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PRESIDENTS HOME

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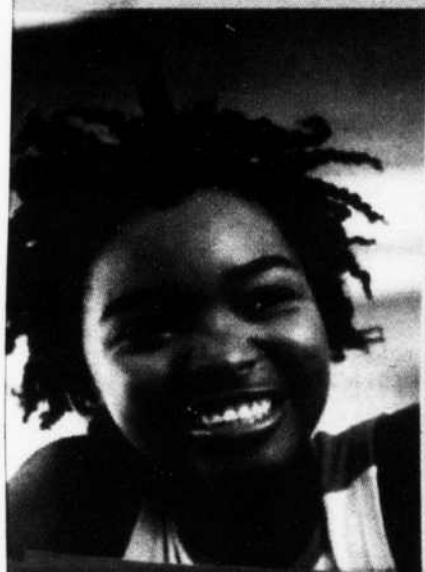
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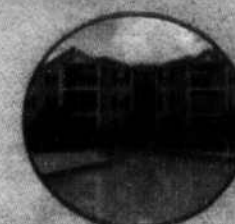
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SIDELINES

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

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From the Executive Vice President and Provost

Welcome to MTSU!



MTSU is a great university and we are so glad that you've chosen to make it your university. By joining the MTSU community, you will have many opportunities in and outside of class. We encourage you to become involved and take advantage of these opportunities. Plan your time so you can meet your academic goals as well as participate in clubs, student government, intramurals, and become a Blue Raider supporter.

At MTSU, academics are a priority. We have an accomplished and distinguished faculty who will challenge you. They are eager to assist you as you develop your critical thinking skills and gain knowledge in general education and in your major. You will want to take advantage of our technology-rich campus and the many library and student support services that are available to you. You may want to explore our experiential learning program or one of the many other enrichment opportunities that engage you in learning beyond the classroom.

A college education is an investment that will serve you and your family far into the future. I encourage you to make a serious commitment to be the best scholar you can be and to learn as much as you can through the many resources available to you. We are glad to be with you on this exciting journey to the future.

Kaylene A. Gebert, Ph.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost

From the SGA President

Dear Incoming Freshman Students,



On behalf of the Blue Raider community, I would like to be the first to welcome you to MTSU, and congratulate you on your decision to attend one of Tennessee's finest institutions. You will accompany more than 23,000 of your peers in classes this fall, making this institution the largest undergraduate college in the state of Tennessee.

As a new student, I charge you to become involved in some aspect of campus life outside of the classroom. I am a firm believer that students becoming involved on campus not only assists new students in meeting new people, but also increases their chances of graduating.

Whether it be in the Student Government Association, Greek Life, MTSU Athletics, Philanthropic Organizations, Religious Organizations, or Intramural Sports, all provide students with "hands-on" experiences that have proven to be useful in life after college. MTSU is very unique in that we offer approximately 300 different organizations, thus it is very easy for you to find the one that best fits you.

As your Student Body President, I want to help you anyway I can to ensure a very educational and enjoyable college experience. The Student Government Association Office is located on the second floor of the Keathley University Center in room 208. I have an "open door" policy, so feel free to stop by at anytime. Always remember to be loud, be proud, and be Blue!

Chassen M. Haynes
SGA President

~ M T S U ~ MYTHBUSTERS

By Michelle McCrary
Assistant News Editor

If you lose a tooth, a fairy will fly into your room during the night and leave a quarter underneath your pillow. The Easter bunny leaves children baskets full of chocolate

and candy. These are familiar myths as we are growing up. During a student's time here at MTSU, legends and myths are heard everyday. Allow Sidelines to set the record straight on a few that you might have already heard during CUSTOMS.

MYTH: A dead horse is buried on campus behind the Cason Kennedy Nursing Building.



Photo by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor

REALITY: There was a horse buried behind the Nursing Building, but he was moved once the expansion project began in fall 2005.

Renee Dunn, secretary for the Horse Science program said that the Tennessee Walking-Horse known as "Wilson's Allen" is buried at the Tennessee Miller Coliseum off Thompson Lane.

Wilson's Allen was first buried in 1938 at Steve Hill's Stables in Beech Grove, Tenn. He was moved to MTSU in 1975 for reburial. Expansion work at the nursing building caused his body to be exhumed the second time for relocation.

"He's buried out in front of the Coliseum, and there is a grave marker next to the sidewalk," Dunn said.

Bob Womack, a member of the advisory board of the Walking Horse Owners Association, said he considers Wilson's Allen to be "the true father of the breed" of Tennessee Walking horses.

MYTH: The blue horseshoe in Walnut Grove brings good luck to those who touch it.



Photo by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor

REALITY: For MTSU, a recently introduced tradition is the lucky blue horseshoe. The horseshoe, which was made by the concrete management department, is located between Peck Hall and the Cope Administration Building and was put in place last spring semester.

The plaque on the horseshoe claims it is "a symbol of tradition and good fortune for Middle Tennessee State University," and that "those who touch the blue horseshoe will be granted good luck."

The success of this new legend has yet to be seen.

MYTH: If a student steps foot into Davis Market, they are cursed to never leave Murfreesboro. To break the curse, one has to urinate or have sex on the geographical center of Tennessee.



Photo by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor

REALITY: We believe that this myth is defunct, as there is no way to prove if it is true or not. We have never heard of anyone who has been living in Murfreesboro after trying to leave who can trace this decision only to entering the Market.

However, if one believes the legend and is concerned, the geographical center of the state is located a mile from Middle Tennessee Boulevard, on Old Lascassas Pike, and is indicated by a stone monument and plaque.

MYTH: If you live on campus and your roommate commits suicide, the university will give you a 4.0 automatically.



Photo by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor

REALITY: According to Laura Sosh-Lightsy, assistant dean of judicial affairs and mediation services at MTSU, the university will provide counseling and assistance but won't give you a 4.0 GPA.

"I heard that when I went to college and continue to hear it," said Sosh Lightsy. "That is not a rule I can find in print anywhere."

However, in the tragic event that a resident's roommate does commit suicide, the university will help in any way it can, she says.

"The university is going to step in and assist that student in any way they need," Sosh-Lightsy said. "But the university will not give them straight A's."

Rover transports local population

By Faith Franklin
Staff Writer

Murfreesboro's new transit system, Rover, began running in late April as result of the city's growing population.

Rover is not the typical transit system, hints its name. According to Murfreesboro Transportation Director Bob Nugent, the city wanted something new and different.

If the system's name does not capture attention, the bright green buses will.

"This is a new service and we wanted it to be seen, so we went with something green," Nugent said.

Rover runs on a "pulse system" every half hour, which begins at 6 a.m. and runs until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rover has nine buses in all, with six operating at a time. Each bus contains 16 seats and places for six wheel chair passengers. The buses are fueled by low sulfur diesel, a clean diesel fuel.

All Rover drivers are required to have a Commercial Drivers License with a class P endorsement, which allows them to chauffeur over 15 passengers.

The riding cost for Rover is \$1 and exact change is necessary. Senior citizens over 65 and students ages 6-16 ride for a discounted fare of 50 cents.

As for restrictions, no food, drinks or smoking are allowed on the buses. Any packages brought on the buses by passengers must be

maintained by them and they may not take up seats for potential passengers.

The process of getting Rover ready for operation was "a long drawn out one, [with] lots of details," Nugent said, who was hired for the project last February.

The buses cost around \$700,000 dollars. Nugent estimates that the operation will cost anywhere between \$800,000 and \$1 million yearly to build up bus stop shelters.

Fifty percent of the funding is federal, 25 percent comes from the state and the other 25 is local.

Rover services MTSU's campus at two locations - the Highland route and the Mercury route, which passes by the Wal-Mart on North Rutherford Boulevard.

"[Students] living on and around campus can travel to the mall, Wal-Mart, Target and Kroger, in [addition] to lots of different things around the city," Nugent said.

Rover can benefit the whole community of Murfreesboro. "The city's quality of life can be [increased] especially [the citizens] who do not have a vehicle or a dependable one," he added.

By the end of April, Rover was servicing about 230 passengers daily. "We have everything from young mothers, attorneys, the elderly and those with disabilities who are benefiting from [Rover] every day."

Nugent said the city is open to expand Rover based on request and the amount of riders. ♦

Stops along the six major routes

■ **Memorial Route** — Murfreesboro Housing Authority, Westbrook Towers, St. Clair Senior Center, Sports*Com, VA Medical Center, and U.S. Post Office.

■ **Highland Route** — Public Square, Middle Tennessee Medical Center, Middle Tennessee State University.

■ **NW Broad Route** — Murfreesboro Housing Authority, Westbrook Towers, St. Clair Center, Boys and Girls Club, Stone River Plaza and Social Security Office.

■ **Old Fort Route** — McFadden Community Center, Tennessee Technology Center, Stones River Mall, Wal-Mart and Target.

■ **Mercury Route** — Patterson Park Community Center, Middle Tennessee State University and Wal-Mart.



Photo illustration by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor

■ **South Church Route** — McFadden Community Center, Tennessee Vocational Rehabilitation and Training Center, Draughtons Junior College, Rutherford County Adult Education Center, U.S. Post Office, Linebaugh Public Library, City Hall and Public Square.

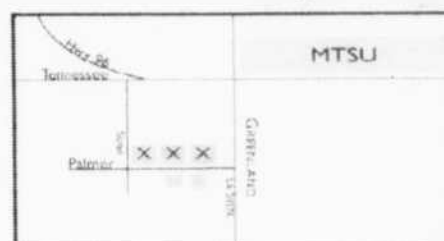
For a complete listing of routes, times and stops go to:

<http://www.murfreesborotn.gov/news/roverbegins.htm>

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Eat, drink and be ~~poor~~ merry

Murfreesboro may not have the most noteworthy places to shop. It might not boast the most exciting nightlife or the most exhilarating atmosphere. But there is one thing that always impresses even the most small-town-phobic of visitors.

The city is packed-full of restaurants.

MTSU students will most likely frequent nearby La Siesta and Camino Real, and, despite how tasty that enchilada you've had everyday for a month may be, it's always fun to stretch your wings and see what else the city has to offer. From Middle Eastern to Mexican, Japanese to good 'ole Southern meat-and-three, Murfreesboro has it all.

By Sarah Lavery

Features Editor

La Siesta (1111 Greenland Dr) and Camino Real (105 Lasseter Drive)

Every day on the MTSU campus, students make difficult decisions. What should my major be? Should I go out tonight or study? Should I tell my parents about the DUI charge or not? Without a doubt, one of the most pressing decisions involves choosing between La Siesta and Camino Real – both are located within walking distance of campus, both have tasty, well-priced Mexican food and both have a fun, student-driven atmosphere. Usually, the decision rests in whichever happens to be closest at the moment. La Siesta has famously quick service, amazing chicken chimichangas and a fun patio area. Camino Real's fare is often less greasy and its quesadillas unmatched.



Carrabba's (544 N Thompson Ln)

Maybe most of us can't afford to dine at fancy Italian restaurant Carrabba's everyday, but when you've saved up a bit of money, man, is it worth it. The bread with olive-oil and pepper dipping sauce is to-die-for, the menu chock-full of mouthwatering choices, and the dim-lighting and lavish decorations make Carrabba's perfect for impressing a date, or, at the very least, throwing away some of your loan money.



Chef Wang's (1145 N.W. Broad St.)

This exquisitely decorated building offers a massive buffet line and a made-to-order hibachi bar, not to mention \$1 shots everyday. It's a college student's dream – Chinese food and cheap liquor.

Coconut Bay Café (210 Stones River Mall Blvd.)

Live music and drinks that rival a small pond make it no wonder bikers, middle-aged couples and students alike flock to Coconut Bay Café. The food's not too shabby either.

Milano's (179 Mall Circle Drive)

Milano's has crisp, white table cloths and flowers at every table, the waiters wear ties and the wine-selection looks like something out of a Godfather movie, but the prices still suit a college student's budget. A perfect place to take a date or just go out to eat with friends, Milano's boasts an impressive menu with a Mediterranean influence.

Bangkok Café (315 Robert Rose Dr.)

In their new location, Bangkok Café lost some of its downtown-charm but gained a lot of sophisticated appeal. The restaurant is now much



more stylishly decorated, the Thai food just as good, but the atmosphere a little less casual. Bring a date and try the pad-Thai and Thai tea.



Clay Pit (1813 Memorial Blvd.)

Murfreesboro's long-awaited Indian restaurant doesn't disappoint. The authentic Indian cuisine from the Punjab province, including Tandoori meats, curried foods and warm, fluffy bread called "naan" is sure to appease even the most die-hard Indian-food fans.

Toot's (60 N.W. Broad St.)

Toot's is, hands down, the best place to get a beer, eat some wings and watch some football. It's also, however, the best (and only, really) place to fulfill your strange craving for frog legs. The entire restaurant is smoking, there's rarely no wait to be seated and it's definitely not the best atmosphere for making your date swoon, but it is, undeniably, fun.

Pei Wei (1911 Medical Center Pkwy STE A)

P.F. Chang's fans rejoiced when their beloved chain came to Murfreesboro, except this time, in the form of daughter company Pei Wei. The food is almost every bit as good as P.F. Chang's famous lettuce wraps and sophisticated Chinese fare, but with college student prices.



Photos by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor

Sushin (528 N. Thompson Lane)

Perfect for novice sushi-lovers and those who can down sashimi without thinking twice, Sushin's menu includes dozens of unique rolls (including the delicious Murfreesboro roll) and traditional dishes like chicken and shrimp teriyaki, edamame and seaweed salad. The crunchy shrimp role is so good even the biggest cooked-fish-enthusiasts can't deny its deliciousness.

Gyro Café (225 N. Rutherford Blvd.)

This counter-service Mediterranean cuisine right by campus is one of only two places in Murfreesboro you can find falafel, and it's so good you'd swear you were in Israel (or, at least, a really good falafel stand in New York). The service is incredibly friendly and fast.



Tarboosh (1621 Middle Tennessee Blvd.)

It would be easy to drive right past Tarboosh, but if you enjoy deliciously-flavored tobacco or Middle Eastern dishes, don't. This hooka lounge provides a fun, relaxed atmosphere, dozens of tobacco flavors, as well as items like falafel, babaganoush and hummus, you're unlikely to find anywhere else in the area.

Kleer Vu Lunchroom (226 S. Highland)

Who knew fried cornbread was so darn good? This locally famous meat-and-three looks like a hole-in-the-wall but tastes like soul food done right. Great fried chicken, barbecue, Southern vegetables and famous hot water cornbread served fast (and cheap!) whenever you want it.

Reviews continue on page 8

Mellow Mushroom (2955 S. Rutherford Blvd.)

There were swarms of Mellow Mushroom fans gathered outside the entrance when their beloved pizza joint came to Murfreesboro just last year. The hippie atmosphere—with a psychedelic bus in the middle of the dining area—unique pizza and good prices make this a perfect college hangout.

Gyro Café (225 N. Rutherford Blvd.)

This counter-service Mediterranean cuisine right by campus is one of only two places in Murfreesboro you can find falafel, and it's so good you'd swear you were in Israel (or, at least, a really good falafel stand in New York). The service is incredibly friendly and fast.

Jim and Nick's BBQ (436 N Thompson Ln)

Barbecue fans can rejoice in Jim and Nick's, a country-themed restaurant with unbelievable brisket, fried green tomatoes, coleslaw and spicy baked beans. And for on-the-go students, there's actually a drive-through.

**Marina's (125 N. Maple St.)**

The baked ziti is good, but what's even better is Marina's downtown location and cozy, romantic ambience. Somehow, it's perfect for a casual lunch for friends (the lunch menu offers the same great items at much lower prices) and an evening on-the-town with your main squeeze.

Panera Bread (1970 Old Fort Parkway.)

Mouthwatering, fresh-made bread, soups and gourmet sandwiches abound in Panera's modern, relaxed atmosphere. Prices aren't too bad—more than your ordinary PB&J, but you get what you pay for—and the outside eating area, cushy booths and lofty decorations make Panera a great place to study with friends.

Demos' (1115 N.W. Broad St.)

Voted best Murfreesboro restaurant 10 years in a row, Demos' is often packed with students, families and well-to-do citizens alike, all clamoring to get a taste of its well-priced menu that boasts dishes varying from delicious steak to Mexican spaghetti. Each day, the restaurant features a lunch special that won't run you over \$5 and tastes much better than usual dollar-menu fare. Unless you enjoy sitting in a packed waiting room, though, try to go during off-hours (not on weekends or between 6 and 7 p.m.).

**Calypso Café (1432 Memorial Blvd.)**

New-to-Murfreesboro Calypso Café has unique Caribbean cuisine such as Martinique Callaloo, black beans and roasted chicken, as well as a laid-back, tropical atmosphere. The muffins, topped with roasted coconut, will put your mom's biscuits to shame. Not to mention, the Calypso's menu is much more healthy than the college-student standard of ramen noodles and McDonald's.

Dining on Campus

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Walker Library offers on-campus sanctuary

By Will Cade

Staff Writer

It's the end of the semester yet again, and I have procrastinated once more. This time it's a paper – something to do with the weather patterns of Colonial Williamsburg – which means I have to go to the library, our glorious James E. Walker Library.

I'm not what you would call well versed in the library sciences. The Dewey Decimal system looks like quantum physics to me. Everyone else walks around the library as comfortably as if they were in a grocery store, while I shudder beneath the mammoth eight-foot book shelves.

But I've got a paper to write and less than 11 and a half hours to write it. As I find out, thanks to a friendly visit with the Reference Desk [the wooded island to the right once you walk into the library] I don't really have to know every nook and cranny of the building to pump out this paper: a Reference Librarian can help me with just about anything I might need.

"We want the library to feel welcoming," says Sharon Parente, team leader for reference and instructional services at the Walker Library. "We don't want students to feel intimidated."

Parente says and the staff helped design the library to be user friendly for students. This consideration came out in the design of the building.

"It was designed to be noisier on the bottom floor," explains Parente. "There's no way to completely eliminate noise, and some people like white noise to study. The further up and further back you go in the library, the quieter it gets."

"For many students, this is probably the

largest library they've ever been in, so we gave all three floors the same layout," she says.

Anyone strolling through the four-level repository of knowledge can notice that each of the book areas, or "bookstacks," start out the same way: you first walk past rows of computers on your right and left, which are then replaced by bookstacks. Reference computers sit invitingly around the sixth row or so, to help those students like myself who need to look up the call number for the third time, and then study desks line the outer edge.

If you look towards the ceiling, you probably won't be blinded by the light. The library has special, non-glare lighting, Parente says. For those students who have been switching between staring at books and crying tears of frustration, this appealing light may just be a life-saver.

Along with these architectural comforts, the library offers student-centered services as well.

On the first floor next to the Periodicals, which houses over 3,900 magazines and journals, the Copy Center offers copying at 10 cents per page.

"The Copy Center isn't as popular since we instituted free printing in the library, but we want to discourage people from using a razor to cut articles out of magazines," she jokes with a serious undertone.

In case you can't take full advantage of the free printing policy – say, because your print job has been "queued" for the past thirty minutes or the printer is smoking – each bookstack has a phone that dials directly to the Reference Desk when you pick it up. This innovation makes being a good student as well as a good samaritan



Photo by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor

The James E. Walker Library provides students with a variety of resources and support options for all kinds of coursework.

much easier.

The Service Desk on the first floor also allows students to check out dry erase markers for boards in the glass-enclosed study rooms throughout the library.

With my deadline approaching, however, I'm most interested in the library's Research Coach program, which the reference personnel institutes the two weeks before mid-terms and finals. Students can sign up for 30 minute sessions with a personal research coach.

"Many students might not be all that familiar with this program," Parente says, describing me perfectly. "We say 30 minutes, but we take as long as need be. We didn't want to scare anyone off by saying it

would be an hour. They might think they'll be locked up with a librarian."

If I can't make it in to the library, I can always call a reference librarian from home. They will guide befuddled students through the library's Voyager Web site, which catalogues over 120 electronic databases encompassing the majority of information any major might require.

Some majors, however, don't seem to require so much research.

"I've never had research papers," says Chelsea Gray, junior Spanish major. "I've only checked one book out of the library so far and it will probably be my last."

See Library, 16

Now that you're at MTSU, don't lose HOPE

By Faith Franklin

Staff Writer

Now that you have graduated high school, many of you are entering MTSU as freshmen with a Tennessee Lottery Scholarship to your name.

"[Students] should feel very honored, they should be proud of themselves, [and] excited because they are getting a won-

derful opportunity," said Melanie Collins, Student Aid Office coordinator.

This is a fantastic program, and most states do not offer their students this [type of] opportunity so they should take advantage of it and be very proud that they are living in a state that will offer this scholarship.

There are few things that every Tennessee Lottery Scholarship

holder should be aware of before beginning their first classes.

First, the HOPE Scholarship is awarded by the Tennessee Students Assistants Corporation to high school graduates who meet the standard requirements.

A student must be a Tennessee resident who graduated from a Tennessee high school, with a minimum ACT score of 21 or SAT of 980, or a cumulative final

grade point average of a 3.0, weighted.

Students who were home schooled in Tennessee can only qualify by their ACT score, which must be a 21.

A GED applicant has to have a minimum score of 525 and a 21 on the Act or 980 on the SAT.

Enrollment in a Tennessee college or university that is accredited by the Southern Association

of Colleges and Schools is required for the scholarship.

Students must also enroll within 16 months after they graduate from a Tennessee high school or completion of Tennessee home school or GED program.

In order to receive their scholarship, a student's enroll

See Hope, 16

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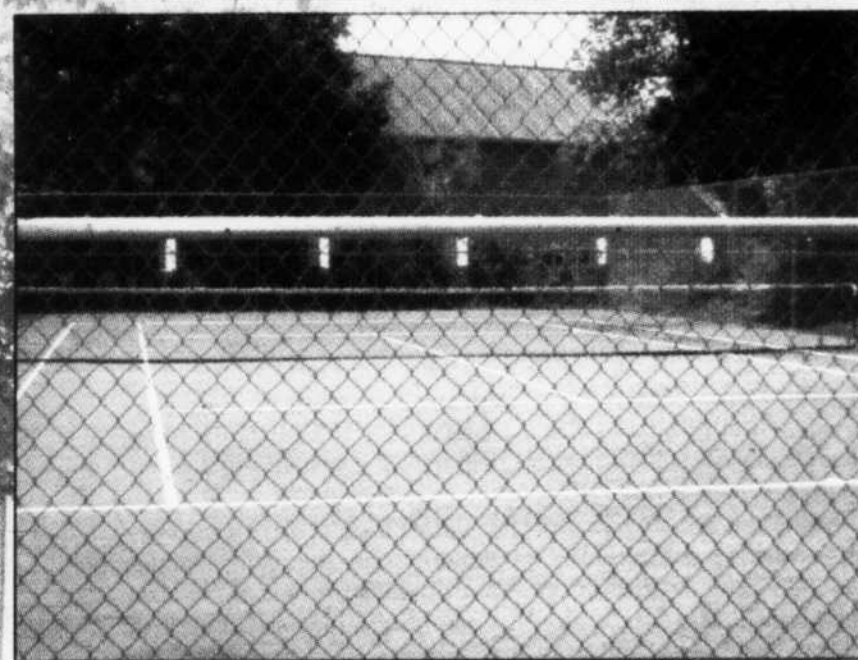
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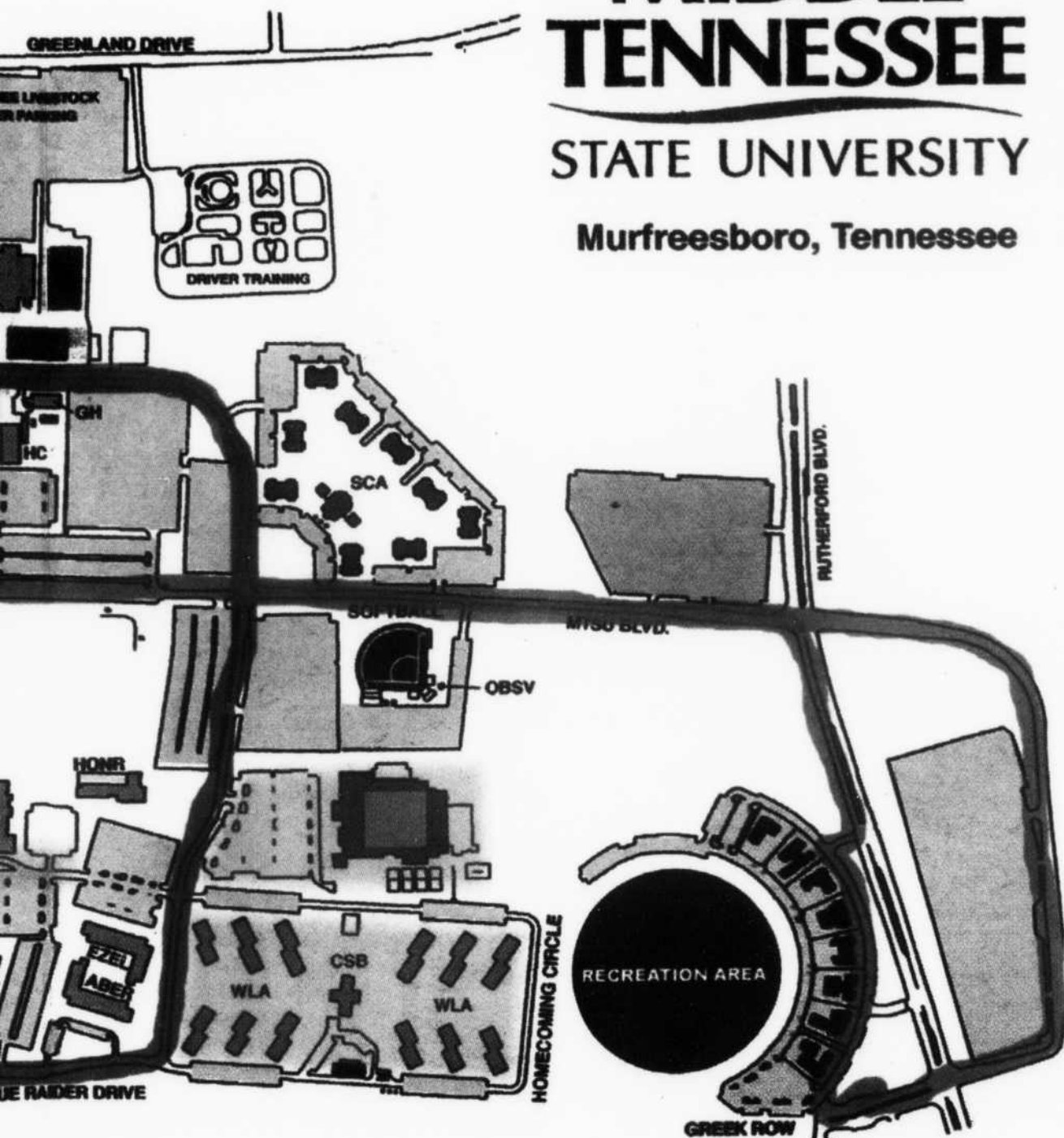
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Blue Route - Central Campus

Red Route - Rutherford Lot, Scarlet Commons, Cason-Kennedy Bldg.

Cheat sheet for the new and old MTSU attendant

To the fresh faces of MTSU, welcome. In an attempt to inform the new arrivals and refresh the minds of campus veterans, below is a list of MTSU most useful and underutilized campus resources.

■ Keathley University Center

This is one of the most under-used buildings on campus, although it houses some of the most useful campus utilities.

Offices include: Student Government Association, Student Life, Student Affairs, Old Wise Learners, Disabled Student Services, Career and Employment Center and general advising.

Utilities include: U.S. Post Office, Phillips Bookstore, Dwight's Minimart and the KUC Theatre.

■ Peck Hall

If you wander around Peck Hall you might find David Bowie, but more likely you will stumble across the overseen benefits.

Offices include: most liberal arts teachers (English, history and social work).

Utilities include: the writing lab with ours posted on the school Web site.

■ Transportation Services

After roaming campus for about 15 hours, the Raider Xpress retires here.

Utilities include: Raider Xpress and bus schedules. Also, see the map to the left for a detailed bus route.

■ Parking Services

Getting the permit is not a difficult task, finding a parking space on campus is another story entirely.

Utilities include: getting a parking pass. Green passes are free to students for general parking, gold passes are free to Greek Row residents and blue passes are for disabled parking.

■ Computer Labs

Printer trouble or computer busted? No need to fret with the variety of campus computer labs.

Lab locations: general computer labs include the library (open during regular library hours), Business and Aerospace Building (open 24 hours) and Kirksey Old Main.

■ Student Health Services

Much like a working city, MTSU even has a hospital - kind of. Health Services is a small cost, small trip solution to going off campus for a cough.

Offices include: general nurse offices and a women's clinic annex.

Utilities include: scheduled appointments, low cost check-ups and acceptance of most insurance plans.

■ Mass Communications

This is out of sheer vanity. The building houses the largest college and, of course, us.

Utilities include: *Sidelines*.

■ Food

If your hungry, stop by these three locations and grab some eats, but be forewarned, the cafes close early.

Locations: James Union Building and Corlew Hall dormitory (both pay and all-you-can-eat) as well as Cyber Cafe.

■ Boutwell Dramatic Arts

The BDA is where students hold semester productions. Also, it is a great place to catch a guest lecturer, short play or special presentation.

■ Recreation Center

Why get an expensive gym pass? The Rec Center is free, offers a variety of classes and up-to-date facilities. Just watch out for the construction.

Helpful hints to navigating RaiderNet

By Andy Harper

Campus News Editor

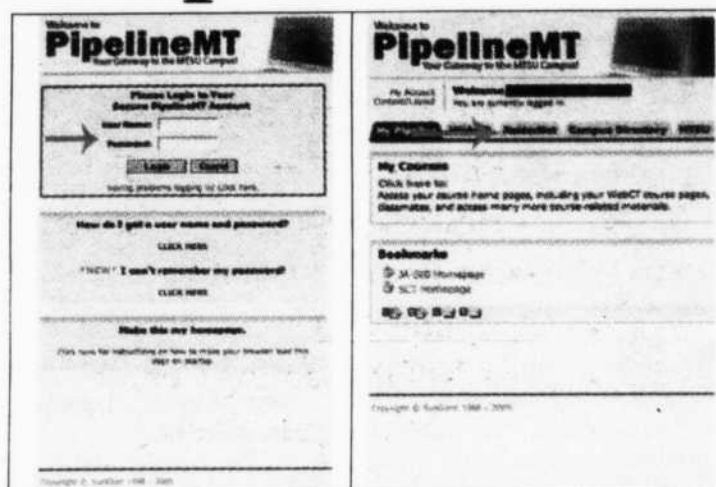


Diagram 1

Start by logging into PipelineMT (left). Type your user name (same as MTSU e-mail) and password. Next, click the "RaiderNet" tab (right).

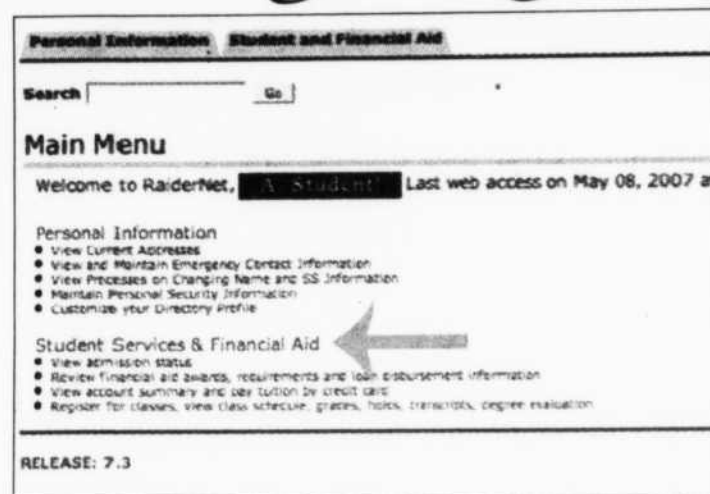


Diagram 2

Two options are on the RaiderNet screen: "Personal Information" and "Student Services & Financial Aid." Click "Student Services" to register for classes.

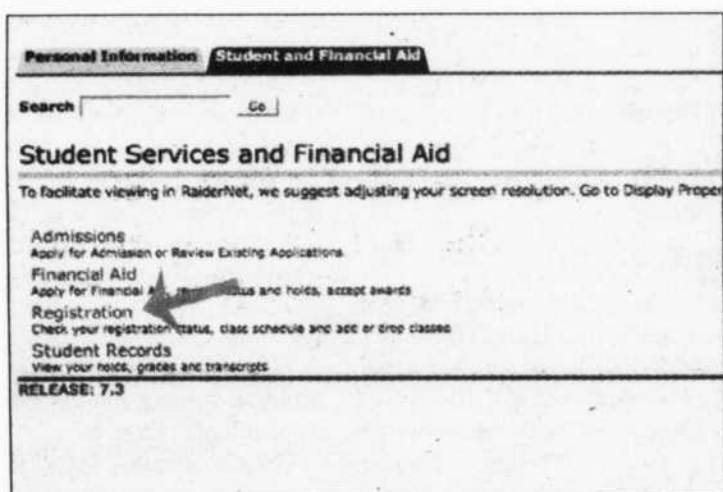


Diagram 3

Under "Student Services and Financial Aid," click the "Registration" option to begin registration. On the next screen, enter the term and continue.

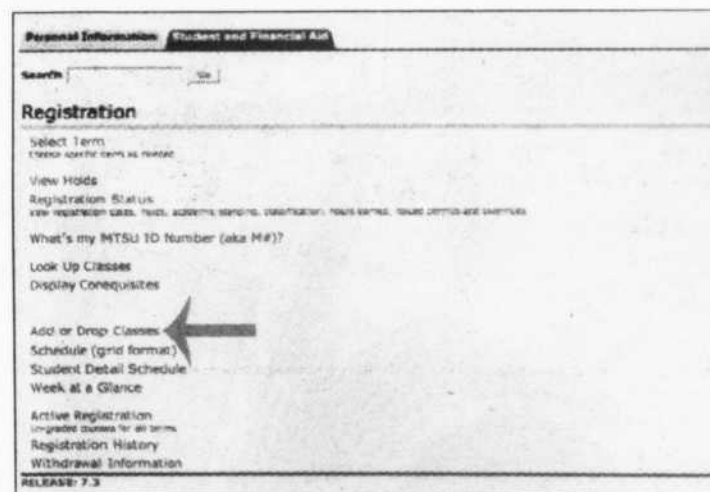


Diagram 4

On the next screen, click "Add or Drop Classes." Of course, make sure to have the class call number before registering.

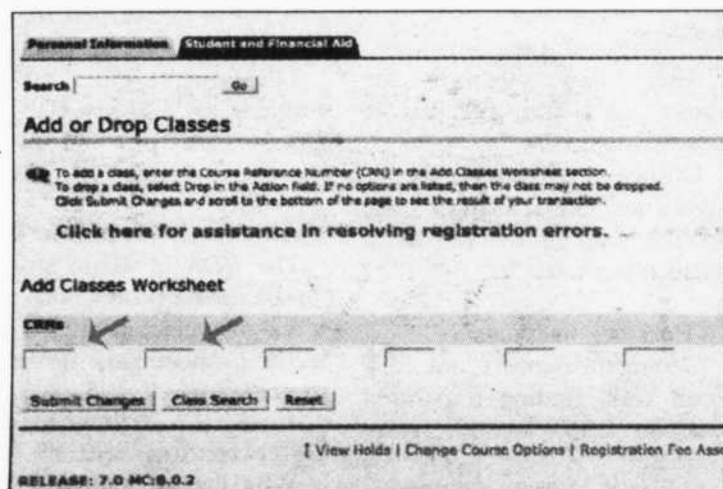


Diagram 5

Once in the "Add or Drop Classes," enter the class call numbers into the miniature boxes above. Click "Submit Changes" to submit the classes into the system.

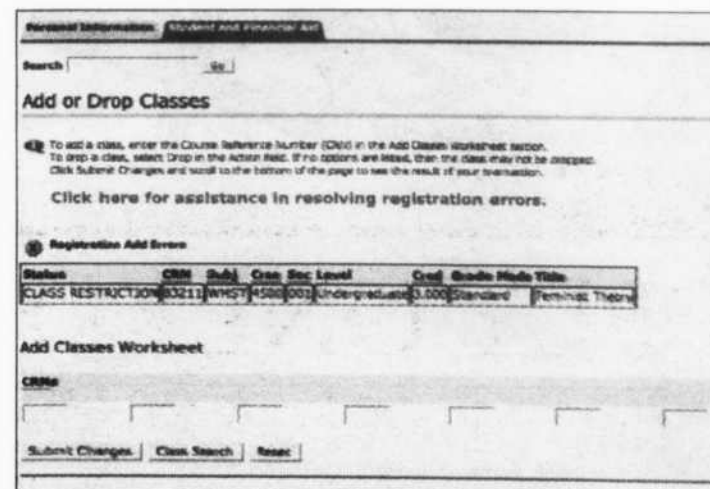


Diagram 6

A window will appear above the mini-boxes letting you know if you are in the class or if there is a problem. If there is a red "X," look at the "Status."

In an attempt to increase efficiency among registration for classes, the Information Technology Division of MTSU started RaiderNet during the spring semester.

The new system works with the Pipeline server and allows students to register for classes, update contact information and audit their financial status.

To the left is a rough example of the process a student will need to go through to register for a class.

Again, other features of the new system include updating contact information and viewing financial status. Another item added was a complete course schedule book. The university resolved to cease printed copies of schedule books starting fall 2007.

When attempting to find a class call number, which is the number typed into the miniature boxes on diagram 5, click "Registration" and then "Look Up Classes."

Select the semester, in this particular case, "Fall Term 2007" would be an excellent choice.

After selecting a term, a complicated menu with a variety of options will appear. Options range from class, course number, campus site and instructor.

The only essential information for looking up a class is "Subject," the "Campus" location, the "Course Level" and the "Days." Other information is optional and more times than not, unnecessary.

Other useful tools found in RaiderNet would be tools to help manage financial aid and your informational record with the university. For students who get married, change addresses or become independent, a trip to the COPE administration building becomes a walk of the past.

For more information on RaiderNet, contact ITD. ♦

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Library: On-campus sanctuary

Continued from 9

Other students seem capable of navigating the library blindfolded, such as Lauren Williams, a recent MTSU graduate.

"My mother is very big on books," Williams explains. "She's an English professor, so she was really big on us knowing how to

use a library. When we were little kids, we would always ask 'Mommy, where's this one?' and she'd teach us how to find it."

Compared to someone who's been reared in the library, I'm no champion after a talk with a research librarian.

But hey, at least I'll get this paper in on time. ♦

THE FRATERNITY OF ALPHA KAPPA LAMBDA

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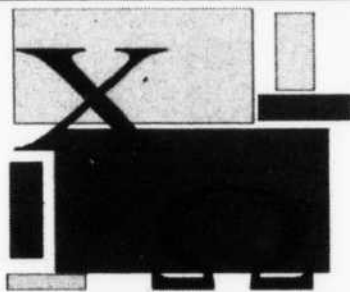


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HOPE: Students learn inner workings of scholarship

Continued from 9

ment status must be at least part-time which means 6 to 11 credit hours, and that amount of hours earns a reduced amount of the scholarship.

Students taking 12 or more credit hours who meet the requirements will receive the full scholarship.

A student can receive the lottery for 10 semesters or 120 credit hours, whichever occurs first.

Lottery scholarship students have the opportunity of earning anywhere between \$3,800 and \$5,300 yearly.

This opportunity can be lost fairly easily if students do not stay on top of important dates in addition to schoolwork.

Those students who fail to enroll in a accredited Tennessee college or university 16 months after their graduation automatically lose their scholarship.

Students are also evaluated at checkpoints to determine their eligibility. A checkpoint occurs after a student attempts 24 cred-

it hours. Check points for students usually fall at 24, 48, 72, 96 and 120 hours.

Once a student reaches that first checkpoint, he or she must have a GPA of at least a 2.75

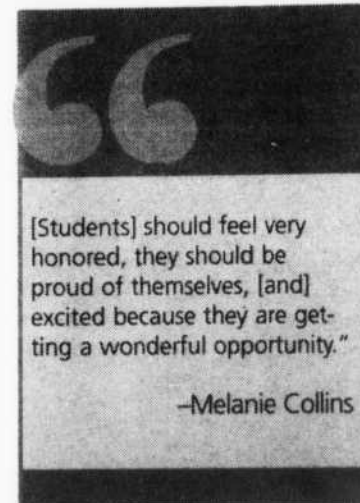
hours, the students must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA that must be maintained throughout the remainder of their college career.

Students could also lose their scholarship by not having continuous enrollment—that is, attending both the fall and spring semesters every year.

They may also lose it by changing their enrollment status, such as changing from full-time to part-time status after the census date. The census date is usually at 14 days into the semester.

If a student has special reason why he or she lost their scholarship they may appeal, but students cannot appeal on the basis of not reaching the target GPA.

If a student loses the scholarship, there is hope of regaining it with a one-time grace period. Students may only regain their status at a checkpoint if they achieve a 3.0 GPA and fill out a form requesting the HOPE Scholarship. ♦



[Students] should feel very honored, they should be proud of themselves, [and] excited because they are getting a wonderful opportunity."

—Melanie Collins

cumulative. If a student does not make that GPA for any reason, he or she will lose the scholarship.

By the next checkpoint of 48

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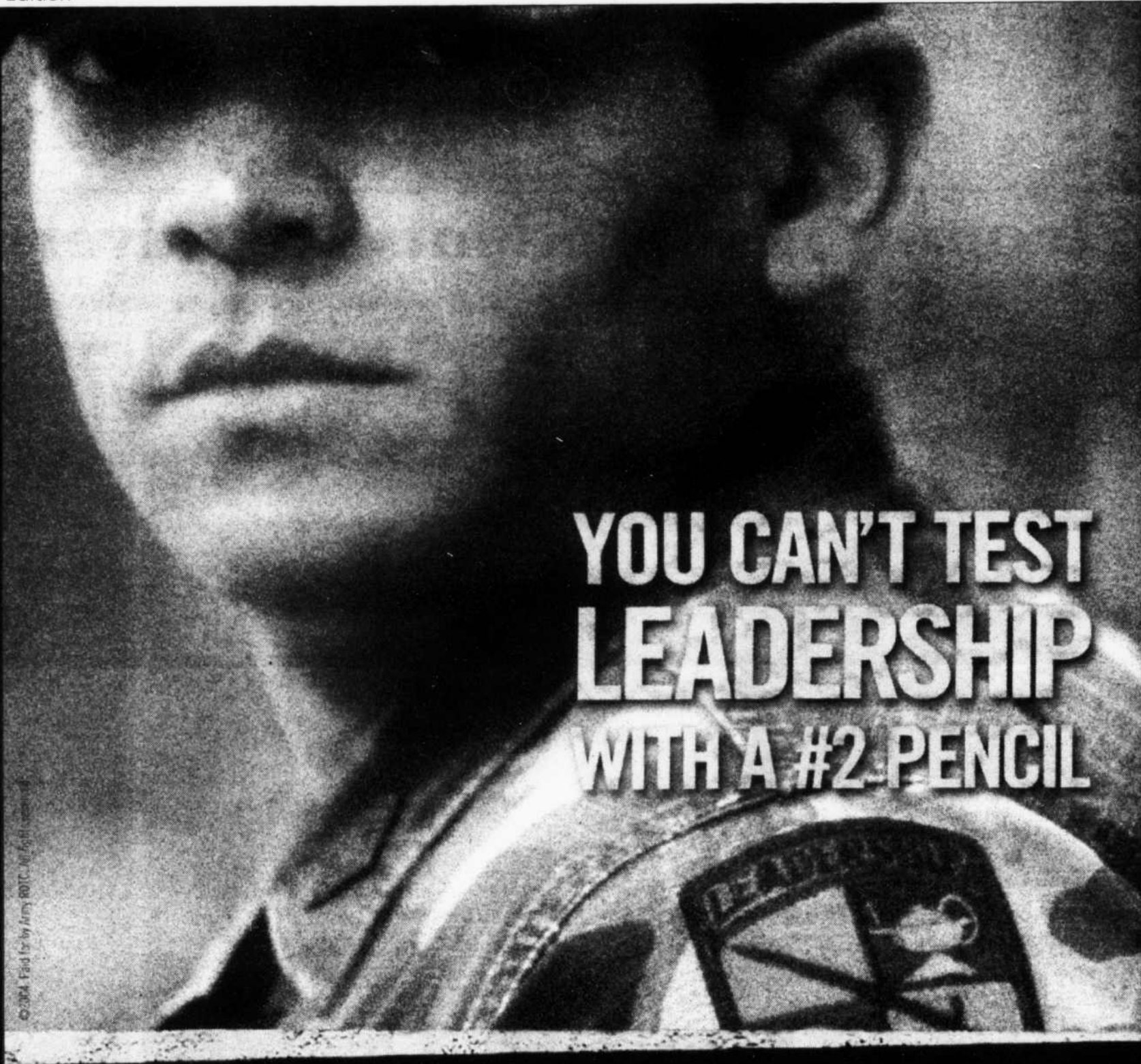
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HI: 64°
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LO: 43°

page 5

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Vol. 82 No. 76

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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

SIDELINES

Today, Summer 2007

Editorially independent

Welcomes new students to university

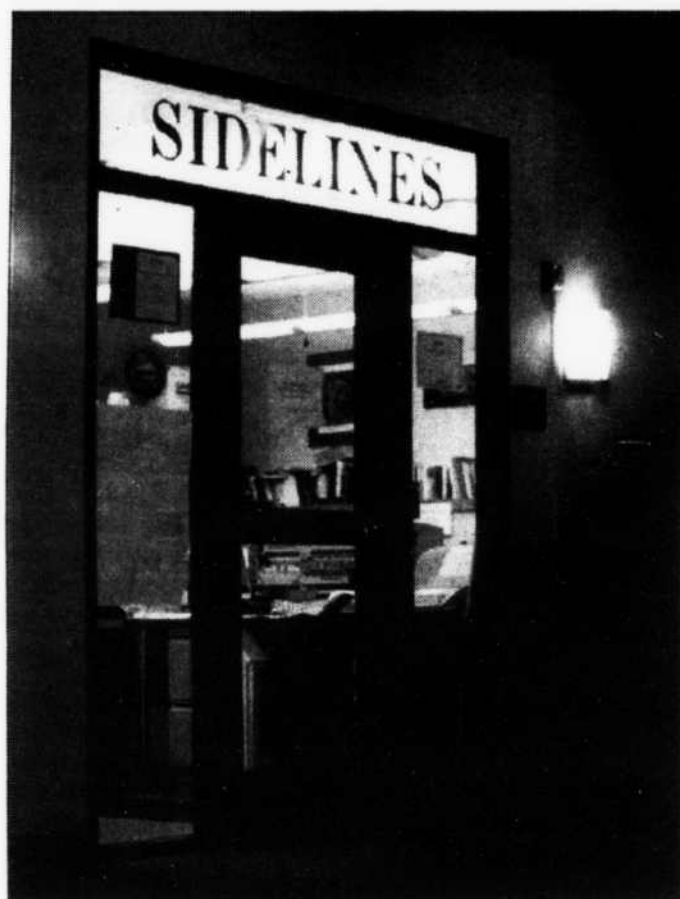


Photo by Matthew Adair | Production Manager

Sidelines is your source for what's going on around campus, in town and beyond.

Opportunities await incoming, transfer students; campus newspaper provides useful information

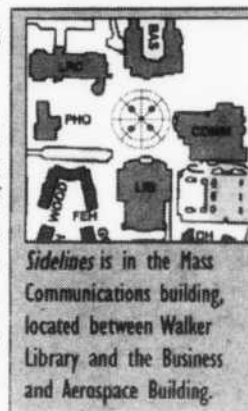
Staff Report

The staff members of *Sidelines*, the student-run newspaper of MTSU, wish to welcome all new and transfer students to our university as they visit campus during CUSTOMS.

There's a lot to get used to here, from the mess of construction and renovation going on and the winding corridors of Peck Hall, to the knot of people and vendors outside the Keathley University Center and the never-ending search for a good parking spot, you have to wonder if you're really prepared to deal with everything that's being thrown at you.

Which, thankfully, is exactly why you have us. The newspaper you have in your hands right now is your guide, twice-a-week, to everything and anything going on around campus and Murfreesboro. From news and opinions to sports and entertainment, we provide you with what you need to get by each week.

We're your newspaper, and we mean that—all of our staff are students like yourself, so we see what's happening from the same vantage point as you do. Which means you too can join us, and be part of the award-winning team that keeps MTSU informed of what's going on.



If you'd like to join our newspaper, or if you're just interested in meeting our staff, drop by our office. We're located on the second floor of the John Bragg Mass Communications Building, room 269.

You can also visit our Web site, and get the news delivered right to your computer. Sign up for it at www.mtsusidelines.com. You can also comment on stories, and let everyone

know just what you think.

Whether you join our staff, or just like to read the newspaper, we hope you enjoy your stay here, and we hope *Sidelines* will be an important part of your life here on campus. ♦

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February accident in
Kathlamet County

College stress not end of world

You are going to hate college.

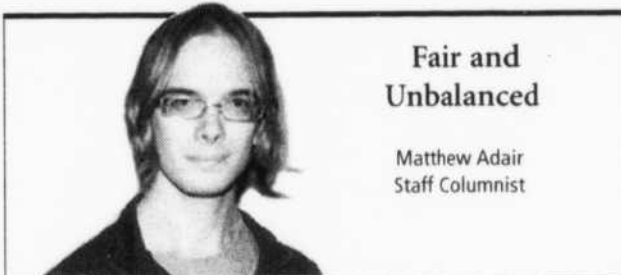
I understand that is probably not what you wanted to find out while walking around, being overwhelmed with more information than you could possibly hope to remember. At some point, however, you will throw something at the wall of your bedroom or dorm, scream in frustration and wonder why you even came here at all.

Trust me on this one. It's going to happen.

Sure, you'll have that first-week, "Wow, I'm in college!" euphoria for a little while. You'll go to all the events the school plans for freshmen and have yourself a great time. That euphoria and optimism won't be misplaced, at first. You'll meet students and professors you really like, you'll have that class or two that you enjoy being in, and things will seem like easy sailing.

Then, the reality of what you've gotten yourself into will race up and kick you in the face. Deadlines will begin to pop up faster and faster, you'll get stuck with students who don't really care about what they're doing and, slowly but surely, your will to carry on will be sapped.

You'll also have your fair share of run-ins with university bureaucracy and general inefficiency. Questions about any important detail, from how many hours you have really earned to the state of your financial aid will lead you into circular phone conversations and more



**Fair and
Unbalanced**

Matthew Adair
Staff Columnist

mileage than you, your footwear or your car should have to endure. You'll go through office after office, trying to get answers from students workers who have only a slightly better idea as to what's going on than you do.

The reward for all your effort? You might get the answers you wanted. Maybe.

Eventually, you'll come to the point where you want to run screaming across the quad, throwing papers in every direction as you declare that you will burn this entire campus down.

Please don't do that. Arson is a Class C felony in Tennessee, and can get you a three to 15 year prison term.

Relax, breathe deeply, and repeat to yourself this mantra: I hate college. The sooner you come to accept that you hate having to drag yourself to class, even when

you're tired, ill or hung-over, because you've already used up all the days you can miss that class, the happier you can begin to be.

It really isn't all that bad, once you get past the stress and strain. Sure, the loans you may be using to pay for your education will take forever to pay off, but that tuition gives you access to a recreation center that can help you burn off frustration with a game of racquetball and a guidance office that can help you deal with the stress of trying to finish three major projects in a week.

College is big and important and all of that. It's the key to your future and will decide where you will go in life. I'm sure you've heard that from everyone you've run into so far. The fact is, though, this is not the real world. This is your training ground, your sandbox. This is the place to see what you can handle in all the different areas of your life and what will make you explode with the fury of an atomic bomb.

You are going to hate college. However, after going here for a couple years, you hopefully won't hate the rest of your life.

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

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Future looks bright for MT football



Sports Commentary

Cody Gibson
Staff Columnist

MT's football team has had a number of great seasons in the past, with some ups and downs over the years. This season will set the foundation for consistency that is needed in a program. Head coach Rick Stockstill took over the program in December of 2005 and since then changes have been evident both on and off the field for a program known for instability.

Last season was of historical significance, including a 7-6 record and a share of the Sun Belt Conference crown, along with their first bowl appearance in Division I-A history, and the first nationally televised game. The last time MTSU played in a bowl game was 1964 in the Grantland Rice bowl.

This spring, the team began building for the fall. After signing a strong recruiting class, Middle Tennessee took to the practice field and the weight room to prepare for the 2007 season. Stockstill said he was happy with the spring game as well stating that he really liked the effort.

"After the first couple of drives, it settled down into a pretty good game," he said. "I thought both sides played hard and showed a lot of improvement. Some individuals stood up and made some good plays which was good to see."

In its second year of existence, the Blue and White game proved to be a very exciting event. Not only did Middle Tennessee display the talent that will be on the field during the upcoming season, but Athletic Director Chris Massaro said MT will be getting a video screen for the Murphy Center and Floyd Stadium.

Clint Marks must now be replaced as quarterback. After this spring, it was clear Ioe Craddock will go into the season as the starter. Craddock is a junior, who along with all of the other quarterbacks on the roster, has no career starts. It will be very interesting to see how it plays out this season for the Blue Raiders at the running back position. That is the deepest offensive position for the Blue Raiders as Desmond Gee and Demarco McNair return and Phillip Tanner this season.

Gee and McNair both had over 500 yards of total offense last season and look for the team to run the ball early in the season.

Meanwhile, the wide receiver position will be

See Football, 23



Photo by Greg Johnson | Staff Photographer

The football team will be defending its Sun Belt Conference co-championship title this season after going 6-1 last year.

Lady Raiders focus on upcoming season



Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer

Junior Latoya Barclay and the Lady Raiders will return to action in the fall for another shot at their fifth SBC title.

By Cody Gibson
Staff Writer

The 2006-2007 Lady Raiders had a remarkable season. After putting together a school record of 30-4, along with an undefeated conference record, Middle Tennessee ended their season in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

Head coach Rick Insell enjoyed his second straight trip to the tournament, and Chrissy Givens was named second team All-American overall, this was the most successful season in the history of the school.

Givens, who received many awards last season, averaged 22.6 points per game, over five rebounds and over five assists per game. This was good enough for Givens to be drafted in the third round of the WNBA draft.

Givens will be tough to replace as well. Krystle Horton was third

on the team in most categories and an impressive team leader.

Amber Holt will be returning as the team's second leading scorer and team's leading rebounder. Holt came to MT as a junior college transfer and made the most of her opportunity. She will be this season's team leader and will be relayed upon to carry the scoring load early on.

Also returning are sophomores Chelsea Lymon, Jackie Pickel and Brandi Brown. All three came in and immediately received on-court experience.

Lymon is a quick point guard who will see a steady increase in playing time. Pickel is a 3-point specialist who should see her points go up with more playing time as well. Brown struggled early, but then came on strong at the end of the season.

Guards Starr Orr, Latoya Barclay and Johnna Abney return as well as both providing solid starters for

the Blue Raiders last season.

Abney shot 40 percent from behind the 3-point line and Orr is one of the best defenders in the Sun Belt and will continue to provide a steady defensive presence. Barclay has continued to provide leadership off the bench and has made the best of her opportunities.

This season's recruiting class could come in and compete for playing time right away. Emily Queen is a guard who can score in a lot of ways with the ball. A local product Anne Marie Lanning can shoot it from anywhere on the floor.

Finally, MT added some much needed size with sisters Jasmine Duffy who is 6'7 and Jawanda Duffy who is 6'4.

The future looks promising for the MT Lady Raiders basketball, who open their season in Nov. 2007.



I am Sportacus

J. Owen Shipley
Staff Columnist

MT basketball improves game during off-season

The 2006-07 was supposed to be the year of the Blue Raiders teams here in Murfreesboro. Both of MT's basketball programs came into the year excited and looking to build on the success of the previous season. Most know that Rick Insell's Lady Raiders played their way to a No. 17 ranking and a tournament run, but what happened to the men's team?

A 15-17 record, a season ending loss to North Texas in the Sun Belt Conference Championship and a slew of heart-breaking injuries made 2006-07 the year of the weight room instead. So why is head coach Kermit Davis smiling so much? *Sidelines* sent me, Sportacus, to find out.

"We would obviously like to have won more than 15 games," Davis said. "We've had the best off-season since I've been here from a work-out and an academic standpoint. We got 10 guys coming back, so the focus is on building on a good experience."

When asked how a 15-win season can be seen as a good experience, Davis had plenty of reasons.

First of all, he's really, really excited to be "back in the gym." In a recent interview with *goblueraider.com* he admitted he's a "practice guy." Davis loves watching a team come together, and he sees this team coming together in a big way. He realized how hard last season was going to be before he lost his number one scorer a week prior to tip-off but he was pleased at how they responded.

"Under the circumstances,

playing the toughest schedule in the Sun Belt, going through two major injuries and being the youngest team in the league wasn't easy."

"We put a lot of pressure on our selves," Davis said. "I don't want to use injuries as an excuse. We're just trying to get our team together and to grow as a group."

Davis stopped short of calling last year a rebuilding year, citing the loss of his two returning scorers. "It's not an excuse, it's just a fact. That is not easy to rebound from," Davis said.

"We were the youngest team in the [SBC] last year," Davis explains, "So we're trying to improve the guys in the program, get the young guys better, and hope for good luck."

After what Davis described as a really positive spring camp, he's lauding the maturity of this team. Playing what was at one point the sixth toughest non-conference schedule in the country gave them a lot of experience and to their credit they split those non-conference games, winning seven of them.

Still, Davis admitted sometimes they were so depleted that they had to start three freshmen and two sophomores against good teams. They responded well to that kind of pressure and that's why, despite falling short of the tournament Davis said he's "never been more excited about a team than he is right now."

"I think we're a better team because of the adversity. If we didn't lose Adam [Vogelsberg]

See Sportacus, 23

FALL/SPRING 2007-08 INTRAMURALS SPORTS CALENDER

FALL 2007

	<u>Entries Due</u>	<u>Play Begins</u>
Ultimate Frisbee Tournament	9 / 5 / 07	9 / 10 / 07
Golf Tournament (4 man)	9 / 5 / 07	9 / 7 / 07
Sand Volleyball	9 / 12 / 07	9 / 17 / 07
Soccer	9 / 11 / 07	9 / 17 / 07
Flag Football	9 / 25 / 07	10 / 1 / 07
Indoor Volleyball	10 / 9 / 07	10 / 17 / 07
Racquetball League	10 / 17 / 07	10 / 22 / 07
TIRSA Shootout	10 / 26 / 07	11 / 2-4 / 07
Table Tennis	10 / 31 / 07	11 / 5 / 07
Dodgeball Tournament	11 / 6 / 07	11 / 12 / 07
3-on-3 Basketball	11 / 20 / 07	11 / 26 / 07

SPRING 2008

	<u>Entries Due</u>	<u>Play Begins</u>
Indoor Soccer League	1 / 23 / 08	1 / 28 / 08
5-on-5 Basketball	1 / 30 / 08	2 / 4 / 08
Dodgeball League	2 / 13 / 08	2 / 18 / 08
Racquetball	2 / 18 / 08	2 / 18 / 08
NIRSA Regional Basketball*	3 / 7 / 08	3 / 14-18 / 08
Softball League	3 / 12 / 08	3 / 17 / 08
Arena Football	3 / 19 / 08	3 / 24 / 08
Golf (2 man scramble)	3 / 26 / 08	3 / 31 / 08
Sand Volleyball Tournament	4 / 2 / 08	4 / 7 / 08
Ultimate Frisbee Tournament	4 / 9 / 08	4 / 16 / 08

For more information contact David Tippet at 898-2104

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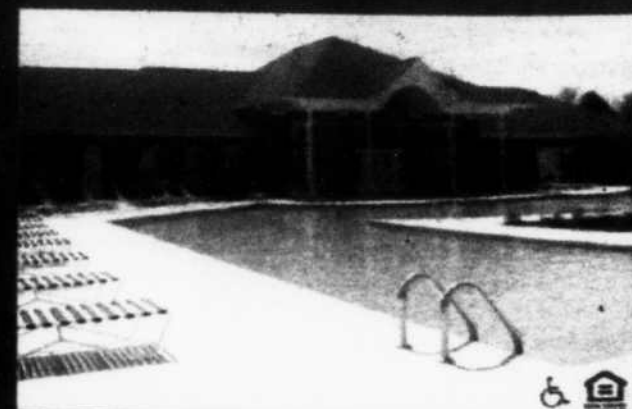


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Football: Bright future

Continued from 20

relying on the experience of Bobby Williams and Taron Henry to lead the team. The defense has three of their four starters in the secondary returning as well a number of defensive lineman, who received playing time last season. All of the players coming back played in every game so experience will not be a problem for the Raiders. Couple that with the coaching of Manny Diaz and the defense should be as strong as last season.

MT begins its season at Florida Atlantic on Sept. 1, with the first home game of the season Sept. 20, against Western Kentucky. ♦

Sportacus: Men's basketball

Continued from 21

we had a good chance of winning 19-20 games. No question it will be a much improved squad in the fall."

The loss of Vogelsberg was tough for the Raiders. Vogelsberg was forced to red shirt and miss all but three minutes of the season due to his knee injury but the ever-optimistic Davis sees a silver lining in the setback.

"He's in best shape of his life, best shape he's ever been in. You hope that red-shirt years don't happen because of injuries but it helps give players a chance to grow."

J. Owen Shipley is a junior English major and can be reached at myspace.com/lamsportacus.

Sports and Clubs Contact Information:

Baseball: Jared Young 424-8140
Fencing: Colin Kappel 896-9112
Footbag: Matthew Johns 218-0660
Ice Hockey: Cody Smith 300-6776
Inline Hockey: Adam Leetham 901-381-6111
Lacrosse: Sean Lawrenz seanlaw27@yahoo
Martial Arts: Gilberto Mendoza 389-3344
Master Swim: Karen Wallace 459-9103
Paintball: mtsupaintball@mtsu.edu
Women's Rugby: sh2s@mtsu.edu
Men's Rugby: John Ferraro 402-301-9167
Skydiving: Bailey Ryan 901-496-7926
Women's Soccer: Megan Allender 653-5442
Men's Soccer: Matt Richmond 482-4018
Tennis: Jeremy Clothier 974-0194
Men's Volleyball: Henry Farkas 814-573-2797
Women's Volleyball: wvolley@mtsu.edu
Wheelchair sports: Kevin Green 314-303-1281
Wrestling: David Cooper 406-8061

Boxing and Racquetball Clubs do not have contact information at this time.

For the sports clubs call Jessica Northcutt @ 898-2104
 For Intramural sports call David Tippet @ 898-2104

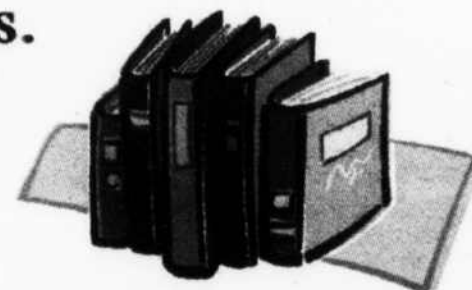
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