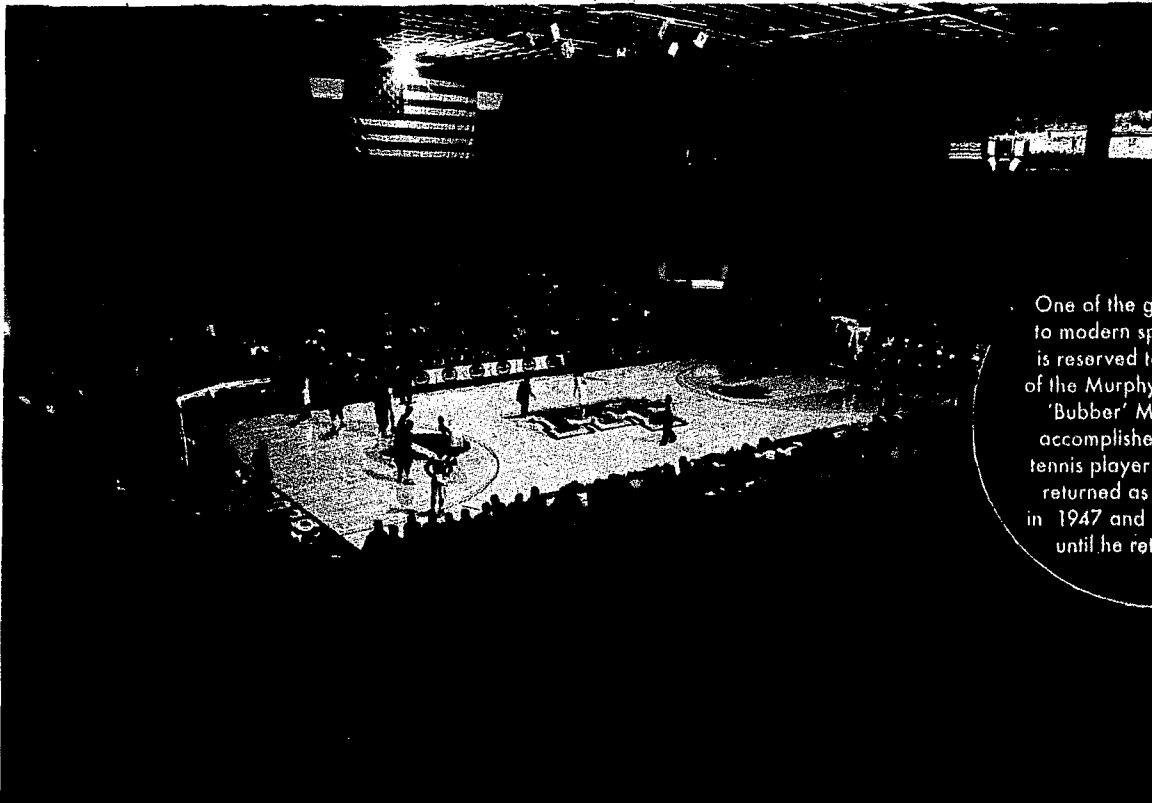
"We've had women participate in athletics here for most of the century," Simpson said, "but until Title IX was adopted by the Congress in 1975, we didn't have official NCAA sponsored women's athletics."

Perhaps the greatest legacy to modern sports at MTSU athletics is reserved to the namesake of the Murphy Center, which will observe its fortieth year of existence this December.

Charles 'Bubber' Murphy, who played football under Floyd and was an accomplished baseball and tennis player in the late '30s, returned as football coach in 1947 and kept the position until he retired from the sidelines in 1969. He stayed as athletic director into the 1980s and helped guide the athletic department from a campus outpost following a three-year hiatus during World War II to a mainstay of the university's public image.

Murphy's mark on the university remains so strong that

sports



One of the greatest legacies to modern sports on campus is reserved to the namesake of the Murphy Center. Charles 'Bubber' Murphy, was an accomplished baseball and tennis player in the late '30s, returned as football coach in 1947 and kept the position until he retired in 1969.

throughout, but the most humor is attached to the totem pole.

Once the reward for the winner of the annual Thanksgiving Day football game against Tennessee Tech, the pole survived many theft attempts by MTSU and Tech students alike, who were looking to avenge the previous year's defeat.

After MTSU left the Ohio Valley Conference for the Sun Belt in 2001, the historic rivalry was suspended and the pole came to rest at the hall of fame, where Simpson stokes the old competition on.

"We won it last, so we just decided we'd keep it," Simpson said. "If they want anything to do with it, they'll have to steal it somehow or another, which they've done before."

With a century of accomplishment already in the books, the hall's doors stand open for all those who want to learn and remember, and to make more memories and share in Blue Raider pride. ■

Scan for the latest sports updates



an entire wall is dedicated to him in the hall of fame.

"I'm disappointed that students now will come in and ask me who he is," Simpson said. "Time marches on. There's nothing you can do about that, but we try to keep his memory alive here."

Not every member of the hall is relegated to history, however. Dean Hayes, a 1982 inductee and the person for which the campus outdoor track and soccer facility is named, has been MTSU's track coach for 47 years and counting.

Buck Bouldin, a 2009 inductee and one-

time tennis coach for whom the outdoor tennis complex is named, is still a regular fixture at home tennis matches.

The hall of fame is not only a tribute to its members— it is a museum to the history of MTSU athletics.

Pictures and memorabilia from the earliest years, including early baseball team pictures and wooden tennis rackets, can be seen next to the most recent hardware, such as the New Orleans Bowl championship trophy, which the football team won in 2009.

Various moments in time are depicted



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