



An editorially
independent
newspaper

Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

2003 National Finalist
Best non-daily
university newspaper
-Society of Professional Journalists

Volume 80 No. 34

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

CAMPUSBRIEFS

Business fraternity hosts ethics forum

Alpha Kappa Psi, the professional business fraternity, will be hosting an ethics forum Nov. 10 at 6 p.m. The forum will be held in the Business and Aerospace Building, State Farm room. Dress is business casual. It is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Melinda Jablonski at 975-1135.

Record label looking to hire students

Scared Rabbit Records, MTSU's student record label, is looking for new, enthusiastic people to join their team. There are openings available in marketing, promotion, Web design, production and distribution. Anyone interested should indicate the department of interest, resume, graduation date and whether they have candidacy. Send submissions to Scared Rabbit Records at P.O. Box 166 Murfreesboro, Tenn. 37142 by Nov. 24.

Fraternity hosts food drive

Beta Theta Pi will have a Thanksgiving food drive Nov. 15 - 18 in the Keathley University Center from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Food will be given to the Salvation Army. Food can also be dropped off at the Beta fraternity house on Greek Row any time during the week.

Up 'Til Dawn interest meetings scheduled

Up 'Til Dawn will be holding team interest meetings this week on Wednesday, November 10, 4-5 p.m. and Thursday, November 11, 5-6 in KUC 316 for all students and organizations interested in forming a team for this year's event.

Anyone wishing to participate is required to have a representative from their team present at only one of these meetings. Important team information and material pertaining to the final event will be distributed at this meeting. Those interested in participating that have yet to form a team are encouraged to attend one of the meetings.

AIDS Quilt comes to campus

The third annual AIDS Quilt, sponsored by the Student Government Association, will be visiting MTSU on Nov. 14.

Eight hundred panels of the quilt will be on display at the James Union Building will be on display at the James Union Building. Questions, comments or contributions to the foundation should be directed to Chastity Wilson at 653-0444 or through e-mail at cbw2e@mtsu.edu.

Nominations now being accepted for award

The Career Achievement Award Committee is now seeking nominations for the 2004-2005 MTSU Career Achievement Award. The criteria for the award and the nomination form may be accessed at www.mtsu.edu/~provost/careeraward.htm#career. ♦

MTSU Idols chosen

By **Esparonda Waller**
Staff Writer

Student programming hosted the finals of the MTSU Idol Contest at Tucker Theater on Friday.

The three winners, who were required to sing two songs of their choice, were Elizabeth Matuszewski, Kristopher Fleming and Jeff Woods.

Matuszewski, a senior broadcast journalism and political science major, won first place, a \$500 gift certificate to Opry Mills. She sang "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and Martina McBride's "Where Would You Be."

Matuszewski said she was influenced to sing by her mother when she was 10 years old.

"There's nothing like the adrenaline rush when performing in front of people and then knowing in some way you've touched them," she said.

Matuszewski has experience singing in many other competitions. In 1995, she won the Super Singers Contest.

Jeff Woods, a senior organizational communication major, won third place and a \$195 gift certificate to Opry Mills. He started singing at the age of 2 and sang on stage for the first time when he was 5 years old.

He chose "Superstition" by Stevie Wonder as one of the

See **Idols**, 2

Contest of Champions



Photos by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

MTSU hosted the 44th annual Contest of Champions high school band contest Saturday at Floyd Stadium. McGavock High School was the grand champion for the third year in a row.

(Above) The Jasper High School marching band from Jasper, Ind. competes Saturday. The band won second place at last year's competition.

(Right) Dobyns-Bennett High School color guard from Kingsport, Tenn. performs with the school's marching band.



Pulitzer Prize winner to speak on campus

By **Matt Anderson**
Staff Writer

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Edward P. Jones will speak at 1 p.m. Nov. 19 in the Business and Aerospace Building State Farm Lecture Hall to promote literacy.

Jones won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2004 for his book, "The Known World," the story of a black man who buys his own farm and slaves in the 1840s. Jones came up with the idea in college where he learned of real-life accounts of slaves who, once freed, bought their own slaves.

Jones held the idea in his head until about 20 years later, when a lay-off from his job summarizing newspaper stories

for tax analysts gave him the time to write it down on paper.

Jones was educated at Holy Cross College and the University of Virginia. He has penned one other book, a collection of short stories called "Lost in the City." His appearance is part of a nationwide partnership to promote literacy.

"This is an exciting event and I am very happy to be a part of it," Nancy N. Crews said in a press release. "Anything that has to do with promoting reading is a worthwhile endeavor."

"I have read Mr. Jones's book and I am eagerly anticipating meeting him in person. Everyone at MTSU should be

See **Pulitzer**, 2

Council to choose firm to build conference center

By **Laura Lindsay**
Staff Writer

The city of Murfreesboro is moving forward in plans to develop a local conference center within a new full-service hotel. The development will be able to accommodate local and outside businesses that might otherwise choose to hold events in Nashville.

During its meeting Thursday night the Murfreesboro City Council approved a proposal for the evaluation phase of the process of developing the hotel with conference center in the city. Within 30 days, the city intends to decide what firm to partner with for this development.

The council also approved a

suggestion by Murfreesboro Mayor Tommy Bragg to create an ad hoc committee to involve other individuals with members of the Destination Rutherford committee. His suggestion was to include, in the ad hoc committee the chairmen of the Gateway Commission and of the Gateway Property Owners Association as well as the chairman of the Murfreesboro City Planning Commission and council member Bill Shacklett.

Bragg said he believes this suggested committee could allow various interests throughout the community to be represented as project development continues. He said Gateway has not yet been approached about the ad hoc committee suggestion.

The deadline for the initial planning phase is March 1, 2005. This will not conclude planning but will set up an itinerary for completion. The mayor and council would like to move forward quickly in expectation of changing market conditions and to meet the property interests of the city.

"The longer it takes, the more the market will change," council member Ron Washington said.

"We have made no decision on the project," Bragg said. "What we want to do is to have some objective way to score the proposals [developed by the four firms] that we receive from Destination Rutherford, and

See **Council**, 3

Native American music presented by Honors College



Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer

Jamie Russell plays the guitar at last week's folk music presentation, put on by the MTSU Honors College.

By **Jay Cash**
Staff Writer

The Honors College sponsored Native American Folk Music in honor of Native American Month last week.

Music flowed through the halls of the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors College Amphitheatre Wednesday afternoon.

Both artists, who have CDs of their music available, were excited about being invited to come play.

The event featured a Native American drum group. Jeff Hobbs, a member of the group and a history major at MTSU, explained that most of the

music they play consists of sounds instead of words.

"Words to many songs have been lost over the years, although we understand what the songs mean by listening to them with our ears and hearts," Hobbs said.

Cherokee Indian guitarist Jamie Russell and Mescalero Apache flutist Michael Serna took the amphitheatre stage to entertain and educate the audience.

Jamie Russell, a singer/songwriter, and Mike Serna, a flutist, are both popular Native American performers that met two years ago playing at a powwow festival. After talking and

realizing how much they had in common, they decided to get together and play as a duo.

Both live in southwest Tennessee and spend most of the year going on tour playing their more contemporary style Native American music, Russell explained. He also commented that MTSU was the first college campus they had performed at.

Many students and several members of the community said they enjoyed the performances.

Tim Meeks, a Murfreesboro City police officer and a Chickamaka Indian, was among

See **Music**, 2



This week's poll question at
www.mtsusidelines.com

Do you think Destination
Rutherford is a good idea?

Idols: Organizers hope to make contest a yearly event

Continued from 1

songs for the MTSU Idol Competition. Woods admires Stevie Wonder because he writes significant words in his songs.

"I [also] chose 'I Believe I Can Fly' by R. Kelly because it talks about believing in yourself and knowing that you can do things," he said.

Woods said everyone in his family sings, and he likes to sing because it moves people.

"In order to be successful you have to sing songs that have a significant meaning," he said.

He said gospel and a combination of rock and soul are his favorite types of music.

Woods won a national title in vocal solo in the National Freewill Baptist Association. He has also competed in local and state competitions.

Fleming, who won second place and a \$300 gift certificate to Opry Mills, could not be reached for comment.

Housing and Residential Life introduced the idea for the contest to student programming. Housing knew about a school in Arkansas that had recently held a similar event.

"When housing came to us about the idea, we decided to come together as partners to showcase the talents of the students," said Greg Feiling, interim assistant director for student

programming.

"There are so many talented students on this campus. Giving them the chance to showcase their talents gives students something to enjoy watching and to cheer for."

In early October, more than 60 students auditioned for five judges at the Keathley University Center theater. The top 12 finalists were selected based on voice, appearance, professionalism and stage presentation.

According to Feiling, 300-400 students attended the event. Student programming plans to host the event every year. ♦

Pulitzer: Book signing available

Continued from 1

very proud that our university is a part of this event."

Jones accumulated nearly 40 books to research slavery, but eventually he relied on his own imagination. He told one reporter that he "felt sort of licensed to go ahead and write what I wanted to write."

"Basically, my feeling is that it's a story about people," he said. "And that's what I sort of stuck with. I don't need any

research for that."

In *The New York Review of Books*, Daryll Pickney wrote "this is not a fiction about plantation life that wants to show slave culture in operation."

"Slavery in fiction has never been made into a metaphor for anything else, not in the way that an abandoned crew of a ship or any group has been," the review said. "The Known World" isn't about anything other than Americans and slavery. For now, it is the oddest,

most sorrowful summing up of the subject."

In addition to his free lecture at MTSU, Jones will speak at Murfreesboro's Linebaugh Public Library at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18 and at the Patterson Park Community Center in Murfreesboro at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 20.

For more information, contact Crews at 898-5630.

Both of Jones's books will be available for purchase, and he will be available to sign them. ♦

Music: Culture, similarities portrayed

Continued from 1

them.

"Coordinating events like this anytime is great because it lets people see that Indians still exist, and we don't just look like what you see on TV," Meeks said.

That is what Russell hopes many people will take away from his performances.

"We want people to realize that we're no different than any others," he said. "When you see Mike and I smile and laugh around on stage, we are really having fun and are enjoying the music we make."

Georgia Dennis, event coordinator for the Honors College, explains that this event and others like it have been goals of the Honors College for quite some time.

"Now that we have our own building all of that is possible," she said.

A midweek break is exactly why Emily Walenga, a junior advertising major, came to the event.

"I thought it would be interesting to see, [and] what else is there to do on a Wednesday night?" she said.

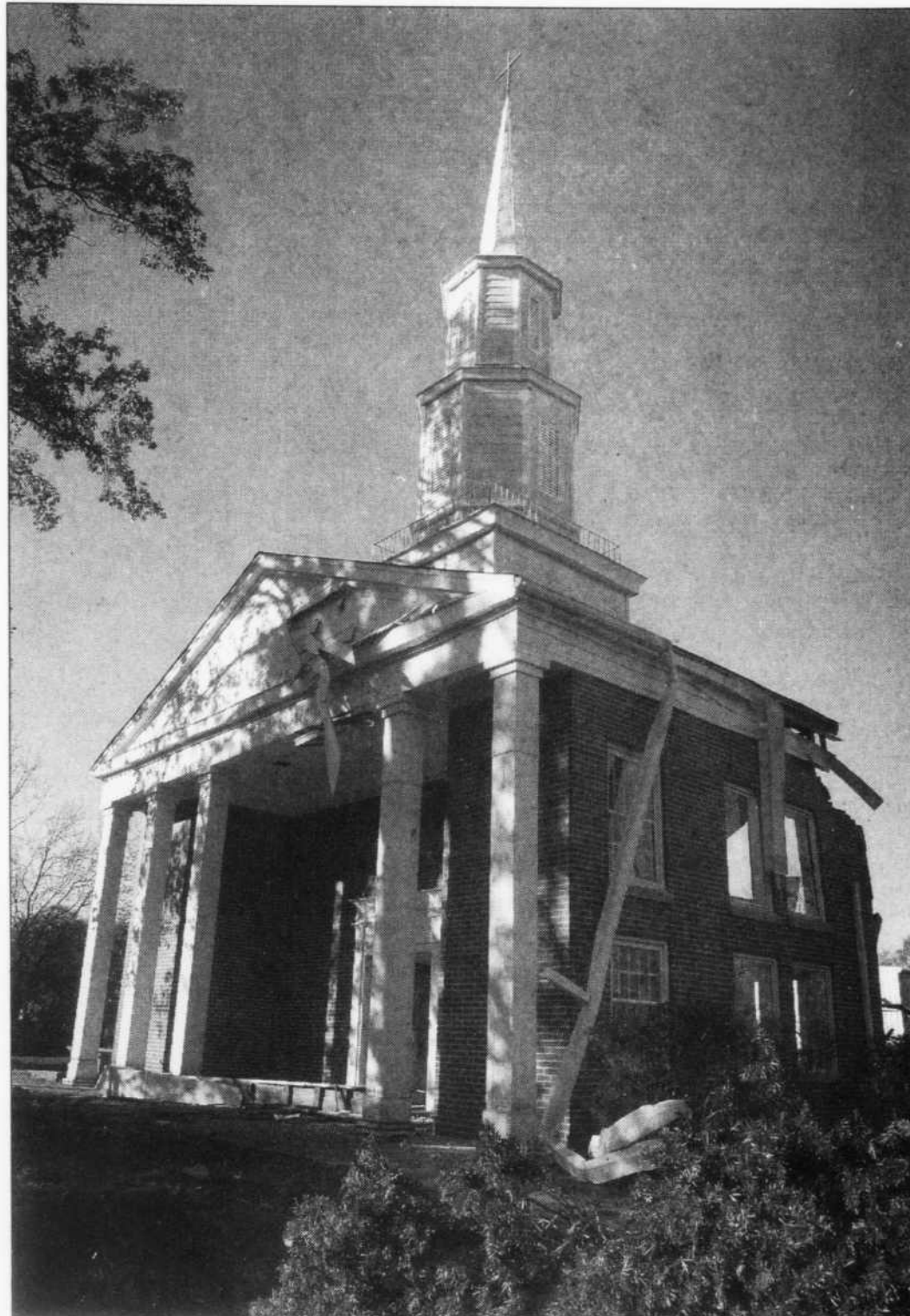
Dennis also added that plenty of collaborating has gone into

all the events happening at the Honors College, saying that the anthropology program came up with the funding to get the drum group to attend.

"We have such a nice sound system in the amphitheatre, it is all very casual and also very educational, and we want all the students to come attend," she said.

The Honors College strives to host events to appeal to all tastes. To get a full calendar of events refer to their Web site, <http://www.mtsu.edu/~hcevents>. ♦

Out with the old



Photos by Brandon Morisson | Staff Photographer

The former St. Mark's United Methodist Church building on East Main Street is in the process of being demolished. MTSU now owns this property, part of which houses Parking Services.



Need to let the campus know about an event your group is sponsoring?

Sidelines' Campus Events calendar can help.

Clip the form below, fill it out and return it to the James Union Building, Room 310.

Campus Events

The following guidelines apply to all:

1. Forms must be submitted by deadline to be considered for publication. Campus Events run each Monday in the Living section, so forms should be submitted by Saturday night.
2. Every attempt will be made to run your announcement as often as possible, but priority will be given to events with the most immediacy.
3. We reserve the right to limit announcements to campus events only.
4. *Sidelines* does not guarantee placement of *any* submission.

Name of person placing this notice _____ Date _____

Organization _____ Event _____

Date of event _____ Time _____ Location _____

Contact name _____ Phone no. _____

Notes _____

Return this form to Sidelines, MTSU Box 8, or bring to James Union Building, Room 310



Want to know what's happening on campus?

Visit the events calendar on *Sidelines* online.



You can even submit your own events to the calendar.

www.mtsusidelines.com

Hayes lives life of good food, good fun

Esparanda Waller
Staff Writer

Wade Hayes slowly leaned back in his cushioned, leather-like office chair as he talked hurriedly to an acquaintance on his cell phone.

"I'm getting ready for a one o'clock meeting," Hayes said with a sunny smile.

Hayes, a 41-year-old native of Memphis, Tenn., is a relationship builder, believes in hard work and a positive attitude. He received a bachelor's in business and economics from the University of Memphis and worked at TGI Friday as a waiter and bartender.

"Then a funny thing happened along the way," he said. "I secretly fell in love with the restaurant business."

His love for the restaurant business began when he became managing partner for the "Good Neighbor" restaurant, Toot's, in 1993. Toot's is a partner of Demos' Spaghetti and Steakhouse here in Murfreesboro.

Hayes had a mutual friend who knew Jim Demos. Demos secretly watched Wade while he worked in Memphis. He was then asked to become a manager and would later become a managing partner. In 1993 Hayes and his fellow colleagues formed a business in which they sold franchises for Toot's.

"My goals are to grow our company slowly and successfully, mainly through franchising," he said. "I want to provide opportunities for my employees and to move up and make more money."

He considers his job fun and rewarding. The hardest part of the restaurant business is the hours in the workweek, he said. Hayes said what he enjoys most about his job is serving the customers, because he gets to know them personally.

"Getting to know our customers is special because it makes me feel good when customers learn my name, and it's very rewarding."

Some people may think that restaurant owners join the business because of their love for cooking, but not Hayes. He grew up in Memphis so he was exposed to lots of hardy barbecue. He never helped cook in the kitchen while growing up, but he's an excellent griller.

"It wasn't until I came to Toot's that I was exposed to the kitchen. It all depends on how you come up in this business," Hayes said.

Even though Hayes doesn't love to cook, he loves to eat juicy cheeseburgers, pork barbecue and filet mignon. Because he grew up on barbecue, he loves pork barbecue the most.

In 1987 he participated in the Memphis in May barbecue festival that's held every year in Memphis. The most talented grillers compete in different categories. The restaurant won 3rd place for its pork shoulder.

Hayes not only loves barbecue, but he also loves desserts too.

"Toot's has the best strawberry cheesecake you've ever had," Hayes said. "When some-

one tastes it, it gives them the incentive to come back. I love desserts because they make me fat."

Hayes helps prepare some of Toot's popular and delicious dishes. His favorite is the French dip, which consists of roast beef and Swiss cheese grilled and put on a hoagie roll with a light gravy for dipping.

Chicken wings are the most popular dish at Toot's. They come in flavors ranging from mild to napalm. They sell more than 4,000 pounds a week. On Super Bowl Sunday in 2003, they sold over 11,000 wings in four hours. People were coming in by the hundreds ordering take out.

Hayes is not only a successful businessman, but he is also a husband, father, golf fanatic, Christian and a devote family man. He and his wife, Keitha, have been married for 19 years and have three children.

"I love to spend as much time with my family, whether it's going to Chattanooga or the park," Hayes said. "The job is more of an inconvenience than a hardship because it requires a lot of hours."

Saturdays are always busy and Hayes averages about 55 hours per week.

"I can probably count the number of Saturdays I've had off on my hands and toes," he said counting his fingers. "It has always been that way even 18 years ago when I worked at TGI Friday. I consider it a treat if I get a Saturday off."

Hayes doesn't consider himself as the typical 41-year-old guy who works a warehouse job or office job like others his age.

What makes him different from other men is he still feels like he's 28. He works with young people everyday, and he believes that is what makes him feel wonderful. He has to keep up with the latest fashion trends, but because he has kids, it's easy.

"If I worked with people my own age I would probably feel older and stressed," he said.

Slogans have brought Toot's a long way. Hayes was responsible for the slogan: "Good Food and Fun." Hayes and his colleague knew they would have to think of something that would catch the eye of the customers.

Toot's was a federally registered trademark that Jim Demos purchased from Charthouse Corporation. It opened in 1985 as a Florida beach themed restaurant and was here before O'Charley's, Demos' or Applebee's.

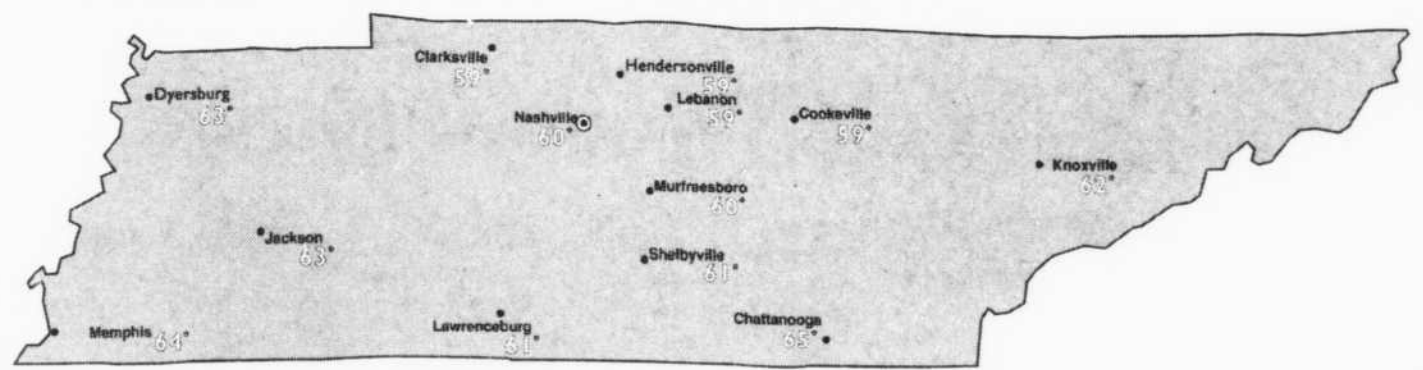
"Toot's is the oldest full-service restaurant. Full service means we serve food, but also have beer and liquor. We're about to celebrate our 20th anniversary."

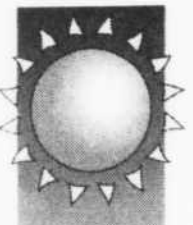
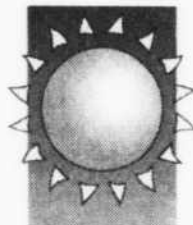


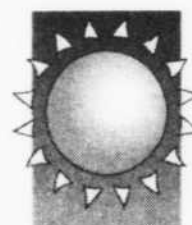
Hayes has had fun and enjoyable times at Toot's and is in no hurry to leave. He receives calls all the time from people wanting him to send shirts to them.

"Because Toot's is a common nickname I get husbands who tell me... I've called my wife Toot's for 20 years, will you send me one of your shirts?" ♦

Tennessee Weather – Monday's Highs

From the Associated Press



Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				
60° ▲ 35°	60° ▲ 40°	56° ▲ 35°	48° ▲ 30°	52° ▲ 33°

Council: Storm water ordinance updated

Continued from I

determine how to proceed at that point."

"If we need to ask more questions, if we didn't get enough information, if the market conditions have changed for that individual company... Then we will be able to move forward," Bragg added.

Recommendations were presented by Murfreesboro assistant city manager Rob Lyons in reference to the hotel/conference center proposal for evaluation services. Technical assistance is being sought for evaluation of the conference center proposals that Destination Rutherford received and presented to council in September, Lyons said.

The new proposal will distinguish among the four proposals received to identify a top-ranked firm. Lyons said there are two phases to this proposal

including an evaluation process where the proposals are weighted for comparison, followed by a memorandum of understanding that will negotiate the major points of the deal.

A number of agreements will be combined toward a contract for the construction of the conference center. Among the many decision points for the city council, the memorandum of understanding will be one of the firsts — an interim step that will lead to further negotiations.

The city hopes to identify a firm within 30 days and establish partnership negotiations in 60 to 90 days.

In other business, council members approved, on first reading, an ordinance that replaces the city's current storm water ordinance.

The ordinance is intended to manage the manner in which storm water is addressed in areas of development and rede-

velopment, during construction and post-construction stabilization, Murfreesboro Water and Sewer Department representative Robert Haley said.

It will also, he said, maintain and benefit water quality, in particular to provide measures against flooding, and to benefit the quality of the city.

Federal and state mandates require that a floodwater quality program be implemented to protect the quality of creeks and rivers from storm water drainage.

Haley said the ordinance sets up an administrative process and standards for storm water infrastructure. The ordinance also prohibits non-storm water discharges. Several city departments are involved in implementing this ordinance, he said.

He said there have been a number of public input sessions on the ordinance since February. These sessions have

included stakeholder meetings, as well as a public hearing for those who would be affected.

"Obviously, this is very specific to several industries, and it is an attempt to further clear and clean our water from sediment that gets into our streams and fills up our ditches," Bragg said.

Council member Beth O'Brien emphasized that this ordinance concerns "quality of the water, not quantity of water." She said she is pleased with the approach the city has taken, and what has already been done.

"Generally speaking, I don't think we have a choice," Bragg said. "We really should undertake this wholeheartedly."

Murfreesboro city attorney Susan McGannon said additional changes might be made to the ordinance. ♦

State lawmakers plan review of health cuts

Associated Press

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — State lawmakers are planning an emergency meeting to review Gov. Phil Bredesen's suggestion to scrap the TennCare health program.

"It worries me the governor made a statement like that without members of the Tennessee General Assembly being aware of what his thoughts were," said Rep. Kathryn Bowers, D-Nashville, vice chairwoman of the TennCare Oversight Committee, which may meet as soon as next week to study the plan. "I'm worried about the health of my constituents."

Bredesen said Thursday that he will decide this month whether to cut nearly 400,000 TennCare enrollees from the insurance program, effectively returning TennCare to a basic Medicaid program.

Those enrollees, more than 30 percent of the program's total enrollment, make up TennCare's "expansion population" — residents who are uninsured, disabled, or who make too much money to be eligible for basic Medicaid.

Because federal law does not require the state to offer

TennCare coverage to the "expansion population," the group can be removed from the program.

Without TennCare coverage, they would be forced to pay for health care services on their own.

Lawyers said court approval is needed to remove 120,000 children from the program but not to disenroll the remaining adults.

As news of the governor's announcement spread, lawmakers and health care providers were divided on whether they supported the idea of returning to a basic Medicaid program.

"I do believe it's a step in the right direction," said Rep. Chris Clem, R-Lookout Mountain. "If these people don't qualify for Medicare or Medicaid and no other state is covering them, why in the world are we insuring them on TennCare?"

But Russ Miller, a spokesman for the Tennessee Medical Association, said gutting the program could be harmful to patients and to health care providers who are left paying for uncompensated care.

"We are very concerned that so many patients would be left with nowhere to turn, from an

insurance standpoint," he said. "What's troubling about that possible scenario is that our patients would still be in need of care, they would still show up at physicians' offices, in the ERs and on the operating tables."

Miller said those patients "would get the services, but no one would pay for it."

Still, J.D. Bonner, an ophthalmologist in Soddy-Daisy, said returning to Medicaid could make the program more palatable for some physicians who struggle now with paperwork and different billing structures from each of the program's eight managed care organizations.

"I would rather see those patients for free than deal with the existing confusion," he said. "I really think most physicians would rather personally give discounted or free services than deal with some of the companies managing TennCare."

Andy Schneider, the principal consultant for Washington-based Medicaid Policy LLC, said many states are dropping people from their Medicaid programs, but no state has taken such drastic measures to limit its costs.

Mississippi, for example,

dropped 48,000 elderly and disabled people from its Medicaid rolls. Enrollment caps forced Oregon to reduce its Medicaid program by 24,000 people.

"Four hundred thousand is quite larger than any of those numbers," Schneider said. "It's a very large number."

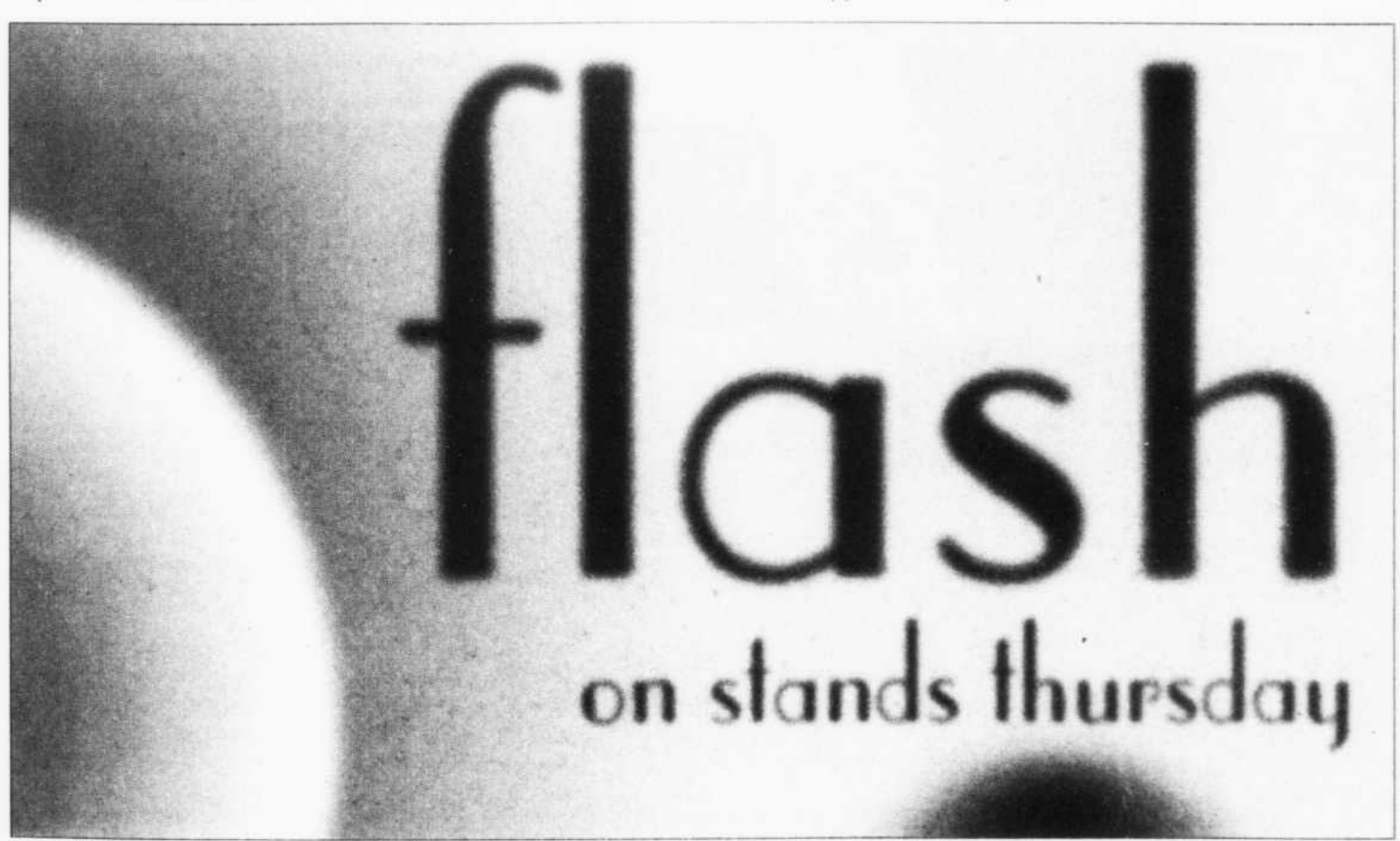
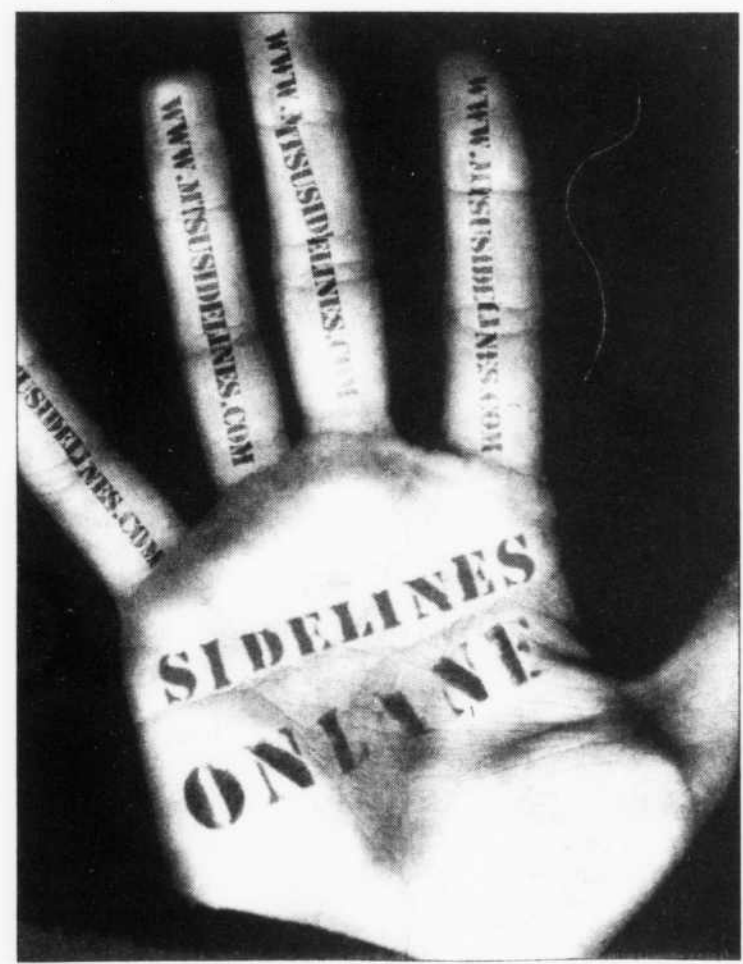
By collapsing TennCare, not only would people be left without health insurance, but there would be an economic impact on the state, he said.

"At the margins, that's going to have some labor impact," he said. "There's no question it will have some effect on jobs."

The state receives about \$2 from the federal government for every dollar it spends on TennCare patients. That means if the governor cuts the number of enrollees by 30 percent, the state could lose \$2 billion in federal aid.

Gov. Bredesen proposed a massive reform plan as a key element of his 2002 election campaign that would cut TennCare costs to the state by \$2.5 billion over four years.

His plan, which is awaiting federal approval, would limit the medical services available to some enrollees. ♦



From the Editorial Board

Convention center plan boon to city, university

Murfreesboro is moving forward with plans to build a hotel and conference center.

The conference center could be quite a boon to the local economy. The Murfreesboro City Council and Destination Rutherford, the group behind the plan, is banking on it.

It does appear that Murfreesboro could use a conference center of the proposed size. It's a shame to see local businesses take their large conferences to Nashville and other cities when they could be contributing to the local economy.

Drawing more conventions to Murfreesboro should help everyone. The visitors will be contributing motel taxes and local option sales taxes, as well as helping out our local restaurants.

Studies commissioned by Destination Rutherford show that Rutherford County has lost business to surrounding counties due to our lack of a conference center. This plan, which appears to well thought out and researched, aims to solve that problem. A new hotel and conference center could easily bring that business back to Rutherford County.

Murfreesboro is quickly becoming a city that is more than just a suburb of Nashville. It's time we started acting like it. Luckily, the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce and Destination Rutherford have had the foresight to plan for Rutherford County and Murfreesboro's economic growth.

Plans like this could contribute to hastening Rutherford's transition to a metropolitan area with its own identity.

What's good for Rutherford County is good for MTSU. As MTSU students graduate, they need jobs. Plans to shape and grow the county's economy will ultimately provide more jobs for MTSU's graduates. If there's anything MTSU graduates want, it's jobs.

Destination Rutherford's plans include more than just this conference center. They are aiming to create a more stable, growing economy in Rutherford County. This is a good idea. For a failure to plan is a plan for failure. ◆

From the Opinions Editor

This November, sit down, write something new

So, has anyone out there written a good book lately?

November is upon us, and while most people associate the 11th month of the Gregorian calendar with turkeys, bright colors and a late-month rush to do Christmas shopping, some of us are curled up on our sofas, under our blankets, typing the next "Crime and Punishment" or "Huckleberry Finn" on our laptops.

The sudden rush of wordsmithing is the product of National Novel Writers Month (or NaNoWriMo for short.) From now until midnight on the 30th, would-be writers from around the world are beating creatively on their keyboards to create a 50,000 word long work of fiction that may or may not be a masterpiece.

Why 50,000 words? Why one month? It's all about the joy of laboring diligently over, crafting and occasionally screaming bloody murder over something that has sprung forth from one's own mind. Pending that we can motivate ourselves to want to actually start working, which is the one thing that usually holds people back.

Admit it. Every last one of you, at some point or another, has dreamed of writing your own book. Perhaps it was for fame, perhaps for money, or perhaps to justify that foolish decision to major in liberal arts. Still, you wanted to. But because of school, work, family, or that term paper you were supposed to start back in September but are still procrastinating on, you just never got around to writing.

There are no prizes awarded for NaNoWriMo. Confetti will not fall from the ceiling once you break the magical 50,000-word mark, and you probably won't be going to Disneyland afterwards.

But writing should be its own reward. Remember that time when you would run home from kindergarten, holding out your latest artistic creation for your mom or dad to see, even if it was just a bunch of crayon scribbles? Remember how good it felt to accomplish something for yourself, something you could show the world and say "I did this!"?

This month, I would like to suggest that you go back to that time in your life. Sign up, sit down and start writing. It might seem silly now, but November might turn out to be the highlight of your year.

Now if you'll excuse me, I have 49,000 more words to write and only 22 more days to write them in. ◆

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



Matthew Adair
Opinions Editor

Two-party system divides people

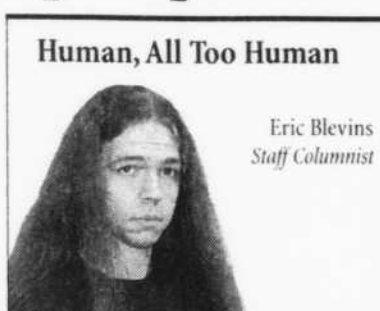
The result of the presidential election has revealed to me the sad state that our country is in. We are bitterly divided. The miniscule difference in the popular vote between the two leading candidates shows this. The two-party system has polarized many of the people of this country.

Politics is now nothing but a game of us against them. We are a diverse country, where many cultures and viewpoints come together, and where intellectualism on political issues should flourish on the national level and every level beneath it.

Unfortunately, only two similar elitist viewpoints get represented in American politics. Anyone wanting to get involved picks a side and it's a battle of good guys versus bad guys, with each side thinking they're in the right, which feeds into the hands of the elites.

All the grassroots organizing that I saw around this election was beautiful, and I have nothing but respect for everyone involved with it. It gives me hope that meaningful change can happen if people learn to work together.

However, the way towards this change is not to just encourage



Human, All Too Human

Eric Blevins
Staff Columnist

people to vote. Voting for the president will not bring about significant change.

Many of these people, especially the youth movement, who rallied around Sen. John Kerry to move American politics in a new direction are going to be incredibly disheartened now that they perceive all their work went to waste.

Will they see that their votes are insignificant and decide that grassroots work is also insignificant?

Or will they persevere, and realize that since voting does not bring about the changes they want, they must try other methods?

The only way meaningful change will come about in this country is through some sort of popular revolution. It does not have to be a violent revolution, but people, as a whole, need to take control of their lives and stop let-

ting the government control their destiny and kill innocents in their names.

The death toll of civilians in Iraq is now above 14,000. Anyone who supports President George W. Bush supports the mass murder of innocents. However, a new Democratic president will not change the type of leadership this country has had since its inception.

While Bush may be worse than many of his predecessors, his actions are not unique. While it is unusual for a president to publicly and unapologetically go against international opinion and lie to his people, bombing countries we don't like and causing massive civilian casualties is what we do best. It happens under both parties, and is unacceptable.

We have been the world's bully for a long time, and only the people can do something to change that. Elites will not let it happen through the electoral process. The government is set up to prevent it.

The way the system is set up to retain power in the hands of the few can be seen in this election. When the voting system is kept below top notch, some of the peo-

ple elites don't want to have a voice get cast aside. Just look at the results of the deciding state.

Bush narrowly won Ohio. The exit polls had Kerry winning Ohio 53 to 47 percent among women and 51 to 49 percent among men. In the United States, about 3 percent of the vote is typically not recorded. According to The Civil Rights Project at Harvard University, the majority of unrecorded votes belong to minorities, who typically vote Democrat. Bush won Ohio by less than 140,000 votes. If 3 percent of votes were not counted in Ohio, then more than 160,000 people lost their voice due to an inadequate system. Kerry may have won Ohio and the election.

I use this as one small example of how the people's voice is kept from being heard. We cannot sit back and expect someone to give us a voice. Letting us go to the polls is a pittance. We must make our voice heard. The government is not the United States. The people are the United States. ◆

Eric Blevins is a senior recording industry major and can be reached at ericblev@hotmail.com.

Nation in need of certainty when tallying up the votes

The 2000 election proved only one thing that people have been saying for years: There's nothing democratic about voting; it's in the counting of the votes. The American people didn't speak then, and we haven't spoken now. We've merely opened our mouths and failed to produce sound.

Both parties snatched up our collective grunt as a call for leadership, and this year's campaign was all about how the other guy would be the worst head honcho for the United States, the Microsoft of the world. We've got most of the money, most of the power, most of the technology, and we still have system crashes that we can't explain.

Isn't a wartime economy supposed to include a boom? Aren't we all supposed to be manufacturing weapons, kissing soldiers in the street and plastering flag decals on our car windows?

Instead, the voting showed a split almost perfectly down the middle. We're half-assing everything because we're only half-interested.

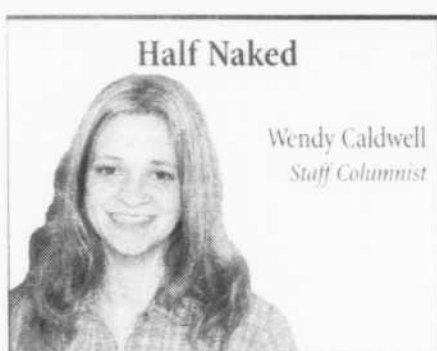
If we start to question our economy, we simply invade someone else or send off another round of bombs, and this one I'm not going to blame solely on the right-leaners.

We liberals are damn good at distracting the public, too. Sure, we weren't nearly as concerned about the Middle East during the days of President Bill Clinton. So, have Americans become more involved in the issues? Are we becoming more political?

Hardly; we just never got any evidence that Dubya cheated on his wife. Sex sells. And where sex doesn't sell, violence does.

I'm getting too old for this. Election Day used to be about watching the news stations color in the map with red and blue states until someone conceded around 9 p.m., and then we all went about our evenings.

When Clinton defeated incumbent George Bush part I, there was no big controversy. I was in fourth grade, and I knew the fate of our country before



Half Naked

Wendy Caldwell
Staff Columnist

bedtime.

Four years later, I anticipated the Supreme Court's decision in the Bush Part II/Al Gore circus-like fiasco, vowing that if I turned 18 before they determined the winner, I was going to move to Florida and try my damndest to vote eight or nine times. As it turns out, I never got the chance – the decision came approximately one week before my 18th.

Our country is progressing toward the middle. Clinton's victory wasn't Supreme Court-worthy. Bush Sr. conceded, once, and it was over. By midnight Tuesday in 2004, frontrunners in many states held onto their leads by a mere 1 to 3 percent.

By 3 a.m., I found myself wondering who our president was going to be and developing an abnormal obsession with the state of Ohio. Fittingly, it's the state that gave us the banana split.

I miss the days when people voted, someone won, and that was the end of it. We're in a time where our leader is going to have to act on the voice of the people, but we don't have one. His decisions will be equally supported and opposed.

Without a clearly-defined majority, we're all acting on whims. Americans should decide what they want and make their voices heard – loudly – before the next election. Otherwise, we'll have nothing but another four years of resentment. ◆

Wendy Caldwell is a junior mathematical sciences major and can be reached at wkcd2d@mtsu.edu.

Life is short, live it to fullest every day

What would you do differently today if tomorrow you wouldn't wake up?

I know this is a depressing statement for most people, but it can cause people to make positive changes in their life. We would have fewer wars, less crimes and more people wanting to do the right thing.

We come to college to learn about the "real world" and ourselves. We come to learn how to use our talents to make a difference and a name for ourselves. If you haven't started on that journey before you leave here, then you deserve a refund.

To understand and accept death, we have to do the same with life. People fear death because they fear life. People say they have so much to do in their lives, but they haven't even started doing them yet. Time is wasting. We do not live forever on this earth. This is not about death. I am telling you not to be afraid to live.

If today was your last day on earth, would you tell the people you love how much you really care for them? Would you be nicer and wear a smile everywhere you went? Even if the Subway line at Cyber Cafe was long?

Would you stop and enjoy the environment in which you live? The flowers, the air, the animals and the sea are beautiful on this brand new day. The earth is an amazing piece of art.

What would be most important to you on this day? I doubt the test you failed last week would be on the top of your list. School is important, but we should never waste our energy and time on things we can't change now.

Everything in life has beauty. There is joy and there is sorrow.

There is pain and there is laughter. Without these things we would never feel alive. Some people have more joy or pain than others, but that doesn't take away the gifts and rewards life gives us.

Death is an art. Life is the paper we draw on. Our emotions and experiences are the colors we have to work with. What we achieve in this life will last. The world is the paintbrush we use. We will all die; that is a fact. But it's how we live that people will remember.

Millions of people die in their sleep without a warning of their last hour. Millions of people will die because of shootings and car accidents without being able to tell their loved ones they love them.

You or I may die today. I don't mean to scare you, but it is reality. Why do we have to be reminded of this before we will stop feeling sorry for ourselves and get up, and start living?

We could change ourselves as well as the world around us if we all lived our lives thinking that tomorrow we could be gone. There would also be more peace between friends and foe.

I challenge you to hug the people you love today, and start living the life only you can live. Life is so short for us not to. ◆

Kacey Hercules is a junior social work major and can be reached at kach2x@mtsu.edu.



Kacey's Corner

Kacey Hercules
Staff Columnist

SIDELINES

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

Editorial: 898-2337
Advertising: 898-2533
Fax: 904-8193
www.mtsusidelines.com

Editor in Chief
Managing Editor
Production Manager
Campus News Editor
State and Local News Editor
Opinions Editor
Features Editor
Sports Editor
Photo Editor
Business Manager
Sidelines Adviser
Ad Design Manager

Jason Cox*
Kristin Hall*
Brandon Morrison
Erica Rodefer*
Nick Fowler*
Matthew Adair*
Michaela Jackson
Colby Sledge
Emily Nance
Jeri Lamb
Wendell Rawls
Meghanne Thompson

*denotes member of editorial board

Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@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.

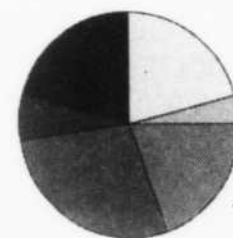
Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers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



Sidelines online poll results

What did you do for Halloween?

- Threw or attended a costume party. (21 percent)
- Hit the bars (4 percent)
- I celebrated Halloween on Saturday (20 percent)
- Went to church, watched some football, the usual Sunday. (28 percent)
- Went trick-or-treating (7 percent)
- It was Halloween? (21 percent)



Visit www.mtsusidelines.com to answer this week's poll question, "Do you think Destination Rutherford is a good idea?" 178 people participated in this poll. Results are not scientific.

Mapco Mania

Customer service and community-feel prove more important than convenience

By Rachelle Morvant
Contributor

At the intersection of Greenland Avenue and Tennessee Boulevard, there's a Shell station that most people deliberately pass by. Instead, they turn into Mapco to wait in a longer line.

Just like any other convenience store, Mapco has cold beer, cigarettes and lottery tickets. The counters are occupied, enticing last-minute purchases of lighters and calling cards.

But "a lot of crazy s--- does happen here," says Francis Miller, a clerk at Mapco, who has seen more dead goats than he cares to in his lifetime.

A month ago, the employees of Mapco had to deal with a week of dead-goat gifting. Two full goats and two severed goat heads were left at different times and in different places in the parking lot around the store.

Employees were shocked, and "it was all the rage... everyone was talking about it," Miller says. No one knows where they came from, and when he called the police, "they just laughed."

"I mean, someone's gotta be missing some goats, right?" Miller asks. He's a fast-talker from the North with a short, scruffy beard and piercing blue eyes that force participation in conversation.

James Pfeifer, Miller's co-worker, has been receiving a paycheck from the green and yellow store for seven months. Recently, he had a bottle of Mountain Dew thrown at him. However, his faith in humankind was restored a couple of days later when several men came in with a guitar and one of them sang their order for beer and Marlboro cigarettes.

"He tried to make it rhyme," Pfeifer recalls. "That was funny, but the guy behind him wasn't too happy."

"I see every kind of person," Miller says, calling Mapco a "microcosm of the community." He sees every classification of person from rednecks and businessmen to geeks and Greeks.

Most of the time, Miller likes his customers.

"We have customer loyalty," reveals Miller, who is wearing a blue button-up shirt and a blank Mapco nametag. People come here because of the friendly service, he says.

A red-haired girl in a blue shirt walks into the store and up to the counter. "Yeah, we hate people who pay with a bunch of change," Miller says as the girl fishes around inside a black hat. The sound of many coins jingling reverberates from it.

"But I'm broke right now," replies the girl in a meek but defensive manner. Miller laughs and calls out the girl's order to Pfeifer: "Two packs of Marlboro Lights in the box."

Pfeifer follows Miller's lead and hands the girl the smokes — after obtaining proper identification, of course.

"If I could replace what I know about cigarette orders with physics, well, I'd know a lot about physics," Miller says. He's been working here for a year and a half and, like a good bartender, he knows the orders of half the customers who enter the store. And they appreciate his expertise.

A line is beginning to form.

"I like the people in here better," says one customer when comparing Mapco to Shell, "plus [Mapco] has Reese's Bites."

"People here are nice," says another woman in line, whose cigarette order Miller knows by heart. "They're very rude [at the Shell station] and never have anything good to say about anyone. That's why I stop here."

"It's my favorite store; they're pretty cool," affirms yet another supportive customer.

"I just stop at a store," says one gentleman, seeming to enjoy his opportunity to voice himself in line. "If they get rude with me, I get rude back; I'm paying their salary." Of course, the real reason ultimately emerges.

"They have money orders," the man admits, "and the liquor store is right behind here."

Several customers also mention that it is difficult to get in and out of the Shell station parking lot. But the overriding theme here is community loyalty. A lot of Mapco's customers live within walking distance and have become accustomed to the seven friendly faces that keep store No. 3203 running 24 hours a day.

Stacey Thrasher lives across the street from the store and recalls an incident of the night before. She says a man came in the store smelling strongly of marijuana.

"He was carrying around a cigarette," she explains, "and for a minute, I thought it was a joint. He just reeked of pot, and everyone could smell it. Then this small blonde girl in line said real loud, 'Do y'all smell pot? I can smell pot!' Everyone ignored her. I don't think even she really cared. It just shows a kind of acceptance."

Still, not everyone is accepted or appreciated. Miller has been the witness to several "beer runs," where kids will run in and steal a couple of 12-packs, throw them in the car, then peel out into the middle of Tennessee Boulevard without even looking.

"I've seen it happen more than once," says Miller. "It's so dangerous."

Miller has also been cursed at more times than he can count, had objects thrown at him and been spat at — which, he claims, is assault. Aside from the obvious hazards, however, Miller and Pfeifer both say that their location is "less hazardous than most." The constant police presence helps to ward off troublemakers.

"Some of them are kinda tool-bags," Miller comments about the men in blue who randomly visit the store, "but most of them are pretty cool to talk to."

Margie, an elderly woman, rides her bike to Mapco almost every day. Miller says she is "very sweet" and "coherent."

"She's not like, senile, you know, or anything like that,"

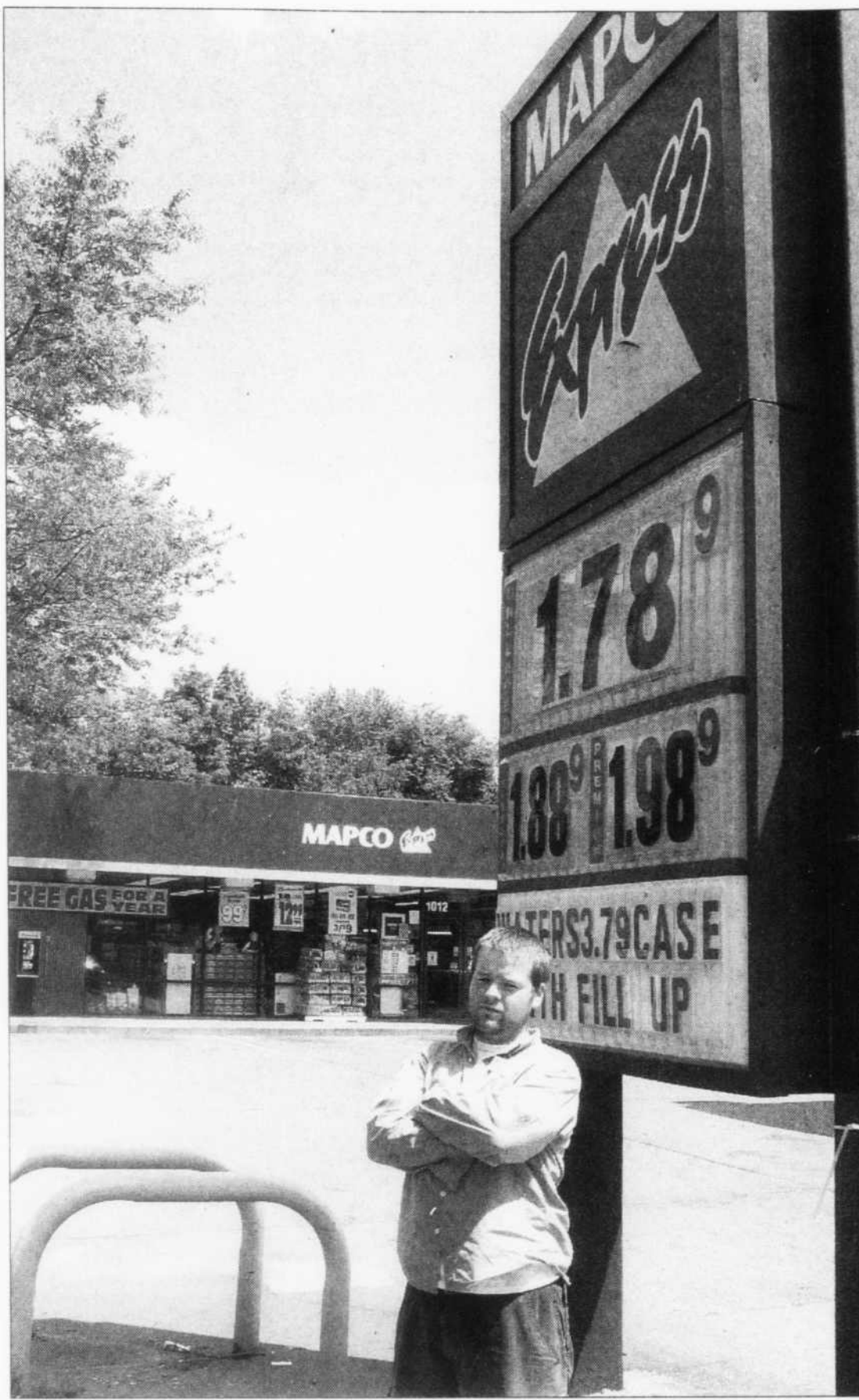


Photo by Rachelle Morvant | Staff Photographer

Francis Miller emphasizes the stories and experiences his customers afford him.

Miller explains. Margie will sometimes microwave four TV dinners and take them back with her on her bike.

Miller assumes she leaves them on her counter for later. He recalls that sometimes she purchases tuna sandwiches and microwaves them for four minutes in a "very high-power microwave, so — ouch! — you know."

Miller said that Margie will empty out the single-serve half-and-half containers, then fill them up with nacho cheese and carefully replace the foil lids.

"She'll pay for everything," he adds.

However, Miller notes, Margie is "not the best bike rider in the world. She swerves in and out of traffic."

"I worry about her," he

remarked.

Miller and the staff at Mapco almost appear to be creating a monopoly on customer service. At times there are 15 or more people standing in line.

"They may grumble about how long the wait is," Miller says with a villainous grin, "but they never leave — and they always come back." ♦

Dear Emily

Dear Emily,

I am a happy, content college student and I have most everything going for me.

I have great friends and I make good grades; there is nothing visibly wrong with my life. In fact, I've got it pretty good, and usually, I really enjoy my life.

So why do I feel so depressed lately? Sometimes I get this panicky overwhelmed

feeling, then I start to feel like my efforts are pointless, and suddenly, I'm miserable.

I don't know what's going on. Sometimes I think I could just burst into tears for no apparent reason. Help! I want to know what's wrong with me because I hate feeling this way, like I'm stuck in the rain and don't know how to get back to the sunshine.

Stuck in the Rain

Dear Stuck,

Everybody gets the blues sometimes, even if for no apparent reason. However, I believe there are many reasons that can cause students to get depressed, especially around this time of year.

First though, let me tell you that you're definitely not alone. The American College Health Association recently found that half of all undergraduates will become severely depressed at some point in their college career. If that's not a frightening statistic, I don't know what is.

Of course, there is a difference between severe depression — in which

case, you should immediately get help from MTSU's Guidance Services — and an ordinary case of the blues. I'll assume you, like every one of us at some point, fall into the second category.

We're under a lot of pressure as undergraduates, and it's coming at us from all sides. Our professors, jobs, friends, family and social life all demand time and energy from us which we can't always give.

Professors frequently, albeit unknowingly, schedule exams, projects and papers at the same time as all the other professors. For us, this means that everything piles up at one time, and suddenly we have a zillion things to do all at once.

Friends and relationships can be a huge strain on us, and we may not even realize the amounts of emotional energy we are expending on simply maintaining relationships. Even a simple argument with a friend can add stress to the mix that we just don't need.

Now, for probably the first time in most of our lives, we are faced with the overwhelming responsibilities of taking care of ourselves, living independently, paying bills and fulfilling our duties and obligations as students.

Financial strains are common for students, because we can't hold down 40-hour jobs to pay for everything we need. After rent, utilities, food, clothes and textbooks, there's not much left for fun and games. It's hard to budget our money and sometimes we have to say "no" to social events that cost more money than we need to spend.

We're also making some huge, daunting decisions that may impact the rest of our lives: choosing our major and therefore a career, and choosing whom we will marry, for instance. Whoever decided that life choices should be made while we're in college was mistaken about the wherewithal of 20-somethings to decide our life's fate.

On a more basic, physical level, we're likely not getting enough sleep, either. Most college students generally sleep between six and seven hours, but many students I know run on less than that. We're exhausting ourselves physically as well as emotionally and mentally, and often without even realizing what we're doing.

Find some form of physical activity that you enjoy. Exercise produces endorphins, so even just taking a brisk walk or playing a game of basketball with your friends can lift your spirits. Do yourself a favor and take advantage of the free recreation center on campus.

Also, cold weather is notorious for bringing "winter blues" along with snow, Christmas lights and candy canes. More people get depressed around the winter holidays than at any other time of the year. Apparently, we grow accustomed to being warm all summer, and don't like to acclimate ourselves to several months of cold, gray days. Go figure that one out.

College depression is very common, so don't feel alone and certainly don't isolate yourself. Although your instincts tell you to pull back, you need to be around people more than ever. Seek help from friends or your family, and make time for things you enjoy, not just duties and responsibilities. All work and no play makes for one bummed college student.

Don't worry, your schoolwork will get done. You'll find the time. It's more important to take care of your own well-being than to make killer grades.

Besides, the more at peace you are inside and the less overwhelmed you feel, the easier it will be to complete obligations. Just be able to let things go, because you can't do everything. Don't expect to be Super Student!

Sometimes it just takes time to get through the doldrums. But remember that literally and figuratively, the sunshine will return! ♦

Flu Shot Tips

With flu vaccinations in short supply this season, everyone is going to have to put in a little extra effort to stay healthy. Using common sense is the first line of defense, but there are some key steps to remember if you want to make it through this winter flu-free.

- *Wash your hands. Wash your hands. Wash your hands.
- *Take vitamins. A good multivitamin will go a long way in keeping you on your feet.
- *Eat well — foods rich in vitamin C like juices and fruits are crucial in maintaining a strong immune system.
- *Get plenty of sleep. A well-rested student is a low-risk flu candidate.
- *If you are sick, do the rest of us a huge favor, and stay home! Cuddle up in your bed, surround yourself with antibiotics and orange juice, sleep all day and keep your germs to yourself. You are not proving yourself to be exceptionally strong by going to class when you are hacking up your guts because you can't seem to get over the flu. You are proving yourself to be an idiot — a selfish idiot. Go back to bed. ♦

Von

Von, the results from your cancer test came back positive.



Horne displays aggressive streak on field

By Katy Hamlett
Staff Writer

What images come to mind when football players are mentioned? More specifically, what about linebackers? Towering height, a rock-hard body and a taste only for their opponent's blood are what most may think of.

All exaggerations aside, MT's 6-foot-1-inch, 218-pound linebacker Marcel Horne has all the external features classic to a defensive lineman, which anyone could see if they were to come across him on campus.

But the average student may be deceived when they find that Horne is actually a really friendly guy.

Is it possible to be both bloodthirsty and friendly?

"He's a good kid. He's loving," Marcel's stepmother Sheryl Horne said. "But he can be very competitive. It's almost like he has two personalities."

Marcel's ferocious gameday attitude but overall likable demeanor may be explained by his early experience with sports.

"When he was six, I put him in karate. I was a single parent and that was the only thing open in the morning for daycare," Marcel's father Curtis Horne joked. "But he really took it pretty far."

Marcel eventually traveled to the Pan American games with karate and earned

brown belt status.

After three years of practicing discipline and patience through karate, Marcel was ready to get rough. His family, however, was a little uneasy about his football fantasies.

"We really didn't want him to play football. We told him 'no,' but he begged," Sheryl said. "We caught him playing on the field. It's just in his heart."

Marcel's parents finally bargained with their son and agreed to let him join the football team when he turned 9 years old.

"On his 9th birthday, that's the only thing he wanted," Curtis said. "It was a side of him he'd never seen before and he really wanted to let it show."

Horne continued to play football and also pursued basketball and baseball through high school.

But Horne wasn't your average jock. He explored other means of creativity and found another, subtler niche in theatre.

Horne was cast in several school and church productions, including a lead role in the musical "Fix Me, Jesus!"

As Marcel neared his senior year of high school, his choices for life after graduation seemed limitless. Marcel was receiving All-City and All-State awards for all three sports and still hadn't decided what he would play in college.

During Marcel's final season with the Clarkston High School football team in Stone

Mountain, Ga., Horne led the team with 150 tackles. Marcel won the team's academic scholar award and Most Valuable Player award.

Then, in Marcel's last football game of the season, he tore his ACL and was out for both the basketball and baseball seasons. It was evident his best scholarship options would be with football.

Horne's first year with the Blue Raiders consisted mostly of special teams play. But Horne found himself having to step up this year when his teammate and friend, Jonathan Bonner, was severely injured in the second game against Florida Atlantic.

"Bonner used to let me know what to do and how to do it and how I could get better at what position," Marcel said. "When he was here, we could play split times and defense wouldn't miss a beat."

But Marcel continues to learn and as a sophomore currently leads the team with 45 solo tackles and ranks second under senior Alvin Fite for total tackles.

"His attitude about life is he wants to be the best at everything he does," Curtis said.

Horne's delicate balance of game-time attack and off-the-field congeniality and discipline may set him apart from other football stereotypes, but he does have one classic athletic quality that most fans will immediately notice.

"He loves the game," Sheryl said. "He plays with his heart and is totally into it." ♦

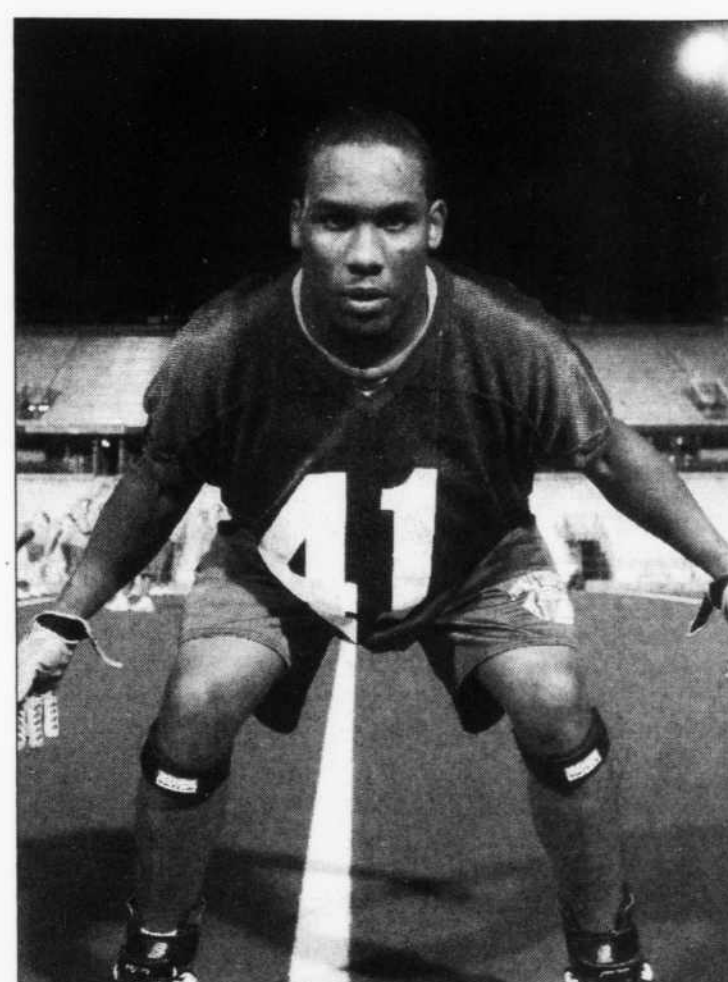


Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

Sophomore linebacker Marcel Horne is second on the team in tackles after filling in for Jonathan Bonner.

Soccer: MT hopes for berth

Continued from 6

up 3-2.

With the game – and possibly the season – hanging in the balance, Claire Ward's shot bounced off the crossbar, sending FIU into the championship game with North Texas, which the Mean Green would eventually win 1-0 on a direct kick by Carrier with eight seconds left.

"It's a tough way to go out, but I'm proud of our team and all of our accomplishments," Miguez told MT Media Relations. "We may not have reached our goal of winning the tournament, but we did win the regular-season championship and that's something no one can take from us."

Should MT not receive an at-large berth to the NCAA Tournament, Miguez leaves as the Blue Raiders' all-time leader in goals, assists and points. For now, however, an at-large berth is not outside the realm of possibility.

"Maybe we can get lucky and an at-large berth will come our way, because I do think our team is worthy," Rhoden told MT Media Relations. "There's no doubt in my mind, despite the loss, that we have the best team in the conference. We have accomplished so much this season and we have attracted fans, even here at the tournament, because of the quality of soccer our team plays. I hope this is the start of something special for our program." ♦

Blue Raiders trip Trojans in five games

By Clarence Plank
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee volleyball team won a five-game thriller 3-2 (30-27, 30-28, 27-30, 20-30, 15-9) against Arkansas-Little Rock Friday at Trojan Fieldhouse.

MT's front row of KeKe Deckard, Dara McLean and Andressa Lyra set the pace for the Blue Raiders, as Deckard led the way with 21 kills and a season-high 21 digs. Lyra also had a double-double with 17 kills and 20 digs, and McLean added 18 kills in the Blue Raiders win.

The Blue Raiders jumped out to an early 2-0 lead after winning the matches first two

games, 30-27 and 30-28.

MT had to come from behind in game two after the Trojans built a 25-18 lead, but the Blue Raiders went on an 11-2 run and eventually took the game with a kill from Lindsay Sisco.

MT registered a total of 32 kills and just 17 errors in the first two games, but the Trojans used a combined .267 hitting percentage in the next two games to tie the match at 2-2.

In the deciding game, the Blue Raiders took advantage of five Trojan errors to come away with the deciding win.

Deckard put the deciding match away with her service when the game was tied at 4 and from then on Middle Tennessee

went on to a 13-4 lead. McLean made two kills in the game, which was ended on a kill from Lyra.

Megan Sumrell continued her record-setting season, racking up 65 assists and 16 digs, while Quanshell Scott had three service aces and eight digs.

Sumrell is now averaging 13 assists per conference game, and has recorded more than 1,200 for the season.

Four different Trojans had double-digit kills in the match, led by Ana Carolina Buccini with 16.

Ivana Vracar had 15 kills, while Sarah Breedlove had 12 and Ivanka Davidova had 10.

Buccini also had 23 digs, and Megan Naborowski had 16.

Iva Adzic led the team in assists with 52.

The victory marks the eighth in the SBC for the Blue Raiders this year, which is the most since the team joined the conference in 2000.

With the win, the Blue Raiders moved into a temporary tie with Arkansas State for second place in the Sun Belt Conference East Division, but the Lady Indians defeated MT 3-1 yesterday. *Sidelines* will have a full report on Sunday's match in Wednesday's edition.

The Blue Raiders return to Murfreesboro for a non-conference game with Georgia State tomorrow at Alumni Memorial Gym at 7 p.m. ♦

CLASSIFIEDS

Employment

PIANIST

Part-time position available for pianist in local Baptist Church. Please call 893-4885.

Part-time Babysitter wanted for professor preschool children on Tuesday afternoons in Franklin area. \$9/ hr. 898-2038.

Water Aerobic Instructors Needed for 5-6 pm. class at Campus Recreation beginning Oct. 25. \$10/hour. Training available if interested. For more information, call Pam at 2255.

Asst. mgr. needed for luxury student community in Murfreesboro. Strong marketing and resident retention skills required. Previous student housing experience preferred, but will consider other experience. Candidate must be highly organized, possess good communication and analytical skills, and be customer oriented. High energy level absolutely necessary. Please email resume to dkenworthy@collegepark.org.

The Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation is seeking student tutors for the following ETIS courses: Statics, Instruments and Controls, Technical Drawing, Industrial Electricity. Please contact Barbara Knox at 898-5311 for more information, Jones Hall Room 333.

Need Money? Student advisors are needed for 120 unit off-campus MTSU apartment community. On-site training, cash referrals and generous hourly salaries are included. Call toll free, 1-866-594-5470 to make an appointment with Kimberly Sanders.

Opportunities

Movie Extras and Models Needed!

Movie Production Co. Needs Candidates to Work For Various Productions. Musicians and Dancers Also Needed! No Speaking/Experience Required! Have Fun While Being a Movie Extra! Local/State/Nationwide Work! Variety of Looks Needed! Earn Up To \$300 A Day! Call 1-877-CAST

DIRECT

Modern Rock Singer Wanted!! Red Alibi is working for a powerful, melodic hard rock singer to complete our band. Check out www.purevolume.com/redalibi for some of our demos. E-mail us at Redalibi_Band@yahoo.com. We are holding auditions now.

Comma, Club is an entrepreneurial student club! We meet every Monday in BAS S334 @ 7:30 PM. Come out and bring a friend.

Are you an Undergraduate student interested in pursuing a PhD? If so, we would like to talk to you. To find out more information visit www.mtsu.edu/~mcnair.

Undergraduate research is beneficial for prospective PhD candidates. If you are interested in pursuing a PhD visit www.mtsu.edu/~mcnair for qualifying criteria.

Services

STEEI BUILDINGS
ALL MUST GO! HUGE SAVINGS ON HURRICANE CANCELLATIONS, No Reasonable offer Refused Financing Available-CALL TODAY! 1-800-405-7501.

Loving mother to provide childcare in home. M-F for 2nd shift or a night out. Please call 867-1079 close to MTSU.

ATTORNEY

Christine Barrett
890-1300
320 West Main St. Suite 121
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
Visa/MasterCard Accepted.

In Jail?

Call Lucky's Bonding. 890-7549. Free info - 24/7.

Travel

Spring Break Bahamas Celebrity Party Cruise! 5 days \$299! Includes Meals, Parties! Cancun, Acapulco, Nassau, Jamaica From \$459! Panama City & Daytona \$159! www.springbreaktravel.com 1-800-678-6386.

Sales

Miscellaneous

Small entertainment center fits 27" TV, light wood color, great condition barely used. \$75 obo. If interested contact Beth or Steph @ 615-542-9860 or 615-895-3462.

Wedding Gowns for sale. Elegance on a budget! We sell gently used wedding gowns; store displays photography props, discontinued styles. Original Retailers to over \$2000! Our prices \$159-\$299! See photos online at www.tresjolis.com. Call Lashae 427-2411 or Kristin 589-0083. Also sell hairpieces and wigs.

XM Radios @ Great prices! Check out www.excelir.com/ebishop.

Canon Elan II EOS camera w/ Canon 28-75mm lens and Canon Speedlite flas. All 4 years old. \$300 obo. Riding Lawnmower. \$200 obo. Please email amj2d@mtsu.edu or call 865-466-9219.

Infra Car Audio now has speakers, CD changer, Rims, car alarms, and CD players for low student budgets. Why pay full price? Call 403-3154.

"WE PAY CASH" for DVD's and Games! DVD Plus, Open until 11 pm, Sunday thru Saturday. Located behind Coconut Bay Cafe by Stones River Mall. (615) 898-0090.

Automotive

4, ZR18 Yokohama Parada Tires with 18" Niche Road Wheels. \$1500 obo. Call Mike @ 533-0273.

'92 Hyundai Excel Runs great, cold air, great gas mileage! Must Sell!! \$950 or Best offer 893-8934.

'00 White Dodge Avenger. 78k pw, pl, tw, keyless entry, spoiler, \$7500 obo. 615-633-7708.

'91 Dodge Ram Van V8 New trans. 150k Runs great \$1600 615-631-7185.

98 4x4 4 door Blazer Great Conditioner 931-592-2494.

Roommates

2 Female Non-smoking roommates needed to share 3 BD 2 BA house, 2 blocks from MTSU. \$325 a month-All utilities included 931-639-3711.

Male, non-smoker roommate wanted to share 3 bd/2ba with female. 20 minutes from campus. Must sign 6 months or 1 year lease. \$350 plus 1/2 utilities. \$100 deposit required. Call Lisa 615-415-9302-leave msg.

Subleaser

Female sublesser needed. University courtyard 1st floor. Fully furnished 4BD/4BA \$395/mo utilities included and internet access. 1st Month Free-Move in Now! Call Katie at 770-778-1497 or 770-459-7435.

2BD/2BA apt. @ Raiders Crossing. Lease is from Jan 1-Aug 13. Completely furnished to include full-size washer/dryer, fridge, microwave, dishwasher, & stove. Also included: high-speed internet, private balcony, pool & hot tub, volleyball court, BBQ grills, fitness center, tanning bed, and computer lab. All inclusive rent \$485/person pays for water, sewer, trash, pest control, internet, modern furniture, electricity, premium cable, and intrusion alarm. Awesome deal. Call 615-504-5963 or 615-542-2820.

Campus Crossings 2BD. Rent \$505/mo. All girl apt. 1 Rm. vacant during spring semester. All utilities included. Call Shea at 615-218-1888. Lease until July, stating Jan. 1st!!

Female sublesser needed. 4BD/4BA University Courtyard. 3rd Floor (No Noisy people above!) Rent is \$375. All utilities included. Will give \$150 to move in and take over lease! Take over lease starting in November. Call 615-907-9655 or 423-718-5484 Carmen.

Need female roommate to sublease 4 bedroom house starting after school commences in Dec. Rent is \$240/mo including all utilities, cable and internet! Right directly across from Murphy Center. Can walk to class. Please call 516-457-0904.

For Rent

Private and elegant. Near I-24 and MTSU 2-3 BD 2 1/2 BA Townhouse with many extras. \$700-\$800/ month + deposit. No Pets 615-896-9811.

2 BD apt. within walking distance to campus. Utilities included. Available Nov. 1st. \$575/month, \$275 deposit. Call 414-1759 for appt. No calls after 5pm.

New 3 BR, 2BA CH/A, stove refig, D/W, washer/dryer, furnished, screened back porch, 1 mile from campus. \$975/mo. \$500 deposit, 1 yr. lease, no pets. 895-0075, 417-4009.

Got friends? Looking for an apartment? 4 BR/2 BA, remodeled apartment; very close to campus; \$295 per month / per bedroom. 615-758-9298

Subleasing

Sterling University Gables. Female sublesser needed for spring/summer semester. \$335/mo. Utilities included w/ internet. Awesome roommates, just moving to Fla. Lease starting in Jan. Call Maggie at 770-778-1498 cell

Pets

Month-old pit bull FREE has shots and is good neutered, but it am too busy to care for it! Not paper trained.

Beautiful white kitten with bright blue eyes needs a loving home e. He is neutered and will give paperwork. Please call 516-457-0904.

Policies

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 prepaid basis. Ads may be placed in the *Sidelines* office in Mass Communication Building, Room 269, or faxed to (615) 904-8193. For more information call (615) 904-8154. Ads are not accepted over the phone. Ads are free for students and faculty. ♦

La-Monroe wins in final minute over USU

North Texas 27, Louisiana-Lafayette 17 (Friday)

LAFAYETTE, La. (AP) — Jamario Thomas, the nation's leading rusher, had two touchdowns and ran for 203 yards on 36 carries to lead North Texas to a 27-17 win over Louisiana-Lafayette on Friday night.

Thomas scored on a one-yard run early in the first quarter to get the Mean Green off to a quick start. By the end of the quarter, the Ragin' Cajuns trailed 17-3.

In the opening quarter, North Texas (5-4, 5-0 Sun Belt Conference) scored with 7:53 left on a one-yard run by quarterback Scott Hall. The touchdown came after the Mean Green converted on fourth down at the two-yard line. Hall rolled to the right side on a busted play into the end zone untouched to make it 14-0.

Nick Bazaldúa made it 23-yard field goal with 20 seconds left in the first quarter.

After the two teams combined for 20 points in the first quarter, the defenses took charge of the second quarter. But Louisiana-Lafayette (4-5, 2-3) battled back with Jerry Babb completing six straight passes to march the Cajuns from their own 34-yard line down to the NT 20.

A 10-yard completion to B.J. Crist moved the chains, setting up a first-and-goal. Three plays later Babb found Bill Sampy in the back of the end zone to cut the deficit to 17-10 with 1:08 left before halftime.

Bazaldúa made it 20-10 for the Mean Green with a 26-yard field goal midway through the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, Chester Johnson scored

on a one-yard run for Louisiana-Lafayette to make it 20-17 with 13:12 left in the game. But Thomas broke out for a 58-yard TD run 50 seconds later to pad North Texas's lead.

The Ragin' Cajuns were hurt by fumbles. Hall's TD run in the first came after Dwight Lindon dropped a ball in the backfield passed to him Babb. North Texas recovered at the UL 26.

Babb completed 24 of 36 passes for 169 yards. He was intercepted once. Hall connected on nine of 15 passes for 104 yards and he was intercepted once.

Troy 24, Florida Atlantic 6

TROY, Ala. (AP) — J.T. McDowell gained 107 yards passing and 62 yards on the ground as Troy defeated Florida Atlantic 24-6 Saturday.

McDowell also caught a 27-yard pass as he accounted for 196 of Troy's 263 total yards in the victory over Florida Atlantic.

Troy (5-4) stopped the Florida Atlantic running game, holding the Owls to negative 12 yards rushing and intercepted two passes.

The only points for Florida Atlantic (6-2) came on 44 and 36-yard field goals by Mark Myers.

Troy trailed 3-0 late in the second quarter, but took a 7-3 halftime lead on 42-yard pass from McDowell to Jason Samples with eight seconds remaining in the half. The Trojans expanded the lead in the third quarter, scoring on a 22-yard field goal by Greg Whibbs and a two-yard run by DeWhitt Betterson.

Leotis McKelvin returned a punt 64 yards for a fourth quarter touchdown to seal the victory for the Trojans.

Idaho 45, Arkansas State 31

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP) — Jayson Bird had 25 carries for 171 yards and two touchdowns to lead Idaho past Arkansas State Saturday in a battle between Sun Belt cellar-dwellers.

The Vandals were down 21-20 at halftime. But stretched ahead in an 18-point third quarter. The final TD of that outburst was a 61-yard interception returned by Dan Dykes that seemed to knock the wind out of the Indians (2-7, 2-3 Sun Belt).

On the next play from scrimmage, Arkansas State coughed up the ball on its own 34-yard-line and Idaho recovered, setting up Bird's second touchdown.

With the victory, the Vandals (3-7, 2-4) matched their win total from last season under first-year coach Nick Holt.

Arkansas State's Nick Noce completed 19 of 43 passes for 264 yards and two touchdowns and added 50 yards on 11 rushes, but ended up with four interceptions.

The game was played at Martin Stadium on the Washington State University campus near Idaho in an attempt to boost attendance, which was listed at 9,425.

Louisiana-Monroe 32, Utah State 25

MONROE, La. (AP) — Steven Jyles scored on a two-yard run in the last minute of the game to lift Louisiana-Monroe to a 32-25 win over Utah State on Saturday.

Jyles' game-winning run capped a back-and-forth fourth quarter in which Utah State took the

lead after trailing most of the game.

With the win, the Indians (4-5, 3-2 Sun Belt Conference) kept their conference hopes alive.

It was the fifth straight loss for the Aggies (2-7, 1-4) who rallied from an 18-7 deficit midway through the third quarter to take a 25-18 lead with 9:22 left in the game.

The Aggies took the lead on a 35-yard pass from Travis Cox to Rod McNeal.

Drouzo Quillen then caught a 36-yard touchdown pass from Jyles to tie the game at 25 with 6:31 left in the game.

Jyles completed 22 of 32 passes for 284 yards and ran for 54 yards on 10 carries. He threw two touchdowns — the 36-yarder to Quillen in the fourth and a 43-yarder to Quillen in the first quarter. Besides his game-winning run, Jyles scored a four-yard scamper with 12:48 left before the halftime.

The Indians finished with 412 yards total offense. Quillen had five catches for 109 yards while Mason Denham racked up 102 yards total offense — 54 on the ground and 48 passing yards.

ULM led 15-7 at the halftime. The Aggies got back into the game in the third, sparked by Kevin Robinson's 94-yard kickoff return for a touchdown.

Cox threw for 263 yards and one touchdown as the Aggies produced their most total yards of the season with 393. Chris Forbes had 74 rushing yards while Raymond Hicks grabbed eight receptions for 81 yards and Tony Pennyman recorded his first 100-yard receiving day with seven catches for 114 yards. ♦

Loss: Aggies move to third

Continued from 6

Josh Harris came out to lead the Blue Raiders after the MT coaches decided to bench Marks. On his first drive, Harris led the offense for negative three yards. After another punt from the Blue Raider offense, NMSU went downfield in five plays for a 63-yard TD drive capped off by a one-yard run by Ali.

At the end of the third quarter, NMSU led the Blue Raiders 27-10.

"Down the stretch, they took Marks out and put in the other quarterback [Harris] in and he was nervous," Aggie head coach Tony Samuels told NMSU Media Relations. "They lost some yards on sacks, but we did get some really good turnovers there. And our offense continued to control the ball and that was also the most important thing — controlling the ball."

Harris came back out onto the field for the fourth quarter, and once again the MT offense went three-and-out. The Aggies kept taking advantage of the opportunities and Ali once again finished an NMSU scoring drive, giving the Aggies a 34-10 lead.

The Aggies tacked on 10 more points in the quarter with a 15-yard touchdown pass to David

Romaka and a third by Guardia, giving NMSU a 44-10 victory.

The Aggie defense was especially powerful in the second half, holding the Blue Raiders to -28 total yards.

"New Mexico State did a great job on defense. We didn't execute anything on offense," McCollum said. "In the first half we had eight or nine penalties and they had one. You just keep kicking yourself."

Pierce finished with his second consecutive 300-yard game, going 23-for-34 for 306 yards and two touchdowns.

"Buck is awesome, that's the only way you describe him," NMSU wide receiver Tim Tolbert told NMSU Media Relations. "He just makes plays all the time. It's fun to watch him sometimes and it's definitely fun to be out there with him because you know that anything can happen at any moment. He's just that good of a guy."

The loss dropped MT (4-5, 3-3 Sun Belt Conference) to fifth in the SBC standings while NMSU (4-5, 3-2) moved into third place. The Blue Raiders will try to put the loss behind them on Saturday, when they will host Louisiana-Monroe in their final home game of the season. ♦

Lady Raiders win exhibition 80-64

By Jori Rice
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee women's basketball team improved to 2-0 in the preseason with an 80-64 victory over Georgia College and State University on Saturday afternoon.

MT's Krystle Horton scored 19 points and grabbed 13 rebounds in the victory.

"In the first half we had to get rid of our nervousness," Horton said. "We had a great season last year, but we still have a lot of things we need to work on before Friday."

One of those things was the full court press, which helped GCSU to a 27-18 lead in the first half.

"We did not do a good job of taking care of the basketball during that moment," MT head coach Stephany Smith said. "We haven't been put in a full-court press setting this season, so we haven't worked against pressure very much in practice on a daily basis."

The Lady Raiders then went on a 10-2 run, however, thanks in part to two 3-pointers by fresh-

man Latoya Barclay. MT regained the lead a few minutes later at 35-33 and never looked back.

Lady Raider Tia Stovall scored 16 points and had 9 rebounds, and Chrissy Givens had 15 points and 6 rebounds. Barclay finished with 10 points.

Part of MT's success could be contributed to the Lady Raiders' large rebounding edge. MT out-rebounded the Lady Bobcats 41-17.

"We are a great rebounding team and that's one of our goals: to out-rebound our opponent," Horton said.

The Lady Raiders also had more turnovers, however, with 29 compared to GCSU's 21.

"We have learned that there are a lot of things to accomplish from now until the end of the season," Smith said. "I think we got better today, but 29 turnovers will get you beat almost every night."

The Lady Raiders will open the regular season against South Florida on Friday at Murphy Center in the first round of the Preseason Women's National Invitational Tournament. ♦



Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

MT's Chrissy Givens had 15 points in Saturday's victory.

Enigma: Questions remain

Continued from 6

can they expect now? Will this be a trend next year, too? One thing is for certain: Until MT learns to be consistent, the Blue Raiders will always be spending bowl seasons at home.

The odd thing about this whole issue of consistency is there is no true remedy. It's hard to blame the coaching staff, and it's hard to blame the players, too. But the blame has to fall

somewhere, doesn't it?

Some will say there is no reason to watch the Blue Raiders now that there is no chance for a bowl bid. That's simply not true.

This weekend, fans can watch MT and find out the answer to the most puzzling question of all.

Which team will show up? ♦

Cody Gibson is a sophomore mass communication major. He can be reached at cwg2g@mtsu.edu.

www.mtsusidelines.com

MOBILE OIL & LUBE

Serving Rutherford & surrounding counties

We come to your Office, Workplace, or Home
We can also provide Mobile Oil & Lube Service for other locations:

- 12 Point Oil, Lube, & Filter Change
- Transmission Fluid & Filter Change

• Fully Insured & Licensed
• Emergency Service Available
• After Hours & Weekend Service Available

FLYNT SERVICE WELCOME!!!

Prices Starting At \$26.95

Ask About Our Free (NO Charge) Oil Analysis!!!

OWNER: JOE ROBINSON
PHONE: 784-XXXX
LAWRENCE, IN 46030

Service: Customer Satisfaction

VISIT US ON THE WEB:
www.honeybeeservice.com

Come Celebrate National Nontraditional Student Week

Nov. 8 - 11, 2004

Mon. Tues. & Wed. ---
Night Owls Open House
4:00 - 6:30 p.m. in KUC 320

Tuesday, Nov. 9 ---
Open House for Faculty and Staff
7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. in KUC 320

Wednesday, Nov. 10 ---
Nontraditional Student Day
10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
in the KUC lobby area
in front of the Bookstore.

Thursday, Nov. 11 ---
Nontraditional Student Dinner
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
in KUC 320 and 318.

Phone 898-5989 for details about the potluck dinner and to reserve a place for you and your family members. Pinnacle Honor Society initiation and Fall Awards follow the dinner in KUC 314.

CUSTOMS 2005

Open the Door to Leadership-

BE A STUDENT ORIENTATION ASSISTANT

Applications available in KUC 326

Deadline extended to Friday November 12, 2004