

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT TIMES

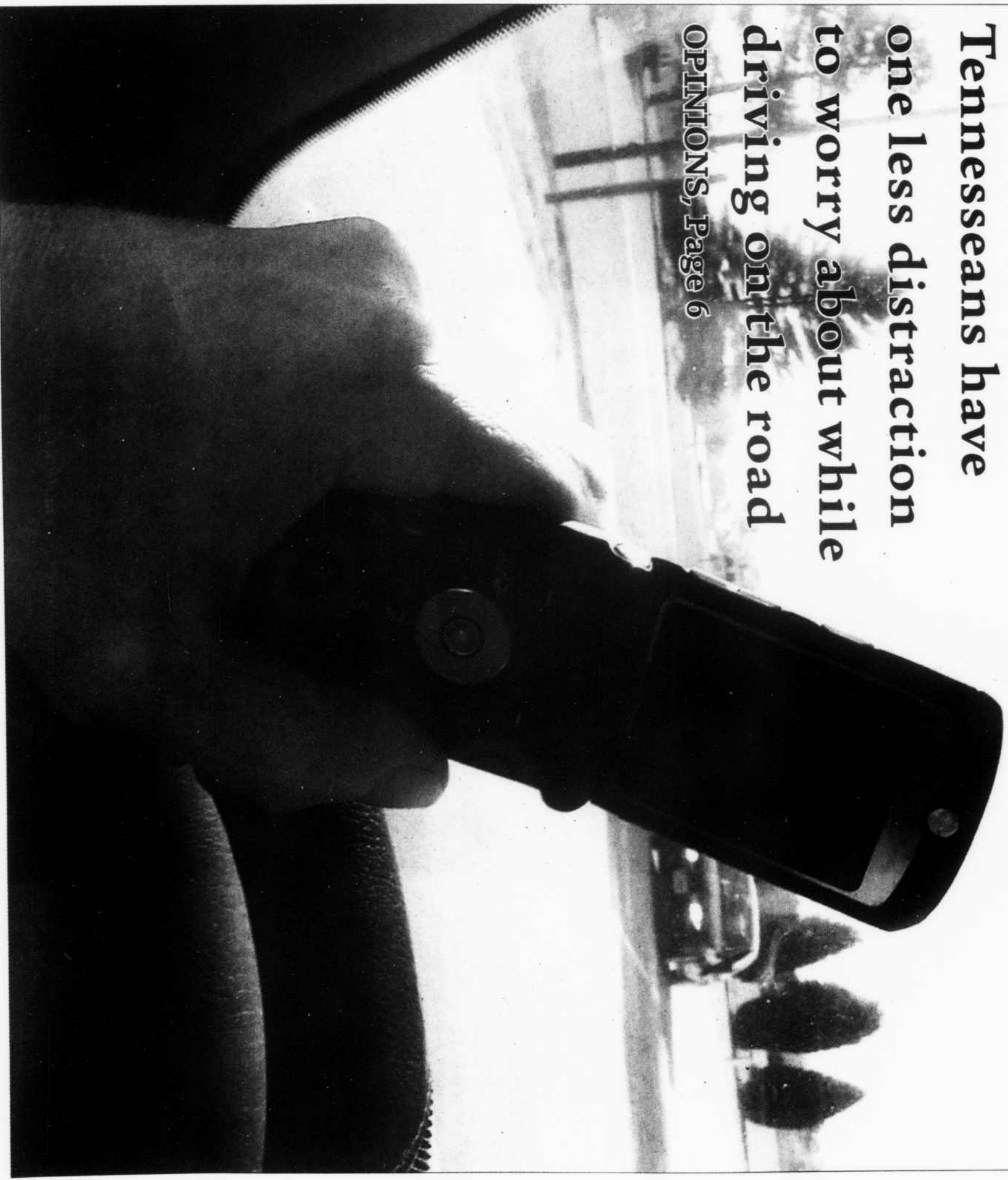
Wednesday, June 03, 2009

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

Volume 85, No. 28

**Tennesseans have
one less distraction
to worry about while
driving on the road**

OPINIONS, Page 6





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rifty16.wordpress.com
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CRIME BRIEFS CURRENT EVENTS

May 20, 4:16 p.m.

Theft

James E. Walker Library Lot

An officer was flagged down regarding a possible break in. The door was found open, but nothing was taken.

May 20, 7:27 p.m.

Alarm

Pittard Campus School

A small fire was put out in the campus school.

May 22, 10:05 a.m.

Traffic

Rutherford Boulevard

Sheryl Logan was arrested for driving on a suspended license. It is her fourth offense.

May 24, 2:42 a.m.

Drunkenness

Alumni Drive

Matthew L. Mikesell was arrested for public intoxication.

May 25, 1:37 a.m.

Traffic

Off campus

Chiquita Radley was arrested for driving on a suspended license and having two outstanding warrants.

May 26, 9:08 a.m.

Traffic

MTSU Boulevard

Dale J. Brown was arrested for driving on a revoked driver's license. It is his first offense.

May 28, 8:21 p.m.

Warrant

James E. Walker Library

Lana Evans was arrested for a warrant.

May 29, 2:51 a.m.

Traffic

Rutherford Boulevard

Timothy Cummings was arrested for driving under the influence. It is his first offense.

June 1, 12:01 a.m.

Traffic

Greenland Drive

Brandon Harris was issued a state citation for a registration violation.

June 1, 2:02 a.m.

Traffic

Old Main Circle

William Harris II was arrested for driving on a suspended license.

Tennessee Repertory Theatre presents: A Smart Girl's Guide to Risk and Returns

June 11-13

Thursday and Saturday, 7:30

p.m.

Friday, 8 p.m.

Admission: Free for season sub-

scribers, \$5 donation for others.

Location: Vanderbilt's Neely Auditorium

Tennessee Harley Owners Group Statewide Rally

June 3-6

Harley Parade down Main

Street at 9 a.m. on Saturday

More information: Contact Randy

Hammons at 615-620-5266

Sassy VEG Productions presents "The Joy of Soy" cooking class

June 13, 4-6 p.m.

Location: The Discovery Center in

Murfreesboro

Admission: \$35

Reservations required. Contact:

Christienne Miller at 615-691-2758

Bonnaroo 2009

June 11-14

Manchester, Tenn.

More information: www.bonnaroo.com



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Through the *Sidelines'* Lens

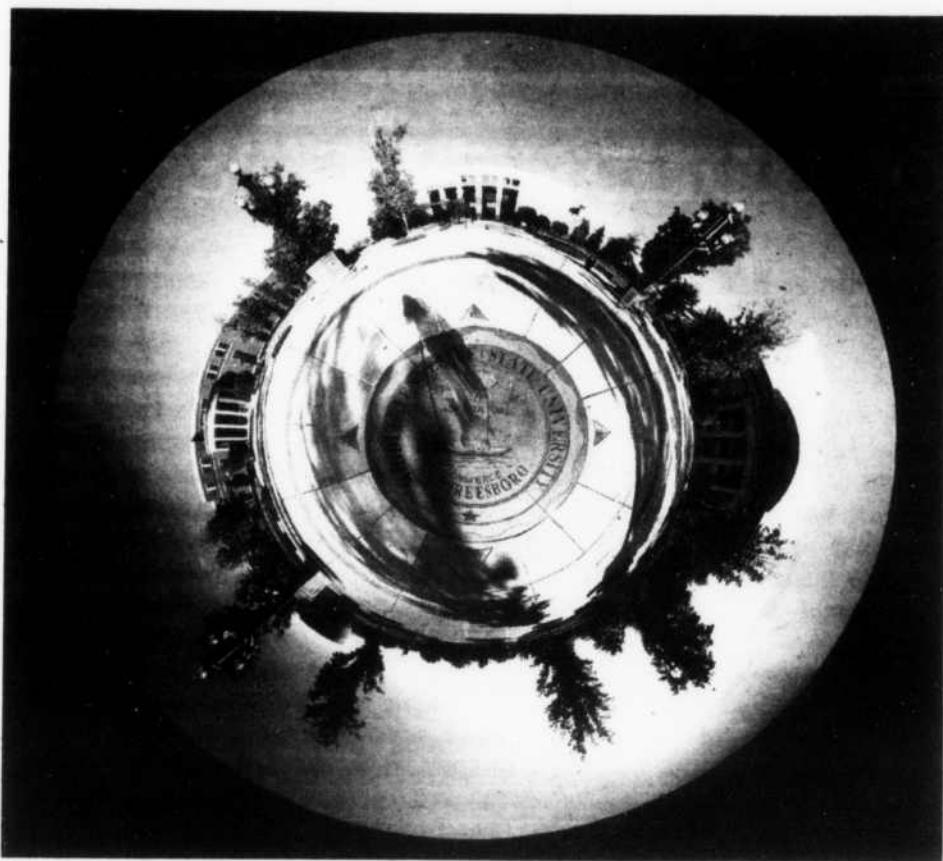


Photo Illustration by Patrick Casey, staff photographer

Patrick Casey shot a series of photographs of the MTSU quad and combined the images to create an illusion of a planet.

McPhee seeks change to cover budget cuts

By DUSTIN EVANS
Assistant News Editor

President Sidney McPhee submitted his final status report on Positioning the University for the Future Initiative on May 21 in order to meet the demands of the university budget.

The recommendation proposes the elimination of the Department of Philosophy unless a viable plan to increase enrollments is not approved, putting the custodial contract up for rebid, the outsourcing of student e-mail accounts, the consolidation of campus-wide servers, as well as restructuring inefficient policies.

"I have decided to continue my review of a select number of the more complex recommendations in order to assure a thorough impact analysis," McPhee said in the report.

The proposal, which can be found on mtsu.edu, outlines all of the suggestions made in the previous reports by the Oversight Steering Committee's strategic work groups and the president's comments on them.

Lucinda Lea, the vice president for Information Technology and the chief information officer of the university, said that the changes in ITD would be beneficial to the university in many ways.

"Outsourcing the student e-mail accounts would be cost savings from a management standpoint," Lea said. "[The students] would see more of an availability in storage capacity than we can handle."

Lea said that other ITD proposals, like the consolidation of campus-wide servers, would heighten security across the campus and bring more efficiency while working on campus computers.

A change in academic schedule to a trimester class schedule and the possibility of a six-day week schedule are outlined in

the status report. The report said that the administration is awaiting an analysis and a proposal from the Provost's office in October.

"[The proposed schedule] would help expedite a student to get out sooner," said John Cothorn, senior vice president. "It would allow for more effective use of our space."

Cothorn also said that Facilities Services changes, like outsourcing the Murphy Center custodial services could also be effective.

"Most of our custodial services are outsourced anyway to reduce cost and create effectiveness," Cothorn said. "Murphy Center custodians only work for the Murphy Center and not Facility Services."

Another suggestion from McPhee's report is to look into the ticketing of theatrical, musical and athletic events to generate a profit.

"We have been studying the possibilities for a number of years," said George Rear-don, the director of the School of Music. "It isn't clear that we would actually recoup the cost of the act of ticketing."

McPhee's report also suggests the elimination of the free athletic tickets benefits package from retired employees.

"Human Resources would buy the tickets from the Athletic Department at a cost of \$450,000," said Chris Massaro, the director of Athletics. "[This cut] will be a revenue loss for the Athletic Department."

Massaro said that there would be a new plan for retirees, but they will be able to keep their benefit if they attend at least half of the games during the year.

McPhee's tentative changes to the university were submitted to Tennessee Board of Regents, who will approve or reject his reports.

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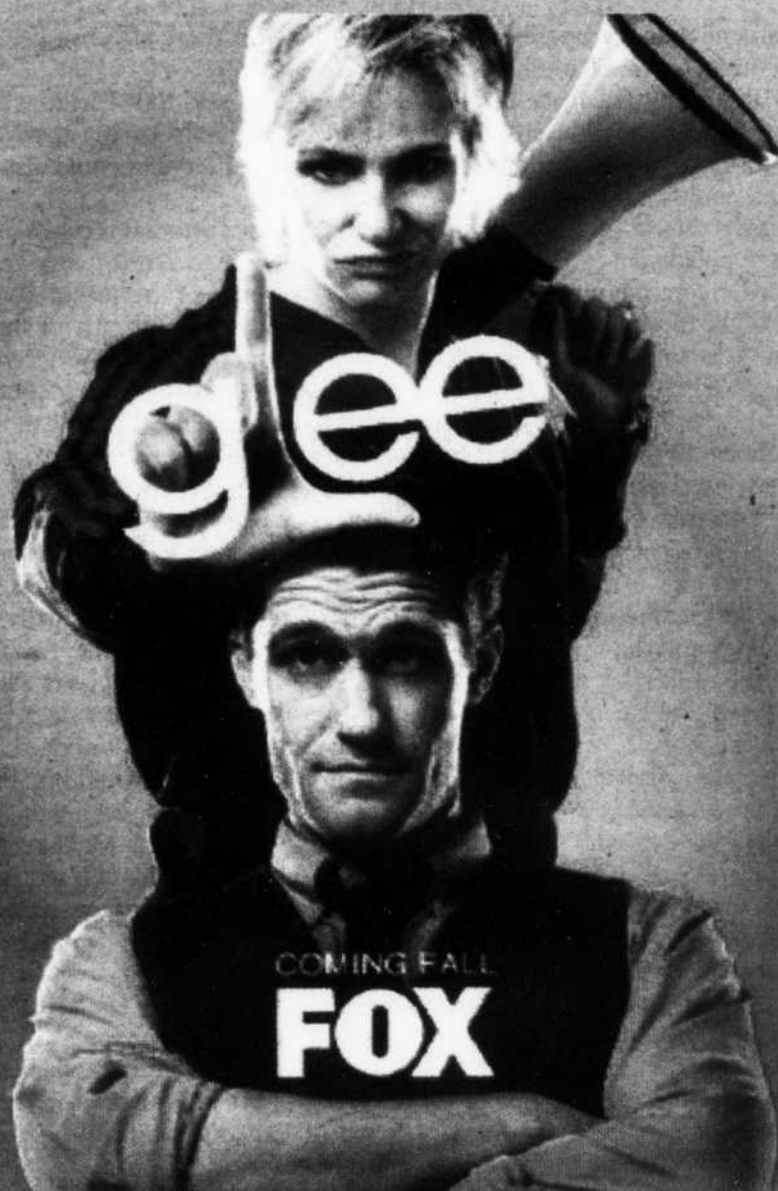
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MCPHEE'S UPDATE REPORT
ON THE BUDGET CUTS?

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HEAR MORE
COMMENTARY ON THE
UPCOMING SERIES
"GLEE" IN THE ONLINE
PODCAST AT
MTSUSIDELINES.COM

Musical score attracts viewers



By JARRETT MCCALL
Staff Writer

"Glee," which will make its season premiere on Fox in September, offered a sneak preview of the pilot immediately following "American Idol" in May.

The series takes place at a high school in Lima, Ohio and stars Matthew Morrison as Will "Shue" Schuester, a Spanish teacher.

After the dismissal of the previous instructor, he decides to take over the school's glee club and changes the group's name to New Directions. The principal, not interested in sustaining the club, makes Shue agree to become head of detention as part of the deal of keeping the club.

The series features three narrators: Shue and two members of the glee club, Rachel Berry (Lea Michele) and Finn Hudson (Cory Monteith). Rachel is the daughter of two gay dads. She says that her life is largely driven by her busy MySpace schedule where, in an effort to become "discovered," she posts videos of herself singing.

The school's cheerleaders, known as the Cheerios, are shown sitting in the bleachers at school with a laptop, laughing at the videos.

Trying to find more talent for the

group, Shue overhears star quarterback Finn's extraordinary voice singing REO Speedwagon in the locker room showers and tries to find a way to get him in New Directions.

Demonstrating that he is an anti-hero, Shue decides to frame Finn by planting evidence that he is a marijuana dealer. Finn is then faced with the decision to join the club or spend time in detention.

The series is shot in the mock documentary/hand-held camera style of cinema vérité. It uses a quick editing style to provide a flashy comedic effect, reflecting the showy glee club theme. In addition to the camera technique, the entire musical score is provided by a vocal a cappella chorus of famous pop songs and classical pieces.

With a few minor flaws, "Glee" proves to be an appealing series. The humor and the a cappella score is its best qualities.

Judging from Fox's confidence in the series, it will probably be one of the new hits of the upcoming fall season because of its engaging storyline, "High School Musical-esque" performances, and its attractive, unique characters.

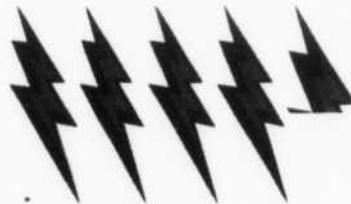
The Lightning Review

"Harper's Island"



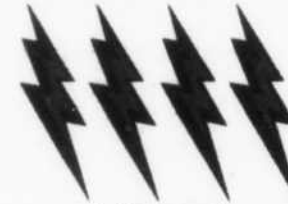
3/5 Bolts

"Glee"



4.5/5 Bolts

"The Fashion Show"



4/5 Bolts

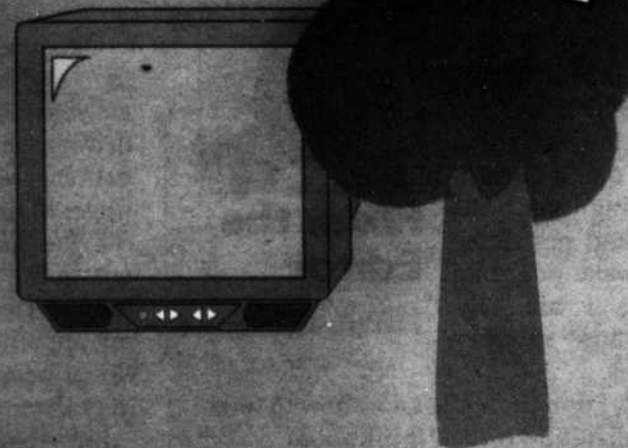


Photo courtesy Bravo

The judges of Bravo's new show, "The Fashion Show," are former Destiny's Child singer Kelly Rowland, fashion designer Isaac Mizrahi and Fashion Week Organizer Fern Mallis.

Graphic by Chris Carter, production manager

Shows Of Summer



By JARRETT MCCALL
Staff Writer

Television Reviews

Fashion divas and murder mysteries

"Harper's Island" began airing April 9 and airs Saturday nights at 8 p.m. on CBS. Each week the concept of the series revolves around the death of a different character, who will die at the conclusion of each episode.

It has been proposed that just about every character will be gone by the series' conclusion. The creators chose to have the entire series last only 13 episodes to fit the premise. To further the theme of murder, each episode uses an onomatopoeic word as its title, such as "Thwack," "Whap" and "Ka-Blam."

The series takes place in the Pacific Northwest on the eponymous island. The plot revolves around the main character, Abby Mills (Elaine Cassidy), who returns home seven years after John Wakefield murders her mother.

Mills' returns home to attend her best friend Henry Dunn's (Christopher Gorham) wedding to Trish Wellington (Katie Cassidy).

Abby's dad, Charlie Mills (Jim Beaver), is the town sheriff and has become obsessed with Wakefield after his wife's murder. Abby discovers Wakefield killed her mother after finding her father's pictures and newspaper clippings in the attic.

If you take away this unique approach to murder mystery storytelling "Harper's Island" becomes just

another mediocre series. It is very much formulaic when it comes to plot and characterization.

Other than that, the best thing about the series is Elaine Cassidy's performance as Abby. In her portrayal of a young woman facing the horrors of her past and present, Cassidy does a marvelous job.

Cassidy's prominent feature is her eyes. Like many great actors with this gift, the eyes help to give the viewer a deeper understanding of the character.

The creators got it right when they cast the role of Abby Mills. If it wasn't for Cassidy, there would be no show.

On Bravo, "The Fashion Show" began airing on May 7 and airs first-run episodes Thursday nights at 9 p.m. (repeats are run various times throughout the week).

Because "Project Runway" has moved to Lifetime, Bravo has created "The Fashion Show" as its replacement. The series features 15 fashion designer contestants, competing for fame, prestige and a \$125,000 prize.

Fashion designer Isaac Mizrahi and Destiny's Child singer Kelly Rowland have replaced Tim Gunn and Heidi Klum as the hosts.

On the debut episode, the contestants' first challenge was turning a black T-shirt into a mini black dress in one hour. The top three designers

from the challenge were chosen to lead the three teams that will be working on the first runway show.

The winner of each fashion show has his or her design available for purchase on bravotv.com, and like "Project Runway," one person is eliminated at the end of each episode.

So far, the most talented designer on the show seems to be Daniella Callmeyer, who received a Bachelor of Fine Arts with Honors from the London College of Fashion. She has a smart, down-to-earth approach to fashion.

Unlike Callmeyer, Merlin Castell makes his first impression as the diva of the group and tries his best to let his actions support this. He looks right into the camera and says he is "very territorial" and "the dominant male."

Anyone who is a fan of "Project Runway" will very much enjoy this new addition to the Bravo family of contest shows. Mizrahi and Rowland also prove to be worthy successors to Gunn and Klum.

Mizrahi, taking on the Simon Cowell-esque role of the brutally honest judge, pulls no punches in his opinions of the contestants' flaws. In the first runway show, he finds all of the contestants' designs to be quite lacking.

Like its predecessor, "The Fashion Show" will be another smash success for the Bravo network.

OPINIONS

Letters Policy

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

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

Take time to relish summer vacation

Spring semester has come and gone, and summer is finally here.

Instead of relaxing on a beach, soaking up the sun and practicing my wake boarding skills, I am taking more summer classes.

OK, I don't actually know how to wake board, but it's nice to think about.

My point is, I have been enrolled in school for two years straight since I graduated from high school in 2007. The only breaks I get are winter and spring break, which is why I encourage students to take time off in the summer and enjoy what is left of your young adult life.

Once you get out into the "real world," things will never be the same.

I'm not trying to discourage students who would like to graduate ahead of time by taking summer classes, because I am doing the same thing. All I'm saying is that summer nights and road trips with lifelong friends is what college memories are made of.

I realize the economy is in bad shape and traveling may be a problem for many people on a budget. Therefore, to avoid spending your whole savings on a trip to Cancun to watch Fat Joe perform shirtless, go on a camping trip with friends at a local campsite or rough it in the woods.

Or have everyone pitch in gas money and take a trip to Gatlinburg or Pigeon Forge. If the city attractions and T-shirt airbrush shops on every corner don't interest you, then try hiking through the Smokey Mountains on the Appalachian Trail.

If all else fails, hop the fence at one of the cookie-cutter college apartments and go for a swim.

But if you have already committed yourself to schoolwork this summer, then plan something for next year and make it count, because you only live once.



From the Editor

Tiffany Gibson

One less distraction for drivers

I've got terrible road rage. I blame my father. He has it too.

Over the years, I've tried to fight the urge to yell at drivers who can't hear me, chase drivers who cut me off and deliver a well-placed middle finger to drivers who piss me off. I'm usually good about not doing the last two, although I can't seem to curb my appetite to yell obscenities at people who obviously slept through driver's ed.

But thanks to the Tennessee General Assembly, there's one less thing drivers can now do to insight my road rage. Gov. Phil Bredesen signed the "texting while driving" bill into law early last month. It prohibits a person from writing or reading text messages while driving a vehicle.

Like any good legislation, there are people who are above the law. Exemptions include police officers and medical workers—when both are "in the actual discharge of their official duties."



Yeah, Whatever

Andy Harper

The law does not apply to people who are in a vehicle when it is not moving. So if you wanted to text it up with a friend, make sure you do it at a stoplight. Entering a telephone number to call someone is also allowed. So texting is bad, but flipping through your contact list is a-OK.

Tennessee is not the first state to take a stance against cell phones on the road. Many other states actually prohibit the use of cell phones while driving all together. Some prohibit handhelds, but allow speakers and headsets. Comparatively, Tennessee is

actually pretty chill on cell phones and driving.

While flipping through coverage on the texting and driving legislation, two sides became very clear. One thinks the legislation is unnecessary. Tennessee already has a "driving while distracted" law that allows officers to ticket someone who is obviously impaired—perhaps by a text message.

The second group applauds legislatures for protecting our roads—one less evil to distract people while operating a 5,000-pound death machine.

Honestly, I just think it's a sad day when we have to make common sense law. I've texted and driven—on empty roads with no one around or while sitting in traffic. Texting while driving is dangerous if you put yourself in a dangerous situation.

It has gotten to a point where people seem more preoccupied with doing everything but driving in their cars. I've seen everything

from eating morning breakfast to putting on makeup. On one occasion I saw a woman driving with her knees so she could text.

Technology is amazing, but we are starting to use it more like an idiocracy rather than a society full of intelligent individuals. It takes very little effort to visualize the negative ramifications of texting while driving—just think about ramming your car into a tree at 70 mph.

But for those who still want to text and drive—fear not. The law does not take effect until July 1. So enjoy your last month of being able to text and drive without a \$50 ticket.

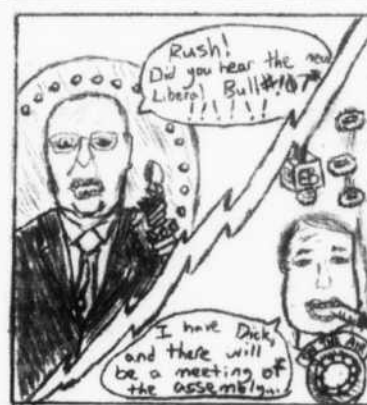
Andy Harper is a senior journalism major and can be reached at sah3u@mtsu.edu.

"Texting While Driving" Video

Check it out online at:



COMICS



Red, White, And Boo!

www.politica.com

Dustin Evans

Blue Raiders crowned best in Sun Belt

By STEPHEN CURLEY
Assistant Sports Editor

MT finished another terrific sports year Tuesday when the athletic department was presented the Vic Bubas Cup by the Sun Belt Conference for the fifth time in the nine years.

The award is given to the school judged to have performed the best through, based on a 186-point system, each academic year. The Blue Raiders scored a conference record 145.5 points, beating out runner-up Western Kentucky University and third place University of North Texas.

"Winning the award for the fifth time in nine years as a Sun Belt member speaks volumes regarding the total athletic department at Middle Tennessee and it would not have been possible without the support and leadership from President [Sidney] McPhee," said Chris Massaro, director of Athletics.

The Blue Raiders won or shared in six conference championships, including regular season titles in baseball and women's basketball, with tournament championships in men's indoor track, women's basketball, men's tennis and men's golf.

Other highlights of the year include four Coach of the Year honors, Alysha Clark leading the nation in points per game (women's basketball) and Bryce Brentz leading college baseball in home runs, batting average, slugging percentage and total bases. Sarah Nambawa also lead the nation in the triple jump for the track team.

Rounding out their score, MT boasted eight SBC Players of the Year, 17 individual conference championships, 24 student-athletes named to post-season all-conference teams, two athletes invited to Team USA trials, and one State of Tennessee Player of the Year.

Four MT coaches, Rick Insell (women's basketball), Whit Turnbow (men's golf), David McNamara (men's tennis) and Dean Hayes (men's indoor track and field) took home SBC Coach of the Year honors in their respective sports to boost the Blue Raiders' score.

MT also won the award in 2001, 2004, 2005, 2007 and have received it the most of any SBC school since joining the conference in 2000.

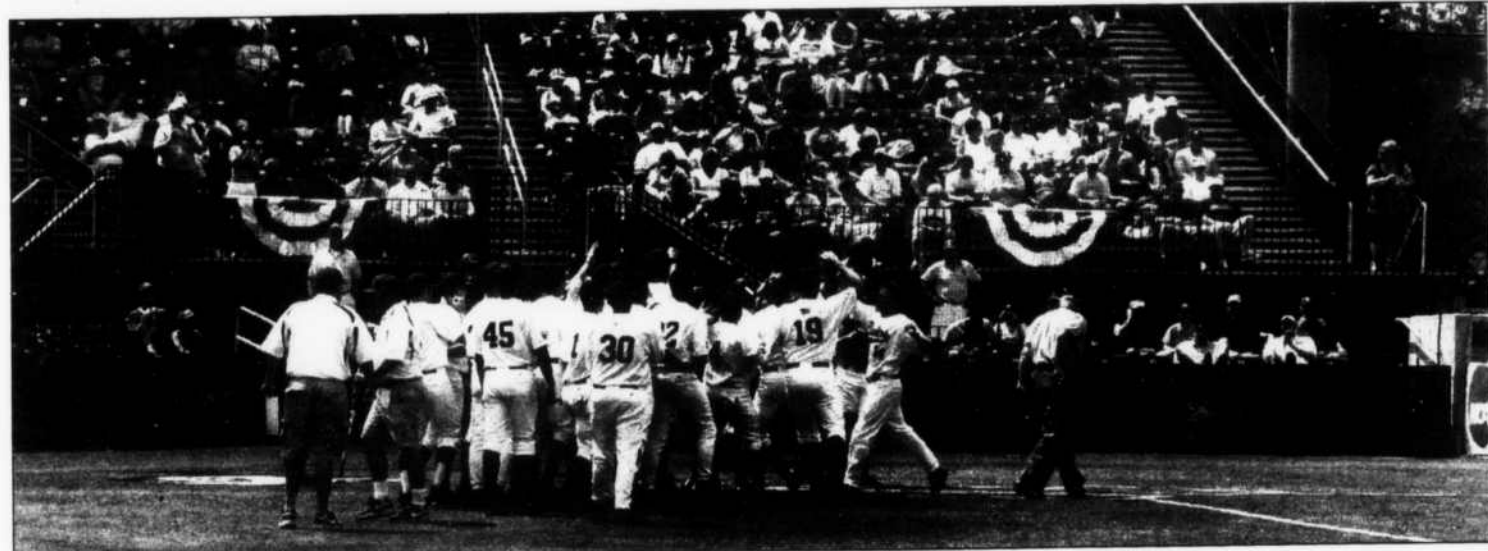


Photo by Adam Wells, contributing photographer

Junior Stuart Meinhart is met at home plate by the rest of his teammates after hitting a grand slam in the first inning of their opening game.

Baseball ends NCAA run with loss

By RICHARD LOWE
Sports Editor

After last night's pitching showcase against Louisville, MT fans might have expected a little bit of an easier time against Vanderbilt. That was not the case as the Commodores brought out sophomore Caleb Cotham to show off his talent. Cotham (7-5) pitched a complete game shutout in which he allowed only three hits and no walks as Vanderbilt eliminated the Blue Raiders from the NCAA Baseball Tournament, 6-0.

MT sent out junior Chad Edwards (8-2) to pitch for the Blue Raiders. He allowed two runs on three hits and one walk. The Blue Raiders used five pitchers in the game, with four being used in the eighth inning.

The Blue Raiders' offense was shut down, going 4 for 31 at the plate. Third baseman Rawley Bishop got the only extra base hit of the game for the Blue Raiders.

Overall, the NCAA Tournament was not kind to the Blue Raiders' offense. The team finished the tournament with a batting average of .221, which is .125 below their regular season average. Before the tournament, MT's offense was ranked in the top 15 nationally in 11 categories.

After the game, head coach Steve Peterson was complimentary towards Vanderbilt and his team, despite the elimination. He also informed the media that this is not the apex of the baseball program.

"We still have the dream to play in Omaha and until I hang it up, that's what we're

going to work towards," said Peterson.

This season was certainly one for the record books. Along with winning the regular season and tournament championships, the team finished the season setting eight single season records. Two seniors, Bishop and Nathan Hines, also finished their careers with spots on top of the record books. Sophomore Bryce Brentz set three single season records while junior Coty Woods set two.

MT finished their season with a 44-18 record, setting the record for most wins in school history. The record was previously held by the 1990 team that went 42-15 and undefeated in Ohio Valley Conference play.

Peterson picked up his 700th win in his career by defeating Western Kentucky, 10-4. He now sits at 707-549-3.



Photo by Richard Lowe, sports editor

Sophomore Brittany Cox is one of four headed to the NCAA Championships.

Four athletes qualify for NCAA Championships

Staff Report

Four athletes will be representing MT at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships after competing in the NCAA Midwest Regional meet this past weekend in Louisville, Ky.

Junior Brittany Cox qualified for her first NCAA Championships in women's shot put, placing fourth overall with a MT record toss of 53-6.25.

Junior All-American Sarah Nambawa won the women's triple jump, setting a new MT school record of 45-9 in the event. She broke her previous school record of 44-11.25 and ranks second in the

nation behind Florida State University sophomore Kim Williams.

Nambawa will also qualified for the NCAA Championships in the long jump after placing fifth overall with a jump of 20-4.5.

Sophomore Stanley Gbagbeke qualified in the men's long jump placing fifth overall with a leap of 25-3.5.

Senior Carl Morgan placed second overall in the men's triple jump with a jump of 52-8.75, also a personal best.

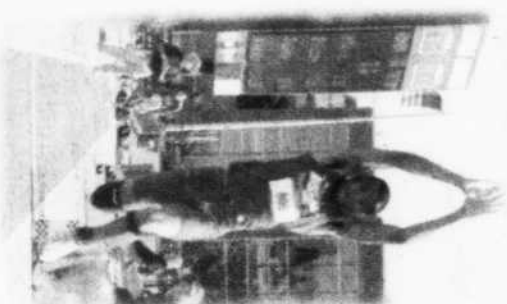
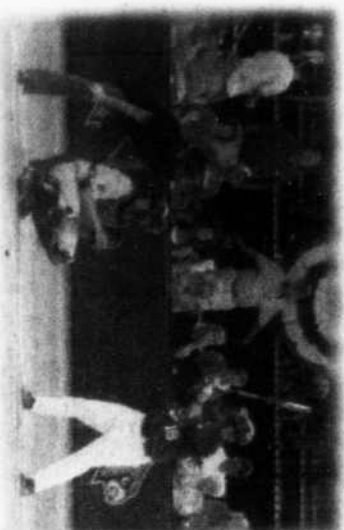
The NCAA Outdoor Championships will take place June 10-13 in Fayetteville, Ark.

SPORTS

MT wins
all-sports
trophy
Page 7



Check Out The
"LowDown"
with Richard Lowe
LD365.blogspot.com



Blue Raiders invade Louisville

Baseball, Track and Field teams compete in NCAA Regionals on campus of University of Louisville, four qualify for NCAA Championships, Page 7



Online at:
mthsidelines.com

Former MT football player
Trevor Jenkins signs with the
NFL's Philadelphia Eagles



Check it
out in next
week's issue

Sidelines begins its' Sun Belt
Summer Football Preview with
Arkansas State University and
Florida Atlantic University