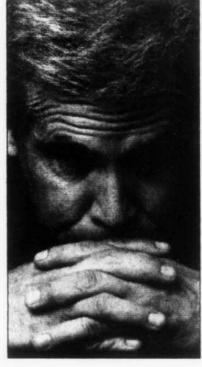


MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2008

INSIDE

W. gives new look into the life of George Bush



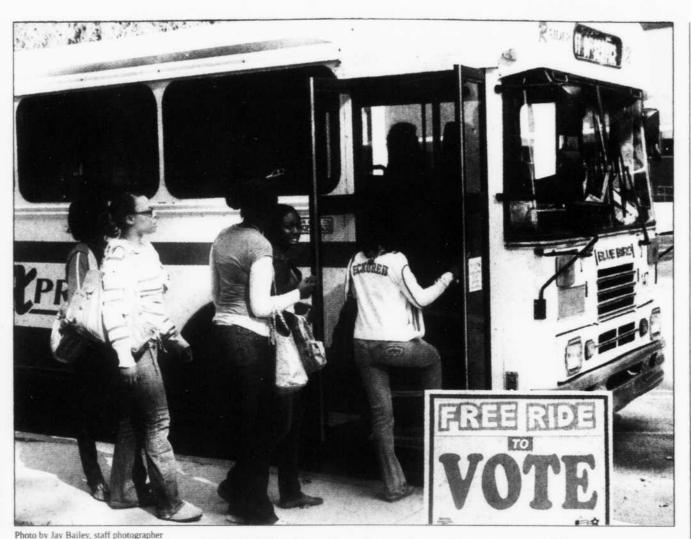
The new Oliver Stone movie debuts fourth in weekend sales at the box office.

FEATURES, 4

OPINIONS

Muslim like me: Walking in the shoes of others

A student shares his experience now as compared



MTSU students registered to vote ride the Raider Xpress to an early voting location, courtesy of ADP.

Raider Xpress transports students to early voting

By FAITH FRANKLIN Assisstant News Editor

Students and faculty can receive free transportation to vote during the early voting period for the 2008 election now until Oct. 30 via the Raider Xpress.

The American Democracy Proj-

The office of the office of executive vice president and provost is in support of the ADP's efforts to aid students during the early voting period.

The ADP is a nationwide initiative to encourage students to become more civilly engaged, according to Johnson said that voting is important for every citizen. "Often times if you don't vote, you can't complain. It is important for everyone to have a say. If you fail to vote you loose that opportunity."

According to Williams voting early is a convenient option for stuVOL. 84 NO. 49

Students celebrate sobriety

By EMMA EGLI Staff Writer

The group Hammered provides alternatives for those students who prefer to spend their nights without drinking or doing drugs.

The college lifestyle is one that many students know all too well. Whether it's the keg parties and bars on the weekends, beer pong on the weekdays and maybe a little crammed studying in between, partying is just a way of life in college. However, for some students getting wasted on the weekend isn't their idea of fun.

"My friends and I try to find other ways to have fun during the week and on the weekends," said Daniel Deffenbaugh, senior music business major. "We have movie marathons or watch a bunch of episodes of 'Heroes."

Ken Procaccianti, founder of the organization Hammered, recognized that not all students at college drink and that there should be more ways for them to have fun and get involved on campus.

Hammered is a group with a mission aimed at bringing together students whose lifestyles may not include drinking or doing drugs just to have a good time. Procaccianti came up with the idea for Hammered in 2002 while he was a sophomore at Northeastern University in Boston. "Being a student who didn't drink or do drugs, I felt like there was nothing to do on campus," Procaccianti said. "That's when I came up with Hammered. I

to the pre-9/11 world.

OPINIONS, 5

Check out this week's comics.

SPORTS

MT prepare for new season

Lady Raiders, after losing star player Amber Holt, look to repeat past successes in 2008-09 season.

SPORTS, 8

COMMUTE

Alumni Drive from Blue Raider Drive to Friendship Street will be closed for the fall semester for road improvements. With the closing of Alumni, there will be no access to the Library parking lot. During the construction period, the northern part of the parking lot by the Honors Building will be changed from green to white. The southern end of the lot by Ezell Hall will remain green for students. You will not be able to access the campus via Womack Lane.

Due to construction, several lots have been rezoned. All legal parking areas are designated by signs, painted stripes, or other marks. Be sure to check the posted signs BEFORE you park your automobile. If it is not marked, don't park!

For more information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~parking.

ect, which aided in the registration of more than 1,000 students to vote by the Oct. 6 deadline, is sponsoring the initiative.

Jim Williams, the coordinator for the ADP said "I have had students in class before who don't have cars or have a disability, and they don't have a way to get to the polls." Faye Johnson, assistant to the executive vice president and provost.

"Voting is a civic activity that requires you to be engaged, so [the shuttle] is a natural fit," Johnson said. "A lot of students register to vote, but they might not follow through and take the next step and actually vote." dents, in addition to acting as an insurance policy to ensure participation in the voting process.

Early voting is one way may help avoid the lines on Election Day.

Williams rode the Raider Xpress to the election commission with

VOTING, PAGE 3

HAMMERED, PAGE 3

Students help raise funds for world hunger MTSU students host 'Feed Marathon,' canned foods drive and benefit concert

By ALEX MOORMAN Assisstant News Editor

Five students calling themselves the 'Feed team' believe that they are not too young to change the world and have raised \$100,000 and 3 1/2 tons of food for starving people in Africa.

"It's just five students," said Amaris Greene, a freshman who is homeschooled and member of the Feed team. "We didn't have much to start with and that's what makes what we accomplished so amazing."

All of the money and food raised will be given to World Vision, a nonprofit organization that helps people get out of poverty. The students have a grant that will match their donations five times. The grant is from the U.S. Government and the United Nations, both of which have funded World Vision to focus on Zimbabwe, Swaziland and Lesotho, whose countries are experiencing drought and famine.

"As a student, I will get up and walk to the vending machine when I'm thirsty and I never think about the fact that people in Africa have to walk six miles when they are thirsty," said Misty Street, senior at Blackman High School and member of the Feed team. "It's hard to think about how that dollar I spent could change their lives when it's so influential to my own."

The students' efforts have the potential to help 125,000 people if they reach their goal of \$50,000. The money is focused on providing the means to build wells, provide clean water, food and proper nutrition training for parents and more.

"We went door to door at College



Photo by Alex Moorman, assistant news editor Misty Street, Kelly Stewart, Amaris Greene and Adam Wells of the Feed Group present a check to World Vision

Grove, and it was awesome because those are mostly college students and they were giving us so much food," said Kelly Stewart, senior liberal arts major at MTSU and member of the Feed team. "College students are usually struggling and don't have the money to just give food away but it was really inspiring to see how interested they were to help out."

The students conducted a citywide food drive for Greenhouse Ministrie's. They also held a 'Feed Marathon' where participates walked six miles, which is about the length that a person in Africa has to walk for water. The events ended with a benefit concert that featured Russ Lee, a well-known Christian artist. "There were over 200 people in our walk today, and it was amazing to see so many people that were really motivated to get out and help," Stewart said.

All five students are members of New Vision Baptist Church in Murfreesboro, which is where the benefit concert was held on Saturday.

"This movement helps create awareness," said Adam Wells, senior broadcast journalism major at MTSU and member of the feed team. "People are sometimes more concerned about the things that involve their lives and this shows them something that they should care about that they may not know about. What is going on in Africa is terrible, and I think that this drive will help open their eyes to something that they can do to help."

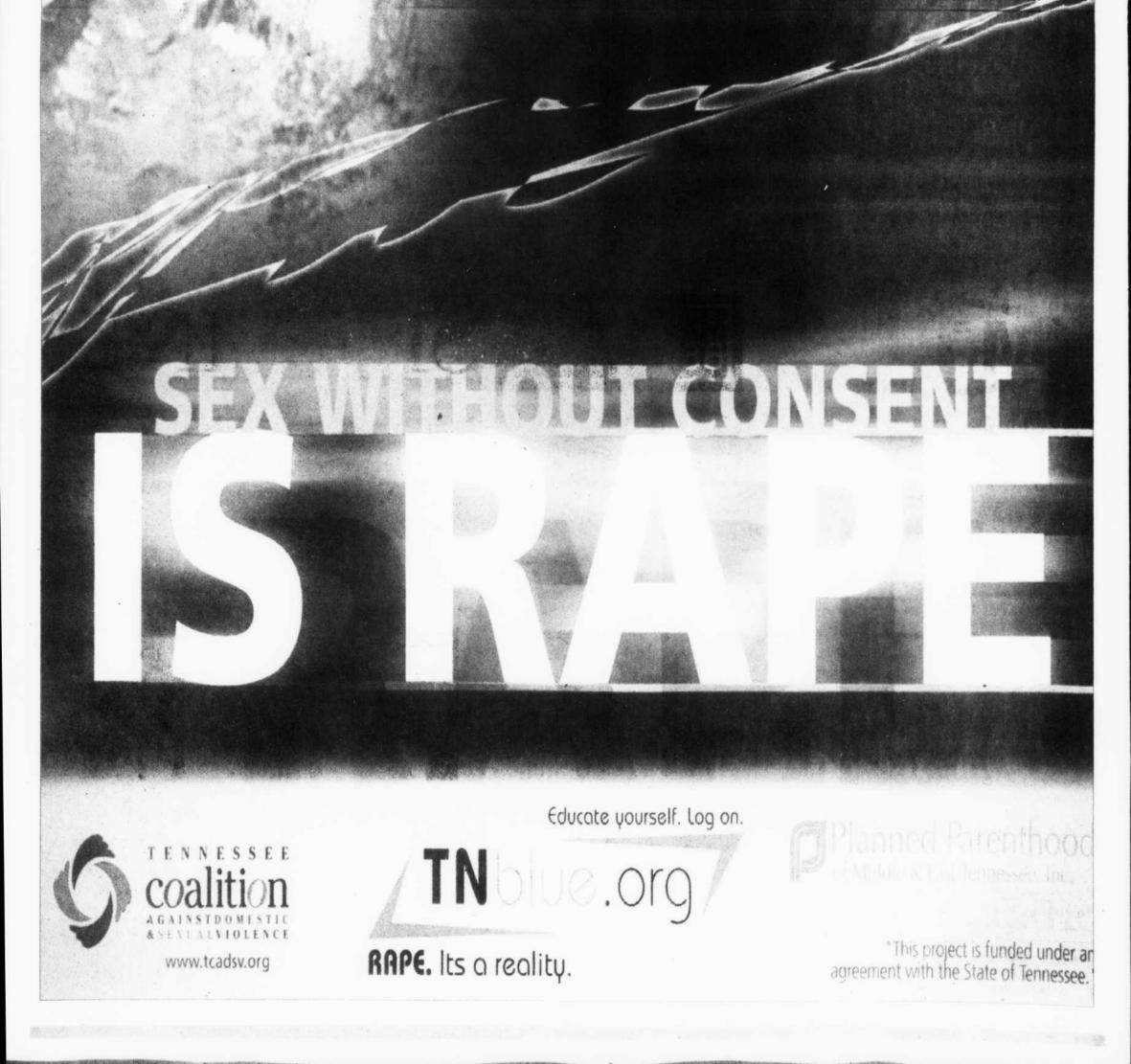
Support from sponsors has grown since the students started working on this project last year. They have supporters such as Dollar General, General Mills and Gaylord Entertainment.

"This movement brings light to this topic and will help open peoples eyes about the fact that you don't have to be rich to change the world," said Aaron Mcgowen, freshman journalism major at MTSU and Feed team member. "We are five students that started with nothing, and by getting in there and shaking it up, we made a difference in the world. Children can impact anyone's lives."

 $\mathbf{HO}(t) \approx 0.01 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.011 \pm 0.011$

(12A 12A 1), (a) on 20, 2002

Alcohol is the most common substance used in DRUG-ASSISTED RAPES



MONDAY, October 20, 2008 SIDELINES 3

Rec. Center offers lifeguarding classes

BV KATIE KELLEY Contributing Writer

The American Red Cross and the MTSU Recreation Aquatics are hosting a lifeguard-training course, which started on Oct. 18 and continues through Oct. 26.

Five students showed up to begin their training at 9 a.m. on Oct. 18.

The course length is 31 hours and 15 minutes over a period of eight days. Students must be 15 years of age to participate in this course.

Even nonstudents at MTSU can still participate in one of the courses for \$145. If you are an MTSU student, the course is \$125.

To become certified, students are required to take several water training courses as well as classroom work.

The first day is six hours long and consists of a prerequisite water skill test and then classroom instruction. The prerequisite water skill test consists of two major items. Students are required to complete a 300yard swim using various strokes, and also an activity called the brick carry.

The brick carry course requires students to swim 20 yards, dive seven to ten feet to retrieve the 10-pound brick and then swim to the other side of the pool while carrying the brick at their chest with both hands, all in one minute and 40 seconds. After students have completed the pool requirements, they move on to the classroom to view training videos and have a discussion.

Jennifer Travis, a transfer student from a commu-

nity college in California, is in the spring depending on teaching the class. She is certified and has been teaching the class for two years now.

MTSU Campus Recreation Aquatic Coordinator Pam Footit also played a huge role in making the classes possible here this past weekend.

Footit has been involved with the Red Cross for 47 years, starting at Indiana University.

Footit said that just in the past six years the organization has gone from a red standing, meaning they are in debt, to a black standing, meaning they are a profit making organization. The American Red Cross did this by several holding several fundraisers.

This past weekend is not the only time lifeguard training is offered. Training is offered two to three times the number of people who sign up.

Footit said if students are interested, training is also offered for other watercourses such as waterpark, shallow water attendant, and water safety instructor.

Water safety instructor is coming soon. That class will start on October 31, 2008 lasting through November 9.

This class is more extensive than the others are. It includes 30 hours of training as well as four extra fit training hours.

Footit said that the class could be held with as little as three students signed up.

Some were there to renew their licenses, and then there were those who came "just for the heck of it", as one student said.

For more information contact the Recreation Center.

Through the Sidelines' Lens



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor

Members of the Lady Raiders met and greeted fans after their first practice of the season in the Murphy Center. New players, Tina Stewart and Shytoria Davis sign posters for community members and their friends and family.

tration information that may be to change his registration discov-

departure.

incorrect and prevent he or she ered that he was too late, but he "We choose the times that did

HAMMERED **FROM PAGE 1**

wanted to show students that you can have fun without alcohol or drugs, even if it's just for one night, the weekends, or the rest of your life."

Hammered was recently featured at the National Young Leaders Conference, as well as in a documentary for National Geographic. It is quickly becoming noticed all across the U.S.

"I started putting up flyers around campus, and I honestly didn't think many people would show up to the first meeting," Procaccianti admitted. "So it was a shock to see around 50 students show up. People were actually really excited about my idea."

Since that first meeting in 2002, the excitement has spread from Northeastern University to other universities across the country. Since re-launching this September, the newest chapters of Hammered have sprung up at Southern Illinois University, North Texas University and Merrimack College in Massachusetts.

Procaccianti's main goal for Hammered is to showcase people having a blast who just happen to not be under the influence. Rather than preach to students about the ill effects of drug use and alcohol consumption, he wants to show students there are other alternatives to getting wasted while partying.

"Hammered is not anti- anything," Procaccianti said. "We don't discriminate against those who do drink, it's their choice. We welcome anyone who is willing to try partying completely sober, even if it is only one time."

All the chapters of Hammered are completely student-run. With a variety of activities from the humorous "Wimpy Body Contest" to "Do Stuff Thursday," an alternative to "Thirsty Thursdays," Hammered demonstrates new ways to enjoy the college experience.

"I think it's a great idea," Deffenbaugh said. "Especially for students that don't drink and don't know what to do for fun or how to meet other people. Hammered would be a great way for them to get involved on campus."

Hammered is always looking to expand and starting a new chapter is easy. Students interested in getting MTSU involved with Hammered should visit their website hammered.org or email Procaccianti at ken@hammered.org.

CRIME BRIEFS

Oct. 12, 3:09 a.m. Drunkeness East Main St. Micah Hodge was arrested for public intoxication

Oct. 13, 12:09 a.m. Theft Peck Hall Subject said someone took a lot of parts off the bikes in Peck Hall.

Oct. 14, 11:38 a.m. Theft

MTSU Police Department Subject wanted to file a report in reference to a stolen credit/debit card.

Oct. 14, 12:43 a.m.

Worthless Check Keathley University Center Peck Hall Department was notified that a custodian had found a box of white stuff that look suspicious. Officers responded and secured the area around the box. The building was evacuated on the order of the safety officer and

Oct. 15, 8:51 a.m.

Hazardous waste

incident was declared a hazardous materials scene. Haz-Mat Teams responded and the box of white stuff was collected and determined not to be a threat. Peck Hall was re-opened.

Oct. 15, 11:56 a.m. Traffic Greenhouse Lot Witness called about a hit and run.

Oct. 16, 10:43 a.m.

ROM PAGE 1

VOTING

people last Friday and said that it took 30 minutes for everyone to vote.

"On Election Day [the polls are] open from 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. which means if you wait and go at 7 and get to class at 8, it may not work out that way," Williams said.

Early voting provides voters an opportunity to correct any regisfrom casting his or her ballot.

"All kinds of things happen on Election Day," Williams said. "If voters have a problem with their registration, and they vote early, maybe that problem can be taken care of so they can still vote."

The ADP is taking students to the election commission, where all the elections in Rutherford County are actually overseen.

"I talked to a student who was at the election commission trying

can still vote by absentee ballot, Williams said. "That's the kind of thing if somebody had waited until Election Day, he would have been out of luck unless he was willing to drive back to Jackson."

The Raider Xpress departs from the front of the James Union Building and transports voters to the Rutherford County Election Commission.

Busses return from the square one hour and 15 minutes after

not impede the student body with shuttle routes," said Tracy Read, assistant manager for Parking and Transportation Services.

The Raider Xpress has four more shuttle dates until the early voting period ends on Oct. 30: Oct. 21 at 5 p.m., Oct. 22 at 8:30 a.m., Oct. 27 at 10 a.m., and Oct. 30 at 3 p.m.

The ADP will host a state House and Senate candidate's forum for students on Oct. 22.

a check at the Blue Raider Book Store.

Oct. 14, 1:12 p.m. Theft

Keathley University Center Subject called to report a lost or stolen laptop.

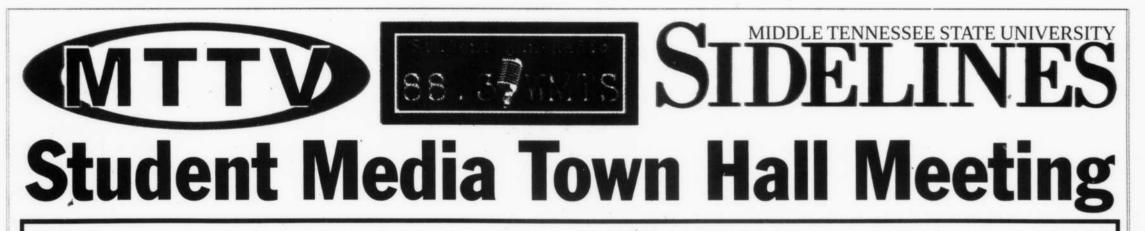
Oct. 15, 1:33 a.m. Alcohol

Blue Raider Dr. Mitchell Kluge was cited for under age consumption of alcohol and simple possession of marijuana.

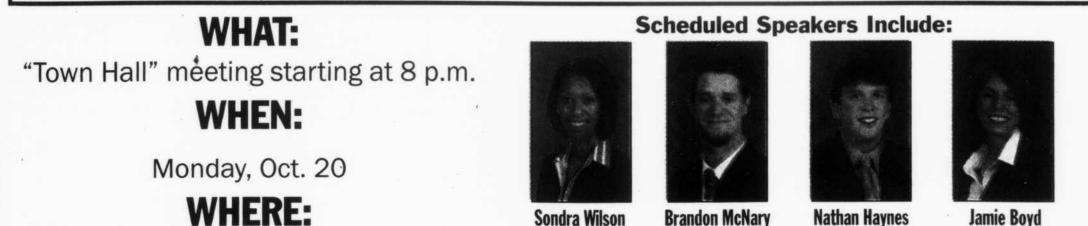
Burglary Pi Kappa Alpha House Greek Row Subject came to the station to fill out report in reference to his laptop being stolen from campus the loss was estimated at \$1000.

Oct. 16, 2:23 p.m. Theft

Business Aerospace Building Subject said he dropped his wallet and somebody walked away with it.



Middle Tennessee Television and MTSU Sidelines are offering an opportunity for students and community members to speak their mind about issues surrounding our campus. In an event that will be open to the public, the Student Government Association officers will be sitting on a panel to answer questions that will be submitted before and during the program.



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Opinions

4 SIDELINES MONDAY, October 20, 2008

HAVE YOU VOTED YET?

TELL US ONLINE AT MTSUSIDELINES.COM FEATURES

www.mtsusidelines.com

DID YOU RECEIVE THE EMERGENCY TEXT LAST THURSDAY?

BASED ON VOTES FROM MTSUSIDELINES.COM.



Movies

10/20-10/24 - Step Brothers - KUC Theatre @ 7&10 - \$2

Music

10/20 - Early Bird Nite feat. Kelly Zullo w/ Honky Tonk Angels and Dave Petrelli -The Basement @ 7

10/20 - Warbringer, Noisecult, Pranah, Back Water Burial - The Muse @ 7

10/21 - Manny Telepath, Jerry Leger, Blake Whitworth, Sammy Barrett - The Basement @ The Basement @7-FREE

10/22 - Westbound Rangers, Lindsay Preston, Cheryl LuQuire, Greg Bates - Rocketown @ 6 - FREE

10/22 - Resurrect the Morning, By Blood We Are Bonded, At the Left Hand of God. The Castle is a Tomb. This Beaten Path - The Muse @ 7

10/23 - Blue Eyes Blacks, Annaliese, Aron Wright - The Basement @ 9 - \$5

10/23 - Blue Mountain Studio Showcase, River Chicken, The Night Before, Monotone Sickness, Misplaced My Zombie - The Muse @ 7

10/24 - Ribbon Pigeon, Bohannans, Cuttelfish - The 'Boro @ 8 - FREE

10/24 - The Hellbillies, The Trampskirts, Blackcasfish -Wall Street @ 9

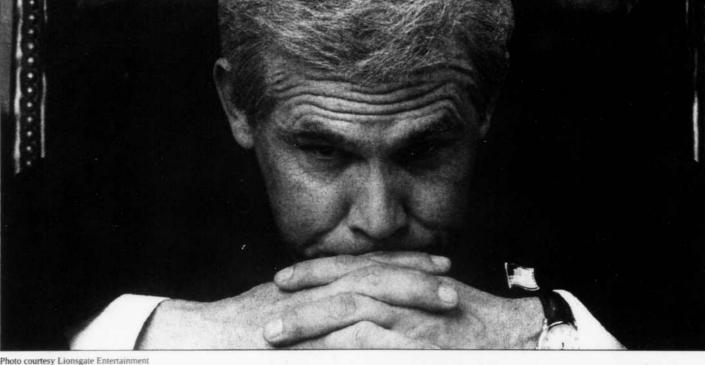
W. shows satirical timeline of W.

By MICHAEL STONE Features Editor

Before entering the theatre, one might expect W. to be the typical comedic satire of President Bush that Americans have gotten use to seeing and hearing throughout the past eight years.

The movie, directed by Oliver Stone, instead criticizes George W. Bush in a more serious light by recreating events from his past and presidency. Rather than displaying these events chronologically, the movie transitions from the main storyline of Bush and his cabinet discussing the invasion of Iraq to various accounts of G.W.'s life in the '60s all the way up to his presidential campaign.

In his pre-presidential days Bush (Josh Brolin) is depicted as an alcoholic that has his life going down the tubes, but his father, George H. W. Bush (James Cromwell), is always there to help keep him on his feet. These depictions, usually involving Jack Daniels, happen everywhere from his fraternity days at Yale to hanging out at a Texas bar to his courting of Laura Welch Bush (Elizabeth Banks).



Josh Brolin plays George W. Bush in Oliver Stone's film W., which premiered Friday. The film came in fourth in weekend gross.

Upon defeat, Bush turns to oil, and would not return to the political realm until his father urges him to come to Washington to assist him in his campaign for the presidency in the late '80s. At this point, W has renounced his alcoholism. Both this and giving his father assistance in a successful run for the presidency allows George's father to gain respect for his dle East. Condoleezza Rice

to keep the country from attacking America with biological or nuclear warfare.

When this evidence doesn't seem to be compelling enough to convince the president of a needed strike on Iraq, Cheney shows a presentation to Bush and the rest of the cabinet that Iraq is necessary to control the oil supply in the Mid-Thandie Newton), Donald Rumsfeld (Scott Glenn), and other members of the Bush cabinet seem to go with the flow and agree with Cheney that a strike is necessary. Colin Powell (Jeffrey Wright), who at first opposed to a strike on Iraq, felt the pressures of the rest of the cabinet and succumbed to the idea of an Iraqi invasion being necessary. The movie ends with what all Americans saw back in 2003 - the initial strikes on Iraq, the worldwide protests and Bush fumbling over his responses during press conferences.



The relationship between George W. and his father is a constant struggle for George because he wants nothing more than to earn his father's respect. W.'s alcoholism and lack of productivity, though, leads his father to favor Bush's brother Jeb (Jason Ritter) and call George a "disappointment," accusing him of hurting the Bush name.

So Bush decides that following in his father's political footsteps might earn the respect he so dearly desires.

His first attempt at becoming an elected official is when he campaigns for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. After receiving criticism from Democratic opponent Kent Hance (Paul Rae) about being an outsider to the community, Bush loses the election.

son.

For the '92 presidential election, George would again assist his father in campaigning. This time, though, his father would fall short to Democratic candidate Bill Clinton. This loss would inspire George to run for governor of Texas, which under the coaching of political consultant Karl Rove (Toby Jones), he wins.

He would serve as governor until his campaign for the presidency leads him to the White House in 2000.

When the movie depicts Bush and his cabinet discussing the possibility of invading Iraq, it takes a more serious tone. Dick Cheney (Richard Dreyfuss), along with other high-ranking political officials, present evidence to Bush that the invasion of Iraq is necessary

Though serious, the movie did have a few moments of comic relief - six to be exact. One was the choking-on-a-pretzel incident. Another was the infamous

President Bush (Josh Brolin) listens during a press conference.

"fool me" phrase.

hoto courtesy Lionsgate Enterta

The characters cast in the film carried out their roles to near life-like perfection. Unlike in the usual comedic satire of the Bush cabinet, the characters personality traits and actions were not over emphasized.

The movie was a tad politically biased, even though it did show John Kerry applauding President Bush in his floor speech to congress about the invasion of Iraq.

One major problem with the movie was it went on 45 minutes too long. This was apparent because of the grunts and groans of relief from the audience when



Director: Oliver Stone

Starring: Josh Brolin, Elizabeth Banks, James Cromwell, Richard Dreyfuss, and Toby Jones

Rating: PG-13 for language including sexual references, some alcohol abuse, smoking and brief disturbing war image

Run Time: 131 minutes

it came to an end and the rumbling in my stomach.

Over all, W. was a wellwritten, tightly weaved film with good scene transitions and sound choice of actors. It didn't have as much easily comprehendible entertainment as most Americans like seeing, which is why Max Payne and Beverly Hills Chihuahua beat it out at the box office.

For its fresh, fictionally factual satire of President Bush, I'll give it five stars. But for the 45 minutes of hunger I had to endure towards the end of the movie, I've got to subtract two of those.

10/24 - Push Play, The Love Willows - Rocketown @ 7 -\$12/pre-order

10/24 - Explorer's Club, Vermicious K'nids - The Basement @ 9 - \$7

10/24 - Nashville Metal Music Awards Pre-voting Show feat. Bank Side, Dissarray -The Muse @ 7 - \$5

10/25 - Lost Generation, Mind Winder, Cherry Bomb -The 'Boro @ 8

10/25 - Far From Folsom (Johnny Cash Tribute) - Wall Street @ 9

10/25 - Dewey Decibel, Blue Cadet-3, Looks like a Snake, Happy Box, Pizza by the Slice - Rocketown @ 6 - \$6

10/25 - Joseph Arthur and the Lonely Astronauts w/ Tommy & the Whale - The Basement @ 9 - \$8

10/25 - DJ Stones. Unknown Artists, Pay Boy - The Muse @ 9 - \$8

10/26 - Duncan May and The Resonators, Shirock, Fouled Out, Cody Blaine, Angels Diversion, Phthalo, Ex Nihilo - Rocketown @ 5:45 - \$10/pre-order, \$12/ door

10/26 - The Dwarves, Stuck Lucky, Sanctions - The Basement @ 7

Other

10/22 - Live Trivia- Wall Street @ 8

10/26 - Hair O' The Dog Brunch - Wall Street @ 10 a.m.

10/29 - Live Trvia - Wall Street @ 8

Compiled By Katy Coil

Movie	Weekend Gross
#1 Max Payne	\$18M
#2 Beverly Hills Chihu	ahua \$11.2M
#3 The Secret Lives o	f Bees \$11.1M
#4 W.	\$10.6M
#5 Eagle Eye	\$7.34M
#6 Body of Lies	\$6.88M
#7 Quarantine	\$6.3M
#8 Nick and Norah's I Playlist	nfinite \$3.9M
#9 Sex Drive	\$3.57M
#10 Nights in Rodanthe	\$2.68M

www.mtsusidelines.com

MONDAY, October 20, 2008 SIDELINES 5

()PINIONS

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Having a good time doesn't always mean getting drunk

"Hammered," the newest organizational front spreading across college campuses, is gathering people to send the message that sobriety can be fun.

Their message, a rarity heard through the stereotypes of college keg parties and beer pong tournaments, is a refreshing reminder to our community that just because we are in college doesn't mean we all drink.

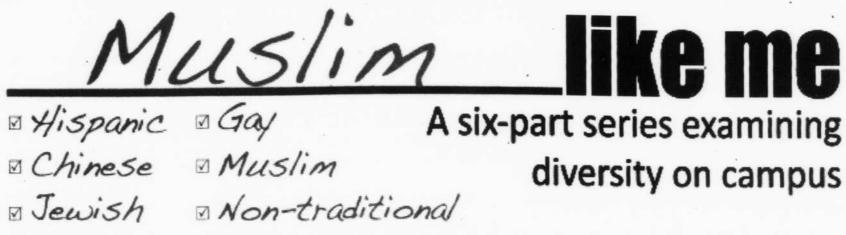
Possibly the most intriguing part of the group's purpose is, as founder Ken Procaccianti puts, "Hammered is not anti anything. We don't discriminate against those who do drink - it's their choice."

Upon reviewing some of the statistics available about college age drinkers, the need to party harder with lighter or no inebriation seems to be a more appealing and safer choice.

The following are facts pulled from "Magnitude of Alcohol-Related Mortality and Morbidity Among U.S. College Students Ages 18-24: Changes from 1998 to 2001" featured in the 2005 Annual Review of Public Health.

"1,700 college students die each year from alcohol-related unintentional injuries, including motor vehicle crashes."

599,000 students are unintentionally injured under the influence of alcohol and more than 696,000 students are assaulted by another student who has been drinking."



Walking in the shoes of others

By ALI HARB **Contributing Writer**

Ali is the name, not Allie. Yes, like the boxer since that's all there is to compare it to. I am Palestinian, not Iraqi, Afghan, or Pakistani. I am a Muslim living in America and am enrolled here at MTSU.

Growing up I had no idea I was "different." I thought I was just a normal white Christian kid. Though on September 11, 2001, my sixth grade year, I became "different."

It's hard to go to school one day having lots of friends and being a normal kid, then going to school the next day to be avoided and hated by my "friends." Even people I considered my closest friends turned on me out of fear.

COMICS

worse. More students made racist comments, and I even had a teacher tell me all Muslims are terrorists. My friends started making terrorist jokes on me too, just joking around though. I pretend it doesn't both-

er me, but it does. I had random people come up and say something about my

culture to me that they thought was true. When I tried to tell them they were wrong, they were always too ignorant to

listen. This might not seem like a big deal, but I am tired of filling out paperwork and having to put "other" as my race. I understand there are In high school it got a lot of races but most are don't get mad if I don't want my passport because I don't Me" series.

nothing even close to Middle Eastern on the choices. Being Muslim has affect-

ed my social life even more today. I have lost a few girlfriends because their parents thought dating me to pretend not to be Mus-

covered there, yet there is to pray with you.

Since I don't really look Muslim, I have to deal with being made fun of when people don't realize what I am. I hear jokes about my people all the time, and have

> lim or take offense. Everyone seems to get a good laugh out of calling me "terrorist" and "Arab" (like it is my name not my race). They don't realize

would hurt their image. I how much it hurts me when they do. I'm not a terrorist, I am of Arab descent but I am an American, and I am tired of being treated differently.

> Fear has stopped me from doing certain things. I am too scared to renew

want to go to airports. I am too scared to meet friends' parents because of past experiences. I am too scared to go buy fireworks anymore because I hate being teased about what I am going to do with them.

I have not encountered many problems at MTSU, but I have only been here for one semester. I still feel too scared to go out and try to make new friends, though. I feel awkward not being a "normal" student. I am proud of what I am and all the jokes will never change that. When you think of me, think of me as the guy that likes cars, video games, and anime, not as a threat.

Ali Harb is a freshman undeclared and can be reached at aah2v@mtsu.edu. He is the third of six students featured in our six-week "Like

66 When you think of me, think of me as the guy that likes cars, video games, and anime, not as a threat."

> feel that some of my friends are afraid to introduce me to their parents.

I remember in high school going to events and getting offended when they led us in a prayer. I mean it's not that big of a deal to me, but

"More than 97,000 students are victims of alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape."

"400,000 students had unprotected sex and more than 100,000 students report having been too intoxicated to know if they consented to having sex."

There is the argument that these stats don't incorporate individuals and can't predict how someone will act. It is a broad overview and isn't applicable to any one person.

But the facts exist for a reason. All of those events happened to someone, which mean they can just as easily happen to us.

As Veronica says so politely in "Heathers," throwing your life away to become a statistic in the United States is about the least private thing anyone can do.

Not everyone who drinks, excessively or in moderation, will experience these consequences. Many students can be responsible adults who happen to enjoy alcohol. Hammered is only geared towards showing people a good time without drinking.

But for every responsible person, how many irresponsible people exist? How many of us do endanger ourselves because the prospect of partying far outweighs our personal safety?

Crime briefs are riddled with charges of underage consumption, assault and public intoxication. Nearly every week, there is an alcohol-related report filed by campus police.

But again, not every college student is irresponsible and unable to handle the privledge of drinking.

Alcohol isn't a bad thing. It's the choice on how to use the substance that determines the result - a good time or a regrettable mistake.



LETTERS

SGA needs to explain reasoning for student fee increase

Why does the SGA want to increase the student activity fee? Are students getting their money's worth out of the current fee?

My understanding of the current student activity breakdown is this: SGA \$3.00; Student Programming \$3.00; Sports Clubs \$2.00; Distinguished Lectures \$2.00; Student Organizations \$10.00.

When I was a student, I mainly benefited from the distinguished lectures. I can understand the need to pay more money to attract more interesting speakers, but why not reallocate the current fee structure?

My understanding is that the current SGA has not

outlined why they want or need to double the fee (100% increase). If they want to take more of your money, they need to at least provide some compelling reasons.

My guess is that most students favor a more conservative approach: cut back programs that are not being used as much and increase funding for programs that are more popular with students. Has the SGA audited its student-funded programs and measured the success or failure of these programs? This step should be the first for a student-minded SGA.

Instead it seems the SGA might succumb to a knee jerk tax hike proposal with no explanation as to why the hike is needed and how it will benefit students.

-Justin Wax, alumnus

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 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.

FACES IN THE CROWD

Would you ever consider partying sober?



McGraw "Yeah. You don't have to drink to have a good time."

Amanda McGraw, sophomore

Communications

Hurgeton "Yeah. I would party sober."

Michael Hurgeton, junior

Accounting



Seither

"I would. Being of age, I don't really party very much anyway."

Matthew Seither, senior Mass Communications



Williams

"No. If I am going to leave my house I'm going to get hammered."

Chris Williams, junior Computer Science

OPINIONS

Palin, others need to take responsibility for actions

By KIA MAKARECHI UCLA Daily Bruin

When accused of ethical wrongdoing, most public figures immediately adopt a strategy of denial. The more aggressive among them may even slander their accusers or discount the integrity of the investigative body altogether.

Where Sarah Palin deviates from "politics as usual," however, is the strategy she adopted once she was found guilty of unethical behavior when she was the governor of Alaska.

The governor has apparently decided to stride boldly ahead with one key lie: that the 'Troopergate" report (the one which, in fact, found her guilty

Campaigns should not be able to operate on blatant lies and false accusations of "media bias."

Of the report, which again

the Alaska Executive Branch on all sides. Ethics Act by pressuring a state trooper's dismissal on personal grounds, the potential vice president had this to say: "Well, I'm very, very pleased to be cleared of any legal wrongdoing ... any hint of any kind of unethical activity there, very pleased to be cleared of any of that.'

This technique of using bold-faced lies to distract the voting public in the final runup to the election is nothing new on the part of the McCain-Palin campaign.

This campaign is banking on what it perceives to be the collective stupidity of the American people. By telling Americans what to believe even when simple facts dictate the complete opposite - they hope to ever so bluntly pull the wool over America's eyes. This political season has

been rife with acts of deceit

Obama and McCain mostly through their veep surrogates - have both found plenty of dents in each other's records, and both campaigns have been guilty of an aggressive sort of mudslinging.

But McCain's campaigning and Palin's willingness to proliferate bold-faced lies may be unprecedented.

Perhaps the best example of this development is Palin herself. When the McCain camp chose her as the Arizona senator's running mate, they were undoubtedly attempting to collect at least some of Hillary Clinton's would-be voters.

The McCain camp essentially told American women that they found them daft enough to vote for anyone with breasts, regardless of their lacking qualifications and backward policies.

Once the Alaska governor

quickly picked up another form of cliched, ignorant political behavior: hating on "the media."

Of course Sarah Palin would hate "the media" when its pesky journalists expose her lies. Or her record as a "maverick" flimsy at best, and non-existent on a clear day.

But instead of accepting the errancies of her involvement in the firing of a state trooper, she blasts the "liberal elites" in the "Washington, D.C. media conglomerates."

Which is ironic, because it is hard to count journals such as The Anchorage Daily News and The Salt Lake City Tribune (the latter of which ran the report findings under the headline "Abuse of power: Investigation of Palins raises troubling questions") as establishments of liberal elitism. Yet, one supposes they

entered the race, however, she 'must have caught that Godforsaken "media" bug.

When reporters confronted her about the basic, fundamental deceit that had been uncovered, she gingerly replied, "You've got to read the report."

Mrs. Palin, if there is one thing "the mainstream media" does when reporting on a story, it's read the report.

One writer for The Atlantic Monthly took her up on her challenge. His conclusion? "Unable to get the best of Alaskan investigators, she is trying to get the best of American reading habits."

The writer, Conor Clarke, found that the report's findings were as such: "Palin is lying outright when she claims the report found nothing 'unethical.""

So while the report did say she was cleared of "legal wrongdoing," violating ethics laws "is a violation of the public trust." And hardly a clean record. Or maverick-y.

As gingerly as she told debate moderator Gwen Iffel that she would not answer as the "liberal media" would like but as America wants her to, so too did Palin sidestep this latest disaster. When reminded that the report found her guilty, Palin responded by saying, "I think that you're always going to ruffle feathers as you do what you believe is in the best interest of the people whom you are serving."

Governor Palin, you do not serve the best interest of any people when you violate ethics to avenge your sister's divorce.

It is time this nation, this generation, tells politicians that they cannot just create a reality for themselves outside the boundaries of truth and ethics. Politicians live in this world and should start being held accountable for their actions in it.

'Slacker Uprising' proves Michael Moore is a hypocrite

BY COREY MARTIN

Michael Moore has milked the hell out of the First Amendment. Somewhere, freedom of speech is filing a restraining order against him, because Moore has made this millennium all about anti-Bush politics.

In June 2004 when Moore released "Fahrenheit 9/11" I was months from my 21st birthday and a few more months from voting in my first election.

When people said "Fahrenheit 9/11" was immensely biased and a waste of film, I defended it, saying "There are some things that can't be taken them to vote with three-packs out of context." Moore's latest film, "Slacker some Ramen noodles. Uprising," proves that everything he has said about Bush is also true of him - and there are some things that can't be taken out of context.

2000-election. In "Uprising," he travels through undecided states and tries to encourage 'slackers," primarily the 18-to-29 demographic, to vote (for Kerry) in the 2004 election.

An uninformed voter is more threatening to democracy than a person who doesn't vote. Yet, Moore would have you believe that these people are informed - informed of whatever propaganda he shows them during his tour. He wants viewers to believe he is merely a shepherd to lost voters who haven't reaped their democratic rewards.

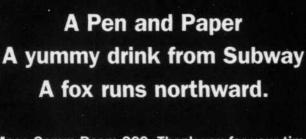
The reward? He motivates

Moore couldn't even dole out the cash for cute thongs for college girls (let's be honest, guys would benefit from this as well) and cans of Chef Boyardee.

In the film, Moore also comes off as an insulting know-it-all. Far be it for the guy writing a column to call someone a knowit-all, but nothing screams, "Hey, listen up, idiots!" like touring the United States during the political harvest season and holding rallies saying, "The president sucks. Let's have a doover. Vote [for Kerry]. Get some drawers and noodles on the way news the kettle is suing the pot for slander.

Bush's next four years are evidence that Moore's tactics didn't work. Shockingly, Ramen noodles and man-panties don't do the trick. But what we can't really grasp is the effectiveness of Moore's campaigning... and it was unofficial campaigning. Sure, he motivated some people to vote [for Kerry.] But how many?

For every action there's an equal and opposite reaction. Protesting only leads to more protesters. All Moore knows is that he potentially stirred up



A Sidelines Haiku:

Mass Comm Room 269. Thank you for your time.



Moore's a hypocrite.

Moore contends that Bush is in office because not enough informed people (translation: Democrats) participated in the

of Fruit of the Looms and

Moore accuses Bush of being in bed with several bigtime corporations and using the presidency as a Rolodex for enterprises and entrepreneurship. But at least when people do favors for Bush they get millions of dollars (and perhaps a lead suit of guilt and a first-class ticket to hell).

out, please.

In "Uprising," Moore theoretically uses fear to try to convert/motivate apathetic voters. He's threatening that their apathy will lead to more of what happened during Bush's first term: breaches of national security, senseless wars, poor foreign relations, dead soldiers.

Bush is saying "Vote for me, or else." Moore is saying "Vote [for Kerry], or else." In related

some young people to vote.

So, let's say he succeeded in motivating youth to vote. It means one of two things: Kerry lost by less than he actually would have or Bush can thank Moore for some extra votes.

A final word to the documentarian, Mr. Moore:

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MONDAY, October 20, 2008 SIDELINES 7

SPORTS

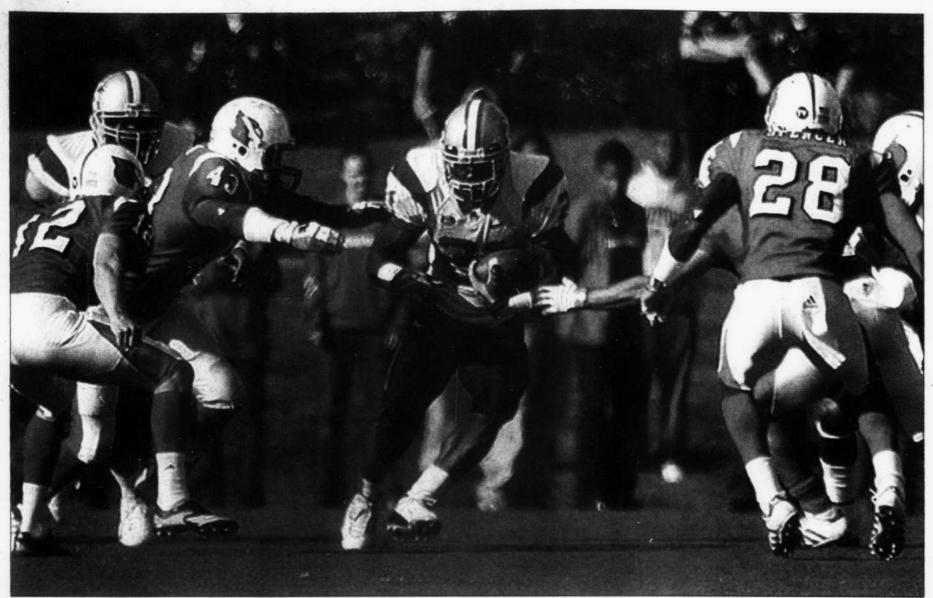


Photo courtesy of MT Athletic Communications MT running back Phillip Tanner (21) runs between the Louisville defense. Tanner led the Blue Raiders with 46 rushing yards on 13 carries in the losing effort.

MT unable to capitalize on early lead against Louisville, falls 42-23

By CHRIS MARTIN Sports Editor

For the second straight season, the 'Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders got off to a hot start against the Louisville Cardinals, only to falter in the end.

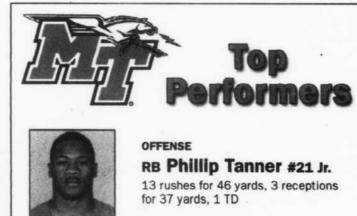
"Their defensive line dominated our offensive line, and their offensive line dominated our defensive line," MT Head Coach Rick Stockstill said.

The Blue Raiders jumped quarter after MT safety Jere-

contest with 247 total rushing vards.

Despite the prodigious rushing totals for Louisville, the box score would suggest a much closer game.

MT picked up 20 first out to a quick lead in the first downs, compared to the Cardinals' 19. The Blue Raiders also didn't commit any turnovers, whereas Louisville quarterback Hunter Cantwell was picked off twice-once by Kellem and again by senior linebacker Ivon Hickmon.



DEFENSE

Soccer defeats Ragin' Cajuns, improves to 7-1 in SBC

By DAVID POWELL MT Athletic Communications

Middle Tennessee went ahead through a Shan Jones strike just five minutes into the match en route to their third straight shutout as they defeated the Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns 1-0 at Blue Raider Field on Sunday afternoon.

The Blue Raiders used three first-half goals, including Hope Suominen's strike just 23 seconds in, to defeat Louisiana-Monroe on Friday evening. The win cemented their second-place position in the Sun Belt Conference standings. The home side had outscored the opposition 12-1 in the last six matches coming into today's game.

Louisiana-Lafayette dropped a 3-0 decision to Western Kentucky on Friday night and came into the afternoon in sixth place in the Sun Belt. The Ragin' Cajuns were looking to get their season back on track, having not picked up a victory since their 3-1 win over Arkansas-Little Rock on Oct. 5.

MT came out strong from the opening whistle, dominating possession in the midfield and capitalizing off the pace of forwards Jen Threlkeld, Heather McDonnell and Shan Jones.

It was the speedy Jones who was on hand to put the Blue Raiders ahead just five minutes into the contest. The forward ran onto a deflected Suominen pass just outside the area and glanced towards goal to see four defenders standing between her and the back of the net. The freshman was undeterred, racing into the box past all four defenders before slotting the ball to the near post for her team-leading 11th goal of the season. The strike put her in a tie for eighth place in school history for most goals in a campaign. The Ragin' Cajuns were able to maintain the majority of possession as they tried to equalize, but the Blue Raider defense held strong despite a few shaky moments near the close of the half. The best chance for the visitors to tie the match came in the 35th minute. Forward Kellie Jestes found herself with room to shoot inside the MT area, but her drive fell into the arms of Blue Raider goalkeeper Kela Casiple. It looked as if the Blue Raiders were set to double their advantage in the early going of the second half, but they were prevented from completing several counterattacking opportunities due to impressive goalkeeping of Louisiana-Lafayette's Amanda Moorefield. The freshman made eight saves in her firstcareer start. Not to be outdone, Blue Raider goalkeeper Casiple made nine saves in the match to move into third-place alltime for most shutouts in a season. The MT defense is now tied for second in school history for most shutouts in a vear. "We knew it was going to be a tough game," MT Head Coach Aston Rhoden said. " Louisiana-Lafayette created some problems for us and we were fortunate to get an early lead. It is good to see the team create chances and we had several opportuni-

The visiting Blue Raiders (2-5, 1-3 Sun Belt) held a 17-14 halftime advantage over the Cardinals (4-2, 0-1 Big East), but Louisville went on to outscore MT 28-6 in the second half to secure the 42-23 victory.

The Cardinals can thank its potent rushing game, particularly redshirt freshman running back Victor Anderson, for the win over the Blue Raiders.

Anderson was able to utilize his offensive line's dominance while rushing for 161 yards on 19 carries. Not to be outdone, Cardinals' senior running back Brock Bolen scored three rushing touchdowns while gaining 67 yards on the ground.

On the flip side, MT was unable to recreate its first-half success on offense, gaining only 93 yards in the second half.

my Kellem returned an interception for a touchdown 5:33 into the game.

MT's next offensive possession lasted all of one play after wide receiver Patrick Honeycutt tossed a 39-yard pass to running back Phillip Tanner to give the Blue Raiders an early 14-0 lead.

Louisville then began its comeback.

With 2:02 remaining in the first quarter, Bolen scored his first touchdown, a three-yard run, to spark what would become a 42-9 run for Louisville.

"We found a way," Louisville Head Coach Steve Kragthorpe said. "We knew we had to stay patient in the running game...We knew eventually the running game would come around."

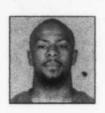
The running game certainly did come around for the Cardinals, as they finished the

However, one stat in particular revealed how Louisville was able to post the lopsided victory-punts.

The Blue Raiders punted the ball a total of eight times while the Cardinals kicked it away only three times. Also, MT converted only six of 16 third-down conversions while Louisville was able to convert seven of its fifteen third-down attempts.

"We have to help our defense out," Tanner said. "We're having too many three-andouts, and we're not allowing our defense to rest."

For the second straight week, both of MT's top quarterbacks, senior Joe Craddock and sophomore Dwight Dasher, received



K Alan Gendreau #38 Fr. 1/1 FG (42 yards), 2/2 PATs

LB Ivon Hickmon #27 Sr.

10 tackles (2 for loss), 1 interception

significant playing time. yards on nine carries.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Craddock completed 16-of-Next up for the Blue Raiders 28 passes for 152 yards and one will be the SEC's Mississippi touchdown. He also carried State Bulldogs. The game will the ball five times and gained take place in Starkville, Miss., 23 yards. Dasher went three-MT's third consecutive road for-nine passing for ten yards game. That game is scheduled while picking up 31 rushing to begin at 6 p.m.

Tennessee remains perfect, defeats Kansas City 34-10

By DOUG WALKER **AP Sports Writer**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) -The Tennessee Titans haven't been this good and the Kansas City Chiefs haven't been this bad in 31 years.

With Chris Johnson running for 168 yards and Len-Dale White 149, the Titans (6-0) remained the NFL's lone unbeaten team by rushing for a franchise-record 332 yards in a 34-10 blowout Sunday. The record that fell was set with 296 yards the Houston Oilers amassed on the ground against Kansas City on Nov. 27, 1977, almost two decades before the team moved to Tennessee.

The Chiefs (1-5) also saw a record take a tumble in what's shaping up as one of their worst seasons since moving to Kansas City in the early '60s. The 332 yards the 1976 Pittsburgh Steelers which had stood as the most ever allowed by KC.

"Your run game is a devel-

plays," Titans coach Jeff Fisher said. "The backs got a lot of extra yards on their own after contact."

White scored on runs of 6, 2 and 80 yards, the franchise's

longest since 1983. Johnson had a 66-yard touchdown the fourth quarter.

Without pausing as he crossed the goal line, Johnson went to the Chiefs band right behind the playing field and started banging his open palms on the drums, drawing a percussion pen-

erased the record of 330 by alty and prompting Fisher to promise "it will not happen again."

"I thought about it before the game, but coach Fisher opment of the way your team talked to me and said I can't away and was replaced by

> CC Your run game is a development of the way your team plays. The backs got a lot of extra yards on their own after contact."

JEFF FISHER TITANS HEAD COACH

be doing that," said Johnson. "It's disrespect. I'm just tryrun that made it 34-3 late in ing to have fun. He didn't chew me out because it was a win.'

> It was the first time since 1977 that two runners had gone over 100 yards against the Chiefs, whose despair was deepened by a seasonending knee injury to brittle

Brodie Croyle. In the second quarter of his

first appearance since injuring his shoulder in the season opener, Croyle hobbled

> The Chiefs' designated quarfuture has been injured four times in eight career starts and Kansas City will probably make finding a young

quarterback a top priority among a swarm of other personnel needs.

Huard injured the thumb on his throwing hand and was replaced in the fourth quarter by Tyler Thigpen with 11:56 left. With Larry Johnson not active for disciplinary reasons, the Chiefs managed only 58 yards rushing.

"They hit some big runs at the end," Chiefs coach Herm Edwards said. "Guys not playing their gaps and that's kind of been our Achilles' Heel from the beginning to right now. We worked on it all during the bye week and we thought we had some things corrected."

On White's 80-yard run and Johnson's 66-yarder, both men bolted through huge holes in the line and were virtually untouched.

"Obviously, some players didn't do what they were supposed to do," Edwards said.

After going seven straight quarters without scoring, the Chiefs got a field goal from Nick Novak and a 14-yard scoring run from Thigpen in the fourth.

"They were young and they made mistakes here

SOCCER, PAGE 8

Damon Huard. terback of the

Lady Raiders preparing for upcoming season, life without Holt

By TIFFANY GIBSON Campus News Editor

With six returning players and five newcomers expected to add versatility, the Lady Raiders are preparing for the for the upcoming basketball season.

Head Coach Rick Insell said he isn't exactly sure what to expect this year because of all the new players and the talent they bring to the court.

"I think our team is going to be one that's enjoyable to watch," Insell said. "They pass well, shoot well and they run the floor well.

At least six of them that are coming back know what to expect from me, as far as our strategies are concerned."

The six returning players are Chelsia Lymon, junior guard, Emily Queen, sophomore forward, Jackie Pickel, junior guard, Brandi Brown, junior forward, Anne Marie Lanning, sophomore guard, and Alvsha Clark, junior forward.

Clark sat on the sidelines last year after transferring from Belmont University to MT.

1 like Coach Insell, and 1 played against him in high school," Clark said. "I know he's a really good coach and he'll push you

to your potential." "I want to play professional

basketball, and in order to do that, I have to be challenged every day," Clark said.

Clark helped Belmont to their first appearance in the NCAA Tournament in 2007, and has been named Atlantic Sun Conference Player two vears back-to-back, becoming the fifth player to ever do so.

"Alysha is great and everyone hasn't had a chance to see her, and I'm just excited about everyone getting to see her," Lanning said.

Insell said that Clark has the potential to step up and play the role of Amber Holt, who upon graduation was drafted by the Connecticut Sun in the WNBA.

"We're going to give her the chance to be that kind of player for us, just like we did with Chrissy Givens," Insell said. "When Chrissy left, we allowed Amber Holt to be that kind of player, so we are going to put her [Clark] in a system that's going to enable her to have that type of suc-Cess.

Insell has also signed five new players including: Tina Stewart, freshman guard, Abby Andrews, freshman guard, Dana Garrett, junior guard, Shytoria Davis, junior

forward and Molly McFadden, freshman forward.

McFadden is a walk-on from Sparta, Tenn. that was voted 7-AAA MVP as a senior at White County High School.

"Molly hasn't played in a couple of years, and she kind of walked into here and said 'Hey, I want to get back in the game," Insell said. "She was an all mid-state player at White County, so we gave her a chance to come on board with us.

"She's going to take a little time to get back in shape and get back her basketball game.'

McFadden said that she came to MT hoping to get back into the game and change her life.

"I'm actually a freshman, but I'm two years out," Mc-Fadden said. "I'm actually 20, and I was working full time for Lowe's."

McFadden said that this year she is going to focus on getting back in shape and playing defense during practice to get the other players ready.

As far as the new players, Insell said he expects great things from all of them.

"We feel good about Shytoria Davis at the post," Insell said. "And Dana Garrett re-

Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor MT Head Coach Rick Insell (far right) looks on as the Lady Raiders practice on Friday. ally has a lot of strength and

jumps well. We think she has the chance to have a good career here."

"Stewart gave us a pleasant surprise in her defensive toughness, and she is shooting the ball extremely well," Insell said. "And Andrews shoots the ball really well, but I think it's going to take some time for her to learn the system and what we expect of her."

Even though the team lacks senior leadership, Insell said

SOCCER

FROM PAGE 7

ties to extend the lead. At this point in the season it is about getting the result and moving towards the next game."

The Blue Raiders almost put another one on the scoreboard in the 77th minute when they drove a cross into the box from the far side. It was Moorefield who was on hand with a spectacular save to tip the resulting header over the bar and preserve the Blue Raider one-goal advantage.

MT returns to action when they travel to face rival North Texas on Friday evening. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

TITANS FROM PAGE 7

and there," Titans defensive tackle Michael Ross said. "That's where we were three years ago."

Thigpen will probably start against the New York Jets next week if Huard is out.

"It was nice to get points on the board," he said. "We the end, the Chiefs' only

didn't want to get shut out spark was provided by a again.'

Kerry Collins, in the meanwhile, was taking no chances and hardly was hurried by a Kansas City defensive line which has not recorded a sack in six games. The veteran who replaced an injured Vince Young in the first game was 11-for-18 for 123 yards.

Until Thigpen got hot at

player who spent the off week trying unsuccessfully to get traded to a contender. Tony Gonzalez had six catches for 97 yards, including a spectacular leaping grab for 28 yards in the final seconds of the first half.

"Everybody was talking about us having a trap game," said Tennessee linebacker Keith Bullock.

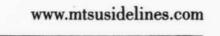
"Thirty-four, or whatever the score was, shows how focused we were."

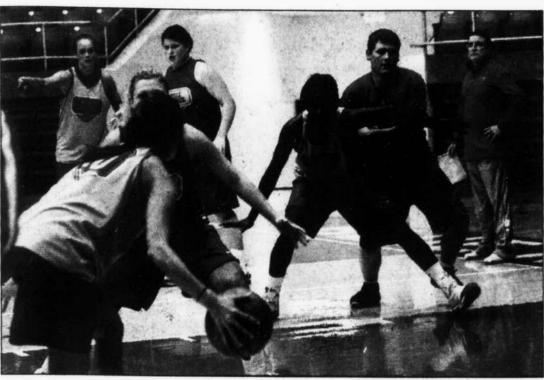
Rod Bironas kicked a 49yard field goal in the first quarter and a 46-yarder in the third, stretching his streak to 18 in a row. Since the Titans began their streak of nine straight wins going back to a victory last year over Kansas City, Bironas has not missed a field goal or an extra point attempt.

that he's excited about havthe two girls from junior coling them all for another two leges are more mature, and the freshman have adjusted years.

"It puts us at a disadvantage, but it also gives us a lot of advantages, because we have team chemistry," Lymon said. "We're young, but the juniors and sophomores that are playing have had experience last year, and the juniors have had experience with a lot of the great teams Middle Tennessee has played."

In addition to being a young team, Brown said that







and fit in well with the team.

ter than any of the teams I've

been on [during] my three

Read more online at

www.mtsusidelines.com

years here," Brown said.

"This team gets along bet-

