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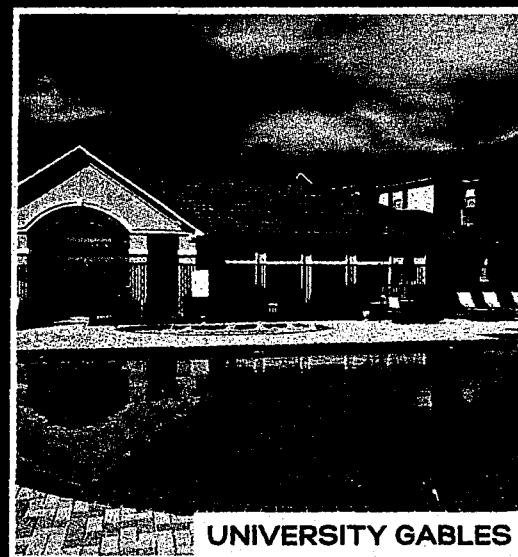
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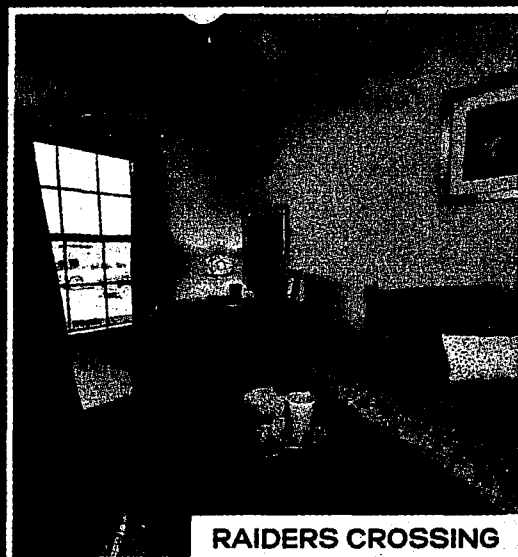
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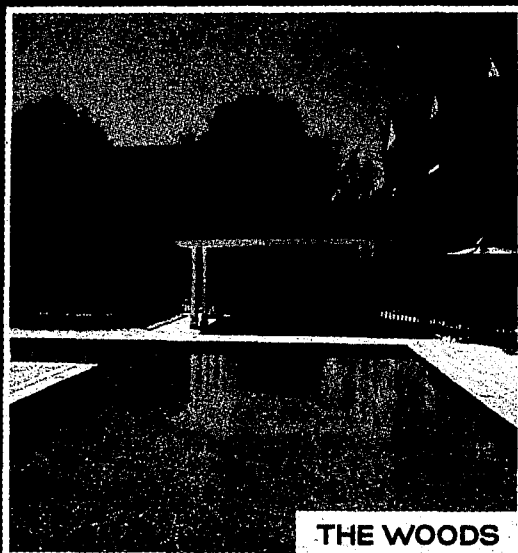
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Joshua Burgin-Eaton carefully applies makeup to transform Holden Haddock into a hostage victim for a two-hour moviemaking project in Edward Bowen's moviemaking class. Photo by Edward Bowen.

Cover design by Kelsey Klingemeyer.

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Incoming freshmen vaccination requirement now state law

By Quint Qualls
News editor

Effective July 1, all incoming freshman to state colleges who plan to live in on-campus residences must present proof of meningococcal vaccination.

Gov. Bill Haslam signed into law April 12 the Senate Bill 93, colloquially called the "Jacob Nunley Act," which will require meningococcal disease immunization for all incoming freshmen at state colleges.

The "Jacob Nunley Act," named for the Dyersburg native who died September 2012, passed the Tennessee State Senate unanimously 30-0 and the Tennessee House of Representatives 94-1.

Nunley, a freshman member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, succumbed to meningococcal meningitis, caused by the particularly deadly bacterium, *Neisseria meningitidis*.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends all college students, particularly freshmen, receive meningococcal vaccinations.

"Any time a case of meningococcal meningitis occurs on a college campus, we're concerned since this infection can strike quickly and is sometimes fatal," said Alison Patti, CDC spokeswoman. "We don't panic, though, since the bacteria that cause this infection are not easily spread. In general,



A student walks into MTSU Student Health Services to get a meningitis vaccine in September shortly after Nunley's death. Photo by Matt Masters.

teenagers and young adults are at increased risk for meningococcal disease, especially freshmen living in college dorms."

Nunley attended a party at the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity house before being taken to the Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He was pronounced dead Sept. 10, 2012 at 8 a.m. almost immediately after arrival.

"I can't remember if it was the next day or a couple of days later, but someone told me that a guy [Jacob Nunley] was at the party we were at and had died of meningitis," said Lauren Shaw, sophomore organizational communication major.

Shaw and all other attendees were then told to take medicine to prevent contagion following that early September weekend. She proceeded to a gym where anti-meningitis pills

were being distributed.

"I think it is a good idea for all incoming freshman to get vaccinated," Shaw said. "Someone can have meningitis and not display any symptoms, but they could be spreading it to others."

It's a good step in the right direction, ideally for anyone who is coming to live on campus and in close proximity to other students, said Lisa Schrader, director of

seria meningitidis, a specific type of bacterial meningitis. Any other kind of bacterial meningitis poses no risk to other people, and antibiotics are unnecessary, she said.

"Meningitis vaccinations are proven to reduce the rates of infection on our campuses. We should do everything we can to protect our college students from this dreaded disease."

Meningococcal disease is extremely rare, but who it will affect is unpredictable.

"It's unpredictable. It comes on so suddenly

without warning, so vaccine is absolutely the best tool, and I think this act will definitely help protect the health of students on campus," Dr. Moore said.

MTSU Health Promotion.

According to Dr. Kelly Moore, director of the Tennessee Immunization Program, Nunley died of *Neis-*

In general, people support the vaccination requirement; though some have religious reasons for opposing vaccination or problematic medical conditions, Dr. Moore said.

According to the bill summary, valid medical or religious reasons exempt certain individuals from vaccination.

"Meningitis vaccinations are proven to reduce the rates of infection on our campuses," said state Sen. Lowe Finney, sponsor of the act. "We should do everything we can to protect our college students from this dreaded disease." ■

Campus Bellhops alleviate moving day woes

By Daniel Jansouzian
Staff writer

Campus Bellhops, a new student-run moving company, provides income for students while making moving day less stressful for families and building relationships with customers.

Austin Heithcock, director of Campus Bellhops at MTSU, said the mission of the company is to help its peers move in and out of dorms, apartments and houses so families feel more comfortable about moving day.

"The tradition in the past was that parents help students move in, and no one's happy," Heithcock said. "We let parents do what they want with their students."

Students will always need to move, and the program creates an economy on campus, he said.

"I personally am doing it because I have friends where it's hard for them to work during school," Heithcock said. "This creates jobs for students at our school."

Bao Nguyen, sophomore business major, joined Campus Bellhops because his income wasn't meeting his needs, and he was tired of the job routine.

"When I heard about the description of the job and how much I could have possibly made, I was in," Nguyen said. "I got



Spencer Bradshaw (left) and Tripp Stanford (right) move a couch at UT Chattanooga. Photo courtesy of Fancy Rhino.

to be active and get a good workout in, and I would be able to stay in shape."

The campus already has a program, We-Haul, but Heithcock said it only focuses on about four dorms. Campus Bellhops will help all student housing within a 10-mile radius of campus.

"It's good to have someone who already knows the school help you move in," said Stephen Lessard, a sophomore criminal justice major. "It's a good way to start a friendship or relationship."

Lessard said the program is especially good for freshmen, because the first year of college can be hard, especially if they don't know anybody.

Heithcock explained that the main purpose of Campus Bellhops is to promote student involvement. He has been involved with the Student Government Association, Blue Crew, fraternities and Presidium. However, he wanted another way to help on campus.

"I did all this and

didn't feel like I was helping people," Heithcock said.

"[Campus Bellhops] is a way to reach out to more students ... This is how we can bridge the gap to get more students involved. We have an hour and a half to tell students about clubs and activities on campus."

Campus Bellhops is a three-year-old company with established programs in 50 college towns across the country. The MTSU Campus Bellhops had the 10th most hires in its first semester out of all other programs.

If students need to move in or out of their dorms, off-campus houses or apartments, students can go to campusbellhops.com and follow the instructions.

"We want to make the client's experience with Campus Bellhops one that they won't expect and definitely one that they won't forget," Nguyen said. ■



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A GANNETT COMPANY

New science building to quadruple space for students

By Sinclair Sparkman
Assistant news editor

The new science building, which has been under construction for two semesters, is slated to open for classes January 2015.

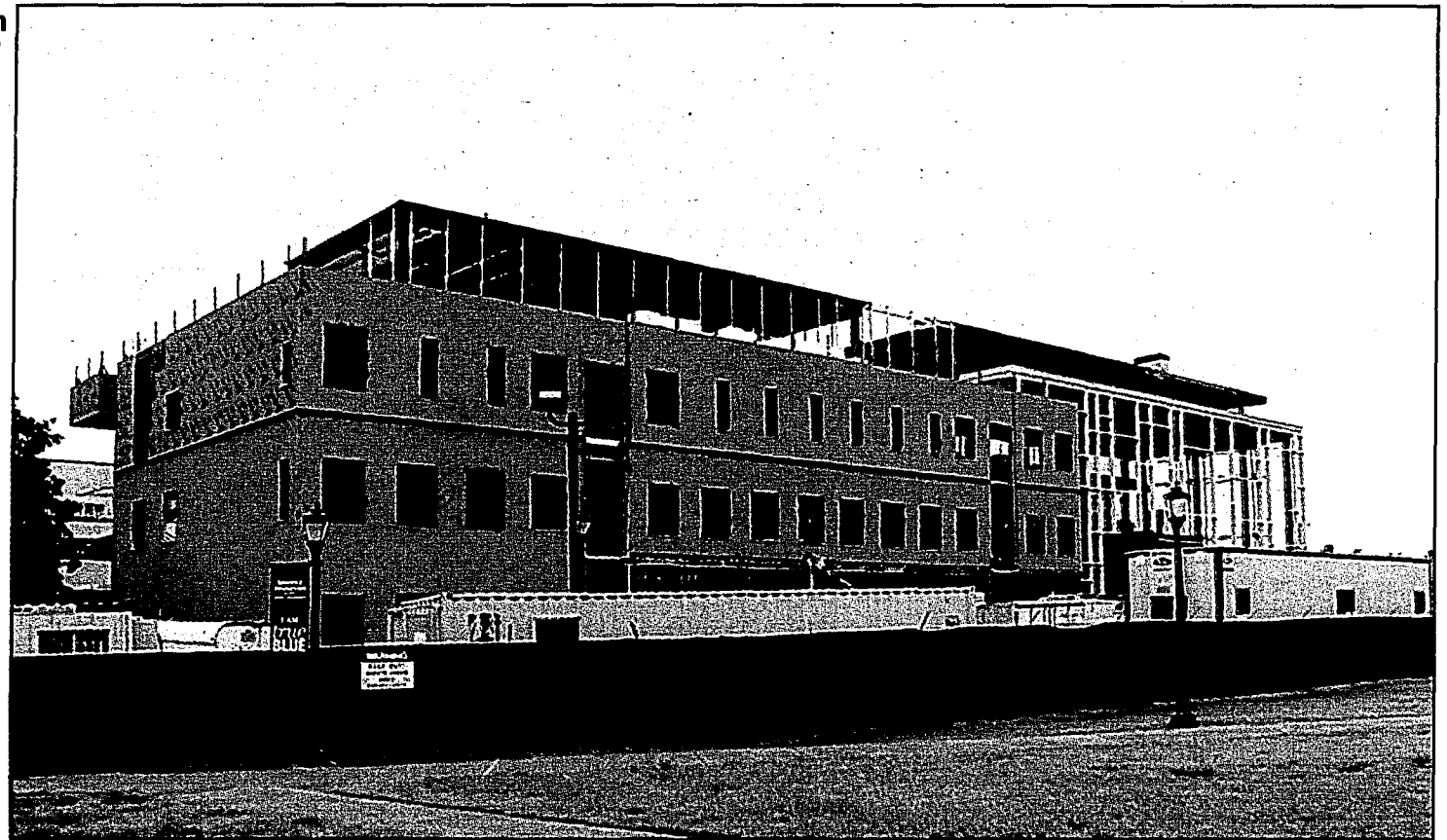
According to Dennis Mullen, biology professor and member of the science building committee, the building is nearing the "dried in" phase of construction, which means the frame of the building (windows, roofing and exterior walls) is set up so weather no longer hinders construction.

The new space will meet the needs of a growing demand for chemistry and biology labs and classroom space. The class space will meet the needs of upper division science majors and general education coursework for incoming freshmen.

University officials speculate that 80 percent of all students will take at least one class in the new building upon its completion.

"We're sort of multitasking now with space and making rooms do a lot more than they're intended to do," said David Powell, biology lab coordinator. "It just puts a damper on everything, so it'll be nice to be able to spread out and be more effective that way."

In fall 2010, more than 13,000 students were enrolled in biology, chemistry and physical science courses. Mullen said that nearly 40 faculty teach



The new science building aims to alleviate space issues and is slated for completion in January 2015. Photo by Emily West.

and perform research in a space originally built for 15 faculty.

"It limits the students, and it limits the teaching," Mullen said. "Most of our teaching labs are operating from 8 o'clock in the morning till 9 o'clock at night, and they're full, and we have demand that we just can't meet. We just don't have the physical space for it."

Once chemistry and biology move out of the Wisner-Patten Science Hall and the Davis Science Building, the physics department will take most of its facilities.

Labs and classrooms in these buildings will still be used for any necessary science classes and

other departments.

The university knew it needed more space for its science program in 1998, but funding was an issue – the project costs \$147 million.

In early 2012, Gov. Bill Haslam announced to MTSU officials his plan to include \$126.7 million for the project in

his 2012-2013 budget proposal. This money left the university with \$18.7 million to put toward the project,

according to a post by university President Sidney McPhee on the MTSU website.

Arthur Reed of campus planning said the new building will

high-tech jobs."

Reed also said the new building will add about 230,000 square feet of instructional and research space to the science program, dwarf-

ing the combined 75,332 net square feet of the Wisner-Patten Science Hall and Davis Science Building.

The building will feature 36 teaching labs, 29 classrooms,

two lecture halls, three interdisciplinary suites for Ph.D students and one conference room. This equals about 1,500

new seats for students in chemistry and biology, agriscience, aerospace, wellness and exercise science, nursing and teacher licencor in science education.

The building also seeks to 'go green' through certification by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design building green program.

To increase sustainability, the building will use 30 percent less water because of high efficiency plumbing fixtures and use 10 percent less energy than a standard up to code building. Ninety percent of the space will have a view to the outside. ■

"We're sort of multitasking now with space and making rooms do a lot more than they're intended to do."

Wins, memories mark Blue Raiders' SBC success

By Mark Mize
Sports editor

Middle Tennessee will make its departure for Conference-USA July 1, but the program will cap its tenure in Sun Belt Conference with no fewer than eight all-sports championships and a wealth of memories for Blue Raider fans.

During a stretch from 2009 to 2012, Blue Raider teams experienced arguably their best run since the program joined DI in 2000 and took home four consecutive Bubas Cup trophies, an all-sports award given to the top team in the SBC according to a points system that accounts for each sport. In each of those four seasons, as one team struggled, another stepped up on the field, court or track to assure the four-year streak would continue.

"We try not to make the valleys too low," said Chris Massaro, athletic director. "For the most part, we've been able to do that in our individual sports. They've all been pretty consistent. There have been a couple of exceptions, but when one's down, others have arisen."

MT squads took home more than 20 regular season and post-season conference titles and posted record-setting seasons in football, baseball, basketball, track and field and volleyball.

In fall of 2009, junior quarterback Dwight Dasher burst onto the scene to help the

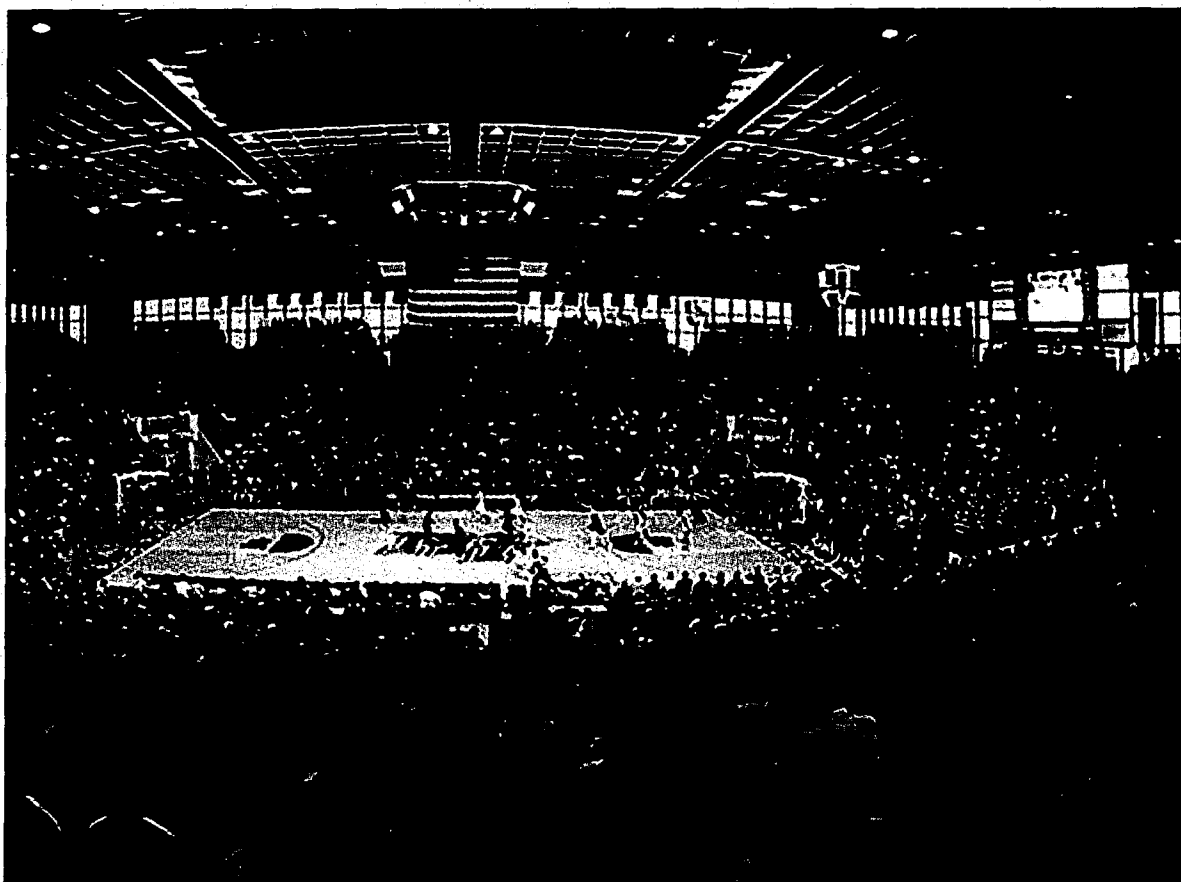
football team reach new heights under MT Head Coach Rick Stockstill. The team set a new conference record with 10 wins that year and defeated Southern Miss in the New Orleans Bowl.

When Dasher was suspended to begin the next season amid NCAA allegations, a newly transferred Logan Kilgore helped fill the gap until Dasher's suspension was served. The pair took the Blue Raiders to two of the three bowl games that the school has attended during its time in Division I.

Baseball also saw a record-setting 44 win season and NCAA Tournament appearance in 2009 behind future pros Bryce Brentz, Rawley Bishop, Justin Miller, Tyler Burnett, Kenny Roberts and Coty Woods, who now count themselves among the professional ranks.

The majority of the batting order was back in 2010 to contribute to the highest-scoring season in program history as encore performance. Even in the debacle that was the 2011 season when the team won only 18 games, fans such as "Rabbit" Victory and the "Railbirds" section still paraded into Reese Smith Jr. Field every other weekend to see how far Will Skinner could launch a baseball.

Both the men's and women's basketball teams picked up the slack left at times by football and baseball during the stretch in



Over the last decade, Murphy Center has been home to 20 MT basketball teams, more than 100 victories and more than 30,000 points in Blue Raider baskets. Photo courtesy of MT Athletic Communications.

2010 and 2011.

Kermit Davis etched his name into Murfreesboro basketball lore after his team broke through into the upper echelon of the SBC standings and reached win totals not seen since the days of Jimmy Earle, who graces the walls of Murphy Center.

The 27-win 2012 season gave fans a reason to wait in eager anticipation of Selection Sunday, and even when relegated to the National Invitation Tournament, Tennessee fell to the Blue Raiders in Knoxville just one week later. Rick Insell and his Lady Raiders went to four NCAA Tournaments

during the four-year stretch. Alysha Clark transferred from Belmont to become arguably the greatest player in program history on her way to All-American status and a Women's National Basketball Association. The 2011 team also grieved the death of a teammate with only days to prepare for the Sun Belt Championships.

Dean A. Hayes' track and field teams won SBC Championships at a pace that reminded fans why the stadium adorns its still-active coach's name.

Matt Peck and his volleyball team racked up more Bubas Cup

points than any other program on campus.

In-state rivals were defeated. SEC foes fell. A city began to see more blue and less orange adorning bumper stickers, T-shirts and shop windows.

"The culture and the expectation is that it's important. The Bubas Cup is important to us," Massaro said. "But it's important that all our sports compete for championships. We may not win it every year, but we should be competing for it every year, and that's the expectation. That's the culture."

The program's new home of C-USA does not have its own all-

sports trophy, but Massaro said that he will gauge fellow administrators' interest once MT is firmly in its new conference home.

Until then, success may have to be measured through other dimensions, whether that will be wins on the field or fan support off of it. The Blue Raiders are on a collision course with new opponents and some old conference mates this fall.

"We're just excited to play them to see where we stack up, learn from that and go forward," Massaro said. ■

It's not just about classes: The benefits of getting involved

By Jay Powell
Features editor

Each year, students scramble to secure a spot in the classes they need before all the seats fill up. They then have an outline of what their following semester will look like, how they'll spend their time and most importantly, how much extra sleep they can afford before the morning rush.

However, your school activities don't have to end the moment all of the right CRN numbers are punched in, and the syllabi are handed out on the first day. MTSU offers its students a wealth of opportunities to get involved on campus outside of the classroom.

According to Danny Kelley, assistant vice president for Student Affairs, campus involvement is pertinent in not only getting the most out of the college experience, but also helps students build resumes.

"The Center for Student Involvement is here to connect students to meaningful opportunities outside of the classroom, to enhance their college experience and make it more satisfying," Kelley says. "And in many cases, we hope that it contributes to developing their skills whether it be in leadership or joining an organization that is connected to their interests."

The CSIL is the one place students learn about the 280-plus



Coby Sherlock shares his experiences with prospective students and their families at Preview Day. Photo by Jay Powell.

student organizations on campus. The center oversees leadership development, fraternity and sorority life, multicultural and diversity programming and community service. It not only provides a link for students hoping to get involved, but also for those who wish to be leaders.

"We have a retreat for them right before classes start in the fall, and then we have a leadership conference called 'True Blue Traditions Day' to kind of get freshman students acclimated to the uni-

versity, the traditions, all the ways that they can get involved," Kelley says.

Jackie Victory is the director of leadership and service in the CSIL. Her job is to work with clubs and organizations to plan yearly events.

"For freshman specifically, we have our traditions day; we have our freshman day of service; we have Raider Outdoor Lightning Leadership. Those are things geared towards the incoming students," Victory says. "But outside of that, we have our Blue Raider Leadership summit and

several of other workshops and retreats that connect with our clubs and organizations."

Another organization that is based in the CSIL is the June Anderson Center for Women and Nontraditional Students. Barbara Scales, director, says the center's purpose is to not only celebrate the accomplishments and historical significance that women played throughout history, but also to focus on the sect of students that most probably don't think about — the nontraditionals.

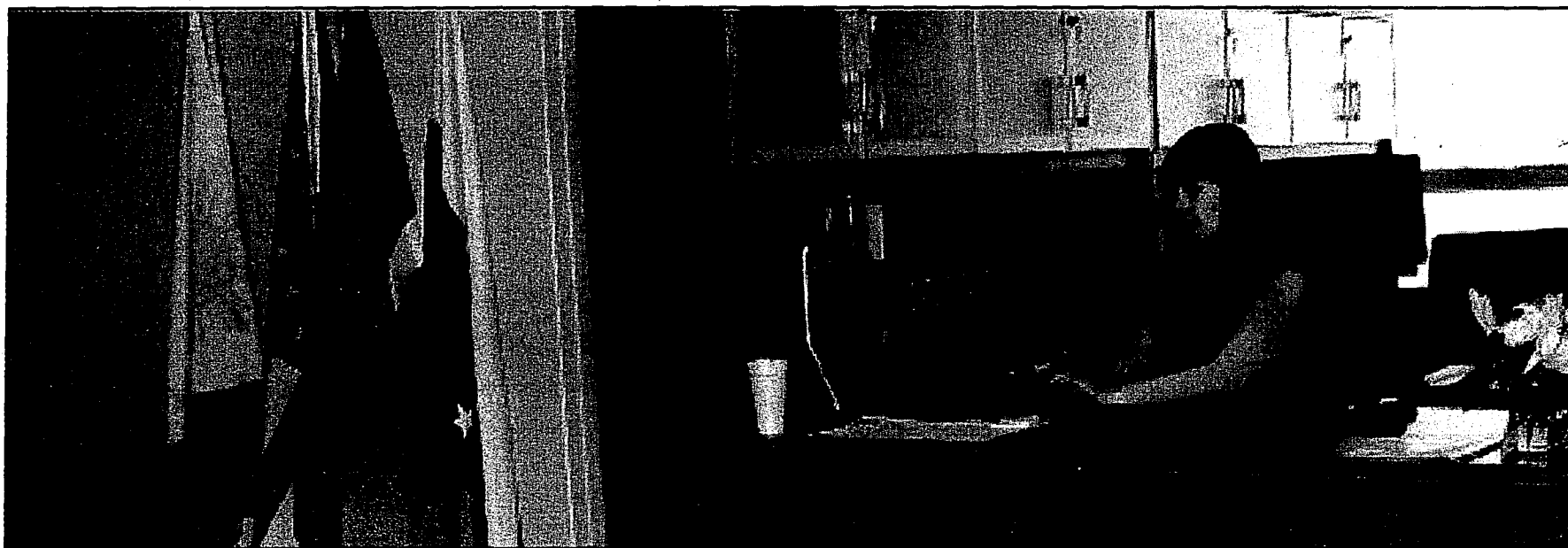
A nontraditional student is typically older than 25 or has extra responsibilities that a traditional, fresh-out-of-high-school student doesn't have to worry about yet.

"We have a large percentage of students that aren't like traditional students, and they are single parents, they are married or divorced or taking care of a parent. Some of the services that we provide is to help enhance your pursuit of academic excellence," Scales says.

MTSU hosted a pre-

view day for graduating high school seniors and their families this spring. Many attended to learn information about the school, take a campus tour and hear from the different organizations the school offers. The CSIL held a special session where students and leaders from each of the organizations shared with the audience how getting involved has benefited them.

The session included representatives from Student Government Association, The June Anderson Center for



Della Wheeler, a junior graphic design major, works in the Center for Student Involvement & Leadership. Photo by Matt Masters.

Women and Nontraditional Students, The Center for Diversity and Intercultural Affairs and Greek life members.

Coby Sherlock spoke about his experiences as a freshman, traveling all of the way from New Orleans, La. He went from knowing one other person to becoming student body president.

"When I first came to MTSU, the first thought I had was, 'Man, this place is huge,' and I knew one person, and I was excited to talk to my friend, and then that friend left school after December. I decided to join a Greek organization ... it gave me so many open doors to different parts of campus."

It was in getting involved and meeting others through the Greek organization that Sherlock was able to participate in mock trial, pursue a leadership minor and become student body

president. But he says that none of this could have been possible had he not stepped out and seen what his school had to offer for people like him.

"It's probably the best thing I've done in college, for sure. This last year has been something that I will always remember. The track up to that was really interesting, exciting, things I learned, cultural boarders that had to be broken."

Sherlock said he believes getting involved in an organization is critical to how successful students want their college career to ultimately become. They can be fun, a great way to meet people and a way to make sure that students not only stay in school but also finish.

"The impact that Greek life has on your studies and academics is amazing. It helps you to keep that GPA up," Sherlock says. "We strive to make sure all

of our members are working together and working hard to push themselves forward and to be the best person that they can be. Actually, right now, the GPA for the Greek life as a whole is higher than the average GPA of MTSU as whole, so it's interesting to think of it that way."

To students who are unsure about what their role is, a number of different opportunities exists. The CSIL can provide a good source of information to find out where and how to get started, but none of it will be possible unless the student takes the initial first step in seeing what's out there.

"Involvement is also going to increase the likelihood that you'll stay in school and that you'll actually finish," Kelley says. "So involvement is as critical, as is obviously attending classes and getting great grades." ■

"Involvement is as critical, as is obviously attending classes and getting good grades."



Jackie Victory, the director of leadership and service at CSIL, explains the center's role to Preview Day attendees. Photo by Jay Powell.

Albums to accompany your MTSU experience

By Kelsey Griffith
Staff writer

Congratulations. You've made it. Now brace yourself for a whirlwind of elation and strife. Here's an assemblage of albums that will lead you through the joys and challenges of your MTSU experience.

TO STUDY OR TO SOOTHE



1. Taking Up Your Precious Time – Pretty Lights (2006)

This album is flawless. It's a well-rounded journey that will steer your mind through subtle highs and lows of instrumental hip-hop infused with soul. It's perfect for sparking creativity for writing or artistic manifestation. Don't skip "Until Tomorrow" or "The Last Passenger."



2. Cosmogramma – Flying Lotus (2010)

From start to finish, this experimental instrumental album touches bases in the hidden places of your musical mind. It features spacey synthesizers, bass solos and choppy layers of various percussion sounds, which give you the perfect amount

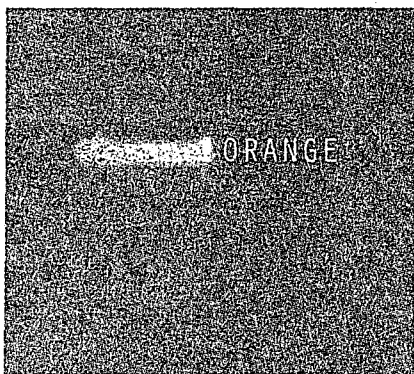
of energy to dive into a focused mental state. Don't skip "Zodiac Shi!" or "Do The Astral Plane."



3. The North Borders – Bono (2013)

The North Borders takes you to a happy place with chimes, harps and flutes. If you need to be lulled into a calm, positive state after a long study session, this downtempo album featuring soulful female vocalists (i.e., Erykah Badu) will do the trick. Don't skip "Sapphire" or "Towers (ft. Sjzardene)."

EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER RIDE



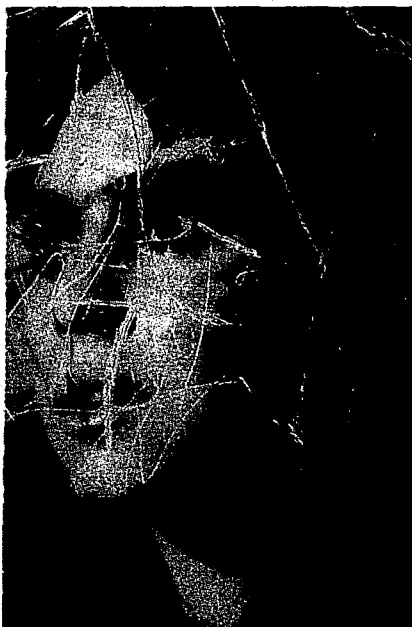
4. channel ORANGE – Frank Ocean (2012)

As Ocean's first full-length album, *channel Orange* showcases overwhelming feelings of love and longing. Laced with everyday situations and raw emotions, there's a track to suit every mood you feel: happy, lustful, satirical, sad or content. Don't skip "Forrest Gump" or "Pyramids."



5. In Rainbows – Radiohead (2007)

If you're looking for a place to lift you up and cradle you with song, *In Rainbows* is your destination. It's a powerful, eclectic collection of symphonic segments, intricate percussion pieces and incomparable vocals from Thom Yorke. Don't skip "15 Step" or "All I Need."



6. Wounded Rhymes – Lykke Li (2010)

Lykke Li compiled a 10-track album of swaying melodies and wounded rhymes. After all, hearts still beat even if they're broken. Perfect for filling voids, *Wounded Rhymes* will help you dance yourself through a breakup and feel dignified again. Don't skip "I Follow Rivers" or "Sadness Is A Blessing."

PARTY LIKE IT'S 1999



7. Express Yourself EP – Diplo (2012)

Don't be surprised if the party starts twerking when you put this on. It's an electronic fusion of moombahton and bounce. Just prepare yourself. Don't skip "Express Yourself (ft. Nicky Da B)" or "Barely Standing (ft. Datsik & Sabi)."



8. Mom & Dad – Cherub (2012)

This album crosses so many genres of music it will surely please the party. If Justin Timberlake had a baby with Madonna, and the baby grew up listening to David Bowie and Peter Frampton, he or she would also listen to this album. Daily. Don't skip "Doses & Mimosas" or "Hold Me."



9. Musique Vol. 1 – Daft Punk (2006)

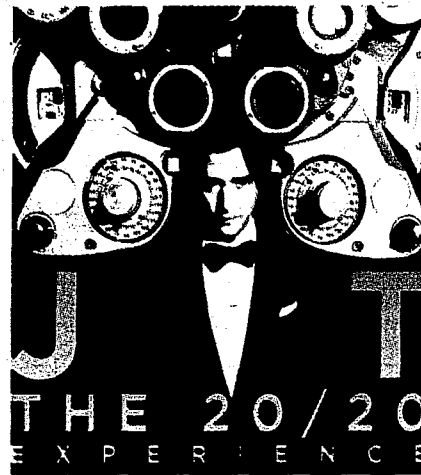
The genius electronic duo from France know exactly how to turn the celebration knob to the max. Practice your robot to this house album with funky beats and repetitive lyrics. It's a classic party staple. Don't skip "One More Time" or "Harder Better Faster Stronger."

EVERYDAY LISTENING



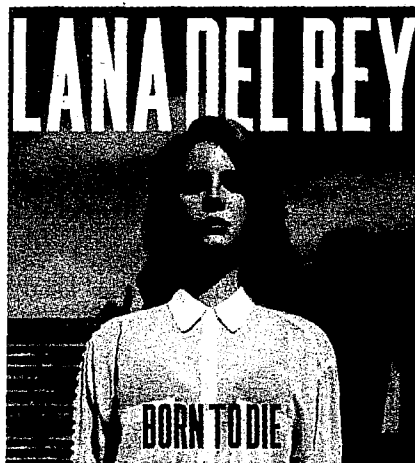
10. Wolf – Tyler, The Creator (2013)

Let this album serve as a soundtrack to your self-righteousness. Old-school, hip-hop rhythms marry acid jazz to make the beats behind Tyler's sophisticated use of expletives to channel aggression. Yes. Don't skip "Jamba" or "T-male."



11. The 20/20 Experience – Justin Timberlake (2013)

Truly a best, all-around experience, this album's content is reflective of the title. Some tracks are classy club-bangers, and others are romantic ballads. Timberlake's sexy falsetto vocals over Timbaland's complex melodic beats make a beautiful creation of musical superiority. Don't skip "Pusher Love Girl" or "Blue Ocean Floor."

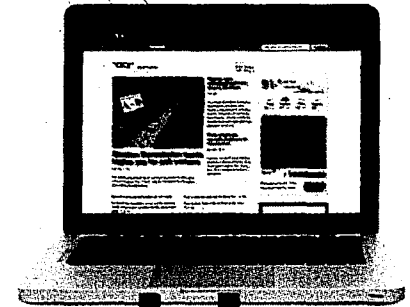
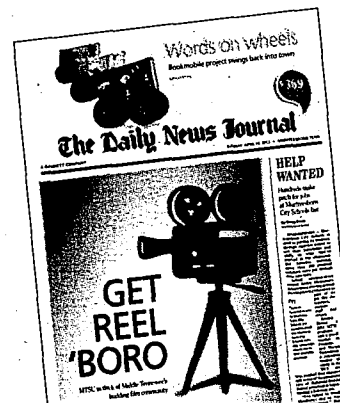


12. Born To Die – Lana Del Rey (2011)

Del Rey's songwriting will allow you to escape, no matter where you want to go. Her vintage vocal style meets new-school, bass-heavy rhythms throughout this album, which create a unique listening experience. Don't skip "Off To The Races" or "Diet Mountain Dew." ■

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A fashion lover's shopping guide to Murfreesboro

By Kaela Dalecke
Staff writer

There is no need to make the haul to Nashville to find the latest fashion trends – local shops in Murfreesboro provide fashion lovers



with pieces to satisfy any style craving.

Next time you head out for a shopping trip, do not dismiss local fashion in the 'Boro. Thanks to these local shops, fashion-conscious and money-



conscious college students can express themselves with the lat-

est and vintage trends as they head to class and campus events.

Altar'd State

Prices: Clothing \$25-\$75, Accessories \$5-\$30, Shoes \$50-\$75

Parkway

Based in Knoxville, this store is redefining the shopping experience. On what is dubbed "Mission Mondays," 10 percent of the stores net proceeds go to support various charitable organizations. The shop carries a wide selection of TOMS shoes. From dresses suitable for sorority events to '70s inspired attire for music festivals, a chic college gal is sure to find style to spare at this shop. Accessories at Altar'd State are abundant and ensures no one leaves without the perfect



head-to-toe ensemble.

Bella's Boutique and Trendy Pieces

Prices: Clothing \$15-\$50, Accessories \$5-\$30, Shoes \$30-\$75

Location: 111 Church St.

Nestled side by side in the historic downtown square of Murfreesboro, these two shops are minutes away from campus. Owner

Judy Goldie is focused on bringing big-city fashion to a college town without the outrageous prices of most boutiques. At Bella's Boutique, shoppers find classic pieces with a modern twist that fit a wide range of body types. Do not leave without checking out the purses and accessories, including Lucky Brand shoes. Those looking for sophisticated style will not be disappointed with the options available. Trendy

Pieces offers exactly what their name implies — pieces that add flair and uniqueness to every wardrobe, even men's. Offering reasonably priced men's suits, it is the place to go before an interview. The shop also carries a supply of Miss Me and Silver brand jeans.

Sugaree's

Prices: Clothing \$30-\$50, Accessories \$5-\$30

Location: 122 South Maple St.

Across from Bella's Boutique and Trendy Pieces is a quaint shop that carries vintage and vintage-inspired clothing. Staci Higdon welcomes customers with a smile and endearing hospitality. She attends estate sales where she finds vintage clothing and accessories that are truly one-of-a-kind. The brands available in the shop include B.B. Dakota, Jack and Tulle. The styles offer classic silhouettes at affordable prices. ■

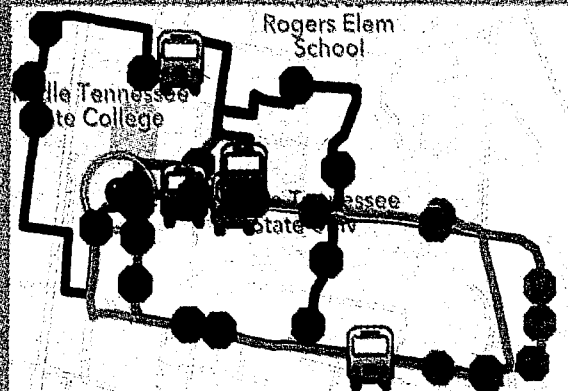
MTSU Mobile's bus tracking feature saves students time

By Alex Williams
Contributing writer

MTSU Mobile is a cross-platform smartphone application developed to provide easy access to a wide variety of university features.

These features include a virtual campus map with classroom and office locations, faculty contact information, notification of sporting events, access to student email, class schedules and a university calendar for important dates.

The Department of Computer Science's Android and Java development course designed the concept in spring 2011. Some of the original students are still working for MTSU's Information Technology Division as part-time mobile developers for the official app.



Screenshot by Alex Williams

Since the application's official release in January 2012, improvements have increased the usefulness of the app.

While most of the features are mildly helpful, one stands above the rest to make downloading the app worth it. Last month the development team integrated a real-time bus-tracking feature into the virtual map.

The bus-tracking feature allows students

to instantly check the location of any bus during all routes on campus. Students can use the feature to quickly determine if taking the bus will be faster than walking directly to class.

To download the MTSU Mobile app, students can visit the Google Marketplace on Android or the App Store on iPhone and search for "MTSU Mobile." ■

Top 10 reasons to not wear sweats to class



Corey Pitts slumbers in sweats during a much-needed break in the Mass Communication 155. Photo by Kati Baird.

By Jane Horne
Arts & Entertainment
editor

1. A quote I once saw on Pinterest said, "Always dress to be prepared to run into your true love or your worst enemy." You want neither of them to see you in your sweats from seventh grade.

2. Dressing lazily

shows your professors that you are lazy. This is not a good thing. Getting in good with professors helps out at the end of the semester when you've missed one too many homework assignments.

3. No one is the king or queen of productivity when you do not take an extra 10 minutes to dress like a productive

human being. Put on real pants and kick the day's butt.

4. Just because you can wear sweats to class every day now, doesn't mean that you should. You also now have the option to sleep 22 hours a day or eat nothing but macaroni and cheese for every single meal. I know all these things seem like they'd be fun,

but they're all equally destructive.

5. Ladies, wearing yoga pants to class is not cute. It makes you look like every other girl who thinks wearing yoga pants to class is cute.

6. Guys, your sweats make you look like you have a poop diaper.

7. Let me reiterate the last two points — no one looks attractive in sweats. No one.

8. I know that a lot of you have a fair amount of normal clothes that you or your parents spent money on. You're an adult now and should know that wasting money is childish. Wear those clothes you already have hanging in

your closet.

9. College is supposed to be the beginning of adulthood, not an extension of childhood. Dress like it.

10. You deserve to look and feel like the best possible version of you every single day. ■

From us to you: Our advice to surviving your time at MTSU



Alex Harris

I have learned two important things while at MTSU: experience is the best teacher and to always be skeptical.

College offers many educational opportunities, but the best of these often happen outside of the classroom. Any

chance to gain real-world experience in your chosen field should be taken – while you may learn facts in a classroom, you'll gain practical knowledge in how things are done by seeking experience opportunities.

It would also do well to

remember that when someone is giving you information – be it a friend, colleague, teacher, politician, reporter, etc. – what they are telling you is likely colored by their own biases, beliefs and interpretations of the world. Questioning where information

came from, what purpose that information serves and what information might be missing are important components of making the most of education. ■



Becca Andrews

My main advice to you is to inform yourselves.

I come from a tiny farming town. MTSU was a far cry from cotton and Sunday mornings in a little country church and Friday night football. There is nothing

wrong with those things; I'm grateful for how I was raised, and for who I have become because of it.

But don't be afraid to challenge what you think you know. Look at different news sources, get out of your circle that is made up solely

of your "type," listen instead of speak.

For the love of all that is good and right in the world, educate yourselves. It's what you came here to do. You can't truly achieve that in your comfort zone.

I've lived in Tennessee

since I was eight, and in the fall I will move to California, partially because it is the scariest thing I could possibly do.

That's where the real greatness is to be found – in fear. ■



Christopher Bishop

Having already spent four years working toward attaining a college degree, there is much that I could offer in form of adequate, if not sound, advice to incoming freshmen.

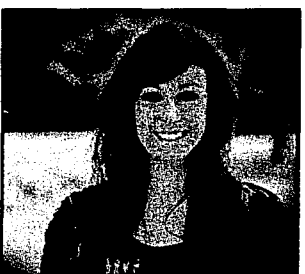
First of all, studying

is somewhat of a necessity. You can procrastinate, but there will be projects and assignments in college that cannot be done last minute – believe me, I've tried. Second, keeping a good balance between schoolwork, jobs, extracurricular activities and

social life is essential to success in college. Decide what your priorities are, and then don't compromise.

Above all else, don't ever forget that college, while inevitably difficult and stressful at times, is an opportunity and a privilege. Don't take it

for granted. Remember that the most rewarding accomplishments in life are the ones that take the most work and effort. ■



Claire Osburn

By my junior year, I had already attended three colleges. As MTSU was my third and final university, I didn't know what to expect and coming to a new school is challenging. I had never been very school-spirited, but

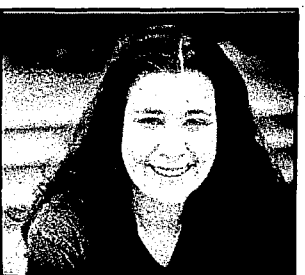
after having a pretty difficult first year at MTSU, I decided things needed to change.

As a journalism major, I enjoy writing and desperately needed to add to my resume. So when the opportunity presented itself for me to contribute to *Sidelines*, I gladly

dove headfirst into what has become one of the best things to happen to me in college. Through this, I even gained the confidence to walk in the MTSU "Dear McQueen" show this spring.

College is all about finding yourself, and once you

step outside of your comfort zone – something that has always been hard for me to do – you'll do just that and so much more. ■



Emily West

High school was so easy. I knew the principals and every single teacher. I played sports and managed clubs. I loved running the high school newspaper. I wanted to make high school fun, so I did.

College was dramatically

different. I walked around these buildings not knowing a soul. It was lonely the first week until I realized I had to get involved again. Sitting in my classes and simply doing homework wasn't getting me anywhere.

It took the first two weeks

of school for me to find the confidence to walk into the *Sidelines* office. I begged for a news story to write, and I have been deeply involved ever since.

Now for the upcoming school year, I am a junior and editor-in-chief of this paper.

Don't let being young stop you from pursuing what you want. So what if you're a freshman? No one cares that you're 18. Figure out what you want to do now. I promise it makes your life easier and lot more fun. ■



Jay Powell

My big mistake that kept me in college for eight years was that I didn't give it much of a chance at first.

If you are like most people, you won't have all of the answers your first year, but it is important to keep trying. The

answers will come the more you are involved, and you'll discover that there is more to college than just classes.

Find something you enjoy doing and see if there is an organization for it. Go to parties, listen to what others are doing in your field and

get to know them. The most important thing you can do is getting off the couch and introducing yourself to someone new.

It was the most rewarding choice I made in trying to figure this thing out. You are not alone, and hopefully your

experience here will teach you what it taught me. ■



Kelsey Klingenmeyer

College life has been a crazy and life-changing experience for me. I started off as your typical slacker student. I barely attended class, and I wasn't worried about getting involved.

I had an 18-day, life-changing experience and



Jane Horne

I am the laziest person I know.

I procrastinate everything. If I could sleep 12 hours a night, every night, I would be the happiest person I know. My daily battle between my want for good food and the



Mark Mize

70 percent.

That is the percentage of Christian youth who will leave the church during young adulthood, according to a study done by Lifeway Research in 2007. That same study found that only 35



Quint Qualls

A lot of people don't know what their ultimate life goal is after just graduating high school; that's why this institution called college exists. If there's one guarantee at college, it's that you won't leave here the same person as



Sinclair Sparkman

Your experience at MTSU is what you make it. Daunting as it may seem, college is the perfect opportunity to question everything you think you know. This is the time to refine your mind and expand your understanding of the world.



Kati Baird

Coming in as an MTSU freshman, I had no idea what to expect. I found acquaintances and friends, but I really wasn't in love with what college actually was compared to how I had imagined it. I felt like something was missing from my college

made changes in my work ethic and in myself. I started appreciating the opportunity to go to college and further my education. I began attending class, and I was even sitting in the front row of every class.

The last year at MTSU, I was really involved on time spent making it an intense one. I wear dresses because it's one item I have to buy, and one item I have to put on. I could spend all day in a bed with Netflix.

But I'm graduating from college after four years. I have juggled school, part-

percent will ever return.

I arrived at MTSU confident that I knew what Christianity was all about, but I was also 18. You'd be surprised how easy it is to live life for yourself without knowing it.

My advice to incoming

when you entered.

Your first year at college will be confusing; it will test your self-reliance and fortitude. Most importantly, it will test your ability to cope with that dorm neighbor who plays the same Nirvana song all night.

Have caution though; diving into the sea of human understanding will challenge you with many conflicting thoughts and ideas. Take everything with a grain of salt. Don't let people think for you. College will test your beliefs, but at the end of the day only you can decide your experience and then one day it hit me. I needed to become involved with something on campus I loved, and meet people who liked doing similar things. Today, as a soon to be senior, I am so glad I have developed a passion for my electronic media production major. I get to

campus. I became the design manager for Sidelines, and I became the coordinator of The Center for Innovation in Media. I have built many relationships on campus with the people I work with.

The only downside is leaving it all. The end of my college career is a bittersweet time jobs, being president of PRSSA and the A&E editor of Sidelines. I have a dream, salaried job set up for post-grad.

I point this out not to brag, but to prove that if I, the laziest person I know, can put her mind to something and

students: do not settle for the cookie-cutter Christianity that is so readily available in our culture. Read the Bible and invest in a good Biblical commentary, be charitable, study the doctrine, but above all else, remember that our lives are not our own. 1 Cor-

Don't settle for that roommate who never showers. Make a complaint and get another one. Never let your roommate's girlfriend become your new dorm mate; it won't work out, so don't even try letting your 'roomie' justify it. Wear flip-flops in

creed. Balance is key. You are not alone.

A good first step to finding your place is simply taking the time to talk to your professors. Helping you is their job. If you show them you care, you separate yourself from the masses. Make time for your school work because work on student films with people who share the same interests as I do, as well as getting to meet and network with professionals within the film industry. Find what you love to do, don't be afraid to get involved, and meet other people who also love what you are passionate about. ■

experience. I have built a home and surrounded myself with a family at MTSU, and it is not easy to leave.

The best advice I can give to MTSU students is to get involved, and make the most out of your college career — even if that means a hard ending to it all. ■

succeed, then anyone can. A combination of knowing what I want, being incredibly blessed and meeting the right people has resulted in my successes. College is what you make of it. Embrace the lazy — but still do rockstar things. ■

inthians 6:19-20

“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31 ■

the shower always, and make sure you're sleeping on the bottom bunk.

If you want to get a post-grad job (they are few and far between), absolutely get involved on campus; but most importantly, always know where your towel is. ■

there will always be something else you could be doing. Most of all, have fun. ■

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