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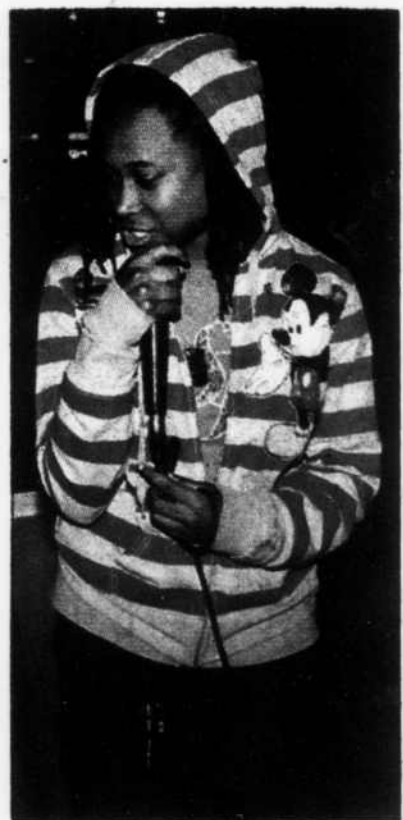
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2008

VOL. 84 NO. 51

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

INSIDE Word Up! MTSU



A new student organization celebrates the diverse artistic community at MTSU

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OPINIONS

Biracial like me: Walking in the shoes of others

Part four of our six-part series "Like Me," which examines diversity on campus.

OPINIONS, 5

Check out this week's comics

OPINIONS, 5

SPORTS

MT loses third in a row

Despite being down only 14-13 at the half, the Blue Raiders fall to the Bulldogs in Starkville, Miss.

SPORTS, 7

COMMUTE

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

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

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

Students reinvent fight song

By ALEX MOORMAN and
FAITH FRANKLIN
Assistant News Editors

Fight Song kicked off Homecoming last Thursday with the hope of raising school spirit and getting students excited about the festivities this year.

Fight Song is an event where organizations perform their own version of the MTSU fight song, based on the homecoming theme Bet on Blue. The master of ceremonies was Chuckie Avent, senior business major. The performance involves singing, dancing, short dialogues and the incorporation of props and background sets.

"Fight song is important because it kicks off Homecoming," said Brandon McNary, vice president of the Student Government Association. "It is one of MTSU's oldest traditions and it gets people really excited about Homecoming. It also encourages school spirit."

The event started with a performance by Lightning, the school mascot, MTSU cheerleaders and the MTSU band. The performance was followed by a roll call of all the sororities and fraternities attending.

"I think fight song went well this year," said Bri Montgomery, sophomore theater dance cognate major and Alpha Chi Omega member. "There were a lot of people there, and not that we didn't expect it but it was really nice to have that many people interested in this event."

Fight song is meant to boost school spirit and kick off the homecoming events but for one student it was a chance to get more involved on campus and learn more about



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor

Bri Montgomery performs with her group, which won the Fight Song on Thursday at the Murphy Center.

MTSU.

"I came out tonight to experience something different and see everything that MTSU has to offer," said Julia Johnson, senior political science major. "It is my senior year, and I never been to fight song so I decided to see what it was about."

The fight song winner is judged on four different criteria including performance, spirit, incorporation of words and crowd appeal. All performances have to be no more than

seven minutes long and can only use words that are in the original MTSU fight song.

First place was awarded to Alpha Chi Omega, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Epsilon and Pi Kappa Phi. Second place went to Alpha Delta Pi, Sigma Nu and Beta Theta Pi and third place was Chi Omega and Alpha Tau Omega.

"Fight song is good for our campus because it helps you learn a little piece of history," Montgomery said.

"It also brings different school organizations together to support our school and helps the people who are watching it become more school spirited. Overall, I think it's a great opportunity for the university."

View photo slideshow online at www.mtsusidelines.com

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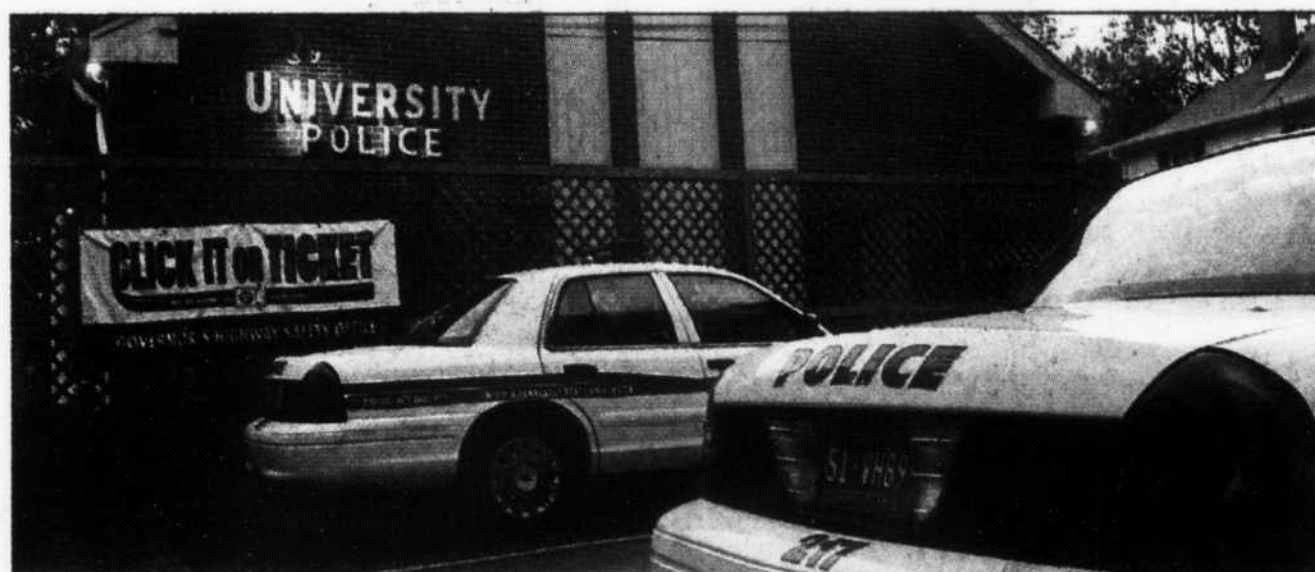


Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor

Campus Police will use radar to issue speeding tickets to those going over 11 mph of the 15 speed limit for campus

Speeding on campus more affordable

Students to receive cheaper campus citations instead of criminally offensive state citations for traffic violations

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

Campus police will now issue campus citations for speeding instead of state citations to help ensure the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists.

Campus Police Chief Buddy Peaster said that these citations will supply officers with an intermediate tool when it comes to deciding on issuing a verbal warning or a state citation.

"Officers have discretion over issuing tickets versus giving verbal warnings," Peaster said. "We just feel like this will be a better way overall to keep people driving at a slower speed that is necessary on campus with all the congestion we have and not have a huge financial burden on people."

Peaster said that state citations are forwarded to an actual criminal court and could be up to \$250.

"This allows us to actually give a ticket to someone or a violation without it going against their insur-

ance, because these campus citations are not criminal offense tickets," Peaster said. "They are actually an administrative ticket."

Peaster said that campus citations will range from \$20 to \$50 depending on how fast someone is going over the speed limit.

"We don't start ticketing people until they're at least going 11 miles over the speed limit," Peaster said. "That means the person is going to be at least 26 mph before they get any campus citation."

Those going 16 to 20 mph over the speed limit will receive a citation of \$35, and those driving anything over 21 mph will receive a \$50 citation. A \$25 citation will also be issued for running a stop sign.

"Because it's cheaper, I guess people won't take it seriously, because they have to pay less than parking tickets, and I don't really take them seriously," said Lidia Belete, senior English major.

Peaster said that even though these campus citations exist, police still have the authority to issue state

citations.

"I would not take it seriously, because it's only going to be \$20," said Allie Duty, upcoming freshman. "I got a \$150 speeding ticket, and I never want to get one of those again."

In the last six months to a year, Peaster said that Alumni Drive has been a major source of speeding problems.

"Once the first phase of Alumni Drive was finished, our officers reported that they saw a lot of cars going very fast, up to 55 mph," Peaster said. "We kind of anticipated we would have that problem, because the street is really straight, wide and two lanes."

Peaster also said that since MTSU's core campus is a pedestrian walking area, it is important to maintain the safety of those not in vehicles.

"We haven't received a tremendous amount of reports, but I think that there are probably a few times someone is bumped, and instead of

Fitch hopes to lessen the pain of budget cuts

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

The Office of Student Affairs has eliminated cooperative education and reduced all of its areas by five percent because of the additional \$3 million budget cut earlier this month.

The responsibilities associated with the cooperative education department have been spread amongst other colleges, according to Gene Fitch, associate vice president for Student Affairs and dean of Student Life.

"If you have a co-op student in student planning, in the past they might have reported to cooperative education, [but] now that individual might be assigned to the college placement person that is assigned to them," Fitch said.

As far as any other programs, Fitch said that Student Affairs hasn't discussed the possibility of cutting other programs.

However, Fitch said that academic programs could be looked at for cuts.

"You might want to look at how many students are enrolled in particular degree programs when you're making those decisions," Fitch said. "We're going to do the best we can do not to get rid of anything."

John Cothern, senior vice president, said that layoffs could be expected with future budget cuts; therefore, many student workers are subject to be layoffs as well as adjunct teachers.

"It was probably four or five years ago when we went through a similar time where our funding was reduced, and what we did at that point was that many of our departments

CITATION, PAGE 3

CUTS, PAGE 2

Panel addresses election issues

By FAITH FRANKLIN
Assistant News Editor

Faculty members from a variety of disciplines will participate in a roundtable discussion entitled "Gender, Race and Politics" today in the Keathley University Center Theater.

The women's studies program will host the discussion, which runs from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m.

The women's studies program wanted to make use of MTSU's intellectual resources, according to Tina Johnson, director for women's studies.

"When choosing participants, we pulled from resources found in our distinguished faculty and chose the participants known for their expertise and those that will be able to present their interdisciplinary perspective," Johnson said.

Participating faculty include Raholanda White, associate professor of business communication and entrepreneurship; Robb McDaniel, associate professor of political science; Dr. Sekou Franklin, assistant professor for political science; and Jennifer Woodard, assistant professor for electronic media communication.

Anne Sloan, assistant to executive vice president and provost, will moderate.

"We have a pretty well-rounded panel with different view-points for the discussion," McDaniel said. "This roundtable discussion will be a good chance to talk about the election in a larger setting."

The discussion aims to educate students on the inter-



McDaniel

disciplinary work found in the women's studies program.

"The discussion will help students understand from a scholarly perspective the gender and racial dimension of US politics, and also expose them to the kind of intellectually engaging interdisciplinary work that we do in the Women's Studies Program," Johnson said.

Conversations on race, gender and politics often interest students, McDaniel said.

"The issues of race and gender are pretty prominent in this election," McDaniel said. "Anyone interested in race, gender the election is going to find something about this discussion interesting."

Johnson called the discussion a great opportunity for students to explore these controversial topics.

The audience will have the opportunity to contribute through comments and questions pertaining to the discussion.

The roundtable discussion is not limited to students. All faculty and staff are invited to attend.

"The discussion is for the whole of MTSU's community, students, faculty and staff," Johnson said.

The topic is also not exclusive to MTSU, but to the public as well, she said.

"The discussion is inclusive of everyone and open to the public," Johnson said. "It is a topic that connects everyone."

CUTS FROM PAGE 1

in student affairs did away with our student workers and graduate assistants," Fitch said.

Fitch said that federal work dollars will always be available to cover the hundreds of students that qualify for the work-study program.

"No one is going to ask a student to work and not be paid the minimum wage," Fitch said. "We just don't do that."

Fitch also said that some student workers couldn't be let go because many are on academic service scholarships and work five hours a week.

"They don't get money in their paycheck, but they get a scholarship," Fitch said.

Keith Semler, sophomore geo-science major, said that instead of cutting student programs, the administration should focus on creating more.

"Working on campus is always good, because if you live in a dorm without a car

then you can make some money," Semler said. "It's never a good thing when they scale back."

Because of the budget cuts, Norman Washington, sophomore economics major, said that he worries that freshmen aren't going to experience the same things he did in his first year.

Despite possible adjunct teacher and student worker layoffs, Fitch said that the Student Government Association would not be impacted by the budget cuts unless enrollment drops significantly.

Even though Student Programming suffered a five percent budget cut, Fitch said that doesn't mean students will see less entertainment.

"Before the cuts we might have been looking at an act that was going to cost \$1,500, and now we might have to look for an act that is going to cost \$1,200," Fitch said.

Overall, Fitch said that he would do his best to minimize the impact it would have on students.

Lambda hosts ball

By COURTNEY WATSON
Staff Writer

The Lambda Association MTSU's, Gay/Straight Alliance group, will host a "Blank Like Me ball" in the Jackson Alumni Building on this Thursday from 7 to 10 p.m.

Admission for the ball is \$3 at the door or free with a cos-

tume. Guests attending the ball are encouraged to dress up as something that is outside of their comfort zone.

Read more online at
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Program promotes math, science for girls

By ANDY HARPER
Managing Editor

Middle and high school girls from across Middle Tennessee expanded their educational interests this weekend at an MTSU conference aimed to spark curiosity in math and science.

The 12th annual Expanding Your Horizons in Math and Science conference was held Saturday and offered an array of classes including subjects like biology, chemistry, psychology, physics and computer sciences.

"I brought EYH to campus in 1996," said Judith Iriarte-Gross, MTSU chemistry professor and event organizer. "This program has been around nationally since 1976, when a group of women mathematicians and scientists from California asked, 'Where are the women?' They started this program to encourage girls to take what they need in science and math to succeed in college."

Around 300 middle school girls and 30 high school girls attended the workshops. MTSU students served as group leaders and class aides, while practitioners and faculty from multiple colleges, including MTSU, served as instructors.

"We had volunteers from

Fisk University, Tennessee State University and, of course, MTSU," Iriarte-Gross said. "We also had professional women, local medical doctors, engineers and other professionals run workshops. But we want to have more practitioners so the girls can hear these people's stories."

Chuck Higgins, MTSU astronomy and general physics professor, taught a workshop about the sun and its composition. This year's EYH was Higgins third year as a volunteer instructor.

of science."

According to Higgins, teaching secondary students is not very different from teaching at the college level.

"They definitely probe more than college students," Higgins said smiling. "They ask great questions and sometime even stump me. I think they like to see the teacher get stumped sometimes."

Some of the MTSU workers, like Autumn Turner, remembered attending EYH when they were children.

“As a teacher, it’s wonderful to share what we do as mathematicians, scientists and engineers with these girls.”

JUDITH IRIARTE-GROSS
CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR AND EVENT ORGANIZER

"We are learning about the composition of the sun," Higgins said. "We even look at the sun through the telescope and study the spectrum and elements."

Higgins said that he loves to help develop interest in science, especially in younger students.

"I like to inspire anybody to be interested in science, but more girls need to be involved with and stay with science," Higgins said. "It's nice to be able to show the depth of science and expose kids to a lot of different kinds

"I did the shop in middle school," said Turner, senior education major. "Middle school is crucial because it's when you will become interested or disinterested in math and science. But if we can get them interested, the girls can carry that interest through high school."

Student workers are recruited through various methods, including word of mouth, professional societies and an experienced learning class.

Student workers enjoy seeing the girls get excited about



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
A high school student looks at a picture of herself and the snake, Mango, at a science workshop.

math and science, Iriarte-Gross said.

"It's kind of cool to see these girls interested in aviation," said Will Dyke, senior aerospace major. "We help them fly simulators and teach them the basics about airplanes and how they fly."

In a traditionally male-dominated field, Dyke said there is a recent growth of female pilots and programs like EYH help to build interest and confidence of girls who are interested in aviation.

"They asked some really interesting questions, too," Dyke added with a laugh. "Like if there was an injection seat in the airplane."

Iriarte-Gross, who has been involved with EYH since 1990 as a professional in polymer chemistry, said she has heard stories about girls who have participated in the program and carried their interest for math and science throughout their lives, receiving degrees in

mathematics, engineering and computer sciences.

"As a teacher, it's wonderful to share what we do as mathematicians, scientists and engineers with these girls," Iriarte-Gross said. "It is going to be these people who are the scientists and mathematicians in the future, and if we don't get them interested in these subjects now, we are not going to have anybody to develop and explore new, groundbreaking science later."

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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Steven Chappell, Sidelines Director, Box 8
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Application deadline: 4:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3

Editor selection will be held the week of Nov. 17 and will be conducted through an interview with the University Newspaper Publications Board.

Sidelines is also accepting applications for the following staff positions in the Spring 2009 semester:

- | | |
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| Opinions editor | Staff designers |

To apply, come by COMM 269 and fill out an application. These positions are open until filled.

CITATION FROM PAGE 1

calling the police, they don't really think about calling in an accident report in the same way as if two cars were involved," Peaster said.

Peaster said that the whole purpose of the campus citations is to prevent students from getting points on their licenses and spending a lot of money on court costs.

"I would hate to think that we issued someone a ticket, and it was \$500,

and that took away their rent money for the month," Peaster said. "Our intent is to cause people to know they did something wrong without causing them so much financial stress and without them having to drop out of school."

Through the Sidelines' Lens Staff photographer shot of the week



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
A cheerleader smiles as she spots the flyer at the Lady Raider volleyball game Saturday.

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THE ARTISTIC COMMUNITY OF 'WORD UP!'

A new student organization is created to promote arts of all genres and forms

By JESSICA PACE
Contributing Writer

Music and dialogue is audible across campus. The area between the Business and Aerospace Building and the library is playing host to a gathering of MTSU students. Individuals with a variety of talents and backgrounds unite through the new, art-oriented campus organization – "Word Up!"

"Word Up at MTSU – we are changing us and you," a student declares into the mic at the group of about 70 spectators and performers at last Thursday's Word Up gathering.

By 9 p.m., the Word Up session is in full swing, complete with a band of bongo and saxophone players. The musicians provide background music for the various poets, dancers and spoken-word artists who spontaneously "take the stage" inside the circle formed by the audience.

"Word Up is a performance collective whose purpose is to celebrate diversity through interests and talents to create a sense of community," Word Up founder Dean Andrews explains. "We celebrate the arts in all genres and forms including instrumental music, singer/songwriters, bands, poetry, hip hop, dance and visual arts."

Word Up meetings are exactly how Andrews describes them. The assemblies feature art and performances from every aforementioned genre before an accepting audience. There is little differentiation between the leaders of Word Up and regular attendees at the sessions, largely because everyone is welcome to perform. The vague division between the organization's leaders and members enforces the sense of community that Andrews wants to create.

"We have an inner circle of organizers, and then all our friends and performers, but we share responsibilities," Andrews explains. "There is no operation or function exclusive to one person. The group effort makes us self-sustaining."

The inner circle that Andrews is referring to is not there to orchestrate the sessions, but only maintain a level of organization through a loose itinerary. The leaders depend on the students

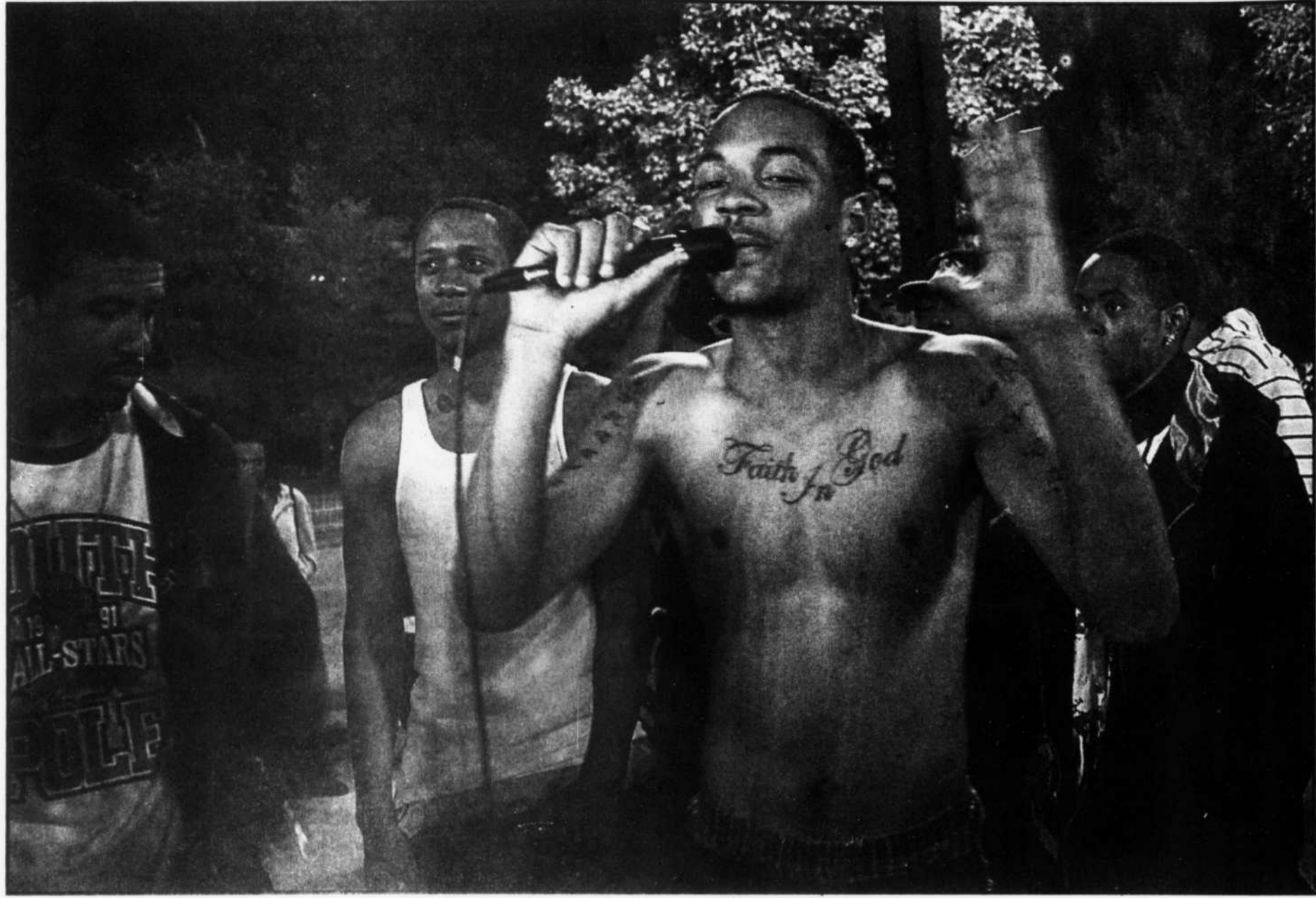


Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photographer editor

Word Up! brings artists of all mediums together, like word artist Rukus, seen above. The organization meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Quad.

who come to perform, as well as those who come only to watch and support. Individuals drift in and out of the sessions, which are held in such a location so that there is just as many attendees who discover Word Up when passing by as there are regular members.

"I just walked by and heard all the music," says Kayla Johnson, freshman horse science major.

Word Up is also spreading by word of mouth.

"Someone at a party told me about Word Up," says Dan Seo, junior business administration major and first-time attendee.

Shelby Bridwell, freshman art major, has been to every Word Up meeting since its creation, and is currently at work designing a t-shirt for Word Up.

Another regular at Word Up, who identified himself as Pana, brings some of the diversity the organization embraces through his performances, which includes spoken word, poetry and hip hop.

"I use my heritage in my art

"Everybody's perspective is valuable and beautiful, and I learn from people doing things close to the heart."

Dean Andrews

Founder of Word Up!

and often perform in Spanish to represent my culture," Pana says.

This Thursday session is Word Up's 13th, but its first as official school organization, Andrews says.

"Bureaucratically, you have to be an official organization in order to use any campus space for meetings," Andrews says. "There was a lot of paperwork, and we created a constitution covering every

aspect of form, membership rules and fees."

But there is still room for the organization to take itself to the next level.

This week marks the last two meetings for the organization prior to a mandatory probationary period, which will end Nov. 24.

The founder is making plans for future meetings after the period. In the spirit of catering to all artists, Word

Up will be embracing different themes and welcoming bands to perform once sessions resume.

Andrews easily takes on the responsibilities as Word Up founder, being the type of dynamic force to start open mic nights at The Grind, a local hookah bar. He encourages others at both Word Up and The Grind to be enthusiastic about performing.

Though Word Up is new at MTSU, Andrews held original performance sessions at the Parthenon and at various Nashville cafés, like Café Coco. It was here that Kidd Navarro, sophomore anthropology and global studies major, met Andrews. Navarro is a spoken word artist and rapper, and she continues to attend Word Up at MTSU.

Zealous and passionate when talking about Word Up, Andrews describes the organization in a word – jam.

When asked why he is so passionate about getting everyone together for the sake of art, he says, "I love people."

"We can learn so much

from each other," Andrews says. "Everybody's perspective is valuable and beautiful, and I learn from people doing things close to the heart. Performance is a form of love."

Andrews says that there is one truth – art is something everyone has in common.

"It (art) can help us get past that high school cafeteria mentality," Andrews says. "I want to show other people that truth so we can grow from it."

Excitement towards art and performance is what Word Up encourages in its members. This excitement leads to a tighter community among all ethnicities, talents and backgrounds, Andrews says.

To learn more about Word Up, visit myspace.com/wordupnashville.

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Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer

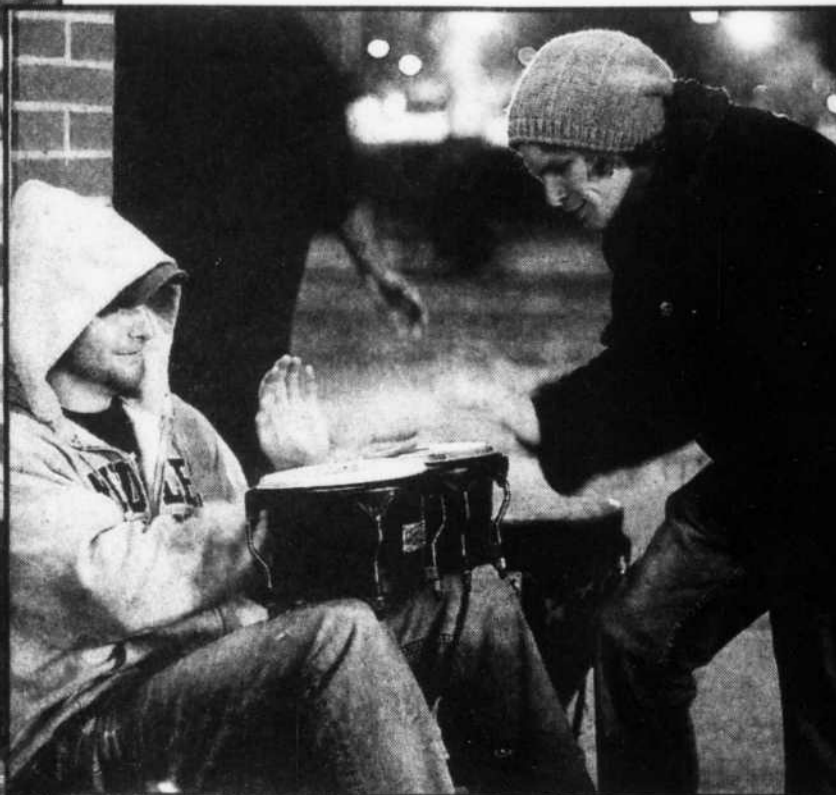


Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photographer editor

(Left) Word artist Sealzy performs for a crowd at Word Up! on Thursday. (Above) Guitarist C. J. Cates, right, takes a break from his 6 string to play Chris Hardy's Bongos. (Right) Word Up! founder Dean Andrews reads a poem to attendees in the Quad.



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photographer editor

OPINIONS

Biracial like me

- ✓ Hispanic
- ✓ Gay
- ✓ Biracial
- ✓ Muslim
- ✓ Jewish
- ✓ Non-traditional

A six-part series examining diversity on campus

Walking in the shoes of others

By RANDII CARTER
Contributing Writer

My name is Randii. Yes, the two i's are there on purpose.

I may have a unique name, but that's not the only thing that makes me different. Like Barack Obama, Bob Marley, Pastor Vinnie, Lenny Kravitz, Alicia Keys, Derek Jeter, Tiger Woods and other less-famous people, I am biracial. Plus, I am very proud of it.

Do you remember the feeling you got when you were trying to find your place in the world or what group of friends would accept you the most? Now imagine having that feeling most of your life. I am fused together by two worlds. Most people have to find their place in one world. Well, I have two. My mother is white and my father is black, and they are the best parents I could ever ask for. They always taught me color was never an issue, but in my

world—or should I say, worlds—it was. I did not know where I belonged. I know that may sound strange, but have you ever heard the expression, "You are your own worst enemy?"

I don't have any stories of being bullied around because of my ethnicity or being picked last in gym because I didn't look like everyone else. I have, however, encountered name calling. The most popular names when I was growing up were "mutt," "Oreo" and even "zebra." These words may not seem like a big deal to you, but think of them as the equivalent to the N-word. Let me tell you, sticks and stones do break bones and certain words do hurt you. Over the years, I have learned to deal with people's ignorance by not becoming an ignorant person

myself. I cannot change what people do, but I can and do choose how my life will be impacted by what others do.

Today, if someone came to me and asked me to pick an ethnicity, I would not know which one I would choose. Society would say I was black, but by calling me black, wouldn't that suggest I

to be an option, even here at MTSU. The only word in that section that seems to come close would be "other." Am I not important enough to be one of the options in that section? Regardless of the pre-made options, I check both white and black. I am proud of who I am, and I do not want someone to think

have had a great year-and-a-half here at MTSU. I feel accepted and appreciated.

Growing up biracial for me was not something that changed how people acted toward me, or how many friends I made. Because I had to navigate two worlds very early on in my life, I think that I have a distinct advantage over you "one-worlders." I can now navigate both worlds which means that I am comfortable in most settings.

Lastly, I am proud to have the parents I have and look the way I look and act the way I act. Just think of me as the light-skinned girl with curly hair and freckles: the product of a beautiful biracial couple.

Randii Carter is a sophomore education major and can be reached at rmc4e@mtsu.edu. She is the fourth of six students featured in our six-week "Like Me" series.

“Because I had to navigate two worlds very early on in my life, I think that I have a distinct advantage over ‘one-worlders.’ I can now navigate both worlds, which means that I am comfortable in most settings.”

was fully black? I feel like I have to pick a side a lot in my life, especially when it comes to filling out applications.

I never know what to choose when I get to the famous question, "What is your ethnicity?" Biracial never seems

school, I believe that some people wonder "what" I am, but I simply try to be me because I am not a "what." There are some puzzled looks here on campus, but those looks are more about curiosity than condemnation. I

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Help us put an end to the one-sidedness

We've been receiving a lot of feedback this semester on the so-called political agenda of the *Sidelines*' opinions page. And we want to set the record straight.

Over the years, our newspaper has welcomed staff from all walks of the political realm.

Conservative, liberal, Democrat, Republican, Neo-Con, Libertarian, apathetic. Our opinions page has reflected the ebb and flow of the students that come through our office.

Right now, our editorial board is—completely unintentionally—comprised of a group of similarly-minded folk. This makes for a relatively easy editorial board meeting, but we realize that it often produces a broken record of opinion.

Even more, this semester

we've seen a lack of conservative voices within our columnists. No, we have not done this on purpose. No, we do not solely seek out liberal perspectives. And no, we don't enjoy the increasingly one-sidedness of our op-ed section.

Still, remember that newspaper editorials are supposed to take a point of view. The same goes for columns on the op-ed page. Don't equate a front-page news story with an editorial. Editorial and column writers, in contrast, are supposed to take a point of view. They're supposed to be biased.

They are under no obligation to be fair or balanced.

Some of the complaints that we've heard this semester are entirely unfounded.

To accuse *Sidelines* of propagating a liberal agenda

based on the contents of our opinions page is senseless. If an anti-Sarah Palin article appeared in our news section, then it would be a legitimate argument.

The same people that compose thorough, well thought-out arguments on our Web site accusing *Sidelines* of harboring a liberal-agenda could put that same energy to making our opinion page more balanced.

Why not write a column expressing your opinion instead of spending the same amount of time calling us a bunch of liberalism-peddlers on our Web site? Not as many people will read your words via that medium. If you disagree with a column on the op-ed page, write one that you think is better. We'll publish it.

We wish there was more diversity of voice represent-

ed. Do you love Sarah Palin? Write a column. Use your voice. Make an argument. Tell us why.

In his *Agreopagitica*, John Milton wrote, "Though all the winds of doctrine were let loose to play upon the earth, so Truth be in the field, we do injuriously by licensing and prohibiting to misdoubt her strength. Let her and Falsehood grapple; who ever knew Truth put to the worse in a free and open encounter?"

The great function of a free press is the evolution of the marketplace of ideas. All ideas—good or bad, wrong or right, legitimate or nonsensical—should be welcomed.

The truth—and who knows, concretely, what that ultimately entails—will eventually prevail.

But not without a hearty debate from each side.

Want to write an opinions column?

No matter what side of the ideological spectrum, we want to hear what you have to say.

E-mail slopinio@mtsu.edu for more information or stop by our office to fill out an application.

Mass Comm 269

FACES IN THE CROWD

Should speeding tickets on campus be more than in Rutherford County?



Covington

"No, because college students don't have the money to be spending on tickets."

Harold Covington, freshman, EMC journalism



Winslow

"No. How fast can you go on campus? I don't see people speeding very much."

Christina Winslow, senior liberal studies



Shelton

"Yes. It's around a school zone. People should be more careful driving around campus."

Brad Shelton, senior studio art



Boyd

"No, because MTSU is a community within itself."

Kristyne Boyd, freshman undeclared

COMICS

Hi there, I'm a poorly drawn caricature of Frank Hasenmueller, and absolutely no one has asked me who I would endorse for President.



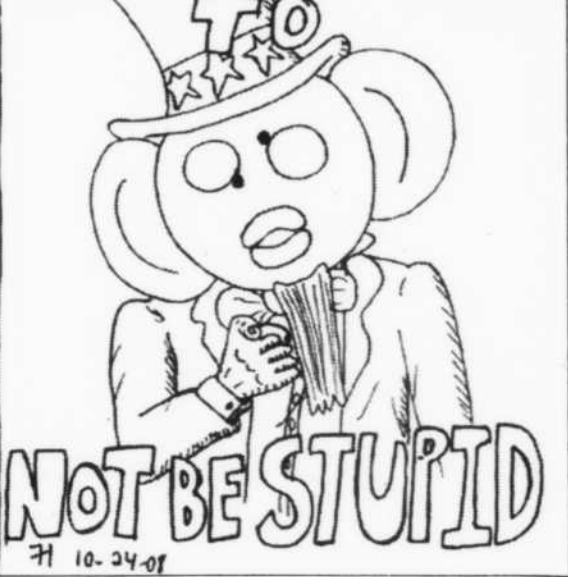
And that's OKAY. You shouldn't pick a President because someone else told you you should. You should research and read the facts and make your own decision.



Just remember: neither Candidate is the messiah, and neither one is the Antichrist. If you pick one over the other, let it be for informed, policy-based reasons. Don't NOT vote for someone because of their Name, Age, or Skin-color. Thank you.



I WANT YOU



NOT BE STUPID

"And Friends"

frankhasenmueller@gmail.com

Frank Hasenmueller

Judgment shouldn't be marginalized

This past Saturday, a few friends and I attended the Family Worship Center's presentation of "Judgment: Death Row" in Murfreesboro.

The presentation was a variation of a traditional Hell House—a haunted house with a Christian theme designed to lead viewers to a relationship with Jesus in order to save their eternal souls from the fires of hell.

The concept for the original Hell House was "Scaremare" and was pioneered by Jerry Falwell in the 1970s. Scaremare still runs to this day.

Since its development, multiple churches, usually denoting themselves as fundamentalists, have emulated this Halloween pastime, including Trinity Church of Cedar Hill, Texas—whose hellish production was documented by director George Ratliff in the movie *Hell House*.

It was very obvious that the Family Worship Center spent top dollar on its faithful interpretation of salvation through the intricacy of its set, the man-power it took to run the production and the oh-so-subtle advertisement spots on Comcast.

But even with a decent-sized budget, the overall message delivered by the church left much to be desired—specifically accountability.

The play is set up to take the audience through the lives of several death row inmates, including murderers, rapists and child abusers. It depicts scenes of drug use, domestic abuse, suicide, assault, molestation, drinking and death.

Each prisoner has a different backstory.

One was molested as a child. This led him to become addicted to pornography and eventually kidnap, rape and



Yeah, Whatever
Andy Harper

kill children.

Another was unprepared for the burden of motherhood, what with her addiction to an unnamed drug demon. Her baby wouldn't stop crying so she shook it to death.

The crimes of the inmates can go on and on, but the one running commonality among them was their lack of faith in the Family Worship Center's opinion of God.

I say the Family Worship Center's opinion of God because not every sect of Christianity believes exactly what this specific church does. However, through its hell house presentation, the FWC made perfectly clear what will and will not get you into its Heaven.

Suicide and the rejection of God is an automatic admission ticket to become Satan's little errand boy.

The only way to get into Heaven—or have your name recorded in the "Book of Life"—was to ask Jesus to forgive you of all your Earthly sins. But unawareness with the Christian faith was not covered. If you are not aware of the concept of Christianity, do you also go to Hell?

The biggest problem with their version of ultimate forgiveness was there is no accountability for Earthly actions.

For example, the aforementioned child-shaking mother

asked the religious figure present at her lethal injection if God could forgive her. He replied the mandatory "yes," because really, let's face it, he doesn't know for sure. She then asked Jesus to forgive her; they injected her with a dose of deadly narcotics, and she dies but then awakens moments later—in Heaven.

Every other non-murderous individual should be outraged at this. This woman is allotted the same reward for living a terrible life that a person who works very hard to remain virtuous gets.

It is true that forgiveness is not fair. But forgiveness should not come without retribution. People should be made to be accountable for their actions and not receive a free ride to a blissful eternity.

In a technical sense, Person A and Person B are both given the same opportunity—life.

Person A spends his life obeying laws, caring for others and trying his hardest to be an overall good person.

Person B, given the same opportunity of life, squanders his life selfishly, harming other people.

Both people ask Jesus to forgive their sins. According to the FWC, both will get into Heaven.

Person A should be pissed. Luckily for him, he gets to spend eternity enjoying being pissed off.

The fact of the matter is the Family Worship Center has no idea what the requirements are for entry into either Heaven or Hell. Like many other sects of Christianity and other religions, they think they know, but they don't.

And that, above all else, is the concept that terrifies us as humans. The answer to all the "big" questions is very simple—we don't know.



Photo by Alex Blackwelder

Just before getting electrocuted, this "sinner" denies God and is sent to hell directly upon dying during the Family Worship Center's production of "Judgment: Death Row" this past Friday.

The FWC would like to think that, after we die, we go to either Heaven or Hell. They like to think that the requirement for entry into Heaven is to "confess Christ openly, follow Christ in baptism, be faithful in going to a Bible-believing church, read the Bible, pray daily, give your time, talent and tithes, and be a witness for Christ."

Those are all very nice goals and decent standards to live by. But once again, these are just theories—not guarantees.

Yes, the answer is scary. We will all die one day. Not knowing what will happen to us after we die is absolutely petrifying.

But it isn't a bad thing. We have the fear, so we should use it. The only thing we can do is blindly prepare for what lies after life.

So we help out others in need, love our fellow humans, whether we agree with them or not, and try to maintain a progressive, safe world for ourselves and our posterity. Doing these things

is not always easy, and many people mess up. But it's okay because, after all, we are only human.

The FWC message that left much to be desired was that we need to stay out of Hell. Swing and a miss.

What their message should have been is that we should be good people because it is the right thing to do.

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

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in check!**

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know.**

**5. Leave
knowing that
you have
given a child
with cancer
another
chance!**

Hope Time
LIFE
Love

SPORTS

MSU rides Dixon to victory, stops MT comeback

By CASEY BOWMAN
Assistant Sports Editor

The Middle Tennessee Blue Raider football team gave the Bulldogs of Mississippi State everything they could handle this past Saturday, but it was to no avail.

In a closely contested match, the Blue Raiders fell short on a comeback effort, losing to MSU 22-31.

An inconsistent offense was a problem for the Blue Raiders coming into Saturday's contest, but quarterback Joe Craddock rose to the occasion once again and led MT to a pretty successful performance.

Craddock shined in the passing game, completing 23 of 40 attempts for 235 yards and a touchdown hurl.

Overall, the Blue Raiders accounted for 348 yards on offense and 18 first downs, while MSU was fairly even with MT, going for 366 total yards and 17 first downs.

The touchdown pass that Craddock threw connected with wide receiver Eldred King late in the first half and helped keep MT in the game.

King had a career night for the Blue Raiders as he collected 11 total receptions for 164 yards and that touchdown.

Another bright spot for the Blue Raiders came in the field goal department. Freshman Alan Gendreau connected on all three of his field goal attempts in the game and has now hit six in a row for MT over its last three games.

After going into halftime trailing 13-14, MT came out strong with its first possession of the third quarter – driving the ball 67 yards on 14 plays which ended with Gendreau connecting on his third field goal of the game from 23 yards out to give MT a 16-14 advantage.

While Gendreau seems to have found his stride in the kicking department, head



Photo courtesy of MT Athletic Communications

Phillip Tanner (with ball) fights for yards against the MSU defense. Tanner gained 29 yards on eight carries. As a team, MT gained 80 yards on 29 rushes.

coach Rick Stockstill was upset with his team's inability to get the ball into the end zone.

"When you play an SEC team like that, you can't settle for field goals," Stockstill said. "We got inside the red zone three times and had three field goals. We had chances at touchdowns, and we let them slip away."

After MT captured the lead, MSU retaliated on its very next possession. MSU quarterback Tyson Lee capped off an impressive 12 play, 69-yard drive with a five-yard quar-

terback keeper that reached pay dirt.

MSU did not look back after that.

The Bulldogs scored 10 more points before MT was able to put together another

successful drive.

Craddock led MT down the field on a 16-play drive that ended with running back Phillip Tanner plunging into the end zone from one yard out.

The drive, however, was

very time consuming, and after a failed attempt on a 2-point conversion, MT saw themselves still down by two possessions with no time left to put together a successful comeback.

MSU was able to get the bulk of their production from running back Anthony Dixon, who blew up against the Blue Raiders for 141 yards on

FOOTBALL, PAGE 8

Denver hands soccer second loss in a row, defeats MT 1-0

By DAVID POWELL
MT Athletic Communications

Middle Tennessee allowed a goal midway through the second half and could not overcome the deficit in the final 30 minutes as they fell 1-0 to the Denver Pioneers at Pioneer Field on Sunday afternoon.

MT (9-7-2, 7-3-0 Sun Belt) came into the match sitting fourth place in the SBC after a hard-fought 2-1 loss to North Texas on Friday evening. The Blue Raiders found themselves trailing by two goals before Jen Threlkeld pulled one back for the away side with a 74th minute header.

Despite the defeat, MT had a chance to keep themselves in the thick of the chase for the SBC regular-season crown with a win against the Pioneers.

Denver (15-2-2, 8-1-1 SBC) was coming off a disappointing 1-0 home loss to Western Kentucky on Friday that saw the Hilltoppers vault over the Pioneers into first place in the conference. The loss was their first in conference play and just the

second overall on the season.

Both teams came out fighting from the opening whistle and it was MT that created the first chance of the match. Shan Jones received a good ball in the eighth minute but her resulting shot was driven wide of the Denver goal.

The Pioneers almost opened the scoring in the

Johnston at the top of the box. The forward nailed a shot through a crowd from 17 yards and into the back of the net.

The Pioneers outshot MT 21-to-6 in the match. Sophomore midfielder Vanessa Mueggler led the Blue Raiders with three shots. Casiple had three saves in goal to move her single-season total to a career-high 85.

"I was very proud of the effort and spirit shown by our players over the last two matches," MT Head Coach Aston Rhoden said. "We played solid defensively and had a couple

“We played solid defensively and had a couple of lapses that proved the difference this weekend. We now have to turn our preparations to Western Kentucky and the conference tournament.”

ASTON RHODEN
MT HEAD SOCCER COACH

26th minute when Jessie Rogers got her head to the ball off a corner kick, but the defender's shot went over Kela Casiple and the Blue Raider goal. The home side won five corner kicks in the first half and 11 overall for the match.

Denver scored the match-winning goal in the 59th minute. Midfielder Bria Beardsley served in a cross from the right side that eventually found Mariah

of lapses that proved the difference this weekend. We now have to turn our preparations to Western Kentucky and the conference tournament."

MT concludes SBC regular-season play against rival Western Kentucky at Blue Raider Field on Friday night. The match is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. with Senior Day festivities set for twenty minutes prior to kickoff.



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor

Before falling to UNO on Sunday, MT had strung together a nine-game winning streak.

Privateers end MT's winning streak

By JESSICA STAUFFACHER
MT Athletic Communications

Senior Ashley Asberry notched a double-double for the Blue Raiders, who fell to New Orleans 3-2 (25-21, 25-19, 22-25, 23-25, 11-15) on Sunday afternoon.

Asberry ended the day with 14 kills and 12 block assists as she had just one error in the match to post a .650 attack percentage. The 12 block assists were just one shy of her

career-high 13, which Asberry had against UAB on Nov. 23, 2007.

Sophomore Izabela Kozon added 11 kills on the day to add assistance to the offense.

Middle Tennessee (19-4, 9-2 Sun Belt) ended the day with 49 kills for a .220 attack percentage while New Orleans (14-8, 9-2 SBC) had 58 kills, but hit just .186 in the match. Leading the way for the Privateers was Dobrilla Kovacevic who had 20 kills

on the day.

As a team, MT had 14.5 blocks while UNO had six.

The Blue Raiders traded points with UNO to begin the match before taking an 18-11 lead after a six-point rally. The Privateers continued to battle closing the gap but it was not enough as MT held on for the win.

In the second set, MT began by losing the first four points

VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 8

Volleyball FROM PAGE 7

but then regained its composure going on a seven-point run to take an 18-11 lead.

After two sets, Asberry led the team with eight kills as the team had 23 total kills

with seven team blocks. UNO took control after the break leading throughout the set before taking a 25-22 win to force a fourth set. The Privateers continued to perform well taking the lead in the fourth set. Clark then set a ball with no hitter in place to hand UNO the set

and tie the match at two. UNO continued to control things leading 8-5 at the eight-point break in the fifth set. MT hits the road for four matches beginning on Friday, Oct. 31 when it travels to Troy, Ala., to play Troy at 7 p.m.

Football FROM PAGE 7

27 carries. Dixon scored three touchdowns for the Bulldogs and seemed to take over when he was needed.

"Our game plan has to start with him running the ball

well," Mississippi State head coach Sylvester Croom said. "We did a good job of mixing it up and finishing drives when we needed to. We ran more out of our passing sets, because we thought that with two backs in the backfield, they stack the box on us. We made good adjustments, and when they coun-

tered, we countered back." MT will now have two weeks to prepare for their next contest against Louisiana Monroe. The Blue Raiders will have a bye week and then will welcome the Warhawks to Floyd Stadium for MT's Homecoming game. Kickoff will be Nov. 8 at 2:30 p.m.

Wild World Series night in Philly: Phils beat Rays

By BEN WALKER
AP Baseball Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — This was midnight madness, and then some, at the World Series.

"Freak things kind of happened there," Eric Bruntlett said after scoring the winning run for the Philadelphia Phillies at 1:47 a.m.

Carlos Ruiz finished off a wacky ninth inning with an infield single with the bases loaded, and the Phillies outlasted the Tampa Bay Rays 5-4 early Sunday in Game 3 for a 2-1 lead.

Ruiz, Chase Utley and Ryan Howard homered for the Phils, but it took three kooky plays to win it on a bases-loaded trickler with no outs.

"It might have took a little squib roller down the third-base line, but at the same time it's better to be lucky sometimes than to be good," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said.

The end was almost as bizarre as the 10:06 p.m. start, the latest in Series history. Baseball waited out a rainstorm that chased most fans out of their seats and delayed Jamie Moyer's first pitch for 91 minutes.

The matchup of Philadelphia's power vs. Tampa Bay's speed left it at 4-all going to the bottom of the ninth.

Then it all came down to this: Rays reliever J.P. Howell hit Bruntlett with a pitch to start the inning. Enter Grant Balfour, who threw a wild pitch that caromed off the backstop to catcher Dioner Navarro, whose throw trying to get Bruntlett skipped into center field.

With Bruntlett on third, the Rays issued two intentional walks and brought in right fielder Ben Zobrist for a five-man infield.

little hit that was the biggest of all.

J.C. Romero wound up with the win.

Minus Moyer, the Rays sped back to tie as B.J. Upton became the first AL player to steal three bases in a Series game.

Upton beat out an infield single to open the eighth, swiped second and third on consecutive pitches, and dashed home on a wild throw by Ruiz to make it 4-all.

Tampa Bay's rally dampened the moment Moyer waited for his whole life. The 45-year-old lefty finally got to pitch in the World Series and threw a game that defines his career, bedeviling the Rays with his slo-mo repertoire.

"I think it exceeded every expectation or thought or dream," Moyer said.

Moyer, already a pro before Rays stars Longoria and Upton were born, demonstrated exactly how he's earned 246 major league victories. He struck out both All-Stars with 74 mph changeups, and made the entire lineup look foolish with tentative swings.

Moyer became the second-oldest player in Series history — Jack Quinn was 47 when he pitched for the Philadelphia Athletics in 1930 — yet showed he was still spry. He belly-flopped along the first-base line to field Carl Crawford's bunt, and flipped the ball with his glove.

And while millions of people may have switched the TV channel to watch "Saturday Night Live" open with one of their popular political skits, surely baseball fans all over were laughing at watching Moyer pitch a game for the aged.

Hit hard in two losses in the NL playoffs, Moyer left in the seventh with a 4-2 lead after an RBI grounder

"You couldn't place a ball better than that. Lucky swing, perfect bounce."

BEN ZOBRIST
TAMPA BAY RAYS OUTFIELDER

"It looked like they were about to blitz," Howard said.

Ruiz followed with a nubber down the line and third baseman Evan Longoria charged. He dived for the ball, and rushed an underhanded flip home that sailed over Navarro's head.

"You couldn't place a ball better than that. Lucky swing, perfect bounce," Zobrist said.

The single was just the Phils' second hit in 33 chances with runners in scoring position this Series.

The Phillies rushed from the dugout to congratulate Bruntlett at the plate and Ruiz at first base. The giant Liberty Bell in center field clanged in celebration — no cowbells here at Citizens Bank Park.

"You know what, it's crazy," Howard said. "It's a little nerve-racking but to come out with a victory like that, it's great."

Game 4 is Sunday night and the weather forecast is fine for the matchup between the Phils' Joe Blanton and Andy Sonnanstine.

The Phillies built a 4-1 lead for Moyer on an early home run by Ruiz and consecutive shots by Utley and Howard in the sixth. But it was the

by Gabe Gross. He tipped his cap toward plate umpire Fieldin Culbreth and then to the crowd that gave him a rousing standing ovation.

Chad Durbin relieved and gave up Jason Bartlett's RBI grounder that pulled the Rays within a run.

Steady rain and gusty wind threatened to postpone the first Series game at Citizens Bank Park. Fans huddled underneath the overhangs and crowded the concourses to watch No. 3 Penn State play No. 10 Ohio State.

Ruiz hit a solo home run in the second off Matt Garza that put the Phillies ahead 2-1.

Utley led off the sixth with his second home run of the Series and the slumping Howard followed with a drive into the right-field seats.

Garza, who beat Boston in Game 7 to win the MVP award of the ALCS, never seemed comfortable and kept fidgeting with the rubber.

Jimmy Rollins got his first hit of the Series, leading off the first with a single. He later scored on Utley's ground-out.

Crawford doubled off the sliding Pat Burrell's glove in left field in the second and scored on Gross' sacrifice fly.



Thursday, October 23

FIGHT SONG

Murphy Center

7:00 pm

Monday, November 3

PAINT THE HALLS BLUE

CASINO NIGHT

JUB Tennessee Room

7:00 pm

Tuesday, November 4

SWAP DAY @ THE KUC

MTSU IDOL

JUB Tennessee Room

7:00 pm

Wednesday, November 5

HORSE SHOE

COMPETITION

Rec Center

4:30 pm

Friday, November 7

CHILI COOK-OFF

Murphy Center Lawn

5:00 pm

NPHC STEP SHOW

Murphy Center

7:30 pm

Saturday, November 8

HOMEcoming PARADE

Middle Tennessee Blvd.

10:00 am

RAIDER WALK

Walnut Grove

12:30 pm

MTSU v. UL - MONROE

Floyd Stadium

2:30 pm

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