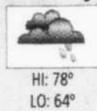


HI: 86°
LO: 68°



HI: 78°
LO: 64°

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

SIDELINES

Vol. 82 No. 5

www.mtsusidelines.com

September 11, 2006

Editorially independent

MT professor faces multiple charges

By Andy Harper and Kristen Teffeteller
Campus Life and Exposure Editor

An MTSU professor was issued a misdemeanor citation Thursday for driving under the influence, leaving the scene of an accident and violation of the open container law.

Belinda Traughber was reported to campus police by witnesses who saw her

hit a street sign and later park behind the Paul W. Martin, Sr. Honors College Building.

Traughber, a professor in the department of psychology, was also charged with public intoxication on June 20 of this year. Her court date for the incident last week is set for Nov. 13.

"It was the most bizarre behavior I have ever witnessed while waiting for police," said Karen Demonbreun, witness and executive secretary for the Honors College. "She was sitting in her car, music turned up loud, taking on and off her seatbelt, playing with the controls of her car, turning her blinkers on and off and leaning in and out of her car window."

Traughber was taken by ambulance to Middle Tennessee Medical Center from the parking lot located behind the honors building. According to MTMC, she was discharged the same day.

"The officer told us she was babbling when the officer first went up to talk to



Traughber

her," said Kelly Trowbridge, who was at the scene and is daughter of Demonbreun. "The officer came over to me to relay the information and said the woman had said she was drinking and talking about weed."

Trowbridge also said the police officer mentioned something about Traughber possibly being on medication not remembering if she had taken it.

Both Demonbreun and Trowbridge first spotted Traughber at the intersection of Rutherford Boulevard and East Main Street, but saw the professor minutes later on campus.

"We were sitting at the light to turn left onto Main from Rutherford when we saw her turning left from Main onto Rutherford," Demonbreun said.

After Traughber turned onto Rutherford at about 30 mph, she jumped the median and continued to drive even after she hit a street sign, Demonbreun said.

"We lost sight of her after she hit the sign but saw her again at the four way stop next to the Honors Building," Demonbreun said. "My daughter and I said, 'Oh my god, that's the same woman!'"

Trowbridge called campus police after she and her mother saw Traughber park her car.

"She parked cockeyed about one foot

from the car to her left and just sat in her car," Trowbridge said.

City officials arrived on the scene around 2:20 p.m. and paramedics took Traughber to MTMC about 10 minutes later, Demonbreun said.

When police inspected the vehicle, they discovered an opened bottle of alcohol, said Demonbreun.

"We did not see her drinking," Demonbreun said.

"Our police department will not bring charges against Traughber," said Buddy Peaster, MTSU police chief. "The city has taken over the case because of the damage to the signs."

Photos by Andy Harper | Campus Life Editor
Right: Officer Robert McAdams (left), Murfreesboro City Police, and Officer Tony Taylor (right), MTSU police, collaborate while writing an incident report.

Below: Police found an opened bottle of alcohol while searching Traughber's car.



Process for ex-felons to regain vote streamlined

ACLU and NAACP strive to educate public on rights of criminals to vote

By Jonathan Wiley
Contributing Writer

The American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee and the NAACP held a joint community meeting in Murfreesboro last Wednesday night to educate the public on the voting rights of felons.

This meeting was the latest in a string of community meetings throughout Tennessee held to educate citizens on a recently passed statute that created a system for ex-felons to regain their right to vote. Among those in attendance were ex-felons asking questions regarding their rights.

According to a panel discussion during the meeting, 5.3 million Americans are disenfranchised — or have lost their right to vote — due to a felony conviction. Of this number, 2 million have no sentence left to serve.

This number is disproportionately composed of minorities. Among African Americans, 13 percent of males in the U.S. have lost their right to vote. In Tennessee, where 94,000 people are disenfranchised due to felony convictions, one in 15 African American males cannot vote.

"When is someone done paying back to society?" said Gwendy Wade of the NAACP during a short speech.

The definition of a felony in Tennessee is any crime punishable by more than 365 days in prison, Wade said.

One subject discussed in the meeting was why citizens should care whether felons regain their voting rights. According to a study by sociologists, felons who become enfranchised again are less likely to

commit another crime.

"Every vote counts," said Gerald Melton, Rutherford County's public defender and MTSU adjunct professor, since that the statute affects every community since one in every 20 Americans has a criminal record.

According to Hooper Penuel, administrator of elections for Rutherford County, the election commission now receives 10 to 15 applications to restore felon voting rights every three months. Prior to the passing of the statute, the commission received one application every three months.

After receiving a grant from the ACLU, Tennessee used the money towards ex-felon voting rights and passed the statute July 2. But according to Wade, the state has been working with the NAACP on getting the bill passed for roughly 15 years.

Now that the bill has passed, however, the ACLU and NAACP can concentrate on amending it based on the problems faced by felons who will seek enfranchisement. It is hoped that the statute will serve as an incentive for legislators to streamline the process even further.

Before the passing of the new statute in Tennessee, the state had one of the most complex systems to restore the rights of felons in the country. The purpose of the new statute is to work towards streamlining this process. The statute achieves this by eliminating the need to see a judge during the enfranchisement process among other methods.

In most states, those who commit a felony lose their ability to vote. According to information presented during the meeting, Maine and Vermont are the only states that never deny the vote to their felons. Other states, including Tennessee, have at least some disenfranchisement of felons, while Florida, Kentucky and Virginia have laws that disenfranchise felons for life.

Michele Flynn, coordinator of the event, said she wants the public to know that the law has changed, that a felon can go to the election commission to start the new application and to contact the ACLU if any problems arise during the process.

Student assaulted over holiday awake

By Andy Harper
Campus Life News Editor

The MTSU student who was assaulted last week and taken to Vanderbilt Hospital was up and walking Friday, said Gentry McCreary, director of Greek Life.

Michael Morrison was rushed to Vanderbilt last Monday for emergency surgery to stop excessive bleeding in his brain after being struck in the head by MTSU student William Vinson with a pool cue.

"Michael's motor skills are coming back and he is starting to remember what happened," McCreary said. "He will hopefully be moved out of the hospital and into rehab later this week."

The incident occurred at the Beta Theta Pi House last Sunday night around midnight and was attributed by McCreary and police to "horse-play."

According to Buddy Peaster, MTSU police chief, authorities have not yet spoken with Morrison about the incident.

"We're working on arranging a time to speak," Peaster said. "We're waiting until he is fit enough to talk to us. Because of his medical situation, we don't want to rush him. If his progress continues, we will probably speak to him this week."

Vinson was charged with aggravated assault in relation to the crime. He was released from the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office last Monday on a \$10,000 bond.

Vinson's court date is set for October 28.

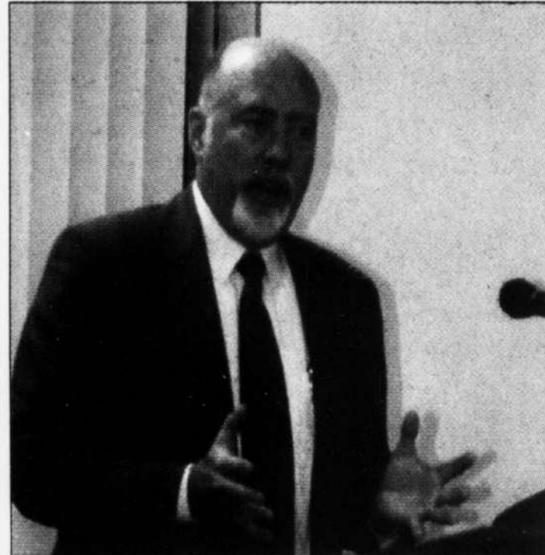


Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

Gerald Melton, Rutherford County public defender and MTSU adjunct professor, spoke out in favor of ex-felons' voting rights at the ACLU and NAACP meeting.

Johnson takes over Women's Center

By Christina Runkel
Staff Writer

Terri Johnson, from Saint Mary's College in Indiana, has been appointed as the new director of the June Anderson's Women Center this semester.

A native of Louisiana, Johnson returns to the South after working as the director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs at Saint Mary's College in Indiana since 2000.

"The people have been wonderful. Everyone has extended a warm welcome," Johnson said, after arriving in Murfreesboro Sept. 3, Johnson officially took over the center Fri., Sept. 5.

"I am really excited about the Women's Center," Johnson said. She said she wants to build a founda-

tion for community involvement with the center. By her third day on the job, Johnson already received a warm welcome from many of the county's organizations for women, including the Rutherford County Rape Recovery and Prevention Center.

But adds that she that any progress she makes will not take away from the past accomplishments of previous directors and the achievements of the center as a whole.

"I don't want to take away the history of the center. The women that came before me have done great things," Johnson said.

Johnson said she plans to use art, publications and lectures to draw more students and community members to the women's center.

"I plan to network with the faculty, staff and students," Johnson added. "I want everyone to know that all groups are welcome. I want suggestions and feedback, positive and negative. It is a learning process for everyone."



Johnson

After assisting and visiting the Student Organization fair, Johnson said she was impressed by the number of students who showed an interest in volunteering for the center and hopes it can grow in the future.

She wants to show students how women are seen as players in the community, and she does not want anyone to be turned away by the idea of feminism.

"She is a real find," Bob Glenn, vice president for Student Affairs, said. "She was our number one choice, and I am anxious about what is to come. The women's center has a lot of potential."

Johnson wants all students to know that the women's center can help them,

See Women, 2

Honors lectures illuminate facets of natural disasters

By Jeremy Bishop
Contributing Writer

The short- and long-term movements within the earth will be the subject discussed for the first lecture of "Natural Disasters," the 2006 Honors Lecture Series.

The topic will be presented by Clay Harris, geosciences associate professor, in a lecture titled, "Angry Earth: Waiting for the Big One."

"This lecture about movements within the earth will not go into details about the science of geology, but will be based on frequencies and patterns," Harris said.

"What Does This Planet Have Against Us?" is the book Harris used to develop the idea for his lecture title.

"The book's before its time, theories that have become true in this day and age are one of the inspirations he will be using to reach his audience," Harris said.

Along with this book, music has also been part of the creation of this lecture. The song "Waiting for the Big One" by Peter Gabriel will be played at

the beginning of his lecture.

Scott Carnicom, associate dean for the Honors College, in collaboration with colleagues has geared this lecture series as well as others to bring awareness to the world around us.

"It is through opening the doors of the Honors College to all students and the general public that the college can bring awareness to the school over there," Carnicom said.

The college lectures are open to all students, not just the honors students, Carnicom said. The lectures themselves also have an open-question format for attendants.

"The option for questions to be asked during or after the lecture is up to the individual that is giving the lecture, but it still remains an option, as well as an opportunity to gain knowledge," Carnicom said.

This lecture series may also provide an avenue for those who want to learn more about donating actual time to organizations and not just donating money to disaster relief agencies, Carnicom said.

The semester-long lecture series will include 10 MTSU

professors discussing the topic of natural disasters, including global warming and how militaries affect natural disasters.

"The goal of the lectures is to give students and anyone else who wishes to attend the lectures a better understanding of the anatomy of a natural disaster," Carnicom said.

The next two lectures of this series will be "Global Warming: The Facts and The Fiction," by geosciences professor Jim Henry, and "New Media and Natural Disasters: Freedom and Responsibility," by Anantha Babilli, dean of the College of Mass Communications.

Harris' lecture is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 11th at 3 p.m. in Room 106 of the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building, and all other lectures will be given on Mondays at 3 p.m. in Honors 106, as well.

The Honors College, as a whole, wishes to encourage students and members of the general public to attend these free lectures.

Women: Johnson takes lead at June Anderson

Continued from 1

"regardless of status". For Johnson the women's center is not about minority versus majority. She said, "[We] all work together. It's not about race or ethnicity."

Along with all ethnic groups, the center hopes to involve men as well.

"Women's issues touch men as well as women. The men should be as active as the women," Glenn said.

Johnson received her Master's degree in women's studies from Eastern Michigan. Saint Mary's College awarded her the Student Leadership Appreciation Award in 2002. In 2003 she received the "Women Honoring Women" award.

The large student body does not intimidate Johnson. Prior to Saint Mary's, she worked as a project coordinator at Eastern Michigan

University and said she is excited about being at a fast-paced university again.

When MTSU opened the June Anderson's Women Center in 1977, it was the first center of its kind in Tennessee. The center sponsors several events throughout the year, including free legal clinics, brown bag luncheon speakers on professional development topics and educational campaigns about sexual assault and domestic violence. The center also holds programs for Sexual Assault Awareness Month every March and April, such as the Clothesline project, taking The Pledge, and Take Back the Night.

Johnson replaced Dr. Carol Ann Bailly who served as interim director since August 2005.

"I want the center to have a big impact on MTSU," Johnson said. "We are in the forefront of exciting times."

To: MTSU Community

From: Dr. Gene Fitch, Jr.
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs &
Dean of Student Life

Re: Call for Proposed Rules Changes

Date: August 31, 2006

As you are aware, the University Rules Committee annually reviews MTSU's promulgated institutional rules. This material appears in the publication, Student Rights & Responsibilities, and in the MTSU Traffic & Parking Rules pamphlet.

I anticipate that TBR will establish a firm deadline for submission of proposed rule changes. For this reason, suggested revisions to our current rules should be forwarded to me **no later than Friday, September 22**. Proposals must contain the following information: (1) the text of the rule as it now appears in the Student Rights & Responsibilities publication; (2) the text of the proposed change (with additions bolded and deletions specifically noted); and, (3) a statement of rationale which supports or otherwise justifies the proposed change. In the event a proposal is for a new rule, rather than a revision, the same should be noted, and item (1) above disregarded. I would prefer that proposed rules and changes be submitted through email as an attached document in MS Word. My address is gfitc@mtsu.edu.

I should note that amendments to parking regulations are considered by the University Traffic and Parking Committee. Suggested changes in these rules can be directed to Ms. Nancy Weatherly (nweather@mtsu.edu), Parking Services, **again no later than September 22, 2006**.

Notice of meetings of the University Rules Committee to the general campus will be made through the Sidelines and via e-mail. Thank you.



TAILGATE & POOL PARTY

Weekend Getaway with College Suites

Join us on Thursday, Sept. 14th
from 2:00pm until Kickoff for a
Tailgate and Cookout!
(next to the Tennis Courts by Murphy Center)

Join us on Friday, Sept. 15th
beginning at 1:00pm for a
Pool Party & V-Ball Tournament!
(at the College Suites Pool and V-Ball court)



www.collegesuites.net
2315 N. Tennessee Blvd.
615.893.9499

Dwight's Minimart

EAT
DRINK
GRADUATE

**Coffee Sodas
Snacks Cigarettes**

Tote Bags \$5.00

**Free
Pens - Pencils - Keyrings**

Little Cindy's Sandwich, 1.75oz chips, 20 oz. soda
ALL FOR ONLY \$3.39

Keathley University Center, Room 200
Phone: 898-5562
Open M-F 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

"What's Up on Campus"

Monday 9/11

Raider Republicans 9/11 Tribute @ KUC Knoll - 10 a.m.
Doer's of the World @ KUC Knoll - 3 p.m.
Angry Earth: Waiting for the Big One @ HONR 106 - 3 p.m.
Water aerobics class @ Rec Center - 5 p.m.
United 93 @ KUC Theater - 7:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday 9/12

Transfer Student Week @ KUC Knoll - 10 a.m.
Red Cross Blood Drive @ KUC 322 - 10 a.m.
Women for Women @ JUB 204 - 6 p.m.
Sigma Phi Epsilon "Hoops for Heart" @ Rec Center - 6 p.m.
United 93 @ KUC Theater - 7:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday 9/13

Red Cross Blood Drive @ KUC 322 - 10 a.m.
Sports Clubs @ KUC Knoll - 11 a.m.
Anime Club @ BAS S316 - 6 p.m.
United 93 @ KUC Theater - 7:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

Thursday 9/14

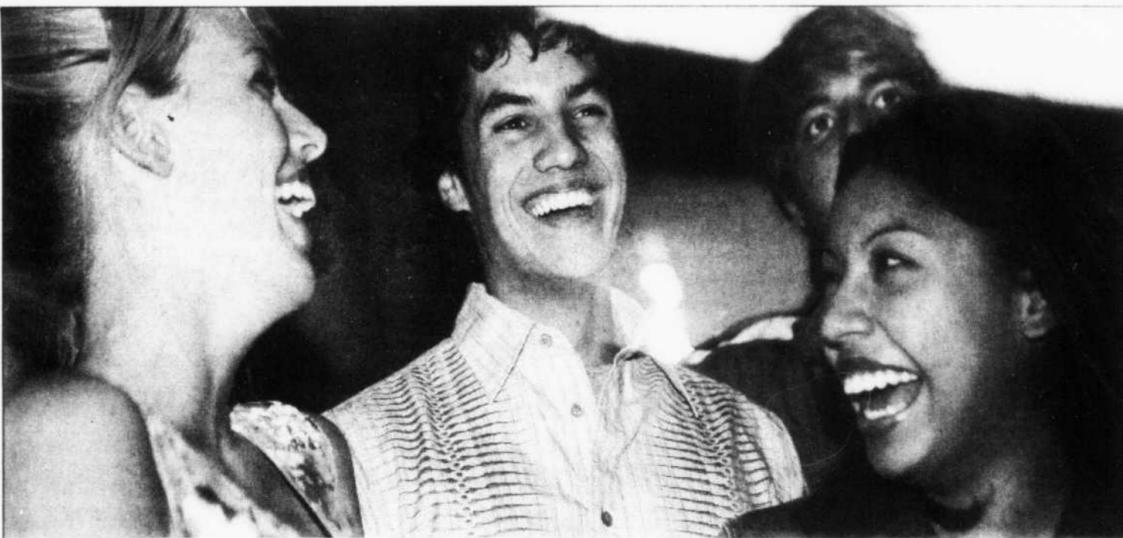
Pep Rally @ Walnut Grove
ESPN Dinner @ MC Track - 8 a.m.
Retired Faculty and Staff Coffee @ FOH House - 9 a.m.
Football Game: MT vs. Tenn. Tech - 6 p.m.
United 93 @ KUC Theater - 7:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

Friday 9/15

Music City Arabian Horse Show @ TMC Complex - 8 a.m.
Veterans Memorial 5K Run/Walk @ PH 105 - 2 p.m.
DOTW Ministry Play @ WMB MH - 4 p.m. & 6 p.m.
Spotted Saddle Horse Show @ TLC Complex - 7 p.m.
Hypnotist Jim Wand @ KUC Theater - 8 p.m.
Empty Café @ KUC Lounge - 8 p.m.

Saturday 9/16

Japan School for Fall 2006 @ PH - 7 a.m.
Music City Arabian Horse Show @ TMC Complex - 8 a.m.
Veterans Memorial 5K Run/Walk @ PH 105 - 2 p.m.
DOTW Ministry Play @ WMB MH - 4 p.m. & 6 p.m.
Spotted Saddle Horse Show @ TLC Complex - 7 p.m.



Students, Welcome Back For Another Great Year!

Raiders Ridge thanks our residents for choosing us! Premier student living at reasonable prices.

Raiders Ridge

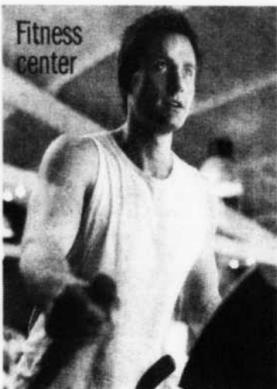
APARTMENT HOMES



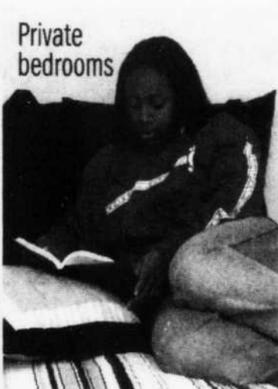
Fully furnished



Resort-style pool



Fitness center



Private bedrooms

Where Else Can You Get All Of These Amenities With Rents Starting At Just \$399 per bedroom?

- Individual leases
- All utilities included (*limits apply*)
- Fully furnished apartments
- Free cable (74 channels) & internet in each bedroom
- Free local phone
- Lavish pool & picnic area
- Sand volleyball court
- Small pets allowed (*select units*)
- Car wash
- Gated community with intrusion alarms
- Luxurious clubhouse with media room, fitness center & game room
- Student business center with computer lab, conference & study rooms
- Full appliance package: (microwave, full size washer/dryer)
- Tennis & basketball courts

raiderridge.com 1345 Wenlon Dr., Murfreesboro, TN 37130

866.375.6901

OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board

If ex-felons are full citizens in society, voting should be easy

Streamlining the process for ex-felons to regain their rights to vote after serving their time has removed a double standard in the legal system. If the law states that an ex-felon has the right to retain his or her rights to vote, the process to regain those rights should not be impeded.

Prior to the passing of the new statute, the process for ex-felons to have their voting rights restored was convoluted and difficult to the point of being next to impossible. This made it appear that ex-felons who had served their time and had been integrated back into society were being treated as if they were second-class citizens. This made the process so difficult that it was as if they had no rights at all.

According to the American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee, applications for voting restoration by ex-felons increased per three months from one to 15 in Rutherford County alone. This was partly due to the clarification of the law by the new statute making it more clear who was eligible for restoration.

Now with the new process in place, ex-felons who have completed their sentences (including probation and parole), paid all court fees and are not under court-orders for child support obligations can file a single application. They no longer have to have their case reviewed by a judge, which will help to alleviate an already overburdened judicial system.

The new statute does not change law that states anyone convicted of first-degree murder, aggravated rape, treason or voter fraud has lost his or her right to vote for life. The passage of this statute does not necessarily mean that the rights of ex-felons have been secured and that a continuous process to protect the rights of ex-felons should not always be an issue for debate. That is why the ACLU and the NAACP should remain ever vigilant, so that ex-felons can maintain their legal rights.

The reason that citizens should support this statute is because, as stated by Gerald Melton, public defender for Rutherford County, every vote counts. In a country with an already low voting rate, we shouldn't further discourage people to vote.

Letter to the Editor

Betas should not be judged too harshly

To the Editor:

I am writing regarding the editorial "Incident at Greek Row shows Beta values face over safety" (Sept. 6.)

Michael Morrison is my cousin, and this incident has greatly affected our family, as well as many other individuals. It is very sad and tragic that an incident like this has happened, but I think instead of trash-talking Greek Life, more than people do on this campus already, we should simply learn from the lesson.

The article said, "Why didn't anyone check on him for almost eight hours?" I know that if my roommate or any friend woke up after a long night of drinking and said they had a headache, I probably would not think twice about it. Many people have headaches the next morning.

It is very unfortunate that this happened, but the Beta Theta Pi Fraternity does not need to catch all of the slack. Being Greek myself, I know them and have been around them, and I was very excited that Michael was pledging them last year. They are good guys. These young men are taking all of the right steps as far as procedure goes, and they were not trying to hide anything. Like the editorial said, Greeks are "held up to more criticism and harsher judgments and expected to show a good example." However, you must remember that Greeks are also human and make mistakes as well. This could have happened anywhere to anybody.

I think right now we need to learn from this lesson, and keep Michael in all of our thoughts and prayers. Let's not let this happen to anybody else, Greek or non-Greek.

Jen Vaughn

Senior, College of Education and Behavioral Science

Correction

Will Fancher, the WMTS DJ interviewed for "Students DJs Rock the Airwaves" in last Wednesday's edition of Sidelines, was misquoted. The side box next to the text of the story has him instructing aspiring DJs to "find a niche for your show, but keep in mind that more unique shows are harder to schedule for."

Fancher did not mean to convey that a unique radio show would have less chance of being added to WMTS programming. That statement is in contradiction with the WMTS mission statement, part of which is "to provide informational, cultural and alternative music programming to Middle Tennessee."

WMTS attempts to broadcast programming that cannot readily be found on other radio stations in the area. A unique show pitched to WMTS would actually have a much better chance of being added to the schedule. Sidelines regrets the error.

More information about the radio station can be found at <http://www.wmts.org> > www.wmts.org.

Handling of war makes country less secure

Does anyone else get the impression that our government is in dire need of an appointment with a good therapist?

President George W. Bush has been traveling around the nation these past few days, using the handling of the airline scare in England, as well as the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, to assure us that the nation is more secure than it was five years ago. Apparently, he's banking on the hope that the 'country, eh?' that has seen him through several slides in public opinion will reassure us that we're safe.

The president's message has been boosted further by the news that Hamed Juma Faris al-Suaidi, a high-ranking operative for al-Qaida in Iraq, had been captured recently. Surely, we are wearing down Osama bin Laden's organization, bringing us closer to the light at the end of this tunnel we call the war on terror.

I can only assume that the president listens to the State Department, because I really can't tell whether or not he's aware of just what he's up against when he addresses the nation. President Bush seems so caught up in waging his drama of good against evil that he underestimates the forces involved. Perhaps he needs a refresher course.

Al-Qaida is a massive organization. It was created with the intention of destabilizing and striking fear into any nation or power its leaders don't agree with. It has the capacity to coordinate violent action on a large scale, both rapidly and over long periods of time, depending on the desired effect. They have succeeded in numerous operations, and have nearly done so in several other instances- which is just as frightening as if they had succeeded.

I have to wonder just what the Bush Administration's mindset is when they feel that removing a single leader from the al-Qaida system is anything more than a victory



Fair and Unbalanced

Matthew Adair
Staff Columnist

in public relations. It feels as though we are chipping at the tentacles of a monster, only to find more limbs growing in to replace the ones we've destroyed. Every leader, we hear about the capture of a new month, and yet, al-Qaida doesn't seem to be fazed.

People in organizations like these are expendable. If someone is killed, they can be replaced. If someone is captured, if they are as high up in the chain of command as we claim they are, they won't tell us what we want to know. Short of using interrogation techniques that are quite illegal, how can we really be sure that anything a former al-Qaida agent tells us is the truth?

To put it another way, why would someone who believes that we are morally and culturally abhorrent, and who works for an organization that's aim is to destroy and/or cripple us with fear, tell us anything that would help us eliminate that organization?

Again, is it just me, or have we all gone crazy? Are we so desperate to prove to ourselves that we are not in a fruitless war without end that every little thing gets magnified out of proportion with how significant it really is?

Both the administration and the memory of the Sept. 11 attacks. We are all passing through the same stages that an individual goes through in response to the loss of a loved one. After all, we - and most especially the families

of all of the victims, as well as those of the rescue workers who died doing their duty - lost a great deal that day.

We felt shock, because this sort of thing just doesn't happen here. Anyone who saw it can tell you that watching the burning World Trade Center seemed unreal. We mourned the loss hundreds of lives, men and women who were family and friends to so many. We even mourned the destruction of buildings that had become icons of the modern world. Then, we became angry, and wanted to fight back against the shadowy 'they' that had attacked us.

What we haven't come to, though, is the stage of acceptance. We have not accepted what has happened, and for the most part, we refuse to let go of what happened on this day, five years ago. We have not come to really accept the responsibility that comes with trying to eliminate one of the largest and most entrenched terrorist forces in the world.

We are so obsessed with our anger and outrage over the attacks that we are unable to pull back from the conflict in which we have mired ourselves to come to the realization of what must be done in order to prevent this war from escalating beyond a point of no return. The sad, twisted irony of all of this is that the ones who are angriest are the ones who lost the least on Sept. 11 and seem to be the ones most eager to want to take their anger out on the world, regardless of the damage it does to the country they say they love.

Waging war after war and issuing ultimatum after ultimatum has not made us safer. It has made the world a more reactionary and dangerous place. If calling that 'secure' isn't crazy, then I don't know what is.

Matthew Adair is a senior art education major and can be reached at matt.adair@gmail.com.

Bush conspiracy theorists can't have it both ways

Today, we take just a few moments to remember those who died in the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001. On that day, 19 Muslim extremists high-jacked four commercial passenger jet airliners and crashed them into World Trade Center buildings One and Two (the "Twin Towers"), the Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania.

Most Americans now feel far removed from the terrorist attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people, but a select group of conspiracy theorists on campus sought to remind the MTSU population last week. There is but one major flaw in the argument of these conspiracy theorists: the George W. Bush they claim is the mastermind behind the Sept. 11 attacks is the exact same Bush they claim is the bumbling idiot who cannot seem to establish a secure Iraq.

You simply cannot have it both ways. Bush is either the evil mas-



Hurtt Pride

Matt Hurtt
Staff Columnist

termind of an elaborate terrorist scheme or a complete fool, incapable of securing a country only slightly more than twice the size of Idaho. It must be easy to win the political debate when you argue both sides of the issue.

To digress momentarily, this column is notoriously right-wing; however, to accurately drive home this opinion, a certain level of neutrality must be observed. My own personal opinion of Bush is, in fact, lower than my opinion of the conservative cause as a whole.

These conspiracy theorists suggest that the Sept. 11 attacks and the subsequent invasion of

Afghanistan and Iraq are the first steps to "Pax Americana" through American global domination.

They accuse the Conservative think-tank Project for the New American Century - with members like Vice President Cheney and former President George H. W. Bush - of plotting world domination by the United States.

"What are we going to do tonight, Brain?"

"The same thing we do every night, Pinky: Try to take over the world."

Are we supposed to actually believe that government could operate fully - and handle a complete lie at the same time?

The conspiracy raises too many questions.

One question of great interest: Where did those who "died" go? Benjamin Franklin quipped, "Three can keep a secret if two of them are dead." That is certainly the case here. If all those people

did not actually die, someone would certainly have spoken up by now. Think of the book deals.

The real answer is simple. During the Clinton administration, worldwide terrorist attacks increased dramatically. Clinton's military budget cuts and foreign policy failures, due in part to William Cohen and Madeline Albright, led to increased terrorist attacks on American interests, including the 1993 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center.

Bush is certainly not the most credible or competent president, but it is completely impossible for him to be the actor those conspiracy theorists say he is.

If he were, Hollywood would have given him an Oscar four years ago.

Matt Hurtt is a sophomore liberal arts major and can be reached at mch2x@mtsu.edu.

Stop worrying about labels; be happy as you are

I'm guilty of filling out those mind-numbing Myspace surveys. After all the huge decisions your 20s pose, there's something satisfying in breezing through 50 self-defining questions for the entire Web-world to see.

In a mere 15 minutes, every bored soul browsing Myspace has a clear idea of who I am and what I'm all about.

The surveys would be a much different experience if the questions were, instead, important - What job do you want after college? What kind of person do you want to be? How do you feel about global warming?

In college, we're so quick to package ourselves. There's such a rush to determine every detail of our future that we can't help but to seek solitude in simpler decisions. Long after the days of high-school cliques, we still find comfort in belonging to a certain group.

I, for example, "hate" country music, but find myself suppressing enjoyment to the umpteenth million songs my country-loving friends force upon me. Why do I hate it? Because I genuinely do, or because I feel that I am supposed to because it doesn't fit my chosen image?

Growing up in the South forces you to either embrace its stereotypes or to explicitly reject them. Until high-school graduation, I made sure everyone knew I was getting out of this small town and doing better things. Once I began living in New York City, though, I



Kvetch A Break

Sarah Lavery
Staff Columnist

missed the South tremendously. It turns out people there don't often hold doors open for you, strangers don't ask how you are and \$20 barely lasts you an hour. So, I found myself back where I started, eating my words day after day when asked the question, "I thought you moved to New York?"

I've never been able to stick to one classification - I have been a cheerleader, an academic, a hard-core feminist, an aspiring fashion designer, an avid reader, a die-hard 'N Sync fan, a Jew, an agnostic - the effort to define myself has been bumpy and inexhaustible.

We don't really know ourselves that well, it seems. Imagine having to sum yourself up with one measly description - check Box 1 for all-American, 2 for intellectual, 3 for party-animal, 4 for anti-conformist - the decision is obviously far from being that straightforward. Somehow, certain stigmas have become intertwined with certain "genres" of personalities; if you're unconventional, you hate anything

mainstream, if you're a so-called-typical, beer-loving, party-going college student, you steer away from anything deemed too taboo or cerebral. How can we evaluate what we really like or don't if we're so quick to pass judgment?

Author Bill Vaughn writes, "If there is anything the nonconformist hates worse than a conformist, it's another nonconformist who doesn't conform to the prevailing standards of nonconformity."

Rebellion from the mainstream has become a version of conformity in itself. Those trying desperately not to appear as sheep end up following a rule book all their own; the "anti-conformist" has almost become less original than your "average" pop-music-loving, Lindsay Lohan-emulating 20-something.

I thought originality was for its own sake.

I thought escaping the mainstream was so you could deem what's good or bad based on trial-and-error. But then again, I also used to think 'N Sync was God's gift to the earth.

See, here I am falling prey to what I've been writing about all along. To this day, every time I hear 'N Sync's "Bye, Bye, Bye," I sing at the top of my lungs, dance my heart out and love every second of it, and I'm not afraid to admit it.

Sarah Lavery is a sophomore mass communications major and can be reached at scl2s@mtsu.edu.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
SIDELINES
An editorially independent newspaper

Middle Tennessee State University
1301 East Main Street P.O. Box 8
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Editorial: (615) 904-8357
Advertising: (615) 898-2533
Fax: (615) 904-8193

www.mtsusidelines.com

Letters Policy

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

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

Editor in Chief: Michaela Jackson*
Campus Admin. Editor: Wesley Murchison*
Campus Life Editor: Andy Harper*
Community Editor: Dana Owens*
Opinions Editor: Manda Turner*
Features Editor: Casey Phillips
Sports Editor: Clarence Plank
Online Editor: Jeremy Wyatt
Design Editor: Erica Hines

Art Director: Blake Arnold
Advertising Manager: Jeri Lamb
Business Manager: Eveon Corl
Ad Design: Andy Harper
Sidelines Adviser: Matthew Adair
Staff Columnist: Steven Chappell

*denotes member of editorial board

FEATURES

Todd Gallery to host first alumni-only art show



LYNCHBURG HOLIDAY TRADITIONS - 2004



SOME FOLKS CALL THEM RED LETTER DAYS

Some folks call them red letter days. It's a phrase that has been used for centuries to describe days of great importance or significance. In the past, these days were often marked by religious events or historical milestones. Today, they can refer to any day that is particularly meaningful or memorable.



WAIT A MINUTE. GOOD FRIDAY IN JUNE? AS A MATTER OF FACT

Wait a minute. Good Friday in June? As a matter of fact, it is. This is a unique occurrence that happens once every 100 years or so. It's a day of religious significance that falls on a Friday in the month of June. This year, it falls on June 2nd.

Photos courtesy of News and Public Affairs

The upcoming Alumni Art Show at Todd Gallery will exhibit these pieces created by alumni David Porter for the Jack Daniels Distillery. The show will feature multiple works made by MTSU alumni from the 1960s to 2004.

By Lisa Rollins
News and Public Affairs

For the first time ever, MTSU's Department of Art will sponsor an exhibit featuring the works of 24 of its alumni, said Lon Nuell, MTSU art professor and director of the university's Todd Gallery.

Nuell said the upcoming exhibition is the first in an ongoing series designed to recognize art department graduates for their ongoing commitment to art making, sharing not only their work, but also the passion they have for their discipline.

The artists participating in the inaugural alumni show, which is free and open to the public, represent a range of years beginning with 1960 and ending with a more recent graduate of 2004.

"[The artist] are active educators in higher education, professionals in graphic design or independent artists," Nuell observed. "Their works are seen across the country and internationally in galleries and museums, are found in private collections, and seen in regional and national publications."

Opening Monday, Sept. 18, in the Todd Gallery on the MTSU campus, the show will run through Friday, Oct. 6, and include a closing reception for the artists from 4 to 7 p.m. in the gallery lobby.

The exhibit will display works from multiple styles. Paintings, prints, clay work, sculpture and graphic design imagery will be among the media featured in the show, with each artist represented by

at least three images. The MTSU art department's first graduate, Howard Hull, now a retired professor of art education living in Louisville, Tenn., will be among those whose works are presented, as will Jere Chumley, the art program's second graduate and now a retired professor of fine arts, who resides in Cleveland, Tenn.

"Seventy years ago, in 1926, Hester Rogers Ray was hired to teach art education courses at Middle Tennessee State Teachers College to elementary education majors," Nuell said of the art department's beginnings. "But it was not until 1960 that Howard Hull became the first graduate of the art department, receiving a B.S. in art education, with Jere Chumley following in the next year."

"Both (Hull and Chumley) studied with David LeDoux, retired professor of art, and the late Fred Reubens, who was chairman of the two-person department," Nuell said, noting that the art department has since grown to a faculty of 24, with more than 200 majors in three degree areas, namely, a Bachelor of Fine Arts in the areas of painting, clay, printmaking, graphic design and sculpture; a Bachelor of Science in art education; and a Bachelor of Arts program in art history.

Since its first graduates, all of whom "passed through that famously unique Art Barn" until 2005, Nuell said, the department has undergone growth in not only faculty but facilities, with hundreds of stu-

dents and graduates earning degrees in studio art, art education, graphic design and most recently, art history.

Aside from 1960-61 graduates Hull and Chumley, the alumni show will feature works by '70s graduates Charles Massey Jr., printmaking professor at Ohio State University; photographer E.K. Waller of Los Angeles; Janet Gilmore-Bryant, an artist/teacher in Richmond, Va.; jewelry designer Margaret Ellis of Nashville; artist/teacher Vicky Randall; comics artist/author/teacher Carol Tyler of Cincinnati; Wayne White, a Los Angeles-based artist and video production designer; and the late Mary Stanley, a sculptor.

Artists who graduated from MTSU's art program in the '80s who will participate in the alumni show are John Marshall, an art coordinator and painter residing in Meridian, Miss.; Julie Jack, professor of

visual arts at Tennessee Wesleyan; and artist Janet McNutt of Cleveland, Tenn. Additionally, participating alumni who graduated during the '90s will include artist Steve Sanders; graphic designer Kevin Leonard of Oak Park, Ill.; Knoxville-based artist Dawn Kunkel; painter Tim Hooper of Nashville; graphic designer Jeff Porter; and Aaron Grayum, a painter/writer/graphic designer residing in Nashville.

More recent art department alumni, all of whom graduated between 2000-2004, also will take part in the alumni show, including clay artist Dawn Perault of St. Paul, Minn.; printmaker Tracey Goodrich of Minneapolis; Nashville's Hans Schmitt-Ratzen, an artist and preparator for the Frist Center for Visual Arts; painter Dan Hall; and Patrick Brien of Nashville, an artist and preparator for the Cumberland Gallery.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED . . .

For more information regarding the alumni show or its individual artists, contact Nuell at (615) 898-2505.

Todd Gallery Hours:

Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (closed on state holidays)

Collectors nab exotic animals from British zoos

By Sue Leeman
U-Wire

LONDON (AP) - Missing marmosets, abducted alligators, poached penguins: Thieves are targeting Europe's zoos and safari parks to supply animal collectors who want to own ever more exotic species.

Conservationists say the practice is harming animals, threatening vital breeding programs, and adding to an already flourishing illegal trade in exotic birds and animals.

"We live in a designer world and people are not satisfied any more with a budgie or a canary - they want something more exotic," said John Hayward, a former police officer who runs Britain's National Theft Register, the only national database of animal thefts in Europe.

He says, on average, Britain's zoos have suffered a major theft every week for the past few years, involving dozens of animals worth thousands of dollars.

Conservationists fear the demand for exotic animals will put further pressure on wild populations, which thieves have already targeted for years.

Experts say, for example, that the trade in exotic birds - both legal and illegal - has decimated populations of African gray parrots, prized for their ability to mimic human speech.

Britain's Royal Society for the Protection of Birds says 360,000 African grays were legally traded between 1994 and 2003 - most of them into Europe - while many thousands more were illegally

traded.

Zoo thefts made headlines last December when Toga the baby jackass penguin was stolen from Amazon World Zoo Park on the Isle of Wight off southern Britain. He was never found.

On June 18, thieves made off with five rare marmosets worth several hundred dollars each from Drusilla's Zoo at East Grinstead, south of London. Police later arrested two men and recovered four of the creatures, along with 14 other monkeys stolen from zoos in Devon and Cambridgeshire.

Hayward said primary targets are smaller monkeys - including South American marmosets, Tamarins from South and Central America and spider monkeys from Mexico and Brazil - as well as large exotic birds like macaws and flamingos and reptiles such as turtles and tortoises.

In the last three years, some 80, mostly small, monkeys have disappeared from some of Britain's more than 350 zoos, including several dozen large zoos and safari parks, Hayward said. Only a few have been recovered.

Hayward said some animals are stolen to order by professionals. "These animals are not tame, and you need to know how to handle and care for them," he said.

The more exotic or endangered the animal, the higher the price. The Royal

Society for the Protection of Birds says a single rare hyacinth macaw can fetch up to \$45,000.

There are casual thefts, too: In the late 1990s, a man abducted an alligator from a zoo in central England.

"He took him to a party to impress his friends, then left him on the doorstep of a pet shop," Hayward said.

Harry Schram, director of the 300-member European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, says some 40 percent of European zoos have suffered thefts.

"This problem is growing. With more species being declared endangered and more regulation, people are going underground," Schram said in a telephone interview from his office in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Schram said police in the Netherlands and Belgium are trying to coordinate on the problem, "but this is really exceptional."

"We have no idea of the extent of thefts in Germany, Switzerland and eastern Europe and virtually no information on southern Europe," he said.

The zoo association says animals stolen in Europe likely go to European collectors, since other potential markets like the United States and Japan tightly restrict animal imports - and Middle Eastern countries are following suit.

Traffic International at Cambridge, in eastern England, which monitors trade in endangered animals across Europe, says that from 1996 to 2000, British customs officials annually seized around 450 illegally imported specimens. Around 17 percent of those were live animals, mostly reptiles, parrots and macaws.

U.S. zoos also suffer thefts. In 2000, two golden eagles and a bald eagle were stolen from Santa Barbara Zoo in California, apparently for their feathers. Also that year, teenagers stole two koalas from San Francisco Zoo.

In 2000, thieves took 16 lion cubs from a zoo in Jakarta, Indonesia. In the Middle East, four masked thieves grabbed a lion cub from a zoo in the Gaza Strip last November.

Many zoos are now increasing security and some are tagging or implanting computer chips in their animals.

Kath Bright, manager of Amazon World Zoo Park, said penguin parents Kyla and Oscar mourned the loss of 3-month-old Toga for several weeks.

"We think Toga may have been stolen to order, because this was not an opportunistic theft," she said.

There has been a happy ending: On Feb. 14, Kyla and Oscar hatched another chick, dubbed Temba, meaning hope.

Classifieds

Marketplace of MTSU

FOR RENT

5 year old condo. 1 block from campus. 3 BDRM/2BA, tile & hardwood except bdms, fireplace. \$305.00/month. Inc. washer, dryer, dishwasher, stove, refrigerator. 1519 Middleborough Ct. Must see! 931-703-4867

Continued from last column

3BD/2BA House. 1/4 mile from campus and across from Greek Row. CHA, hardwood floors, dish washer, refrigerator, stove furnished. Utility room with W/D hook-ups, deck, large yard. NO pets. \$375.00 deposit, \$800.00 per month. 615-895-0075 or 615-347-1676.

ONE TO THREE BDRM PROPERTIES AVAILABLE CLOSE TO MTSU. CALL 895-5314 FOR CURRENT LISTINGS, PRICING, AND AVAILABILITY.

Continued from last column

One block from M.T.S.U. 3BD/1BA Brick Home. Across from Murphy Center (1010 Eaton St.) CHA Reduced !!! \$750.00 month Call 977-3395 or 377-6550

SUB LEASE

Female sub-leaser needed for 1 yr. lease at College Grove. \$349/MO incl. utilities, cable, internet & furniture. Would have 3 female roommates. Call Andrea at 615-364-0634.

ROOMMATES

Continued from last column

Female roommate needed. \$300 a month, utilities included. 5 min. from campus. Call 615-390-3554

FOR LEASE

HELP WANTED

Now Hiring New Taco Bell near campus. Flexible schedules. 6.25 hr. Fun, quick paced environment. Apply @ 2955 S. Rutherford Blvd. M-F 8-5

FT/PT Local Special Events company is now filling

Continued from last column

positions for delivery and set-up. Offering flexible work schedules, team environment and competitive salary. Applicants must be reliable, possess excellent work values and have a valid drivers license. Applications available at 939 Thompson Lane, Murfreesboro.

Local Special Events company is now hiring associates to complete our Customer Service Team. We offer flexible work days and competitive salary. Applicants must possess an excellent work ethic, have excellent cus-

Continued from last column

tommer service skills and work well as a team. Applications available at Stewarts Special Events, 939 N. Thompson Lane, Murfreesboro.

Wanted - in your area: Cheerleading, Baton Twirling, Dance and Tumbling Teachers. Call: 615-896-4683 or 615-347-3595.

Full expansion, great pay, flexible P/T/F, sales/svc, all ages 18+, conditions apply. 832-8448 WORKFORSTUDENTS.COM

\$10 an hour full and part

Continued from last column

time positions for lawn-care assistance. Call Matt @456-1793.

GENERAL

SIGMA ALPHA LAMBDA, NAT'L. HONORS ORGANIZATION IS SEEKING MOTIVATED STUDENTS TO SERVE AS FOUNDING OFFICERS/MEMBERS TO BEGIN A CAMPUS CHAPTER AT MTSU. CONTACT: RMINER@SALHONORS.ORG

Part-Time Clerical 15+ hours, days, evenings,

Continued from last column

weekends \$8.00 per hour, must have basic computer, clerical and phone skills. Great people! Great job! Please apply in person: Jack Cooper Transport Co. 2010 NW Broad Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37129 615-907-9651

FOR SALE

Volvo '88 740 GLE. New timing belt, water pump, cold a/c, pw/d. 262 K. \$2500 Call 423-280-0904.

Black used recliner \$30. 5

Continued from last column

shelf bookcase \$30. Call Andrea 615-364-0634

TRAVEL

Spring Break w/STS to Jamaica, Mexico, Bahamas and Florida. Are you connected? Sell Trips, Earn Cash, Travel Free! Call for group discounts. Info/Reservations 800-648-4849 www.stsitravel.com

SERVICES

SOLICES Sidelines will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified advertisement. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations.

Sidelines reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems objectionable for any reason. Classifieds will only be accepted on a pre-paid basis. Ads may be placed in the Sidelines office in Mass Comm, Rm 269. For more information, call the business office at 615-898-5111. Ads are not accepted over the phone. Ads are free for students and faculty for the first two weeks.

Continued to next column

SPORTS

MT Falls to Maryland

Saturday, Sept. 9
MT 10
Maryland 24

Next Game:
 Tennessee Tech
 Thurs., Sept. 14

By Clarence Plank

Sports Editor

MT lost to Maryland at Chevy Chase Bank Field in Maryland Saturday night. The Terrapins scored on their first drive and added a field goal later on.

MT controlled the time of possession for 34:04, and out-gained Maryland 174-170 in the first half. The Blue Raiders had 105 yards on the ground and 216 yard in passing.

Eugene Gross scored from the one-yard line by the end of the third quarter and Colby Smith hit a 42-yard field goal and that was an account of all of MT points.

Gross rushed 13 times for 74 yards and DeMarco McNair also rushed a career high 13 touches

for 46 yards. Bobby Williams and Jonathan Grigsby each caught seven receptions for 130 yards.

Maryland got on the board with a 39-yard scoring drive, which Lance Bell rushed for 12 yards into the end zone to cap things off. Josh Wilson for the 66-yard kick-off for 61-yards.

The Blue Raiders went for 13 plays before the drive died out. Smith hit the field goal after the 66-yard drive ended. MT defense held the Terps to a 37-yard field goal. After a fumble by Williams in the first quarter the Blue Raiders defense shutdown Maryland.

Maryland went 66-yards to score on a one-yard run by the Terps quarterback Sam Hollenbach went in for a touchdown and to pull ahead 17-3.

The Blue Raiders drove 80-yards, which had one fourth-down conversion and a 3rd down and 20 to setup Gross to walk into the end zone with a touchdown.

Marks tossed and interception, but Maryland's J.J Justice fumbled the ball. MT took over and stalled after two first downs.



Photo Courtesy of MT Media Relations
 Number 56 Wes Hofacker DL clashes with Edwin Williams Number 60 of the Maryland Terrapins.

MT should be glad

By J. Owen Shipley

Staff Columnist

Middle Tennessee (1-1) lost Saturday to Maryland 24-10.

In the first half, MT outgained and outplayed a superior Maryland team, but turnovers and a dropped touchdown pass in the second quarter prevented MT from pulling off the upset.

The Blue Raiders had five more first downs, a 37-yard offensive advantage, and nine more minutes with the ball than the Terrapins, but just couldn't convert their statistical success into points.

For the second game in a row the Raiders allowed a touchdown on the opening drive before tightening the reigns defensively. MT responded with a 13-play, 66-yard drive that ended in a 42-yard field goal by Colby Smith. Maryland responded with a field goal for a 10-3 lead early in the game.

MT was never far from staying with the Terrapins, but dropped passes, sacks and turnovers remained a problem as MT continued its growing pains on offense. Their 9-of-16 third-down conversion rate was a vast improvement over their 2-of-14 showing against Florida International.

While neither team was ranked in the top 25, Maryland did receive eight votes in the USA Today Coaches' Poll.

Despite the score, out gained such a big-time program has to be seen as a positive for a Blue Raiders team that had a lot of trouble moving the ball last week.

Maryland's passing attack was shut down by aggressive defensive

See Positive. 7

Friday, Sept. 8
MT 2
Mercer 0

Sunday, Sept. 10
MT 1
Tennessee 2

Next Game:
 Lipscomb
 Friday, Sept. 15

MT soccer drops first season loss

By Casey Brown

Staff Writer

The streak is over, but a statement was made.

Middle Tennessee's upset bid fell short on Sunday, as the Blue Raiders dropped a 2-1 overtime decision to No. 10 Tennessee at the First Tennessee Classic in Knoxville.

On Friday, MT opened the tournament with a 2-0 defeat of Mercer. After splitting the two contests this weekend the Blue Raiders now possess a 5-1 record.

Against the Lady Vols, MT was unable to penetrate the defense on a consistent basis. Kala Morgan scored her third goal of the Classic in the fifth minute, putting the ball past UT keeper Jaimel Johnson off a cross from Rebecca Rodriguez to quiet the home crowd early on.

Another quick attack by Holly Grogan soon after put the Vol defense on its heels, but that shot was the last scoring opportunity the Blue Raiders had until overtime almost ninety minutes later.

"It was a tough, hard-fought game," head coach Aston Rhoden told MT media relations. "We didn't have many chances against what was a very good Tennessee defense but we made good on one early and the defense almost made it hold."

MT freshman keeper Erynn Murray was under fire from the outset but turned in a stellar effort, facing 31 shots and turning away all but two, both on break-aways. The Blue Raiders could only muster three shots against Johnson.

Murray came up big in the 52nd minute with a save off a good look by Jenny Jeffers that preserved the 1-0 MT lead. Ten minutes later, however, Mick Imgram knotted the score at 1-1 when she beat Murray with her first goal of the season.

The contest went into overtime, and in the 97th minute Grogan nearly stunned the home team with a powerful shot that was saved by Johnson. UT's Emily Redberg drove home the winning shot less than a minute later to deny the Blue Raiders a big win.

"Tennessee put a lot of pressure on us, but we held for the most part," Rhoden said.

In Friday's match, MT tied the 1999 Blue Raider team for the best start to a season by beating the Bears 2-0 to improve to 5-0.

Morgan continued her stellar offensive play, netting both goals for the Blue Raiders in the first seven minutes.

"This was a nice win for our team, especially going on the road for the first time and getting use to playing under different circumstances," Rhoden said.

The already dominant MT defense turned in arguably its best performance of the 2006 campaign, allowing no shots on goal in the first half and only two in the second.

Defender Katy Rayburn contributed on offense as well, assisting Morgan's first score along with Jen Threlkeld. Grogan set up Morgan's next goal with a well-played cross in the seventh minute.

Murray and sophomore Courtney Fortner combined for the shutout, each receiving 45 minutes of action.

"We are playing well and showing improvement in areas as we go," Rhoden said. "It was a total team win."

MT will be back in action on Friday when Lipscomb visits Blue Raider Field at 7 p.m.

Sun Belt Preview Notebook: Close Games Aren't Enough

By Russell Luna

Staff Writer

The Sun Belt is steadily improving after a several close games with teams from the elite conferences. However, the inability to come out with a big win is still something the Sun Belt is trying to overcome. This week, Troy had the handles on Number 9 Florida State before allowing a late fourth quarter touchdown. Florida International led most of the game against South Florida before having an offensive meltdown in the second half to fall to the Bulls. Although there is significant improvement from Sun Belt teams, they are still struggling to win against bigger power conference programs.

North Texas 24 (0-2), SMU (2-0) 6

Next Week's Opponent: Sat. Sept. 16th North Texas at Tulsa

Denton, Texas- The Mean Green packed on 10 points in the fourth quarter to put away the SMU Mustangs and pick up their first win of the season. North Texas was led by Woody Wilson who led the team with 103 yards passing and 74 yards rushing, including a 33 yard touchdown run. The Mean Green defense shut down SMU allowing them to score only six points (nine total in Sun Belt's first two games), giving SMU their worst start offensively in their first two games since 1965 when they only scored a combined total of seven points.

Notable Quote: "They're right up the street and we've got bragging rights." - Linebacker

Maurice Holman

Troy 17 (1-1), #9 Florida State 24 (2-0)

Next Week's Opponent: Sat. Sept. 16th at Georgia Tech

Tallahassee, Fla.- An interception by Buster Davis in the fourth quarter for Florida State dashed any hopes for the Trojans to have one of the biggest upsets in the history of the Sun Belt Conference. Despite a solid performance by Omar Haugabook, who completed 28 passes for 219 yards, his three interceptions were costly. The Trojans took a 17-10 lead midway through the fourth quarter before Florida State came back and tied the game at 17. The Davis interception set up a four yard touchdown run by Joe Surratt with 1:56 to give the Seminoles the game winning touchdown.

Notable Quote: "We were trying to talk to our players the whole week about surviving the early storm because they are so quick, so fast and the crowd is so big and aggressive -- the crowd really gets into here as good as well as anywhere you will ever find." - Head coach Larry Blakeney

Florida International 20 (0-2), South Florida 21 (2-0)

Next Week's Opponent: Sat. Sept. 16th at Bowling Green

Tampa, Fla.- A 29 yard touchdown pass by Matt Grothe with 2:33 in the fourth quarter helped the South Florida Bulls over come several mistakes to win over the FIU Golden Panthers. A fumble by the Golden Panthers at their own 29 yard line helped set

up South Florida's Grothe's 29 yard game winning touchdown. Similar to last week's loss, FIU's Chris Patullo shanked an extra point attempt after the Golden Panthers scored their first touchdown. Patullo's missed extra point against Middle Tennessee proved to be costly, as the Blue Raiders went on to win 7-6. FIU jumped out to a 20-7 lead at half-time, before wide out Taurus Johnson scored two touchdowns to help the Bulls win their second game of the season. FIU QB Josh Padrick had a solid night by completing 20 passes for 237 yards and one touchdown. Unfortunately for the Panthers, special teams are playing a key factor in their losses.

Notable Quote: "I don't even know what to say anymore. I mean, we come into the game 20-point underdogs. I'm not going to question our effort, but it's the little things. It's what FIU is getting known for." - Wide receiver Chandler Williams

Louisiana-Lafayette 7 (0-2), Texas A&M 56 (2-0)

Next Week's Opponent: BYE WEEK

College Station, Texas- The inability to cope with the high octane offense of the Aggies proved to be deadly, as the Ragin' Cajuns fell helplessly on Saturday night. TAMU running back Jorvorskie Lane ran for a career high 200 yards in the Aggies' rout of the pre-season Sun Belt favorite. Matt Desormeaux replaced QB Jerry Babb and ran for 36 yards late in the first half in the team's only touchdown scoring drive.

Notable Quote: "Our goal is to play shutout defense. We lost focus on that last series in the first half." - Texas A&M defensive tackle Red Bryant

Louisiana-Monroe 19 (1-1), Kansas 21 (2-0)

Next Week's Opponent: Sat. Sept. 16th at Alabama

Lawrence, Kan. - The Jayhawks' Kerry Meier helped thwart an upset rally from behind as he threw for two touchdowns and ran one into the endzone to break away from the the ULM Warhawks on Saturday evening. The Warhawks finished the night with 351 passing yards under QB Kinsmon Lancaster, but the team struggled rushing as they only compiled a total of 51 yards. The Warhawks trailed 21-7 at the half, before shutting down Kansas' offense in the second half. Two late scoring touchdowns and a missed two point conversion were keys to the Warhawks loss.

Notable Quote: "We had a really good week of practice, and the coaches prepared me well for this game. They gave me a really good feel for what (Kansas') defense was going to do." - Quarterback Kinsmon Lancaster

Oklahoma State 35 (2-0), Arkansas State 7 (1-1)

Next Week's Opponent: BYE WEEK

Jonesboro, Ark. - The Indians were hoping to get another upset bid at home in Indian Stadium. However, the Cowboys had another idea. Cowboys' quarterback Bobby Reid scored three touchdowns

(2 passing and 1 rushing touchdown) despite throwing two interceptions in the first quarter. The Oklahoma State defense held Arkansas State to 188 total yards on offensive and forcing the Indians to keep their defense on the field for most of the night.

Notable Quote: "They just came out and played. It was big, fast and physical (on the line of scrimmage). We could have played a lot more physical. They just played hard." - Running back Reggie Arnold.

Florida Atlantic 0 (0-2), Kansas State 45 (2-0)

Next Week's Opponent: Sat. Sept. 16th at Oklahoma State

Manhattan, Kan.- The FAU Owls are still struggling to distinguish themselves as a Division I-A opponent rather than a I-AA team. Justin McKinney became the first Kansas State Wildcat in 70 years to run back an opening game kickoff for a touchdown. From there it went south for the Owls, as Kansas State dominated on both sides of the field. The Owls finished with 166 yards total offense, while Kansas State racked up 347 total yards offensively. FAU's Sean Clayton replaced Rusty Smith by finishing the night with eight completions for 95 yards.

Notable Quote: "Our kids struggled to make something happen and our struggles turned into errors and errors led to more yardage and more points and it was very very ugly." - Head coach Howard Schnellenberger

Volleyball falls to 6-4 on season

By Clarence Plank
Sports Editor

MT hosted the Blue Raider Bash this weekend as they played against four teams over the course of three days. The Blue Raiders fell to Creighton 3-0 yesterday to 6-4 on the season at the Alumni Memorial Gym.

Creighton (30-23, 30-27, 31-29) was ahead of MT for all three matches and the Blue Raiders had a hard time trying to rally back. The Blue jays would block or kill any attempt made on offense for MT. Neither team did well on attacking as MT had 40 kills and .136 hitting percentage, while Creighton had 51 kills and hit for .180 percent.

Quanshell Scott had 11 kills and to block assists. Ashley Adams only had seven kills and seven errors.

MT played against Illinois-Chicago in the first game of a double header and beat them 3-0 (30-24, 30-13, 30-15) with Victoria Monasterolo registering 13 kills and six digs. Middle Tennessee had .414 attacking percentage and 47 kills against UIC in the game. Ashley Waugh had three aces as MT went on to score nine aces. Sasha McGlothlin had career-high seven kills and Robinson finished with nine kills.

In the second game St. Louis beat MT 3-1 (27-30, 30-20, 23-30, 22-30) and stumped Middle Tennessee on offense with 32 blocks thus keeping them off balance, which forced MT into committing 11 errors in the game. St. Louis held the Blue Raiders to a .026 attacking percentage after the halftime.

Jessica Robinson had 16 kills, followed by Scott with 13 kills and two service aces. Adams and Asberry finished with 11 and 10 kills, respectively.

Friday was the start to the Blue Raider Bash as MT beat Miami of Ohio 3-0 (30-26, 30-

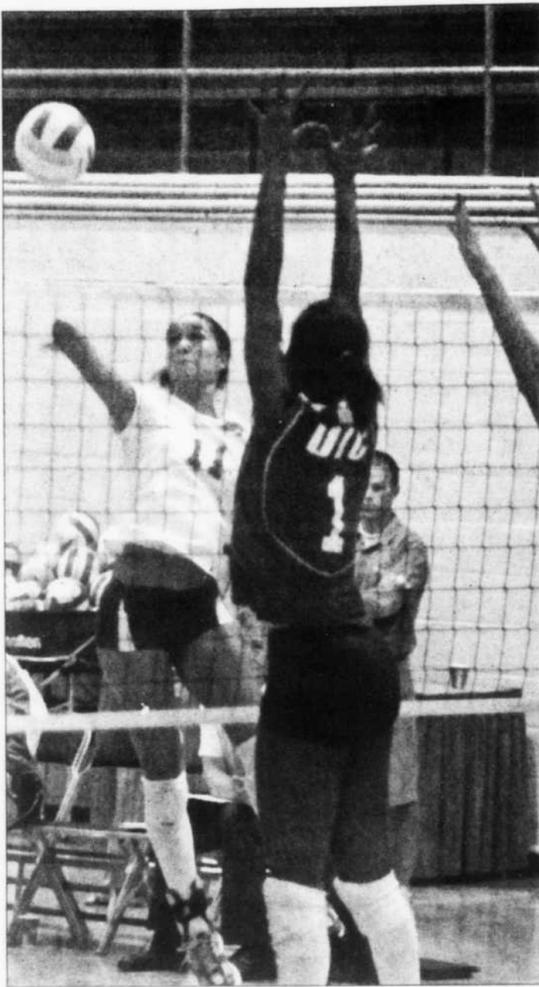


Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer
Junior Victoria Monasterolo (left) smashes the ball against an opposing defender during the Blue Raider Bash at Alumni Memorial Gym this past weekend.

23, 30-19).

MT tied the game five time during the before they started to pull away. Megan Sumrell and Ashley Adams had back-to-back kills in order to get things in gear for Middle.

Game two MT dominated the Redhawks with 18 kills and committed only four errors in the game. MT held Miami to a .034 attack percentage in the third game.

Ashley Adams finished her night with 15 kills while teammate Quanshell Scott had 10 kills. Alicia Lemau'u finished with 13 digs. Middle Tennessee attacking percentage was .340 on the course of the series with Miami.

Middle Tennessee will be in Albany, New York for the final tournament of the season as they play against Temple on Friday at 4p.m..

ment statistically. In that game during the 2000 season Terrapin quarterback Calvin McCall had a career best passing game with 357 yards in the air. The Raiders held Maryland to less than 140 yards passing in this meeting.

This Thursday the Blue Raiders will host Tennessee Tech's Golden Eagles (0-2) at the increasingly hostile Floyd Stadium. Tech started the season with a close game against Gardner-Webb, losing 30-26, before struggling to UTC in a 31-7 route. Thursday's game will coincide with MTSU's faith and family day, which should have a huge impact on attendance. On the season TTU has been outscored 61-33, and has had trouble converting third downs in key situations.

Positive: Loss for MT

Continued from 6

leaving them with less than 300 yards total offense. MT quarterback Clint Marks seemed more comfortable in the pocket with 216 yards on 22-of-41 passing. Marks still had trouble with avoiding sacks surrendering another three against the Terps.

On the year, Marks has negative 35-yards rushing after his 8 sacks are accounted for. Still, pulling his efficiency rating up to 91.00 on the year shows a marked improvement as he grows into first year coach Rick Stockskill's new offensive scheme.

According to GoBlueRaiders.com the Raiders have yet to score passing touchdown, log an interception, or recover a fumble but other areas of their game remain strong. Eugene Gross is having a good year already with two touchdowns and 4.8 yards per carry average. DeMarco McNair is also having a good year with over a hundred yards after two games and a healthy 4.4 yards of his own.

The last meeting between these two teams, a 45-27 Terrapin victory, MT showed a marked improve-

**Weekends
Seasonal
Midnights
Full Time
Part Time
On Call**

**Jobs that fit your schedule
...and your wallet.**



Apply online today at www.TownePark.com
Click on "Join our Team" to get started.
Expect a response within 2 business days.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

WANTED



**A FEW GOOD SISTERS
REWARDS: FRIENDSHIP, LEADERSHIP
AND SERVICE**

Omega Phi Alpha
national service sorority

Ropin' & Ridin', Lendin' & Leadin'

MTSU's Service Sorority Omega Phi Alpha
Invites You to Attend:

- Tuesday September 12 - Friendship Night
⊗ Games & Fun
- Wednesday September 13 - Leadership Night
⊗ Casino Night
- Thursday September 14 - Service Night
⊗ Service Project for Local Group Home
- Friday September 15 - Fun Night
⊗ Western Swin Dancing & Country Karaoke!

FREE FOOD Every Night!

So Grab Your Hat & Boots & Come On Out!
Tues: BAS \$334, 7:00 p.m.
Wed-Fri: BAS N127 7:00 p.m.

Volleyball Scoreboard Blue Raider Bash

Sept. 8
Miami of Ohio 0
MT 3

Sept. 9
St. Louis 3
MT 1

Sept. 9
Illinois-Chicago 0
MT 3

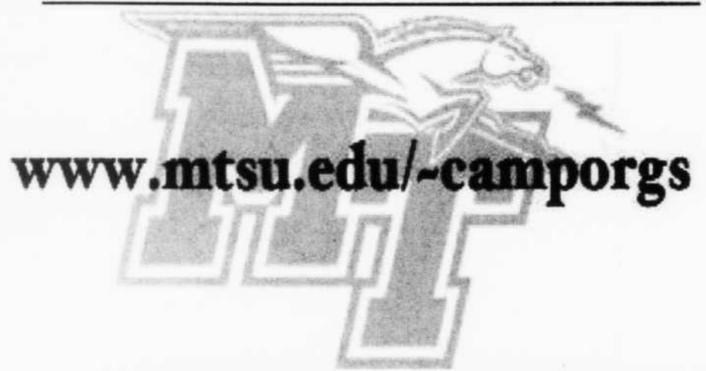
Sept. 10
Creighton 3
MT 0

Student Activity Fee

Fall 2006

APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

DEADLINE: September 20, 2006



www.mtsu.edu/~camporgs

**In order to be eligible for funds
you must have completed the
Statement of Assurance
form, attended an orientation session
and be a registered
student organization.**

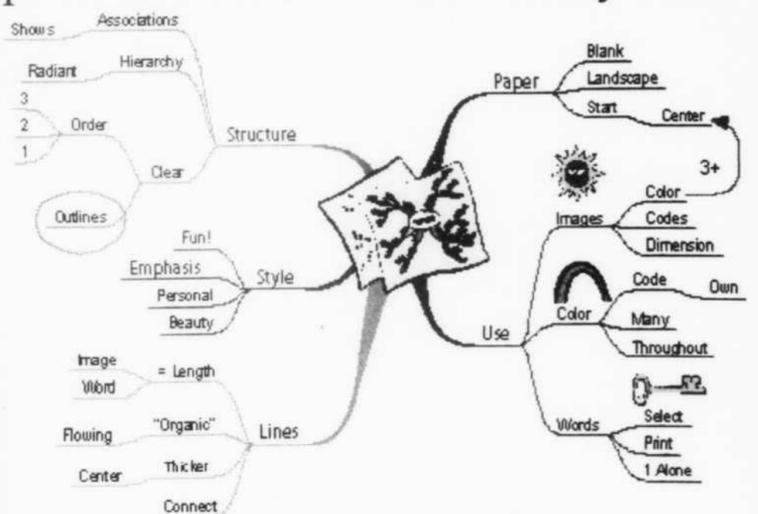
INFORMATION: 898-5812

FREE WORKSHOP

with Jamie Nast,
a national expert on

Mind Mapping®

Improve your memory and
grades, organize papers, develop
presentations, and save study time.



Thursday, Sept. 14

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. OR

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Hazlewood Dining Room, JUB

sponsored by Older Wiser Learners (OWLs)
and Pinnacle student organizations and the
Adult Services Center.

Call 898-5989 to reserve a place -- limited to 100.

Do you have a...

News tip:

slnews@mtsu.edu

Opinion:

slopinio@mtsu.edu

Sports tip:

slsports@mtsu.edu

Feature idea:

slfeatur@mtsu.edu

Gripe:

sleditor@mtsu.edu

Holla at us!

**CENTURY
21**

CD'S * RECORDS

TAPES * JEWELRY

New & Used CD's - Records

125 Lasseter Dr.

Murfreesboro, TN 37130

OPEN MON-SAT 11-7





**THIS IS NOT
A DESK.**

**THIS IS MORE
LIKE IT.**

CHECK OUT OUR NEW COLLECTIONS OF DORM
ROOM FURNITURE AT WALMART.COM/COLLEGE.

COLLEGE HAPPENS. BE READY.
WAL★MART