



California students
Exercise First
Amendment rights, pg. 6

CONTENTS

Evening of student short plays, pg. 3
Growing outside the field, pg. 4
Thanksgiving dos and don'ts, pg. 5
BPA use questioned, pg. 5
Football wins fifth straight, pg. 7
Clark, Lady Raiders win
at Austin Peay, pg. 8

Monday
57°/47°

Sidelines is the semiweekly student
newspaper of MTSU. Anyone can
have up to two copies of the current
issue free of charge.



MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2009

VOL. 86, NO. 22

SGA confronts Aramark

By MARIE KEMPH
Staff Writer

Members of the Student Government Association expressed concerns about the rising cost of food prices to MT Dining Services staff on Thursday.

MT Dining Services staff attended the weekly SGA meeting to promote a new online food-ordering program for students, and spent much of that time discussing Aramark

food prices.

"I understand Aramark needs to make a profit," said Senator Wesley Hall of the College of Business. "But when I can go to the gas station right across the street to buy an orange juice for a \$1, and it costs \$3 on campus for the exact same product, that's a 200 percent mark-up."

Many of the student representatives took the opportunity to discuss food prices and a few said they were frustrated with the quality

as well. Several senators said that the average price of one meal cost roughly \$10, and for many students that is too expensive.

"If there are creative ways to accommodate students' requests for lower prices, we need to look at those possibilities," said At-Large Senator Drew Dunlop. He said combination meals were a step in the right direction.

Tate said part of the reason that prices for some items may be higher on campus is be-

cause Aramark cannot always compete for the same or lower wholesale cost larger national chain stores are charged.

Tate said the brand-name food providers offer the same menus, and those prices are usually comparable, if not the same as regular retail prices. He said MT Dining Services works to keep the price and quality of food reasonable.

The MT Dining representatives asked why undergraduate students who do not live on campus are less likely to partic-

ipate in MT Dining FlexBucks.

"Undergraduate students are not on campus nearly as much as freshmen," said Senator Deonna Bounds of the College of Mass Communication. She said it is too big of a commitment to purchase FlexBucks or meal plans when many upper classmen are only on campus for a few days a week - often at odd hours when food is no longer served.

"We want to hear feedback from students," said Lindsey Burke, marketing manager

for MT Dining Services.

Burke said students can e-mail MT Dining Services with questions or concerns. She said she wants to hear ideas from students.

Vice President of Administration and Public Affairs Sarah Ayache said she appreciated MT Dining Services help in providing hot dogs and drinks during student appreciation week, which was held Nov. 16-20.

ARAMARK, PAGE 2

Nottingham death still considered suicide, despite toxicology

By DUSTIN EVANS
Assistant Community News Editor

Without confirmation from the autopsy's toxicology report, Murfreesboro authorities have ruled Justin Wong's death as a suicide.

Assistant Chief Allen Swader of the Murfreesboro Fire Department, who released the official statement on Nov. 11, confirmed Wong's identity along with some details revealed by the autopsy.

"He did commit suicide," Swader said.

Swader said his staff has not received any written confirmation of toxicology.

Wong, 32, was a former



Wong

MTSU student, originally from Massachusetts.

Swader said an accelerant was used and there was no indication of any trauma to the body other than the direct results of the fire.

Swader said Wong wrote a note prior to his death, however the note was not a suicide note and revealed no plans to kill himself.

Wong was found around 6:30 a.m. Nov. 4 at 1311 Greenland Drive.

Students spread holiday warmth, hand out blankets

By DUSTIN EVANS
Assistant Community News Editor

Students in the MTSU department of speech and theatre are working throughout the holiday season to deliver warmth and wishes to those who are overlooked most on people's holiday shopping lists - the homeless.

For the rest of the semester, and until Dec. 24, the students are holding a blanket drive and plan to deliver the blankets and hot chocolate directly to homeless individuals on the evenings of the 24th and 25th.

"The general person when they walk by say, 'Oh here's a dime,' or, 'I don't have any change,'" said Amanda Walker, senior theatre major who started the blanket drive.

"They don't say, 'I hope you

have a great day,' or, 'Is there any way I can help you?'"

Walker said even though many people go out and help the homeless through service projects, many people miss the key interaction she feels is the most valuable part of community service.

"There are so many organizations that do work giving money and giving food, but nobody sits down and talks to them," Walker said.

Hands On Nashville's Web site (hon.org), stated that about 3.5 million people are homeless in the U.S. Of that number, 40 percent of homeless men have served in the military, 30 percent suffer with addiction, 23 percent are mentally ill and 39 percent are under 18.

HOMELESS, PAGE 2



Photo illustration by Chris Carter, production manager

UT's Pat Summit and MT's Rick Insell have more than 60 years of coaching combined in women's basketball in Tennessee.

Longtime friends Insell, Summit go head-to-head

By RICHARD LOWE
Assistant Sports Editor

For almost 30 years, their roles were clearly defined. Rick Insell was the king of women's high school basketball, while Pat Summit was the queen of women's college basketball.

Since both have entered the coaching field, they have grown to become great friends, even while competing against each other since Insell was hired at MT. On Wednesday, the two friends will meet for the first time on the Lady Raiders' home floor of the Murphy Center.

"Coach Insell and I have been friends for a long time, and his wife, Deb, they've been like family to me," Summit said. "I really have a lot of respect for what Coach Insell has done. I consider him and Deb great friends as well."

When Insell was hired by MT to fill the head coaching position left open by Stephaney Smith, many fans were surprised to see a successful Division 1 college program hire a high school coach. Summit thought otherwise.

"I thought they were smart because he knows that area,"

Middle Tennessee Lady Raiders Out of Conference Opponents Since 2005-2006

2005-2006 Season		2008-2009 Season	
Houston	W, 62-35	Lafayette	W, 85-47
Georgia Southern	W, 80-58	Indiana	W, 65-59
Eastern Kentucky	W, 77-66	Chattanooga	W, 73-65
Georgia (17)	L, 90-72	Arizona	W, 77-57
Georgia State	W, 69-51	Louisville (13)	L, 67-44
Tennessee Tech	W, 74-46		
2006-2007 Season		2009-2010 Season	
Maryland (1)	L, 80-76	UCF	W, 78-53
South Dakota St.	L, 72-61	Tennessee	Nov. 25
Chattanooga	W, 98-69	Tennessee Tech	Nov. 28
Austin Peay	W, 80-49	Kentucky	Dec. 28
Old Dominion	W, 86-71		
North Dakota St.	W, 93-63		
2007-2008 Season			
TN Tech	W, 89-62		
Western Carolina	L, 77-71		
LSU	W, 67-56		

Graphic by Chris Carter, production manager

Summit said. "Having been at Shelbyville [High School], I would see him at all the state tournaments. I knew that he was going to move up eventually, it was just a matter of having that window of opportunity."

The Lady Raiders had an established reputation before Insell's arrival, winning 12 regular season championships and 8 conference tournament championships before 2005. Insell himself came from a high school program that won 10 state championships and had many of its top players moving on to play for top college programs in the nation.

BASKETBALL, PAGE 7

Prop 8 activist rallies students

By CHRIS MAYO
Staff Writer

Last Wednesday, members of MT Lambda, the local lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender advocacy group, and MT Amnesty, the MTSU chapter of Amnesty International, spent an hour with a veteran of the movement for equal rights and equal treatment for the LGBT community.

Stevens said she was not on campus to talk about her past, or current, work, but about the work that needs to be done in Murfreesboro and Nashville. MT Lambda members said the LGBT community of the Nashville area is divided. While there are multiple groups like MT Lambda, most are

quite isolated from each other, limiting their power to enact change.

"There is lots of disjunction within the community about what issues we need to confront," Stevens said. "But we need to tackle all of them, at once, together, for there to be any lasting change."

It is exactly this separation members of MT Lambda said they aim to resolve. After winning their campaign for recognition of gender identity and expression in the Student Government Association's constitution, the group is now working to link groups from college campuses and within communities together, so more support can be offered within the community, and to draw more people

to actively participate in campaigns for gay rights, a rarity in the South.

Cat Stevens, a veteran LGBT activist, said one of her most recent projects was the campaign to repeal Proposition Eight in California, the effec-

along to fund their ambitions that getting the word out about groups is the most important goal and will often snowball to bigger things, much like her directory of gay-friendly businesses. The Pride Pag-

keep the group informed on crimes committed against LGBT citizens. She said this is important since hate crimes have risen by 20 percent in the last year. She said new legislation and anti-gay marriage laws contribute to this by empowering the perpetrators of the crimes.

Stevens said she spends most of her time working as the event coordinator for the San Francisco Center, which according to its Web site, is the home, heart and hands of San Francisco LGBT community.

The SFC Web site states it has been an organic part of its community, growing out of a simple idea in the mid-90's, to a professionally staffed stronghold for the LGBT community. It sponsors weekly events as

well as provides services such as job fairs, mentorship, career counseling, senior groups and youth meal nights.

Stevens said she was not always an active participant in the fight for equality. She said there was a time when all she cared about was having a good time, but after her and a friend were gay-bashed on Gay Pride Day in 2004, she realized her and many others' lack of involvement were costing people everywhere. She said everyone could live equally and without fear, but everyone had to help.

"We must be proactive, not reactive," Stevens said. "There is no time to waste - if you want something done, do it."

"We must be proactive, not reactive. There is no time to waste."

CAT STEVENS
EVENT COORDINATOR FOR SAN FRANCISCO CENTER

tive ban on gay marriage in the state that was passed in 2007. Stevens said she sees the failure as a result of fractions within the LGBT community over what is most important for the movement.

Stevens said people can't wait for money to come

es transformed from a self copied and stapled hand-out to a glossy, widely distributed phonebook.

Stevens said an excellent step for MT Lambda to take would be an establishment of a liaison with the Murfreesboro police, to

Mass Comm town hall meeting receives low attendance

By ROZALIND RUTH
Staff Writer

Six students and three faculty members from the College of Mass Communication gathered last Friday at the town hall meeting, which was open to all students to discuss important topics for the college.

Roy Moore, dean of the College of Mass Communication, said he thinks it is important

to him about some of the issues taking place," said Lowe. "Without the student's input it makes things impossible."

Lowe said he was at the meeting to function as a liaison between the faculty and students.

"The students are the number one priority - they are the people that are going to be heavily involved in this and make sure things actually take place," Lowe said.

though he said he would like to have more students attend.

"I thought we had a very active group of students," Moore said. "It's very much a very positive interaction."

Among the topics discussed were college restructuring, the consideration of a plus and minus grading scale, possible curriculum updates and plans for the Media Convergence Center, which would give mass communication students the ability to work with many forms of media in one place.

Joshua Burgin, a sophomore mass communication major, said as a peer advisor for the college, he likes to stay informed about the issues so that he can better answer questions.

Burgin said he is interested in the restructuring of the colleges.

"I personally think it's good," Burgin said. "The only thing I worry about is faculty being let go."

Students interested in attending the next town hall meeting can find information on the College of Mass Communication's Facebook page by searching for the words "mass comm" on the Web site.

"We'll make sure it's communicated via e-mail, and even old-fashioned banners," Moore said.

"Students are part of the college as well. They outnumber the staff and faculty."

ROY MOORE
DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF MASS COMMUNICATION

for the faculty and students to communicate about topics and issues within the college.

"I want to directly connect with the students," Moore said. "This is an opportunity to connect with the students and get feedback from them on various topics."

Richard Lowe, a senior mass communication major and Student Government Association senator, said the fact that the meeting took place is very important.

"He does have an open-door policy, you can come and talk

Moore said he plans on more student town hall meetings like Friday's.

"I'd like to do them once a month if there's enough interest in it," Moore said.

Moore said he meets with faculty, staff and department chairs, but he would like to meet more frequently with students.

"Students are part of the college as well," Moore said, "they outnumber the staff and faculty."

Moore said he was pleased with the feedback from today,

department, but she is always looking for help collecting and passing out the blankets.

Walker said there are drop-off locations for blankets at the Financial Aid office in the Cope Administration Building, Room 218, and at Tucker Theatre. Anyone interested in assisting with the delivery of the blankets can join the MTSU Blanket Drive group on Facebook or contact Walker at acw3c@mtsu.edu.

"A lot of people do not realize how easy it is to give - even if it is just your time," Walker said.

tem for students, which allows students to pre-pay for food from the MT Dining Web site.

"If a student wants to order a meal before a class, they can order ahead of time and pick it up without having to wait," Tate said.

Tate said the program is designed to cut down on the time students spend waiting in long lines for food in between classes. Students who pre-pay for orders via the WebFood program will be able to enter a separate line from other students, and may eventually be able to order food from their dorm rooms for delivery.

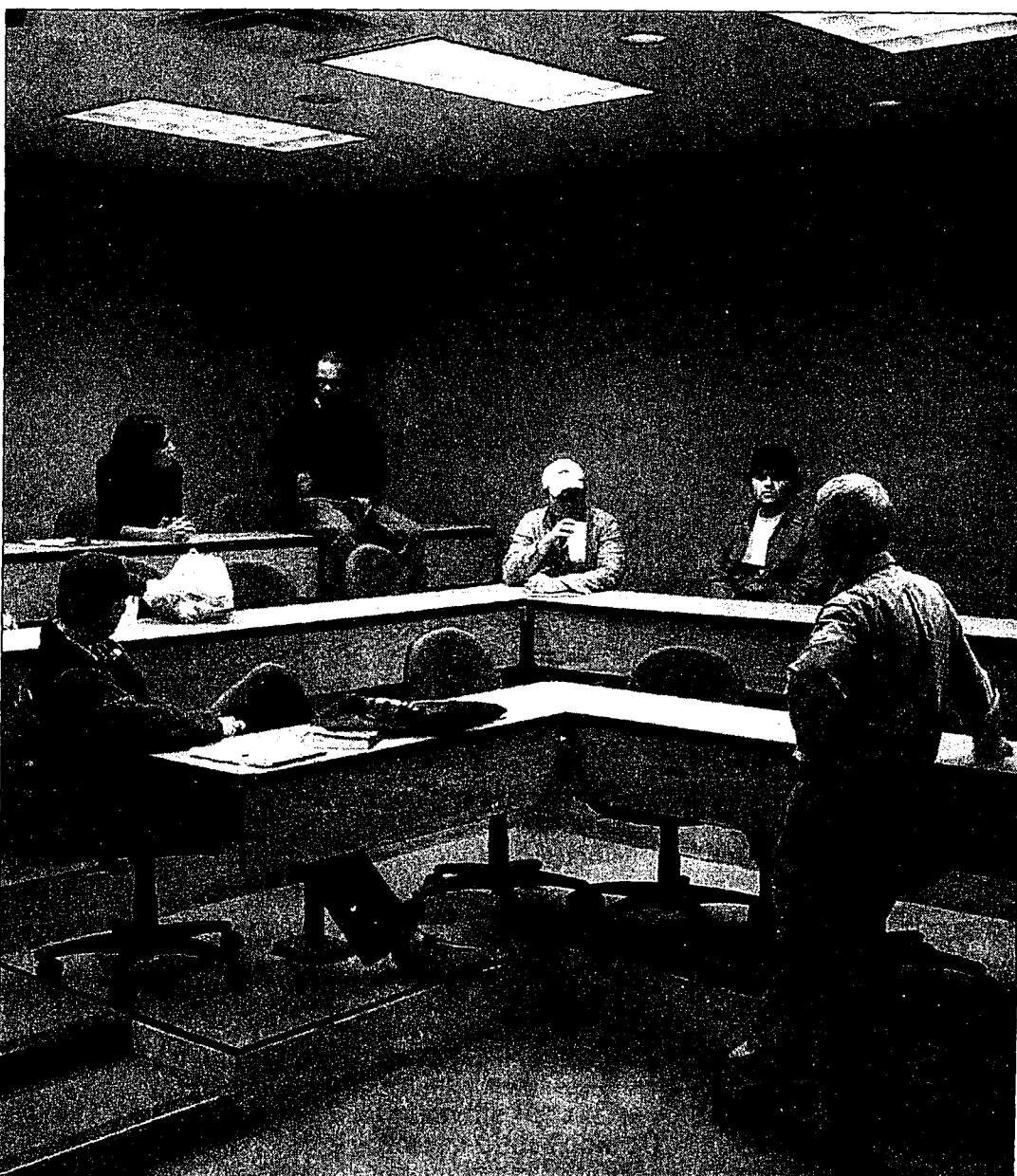


Photo by Dustin Evans, assistant community news editor
The College of Mass Communication faculty and students attend the town hall meeting on Friday.

HOMELESS FROM PAGE 1


"Of all the homeless people in the Middle Tennessee area, 38 to 39 percent of them are children," Walker said. "That is incredibly heartbreaking because it is almost half of the homeless in the Middle Tennessee area."

Walker said she created the blanket drive last December, but she wants to make it an annual event. She said she has the support of many students and faculty members in the theatre

ARAMARK FROM PAGE 1

"I know many students might not be aware of all of the good things that MT Dining staff does for students," Ayache said. "The SGA was able to provide more games and prizes because they provided the food for free."

John Tate, service director of MT Dining Services, and members of his staff met with SGA officers and senators to promote the new ordering sys-



AUDIO TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM


Training for your Future

- Over 50 campuses worldwide
- Individual studio and lab time
- Over 30 years in education
- Global alumni network of working professionals

Classes begin January 11th

Financial Aid is available to those who qualify.*

www.sae-nashville.com



Nashville Campus: 7 Music Circle North, Nashville, TN 37203 Phone: 615.244.5848

THE TOUGHEST JOB YOU WILL EVER LOVE

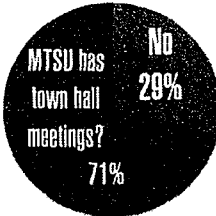
APPLICATION DEADLINE: DEC 15TH
LEARN HOW TO APPLY FOR OVERSEAS JOBS
WED, December 2nd 4 to 5pm
KUC RM 318
APPLY ONLINE: PEACECORPS.GOV



HAVE YOU STARTED YOUR
HOLIDAY SHOPPING?

online TELL US ONLINE AT
MTSUSIDELINES.COM

FEATURES



DOES MTSU DO
ENOUGH TO
PUBLICIZE TOWN
HALL MEETINGS WITH
STUDENTS?

BASED ON VOTES FROM
MTSUSIDELINES.COM.

'Sidelines' Holiday Gift Guide

Compiled By TATIANA JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The Girl Friend

80s Sunglasses
\$10 Forever21

No matter if it is sunny or snowing during the holiday season, a pair of sunglasses is a sure winner for that great girl friend. The two-tone glasses are fashionable and look more expensive than they really are. Plus she'll get to see how much style you have for making such an excellent choice.



The Guy Friend

FredFlare.com
\$14 Talking Japanese Watch

This year it's all about creativity. Why not start with your guy friend and purchase the Talking Japanese watch. For only \$14 not only does it tell the time, but it actually tells the time in Japanese, so your friend will learn how to speak a new language. It's definitely a good gift because not only should every man have a timepiece, but the additional new language keeps it refreshing.



The Significant Other (Female)

Betsey Johnson Charm Bracelet
\$55 Karmaloop.com

As soon as she sets eyes on this charm bracelet her eyes will light up as if she saw a wedding ring. Cute, pearly, quaint and only \$55, it will be a sure hit. What lady wouldn't love the bedazzle of this charming bracelet? Not to mention Betsey Johnson is one of the most prominent designers of the decade.



The Significant Other (Male)

Fierce Cologne
\$40 Abercrombie & Fitch

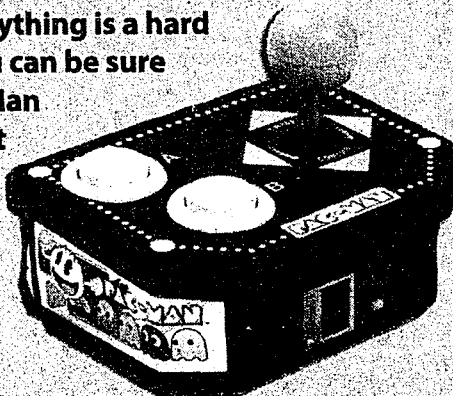
Who doesn't like a man that smells of confidence and a little bit of excitement? Spending more than that guy friend of yours will also reassure your boyfriend that he's well worth it. Abercrombie and Fitch's cologne Fierce for only \$40 is the perfect gift. The mellow scent of fresh citrus will tantalize your senses and keep you interested and make him happy as well.



The Friend who has everything

Pac Man video Game
\$15 at Dollar Tree

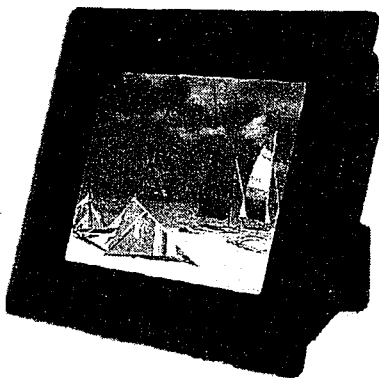
Shopping for that friend that has everything is a hard task, but when they open this gift you can be sure the don't have a Pac-Man video game. This great buy from the Dollar Tree for \$15 is sure to give the person who has everything something new.



Parents

Digital Picture Frame
\$40 Best Buy

We all know when it comes to the holidays, parents don't ask for much. How about keeping them up to date with a digital picture frame? For only \$40, photographed memories no longer have to be in a booklet but shown throughout the home. Parents will probably love if you put a few pictures in it for them before they open it. Sentimental value with a twist of modern technology will make them smile.



Student-written short plays wow audiences

By BRITTANY KLATT
Staff Writer

"Creation is the greatest thing a man can do," said T.J. Sullivan as he stepped into the role of French painter Gerad.

The dream of all artists is to see their creations on display for the public. This past weekend, Gerad's creator and one other MTSU student had the chance to see that dream become a reality.

Held in Tucker Theatre, An Evening of Student-Written Short Plays consisted of two original plays written David Bennett, senior theater major, and Josh Ginsburg, senior theater major. In February, the plays received awards at the Region Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival 41 in Greensboro, N.C.

The evening began with "Bennett's Portrait of a Mother and Son." While at college Alex, played by sophomore liberal arts major Clint Randolph, tracks down the father that he never knew.

When he tells his mother June, played by freshman liberal arts major Leah Miller, that his father is coming from France to meet him, she warns Alex about trusting him. But her warning goes unheard as her son is captivated by the smooth-talking

Gerad, played by Sullivan, who is not currently enrolled at MTSU.

After Bennett's play, the audience was treated to Ginsburg's play "Shards of Glass." The father of brothers Mac, played by junior liberal arts major Andy Riggs, and Tyler, played by freshman theatre performance major Graham Shelton, has just passed away. The day before his funeral, the two brothers visit their old room and reflect on the memories that were created there.

The two plays complement each other well in tone and in the emotional response they create. Bennett's play set the tone for the evening.

Bennett begins his play with humorous interactions between Alex and his parents, especially when he trying to connect with his father.

"My whole life I've had this image in my head," said Alex. "I would have never guessed you were..."

"A painter," responded Gerad with a wave of his hand.

"French!" said Alex in a loud and excited voice.

But those light-hearted moments soon disappear as Gerad and June are left alone and the audience sees the true relationship between

the two.

By the end of the play, the audience has been through an emotional rollercoaster. It is hard for members of the audience to repress the urge to cry out when Gerad begins to beat June and her son.

After viewing the violent ending to "Portrait of a Mother and Son," most would be relieved at the sight of two brothers sitting in their old bedroom reflecting on their childhood. The Winnie the Pooh décor also helped lure the audience into a false sense of security.

That relief soon turns to dread as viewers start to realize that the room holds dark and terrible memories for the two brothers. It is not the events that occurred there that are the most disturbing, but the feelings that Tyler has been secretly harboring for years.

One of the more striking elements of the two plays was how unpredictable they were. No one could have guessed how the stories were going to unfold. Each time viewers thought that they knew where the plays were headed, the writers threw in another twist.



Photo by Chris Donahue, staff photographer
Alex (Clint Randolph) and June (Leah Miller) discuss the coming of Alex's father during David Bennett's play 'Portrait of a Mother and Son,' one of the student-written plays shown at the Tucker Theatre.

Agriculture: beyond the barn

By ALLISON ARMSTRONG
Contributing Writer

You don't have to read the big letters above the door to know you're walking into agriculture territory. Every department on campus has its own sense of style, and the Stark Agribusiness and Agriscience Center and its inhabitants are no different.

You'll smell the earth tracked in from students' boots and the summery scent of hay samples and you'll know something's different.

There's something of farm life everywhere in the SAG: paintings of rural landscapes, livestock judging awards, dairy contest plaques and agriculture posters.

On any given day, agriculture students in worn jeans and brown Carhartt jackets head to class or chat in the hallway. It's not unusual to see people sporting coveralls in class, and nearly everybody wears boots.

They're practical, comfortable, and if you're an ag student, the odds are good that you've either just come in from one of the farm labs or you're heading out that way after class anyway.

What's agriculture got to do with other college students? Agriculture is what your grandfather did for a living. But ask any one of the 441 agriculture students on campus if agriculture is important today, and you'll find out pretty quick that it is.

"Well, agriculture's all around you, whether people want to acknowledge that or not," explains Luann Stinnett, a senior from Chapel Hill, Tenn. "You eat agriculture, you live agriculture. It's a part of everyday life."

Stinnett will graduate this December with a Bachelor of Science in animal science, just one of several degrees that the MTSU College of Agribusiness and Agriscience offers.

Students in the agricultural department today have a variety of educational options available to them. They can major in animal science, agribusiness, plant and soils science, pre-agricultural engineering or pre-forestry. Concentrations



Photo courtesy Agribusiness and Agriscience Department

One of MTSU's tractors harvests corn off of a farm owned by the university. In addition to traditional farming skills used on the MTSU farms, such as above, the MTSU ABAS department teaches students a variety of skills to use in future careers and helps keep agriculture alive.

in pre-veterinary medicine, horse science and agricultural communication and certifications in agricultural education are also available for individuals who wish to specialize in those areas.

The most inspiring thing about the agricultural department, however, isn't the variety of ways in which students can be involved, but the passion they put into that involvement.

Ag students love what they do. It's just an added bonus that what they do is so important to everyday life in our country, whether the average American knows that or not.

Warren Gill, head of the ABAS department, thinks that people are beginning to see to the importance of agriculture. "We're in a time when peo-

ple are more interested in what they're eating," Gill explains. "They're interested in agriculture in general, too, and that's

"Agriculture's all around you, whether you want to acknowledge that or not."

LUANN STINETT
SENIOR AGRICULTURE MAJOR

being reflected in people selecting this as a major."

In a time when the university itself is growing, the agriculture department is growing too.

"We're essentially as big as we've ever been, but the exciting thing is how we're increasing," Gill says. "We have 141 freshmen and that's a truly exciting number. I talk to my

colleagues at other universities and most [other agriculture programs] seem to be increasing, too.

ricultural workers these days are not involved in farming.

"Less than two percent of the population are farmers," Gill says. "Twenty percent of the population is involved in agriculture beyond farming: research, processing, marketing. One in five jobs is somehow related to getting people fed and clothed."

"There's a vast array of jobs out there. We put a lot of people into sales, the dairy industry, education and agricultural businesses."

Most college students have a plan for what they want to do after college. The students in the ag department are no different, and love for their work is a common theme.

Freshman Keith Boone, a Murfreesboro native, is working on a degree in pre-agri-

cultural engineering so that he can design and build farm equipment after college.

"I chose agriculture because I love to work outside with my hands," Boone explains. "I love being part of the farm life because it's just a part of who I am." He'd like to open his own shop someday to repair and restore agricultural machinery.

Josh Moses, a senior from Lebanon, Tenn., plans to graduate with a degree in animal science with a pre-veterinary medicine concentration. After vet school, he hopes to use his knowledge of animal health to open a large animal veterinary practice.

"What I look forward to most is being able to help people out," Moses says.

Liz Brown, a junior from Mt. Pleasant, Tenn., is majoring in animal science with a minor in secondary education. She hopes to become a high school agriculture teacher.

"I have always loved kids and animals, so [this job] would fit right in the middle," Brown says. "Without agriculture, people would be naked and hungry so giving the public more knowledge about it will hopefully prevent both of these alternatives."

Ashley Lennington, a senior from Nolensville, Tenn., chose to major in animal science because of her love and concern for animals.

"I just want what's best for them," Lennington says. "I want to learn more about cows and horses and more about companion animals."

Like her fellow agricultural students she feels strongly about the importance of agriculture to everyday life.

"Like the bumper sticker says: if you eat, you're involved in agriculture," Lennington declares. "Because without agriculture, there's no milk, no crops, no beef on your table. You need agriculture to function. Every country has some form of agriculture."

The take home message is that agriculture is more than just farming: it's education, knowledge, growth and a service to the community. It's a way of life.

PLAYS FROM PAGE 3

In Ginsburg's play, it would have been easy for the play to be simply about the trauma that Mac suffered as a child. But he adds another element to the work by bringing in Tyler and his feelings about what happened to his brother.

"Shards of Glass" makes the audience think about the connection between family members. Through this play, audiences realize that sometimes the person who is affected the most is not the one who suffered the traumatic experience.

Bennett's play also raises questions about family. However, his focus is more on what is means to be a parent.

Although Gerard is Alex's biological father, no one who has viewed the play will dare call him a parent.

June is also biologically related to Alex, but that is not why she is considered to

be a parent. Unlike Gerard, she is willing to go to extreme lengths to protect her son even at the risk of her own life.

In a way, the play also discusses the dangers of keeping secrets.

If June told Alex the truth about his father, he may not have sought out the older man. But because she wanted to protect her son from the evils in the world, she never mentioned Gerard, which caused Alex to search for him behind her back.

A strong point in both of the works was how they blended the dramatic elements with subtle clues to reveal the families' secrets to the audience. In neither play was the secret ever clearly stated, but based on the dialogue and the acting, it was clear each person was hiding something.

Overall, the acting was solid. At first Miller and Randolph appeared awkward; it seemed like they were brother and sister rather than mother and son. The plot continued

to develop and the scenes became more dramatic, Miller transformed into the protective mother.

It was clear that the actors were passionate about their work. The fight scenes between June and Gerard and the two brothers are almost disturbing. At times they seemed so realistic that audience members were gasping in shock.

Though they were only about 30 minutes long, these two plays make it evident that MTSU has a wealth of talent in the field of theatre. The combination of the acting and the script made the characters believable and the experience enjoyable.

The plays will be presented as full productions at this year's Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, which will be hosted by MTSU. Based on the production over the weekend, it is likely that the plays will be attention grabbers at the festival.

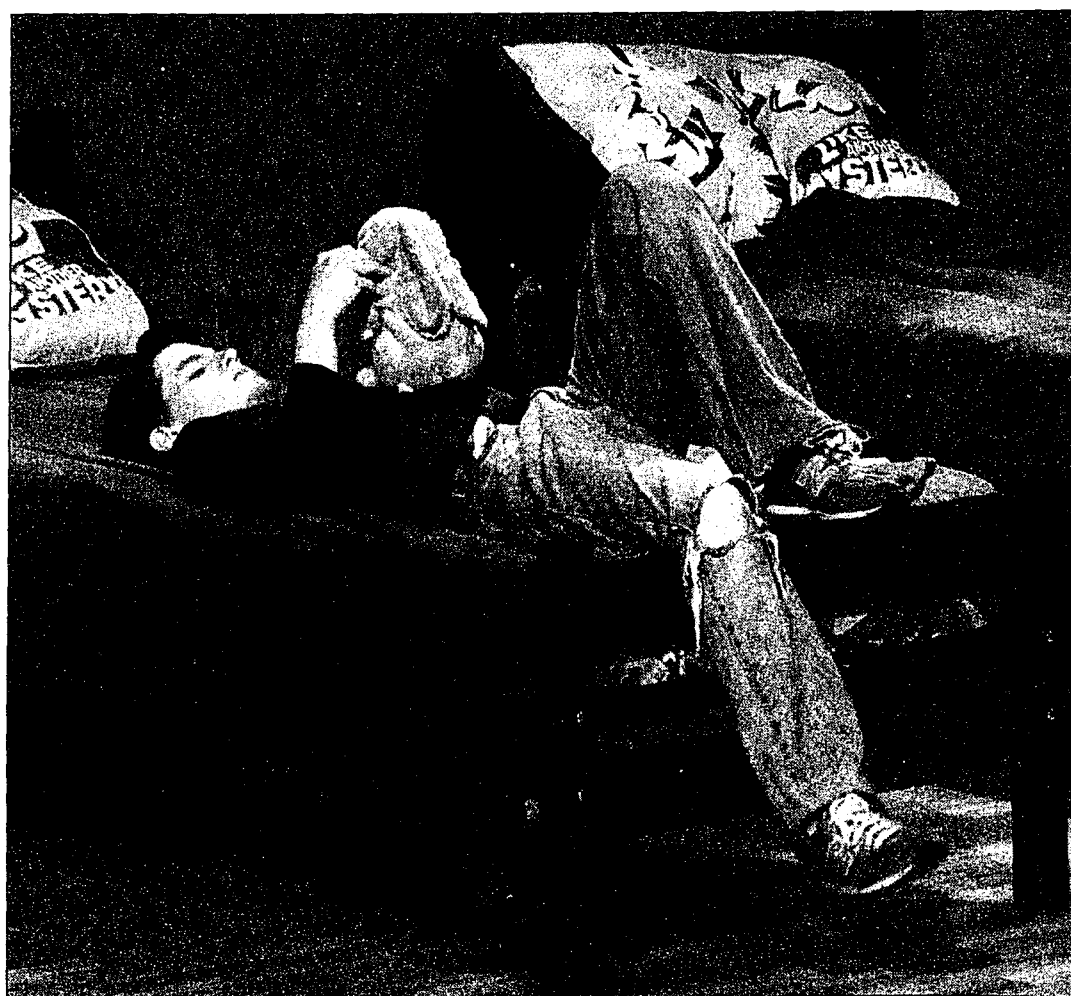


Photo by Chris Donahue, staff photographer

Tyler (Graham Shelton) sits on his bed during Josh Ginsburg's student written play, 'Shards of Glass.'

International job opportunities immediately available for Post-doctoral, Doctoral and select Masters Candidates

Experience and Sub-specialties consistently in highest demand are:

- Engineering: electrical, chemical, nuclear, mechanical and aeronautical.
- Sciences: physics, biology, chemistry, toxicology, virology and veterinary science.
- Computer Science: telecommunications, shipping/logistics and procurement/acquisitions.

Our global partners include: multi-national and public entity firms focused on the most advanced engineering and scientific research projects.

Competitive candidates will have native fluency in a foreign language and a demonstrated ability to live and work overseas.

Please apply by sending resume/CV and cover letter to humanresources@gradjobzone.com or mail to: Gradjobzone.com 1440 Coral Ridge Drive, Suite 338 Coral Springs, FL 33071

Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@mtsu.edu and include your name and phone number for verification. Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit grammar, length and content.

OPINIONS

Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or MTSU.

Über-consumerized Christmas

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Thanksgiving dos and don'ts for holiday fun

It is 3 a.m. on Friday morning. Your alarm clock is screaming at you to wake up. How could you possibly be late?

You quickly pull on your shoes and sweatpants while throwing all of your coupons into your wallet. Halfway out the door, you realize you forgot your "destination deals" list on the refrigerator. After running back inside, you are finally ready to begin the day.

Sound familiar? You guessed it: it's time for Black Friday. It is that lovely time of year that everyone wakes up early in the morning to capture those "can't miss" deals at department stores, Wal-Marts, and other retailers everywhere.

People form teams, destination lists, and other strategies in order to get the goods they need to make the holidays just a little bit brighter.

Do you only have a 50-inch television screen? Why not go bigger? Well, Wal-Mart just so happens to be offering a 60-incher for a mere \$600 big ones. What a steal. Set that bad boy up in your living room and you will feel like you are actually on screen. Since it is on sale, you have nothing to lose.



Even odds

Rebecca McGrath

Does your daughter only have four wheels on her Big Wheels Barbie Mobile? Please, that is so 2008. Do you not love her enough to buy her the Barbie Big Rig? This big girl mobile comes complete with sixteen wheels, power steering, a Cadillac sticker, and her very own CB radio that communicates with all the other little girls rolling around your community. She will be the talk of the first grade. Her star status will only cost you \$500 bucks. This is a fraction of its regular selling price. She just has to have it or Christmas will be ruined forever.

Wait a second...are we serious?

Are we honestly so obsessed with buying things that we are missing how ridiculous this all sounds? America is already a consumer society. We buy things all year round for every occasion known to man.

Even your pet Chihuahua Kujo gets a present on his birthday. I wonder if anyone actually stops to think about what they are buying and why. Do you actually need Assassins Creed 2? I doubt it. In fact, I bet you never even beat the first one. Put the video game down and step away. Why do we need a quasi-holiday based solely on buying things because they are "on sale?"

Impulse buying is why such a large percentage of Americans are drowning in debt. The worst part about these purchases is that the consumer often does not even have the money. Just swipe your card and go. It is so easy, yet the consequences are devastating. The invention of Black Friday by retailers is definitely not helping the situation.

Consumers need to take a step

back and think about purchases this season. Instead of splurging on that new television, how about you pay off the old one? Or if you feel the need to spend money, why don't you pay back your roommate for all the wine she "spotted" you for this semester.

Sure, it's the holidays and you want to treat your family and friends to some special presents. Why not make them yourself? It is cheaper and shows that you actually put some time into thinking of them.

I am not saying that we should not spend our money. Money is what makes our world go round and without spending it, businesses suffer. I am just trying to open consumers' eyes to how ridiculous this Friday is and not to take it so seriously.

If you feel that you just have to go, try not to get trampled by idiots.

Rebecca McGrath is a junior liberal arts major and can be reached at rkm2z@mtsu.edu.

It's been a busy year so far, full of drama. We've had convicted faculty, "Preachergate," college restructuring and hypodermic needles. Anyone else ready for a break?

For proper enjoyment of a safe and happy Thanksgiving, Sidelines has compiled an unofficial list of things to do and not to do.

Don't give alcohol to minors in your family. **Do** bring Solo cups should someone else decide to.

Don't propose a family game of beer pong, but **do** out and win if one breaks out.

Don't pregame your drive home. Not now, not ever.

Don't pregame Thanksgiving dinner, unless you're part of a group including some distant cousins and your black-sheep uncle. It's practically expected at that point.

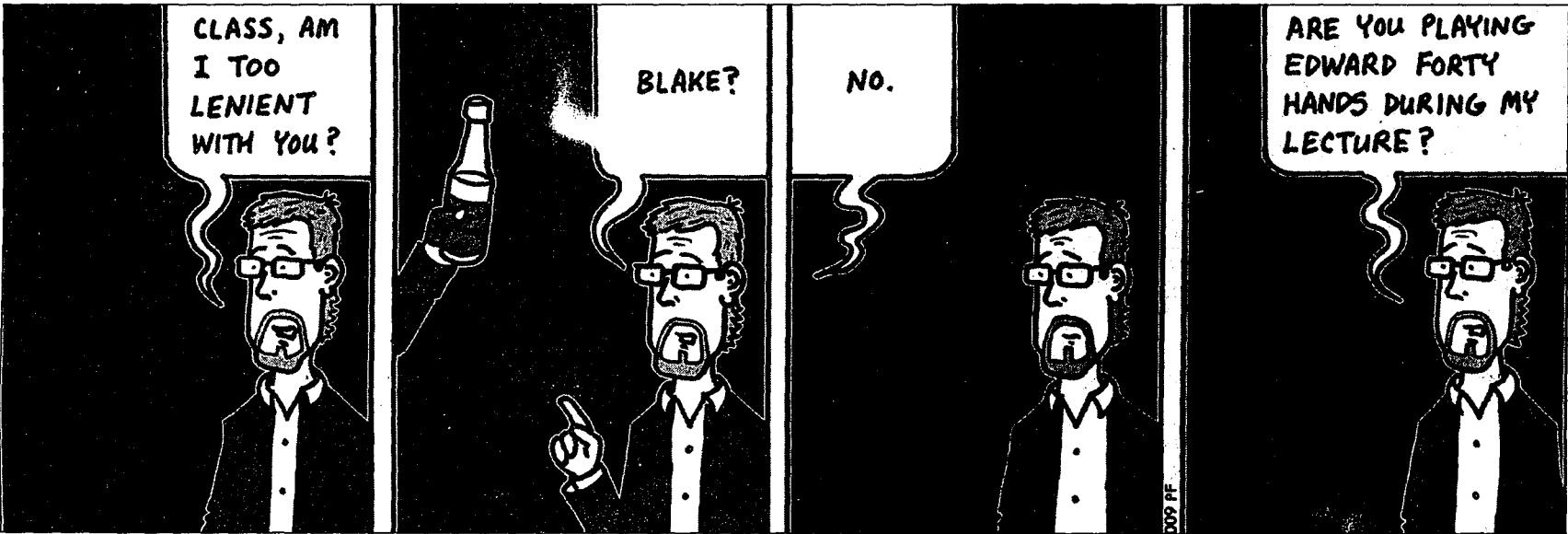
If, in the spirit of Thanksgiving in the South, decide to fry your turkey, **do** be sure to thaw it first.

If, in the spirit of Thanksgiving in the South, decide to have fireworks, **don't** thaw the turkey, but **do** stand far away from the fryer.

If you know of someone who has nowhere to go, like an international student, be a good person and **do** invite them to your house. Also, **do** ask your family permission for this, of course.

Do enjoy the holiday, and **do** come back safe.

Listen to the editorial board online at mtsusidelines.com/multimedia



"Blundergrads"

blundergrads.blogspot.com

Phil Flickinger

BPA: do we get the whole story?

Bisphenol A is a chemical used to make polycarbonate plastic and epoxy resins. BPA is a synthetic estrogen. Estrogen is a hormone that helps girls develop into women and allows them to reproduce. Two billion pounds of BPA are manufactured in the U.S. each year, and about 92 percent of us have BPA in our bodies.

The problem with BPA is that it interferes with hormone levels, and several studies show strong evidence that it is linked to cancer and other health risks. However, the only thing the BPA organizational Web site, bisphenol-a.org, admits to in its toxicology report is a decrease in body weight. It's still relying on studies that were conducted more than two decades ago.

On April 18, 2008, Canada declared BPA as a toxin. They banned the chemical from use in baby bottles. This is a big concern because BPA is found in many everyday consumer products, such as liquid canned Similac Advance infant formula, Campbell's condensed chicken noodle soup, some bottled water and canned Nestlé Juicy Juice.

In a study done on pregnant rats,



Perceptions

Jessica Harris

there were malformed genitals in the offspring. Richard Morrissey of U.S. National Institute of Environmental Health sciences says rats exposed to doses of BPA in levels considered to be toxic did not alter the effects of fetal development or their birth.

Although the studies are conducted on animals, the Journal of American Medical Association reported last year that humans with high levels of BPA in their blood levels had an "increased prevalence of cardiovascular disease, diabetes and liver-enzyme abnormalities. It has also been noted that continuous administering of estrogen increases

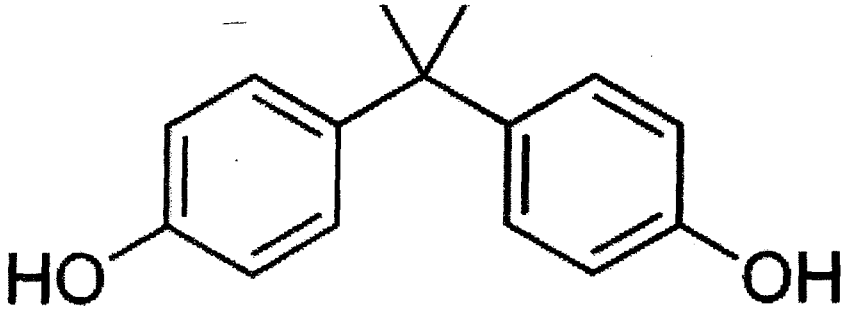
the frequency of cancer."

The Food and Drug Administration has refused to restrict BPA use in food packaging. BPA is a billion dollar industry. There is too much at stake for companies who use BPA. They would have to reconstruct assembly lines, which takes time and money companies just don't want to invest.

Many manufacturers are not willing to repackage their products because it would be a hassle. More recent studies show that higher levels of the chemical in the body are now being linked to obesity, diabetes and miscarriages.

The FDA has been nonchalant about regulating chemicals in packaging for companies. Last year it reported on its Web site "Based on our ongoing review, we believe there is a large body of evidence that indicates that FDA-regulated products containing BPA currently on the market are safe and that exposure levels to BPA from food contact materials, including for infants and children, are below those that may cause health effects."

Another concern is that children



Public domain graphic, courtesy of Wikipedia.org
The chemical structure of Bisphenol A

are exposed to BPA at a very young age. This may have an effect on brain development. Some companies that have BPA-free products are Beech Nut's plastic juice containers and the Britawaterfiltrationpitcher. Amazon has a BPA-free products section on its Web site.

Rubbermaid, a top seller in plastic ware, has a few products that do contain BPA, but the majority of its products are BPA-free according to its Web site. The Frequently Asked Questions Web site stated "we are aware of these recent reports [...] use of plastics made with BPA fully complies with the standards from FDA."

Then there is the argument that BPA is not harmful because hu-

mans metabolize and excrete BPA more quickly than rodents. The fact is, if something is harmful, people shouldn't ingest it. Perhaps it is like the global warming debate; some say 'yes' and some say 'no.'

The real question is why we continue to accept anything that is handed to us. We want freedom but we don't want responsibility. It's likely that BPA is harmful, and the FDA is sleeping on the job. They need to do a better job of regulating products for public consumption. Consumers shouldn't continue to get thrown under a bus.

Jessica Harris is a junior journalism major and can be reached at jh3y@mtsu.edu



mtsusidelines.com



mtsusidelines.com/multimedia



MTSU Sidelines



@MTSUSidelines



youtube.com/mtsusidelines

Online content at mtsusidelines.com
NASA provides critical service - by Sam Ashby in OPINIONS
Business students flip 'cakes for cancer' - by Emma Egli in NEWS
Letter to the Editor - by Zack Barnes in OPINIONS

The photo of the California students' protest on page 1 was provided by user Dcoetzee on Wikimedia Commons

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
SIDELINES
Middle Tennessee State University
1301 East Main Street P.O. Box 8
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
Editorial: 615-904-8357 Fax: 615-494-7648
Advertising: 615-898-5240 Fax: 615-904-8193
www.mtsusidelines.com

Editor in Chief
Byron Wilkes*
sleditor@mtsu.edu

Managing Editor
Andy Harper*
smanage@mtsu.edu

Production Manager
Chris Carter
sl4ads@mtsu.edu

Sports
Stephen Curley
slsports@mtsu.edu

Asst. Campus News
Emma Egli
slcopy@mtsu.edu

Photography
Jay Bailey
slphoto@mtsu.edu

News
Alex Moorman*
slnews@mtsu.edu

Asst. Features
Faith Franklin
slflash@mtsu.edu

Adviser
Steven Chappell
schappel@mtsu.edu

Asst. Com. News
Dustin Evans
slstate@mtsu.edu

Asst. Sports
Richard Lowe*
sports02@mtsu.edu

Advertising
Jeri Lamb
jlamb@mtsu.edu

Opinions
Evan Barker*
slopinio@mtsu.edu

Copy Editor
Allison Roberts
slcopy@mtsu.edu

Business
Eveon Corl
ecorl@mtsu.edu

Features
Katy Coil
slfeatur@mtsu.edu

Online
Bryan Law
slonline@mtsu.edu

* denotes member of editorial board

Students rightfully protest tuition hikes

In the near future, MTSU students will be subjected to an increase in tuition cost.

This tuition rise should only be about 10 percent. I am sure many students are just as worried as I am as to how tuition increases like this one will affect payments. As we live in an ailing economy such a rise in tuition seems only natural. Schools all over the U.S. are raising their tuitions as a way to overcome deficits

in federal and state funding. However, the amount of increase of tuition in some states is extremely high.

Take, for example, the state of California. There are a many problems facing California that have led to a drastic increase in tuition rates.

First, California is host to a huge populace. Universities are able to charge whatever they want as long as there is a population large enough to foot the bill.

Second, California has a huge debt. With such a large populace and being the most commercialized state in the U.S., California has built up some outrageous credits.

Third, California is just straight up expensive to live in. Expensive living means there is money to be thrown around, and universities are taking advantage of this money.

These reasons, coupled with the crippling economy, have created a situation in which it has been deemed necessary to hike tuition costs up 32 percent all over California. That is thousands more than students are paying now. We are facing a 10 percent increase, maybe. Imagine adding one third of your total tuition onto the end of next semester's bill. Thirty-two percent is absolutely ridiculous. It is a sign of a terrible lack of responsibility on the hands of many bureaucratic "leaders."

What happens after this tuition hike? Do Californian students just wait around for more tuition increases? What changes are going to be made so that this kind of increase does not need to happen again? It is a devaluation of the education system as these "leaders" ask us to fork out money for a brighter future. It is hard to imagine sunshine along the yellow brick road while students in California look to be footing \$70,000 undergraduate degrees.

The result? Only one of the greatest displays of First Amendment rights, ever.

Students up and down California are having sit-ins, barricading classrooms, chanting, raving and forming picket lines, all in an effort to speak out against incredible tuition increases. It is remarkable what our colleagues are doing even though school spokesmen are calling the effort "futile."



Dogood's post

Brett Johnson

Futile? What is futile?

Students at the University of California Santa Cruz are in their third day of protest. These students have taken over a building on campus and refuse to leave. Imagine three days of being packed into a building with thousands of college kids. That's thousands of college kids who have not showered, who have only food they brought to the sit-in, and who, against all odds, refuse to leave until

their demands have been met.

School officials of UC Santa Cruz have said the demonstrations are "not accomplishing anything." Some representatives have even said the exercises of these students are "just a disruption."

I say differently. This is exactly why we have First Amendment rights. People disagree with the way a bureaucratic system is doing business, so they do something about it. Would school officials rather have students vandalizing or defacing school property? Of course not. These sit-ins are a perfect way for students, for citizens, to get the point across.

As citizens, we have a responsibility to keep our government in check, and these kids get it. They might not make a difference at all; in fact, I seriously doubt their actions will render any substantial change. But, they are doing it. They are demonstrating their rights as citizens, and in doing so they carry the torch of freedom for the next person to take up.

Also, consider what students involved will face once these demonstrations are over. Four students at UC Berkley were arrested Friday after blockading themselves in a room.

Those arrests will be on their records forever. Many students are certain to face expulsion. At this point, school officials of the Universities of California say that nothing will come of these actions.

Demands by students have ranged from a tuition cut, (back to the original amount), to a full reinstating of teachers who were let go because of low funding. None of the students' demands seem as if they will be met.

Stories of 'such sit-ins' and 'takeovers' of buildings and classrooms are becoming commonplace in universities of California. Young adults, just like us, are standing up for their future. Students are being arrested, fined, and jailed.

To these students, exercising faith in their democracy is worth it. Power to the people; power to the students.

Brett Johnson is a junior English major and can be reached at baj3d@mtsu.edu.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

seeks students interested in the following positions for Spring 2010

Managing Editor
Production Manager
News Editor
Assistant Campus News Editor
Assistant Community News Editor
Opinions Editor
Features Editor
Sports Editor
Assistant Sports Editor
Advertising Editor
Multimedia Editor
Copy Editors

We are also looking for writers, photographers and graphic designers for news, sports, features and opinions.

Applications are due on Monday, Nov. 30.

For more information, please stop by our office in the Mass Communication Building, room 269.



Up 'Til Dawn
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

One Night.

One Cause.

Our Campus.

THANK YOU to all the students and teams who participated in the Great Lick-A-Thon for Up 'Til Dawn this year. Because of all the help, we were able to send out over **6,000** letters!

**Live national and local news in drive time
From the campus of MTSU**



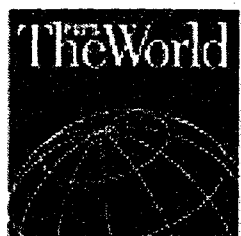
5-6 a.m.



6-9 a.m.



4-5 p.m.



5-6p.m.

Jazz programming all other times



WMOT is supported
by listener donations.

Call 898-2800 to learn how
to contribute through
payroll deduction.

PAINT OUR RACKS

**Sidelines wants 10 students to decorate newspaper racks around campus.
For an application and details, drop by our office in Mass Comm, room 269.**

Deadline is Dec. 3, 2009.

**your art
your style
your voice**

SPORTS

November to Remember

MT ties school record for overall wins, face Louisiana-Monroe next week

By STEPHEN CURLEY
Sports Editor

Junior quarterback Dwight Dasher threw four touchdown passes and the Blue Raider offense racked up 427 yards as they annihilated the Red Wolves of Arkansas State University 38-14 at Floyd Stadium Saturday.

"It was a great win for us," head coach Rick Stockstill said. "I thought it was really dominating performance in all three phases."

Dasher finished the game 15-of-26 with 263 yards to go with the four touchdowns. He was intercepted only once.

"I thought he threw the ball probably as well tonight as he has in any game here in a while," Stockstill said. "We had a couple of drops but I thought he was really good with the throws that he made."

Sophomore running back D.D. Kyles snapped his streak of 100-yard rushing games, but still contributed 80 yards on the ground on 11 carries.

Nine different Blue Raiders caught passes from Dasher, with junior receiver Garrett Andrews leading the team with three catches for 73 yards and a touchdown.

MT opened the first half scoring 24 unanswered points. On the second snap of its first possession, Dasher hit Kyles for an 80-yard screen pass resulting in a touchdown to take a 7-0 lead at the 12:20 mark of the first quarter.

Another defensive stop gave the Blue Raiders the ball back after the ASU punt resulted in a touchback. MT then marched 58 yards in eight plays, taking just 1:37 off the clock before kicker Alan Gendrau hit a 39-yard



Photo by Brennan Sparta, staff photographer
WR Chris McClover celebrated his final game at Floyd Statdium by catching his only touchdown of the game over a Red Wolves defender.

field goal to increase the lead to 10-0.

The Red Wolves again could not mount an offense, as they were held back by a holding penalty and forced to punt again.

MT took 2:37 to score this time, mounting a 66-yard drive in eight plays, ending with Dasher finding Chris McClover from 12 yards out for the score, giving the Blue Raiders a 17-0 lead at the 4:07 mark of the first quarter.

The teams traded the next

several possessions until MT assembled a 9-play, 86-yard drive capped off by Dasher hitting Harold Turner from 32 yards out for a touchdown, increasing the lead and seemingly running away with the game early 24-0.

ASU was finally able to answer on its next possession, returning a kickoff all the way to the Blue Raider 42-yard line before a personal foul on Darin Davis moved the ball up further to the 27 yard-line.

A pass interference penalty on Jeremy Kellem set the Red Wolves up at the 2-yard line, and they finally punched it in on a run by running back Reggie Arnold at the 2:03 mark.

After punts on each team's first possession of the second half, MT pieced together several big plays, including a 21-yard rush by Kyles and 35-yard pass by Dasher before hitting Andrews from seven yards out to score and and build a commanding

31-7 lead.

MT scored its final points of the game when, after Dasher was picked off by M.D. Jennings, Arnold fumbled the ball on the second play of the possession. The fumble was initially recovered by junior defensive end Jamari Lattimore, who ran 31 yards before pitching the ball to junior safety Jeremy Kellem, who ran 11 more yards for a touchdown.

ASU would cement the final score with a 24-yard

touchdown pass from Ryan Aplin to Jahbari McLennan at the 7:08 mark of the fourth quarter.


The eighth win is the most in a season for the Blue Raiders since 2001, and further opens bowl possibilities, though the team hasn't heard anything as of yet.

"I think we're an attractive team not only record-wise but with our individual players and what we're doing offensively and defensively."

Saturday was also "Senior Day," commemorating the final home game for the graduating class.

"This is their last game at home, but not their last football game," Stockstill said. "I congratulated them and told them I love them, but our work's not done."

The Blue Raiders conclude the 2009 regular season Saturday when the team travels to Monroe, La. to take on the University of Louisiana at Monroe. Kickoff is scheduled for 3:30 p.m.

 Sun Belt Conference	
Football Standings	
TROY	
Overall: 8-3	Conference: 7-0
MIDDLE TENNESSEE	
Overall: 8-3	Conference: 6-1
ULM	
Overall: 6-5	Conference: 5-2
LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE	
Overall: 6-5	Conference: 4-3

Building fanbase Lady Raiders' priority

BASKETBALL FROM PAGE #1

The challenge for Insell, when he first took the job, was to sustain that success while building a fan base in a state where, arguably, the largest fan base for a school in women's basketball already exists.

"We went out into the community," Insell said. "We wanted the community to invest in us. We wanted to get them to believe in us."

Before Insell arrived, there were nights during the season that crowds would barely reach a few hundred fans. Community members knew of the teams' success, but didn't feel connected to the program.

Insell used a grassroots approach toward gaining and maintaining fans for the Lady Raiders. Attendance has risen every year since Insell became head coach and is currently averaging over 4,000 fans a game.

"We have not peaked out," Insell said. "We still feel like we can average between 7,000 and 8,000 fans a game and on big nights, like Wednesday will be, we can bring in over 10,000 fans."

Another challenge for Insell has been bringing quality opponents to the Murphy

Center. Insell understands that in order for a team's national prominence to grow, it must play the best teams, but he feels those same teams should make their way to Murfreesboro as well.

"Our fans are owed that," Insell said. "They don't need to be going on the road all the time to see these big games. They need to be able to sit in their reserved seats and enjoy their team. Hopefully our team can win those games at home."

The Lady Vols will be another team that Insell has been able to successfully bring to the Murphy Center. Since Insell's first season, teams from the SEC (Georgia, Alabama and LSU), ACC (Maryland), Big 10 (Indiana) and Big East (Louisville) have found their way to the "Glass House," with the Lady Raiders holding a 3-3 record against those opponents.

Like UT will be, Maryland and LSU came to the Murphy Center nationally ranked in the top 10. The Lady Raiders defeated then No. 8-ranked LSU 67-56, while falling to then No. 1-ranked Maryland 80-76.

Summit has several reasons why she would face Insell's team on its home court.

"I think it was out of, not

only our friendship and getting to know [Insell], but the respect for how he coaches and brings out the best in all of his players," Summit said. "I know that is going to be a very challenging game for us because of the job he's done and the talent he has."

"[Associate head coach] Holly [Warlick] may never speak to me again if we get beat."

Both Summit and Insell acknowledge that Tennessee is one of the top states in the U.S. for women's basketball. Summit credits the college programs for their successes on the court.

"We've had a lot of great teams in our state," Summit said. "You have Vanderbilt, certainly with Tennessee and MTSU, it's a state that has a lot of basketball talent. We're constantly battling for the in-state talent. I think that's good; I think competition is a good thing."

Insell credits not only Summit for being a pioneer in the game, but also the efforts of high school programs across the state.

"We have some of the best high school coaches in the state of Tennessee than anywhere else in this country," Insell said. "They are not just coaching another sport and then they have to coach women's basketball to get a

supplement. They coach it because they love it and have a passion for it."

In a unique showing between the coaches, they will be co-hosting the "Breakfast of Champions" on the morning of the game. The event will be an opportunity for women's basketball fans from across the state to be able to hear both Insell and Summit speak on the state of affairs in the sport.

"It will be a great way to kick off a great day of basketball here in Murfreesboro," Insell said. "I am very humbled at the fact that Pat will give us a little of her time on game day."

Summit seemed just as excited about the event.

"I want to do [the "Breakfast of Champions"] because I think it's going to help, not only the people who have an interest in his program, but the people who have an interest in our program," Summit said. "For us to both be there and speak, I would expect the place to be packed."

The Lady Raiders will take on the Lady Vols on Nov. 25 at the Murphy Center. Game time is 7 p.m. and will be shown live on WUXP MyTV30 and can be heard on WMOT 89.5 FM.

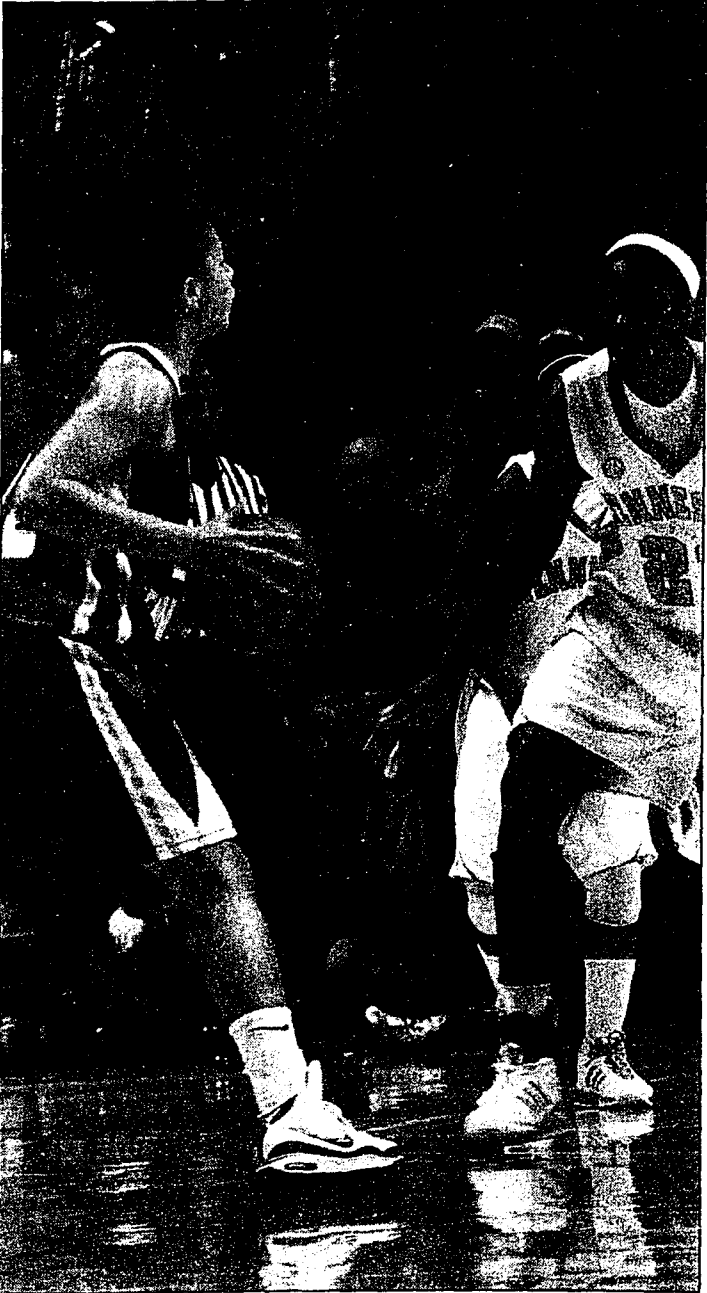


Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor
Senior Alysha Clark is averaging 28 points in her first three games this season. She led the nation in scoring last season.

Blue Raiders crowned Sun Belt champs

Mead named MVP, team secures NCAA Tournament bid

By STEPHEN CURLEY
Sports Editor

Three consecutive 3-1 victories this past weekend earned the Blue Raiders volleyball team the Sun Belt Conference championship and their fourth straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

MT capped off the weekend with a victory over top seed Florida International University.

"I think FIU thought they were going to come in and roll over us and we showed them that was not going to happen," head coach Matt Peck said. "FIU is an outstanding team and I think they will have a good run in NCAA tournament this year and I think our team is playing very, very well and we are looking forward to post-season play."

Senior outside hitter Ashley Mead was named tournament MVP after registering 17 kills and a .353 hitting percentage, going 17-for-34.

"What a story that is," Peck said. "She made second team all-conference as a senior, which is her only award, and then MVP of the tournament. She stepped it up when the team really needed her to do so. On top of everything, she has a compromised knee and for

her to play as hard as she did was truly amazing."

MT opened the tournament with a win over seventh-seeded University of Arkansas at Little Rock and earned its place in the championship with a win over host Western Kentucky University.

Sophomore Stacy Oladinni added 12 kills of her own, along with a .435 attack percentage. Her defense was also vital, registering eight block assist.

Junior outside hitter Izabella Kozon contributed with 11 kills along with 13 digs while senior Ashley Waugh and sophomore Brynne Henderson added 12 and 11 digs, respectively.

As a team, the Blue Raiders finished the tournament with 59 total kills as well as 11 total blocks.

The last action of the regular season for the Blue Raiders will be Saturday when the team travels to St. Louis, Mo. to take on Saint Louis University.

The NCAA Tournament selection show will air on ESPN News at 2 p.m. Sunday.

The SBC Championship match will be aired on Cox Sports Television Monday at 6 p.m.



Photo courtesy WKU media relations

The Blue Raiders celebrate their win, posing with the Sun Belt Conference Volleyball Championship trophy after a three-game sweep.

Clark, Lady Raiders win at Austin Peay

By ETHAN LANNOM
Staff Writer

After Wednesday night's loss to Louisiana State University, Middle Tennessee looked to rebound against the Lady Governors of Austin Peay in Clarksville, Tenn. This game was especially significant for the Blue Raiders, as it marked the 1,000th game in school history.

The women's basketball program at MTSU is in its 35th season since gaining varsity status in the 1975-76 season.

All-American Alysha Clark stepped up big for Middle Tennessee, scoring 38 points in 37 minutes. She also added 11 rebounds for her third-straight double-double this season. It was her 20th double-double as a Blue Raider and the 59th of her career.

With the 38 points, Clark also exceeded the 1,000-point mark as a player at Middle Tennessee. It took her 36 games to reach her current total of 1,021 career points as a Blue Raider.

Clark's only teammate to score in double figures was forward Brandi Brown. She hit 3-of-5 attempts from behind the three point arc and ended the night with 13 points.

Guards Jackie Pickel and Chelsia Lymon contributed nine and eight points respectively. Guard Anne Marie Lanning had eight points and five assists in the contest.

Middle Tennessee did a much better job shooting from the field Saturday night than against the Lady Tigers of LSU. The Blue Raiders converted 34-of-59 field goal attempts, including making 17-of-28 shots in the first half.

Austin Peay hung tough with MTSU, due to how many times the Lady Gov-

ernors got to the free throw line. The Blue Raiders battled foul problems throughout the game, and all five starters had at least three fouls. Alysha Clark and Jackie Pickel fouled out of the contest.

The disparity of free throws during the game was overwhelming as the Lady Governors made 29-of-36 free throws on the night with 17 of those attempts coming in the first half. On the other hand, the Blue Raiders attempted just 14 free throws the whole night, making 10.

Also, Austin Peay distributed its scoring more evenly than Middle Tennessee with five Lady Governors putting up double figures. The output was led by Nicole Jamen, who had 14 points accompanied by eight rebounds.

Throughout the game, the Blue Raiders could never pull away, but Austin Peay could not overtake them either. This resulted in Middle Tennessee being able to edge out the Lady Governors on the road 84-73.

The MTSU women's basketball team will come back home to face the No. 5 ranked Tennessee Lady Volunteers at the Murphy Center. The contest pits two great coaches of the women's game against one another in Coach Rick Insell and Coach Pat Summitt.

Before the game, the two coaches will speak at the Breakfast of Champions event at the Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro. It is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and the doors open at 7:45 a.m.

The two teams have faced off each of the last three seasons but each game was in Knoxville. The programs are meeting in Murfreesboro for the first time in 30 years. The game will be on Nov. 25 at 7 p.m.

MAKE THE SEASON MERRY.

Ring in the holidays with apps, games and music for more than 50 phones.

Plus, get a 19% faculty and staff discount.

On calling plans \$39.99 or higher with a 1- or 2-yr. agreement.

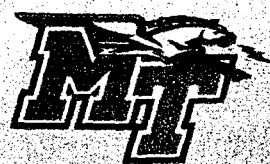


Nokia Twist™

- Unique square design that twists open to reveal a QWERTY keyboard
- V CAST Music with Rhapsody® and Visual Voice Mail™ capable

NEW! BlackBerry® Storm2™

- Do more in more places with WiFi capability
- Enhanced touch screen with SurePress™ lets you be even more accurate



The Best Destination For Holiday Gifts.

Switch to America's Largest and Most Reliable Wireless Network.

Call 1.888.VZW.4BIZ (899.4249) Click verizonwireless.com/getdiscount Visit any Communications Store

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES Open 7 days a week.

COLUMBIA 375 S. James Campbell Blvd. 931-381-0898
DICKSON 100 Lowe's Dr. 615-446-2355
FRANKLIN Cool Springs Galleria Blvd. 615-771-7971
NEW 1959 Mallory Ln. 615-771-6448
GALLATIN 1152 Nashville Pike 615-452-7800
HENDERSONVILLE 223 Indian Lake Rd. 615-822-1128
LEBANON 1424 W. Main St. 615-443-2355

In Collaboration with
Alcatel-Lucent

MADISON 1915 Gallatin Pike 615-859-2355
MT. JULIET 401 S. Mt. Juliet Rd. 615-773-1900
MURFREESBORO 580 N. Thompson Ln. 615-896-2355
NASHVILLE 4044 Hillsboro Pike 615-385-1910
 6800 Charlotte Pike 615-353-2112
SMYRNA 480 Sam Ridley Pkwy. W. 615-355-6560

BUSINESS CUSTOMERS
1-800-899-4249

Activation fee/line: \$35.

IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Subject to Customer Agmt and Calling Plan. Device capabilities: Add'l charges & conditions apply. Offers & coverage, varying by service, not available everywhere. Network details & coverage maps at verizonwireless.com. Rhapsody and the Rhapsody logo are trademarks and registered trademarks of RealNetworks, Inc. All company names, trademarks, logos and copyrights not the property of Verizon Wireless are the property of their respective owners. All Rights Reserved. ©2009 Verizon Wireless

HOLA

Upcoming MTSU Sporting Events

Nov. 21 - MBB @ NC A&T
 Nov. 25 - WBB vs. Tennessee
 Nov. 27 - MBB vs. Cumberland
 Nov. 28 - FB @ Louisiana-Monroe
 Nov. 28 - VHL @ Saint Louis
 Nov. 28 - WBB vs. Tennessee Tech
 Dec. 2 - MBB @ UAB