

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY www.mtsusidelines.com

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Thai revolution grips two students

By Dana Owens and Associated Press

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Community News Editor and Wire Service

When the world turned upside down in Thailand Tuesday, two MTSU students found themselves in the shadow of a revolution.

In the dead of night and without firing a shot, Thailand's military overthrew popularly elected Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra Tuesday amid mounting criticism that he had undermined democ-

MTSU student Kori Diamond is currently studying in Thailand at Thammasat University in Bangkok, and Nisanee Chaiprakobwiriya is a Thai

University currently studying at MTSU.

Both students are calm and doing well, said Jennifer Campbell, director of International Education and Exchange.

The exchange office works with the Overseas Security Advisory Council, which delivers emergency reports from embassies directly to the school.

Diamond's classes were cancelled Wednesday, and students were asked to stay indoors, Campbell said, but Diamond plans to stay in Thailand unless she is forced to evacuate.

Both students were unreachable for comment Wednesday.

The U.S. Embassy, in an e-mail to its citizens living foreign exchange student from Thammasat in Thailand, said while there had been no reports of

violence, Americans should "monitor the situation closely, avoid any large gatherings and exercise discretion when moving about the city." "At this point, we are not advising Americans to

leave Thailand; however, Americans planning to travel to Thailand may wish to carefully consider their options before traveling until the situation becomes clearer," the e-mail read.

The sudden, well-orchestrated coup - the first in 15 years and a throwback to an unsettled era in Thailand - was likely to spark both enthusiasm and criticism at home and abroad. The military said it would soon return power to a democratic government but did not say when.

Striking when Thaksin was in New York at the

U.N. General Assembly, army commander Gen. Sondhi Boonyaratkalin sent tanks and troops into the drizzly, nighttime streets of Bangkok. The military ringed Thaksin's offices, seized control of television stations and declared a provisional authority loval to the king.

Bangkok, a city of more than 10 million, was calm Wednesday. Most stores were open and residents appeared unfazed, with traffic running as normal and the tanks becoming popular tourist attractions.

About 500 people gathered outside army headquarters to lend moral support to the military, chanting "Thaksin get out!"

See Thailand, 2

Panel examines media coverage of Mid-East

By Geoff Brashear

Staff Writer

Americans for Informed Democracy sponsored a panel discussion about the recent events with Lebanon and Hezbollah and with a message to students to take news sources at face value and to use multiple sources to make an informed decision.

The panel consisted of four MTSU professors, each with different backgrounds and contributions to offer: Sean Foley, assistant professor of history, John Omachonu, associate dean of Mass Communication, Karen Petersen, associate professor of political science and Larry Burriss, professor of

"It is the responsibility of the consumer to inform their self because the media is out to make money," Petersen said of how news companies have their own agenda like Fox News Channel and CNN.

The functions of the press should be to inform the consumer to make an informed decision and act as a watchdog for elected officials, Omachonu said.

"Listen to both sides, especially the other side, to make an informed decision on an issue you feel strongly about," Burriss said.

Foley has studied in the Middle East and in the Inited States, and he emphasized the importance of press coverage versus its relation to history.

"The news is often seen in short term without historical perspective," Foley said.

The recent coverage of the events between Hezbollah and Israel has not given an adequate history of Hezbollah and its tension with Israel, Foley

Much of the coverage by American reporters has been inadequate because they are gathering news in areas in which they haven't had a formal education.

The reporters have also not been able to talk to the people they should be because they do not speak the language of the people in the region, such as Hezbollah, who does have some English speaking persons, Foley said.

There were many untold stories in the conflict that needed to be told, such as distraught families and casualties of war that BBC news and Al-jazeera have been showing from the beginning, Omachonu said.

"What reporters told us about the Hezbollah conflict is sanitized news, which treats us like children and makes a weak, passive news," Omachonu said.

Despite what good news may be broadcast, if a tragedy is taking place elsewhere in the world then it is preferred news, because Americans are fascinated by bad news elsewhere in the world, Petersen said.

See Panel, 4

MT goes airborne

Captain Aaron "Split" Reid, (front of the plane) is a 2002 MTSU graduate of Aerospace Engineering. He returned Thursday from a tour of duty in Iraq with the Airforce. He is pictured in the cockpit of his F-15E, flying the MT colors during a flight over Iraq.

MT claims only Advanced Classroom in United States

By Geoff Brashear

Contributing Writer

The Paul W. Martin, Sr. Honors College building had a computer lab renovated that will now be an experimental classroom to test new technology with learning capabilities.

The Advanced Classroom Technology laboratory in room 218 of the Honors College was recently renovated from being a traditional computer lab, like those commonly found around campus, to a next-generation classroom.

MTSU is the only campus in the United States and the second college in North America with this technology, the other being the University of Toronto, said Scott Carnicom, associate dean of the Honors College. The classroom will provide

many benefits, such as reinforcing how the Honors College has the latest technology available, and it will be a resource to all faculty. It will also encourage group participation with a goal towards learning, said Kaylene Gebert, executive vice president and provost of MTSU.

"The point is to try new teaching techniques and technologies, and it is meant for collaboration of students," Carnicom said.

The room has four plasma screen televisions, four LCD projectors, the PolyVision flip chart system, eighteen tablet PCs and six iPods all to be instituted in new teaching techniques.

All of the equipment in the room is connected via the Thunder program, which uses the PolyVision flip chart to display digital notes. A professor may be writing notes on the flip chart or project solutions a group has found on all plasma screens and on the flip chart.

Notes made by the professor



Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer Honors College Dean Philip Mathis shows off MT's Advanced Classroom.

made that day may be instantly emailed to the class through the Thunder program on the flip

chart, which allows the students to become more involved in the lecture rather than hastily writing

The technology not only allows for traditional technology like camera projector and slideshow but also can be seen on each groups' plasma screens.

While the plasma screens are cutting in and of themselves, it was decided that the objective of the ACT experiment required them to be hard-wired rather than wireless. Being hard-wired allows for the best quality picture when viewing video or playing some of the educational video games that will be available.

The six iPods will be allocated for faculty use to create podcasts for students who may access them while in the room or from home on their computer, said Barbara Draude, director of Information Technology.

In addition to the computer

technology and projector system, the lab also has a tilt and pan camera as well as four microphones mounted above each group station at the plasma screen televisions so the class could be recorded and broadcast to other classrooms or colleges.

The implementation of the equipment was a collaborative effort from the Information Technology Department, Academic Affairs, and the honors college in terms of designing and installing the classroom, Draude said.

MTSU is expanding the use of the Thunder system beyond that of the University of Toronto by incorporating podcasts and plasma screens into the learning environment.

While the final figures are not in, the projected cost of the classroom is \$285,000, said K. Watson Harris, director, executive vice president and provost office.

See Advanced, 4

MTSU enrollment nears 23,000, still on the rise

By Brittany Washburn

Staff Writer

Finalized MTSU enrollment numbers reveal a razor-thin increase over last year's total headcount.

MTSU boasts 22,863 students this semester, and enrollment may well reach 23,000 students in Fall 2007, said Sherian Huddleston, assistant vice provost for Enrollment Services.

With 309 additional students on campus things may seem a little more crowded than last year, but MTSU believes it is prepared for the 23,000 students expected next year.

MTSU officials are hoping for a 2-3 percent increase in enrollment per year, but fell short of that goal this semester, Huddleston said. A headcount of 22,863 is only a 1.4 percent increase from last year's 22,554 enrollment.

"22,863 is the largest enrollment MTSU has ever had," Huddleston said.

"We're still growing," Dr. Bob Glenn, vice provost for enrollment and academic services and vice president for student affairs, said in a press release.

"It's a little lower than what we would've liked. For budget purposes, we are hoping for a 3 percent increase [each year]. But on a practical basis, we're happy to be at 1.4 [percent]," Glenn said.

"We want to grow at 3 percent per year in order to handle the growth in a responsible man-

ner," Huddleston said. "When we look at the enrollment, we think we can manage with our current resources. We think we can manage 23,000 students,"

Huddleston said. "It looked like we were headed towards [23,000] on Aug. 1. There was a 5 percent increase in new freshmen," Huddleston said. "We don't know until the fall how many will be returning."

"We could reach our goal of a 23,000 student enrollment by next fall," Huddleston said.

In the first two weeks of the 2006 Fall semester, 200 students withdrew, Huddleston said. 'Students who have already registered and paid fees withdraw

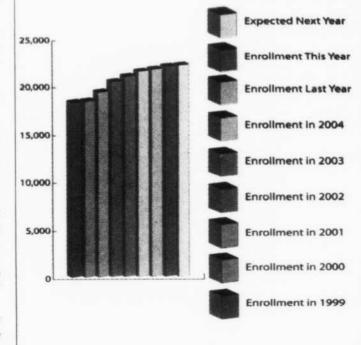
for various reasons including family or health problems, Huddleston said.

This year, there are 499 more freshmen than in the Fall 2005 semester. However, there are 22 fewer juniors and 14 fewer seniors than in 2005.

Of the 511 students who were denied admission this semester, 428 were freshmen, 66 were transfer students and 17 were returning students, Huddleston

The number of students taking a minimum of 12 hours of classes this year is 19,355. That number increased 1.1 percent, or 217 additional students, from last year's 19,138.

Graphic by Chris Carver



Webcasts stretch young students' horizons

By Josh Daughter

Contributing Writer

Videoconferencing has taken the next step in Rutherford County Schools with live Webcasting, offering enrichment programs for kindergarten-12th grade students, as well as teacher inservice programs.

The Instructional Technology Support Center has been offering videoconferencing since 1998. They started with six schools receiving the satellite broadcasts, and currently have 10 schools with two more being added next year, said Connie Schmidt, director of ITSC.

Videoconferencing provides an assortment of programming for K-12 students across Tennessee, the latest being "The Quest for Immortality: Treasures of Ancient Egypt" provided by the Frist Center for the Visual Arts. This aired on Sept. 19 and was broadcast on MTSU channel 9, along with a simultaneous Webcast.

"We watch them in class," said Evelyn Baker, a fifth grade teacher at Clark Memorial Elementary School. "The students listen and really enjoy the program. "Tuesday we're coming [to campus] to view the program," Baker said.

The program being presented will be about archeology and artifacts at Stones River National Battlefield. A park ranger will come to class to help prepare the students for their trip to campus to watch the video conference, Baker said

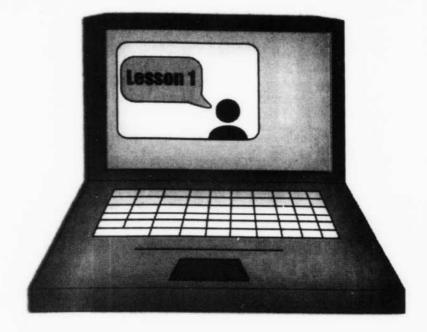
"Videoconferencing gives a virtual tour of the exhibition," said Tonya Clarkson, assistant educator for Public Programs at the Frist Center. "I think Webcasting makes it a more personal experience."

"We see Webcasting as a way to reach out to an audience who may not be able to come to the Frist Center," Clarkson said. "It opens the center up to students and teachers."

Webcasting is something Baker will be looking into. She said they have the technology to do it, but have not used it yet.

Debra VanZant, a fourth-grade teacher also at Clark Memorial, said she may try to use the Webcasting in the classroom, but will first try the teacher-oriented programs.

The Webcasts are available on the



Graphic by Chris Carver

ITSC Web site, http://www.mtsu.edu/~itsc, along with a schedule of upcoming events.

"Teachers will be able to watch wherever they are," Schmidt said.

Two new satellite sites will be in

sion stations so the programs will be broadcast into the surrounding counties, as well.

Knox County and Wilson County next

year, Schmidt said. She also said that

both of the schools have cable televi-

"I have a computer set up to capture the audio and video feed," said Anthony Tate, the Computer Facilities coordinator who sets up the Webcasts. He added that the Webcast is then digitized and sent to the Webcasting server, where multiple people can log into it right away to view the program.

"One of our long-term goals will be to archive the programs," Schmidt said, adding that not every program will be archived, but only the more interesting

"We want to make sure the Webcasting goes well first," said Tate. "We want to get the Webcasting out as a live event."

Schmidt said non-satellite schools learn about the program through posters sent by MTSU. Every K-12 school across Tennessee receives the posters which contain the time of the enrichment programs, as well as the dates and description.

Several upcoming programs include: "What does it take to be a Rocket Scientist?" Oct. 24 and "Flight to Freedom: Tennessee and the Underground Railroad" Nov. 7.

Thailand: Two MTSU students affected by nonviolent military takeover of government

Continued from 1

But in the first sign of anti-coup sentiment, Thaksin supporters faced off with rival groups celebrating the coup at two separate gatherings in Bangkok. Soldiers intervened, narrowly averting clashes.

The newly created Council of Administrative Reform put the country under martial law and declared a provisional authority loyal to the king, seizing television and radio stations and ordering government offices, banks, schools and the stock market to close for the day.

Nearly 20 tanks – their machine gun barrels festooned with ribbons in the royal color of yellow – had blocked off the Royal Palace, Royal Plaza, army headquarters and Thaksin's office at Government House

In the afternoon, the tanks began shifting from positions in downtown Bangkok. It was not immediately clear whether the tanks were withdrawing, or merely changing positions. Government public relations officials said they could not immediately

Wednesday, in his first public appearance since seizing power, Sondhi said that the overthrow was needed "in order to resolve the conflict and bring back normalcy and harmony among people."

"We would like to reaffirm that we don't have any intention to rule the country and will return power to the Thai people as soon as possible," he said in a brief television address. He was flanked by the three armed forces chiefs and the head of the national police force.

Sondhi pledged Wednesday to hold elections by October 2007, and received a ringing endorsement from the country's revered king. He also hinted that the ousted prime minister may face prosecution.

Sondhi said he would act as prime minister for two weeks until a new leader is chosen by the Council of Administrative Reform, that an interim constitution would be drafted within that time and that Thailand's foreign policy and international agreements would remain unchanged.

He said the council carried out the coup to end intensifying conflicts in Thai society, corruption in the government, insults to the revered Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej, and what the general called Thaksin's attempts to destroy democratic institutions

Sondhi, 59, known to be close to the king, is a Muslim in a Buddhist-dominated nation.

In an apparent effort to block any moves by Thaksin supporters, especially those in the countryside, a council statement urged farmers and workers to remain calm, adding that any assembly of

more than five people was punishable by six months in prison.

The Nation newspaper in Bangkok said several senior government officials and others close to Thaksin had been arrested, their fates unknown.

It said they included Deputy Prime Minister Chitchai Wannasathit and Thaksin's top aide Prommin Lertsuridej.

Agriculture Minister Sudarat Keyuraphan, one of Thaksin's closest political associates, fled to Paris with her family, it said.

Across the capital Wednesday, Thais who trickled out onto barren streets welcomed the surprise turn of events as a necessary climax to months of demands for Thaksin to resign amid allegations of corruption, electoral skullduggery and a worsening Muslim insurgency. Many people were surprised, but few in Bangkok seemed disappointed.

A few dozen people raced over to the prime minister's office to take pictures of some 20 tanks surrounding the area.

"This is exciting. Someone had to do this. It's the right thing," said Somboon Sukheviriya, 45, a software developer snapping pictures of the armored vehicles with his cell phone.

The U.S. State Department said it was uneasy about the military takeover.

"We are monitoring the situation with concern," a statement said. "We continue to hope that the Thai people will resolve their political differences in accord with democratic principles and the rule of law."

The Bush administration denounced the coup, saying it was a "step backward for democracy." Australia called it a "great disappointment," and the European Union also condemned it.

Sondhi led the precision takeover without firing a shot, sending soldiers and tanks to guard major intersections and surround government buildings while the popularly elected Thaksin, accused of corruption and undermining democratic institutions, was in New York attending the U.N. General Assembly.

From New York, Thaksin declared a state of emergency in an audio statement via a government-owned TV station in Bangkok – a vain attempt to stave off the coup. He later canceled a scheduled address to the U.N. General Assembly.

A Foreign Ministry official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said Thaksin tentatively planned to return to Thailand quickly. The official said he could not comment on the possibility of his being arrested if he returned.

"The prime minister has not given up his power,

he is not seeking asylum," said Tom Kruesopon,

CEO of Boon Rawd Trading International Co., who said he was speaking on behalf of Thaksin. Kruesopon added there was uncertainty over Thaksin's immediate plans.

However, Thaksin's official government spokesman, Surapong Suebwonglee, also with Thaksin and contacted by phone from Bangkok, painted a gloomier picture.

"We have to accept what happened," he said. "We are not coming back soon."

Thaksin, a telecommunications tycoon turned politician, handily won three general elections since coming to power in 2001 and garnered great support among the rural poor for his populist policies.

But he alienated the urban middle class, intellectuals and pro-democracy activists. They began mass street demonstrations late last year, charging Thaksin with abuse of power, corruption and emasculation of the country's democratic institutions, including what was once one of Asia's freest presses.

He also alienated a segment of the military by claiming senior officers had tried to assassinate him in a failed bombing attempt. He also attempted to remove officers loyal to Sondhi from key positions.

Some of Thaksin's critics wanted to jettison his policies promoting privatization, free trade agreements and CEO-style administration.

"I don't agree with the coup, but now that they've done it, I support it because Thaksin has refused to resign from his position," said Sasiprapha Chantawong, a university student. "Allowing Thaksin to carry on will ruin the country more than this."

Early Wednesday, the coup leaders announced that the appointment of the country's four regional army commanders to keep the peace and run civil administration in their respective areas outside Bangkok.

A senior army general, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation, said the chiefs of the army, navy and air force met with the king Tuesday to discuss formation of an interim government.

Bhumibol, a 78-year-old constitutional monarch with limited powers, has used his prestige to pressure opposing parties to compromise during political crises. He is credited with helping keep Thailand more stable than many of its Southeast Asian neighbors.

The bloodless coup was the first overt military intervention in the Thai political scene since 1991, when Suchinda Kraprayoon, a military general, toppled a civilian government in a bloodless takeover. An attempt by Suchinda to keep power led to street demonstrations, and he was ousted in 1992. Afterward, the military promised to remain in its barracks.

As recently as March, Sondhi, the army chief and Tuesday's coup leader, sought to ease speculation the military might join the protests against Thaksin.

"The army will not get involved in the political conflict. Political troubles should be resolved by politicians," Sondhi said then. "Military coups are a thing of the past."

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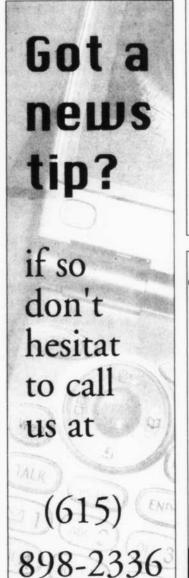
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CRIME BRIEFS

Tuesday, Sept. 12 - 1:00 p.m. Tennessee Live Stock Center Raymond U. Robriguez, 60, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was issued a citation for speeding 40 miles in a 30 mph zone.

Tuesday, Sept. 12 - 2:14 p.m. Sigma Alpha Epsilon House - Greek Row Theft Under \$500 Victims reported to the police that their vehicles had been vandalized and broken.

Tuesday, Sept. 12 - 4:54 p.m. Jim Cummings Hall Fire Alarm

A malfunctioning traffic light activated a fire alarm. The Murfreesboro Fire Department responded to the scene and cleared the smoke from the building.

Wednesday, Sept. 13 - 12:26 a.m. Sims Hall Criminal Impersonation Jacquis Taylor, 18, of Gallatin, Tenn., was arrested for criminal impersonation.

Wednesday, Sept. 13 - 10:58 a.m. Keathley University Center Harassment Victim reported to police that another student had harassed her.

Wednesday, Sept. 13 - 12:54 p.m. Deere Hall Theft Under \$500 Victim reported that his clothes had been stolen from the laundry room at Deere Hall.

Wednesday, Sept. 13 - 6:17 p.m. Blue Raider Drive Suspect left scene of accident Complainant advised that her son was involved in a hit-and-run accident on campus at the intersection of Blue Raider Drive and Champion Way.

Thursday, Sept. 14 - 12:34 p.m. MTSU Boulevard Driving on suspended license John M. Marable III, 22, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was issued state citation for driving on suspended paraphernalia.

Thursday, Sept. 14 - 12:50 p.m. Coaches lot Theft Under \$500 Victim called and reported that her bike was

Thursday, Sept. 14 - 2:22 p.m. Mass Communications lot Drug Abuse Laden Lamberth, 19, of Franklin Tenn., was issued a state citation for unlawful possession for drug paraphernalia.

Thursday, Sept. 14 - 3:38 p.m. James E. Walker Library Theft Under \$500 Victims reported that their books where reported from the library.

Thursday, Sept. 14 - 7:53 p.m. Faulkenberry Drive **Public Intoxication** Chad Cleversy, 22, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was arrested for public intoxication.

Thursday, Sept. 14 - 8:06 p.m. MTSU Boulevard **Underage Drinking** Jubal Duncan, 20, of Knoxville, Tenn. and Dillion Heath, 20, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., were both issued a state citation for underage consumption

Thursday, Sept. 14 - 9:47 p.m. Public Intoxication MTSU Boulevard Eric Matthew Scott, 20, cf Murfreesboro, Tenn., was arrested for disorderly conduct and consumption of underage.

MTSU Campus Theft Under \$500 Victim stopped an officer and reported that their belongings had been stolen from the tailgate area.

Thursday, Sept. 14 - 9:54 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 14 - 10:37 p.m. Old Main Circle Driving While Drunk Ryan Lee Roberts, 20, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was arrested for first DUI offense, underage consumption and violation of implied consent.

Thursday, Sept. 14 - 11:22 p.m. East Main Street Driving While Drunk Timothy Michael Byrnes, 20, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was arrested for first DUI offense, violation of probation, underage consumption and presenting fake identification.

Friday, Sept. 15 - 1:41 a.m. Circle K **Underage Consumption** Michael McCurry, 22, of Whitwell, Tenn., was arrested for public intoxication. Allison Thomas, 19, of Whitwell, Tenn., was

Friday, Sept. 15 - 9:03 a.m. Parking and Transportation Office Theft Over \$500 Victim reported that some of his construction equipment was stolen from the construction site at

arrested for underage consumption of alcohol.

Friday, Sept. 15 - 4:04 p.m. Scarlett Commons Apartments Fire Alarm

Parking Services.

Complainant reported that the smoke alarm was sounding in building number five. Murfreesboro Fire Department responded and found no sign of

Friday, Sept. 15 - 10:20 p.m. Greek Row **Underage Consumption** Nicholas Reid, 20, of Bartlett, Tenn., and Brendon Kuhlman, 20 of Cordova, Tenn., was issued a state citation for underage consumption of alcohol.

Friday, Sept. 15 -10:38 p.m. Location Unknown **Underage Consumption** Fredrick Hirche, 19, of Maryville, Tenn., was issued a state citation for underage consumption of alcohol.

Friday, Sept. 15 - 10:40 p.m. Greek Row Underage Possession of Alcohol Jessica L. Baker, 19, of Mt. Juliet, Tenn., was issued a state citation for possession of alcohol

Friday, Sept. 15 - 11:15 p.m. Greek Row **Underage Consumption** Ryan Roberston, 19, of Memphis, Tenn., was issued a state citation for underage consumption of alcohol.

Friday, Sept. 15 - 11:30 p.m. Greek Row Underage Possession of Alcohol Matthew B. Devine, 20, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was charged with possession of alcohol while being under the age of 21.

Saturday, Sept. 16 -12:04 a.m. Greek Row Underage Possession of Alcohol Cody L. Jones, of Columbia, Tenn., was issued a state citation for possession of alcohol under 21.

Saturday, Sept. 16 -12:11 a.m. Sigma Alpha Epsilon House - Greek Row Fire Alarm Fire alarm was pulled during a party at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon House.

Saturday, Sept. 16 -12:15 a.m. Cope Administration Building Left Scene of Accident Complainant reported that a white older model Riveira hit the gate at the Cope Administration Building and drove off.

Saturday, Sept. 16 -12:34 a.m. Greek Row Underage Possession of Alcohol Lincoln Christopher White, 19 Henderson, Tenn., was a state citation for possession of alcohol under 21.

Saturday, Sept. 16 -12:38 a.m. Underage Possession of Alcohol Kevin L. King, 20, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was issued a state citation for possession of alcohol under 21.

Saturday, Sept. 16 -12:43 a.m. Keathley University Center Public Intoxication Joseph Volmer, 22, of Bartlesville, Okla. was arrested for public intoxication.

Saturday, Sept. 16-1:36 a.m. Greek Row **Underage Consumption** A juvenile was arrested for underage consumption and possession of alcohol.

Saturday, Sept. 16 - 2:16 a.m. Greek Row Driving On Suspended License Justin Hoover, 20, of Chattanooga, Tenn., was issued a state citation for driving on a suspended license and expired registration.

Saturday, Sept. 16 -11:00 a.m. Blue Raider Drive Moving Violation

Jim O. Gist Jr., 52, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was issued a state citation for failure to obey traffic control device.

Saturday, Sept. 16 - 5:00 p.m. Mass Communication South Parking Lot Complainant reported that somebody had keyed her vehicle. She believes that it occurred last Wednesday following a slight road rage incident.

Sunday, Sept. 17 -12:39 a.m. Sigma Nu House - Greek Row Public Intoxication Dana Kawcak, 21, of Ashland City, Tenn., was arrested for public intoxication. Jeremiah Kawcak, 20, of Ashland City, Tenn., was charged with public intoxication.

Sunday, Sept. 17 -2:26 a.m. Wood Hall Vandalism Under \$500 Complainant reported that a fire extinguisher had been discharged inside the dormitory.

Sunday, Sept. 17 -3:18 a.m. Bell Street Driving While Intoxicated Pascual Hernandez, 39, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was charged with first DUI offense, driving without a license and arrested for an outstanding warrant.

Sunday, Sept. 17 - 4:05 p.m. Gore Hall Theft Under \$500 Complainant reported that her bike has been stolen from the bike rack outside Gore Hall. It was last seen Friday night around midnight. The make of the bike is an orange rear 20-inch boys Next Freestyle Bike with rear stunt pegs on wheels.

Monday, Sept. 18 - 8:44 a.m. Scarlett Commons Club House Vandalism Over \$500 Complainant report that several lights had been vandalized in the Scarlett Commons Courtyard.

Monday, Sept. 18 - 9:28 a.m. Middle Tennessee Boulevard Registration Violation Sean Michael Roberge, 22, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was issued a state citation for registration violation and failure to follow financial responsibility law.

Monday, Sept. 18 -1 0:12 a.m. Lyon Hall Theft Under \$500 Victim called and stated that someone has stolen her bike and requested to file a report.

Monday, Sept. 18 - 12:28 p.m. Tennessee Livestock Center Complainant called and reported that there was a dumpster fire that it was out, but still smoking.

Monday, Sept. 18 – 2:57 p.m James E. Walker Library Complainant called and stated that there is a student who had his book stolen from the third floor of the James E. Walker Library.

Monday, Sept. 18 - 3:04 p.m. Faulkenberry Drive Driving On Suspended License John Meler, 20, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was cited for Driving on a suspended driver license.

Monday, Sept. 18 - 9:18 p.m. Faulkenberry Drive Andrew Haselden, 22, of Johnson City Tenn., was issued a state citation for driving on suspending driver license and for registration violation.

Tuesday, Sept. 19 - 11:14 a.m. Womack Lane Apartment A Cedrick Herbert, 21, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., arrested for criminal trespassing.

Tuesday, Sept. 19 - 1:41 p.m. Smith Hall Vandalism Complainant reported graffiti on the electrical box at the loading dock.



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National horse championship canters through Murfreesboro

By Angelea Smith

Contributing Writer

Coming from barns spanning the county, 1,400 horses are expected to make appearances at the National Walking Horse Association 2006 National Championship that started Wednesday.

"We have entries from across the country, including Pennsylvania, Indiana, Florida, Georgia, Texas and Kentucky," said Connie Holbrook, the **NWHA** 2006 Show Chairperson.

The show will feature a variety of attractions including the best of the flat shod Tennessee walking horse, naturally gaited horses and an auction to benefit the Association.

"This is our fifth one, and it is the biggest turn out ever. There are a record number of stalls reserved," said Val Delana, a volunteer member on the NWHA board.

The show is being held in Murfreesboro for the third time due to its central location and the accessibility to its members and participants.

In a recent controversy in Shelbyville, showings dealt with illegal tactics used on the horse to make the natural gait better. The A closer look... ...at the National Horse **Association Championships**

Judges Martha Day, Cedar Hill, Tenn.

H. T. Derickson, Stanton, Ky.

Adam Hall, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Versatility Judge: Susan Hester, Autryville, N.C.

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tactic used is known as soring.

The Association's main purpose is to eliminate soring, and they have a zero tolerance policy for soring, in addition to an excellent record of enforcing this policy, Delana said.

"It is sad to say, but that should

not be a surprise," Delana said. "Kentucky and Missouri shows have been canceled. It isn't as many trainers as before using these illegal tactics and it has gotten better, but better is not good enough. The things that some people will do to win, it is not

Dates

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More info at:

www.nwha.com

The Association has always followed the United States Department of Agriculture guidelines and will continue the same at all their shows across the country,

"If you have nothing to hide, there is no problem with the USDA inspection," Holbrook said. "We have nothing but respect for any organization and department who promotes the welfare of our beautiful horses."

The National Walking Horse Association was founded in 1998 and is an alliance of people committed to preserving the natural abilities and welfare of the walking horse.

They host a national walking horse championship ever year.

'There will be many horse vendors and non-horse vendors, as well as the Tennessee Black Horse Drill Team Performing," Delana said. "The show will open with the NWHA flag team. I am very excited and I can't wait."

The show will feature 131 different classes, many different vendors and a wide variety of trainers and performances.

The Championship starts at noon each day and will be held at Murfreesboro's Miller's Coliseum. The competition will end Saturday.

Advanced: MT boasts tech room

Continued from 1

The classroom and technology was funded by technology access fees and the university through general funds, the provost office and various parties, Harris said.

If all MTSU classrooms were equipped similarly, there would be unseen opportunity for collaboration. The ACT is arranged for 16 students so there would be an economic impact as it would require more professors for the smaller classes, Mathis said.

This would promote new opportunities for teaching and learning and increase interactivity between students and technology, Mathis said.

"We're very excited to try it out. It's our responsibility to be in sync with recommendations that mature Honors Colleges should be doing," said Phil Mathis, dean of University Honors College.

"It's an example of how MTSU is the educational leader in the state," Gebert said.

Ideas for the system extend beyond the classroom in the Honors College, said Watson Harris. Eventually, the James E. Walker Library could see the PolyVision digital flipchart in the study rooms to aid in studentgroup work and collaboration.

"I would like to stress that, just because the room is in the Honors College, it is open to all students and faculty, the Honors College just donated the space," Carnicom said.

"There will be workshops on the technology and how the technology integrates to enhance learning. We want to show the faculty where the future of education is," Gebert said.

"The hallmark of good technology shouldn't be an impediment to learning," Carnicom said.

The difficult task will be to determine how the technology will integrate into the classroom and what courses will be most appropriate for it, Gebert said.

"The lab will be used to try out things, test drive ideas before several rooms like this are instituted on campus," Mathis said.

"It will be an experiment of collaborative teaching techniques to promote more collaborative group learning among students," Draude said.

Although the classroom is a prototype now, if it proves successful, it has a lot of potential to be implemented as a classroom standard in the years to come.

The Honors College will host a special event in November and take submissions from professors and departments for proposed classes and educational techniques. The college will also begin to train professors in the spring to use the new technology, Mathis said.

File-sharing club opens up options

By Noel Rodriguez-Pak

Staff Writer

If you're looking to break the hold Microsoft has on you computer, a new software-sharing group called the Linux Users

Group might have the solution. Users should have the right to modify your software and not have it confined to corporate development, said Carl Caum, Linux Systems Administrator for the computer sciences

department. "One reason this started was we were all computer science majors," said Michael O'Brien, senior computer science major and club member.

Although the club mostly comprises computer science majors, O'Brien said a major goal is to incorporate users from different disciplines.

"There is a lot of experience," O'Brien said. "For example, there are a lot of things I know that other members don't necessarily know and at meetings I can give a talk about certain subjects and can help them understand different aspects."

LUG is an extension of the open source movement, which began in the 1980s. It began as a collaboration of users to help improve software and the computer systems that utilized them.

"People were free to use and upgrade the data codes until corporations such as Microsoft closed these codes and only allowed modification through corporate means," Caum said.

The group uses an operating system called Linux, which uses open source codes that allow

individuals to modify and upgrade the system to meet their own personalized specifi-

"The goal of LUG is to better understand software, get the most out of it, and use it to help contribute back to the scientific community," Caum said. "Linux is more proficient and efficient than windows. A few months ago there was an error in windows that took Microsoft weeks to detect and fix. Mozilla Firefox, which was developed using Linux, had the same problem but only took two hours to correct."

Linux also allows several users to view the data codes within the software and make modifications.

"This was the reason why the error was found so quickly in the Mozilla Firefox network," Caum said.

There are 150 distributors of Linux, groups that modify the basic template and modify it to meet certain standards. Some groups sell their modified versions, but most give them away

However, even though these distributors sell their modified versions of Linux, the primary benefit is the service that the distributor provided. The idea is to sell services, not just software, Caum said.

"This group is fairly new and this will be the first full semester that the group will be able to come together and share ideas and innovations," Caum said.

The next club meeting will be next Friday, Sept. 29, in the Kirksey Old Main Building, Room 360 at 5 p.m.

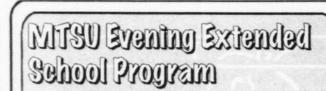
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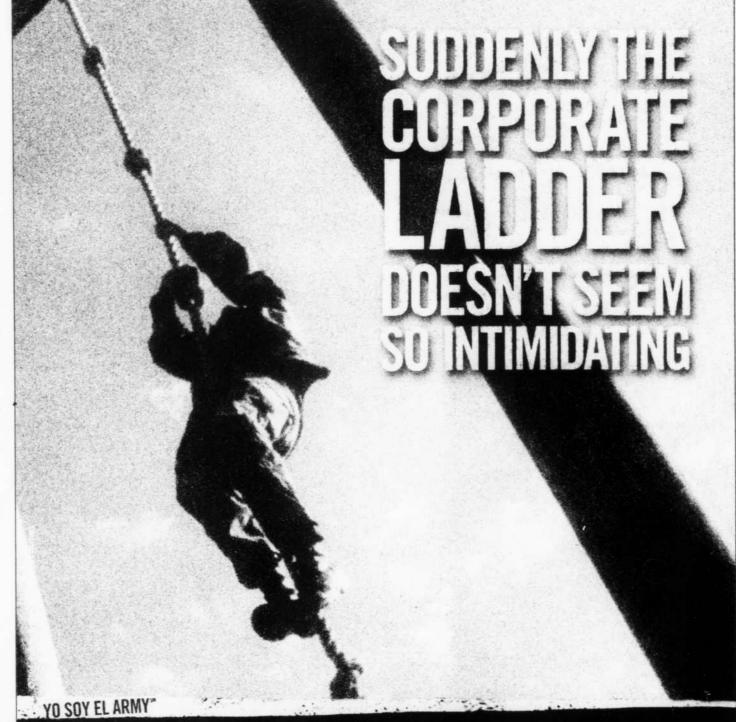
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"At Tucker Theater"

Continued from 1

The media operates under the libertarian principle that men and women have value because they're born, Burriss said. If the media makes everyone mad then they're doing a good job,

John Maynor, the moderator of the panel asked about the reap-

pearing theme among the panel, BBC news. "Our media is a business and out to make money, the BBC is controlled by the government, and therefore not its agenda is not pri-

marily to make money," Burriss said. "I grew up with the BBC, but of course my views change over the years, but the BBC is less apt to sanitize the news," Omachonu said.

The BBC does make mistakes on American policy, in some cases referring to senators as congressmen, Foley said. A student asked how to identify sources that are biased or provide

There is no easy way to determine which are biased, but it would help to read multiple sources on the same story to make an informed decision.

The Americans for Informed Democracy was started after Sept. 11 by a group of students. The organization now has over 12,500 members on over 500 campuses across the country.

The AID has no partisan ideology, stating that its mission is just

to inform students to help them make informed decisions.

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()PINIONS

From the Editorial Board As MTSU grows, recognition from **Board of Regents should increase**

With MTSU inching closer every year to 23,000 undergraduate students, the issue is raised of how large should the school grow. Already we exceed University of Tennessee-Knoxville in undergraduate students, and because of this we have been receiving more recognition from the state legislation and the Tennessee Board of Regents.

Yet more importantly, MTSU has been elevated by this growth and the improvements that have followed. We no longer have the reputation of being just a rural, backwoods school for country bumpkins with cows running across campus. We have been elevated into an honorable institution for higher education.

President Sidney McPhee said it best in his state of the university address Aug. 27, the day before this semester started. In his speech, he mentioned how MTSU was placed on the back burner when it came to the necessary funds that this school needed to grow.

"We were told that when things [got] better that higher education was going to get its turn, and it didn't," McPhee said. But not only will higher education get its turn, but also MTSU will have hers.

State legislators must recognize that MTSU fills an educational role throughout the state and continues to increase it allure outside of Tennessee borders. Students come from all over the South and the East Coast for our Recording Industry Management program and the Aerospace program. We have a state-of-the-art room called the Advanced Classroom Technology that is one of a kind in the country.

We are becoming more international with each passing semester. More foreign exchange students are populating our campus, and more MTSU students discover the joy of traveling abroad. New partnerships are being struck with schools in Japan and Russia.

When we reach 23,000 undergraduate students it will be a small milestone for an ever-growing university that struggles with growing pains on a daily basis. This transition of overpopulation will not cease until the needs of MTSU are met by legislators, students, faculty and alumni alike.

Celebrity obsession out of control

All this time I've been concerned with gay rights, the solution was right in front of me. I've searched and searched for an answer, been in countless debates for the sake of egalitarianism, all the while, I could have just looked in the pages of Us Weekly.

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie are the new saviors of humanity. For all of you losing sleep at night anticipating their nuptials, they've come to an agreement - they will marry only when everyone can.

Brangelina's public statement can be taken two ways. Do I applaud their ability to recognize the insanity of American obsessions, or do I role my eyes at their pretentiousness? Do they really think they are that important?

Jolie is now the poster-child for international affairs. Though her efforts are nothing but admirable, her fame and the number of those idolizing her philanthropy far outshine those who are actually keeping the peace. Though her name rolls off the tongue much easier than Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, the president of the United Nations Assembly, and she is certainly more appealing to the eye than John Bolton, the U.S. ambassador to the U.N., her altruism is hardly earth-shattering.

Give me millions upon millions of dollars and the freedom to travel the world and you better believe I would be visiting underprivileged Ethiopian children, too. Shouldn't it be expected for those with infinite means to give back, rather than for it to be headline news?

Long gone are the days of celebrity-worthy politicians, of people like Martin Luther King CNN and the featured facility. Who wants



Kvetch A Break

and Gloria Steinem gracing the covers of mag-

Sarah Lavery

Staff Columnist

azines. Now, unless you're hot, have a few action movies under your belt and a few tumultuous, public marriages to boot, your charity means nothing to the media. I, too, am guilty of gossiping. There is some

visceral part of me that thrives off of hearing about the riotous and fabulous lives of celebrities. Sometimes, I do read Us Weekly. Sometimes, I mutter to myself, "What was she thinking?" at certain outfits. And sometimes, I feel a twinge of happiness to learn that these beautiful, amazing, rich 'glamazons' are battling exhaustion, cocaine overdoses and horribly swift relationships.

Nevertheless, our obsession with celebrities has gotten out of control. While watching a CNN segment addressing anthrax, I noticed something peculiar. Four men in lab coats, with test tubes in hand, demonstrated new methods for finding the deadly powder. Under the expensive equipment and the watchful eye of officious researchers was an Us Weekly sprawled out on the table.

This must have been a slip-up on part of

people doing such imperative work distracted by gossip breaks? "Over here, you can see that we can now find anthrax powder in a matter of seconds - wait, Britney Spears had another baby? Are her and K-Fed still together?"

The image is both scary and hilarious.

Thousands of people - myself included, but for research only, I promise - checked out Puff Daddy's Myspace to watch him pick his nose, brush his teeth, and complain about morning breath. "See? I'm just like you," he says, wiping crumbs out of the corners of his mouth. Is anyone actually getting excited about this banality? Are people so bored with their own trivial lives that the slightest peek into celebrity life is engrossing? I have to admit, I did find something satisfying in seeing Diddy so raw and real. Breath stinky, lips crumbly and teeth grimy he looks just like your everyday, run-ofthe-mill millionaire rather than someone eliciting world fame.

More money is paid for a picture of Jolie sitting on a balcony in Zimbabwe or Spears dropping a child than most of us will earn in a our entire lives. Someday, I hope to make a million dollars. Given my chosen profession, it's a goal likely not to be materialized, but, nevertheless, I'll wait in vain.

Instead, maybe I'll just stalk Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes, rip off that alien baby's wig and mask and then I'll be set for life.

Sarah Lavery is a sophomore mass communication major and can be reached at

Industry promotes perfect body myth

The fashion capitol of the world is making news, but this time it's not for the newest designs. Madrid, Spain is taking action against models that are obviously well underweight.

Models were not allowed to participate in the much-anticipated fashion week if officials thought the model was "too small." Though Madrid is trying to end the trend of ultra-thin models, they are still expecting a woman to be very thin. For example, a woman that is 5'9" and wants to have a chance to strut her stuff on the runways of Spain is expected to weigh 123 pounds, a good seven pounds less than the average "petite" woman of the same height.

It's about time the model industry quits obsessing over how tiny they can make their models. The average-sized woman is a size 12, not a double zero. It's no wonder why so many women are suffering from serious diseases such as anorexia and bulimia.

Extremely thin models and other celebrities have more of an effect on society than they may realize. How many times have you seen a model on TV or in a magazine and thought, "I wish I had her legs," or "I wish I had her breasts."

New York designer, Michael Kors claims, "I like a curvy body. I like real women, you know? I mean, my clothes have to translate to real life."

I'm not sure if I am buying into that quote 100 percent because if you take a look around on the New York runways, your eyes will be filled with toothpick thin models. Kors' definition of a woman with curves may be a model that is a size 3 instead of a 1 or 2.

Women aren't the only ones obsessing over their looks anymore. Children and men are jumping on the bandwagon that women have been riding for decades. Males are becoming more and more self-absorbed with their looks and body images, while children are becoming more and more self-conscious about their appearances at younger ages.

I think a major part in the



obsession with self-image is played in a large part by the media. For example, everywhere you turn, rail-thin women and men with rock hard bodies are thrown in your face - whether it's on TV, billboards or magazines, people are constantly staring at models with the "perfect" body.

TV shows like ABC's "Extreme Makeover," MTV's "I Want a Famous Face" and E!'s "Dr. 90210" do nothing for the viewer except make them pick apart their body and point out their flaws, which, in reality, aren't half as bad as they are believed to be. I think trying to be something you are not is one of the most unflattering things a person can be.

Why try to change what you have been given? You were obviously made that way for a particular reason. These shows make viewers think its OK to go under the knife just to make them something they really aren't.

People are always competing with one another, whether it's over something as important as a job promotion or something as petty as playing a video game. If someone thinks another person looks better than them, then most are willing to go to extremes to out-do them.

Our society needs to realize there is no one that has the "perfect" body. Ask the girl that is a size 2 if its fun trying to find clothes that are small enough to fit her petite frame, and then ask the girl that's a size 12, and I am confident they will both be complaining that nothing fits right. In reality, it doesn't matter what size you are, you're not going to be happy with your body unless you are comfortable with yourself.

DeAnn Currey is a senior mass communication major that can be reached at jdc3v@mtsu.edu.

Spinach Jihad: New face of terrorism

If you follow the news, you have heard about the E. Coli-tainted spinach that has sickened over 100 Americans. If you were to replace "terrorists" or "terrorism" with "spinach," our national dialogue might sound something like this:

'America's enemies are numerous and powerful, and they have attempted to hit us in our most vulnerable weak spot - our collective stomach. You may have seen the stories on the news - families torn apart by deadly spinach, lurking in your delicious housesalad, regardless of whether you use Ranch or "Freedom" Dressing.

'Spinach has shown its true colors, aligning itself with dreaded Muslim extremist group, al-Qaeda, in an attack on truth, justice and our American way of life. It has struck deep in the hearts of our BiLos, our Piggly-Wigglies and our Krogers. However, spinach may count itself lucky that it has not yet messed with Texas. Spinach, don't mess with Texas.

'Americans are encouraged to remain vigilant against extremist E. Coli spinach and report anyone with spinach to the Department of Homeland Security. We cannot be too cautious in these trying times. It is best to err on the side of



caution and report all incidences of spinach, however harmless they may turn out to be. Your neighbors, family members and even strangers should all be reported. Don't listen to the fuss over civil liberties being violated. These liberties are exactly what we're trying to protect with these seizures of potentially dangerous spinach.

'Today, we send a powerful message to spinach everywhere: You can run, but you can't hide.

'Recent intelligence has shown us that spinach is linked to the sending of anthrax-laced envelopes to several Americans in recent years. Spinach may also support gay marriage and abortion. In response to this dangerous vegetative threat, the president has authorized the creation of a new office in the Judicial Branch, the Department of Salad Security. The DSS will conduct raids on any place suspected of hiding spinach and be responsible for prosecuting individuals who harbor these PMDs, or Plants of Mass Destruction.

'Congress is showing its solidarity as well. In the Capitol Cafeteria, homegrown raw tobacco leaf will replace spinach as the salad material of choice and spinach dip will be replaced by pure Texas crude oil.

'Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld is meeting with British Prime Minister Tony Blair in the coming week. The two will propose a resolution authorizing military force against spinach in other countries, and will also gesture at official-looking maps and make serious facial expressions on

'FEMA Director David Paulison is planning a trip to spinach-devastated Wisconsin to assess the situation in effort to better brief the president, who is expected to tell Paulison he's doing a "helluva job."

Secretary of State Condolezza Rice will hold a press conference, in which she will look threateningly at the camera. Additionally, several church groups under Reverends Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson will host a "Spinach Burn" to stir up patriotic feeling. 'Halliburton Inc. has won a fedsupplies for the elimination of spinach, both domestically and abroad. Vice President Dick Cheney insists he had nothing to do with it. He also questions the patriotism of anyone who asks. 'Now is not the time for politi-

eral defense contract to provide

cal discourse, debate or discussion. Trust your government to deal with the threat of evil extremist spinach and forego some of your nonessential liberties in these difficult times. Your groceries may be inspected; your garbage may be examined, but we're here for you. In the name of patriotism, do not question our methods or intents, so we can win the War on Veggie Terror.'

Although utterly silly, this makes a point. The line is blurring between facts, and the nationalistic frenzy we have allowed ourselves to be whipped into. There are two or more sides to every argument. Don't be fooled by the black-and-white "with us or against us" mob mentality. It is counter-intuitive to an intelligent democracy and it has been allowed to continue for too long.

Evan Barker is junior music performance major and can be reached at ehb2d@mtsu.edu.

Letters to the Editor

Greeks must not be judged as a whole

To the Editor:

Let me start by saying I am not Greek, nor have I ever rushed. I've been to two Greek parties and maintain a balance of Greek and non-Greek friends. That being said, even I was offended by Matt Hurtt's column "Greeks must recreate honorable foundation." [Sept. 18]

There have been numerous rumors about why Kappa Sigma is no longer chartered on this campus, but to use a rumor as a truth is irresponsible journalism. The incident at the Beta house was also rumorbased, and the facts have seemingly escaped Hurtt's column. He even borders on libel by suggesting Greek Life employees promote underage drinking. That goes beyond irresponsible. That borders on crime.

The Greek system on campus is very important, and most leaders of our organizations are Greek-affiliated. It provides a way to get involved on campus, make connections and succeed in college. Retention studies show that involvement on campus is directly correlated with student graduation rates, and being Greek is a powerful way to become involved.

Oh sure, Greeks may party, but so do non-Greeks, just not on Greek Row. To judge an entire society of people on a few bad apples is to say the non-Greeks are undisciplined like the drunk kid who climbed the field goal post. It's just dumb.

Hurtt seemed to have done some research to find out where the Greek and fraternal system started in the United States. Maybe he should finish his research and report correctly if he wants to have any credit in the real world. This all comes from an objective point of view. I'd hate to think what the Greeks think of Hurtt right now.

Graduate Student, College of Education and Behavioral Science

Men's drunken words not anti-Semitic

To the Editor:

I would like to comment briefly on Sarah Lavery's piece. ["Anti-Semitic bigotry unacceptable," Sept. 18]I find it funny, first of all, that Ms. Lavery would stand up for a religion she so heartily denounces. Secondly, the "made up" story of how the Jews killed Jesus is commonly referred to as the New Testament - you won't find it on Facebook or in the gossip columns you read, Ms. Lavery. Furthermore, both men Lavery point out as being Anti-Semites were drunk when they made their statement. I'm sure Ms. Lavery would appreciate it if we took everything she said while drunk seriously. Take, for instance, her columns. Lastly, no one cares how wasted you got over the weekend and who you talked to, so stop writing about it. Your columns lack substance, and until you learn what matters, then I'm going to stop reading your stuff. I suggest anyone with half a brain do the same. By the way, couldn't we substitute something like "Unbuckling the Beltway" in her spot until she learns what is and isn't worthy or print?

Brian Petraitis Sophomore, College of Mass Communication

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FEATURES

Laptops spreading on campus

Students cite convenience, big discounts

By Andrew Johnson

They're invading our campus and there's no stopping them. They are portable, durable, convenient and sometimes annoying.

Laptop computers are becoming more popular every day. On any given day of the week, numerous students can be seen on campus surfing the Internet, checking their email or writing a paper on their lap-

For some, it's nice to have their own-little world in front of them. Students and teachers alike have embraced this new technology, but some teachers question the motives of some students that use laptops in the classroom.

"In one of the business communication classes that I teach, one student had a laptop computer and students were crowding around his computer in awe," said Stephen D. Lewis, business professor and department chair for Business Communication and Entrepreneurship. "It was certainly distracting and I asked him to turn it off."

Regardless. Lewis maintained that laptops are useful in the classroom, citing the requirement of a laptop for his daughter, who attends medical school in east Tennessee.

Dr. David Badger, journalism professor in the Mass Communication department, held a similar

"Laptops can be a distraction, especially if students are playing games," Badger said. "However, they are invaluable as a note-taking device.

Badger also noted that laptops can be dangerous because of long power cables. In classrooms, when cables are laid across the walk area adjacent to desks, students could trip over them and fall, or the laptop itself could be pulled off and fall. He recommended that students charge their laptops before they come

Nevertheless, students continue to bring laptops to class. Lucy Mirando, a senior recording industry (business) major, uses her laptops to take notes in all of her classes - except her French class.

"It's easier than writing because I can type faster than I write," Mirando said. "In addition, I can look up things on the Internet when teachers mention certain Web sites. Liust look it up on my laptop and



Photo by Blake Arnold | Art Directo

Freshman advertising major Mallory Phillips of Waverly enjoys being outside while taking advantage of wireless Internet on campus. Many students use their laptops in the Quad.

bookmark it.

Mirando claimed that she never leaves her house without her laptop, and that it's a good way to help cure boredom. She frequently uses wireless Internet with her 12-inch Macintosh Powerbook G4.

Megan Holt, a senior journalism major, also bought an Apple laptop.

I got a student discount and family discount," Holt said about her iBook. She reasoned that while laptops were more expensive than personal computers, they were worth the money because of their portability and convenience.

Clearly, laptops are becoming more popular through student discounts offered by many companies.

"The student discount ranges from \$50-\$300, depending on which model you buy," said John Ingle, a senior computer science major and employee of Phillips Bookstore. Ingle helps students and parents figure out what model of laptop they want to buy and what software to buy in addition to the software that comes with the laptop.

"Students and parents can either purchase their

computer online through the Web site (www.mtsu.edu/apple) or we can order it for them, acting as a proxy," Ingle said.

Matt Snyder, a campus representative for Apple computers, also helps students and parents decide what type of laptop to buy.

"My job is to evangelize Apple on campus," Snyder said from a booth in the Keathley University Center. "I am here to help students learn about Macintosh computers, but I also promote Apple products such as MacBooks and iPods.

Other companies such as Dell (www.dell.com) and HP (www.shopping,hp.com) also offer student

Once students purchase laptop computers, they can use them to access the Internet on campus.

"Access is automatically granted via the Pipeline username and password when using the wireless network," said Greg Schaffer, director of Network Services. "All users must use the network in accordance with the Information Technology Resources Policy, available at www.mtsu.edu/~itd. as well as in

accordance with Tennessee Board of Regents policies and state and federal laws and regulations."

But students don't have to buy a laptop in order to use one on campus. The James E. Walker Library allows students to rent a laptop for two hours, as long as they don't leave the library.

"The laptops are purchased by student technical fees, so only students can use them," said Ann Funkhouser, assistant manager of the Reserves section of the library. "We have Dell laptops with both floppy drives and CD-ROM drives."

Funkhouser stressed the fact that students should save their files constantly, because once they turn the laptops off, the files they are working on are lost permanently. Students are also responsible for laptops if they are not returned and must pay for all costs including the computer and the software if the com-

Whether they're from the library or bought by students, however, laptops on campus will likely only increase. After all, somebody has to keep your Facebook profile updated.

AP Wire Reports

NBC to offer free shows online

NBC is about to join CBS, ABC and Fox in offering free, advertising-supported shows online.

Starting Oct. 1, NBC will begin streaming on the Internet episodes of all six of its new prime-time series one day after their network airing.

The episodes will run on the network's video player, called NBC 24/7. The episodes will be accompanied by blogs from the shows producers, writers or stars.

The network said it would air the first four episodes of its new comedies, "30 Rock," and "Twenty Good Years," and the first eight episodes of its new dramas, "Kidnapped," "Friday Night Lights," "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip," and "Heroes."

NBC will also allows fans to interact with the creators of all its shows on the night of their premiers, the company said.

Apple launches iTV, movies on iTunes

Apple Computer launched its long-awaited online movie service Tuesday and showed off a device that will allow consumers to watch the videos on television.

The iTunes Music Store will initially carry movies only from the studios of The Walt Disney Co., where Apple CEO Steve Jobs is a board member. Jobs said more than 75 films will be available on iTunes from Walt Disney Pictures, Pixar, Touchstone Pictures and Miramax. New releases will be priced at \$12.99, when preordered and during the first week of sale, or \$14.99 afterward. Library titles will be sold for \$9.99 each.

At a media event Tuesday, Jobs also showed off a slim, compact set-top box, dubbed iTV, that will allow consumers to wirelessly send movies purchased online as

on a computer to a television set It will sell for \$299 and be available early next year.

The device, which looks like a much flatter but slightly wider version of the Mac mini computer, will work with Windows-based or Mac computers that use the iTunes software to manage multimedia files.

Jobs also announced a slate of iPods upgrades, including a thinner, aluminum-cased iPod Nano, which stores media files on flash memory chips. Models, ranging in capacity from 2 gigabytes to 8 gigabytes will come in five colors and sell for between \$149 and

Other additions to the iPod lineup include an 80-GB video iPod and a smaller-sized iPod Shuffle that will be available in October.

Warner Music to distribute content through YouTube

Warner Music Group Corp. has agreed to distribute and license its copyrighted songs and other material through online video trendsetter YouTube Inc., marking another significant step in the entertainment industry's migration to the Internet.

Under a revenue-sharing deal announced Monday, New Yorkbased Warner Music has agreed to transfer thousands of its music videos and interviews to YouTube, which has become popular among 20-somethings.

Warner Music has also agreed to license its songs to those who upload their homemade videos to the Web site.

Warner Music is the country's third largest recording company with annual revenue of \$3.5 billion. Besides it namesake label, the Warner Music family includes Atlantic, Asylum, Elektra and Rhino - a group that includes vintage recording artists like Led Zeppelin, the Doors and Ray Charles, as well as recent hit makers like Linkin well as other digital content stored . Park, Green Day and Faith Hill.

Wireless network to expand soon Plans include coverage for classrooms, not dorms

By Colby Sledge

Features Editor

Students with laptops equipped with wireless cards will be pleased to know that they will soon be able to Google their way through more areas of campus

The only drawback: They likely still won't be able to do so in their dorm rooms.

"We're planning to complete coverage of all the classrooms," said Greg Schaffer, director of Network Services. "That's a major goal that we have to have finished next spring."

Many academic buildings already have wireless Internet access, and some buildings, such as the Kirksey Old Main and the Keathley University Center, have access to higher speed coverage.

Some academic buildings, however, such as the Learning Resource Center and the Voorhies Industrial Studies building, are only partially covered (see map below). Under the proposed plan, all classrooms in those buildings - and any others currently undeserved - would have wireless access.

There are no current plans, however, for expansion of the wireless network in dorms across campus. Most dorm complexes, however, have wireless access in

"It's really good down here," sophomore mass communication major Everette Musgrave said of Cummings Hall's wireless signal. Students working the desk in the lobby between Wood and Felder Halls said they had not received any complaints about wireless signal, either.

Schaffer reasoned that since all dorms have network access through hard wires, wireless signal in the dorm rooms wasn't a top priority.

Typically you'll get better speed with the wires than the wireless," Schaffer said. The hardwired network's speed is 100 megabytes per second, whereas the fastest wireless network on campus runs at 54 megabytes per second.

Decisions on wireless coverage are currently made primarily through responses and suggestions made by the student body.

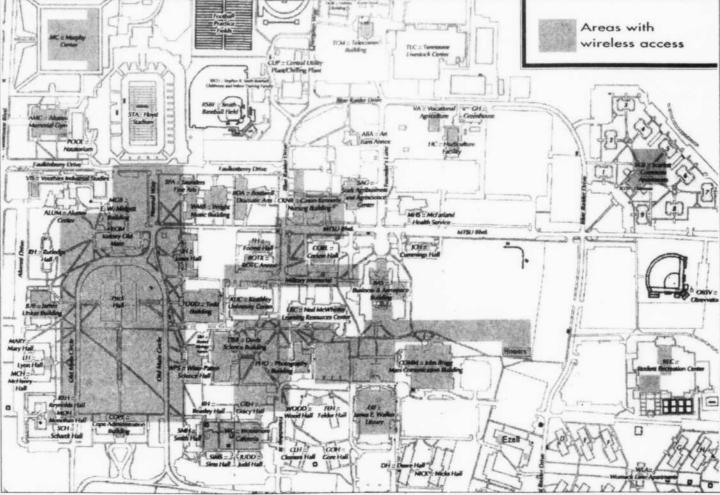
"In the beginning we had a wireless committee to determine where the pilot project areas would be," Schaffer said. "As time has gone on, we have looked for feedback from the students about

where would be a good area for particular wireless coverage."

The wireless network, which currently consists of more than 250 wireless transmitters, is almost entirely paid for by technology access fees that make up part of student fees. As a result, all wireless points have to be accessible by the student body, and Schaffer encouraged student response and information about coverage reliability.

"I can't promise we'll do it sometimes the suggestions are, 'Well, I live right off campus, can you beam the signal over so I can get free Internet?" Schaffer said with a laugh, adding that he still welcomed all feedback.

Any student with recommendations for wireless coverage can e-mail Greg Schaffer at schaffer@mtsu.edu.



An approximation of wireless coverage on campus. Note: Shape and height of coverage areas may vary slightly from depictions above

SPORTS

MT heads west to face OU

By Casey Brown

Staff Writer

With last Thursday's satisfying win over Tennessee Tech sending fans home happy, Middle Tennessee turns its attention Saturday to a much more daunting task. The Blue Raiders travel to Norman to face the Oklahoma Sooners, a perennial national championship contender. OU is coming off a controversial loss at the hands of Oregon and will probably have to win out to have a chance at a BCS bowl bid. Will MT stand a chance against Heisman hopeful Adrian Peterson and the Sooners?

When OU runs

MT's defense has been exceptional to date, ranking 11th nationally by only allowing 218.7 yards per game.

Unfortunately, that lofty position will be a distant memory after Saturday. Adrian Peterson is one of the best backs in college football, averaging 219.3 all-purpose yards per game. No Blue Raider linebacker has seen a talent like Peterson, who managed 279 yards against a tough Oregon defense.

MT held Tennessee Tech to ten yards rushing on Thursday, its best effort of the I-A era. Still, the Golden Eagles were able to find some holes early and move the chains on the first few drives of the game. The thought of Peterson having those same openings is a sobering one. Advantage: OU

When OU passes

If the Blue Raiders are looking for a favorable matchup, this is their best shot. Promising young quarterback Rhett Bomar's dismissal from the team effectively put the brakes on OU's preseason title talk.

The Sooners boast a trio of talented sophomore receivers in Malcolm Kelly, Manuel Johnson and Juaquin Iglesias, but someone has to throw the ball to them.

Senior wide receiver Paul Thompson was moved behind center to take over for Bomar despite having limited experience at the position, backing up Jason White two years ago. After a shaky opener against UAB, Thompson has performed adequately.

An experienced MT secondary will be the key to keeping the Oklahoma offense off the field. The 6'4" Kelly has been solid so far and will present matchup problems for someone, most likely Bradley Robinson. But the other corners and safeties have a decent shot at limiting the damage through the air.

Advantage: Even

When MT runs

Oklahoma has traditionally been known as a defensive powerhouse, and despite inconsistency at times, this season should be no exception. The run defense is anchored by the latest in a series of great OU linebackers, senior Rufus Alexander.

Eugene Gross ran well against Maryland two weeks ago, yet inexplicably could not get going against the Golden Eagles. Desmond Gee came off the bench for a career outing, gaining 61 yards and a touchdown on only seven rushes.

With the MT passing game woeful at best in the first three games of the season, Gross and DeMarco McNair will have to continually gain positive yardage and move the chains for the Blue Raiders to have any chance of keeping it close.

Quarterback Clint Marks gained 45 yards on a nice bootleg against TTU, but it would not be wise to expect that kind of opportunity against OU. Advantage: OU

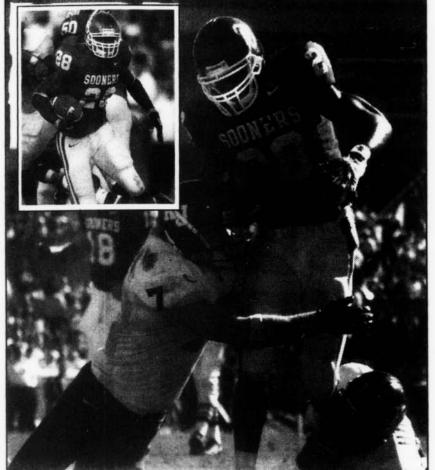
When MT passes

Here we go again. One could argue that Tech quarterback Lee Sweeney outplayed Marks last week and still lost 44-0. A 50percent completion percentage, interceptions, and a measly 127 passing yards against a I-AA school are not going to cut

Marks did find wide receivers Luke Paschall and Taron Henry in the end zone late in the game, but the passing game must utilize the tight ends more.

The Sooners will apply plenty of pressure, with a powerful front seven that includes Big 12 Newcomer of the Year C.J. Ah You sack leader Calvin Thibodeaux as well as former starters Larry Birdine and John Williams, both of whom missed 2005 because of injuries.

The OU secondary features a rising star in super sophomore Reggie Smith, who



Junior running back 1285 Admin Poterson breaking tackles to rush for 51 yards and a touchdown in Oklahoma Sooners' win

has made a successful transition from strong safety to cornerback. Smith and the rest of the secondary should be more than up to the minimal challenge posed by the Blue Raider aerial attack. Advantage: OU

Special Teams

Thank you, Phillip Tanner. The first time the freshman touched the ball in an MT uniform, he scampered down the field for a 61-yard kickoff return, effectively ending the long wait for a big play in the return game.

In other news, Colby Smith finally missed an extra point, ending a string of sixty consecutive successful attempts. But the senior also booted a 24-yard field goal, and after taking over kickoff duties from Matt King continually pinned the Golden Eagles deep in their own territory. OU punter Mike Knall has been incon-

sistent as a replacement for Cody Freeby, who was dismissed from the team. Handling the kicking duties will be Garrett Hartley, who has already kicked eight field goals in his first three games.

In this case, a decent Big 12 special teams unit gets the nod over a very good Sun Belt squad. Advantage: OU

Coaching

Rick Stockstill is popular among Middle Tennessee fans, and for good reason. The first-year head coach has delivered a hardworking product as advertised. Perhaps more importantly, "Stock" has helped to generate genuine excitement for MT football, something that has been lacking since the move to Division I-

Still, it's hard to argue with a national championship, which Bob Stoops has on his resume. Not to mention, Stoops has been at the helm of a consistently excellent football program for several years.

The Sooner coach handled the officiating debacle at Oregon with extremely well, showing class while also demonstrating that he would take a stand for his players.

Stockstill has the potential to be outstanding, but his counterpart is arguably already there. Advantage: OU

Intangibles

One wonders what kind of effort the Blue Raiders will bring to Norman. Will MT suffer a letdown after a lopsided win over a rival? Is the team already mentally filing this one away in the "L" column? Is the specter of North Texas next week casting a green haze in the eyes of the Blue Raiders?

All questions aside, you can bet the Sooners are steaming over the outcome of last weekend's game, and an apology from the Pac-10 seemed to do little to change things. Back at home, OU has to be drooling at the prospect of an easier matchup.

Advantage: OU

The skinny

The Blue Raiders are good at what they do, but their game plan is not hard to figure out. On offense, MT will run, and then run some more. On defense, expect plenty of blitzing and quick movement to

The Sooners will most likely pound the ball 30-35 times with the workhorse Peterson, though Stoops may view this game as a chance to get Thompson some more looks in the pocket.

Everything seems to be working in favor of Oklahoma in this one. More talent, a return to their rabid home fans, and a boatload of angry motivation equals an unpleasant trip out west for the Blue

The pick: Oklahoma 38, Middle Tennessee 3

Lady Raiders Golf team finishes fifth in **Kentucky Cardinal Cup**

By Wade Neely

Staff Writer

For the Middle Tennessee Lady Raiders women's golf team, getting off to a fast start was the team's main objective entering this week's Napa River Grill Cardinal Cup in Louisville, Ky.

And thankfully for head coach Rachel Short, the Blue Raiders did just that, shooting an overall team score of 913, good enough for fifth place out of 13 entrants. Junior Taryn Durham also got off to a quick start this fall, tying for fourth overall with a three-round total of 221.

The Lady Raiders came out firing on Day 1, putting together rounds of 303 and 304, which was good enough to place them in fourth position heading into the final round on day two. The Lady Raiders slipped only slightly on the tournament's final day, shooting a 306. Despite the setback, the Lady Raiders probably would have finished fourth or better if not for a terrific final round 295 from the University of Maryland.

"We can take a lot from this first tournament of the fall," Short told MT Media Relations. "We were consistent as a team. We left a few shots on the course, which shows we are capable of doing even more. We can build on this as we

On the individual front, the tournament was a fruitful one for Durham, who finished just four shots behind individual leader Kelly Calkin of host Louisville. Third place went to Lady Raider

Third place for the Lady Raiders went to freshman Clara Leathers, who made her Blue Raider debut with a tie for 27th

For the Men Sophomore Rick Cochran led the Blue Raiders men team to a fifth place finish in the Communication Tournament in South Ala.

Cochran also finished fifth in the individual to hit 17 birdies and shoot 10 under on a par-5. New comer Freshman Kent Bulle finished in eighth place for the second consecutive top ten finish. MT was c lose to a third place finish, but a costly second round hurt them and the Blue Raiders were unable to come back for a shot at the championship.

The Blue Raiders are tied with 63-birdies in the tournament and posted a 281 and 282 in the first and third rounds before scoring a 293 in the second round.

The women are scheduled to



File Photo

Junior Tanya Dunham tied for fourth over-all in the Napa River Grill Cardinal Cup earlier this week. She finished after three rounds with a 221.

play at the Unlimited Potential Myrtle Beach Classic on September 25-26 at Myrtle Beach S.C hosted by College of Charleston S.C. The men are not scheduled to play until October 9-

For further information please go to www.usa.edu or www.louisville.edu about both results of the golf Tournaments.

Cochran, Bulle continue to shine

Courtesy of MT Media Relations

MOBILE, Ala. - Middle Tennessee sophomore Rick Cochran continued his strong start to the 2006-07 season with another Top 5 finish to help lead the Blue Raiders to a fifth-place finish at the 2006 Callis Communications Tournament, hosted by South Alabama.

Cochran, who finished second at the Scenic City last week, posted three rounds under par at the Azalea City Golf Club, including a 3-under-69 in Tuesday's final round. Cochran led the tournament with 17 birdies and shot 10under on par-5 scoring to lead in that category. The promising golfer has shot under par four of the six rounds he has played this

"That's very impressive. We expect a lot from Rick but he has exceeded our expectations this fall," Middle Tennessee men's golf coach Johnny Moore said. "He was a good player for us as a freshman, but he has obviously moved his game to a new level. We have played two tough courses and for him to put up those scores is really solid."

While Cochran has been sizzling on the links, newcomer Kent Bulle isn't far behind and has debuted with great success at the collegiate level. Bulle turned in his second consecutive Top 10 finish as he tied for eighth at the Callis

Communications. He was 6under for the tournament with a 210 and tied for the lead in par-3 scoring with a 1-under.

"We knew Kent was a great player when we recruited him but to step in and do what he has done is special," Moore said. "You expect him to come in and be in the middle of the pack for us and there he is near the top. He is a pleasant surprise in that regard, but Kent is very mature and very confident. He does not play like a

"We knew Kent was a great player when we recruited him but to step in and do that..you expect him to be in the middle of the pack but there he is near the top. He is a pleasant surprise, but he is very mature and very confident. He does not play like a freshman."

Middle Tennessee was strong as a team in the final round to move into fifth place and come within two strokes of a third-place finish. The Blue Raiders shot a 282 Tuesday, which was the second lowest score of the round.

The Blue Raiders have started the fall with two Top 5 finishes with steady play and the Callis Communications was no different. Middle Tennessee posted scores of 281 and 282 in the first and third rounds, respectively; however, a 293 in the second round cost them a shot at the championship. As a team, Middle Tennessee tied for the tournament



Nick Bailes at Old Fort Golf Course. Middle Tennessee turns in second straight Top 5 finish.

lead with 63 birdies, and it also led the field in par-3 scoring.

'We came back well in the final round and that's what you want to do," Moore said. "Our first round was good and our third round was good. We didn't play as well in the second round but to see the players come back (Tuesday) and put together a solid round was encouraging. It shows you a great deal about their make-up and character."

Nick Bailes was third among Middle Tennessee scorers and tied for 28th overall with a 218. He posted two rounds of 1-under-71, sandwiched between a 76. Chas Narramore (220) rounded out the scoring for Middle Tennessee.

Don't Blame the Zebras; Job sham blew OU's season



The Cynic

J. Owen Shipley Staff Columnist

The skies are dark in Norman, Oklahoma. Brows are crestfallen, alumni and boosters are turning red and academics are at the bottom of every to do list. A former senator and current OU President is hunched in his mahogany office, fuddling with a bayonet and M-16 as he prepares to go Rambo on the Pac-10. It is a tough time to be a Sooner.

Some say it started with a call. A very, very bad call. An onside kick that should have sealed a Sooners victory against the Oregon Ducks ended up ensuring a loss. Two obvious penalties on one play were overlooked and the wrong team got the ball. A team with BCS hopes, unreasonable though they may have been, now has an excuse now for not becoming national champs. And if there is one thing the folks in Norman, Oklahoma needed, it was an excuse. A season that started with title hopes ended before it

But don't blame the zebras. Blame the coach, blame the players, and blame a car lot in Norman. That's where this season really came undone for OU. Big Red Sports/Imports had paid star QB Rhett

Boniar for 40 hour work weeks when his true work load was closer to half a shift. Coach Stoops was forced to kick his star player and one of his best linemen off the team before they even saw the field

Some people in Oklahoma may be secretly glad for the distraction that Oregon call has given them. They can absolve themselves of a disappointing season by just passing the buck to the PAC-10 squad that made one bad call.

It may be inconvenient, but I say place the blame squarely on any coach that doesn't realize that having players working at a dealership named after his team might arouse suspicion. How could he not have known? No one noticed that a player who worked one day a week pulled in 18 grand in income? I say blame any player who is supposed to be involved in

higher education for not recognizing that his schedule couldn't allow for 40 extra hours a week. The lie was transparent, and I'm sure some people saw it as a clever little trick. Unfortunately for them, the NCAA has absolutely no sense of humor.

After dismissing his two would-be stars, Stoops said, "We spend a considerable amount of time addressing our players regarding their personal conduct and the NCAA rules Ultimately, they have to make right decisions."

Oh, I see. Just one last question, Coach. If the dealership Bomar worked at was the same one that you and ALL of your coaches received your 'complimentary' cars, how could none of you have known? Do you think we are that stupid? Or do you just not think?

Week 4 of the Sun Belt schedule may be difficult for teams

By Clarence Plank

Sports Editor

North Carolina A&T (0-2) at Louisiana-Lafayette (0-2) 4 p.m.

This is the first meeting between these two teams and both are looking for their first win of the season. ULL is coming off of an open date and they are 3-0 against 1-AA teams under Coach Bustle. Opponents have out scored ULL 96-10 over the course of two games and the Cajuns need to start getting things together before they start playing their Sun Belt Conference schedule.

North Carolina lost to Hampton last Saturday 48-14. Running back Kevin Beverly ran for 204 yards and four touchdowns. ULL should not have any trouble running and throwing on North Carolina's weak defense.

Florida International (0-3) at Maryland (2-1) 5 p.m.

FIU continue to struggle after losing three straight games and they are looking to win their first game of the season. FIU may have to wait until next week unless they can upset Maryland at home this Saturday. The Golden Panthers have not scored many points this season. Maryland should be perfect in every thing they do come Saturday against FIU as they run up the score on them. Some of the Sun Belt Conference teams have been close to beating bigger schools football teams.

The Terps need to stay on their toes because anything can happen if they start to make mistakes. Maryland is coming off a loss to No. 5 West Virginia 45-24 last Saturday. For the Terps their defense run down by West Virginia's running back Ralph Friedgon ran for 167 yards just in the first half alone.

North Texas (1-2) at Akron (1-2) 5 p.m.

North Texas travels to Akron this Saturday. North Texas is coming a huge defeat from Tulsa 28-3 this past weekend. Quarterback Paul Smith of Tulsa threw for 266 yards and two touchdowns.

Akron will be coming into the game looking for an easy win against North Texas. They were man handled by Central Michigan last weekend until Akron began to come back from a 21-0 defect to pull with in three points of possible winning the

Middle Tennessee (2-1) at No. 17 Oklahoma (2-1) 6 p.m.

MT is coming off a huge win over former Ohio Conference rival 44-0 Tennessee Tech. The Blue Raiders defense is currently ranked No. 10 in the Nation and head into a possible win if everything falls into place for them. Defensively MT held Tech to 10 yards rushing and they have not done that since 2002. This is MT's first trip to Norman, Ok. Clint Marks completed only 12 passes to eight different receivers in the game.

Oklahoma will welcome MT with open arms and be ready to take out the frustration of a bad call by the referees last Saturday during the Oregon game. That bad call from the instant replay gave the Ducks the ball after an on sidekick resulting in a 34-33 loss for Oklahoma. The Sooners running back Adrian Peterson ran for 211 yards against Oregon defense.

Florida Atlantic (0-3) at South Carolina (2-1) (CSS/ESPN Gameplan) 6 p.m.

The Owls full back Willie Rose will have a hard time trying to rush against Steve Spurrier's defense, it is possible considering this is not Florida. FAU lost to Oklahoma State 48-8 considering Rose scored his first collegiate touchdown for FAU. This will be the first meeting of a SEC team for them as well.

South Carolina is coming off a win against a 1-AA team Wofford 27-20 as Cory Boyd had three rushing touchdowns to tie a school record. Spurrier's offense should come together in this

Troy State (1-2) at No. 23 Nebraska (2-1) (FSN PPV) 6

Troy and Nebraska played each other five years ago in Troy's first 1-A game against Nebraska, which they rushed for 330 yards against the Trojans. For Troy they have had two eight-play, 80 yard drives in the second half of two games. The Trojans were close to upsetting Florida State two weeks ago before they made some costly mistakes. Troy was tied 17 all before FSU managed to score with

Dental Hygiene

Physical Therapy

under a minute to go in the game. Troy lost to Georgia Tech last week 35-20.

Nebraska is coming off a loss to USC 28-10, who fell to No 23 in the rankings with Troy being a smaller school facing an offensive juggernaut of the Cornhuskers. The last time these two teams played Nebraska beat them 42-14 and since they lost to USC they will vent on Troy State.

Like Oklahoma, Nebraska has to be on their toes because Troy State has the chance to upset a ranked team on pay-per view.

Arkansas State (1-1) at Southern Methodist (1-2) 7

This is Arkansas State's first road game after an open week if they win they will be 2-1, if so then it will be their first since 2003

of starting with a wining record. ASU has two Conference USA teams on the Indians schedule. SMU has never played against

SMU won their game last week 45-14 as their quarterback threw for 248 yards and five touchdowns to beat Sam Houston State last weekend. Their running back Fred Turner of SMU rushed for

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