

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

Attacked Greek student remains stable

By Andy Harper
Campus Life Editor

MTSU student and Beta Theta Pi fraternity member Michael Morrison remained in stable condition on Wednesday after suffering a head injury during an incident with a fellow fraternity brother Sunday night.

Morrison was taken off his breathing tube Tuesday afternoon and was responding to both verbal and physical stimuli Wednesday morning, said Gentry McCreary, director of Greek life.

William Vinson, who was charged with aggravated assault in relation to the crime, was released Monday from the Rutherford County Sheriff's Department on \$10,000 bond.

"Vinson was charged with aggravated assault. Unfortunately charges could change if Michael Morrison were to die," Peaster said. "Hopeful he will recuperate, physically he seems to be in a condition to survive."

The preliminary investigation is still underway and individuals involved are still being questioned so the transpiring of events is still uncertain, Peaster said.

See Stable, 2



Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

Martial Arts Club president Beto Mendoza (left) spars with class participant Bryan Vaskette at a self-defense course in the Rec Center.

Self-defense class has three objectives, Colepaugh said: vision, breathing and walking. One technique demonstrated to isolate vision is pressing thumbs into the attackers eyes to disorientate and distract them so you can get away. "The main focus of self-defense is awareness, and the goal is to teach how to avoid situations," Zimmerman said.

"Martial arts is not magic, but body mechanics," Colepaugh said. "To win you have to go against your opponents' body mechanics, such as bending an arm in a direction it doesn't normally bend. The club teaches you tools you shouldn't have to use, but you're better off with them than not."

Along with providing training and service to students, the club has special offers for female students and faculty who may want to participate.

"We try to offer about four free classes to females and faculty of MTSU," Mendoza said. "There is always something for everyone and there are always people who can assist and instruct."

Techniques are taught efficiently but kept simple enough to practice outside of the class, Colepaugh said.

"I think everyone should take a self-defense class at some point in their life. You never know when you'll need it," said Michael Trimble, sophomore aerobics and exercise major.

MAC was founded in the spring of 1999 by a student and an associate professor in the history department, Colepaugh said.

The club promotes an open and relaxed space for members and guests to freely come, observe and participate.

"They come for the atmosphere and training, and they come back," Colepaugh said.

See Self-defense, 2

Self-defense classes teach use of weapons, hand-to-hand combat

By Geoff Brashear
Contributing Writer

The MTSU Martial Arts Club now offers self-defense classes utilizing both hand-to-hand combat and the use of weapons.

"We teach self-defense methods anyone could use while walking from buildings or dorms or even to parties," said Beto Mendoza, MAC president and senior Spanish language major.

A few of the available styles this semester will be grappling, boxing, Kung fu and Taekwondo.

The club also teaches defense methods with practice weapons including sticks, swords and knives.

"The club provides advanced training using wooden guns and

rubber knives for very advanced students," said Billy Colepaugh, head coach and senior television production major.

Although the club uses simulated weapons, safety practices and procedures are still followed.

Waivers are signed before sparring and the club has a set of rules that includes no shots taken in sensitive areas like the head, and it is generally recommended to spar at half strength.

"We never have had any serious injuries, the worst being the occasional bloody nose," Mendoza said. "We are always very safe and anyone can spar regardless of size, shape or gender. In addition, there is always one club officer overlooking each spar."

In addition to lessons in self-

defense, each participant receives a free can of pepper spray.

"We demonstrate the proper ways to use the pepper spray because it isn't just a point-and-shoot thing," Mendoza said.

"A goal of the club is to have all club officers certified to train with pepper spray and the tactical baton," said Kyle Zimmerman, adviser of the club and assistant professor in the theatre department.

At first glance, many onlookers assume the class only promotes fighting and some will turn away from participating, Zimmerman said.

"But it's much more than that. We offer Tai Chi and other non-combat activities in the club," he said.



Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

Olivia Darden participates in a self-defense class held by Martial Arts Club.

Long-time martial artist teaches women rape defense

By Faith Franklin
Contributing Writer

A professional martial arts instructor will be offering free self-defense classes sponsored by the Rape Aggression Defense Center beginning today.

"R.A.D. is a class that begins with awareness prevention that leads to hands-on defense training and simple proven techniques that are easy to remember," said David Smith, three-year R.A.D. instructor.

"There have been many rapes throughout the nation in the last decade," said Jennifer Viar, freshman mass communications major. "Seeing as MTSU has a large group of students, I would feel safer learning techniques to protect myself."

A nationally recognized program, R.A.D. teaches realistic self-defense techniques for women and is one of the largest self-defense programs that is taught on college campuses in the United States, Smith said.

In addition to being a R.A.D. instructor, Smith has also been a martial arts instructor on and off for 30 years and a police officer for 28 years.

"I feel like this class will be beneficial to me because I need to know

how to protect myself in any situation, especially because I hear so many stories about rapes in college," said Kokeeta Long, freshman nursing major.

One of the key concepts taught in the class is simply that an attacker will almost always be stronger than a victim, Smith said. Students are taught not to go against their attacker, but instead are relayed techniques that can help them to remove themselves from the situation as soon as possible.

At the beginning of the class, students are usually reluctant to some of the tactics and lack a certain confidence. By the end of the class, though, students are usually more confident in all aspects of their lives, Smith said.

"The class is fairly low impact, so even the mobility- and visually-impaired will be able to participate," Smith said.

The class is recommended for women from ages 14 to 60.

"I think the R.A.D. program is a good idea and more students should get involved, because of the changing of the times," said Andrea Pace, junior social work major.

The class does involve some kicks, blocks and punches, Smith said. However there has never been a case where a student was unable to par-

ticipate because of a disability.

"I love seeing the transformation that the women make from having a victim mentality, thinking they can't defend themselves, to the assertiveness that the class instills, in such a short amount of time," Smith said.

R.A.D. class begins tonight and will last until October 12. Classes are held from 6 p.m. to 8, and are open to all MTSU students, faculty and staff, as well as the general public. A workbook/training manual will be provided to each student.

Class will be held at the MTSU Public Training Room, located at 1412 East Main Street. For further information on R.A.D. and other programs see www.rad-systems.com.

Blackman community stands up to annexation by Murfreesboro City

By Dana Owens and Tom Cheredar
Community News Editor and Staff Writer

A mass of red shirts rushed out the doors of Murfreesboro's City Hall five minutes into a planning commission meeting after members voted to annex county land into the city and imposing taxes on its residents.

At least 180 people showed up for the meeting, with several more turned away due to fire codes. Nearly all in attendance were Blackman residents and supporters wearing red shirts to show their opposition of the city's proposed annexation affecting them.

"This is nothing more than Communism," said Al Vanpliet a six-year resident of the community. His wife Rene has owned the property for 23 years. "The city has decided this for us, and nobody wants this. We're talking about 900 people that are living there."

While the annexation of the land was decided by the city last night, the issue has been in the works since this summer.

Craig Alea, unofficial spokesperson for the community and creator of donotannex.com, said the main issue is that the residents of the community in the western expansion area of the city have no voice in the matter.

"It's the lack of choice, that's the real issue," Alea said.

Joseph Aydelott, director of City Planning,

said the area of the Blackman community falls within legal boundaries of annexation.

"It's our interpretation of the state law that when an area is completely encircled, we must annex it as well," Aydelott said.

The community was made an "island" when a developer for the city purchased an uninhabited parcel of land.

"The law states that you can annex in the area within the area growth boundary, which we are in now," Alea said. "The bigger reason to [annex] is the reality that the area is already part of a community," Aydelott said, adding that they consider themselves Murfreesboro residents.

Aydelott adds that they should be included in the corporate boundaries since they already use many of the city services including the use of parks, roads and shops.

A state law passed in 1998 states that a city has the right to annex land within its urban growth boundaries. Landowners within or boarding the area then have 30 days to challenge the annexation, which the community plans to do, along with taking legal action, according to Alea.

While the residents would be taxed at the same rate as Murfreesboro residents, they would not receive all of the same services, such as sewer. Currently, the Blackman community pays county taxes and receives county services. If annexed, the community would also be pay-

ing city taxes.

"The bottom line is, we made a conscious decision to live outside of the city," Alea said. "That's a choice I can make as a homeowner, and a choice I can make as a citizen of the state of Tennessee, and it's a choice I can make as a citizen of the USA," Alea said.

"This is the clearest example of taxation without representation. We cannot allow this in America," said Ben Cunningham of TennesseeTaxRevolt.com who attended last night's commission meeting.

"You don't have a voice here," he said, pointing to the city hall building.

A similar situation occurred earlier this summer when Murfreesboro city annexed the Brinkley Road community, which is also suing. "This is a day of reckoning in the sense that it has been coming for long time and it just finally got the point where we needed to address it," Aydelott said.

The planning commission has had three public hearings, a work session and three neighborhood meetings, as well as prepared a plan of services, said Aydelott.

A special commission for the city created a plan of when and how to annex the area and then proposed it to the planning commission for vote. It was scheduled to be proposed to the planning commission in August, but was postponed until last night. Now the issue will be taken to city council for the final vote.

False Alarm



Photo by Josh Gross | Contributing Photographer

The Keathley University Center was evacuated Wednesday for 15 minutes due to a false fire alarm. Campus police and the Fire Marshall responded to the alarm, but a report as not yet been written.

"I have no idea what caused it," Jeff Whitewell, textbook manager at Phillips Book Store, said. "We were just told to evacuate the building. We evacuated everyone from the store and closed the gates."

Students and faculty, including Dwight of Dwight's Mini Mart (left), waited outside the doors after evacuating the building at 11:20 a.m. until it was cleared at 11:45 a.m. The KUC Grill resumed food service immediately afterward.

Locals get deep over joe

By Mary Thorsby
Contributing Writer

Fascinating conversation is the theme of a new group in Murfreesboro called Conversation Café, which invites people to talk over a cup of coffee.

Angela Ott, a hostess at Espresso Joe's, is responsible for bringing the national philosophy group to Espresso Joe's last August. Conversation Café began in 2001 in Seattle, Wash., and has been spreading to new areas ever since.

The group's main objective is to "learn something that you haven't thought about before," Ott said. "Sometimes the conversation goes where I don't expect. It's great."

Past topics for discussion include personal freedom, marriage and self-actualization, though the conversation may begin with one subject and quickly evolve into another, Ott said. She added that there are no requirements to join.

When Ott moved to Tennessee, she said she missed the Conversation Café held through a Unitarian church she attended in Florida.

"Everyone has the need to talk to other people in a meaningful way, and it was something

that I really missed," Ott said.

She soon became a member of the Unitarian Fellowship of Murfreesboro, and felt that the church "was open to new activities to make the community come together."

The UFM gladly accepted the Conversation Café idea and allowed Ott to advertise the idea on their Web site, <http://www.unitarianfellowshipofmurfreesboro.org/>. Although the church sponsors the group, Conversation Café itself stands alone.

"That's what I love about the Conversation Café—it has nothing to do with [religion]," said Katara Seifert, a regular attendee.

Seifert said she is not interested in joining the UFM, but enjoys the café.

When picking the right spot for the meetings, Ott said she liked the idea of them being held at Espresso Joe's because of its cozy atmosphere and fair trade coffee.

A meaningful conversation can be good for anybody but specifically to a college student because it is "a scheduled time for synthesis, which is hard when you are a student and you have a lot of ideas thrown at you everyday," Ott said.

According to Ott, her personal goal with the Conversation Café in Murfreesboro is "to help

people learn to listen and share ideas without trying to convert anyone, just to simply communicate."

By attending the Conversation Café, participants are under no commitment. In fact, joining in the conversation is optional. One week there might be eight people, while another there may be up to 40.

"You never know who you will meet or what ideas you will come across," Ott said of those in attendance.

There is a particular process to the Conversation Café. In "round one," each person speaks briefly about the topic with no feedback or response. During round two, each person deepens their own comments or speaks to a newfound meaning. Round two is then followed by open conversation. The discussion closes with each person stating what was meaningful to them during the dialog.

Ott said she thinks a Conversation Café held by students on the MTSU campus would be a great idea.

Conversation Café meets at Espresso Joe's, located at 1443 Memorial Blvd., Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. For more information on attending the café or beginning another, email Ott at angelaott@msn.com.

Staff warms up to new Banner software system

By Bryan Magdal
Staff Writer

The initial deployment phase of the new Banner system at MTSU, designed to streamline numerous administrative tasks at the university, was completed in July of 2006, but challenges still exist.

Banner is a suite of software components produced by SunGuard Higher Education. It includes programs for managing student accounts, human resources and payroll, as well as many other financial and managerial operations associated with a higher learning institution.

At MTSU, the Banner software will eventually replace several older software systems currently in use in human resources and finance. The plan is to consolidate and integrate the functionality of the older programs into a single system. However, only some of the new pieces are in place at this time.

Some users of Banner software at MTSU have expressed

mixed feelings over certain features, while others have found the transition to be challenging, due mainly to the fact that it is an entirely new system.

"You can get a little frustrated not knowing where to go in Banner when you were used to the old system," said Academic Support Executive Aide Pat Grimes.

"But it's a learning curve," she added. "You have to use it."

At present, the Banner Finance component is in use in her department, while other departments have received training, or will be trained in the future as more of the Banner system is implemented. This includes components that will eventually handle human resource functions, financial aid and student records.

Overall, Grimes did not consider it difficult getting used to the parts of Banner currently in place. She said that she was pleased with Banner's performance.

"To me, this is a much better system than the older system we

had in place," she said.

Kathleen-Ann Kano, secretary to the vice-president for Student Affairs, has also been using the Banner system and understands that some people may not have warmed-up to the new software yet. She said that sometimes people are resistant to change, but that if Banner were not an improvement, MTSU would not be migrating to it.

"I thoroughly like the new system," Kano said. "There's been a lot of training and some of it may have seemed overwhelming, but I don't have problems with Banner and the training was very good and very explicit."

She said that Banner is very different from the old system in the way it presents the information and that difficulties could arise if someone was used to finding things in a certain way in the old system.

"Once people get used to it they won't have any problems with it," Kano said.

Self-defense: Classes at Rec

Continued from 1

In addition to preparing individuals in self-defense, MAC also reaches to the community beyond MTSU, earning the club some positive attention.

"Last semester the club received four awards, including Most Outstanding MTSU Slub and an award for community service," Mendoza said. "We are incredibly proud of our community service. We always try to do many different fundraisers, like Habitat for Humanity and the HELP project."

MAC offers the self-defense training Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 p.m. to 9:30 on the second floor of the Student Recreation Center. The first class is free, and subsequent classes are \$7 per month or \$15 per semester.

"Tuesday nights are bigger nights and Thursdays we usually see the hardcore members," Colepaugh said.

Stable: Attacker's court date set for October 26

Continued from 1

"It does look like, if not both, at least one of the suspects had been drinking alcohol," said Peaster said.

The series of events, in addition to medical information, will be taken into account if additional charges for either Vinson or Morrison are made, Peaster added.

"We will forward the information on the case to Judicial Affairs and assist them in any way," Peaster said. "We do not know the actions that will be taken against Vinson or the fraternity by Judicial Affairs."

MTSU Judicial Affairs Office was unavailable for comment.

"Right now, we are cooperating with all authorities and working with them thoroughly and completely," said Ross Johnson, president of Beta Theta Pi. "We are waiting on further investigation before we release details of the event."

Vinson's court date is set for October 26.

If Morrison's condition continues to improve, he will be transferred from intensive care to a private hospital room, McCreary said.

"Doctors remain hopeful that any damage will be minimal," McCreary said.

CRIME BRIEFS

Staff Reports

August 31 - 7:53 p.m.
Ben W. Campbell, 46, Murfreesboro, Tenn., was halted and frisked for public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

8:43 p.m.
MTSU Boulevard
Adam Gregg, 18, Nashville, Tenn., and Joe Had not, 18, Bartlett, Tenn., were cited for underage consumption and were given citations, and were escorted back to Cummings Hall Room 404.

10:48 p.m.
Normal Way
Jeremy Godwin, 31, Smyrna, Tenn., was arrested for first drunk driving offense.

Sept. 1 - 1:40 a.m.
Womack Lane Apartment L
Allison Vaughn, Manchester, Tenn., and Kent Kesler, Jr., McMinnville, Tenn., were both charged with drunk driving after vehicle jumped a curb.

8:54 a.m.
Greenland Drive
Craig D. Smith, 19, Springfield, Tenn., was given a state citation for failing to obey a traffic control device and for failure to comply with financial responsibility law.

9:22 p.m.
Davis Science Building parking lot
Jesse D. Myrick, 22, Murfreesboro, Tenn., was arrested for public intoxication and simple possession of marijuana.

4:32 p.m.
MTSU Campus
Company advised someone had thrown a rock through the Soccer practice field shed window.

Sept. 4 - 8:22 a.m.
Brittany M. Tabor, 18, Manchester, Tenn., was given a state citation for speeding. She was traveling 56 mph in a 30 mph zone, and she was cited for failure to comply with financial responsibility law.

2:29 p.m.
Alumni Drive
Company advised the rear window of her vehicle had been broken out during the night, but that nothing appeared to have been taken.

6:10 p.m.
Beta Theta Pi House - Fraternity Row

Murfreesboro Police Department called and requested for a unit to respond to Greek Row. They advised for fire department and paramedic units for unknown problem, possible assault. The victim appeared to be passed out. Mr. William "Bill" Vinson, 22, Cummings, Ga., was arrested and charged with aggravated assault with a weapon. His bond was set at \$10,000.

6:40 p.m.
Homecoming Circle
Unit 115 was advised over radio of dumpster fire at Womack Lane apartments. Unit arrived at scene of fire. Murfreesboro Fire Department was notified.

Sept. 3 - 7:47
Scarlett Commons apartment 8
Someone called on the radio call box and said their car had been broken into. I tried to respond on the call box and give them the number to dispatch, and they didn't respond.

10:11 a.m.
Scarlett Commons apartment 1
Subject called and requested an officer in reference to some vandalism done to one of the female residence.

2:40 p.m.
MTSU Police Department
Subject came to the station to fill out a report in reference to harassment.

4:10 p.m.
James E. Walker Library
A student was in the rest room at the library when her book was stolen.

7:19 p.m.
MTSU Police Department
Subject wants a report because his vehicle has been broken into twice. Damage was done on drivers side door where someone attempted to break in. Nothing was stolen from the vehicle was parked in two different locations near Corlew and Faulkenberry drive.

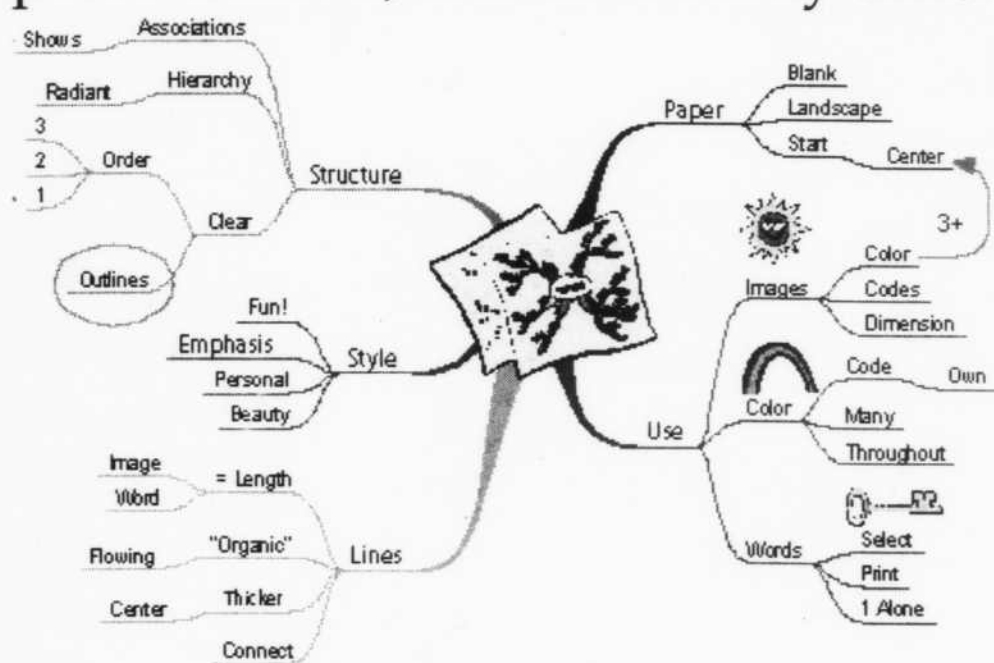
7:47 p.m.
Mass Communications Building
A bicycle was stolen between Sept. 5 and 5.

11:03 p.m.
Corlew Hall
Andrea Merrell, 20, Flintville, Tenn., was drunk in public and requested an ambulance to room 421.

FREE WORKSHOP

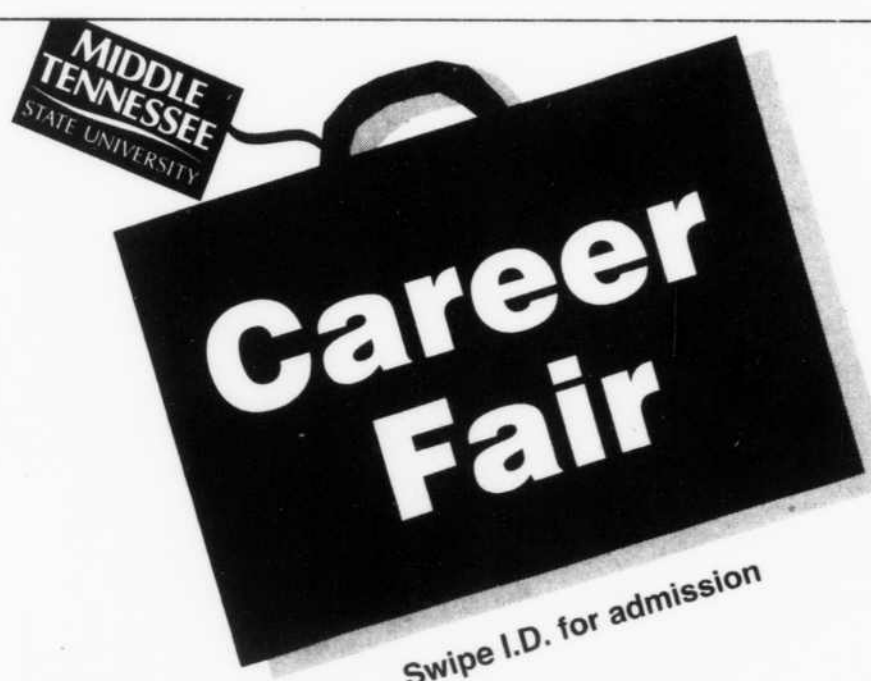
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Sponsored by the MTSU Career and Employment Center

To: MTSU Community

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

Re: Call for Proposed Rules Changes

Date: August 31, 2006

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

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

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

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

Thank you.

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Community remembers Sept. 11 at festival

By Brittany Washburn
Staff Writer

The Rutherford County Sheriff's Department is hosting a fair in remembrance of those who died Sept. 11, 2001.

The fair will begin at 5 p.m. and continue until 8 p.m. Monday at the Rutherford County Sheriff's Department, located at 940 New Salem Hwy.

"The theme this year is an old fashioned community fair," said Sgt. James Harrell of the Rutherford County Sheriff's Department.

The fair will begin with a flag ceremony in dedication and remembrance of the victims. A special guest will also perform the national anthem, but the sheriff's department has been asked to keep his or her identity private until the fair.

"There will be static displays from the law enforcement, military, fire [department] and first responders," Harrell said. The static displays will include military equipment, a helicopter, patrol cars, an ambulance and a fire truck.

"There will be activities for children and adults," said Harrell. Beta Theta Pi will set up an inflatable slide for children, and two bands will perform at the fair.

The Rutherford County Pet Adoption and Welfare Services, PAWS, will bring animals and provide information about adopting pets. Local businesses and churches will set up displays for public viewing; the churches will provide activities as well.

For additional information, contact the Rutherford County Sheriff's Department.

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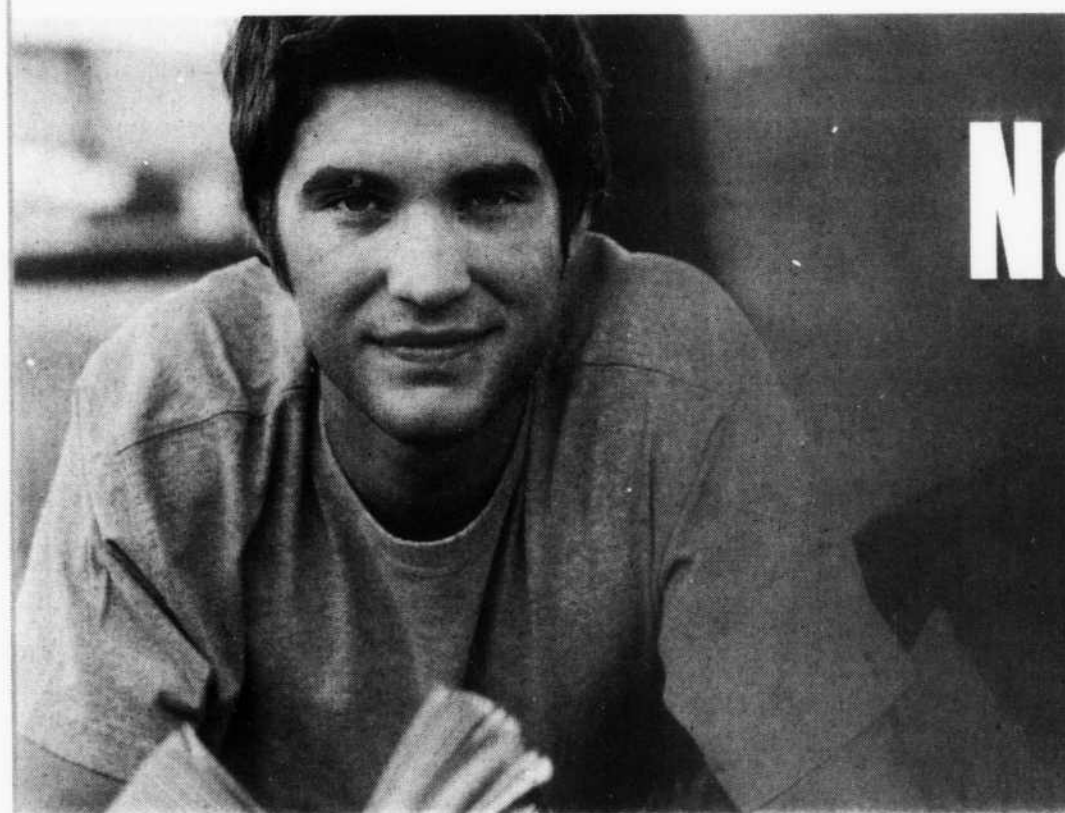
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OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board

Blackman in unfortunate spot, but long trial would be harmful

Last night's decision about the annexation of the Blackman community made for a sad display of small-town government. The political voice of 900 Rutherford County citizens was silenced with a single motion. Even though the community is small, especially in comparison of the rapidly expanding city of Murfreesboro, why should their right to be heard be waived? The most tragic aspect is that they could only represent themselves through a silent protest and a Web site. Now the city faces a potentially long-term legal quagmire of lawsuits since the community will most likely sue to be heard because they have no other means of expression. The tragedy of the decision becomes even more apparent when considering that lack of representation will extend for another two years. The City of Murfreesboro just had its general election Aug. 3, which means that the members of the Blackman community did not and will not have proper representation. We sympathize with the Blackman community in their effort to be recognized by the city, however state law is on the city's side. The law states that Murfreesboro has the right to eliminate islands within their city boundary. It does seem suspicious how the island was created when a developer for the city bought the surrounding land. Is it possible that the quickly-expanding city of Murfreesboro would do this purposefully? While this is unfortunate for the members of the Blackman community—with the wide sweeping changes including additional taxes, school redistricting, new political representation (when none was needed before) and aberrance to city regulations—the City of Murfreesboro must maintain cohesion within its borders. State law is tragically on the city's side. While we can't blame them for suing and trying to make their voices heard, it is in everybody's best interest for this matter not to be stretched for years on end. The 900 members of the Blackman community should consider the overall damage that a long trial would incur on themselves, Murfreesboro and Rutherford County.

Celebrities should use fame to help those less fortunate

Celebrities are used to being pampered. Even celebrity pets are used to living the high life. Stars are always showing off their latest "bling," multi-million dollar mansions and fancy sports cars just because they can. Last week, at the MTV Music Awards, celebrities walked away with items such as expensive jewelry, liquor and designer make-up and clothes. Pop sensation Jessica Simpson even walked away with a \$50,000 car. All I can say is, "Unbelievable." Funny how the people that don't need the free handouts are the ones that are continually on the receiving end of such things. Out of all the people in the world, celebrities are able to afford luxury items that most people only dream of owning, yet they are often bragging about the free jewelry and clothes that designer "so-and-so" gave them. The rich seem to be getting richer, while the poor are becoming poorer. Celebrities are known for their lavish spending habits. I mean, they wouldn't be called superstars if they couldn't flaunt their expensive purchases. I think its part of the job description in being a celebrity—must be able to spend insane amounts of money on items that you will use maybe once or twice. It seems that celebrities aren't ashamed of the fact that they are given thousands and thousands of dollars in free stuff each year. It seems as if they expect to be given expensive things just because their name is well-known. What about the people that truly can't afford things such as clothes, much less designer fashions? There are people everywhere



Lucky One
DeAnn Curry
Staff Columnist

you look that can't afford to buy their children clothes from discount stores, much less spend \$500 on a pair of jeans that will be worn rarely, if more than once. I know there are many celebrities, such as Angelina Jolie, who do a considerable amount of charity work, and I have a remarkable amount of respect for those. Jolie, a United Nations Goodwill Ambassador, is an especially noteworthy woman because of all the charity work that she has done in Cambodia, the country from which she adopted her son. Not many celebrities are willing to unselfishly give up their time and money to help people that are truly in need of everyday-living items. Most celebrities tend to only do charity work so it will make them look good in the eyes of the public, not because they are truly interested in the well-being of someone who is living at or below poverty levels. Superstars need to take a step back and realize their lifestyle is one that most people would love to have and not take their fame and fortune for granted. Maybe instead of taking so much, they should give a little more to people who actually do need those clothes and shoes. DeAnn Curry is a senior mass communications major and can be reached at jdc3v@mtsu.edu.

Fear itself becomes the newest form of terrorism

Last Friday, my father moved to London. No, not London, Tenn.—London, England. I am excited and sad, anxious and apprehensive, but most of all, I am scared. Of everything. Leave it to the media to start an all-out attack on flying and terrorism the week before my father moves out of the county. Things that were once held so near and dear to American affection are being spoiled with threats of death, terror and suffering. A vacation is a complex bombing plot. A visit to a cherished landmark is surely the next target. It seems every thought of an escape has to be riddled with fear, and for once in my life, I'm happy to be in the shadow of ruralism and a lack of excitement. It is such a shame that the most sought-after locations in the world reek of CNN's next terrorism headline. Americans—or maybe just me—are beginning to flock to the safety of dullness. While the commercial packaging of terrorism may be a new concept, the relationship between flying and violence is not. The first hijacking occurred in Peru in 1931—as long as we have gotten up, someone has tried to bring us back down. It is a legitimate threat, yes, but I can't help but wonder how much of my panic is necessary and how much is a result of the fear-eliciting media. Our impending doom, thanks to CNN, is color coded. Green, live your life freely. Orange, look over your shoulder. Red, stay inside and lock all the doors. As an aspiring journalist, I can see the frenzy behind closed doors at the news rooms each time a terrorism plot is unfolded. "They were



Kvetch A Break
Sarah Lavery
Staff Columnist

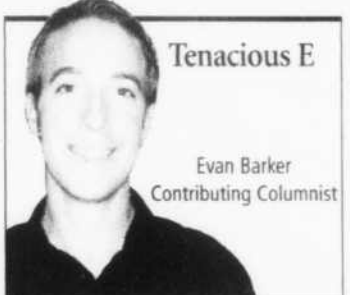
gonna make bombs on the plane? With liquids they were allowed to bring on? This is too good to be true! Quick, raise the alert to red, cue the fear music and think of a catchy title for the segment. Go, go, go!" It's always something. The Cold War, World War I, II and soon III, the school-shooting trend, the bird-flu epidemic or terrorism; will the future of the world ever not be in immediate risk? During the school-shooting frenzy of the 1990s, I had the same reaction to the media. Incidents such as Columbine High School in Colorado were tragedies, but the overkill of coverage for the massacre, with every detail broadcasted ad nauseam, forever ingrained the killers' names and objectives into the American consciousness, and spawned several other attempts at fame by disturbed teenagers. Wasn't that what the killers wanted? And now, in panic-stricken America, a plot doesn't even have to be executed to accomplish mass hysteria. I'm sure part of the terrorists' prerogatives is murder, but more than that, they are seeking to unravel the most powerful country in the world. I can't help but to think that the weave is beginning to come loose.

Aug. 24th, a Northwest Airlines flight bound for India returned to Amsterdam after a few Middle-Eastern passengers began passing around cell phones. A British Airways flight from London to New York was rerouted when a cell phone was heard ringing in the back of the plane shortly after take-off. A Delta Airlines flight made an emergency landing when a passenger spent an unusual amount of time in the bathroom, and, that same day, an American Airlines flight from Dallas to Miami turned around when the crew discovered the lavatory door was locked with no one inside; upon further investigation, the bathrooms were proclaimed empty and harmless. Not to say the threat isn't real or effective safety measures are unnecessary, but fear is becoming synonymous with the average citizen. Politicians use fear to secure votes—and to attempt to raise approval-ratings; stereotyping Middle-Easterners puts a dark mark on the never-ending battle against racism in our country and terrorists are given an easy break. Is it a nearly 'impossible to carry out' attack on an extremely powerful country? "Nah, let's just lock the door to the airplane bathroom and turn up the volumes on our cell-phones—it has the same effect." I guess I don't have a choice. I have to visit my father, and I suppose I'll have to get over my newfound phobia of flying. Can't I just take a bus?

Sarah Lavery is a sophomore mass communications major and can be reached at sl2s@mtsu.edu.

Resist temptation to whine; cherish learning, instead

The launch of a new school year is an exciting time. Freshmen, relish this feeling. It is one of the only times you will ever have this chance; new friends, new opportunities, a new step forward on your life's journey. Everyone else, you're incrementally closer to that elusive degree in your chosen field. In short, it's the dawn of a new day, so give it everything you have. That said, I feel it important to warn you of a dangerous temptation: mediocrity. Everyone knows what this sounds like. If you've taken the infamous university requirement, Comm. 220, it's the guy who whines about the mere three speeches required, even if that is a very light workload. It's those people in the KUC complaining that school takes up "too much free time." If you've never set foot in the library except to pick up smart chicks, or if you feel school takes up time you'd rather spend killing brain cells, this is you. This may come as a shock to some of you, but, in the immortal words of everyone's generic



Tenacious E
Evan Barker
Contributing Columnist

high school football coach, quit whining and rub some dirt in it. There was a time when a university degree was an Odyssean undertaking—not a slip of paper awarded after four years of simply sliding by, but a token of enlightenment. If you're one of the aforementioned lackeys, you're helping to drag the bar down. If the proverbial bar is low enough to crawl over, what good are our degrees? If the collective student body does not challenge itself to achieve more than the bare minimum, the MTSU degree will be commensurate with a degree from Schlitzky's Deli. As students, as active seekers of enlightenment, it is our responsibility to become well-rounded scholars, not bodies in a chair for four years. If you're among the crowd

who believes that the degree, the slip of paper, is the be-all end-all of academia, reevaluate your position. The degree is a signal to employers that you've hunted for enlightenment in your chosen field for four years. It implies that you are a well-rounded, open-minded sponge who soaks up all available viewpoints and information. The slip of paper is worthless if you haven't the brain to match. You owe it to yourself and our community to push harder, to take more classes, read more books and hear more speakers. Yes, it is an extremely hard undertaking. I can easily understand how one can be daunted by all of this work. For those of you who work actual jobs outside of school, it's even harder. Still, fight the good fight. Resist the temptation to whine about assignments that are easily within your power to complete. Remember that every general class comes with a gargantuan workload, but the people that graduate generally land fabulous jobs. There is something to say for being pushed to your limits for four years. If you

have a voracious appetite for knowledge, any of your professors will gladly feed it. If you still like to look the slacker, read on your own. A friend of mine is never without a book. Last summer, he kept a beat-up copy of Shakespeare's sonnets in his back pocket every day. This way, you can feed your brain without looking like a nerd, if you feel that "book learnin'" cramps your style. Instead of bringing Cosmo to Starbucks, pick up "The Devil Wears Prada" (yes, this is an actual book.) At least you'll get something more than what color belt is in style, or what color lipstick Lindsay Lohan wore to McDonald's last month. Next time you feel like complaining because your professor gave you real, actual work, remember that they're probably trying to help you grow a brain, and not just cutting in on your alcohol time. Instead, relish the opportunity to learn something. And please, quit whining and rub some dirt in it. Evan Barker is a junior music performance major and can be reached at ehb2d@mtsu.edu.

Advice help student parents survive college classes

By Brian Morrison
Daily Texan (U. Texas)
(U-WIRE) AUSTIN, Texas - School is starting. Lately, that has come to mean more for some parents: It can be their first day of school, too. Over the last half of the 20th century, as higher education became more accessible while the mean age of new parents fell, more and more college students began studying while raising kids. According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, almost one-third of women will become pregnant before the age of 20. A lot of people have to choose between college and pregnancy. It is a hard decision with no right answer. More people are beginning to choose both. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, more than 15 percent of college students have children, while 10 percent of those are single parents. One bizarre aspect of being a student-parent is the difficulty in finding good advice. I had no idea how hard it would be to be a full-time student and a full-time parent. I wish there had been some Cliffs Notes

available for being an undergraduate father, some advice for new and expecting parents. For example: get into a day-care program as fast as possible. I signed up for a UT day-care program six months before my son was born. Now he speaks and walks, and he's still on the waiting list. It is possible to go to college after the kids start kindergarten, around age 5. It's a plan that seems to be gaining steam, with at least 1 million more students over the age of 25 projected to enter the collegiate system in the next nine years. Know ahead of time that your schedule rests in the hands of an unreasoning, drooling crap machine. It doesn't matter when you want to do homework. It only matters when the kid wants you to do homework. When classmates start talking about how much fun they had over the weekend, you should smile appropriately - because that's how you ended up with two kids by senior year. "My wife is having a baby" is a fantastic way to reschedule a test, and a better way to get out of work. In fact, the federal government grants you the right to leave your job, with pay, to

care for a family member. Enacted in 1993, the Family Medical Leave Act provides that if you've had your job for a year, they owe you your job when you get back. This is the closest thing you get to a vacation until your kid turns 22—presuming he or she doesn't need you to watch his or her child while in class, since they couldn't find a day care. Also, stock up on medicine, because you're going to be sick all the time. In the last month I've had everything from pink eye to a bronchial infection. Of course, I can't take a sick day. I'll need them for taking care of my children on their sick days. The most important thing I know about being a parent while in college is this: Other parents are crazy. No two people will agree on the proper way to raise a kid 100 percent of the time, even if married. All you can really do is come close to an understanding. But some people are down-right freaky. If a 4-year-old can put down the Coke he was drinking and then ask to be breast-fed, he can wait until office hours are over.

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FEATURES

Silk, garbage bags come together as art

By Lisa L. Rollins
News and Public Affairs

Nearly two decades of costumes and wearable art created by Lori Gann-Smith, an assistant professor in MTSU's speech and theatre department, will be on display Sept. 1-28 at the Alabama A&M University Art Gallery (AAMU) in Norman, Ala.

"Most people on earth wear some type of clothing on a regular basis from within the first hours of birth until they die," Gann-Smith said of her current exhibit of art apparel, which features pieces made of hand-dyed silk and peacock feathers as well as wire and garbage bags.

"In fact, most of us are laid to rest in clothing," she added. "For centuries, clothing and adornment have been the indicators of status and station, of conformity and rebellion, of tastes and attitudes. Acceptance, disguise, impression and recognition all hinge in some degree upon what we wear."

"The show is basically a retrospective of my work, representing pieces that I designed and created as far back as during my undergraduate days here at MTSU and throughout my professional career," said Gann-Smith, an award-winning artist and costume, makeup and props designer.

"The work includes both costumes designed for specific shows, as well as pieces of wearable art," she continued. "Most of the wearable art is very whimsical and playful, as I see what we wear as a reflection of our personalities or character, and I tend toward the whimsical and playful."

Gann-Smith—whose on-campus office also displays a few of her costume designs—said that although she had not pursued a formal exhibit opportunity, when the invitation to show her pieces was extended by AAMU, she was delighted to share her art with others.

"Some of the wearable pieces reflect my interests in playing with what is acceptable and unacceptable in our culture and what things should be like as opposed to the way they are," she noted. "I think there is a very fine line between clothing and costume."

Related to this, the Murfreesboro-based designer remarked, "As we examine clothing, or costume, throughout history, we see patterns in 'periodic style' and identify the clothing of

an age with that prevalent style and not by the individual's choice of what he or she would like to have worn. People wore what was proper ... or improper. Even 'radicals' had a dress code that set them apart and served as an identifier of their politics, religious preference or some other predilection."

Gann-Smith, who maintains a private studio where she creates art apparel and commissioned works, has designed for a number of producing organizations and production companies, including the Georgia Repertory Theatre, Arkansas Repertory.

Nashville Shakespeare Festival, University of Georgia, MTSU Theatre, Georgia College and University and the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts.

Additionally, her work is featured in the 2005 comedy "Tom and Francie," a full-length film recently released on DVD.

Gann-Smith also garnered a Tennessean Theatre Award for Best Costume Design for the designs she created for the Nashville Shakespeare Festival's production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

For more information regarding Gann-Smith's exhibit at AAMU, including directions to the gallery, please contact the gallery directly at 256-372-4072.



Photos submitted by Lori Gann-Smith
These examples of Gann-Smith's work were made using a variety of materials, including hand-dyed silk, feathers, wool, rayon and plastic garbage bags. She said her unique designs reflect her interest in experimenting with what is considered acceptable and unacceptable in modern culture.

For centuries, clothing and adornment have been the indicators of status and station, of conformity and rebellion, of tastes and attitudes.

Lori Gann-Smith
Assistant speech and theatre professor



Prof takes family values to middle schools, Middle East

By Emily Duck
Contributing Writer

Every day, students walk to classes in buildings all over campus, but how many make the treacherous walk to the Ellington Human Sciences Building, sitting like an island on the other side of Middle Tennessee Boulevard?

For Sandra Poirier, an associate professor of family and consumer sciences whose office is in Ellington, this trek, ending in a climb up a massive flight of stairs, is a normal part of the daily routine.

She's not alone. The human sciences department houses the fourth largest major on campus, and is also a center for a variety of other majors, including nutrition/dietetics, interior design, fashion merchandising and family and consumer sciences education, which Poirier advises.

This area of study is a smart career choice, not only because teachers in this field are in demand nationwide, but because an FCS teaching license can open many doors for its holders, Poirier said.

"A teaching license is an insurance policy," she said. "There will always be an option for using it in some fashion."

Poirier entered family and consumer sciences field at an early age, when she was asked by her middle school teacher to attend a state meeting being held for FCS. After this event,

she continued her involvement in high school and obtained a scholarship to attend college to major in FCS Education.

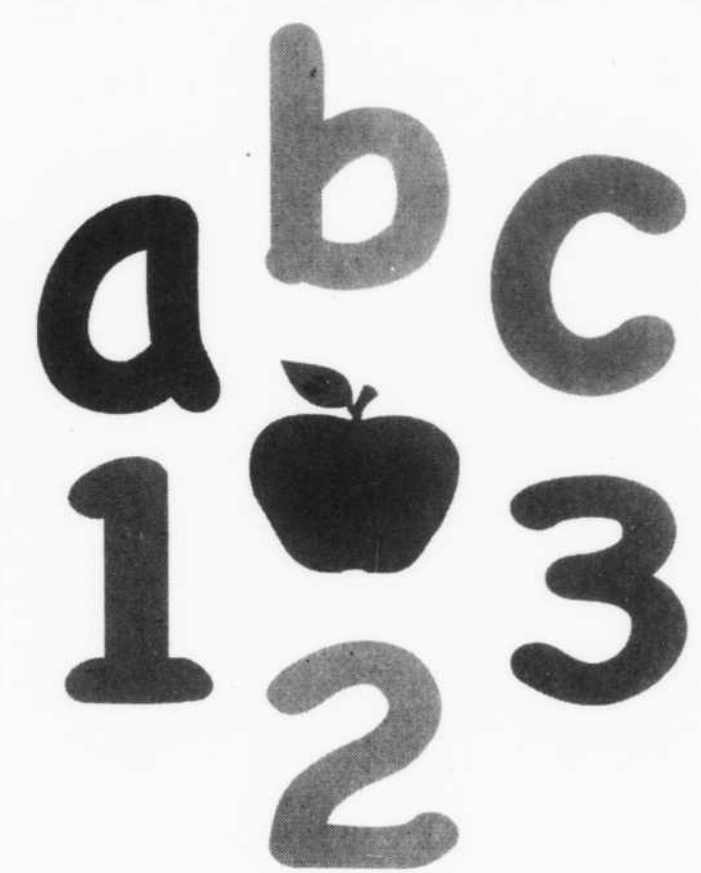
She earned her undergraduate degree from Florida State University and graduate degree from the University of Arizona. Since attaining these degrees, she has worked in several different areas and fields of study related to FCS.

Her career has included teaching everything from pre-kindergarten to university-level classes, working in an extension office in Canada where she wrote a column about FCS for its online newspaper and being one of 23 people selected from around the world to travel to the Arabian Peninsula in 2002 to set up an FCS college for females.

"It was an honor to be asked to work with these girls interested in family and consumer sciences, and to be able to share my knowledge and empower others to maintain a better quality of life," she said.

When majoring in FCS education, students get a sample of all areas offered in the human sciences department. If a certain subject within the department strikes a chord with the student, they are encouraged to minor in that area.

Poirier's career followed a similar path. When she was younger, she said she enjoyed the human and child development program, which lead to teaching Head Start and kinder-



Graphic by Kirstin Johnson

garten. As her education progressed, though, she became more interested in the nutrition area, which she pursued, eventually becoming a licensed dietitian and member of the American Dietetics Association (ADA).

Poirier said she loves the field of teaching because it is an opportunity for her to apply her knowledge, both for students' benefit and because the skills she uses in FCS can be applied

at home in helping to raise her family, which she said is a major part of her life.

She is married and has two grown children: a son who lives in Columbia, S.C., and a daughter who lives in Los Angeles, Calif.

Her life isn't consumed with practicing the family sciences she teaches her students, though. When she escapes from the university, Poirier said she enjoys traveling to new

places—as long as they are sunny—and particularly loves going to beaches.

Her longtime love of boating and fishing, especially in the Florida Keys, is rooted in childhood, when she would go fishing daily immediately after school let out. She also enjoys reading, particularly books by anthropologist Margaret Mead.

Even away from the classroom, Poirier can't give up using her expertise entirely, since another of her favorite activities is cooking.

"Being in the kitchen and cooking is just a great way for me to unwind after a long day," she said.

With Florida, Arizona, the Philippines and the Middle East on the list of places Poirier has resided, one might wonder what brought her to MTSU. Surprisingly enough, one of the biggest attractions was being close to her family members, who reside throughout the Southeast.

Work was another big draw because she said she sees the university's human sciences department as progressive and with an increasing potential for growth during the coming years—growing, but not perfect.

Some improvements Poirier said she would like to see in the future for the department include offering more online courses for students balancing work and school, allowing FCS education majors to add endorsements such as child care

labs and food production in summer classes and, most importantly, expanding Ellington.

"We are a quickly growing out of our building, especially since the human sciences department does house the fourth largest major on campus," she said. "We are beginning to need more classroom space to accommodate the growing number of students majoring in our department."

Poirier said she encourages anyone interested in FCS to pursue a career in the field because there is a critical shortage nationwide of FCS teachers, especially at a university level, though jobs can be obtained in basically any area.

Good benefits, a ten-month work period, optional summers off and schools willing to pay for teachers to pursue advanced schooling are some of the main benefits she said should entice students into FCS. Although non-constrictive hours and financial benefits are great benefits of the job, Poirier said her favorite part of teaching is extending her knowledge to the students who are the future of her career.

"I enjoy my students and having the opportunity to be part of this extremely important time of their lives when they are developing professional skills and acquiring knowledge that will impact them in a positive way for a long time," she said.

SPORTS

Blue Raiders look to continue on-field success at Maryland

By Casey Brown
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee accomplished something last week that hadn't been done in five years by winning its home opener against Florida International. The Blue Raiders, however, figure to have a much more difficult task this weekend when the team travels to take on ACC foe Maryland. Can MT come up with a repeat performance, or will the Terrapins bring the Blue Raiders back down to earth?

When Maryland runs

At Tuesday's press conference, MT head coach Rick Stockstill described Maryland as a team that would try to "beat you up on offense."

The Terps rely heavily on the ground game, as evidenced by Saturday's defeat of William and Mary, in which Lance Ball and Keon Lattimore combined for 175 yards and three touchdowns on only 28 carries.

The Blue Raider run defense was as good as advertised last week, allowing only 97 yards on the ground. Linebackers Justin Rainey and J.K. Sabb led the defense with six tackles each, and both will be counted on to try to slow down the powerful Maryland rush.

The smart money says it probably won't be enough.

Advantage: Maryland

When Maryland passes

The Terps are not known for possessing a high-octane aerial attack. Fifth-year senior quarterback Sam Hollenbach performed erratically in 2005 and didn't exactly light up the defense of the I-AA Tribe last week, finishing 9-of-15 for 153 yards.

Maryland will continue to feel the loss of star tight end Vernon Davis, who went to the San Francisco 49ers as the sixth overall pick in this year's NFL Draft. The Terrapins also lost their second-leading receiver, Danny Melendez.

After allowing FIU to drive the length of the field in the first series last week, the Blue Raiders clamped down on the Golden Panther passing attack, forcing standout quarterback Josh Padrick into a pedestrian performance.

If MT does pull the upset, a timely interception could be the catalyst. Look for Stockstill to apply a bit more pressure on the pass rush.

Advantage: MT

When MT runs

As predicted in last week's preview, the MT rushing offense carried the team, but while Eugene Gross turned in a merely satisfactory performance, the real surprise was DeMarco McNair. The junior burst out after spending a year on the sidelines, breaking a long run in the first series and finishing with 51 yards on just nine rushes. The Blue Raiders did a decent job on first down with the run, but Gross is built to be a north-south back and needs to realize that to avoid losing yardage on the outside.

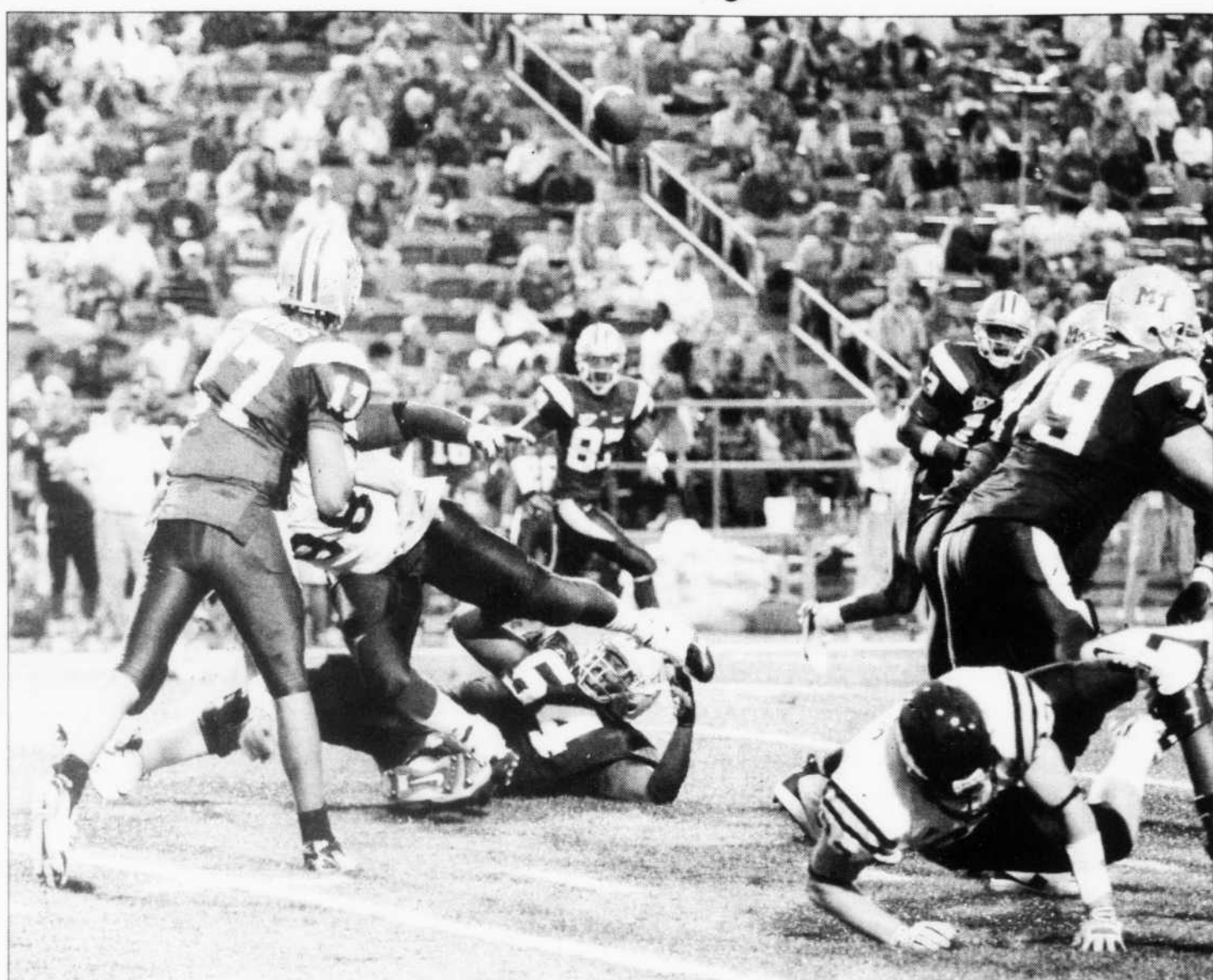
Running against FIU is a walk in the park, however, compared to trying to gain ground against the Terps. Gross and McNair had holes to run through last Thursday, but those same holes will close a lot quicker this time. Maryland will miss the services of All-American linebacker D'Qwell Jackson, last season's ACC Defensive Player of the Year, but the team has plenty of able bodies to step up and will be able to focus on stopping the run thanks to the inefficiency of the Blue Raider passing attack.

Keep an eye on Gross's yards-per-carry average over the course of the game. If the senior can consistently pick up four yards per rush, MT may have a modicum of success on offense.

Advantage: Even

When MT passes

Simply put: Look out. Quarterback Clint Marks was



MT Quarterback Clint Marks throws a pass in Thursday's winning game against Florida International. The team went up 7-6 on an extra point by kicker Colby Smith.

uninspiring against FIU, completing 10 of 17 passes for 79 yards and an interception. The Blue Raiders weren't able to move the ball through the air, which resulted in a woeful 2-of-14 performance on third-down conversion attempts.

After playing an integral part in the offense in practice, no one called tight end Stephen Chicola's number on Thursday. Neither Chicola nor Clint Corder (the other tight end) had a catch, which leads one to question the play calling. Lacking a true downfield threat, MT has to find a way to get those two involved in short routes to move the chains. Maryland is not an easy team

to pass against and should create a bevy of problems for Marks and his inexperienced receivers. The Terps only allowed 184 yards per game through the air last season, and MT will be lucky to reach that number.

Marks will likely be doing plenty of scrambling with the likes of Conrad Bolston, Trey Covington and Jeremy Navarre chasing him; all three are capable of breaking through the offensive line for a big sack. The secondary is also solid with leading tackler Josh Wilson returning at cornerback and junior Christian Varner at free safety.

Not to place the kiss of death so early, but this matchup could get ugly unless Marks can work with his safety valves at tight end.

Advantage: Maryland

Special Teams

Colby Smith giveth, Colby Smith taketh away. After missing a 41-yard field goal, the senior contributed the game's pivotal play, nailing a 79-yard punt that changed the context of the game and gave MT the edge in field position. For his efforts, Smith earned SBC Special Teams Player of the Week honors.

Maryland has a solid kicker of its own in punter Adam Polesh, an All-ACC Second Team selection who averages 43.6 yards per kick. Senior Dan Ennis went 17-for-25 last season on field goals, but was only 3-for-8 from more than 40 yards.

Blue Raiders fans are still waiting for McNair — or for that matter, for anyone — to break a

big return. It hasn't happened yet, and it won't happen this week either. The Terps' return game is equally futile, however, with only Wilson having any experience in punt returns.

Advantage: Even

Coaching

Week one of the Great Stockstill Experiment was largely a success. The Blue Raiders didn't do much on offense, but the defense performed well. Perhaps most importantly, MT drastically cut down on organizational penalties and looked disciplined on the field, as promised. Still, their anemic offense is a bit of a concern. If the Blue Raiders can't move the ball against Florida International, how do they expect to do so against an ACC opponent?

On the other sideline, Maryland head coach Ralph Friedgen has been at this for a while. His teams have suffered from crises of identity and character the last two seasons, however, underachieving their way to consecutive 5-6 seasons. After a relatively tough game against a I-AA opponent, you can bet that the Terps aren't overlooking the Blue Raiders.

Advantage: Even

Intangibles

Is this really a new era for Blue Raider football? The final score may not have reflected as much, but MT looked like a different team in the opener. The considerable buzz and growing support around campus should serve as motivation to pull an upset. The

question is, have the Blue Raiders already filed this one away as a loss and started salivating at the idea of trouncing one-time rival Tennessee Tech next week?

Maryland has the advantage of playing at home, but must be careful not to look ahead to West Virginia. The Terps have to be getting frustrated with mediocrity, and last week's uninspiring win couldn't have done much to boost confidence.

Advantage: MT

The skinny

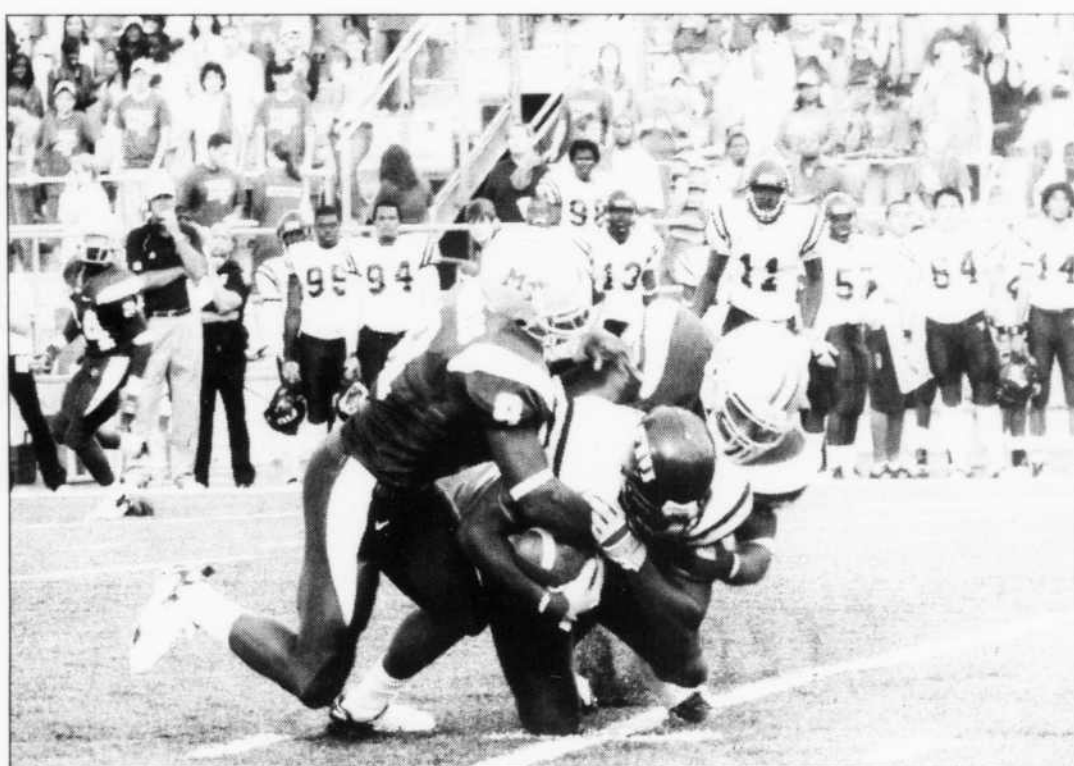
Does anyone actually expect Middle Tennessee to win this game? Blue Raider fans are looking ahead to the renewal of the TTU rivalry, and Maryland has to be concerned about traveling to Morgantown to face the Mountaineers.

Truth be told, Marks will probably be sacked more than eight times, the tailback duo of Ball and Lattimore will probably get their share of yards and the Blue Raiders will probably realize that even playing a middle-of-the-pack ACC school is a different world from competing in the Sun Belt.

Still, this game has intriguing upset potential. If Gross can get on track and Smith can pin the Terps back deep, MT has a chance. It's difficult to imagine either team piling on the points. Either way, the new-look Blue Raiders will keep this close.

The pick:

Maryland 17, MTSU 10



Two Blue Raiders tackled a Florida International ball carrier at Thursday's season opener. The game offered revenge for MT, who was defeated by FIU in the last game of the 2005 season.

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Continued from last column

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GENERAL

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Continued from last column

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Continued from last column

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Exposure

Mounted Shooting a unique cultural experience

By Ryan Carreon

Contributing Writer

Looking for something different to do this weekend?

The final stages of the Tennessee State Cowboy Mounted Shooting Championships will be held at the MTSU Miller Coliseum starting at 10 a.m. from Sept. 6-10. This unique cultural experience is very different from the restaurants and live music to which Murfreesboro is accustomed. Plus, it's free.

"I never thought I would do anything like this," said participant Jim Dippel. "My wife and I saw an ad in the paper and decided to give it a try, and now we're absolutely hooked."

Mounted shooting has been around since the 1800's, and involves a rider on horseback who runs a course while shooting two single action pistols, one at a time, at a series of ten stationary targets.

Animal lovers can breathe easy, as the sharp shooters are aiming at nothing more than balloons on sticks. The guns themselves are each loaded with five blank black powder .45 caliber rounds. Per regula-

tion, the pistols must be single action, meaning the rider has to pull back the hammer before each shot, adding to the skill and precision necessary. Strict safety rules are also enforced by an official designated to load and unload each participant's gun before and after each ride.

Riders are scored on time and accuracy, with each missed balloon resulting in a five second penalty. Other penalties include five seconds for dropping a pistol and ten seconds for running the course wrong. Perhaps the worst infraction of falling off your horse, commonly referred to as the "kiss of death," garners a whopping 60-second penalty. A typical run can take anywhere from 15 to 35 seconds depending on the layout of the course and the skill level of the rider.

Courses consist of ten balloons, five white and five red, which provide for hundreds of unique combinations. An average course has the five white balloons spaced out across the arena while requiring horse and rider to make sharp turns and sudden stops. The last half of the course is typically organized with the five red balloons in a straight line and is commonly referred to as "the run down" because it allows for the



Photo by Greg Johnson | Staff Photographer
Kenneth Howell takes aim at a balloon target in Miller Coliseum during the Mounted Shooting Championships.



Photo by Greg Johnson | Staff Photographer
Brian Gesuero, dressed in full cowboy get-up, shoots a single action pistol as another participant in last weekend's round of the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Championships. Competition continues this weekend at Miller Coliseum.

horse to run at full gallop. During a typical run, participants would complete the first five balloons, round a barrel, and switch guns before they begin the run down.

Another element that is unique to the sport is the rule stating that all participants must dress in period attire. Participants' attire usually involves collarless shirts and button up pants for the men and full length dresses for the women. The horses also get in on the fun with authentic period saddles and pouches.

"Most people dress down to the smallest detail, including having custom made belts and guns," said events announcer Mike Garland.

The event draws a large amount of participants, some from as far away as Arizona and California.

Participants will compete in six stages over three days with each division's winner announced after the final stage. There are three divisions, men's, women's and senior's, but on occasion there is also a standstill division for children.

There are no regulations as to what type of horse may be used, and there are typically a wide variety of horses at each event.

"We have everything from Quarter Horses to Tennessee Walking Horses," Garland said.

The Miller Coliseum is located at 304b West Thompson Lane, Murfreesboro. Doors open at 10 a.m. and admission is free to all. For more information visit www.mtsu.edu/~tmc or www.cowboy-mountedshooting.com or call 615-494-8962.

From the Editor-

EXPOSURE is back! We are returning as an insert next week, with a variety of engaging and informative articles by our staff throughout the semester. So watch for us each Thursday. Next week: dining in downtown Murfreesboro, an interview with the recently signed Bang Bang Bang and more.

Kristen Teffetteller

STAFF

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Reid Conner

Dara Tucker
Rodney Henry
Ryan Carreon

Rangebar Merani
Aiken Pierce

A Fitting Tribute: "United 93" Premieres at the KUC Theater

By Dara Tucker

Contributing Writer

On the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the MTSU Films Committee will premiere the Paul Greengrass-directed film, "United 93," at the Keathley University Center Theater.

The film, which depicts in documentary style the events leading up to the crash of the hijacked plane, will be shown at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. from Monday, Sept. 11 through Wednesday, Sept. 13, and on Thursday, Sept. 14 at 9:30 p.m. only. Proceeds will benefit the Flight 93 Memorial Project, a fund established to memorialize the heroes of Flight 93.

Stacy Williams, who heads MTSU's Film Committee, said that the decision to show the film on the anniversary of Sept. 11 was made in an effort to pay tribute to the day's heroes and to remind viewers of the sacrifices they made on that fateful day.

There were questions regarding the appropriateness of premiering "United 93" on the five-year anniversary of the crash.

"This is not an attempt to exploit this anniversary, but an effort to commemorate this important day by paying homage to the lives of the men and women who died with bravery that day," Williams responded.

"The film is tastefully done, and was fully supported by relatives of the passengers and crew members. Many of the victims' family members appeared in this film meant to honor the men and women of Flight 93," she continued.

Because MTSU's Film Committee's fall schedule began the week of the Sept. 11 attacks, members felt it would be fitting to begin the year with this film rather than showing an unrelated film, and ignoring the anniversary altogether.

To the question of whether the student body is ready to view this film with memories of the actual event so fresh in many people's minds, Williams responded:

"Choosing to view the film is optional, but after five years, I feel that people should recognize the day in history and let it impact them how they wish."

"United 93," which premiered nationally on April 28, recounts the acts of bravery that took place on the ill-fated flight believed to have been headed to either the White House or the Capitol Building.

It tells the harrowing tale of a group of strangers who chose to take action against the plot of four hijackers who intended to use the plane as a missile to destroy buildings of great national significance, causing untold human loss.

This tale of heroism and courage pays tribute to the selfless sacrifices made by the 40 men and women who fought a battle in the sky to save countless lives in a field just east of Pittsburgh, in Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

"It tells the story of the day through a meticulous reenactment of events in the belief that by examining this single event, something much larger can be found—the shape of our world today," said director Paul Greengrass.

The film, unanimously hailed by critics as one of the best films of the year, presents the events of Flight 93 in a straightforward documentary style, avoiding the pitfalls of political maneuvering or lofty sermonizing.

Passengers are depicted, not as exalted heroes, but as ordinary citizens who chose to exhibit extraordinary courage in the face of incalculable danger.

Although the film is being shown free of charge, the Film Committee strongly suggests that viewers come prepared to make a monetary donation to the Flight 93 Memorial Project.

For more information on the Flight 93 Memorial Project, visit <http://www.honor-flight93.org>. For information on MTSU Films Committee's fall schedule, visit www.mtsu.edu/~events.

THIS WEEK IN THE 'BORO EVENTS CALENDAR

THURS., SEPT. 7

Bluesboro Rhythm & Blues Club—
Trailer Choir; 10:30 p.m., 21+, \$7

The Boro—Lady Fest Music City
Benefit; 18+; \$5

Liquid Smoke—DJ & Jazz; Jazz @ 9
p.m., DJ @ 11 p.m.; 21+, no cover

Mellow Mushroom—Penguin

Murfreesboro/Rutherford County
Center for the Arts—"Once Upon a
Mattress;" 7 p.m.; \$10 for adults,
\$8 seniors/students, \$5 for children
under 12

Tennessee Miller Coliseum—2006
Cowboy Mounted Shootout Eastern
U.S. Championship Show, 10 a.m.,
free

Wall Street—Ascent of Everest CD
Release party; 18+; 9 p.m.

FRI., SEPT. 8

Bluesboro Rhythm & Blues Club—
Rick Brantley Band (8 p.m.);
Burning Las Vegas (10 p.m.); 21+,
\$7

The Boro—Happy Birthday Amy;
18+; \$5

Empty café—John Bohannon &
"The World Famous" Will Fancher; 7
p.m., KUC Lounge (part of the
"Friday Nights @ the KUC" series)

Liquid Smoke—Shawn Finn; The
Felt Shims; 9 p.m., 21+, no cover

Mellow Mushroom—The GO Show

Murfreesboro/Rutherford County
Center for the Arts—"Once Upon a
Mattress;" 7 p.m.

Tennessee Miller Coliseum—2006
Cowboy Mounted Shootout Eastern
U.S. Championship Show, 10 a.m.,
free

SAT., SEPT. 9
Bluesboro Rhythm & Blues Club—
Utopia; 10 p.m., 21+, \$7

The Boro—The Compromise and 44
Vegas; 18+; \$5

Murfreesboro/Rutherford County
Center for the Arts—"Once Upon a
Mattress;" 7 p.m.

Tennessee Miller Coliseum—2006
Cowboy Mounted Shootout Eastern
U.S. Championship Show, 10 a.m.,
free

Wall Street—Glossary and Velcro
Stars; 18+; 9 p.m.

SUN., SEPT. 10

The Boro—Acoustic Nights; 18+,
no cover

Mellow Mushroom—Steve
Holeman Acoustic

Murfreesboro/Rutherford County
Center for the Arts—"Once Upon a
Mattress;" 7 p.m.

Tennessee Miller Coliseum—2006
Cowboy Mounted Shootout Eastern
U.S. Championship Show, 10 a.m.,
free

MON., SEPT. 11

Baldwin Photographic Gallery—
Keith Carter Exhibit premiere

Bluesboro—Acoustic Jam; 9 p.m.,
21+, no cover

KUC Theater—"United 93;" 7 &
9:30 p.m.

Liquid Smoke—Monday Night
Football

TUES., SEPT. 12

Bluesboro—Live Rock Band
Karaoke w/ The Dixie Wrecks; 9
p.m., 21+; sign-up @ 7:30 p.m., \$7

Liquid Smoke—Mike Jones Quartet;
9 p.m., 21+, no cover

KUC Theater—"United 93;" 7 &
9:30 p.m.

WED., SEPT. 13

Bluesboro—MTSU Homecoming
Party w/ Joe Harvey; 9 p.m., 21+, \$7

The Boro—Acoustic Night, 18+, no
cover

Liquid Smoke—Luke Pruitt; 9 p.m.,
21+, no cover

KUC Theater—"United 93;" 7 &
9:30 p.m.

Something to think about...

Beginning Sept. 8, MTSU Programming and Events will begin hosting a musical series entitled "Friday Nights at the KUC."

John Bohannon and "The World Famous" Will Fancher will be performing an acoustic concert, known as empty café, beginning at 7 p.m. This acoustic set will be held in the Keathley University Center lounge, located directly across from the second-floor KUC Grill. Free refreshments will be available for all who attend.

"There was a need for entertainment," said Greg Feiling, coordinator of Student Programming.

"This is something for the MTSU students to enjoy."

Student Programming and Events is comprised of four different student groups: Films, Concerts, Ideas and Issues and Fine Arts. "Friday Nights at the KUC" is presented by the Concerts division, and will continue throughout the year.

For more information on what is happening on campus through Student Programming and Events, check out their Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~events.



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