

SIDELINES

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Editorially Independent ~ Monday, Oct. 1, 2007

MT defeats FIU in blowout

Freshman QB scores 5 TDs in the first half

By Chris Martin
Staff Writer

True freshman quarterback Dwight Dasher turned in yet another impressive performance Saturday night as the Blue Raiders (1-4, 1-1 Sun Belt) picked up their first win in a 47-6 victory over Florida International (0-5, 0-1 SBC).

Dasher showed marked improvement from last week's 20-17 loss to Western Kentucky, racking up 240 passing yards and three passing touchdowns to go along with 58 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns.

"I was real comfortable, you know," Dasher said after the game. "I had to do what I had to do. We worked hard all week and that's just what we did. We got better and handled the job."

The Blue Raiders departed from the tighter maximum-coverage offensive formations they used last week to protect Dasher and went with more spread offenses with multiple receivers. The result was one of the most productive first halves in MT history.

"It's a lot more fun to do what we did tonight and to do what we did against Louisville versus last year. You have to pick the style that your players are [capable of]. This is our style now but we have to do it better. We're playing a lot of young guys. We've still got to get better at turnovers and penalties," Offensive Coordinator G. A. Mangues said after the game.

Dasher started his second straight game in place of redshirt-juniors Joe Craddock who has been sidelined with a back injury for the last few weeks. The FIU game was the first time Dasher had a full week of practice with the knowledge that he would be starting. It was also the first time Mangues was able to plan an offensive game plan around him.

"We changed a lot of stuff in the protections that allow him to not have to make the decisions, that

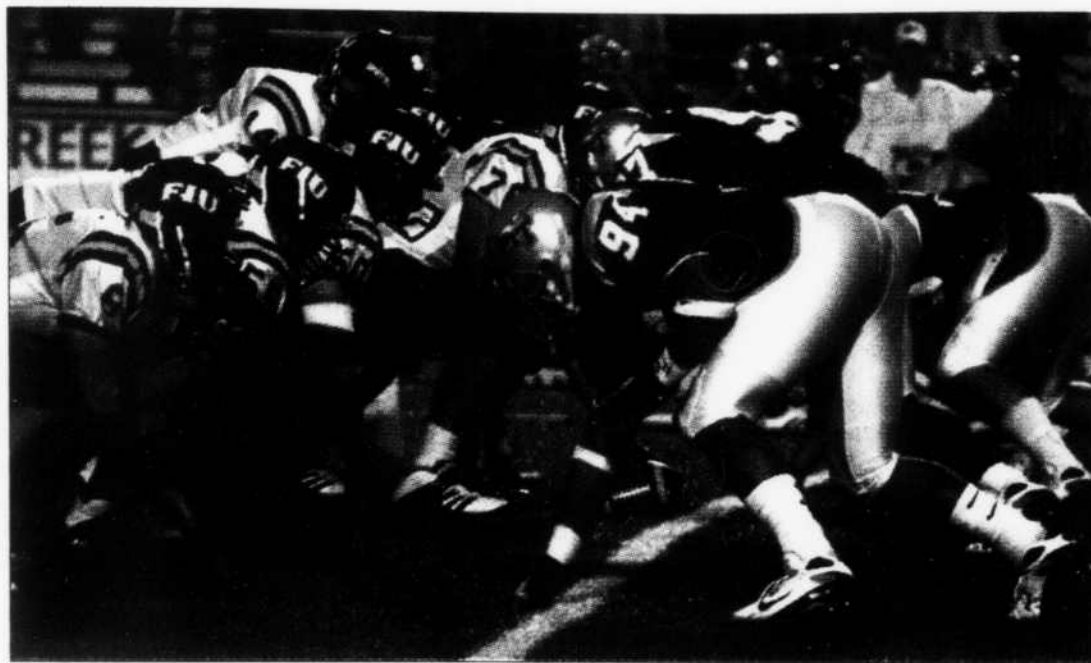


Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer
The MT defense absolutely dominated the Golden Panthers in the first half, allowing only 34 total yards in 24 plays. Though Coach Stockstill decided at halftime to sit most of his starters, FIU was still unable to score with their offense.

say, Joe [Craddock] would make because he has a greater knowledge of what make he is trying to do defensively," Mangues said.

Dasher's 14-yard touchdown pass to Bobby Williams in the first quarter was his first collegiate touchdown pass. Later in the first quarter, Dasher ran the ball 22 yards for his first career-rushing touchdown. All 5 of Dasher's touchdowns came in the first half. He only played one series in the second before being pulled to give senior quarterback Patrick Jackson some playing time.

"He's a talented young man," MT head coach Rick Stockstill said of Dasher. "He's a very gifted quarterback. To play the limited amount of snaps that he's played [and] to be able to go through his reads and make the throws that he made today, I thought [he] was very impressive."

Dasher also showed that he can make big plays.

Of his 10 completions, four were shorter than 11 yards. He also completed four passes that went for 20 or more yards including a 71 yard touchdown throw to DeMarco McNair early in the second quarter.

"It's fun to watch him out there," junior cornerback Alex Suber said. "Dwight's very talented. We're always getting on him, telling him he can only run. That boy can throw the ball, he can run, he can do everything."

Middle Tennessee gained 405 yards on the Panthers defense. MT was also able to keep the FIU offense in check, allowing only 145 yards. The Panthers didn't enter Blue Raider territory until the third quarter. FIU's 72 rushing yards is the fewest rushing yards the Raiders have allowed in a game

See Raiders, 7

Manis awake, in critical condition

By Andy Harper
Managing Editor

The MTSU student who was attacked last Tuesday in Cummings Hall is awake and responsive, although still in critical condition as of Saturday morning, said Buddy Peaster, chief of police at MTSU.

Ashley Manis, 18-year-old freshman undeclared, was found unconscious and bleeding on the night of Sept. 25 in room 420 of Cummings Hall. Manis is a Cordova, Tenn. resident.

"The doctors had a good prognosis and felt like Ashley had a good chance of fully recovering," Peaster said.

Manis remains on life support at Vanderbilt, Peaster said. She remains on a breathing tube due to the collapse of both her lungs as a result of the incident.

Kevin Sisco, 18-year-old freshman aerospace major, and occupant of the dorm room, was arrested by the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office at 9:40 on Sept. 26 and charged with attempted first-degree murder.

Sisco made a 911 call at 11:55 p.m. on the night of the alleged attempted murder. Officials released the call on Sept. 27.

"This girl I'm with, she's on all kinds of pills and stuff and has been drinking and stuff," Sisco said on the recording. "She's acting crazy and tried to kill herself..."

"We'll put the pieces as to why he called as we go along," Peaster said. "It's a little unusual, but not unheard of a person who commits crime to call 911. We just haven't heard from him exactly why."

Officials are still unaware of the connection between Manis and Sisco, Peaster said. A complete profile of their relationship has yet to be established.

There was a previous incident on Sept. 9 in which Manis and Sisco were issued citations for underage drinking by campus police. Sisco was also issued a citation for weapons on campus for having a pair of brass knuckles and knife. The two were located in Sisco's dorm room.

Sisco, a Murfreesboro resident, is currently at the Rutherford County Sheriff's Adult Detention with bail set at \$300,000. His court date is set for Nov. 27. ♦



Ashley Manis



Kevin Sisco

Hillel hosts meal for Muslim students

By Tiffany Gibson
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Sept. 27, The Jewish Association, also known as Hillel, provided a meal for the Muslim students on behalf of their daytime fasting break.

The meal took place on the Keathley University Center knoll at 7 p.m. and was catered by Gyro Café and Mezza Cuisine, who prepared the meal according to dietary restrictions of both religions.

During the dinner students from different religions were able to talk and discuss the particulars of the two separate holidays.

"Traditionally, Jews supplied Muslims with a meal after their fasting daytime break as a way of sharing. Jews did this without any expectations but knowing they had done an act of kindness," said Lon Nuel, professor of art and advisor to the Jewish Association.

By fasting, Muslim students celebrate their holiday, known as Ramadan. Ramadan is a holy month, which usually lasts 29 or 30 days.

Ramadan takes place during the 9th month of the lunar calendar and requires Muslims to fast as a way of cleansing their bodies and avoiding all earthly pleasures.

Every day during the month of Ramadan,

See Hillel, 2

Rush yields 250 new members

By Johnathon Schleicher
Contributing Writer

Fraternity Rush Week started the week of Sept. 24-29 for eleven of the Greek organizations.

"The Fraternity rush is a time for those who are interested in going to find out what a fraternity is all about and what they are involved in around campus," said Nathan Haynes, junior marketing major, "The week is designed to get the view points on the fraternities and figure out which one they would wish to join. There are 11 fraternities to choose from. It is a constant process to schedule this recruitment week."

Once a student registers for fraternity recruitment, the fraternities will receive their general information and invite the recruit to events that are held throughout the summer.

Though that is not the official recruitment done in the fall, it gives the potential members a chance to meet other fraternity brothers.

At the first day of the official recruitment, a party is thrown where every fraternity has a tent set up. The students are divided into groups where they spend some time at each tent to learn about the different fraternities, their various philanthropies, and any other relevant information.

The second through the fourth nights are all open rounds. This means the students can go to whatever fraternity house they wish.

The next day, a formal invitation event known as "Smoker Night," is designed to limit the fraternities that the recruit can choose up to two selections. This helps the students come to a decision on which fraternity is to join.

The final day is to join the student has to choose the one fraternity to pledge to.

"This year's recruitment went very well," said Steven Giles, junior economics major. "I was very impressed with the caliber of men. I believe this year will be a great year."

This fall, over 250 recruits signed up and it is guessed that there will be over 75 to 100 more recruits joining next spring. ♦



Photo by Justin Keonin | Photography Editor
Some residents in the Blackman community are against the construction of the Bible-themed park.

Plans Progress for Bible Park

By Caitlin Holliday
Staff Writer

The development of the proposed Bible Park in the Blackman community of Murfreesboro is currently in the master plan stage. Once completed, the developers can begin working on the master plan. Developers hope to start construction in 2008, and complete it in 2010.

The park is being designed by BRC Imagine Arts, a leading theme park designer. This company has worked on noted theme parks such as Disneyland/MGM, Universal Studios, and NASA Park.

At the completion of the master plan, the developers will hold large-scale public meetings where citizens can come to clarify any concerns that they may have about the park. At the completion of these meetings, the park will go before the county for final approval. Neither the taxpayers nor the county will pay for the development of the park in any way.

However, many in the Blackman community have voiced their concern about a themed park being built in such close proximity to a residential area.

"There have been many good questions posed by the community about the park, and these questions have led to an improvement of all aspects of the park," said Terri Sterling of Sterling Communications, the local Public Relations firm representing Bible Park.

The major areas where residents have raised questions are traffic, noise, light, and property values.

"I'm concerned that our roads can't handle the traffic from the park, and also of the effect of it being so close [to our neighborhood] on the property values," said Sally Giovinelli, resident of Blackman.

The developers have utilized multiple new technologies to ensure that the noise, light, and traffic from the park will not be bothersome to local residents.

"Our job is to inform and listen to the people, and that's what we've tried hard to do, and will continue to do. We want the park to be a good neighbor to Blackman," said Sterling.

The park will sit on 280 acres off of Blackman Road. The park will cover approximately 50 acres

See Bible, 2

Alpha Kappa Lambda
new on campus

See Features, 5

Personal pages
becoming public

See Opinions, 4

Dwight Dasher:
freshman star

See Sports, 6

LOCAL FORECAST

Monday



HI: 83°
LO: 55°

Tuesday



HI: 86°
LO: 60°

Wednesday



HI: 86°
LO: 61°

Thursday



HI: 88°
LO: 64°

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Rutherford County will soon use ankle monitoring system for juvenile offenders

By Caitlin Holliday
Staff Writer

Rutherford County juvenile offenders may now have an alternative to jail time.

The county will join Sumner County in their use of electronic monitoring bracelets to track teenage offenders. These tamper-proof bracelets lock onto the offender's ankle and automatically track the wearer's location.

While the program is still in its infancy, the bracelets will be used in place of jail time for minor offenders, such as runaways and those involved in drug cases. However, violent offenders will not be offered the opportunity of

wearing the bracelet in place of jail time, said Keith Siskin, Juvenile Court referee.

Participants in the program will have to pay a fee of \$12 a day for wearing the ankle bracelets.

The bracelet will be used to keep offenders under house arrest, however this will not be its only use. The bracelets will also serve to keep offenders out of certain areas, such as a neighborhood that is known to have a high drug rate.

"The benefit [of the monitoring bracelets] is they are another set of eyes and ears to watch our juveniles," Siskin said.

The court previously relied on juveniles and their parents to keep

track of an offender's whereabouts. However, parents have to work and cannot always watch the offender, he said.

"[The bracelets] are a good tool to keep both the community and the juveniles safer," Siskin said.

The Secure Alert TrackerPAL bracelets, combine "miniaturized cellular and global positioning system technologies" to track offenders. The bracelets are supported by a powerful geographical information system, as well as an "offender monitoring center" that is on-call constantly.

Through these powerful technologies, the TrackerPAL bracelets allow authorities to communicate with the offender at any time

through a cellular device in the bracelet, while also automatically tracking the offender in real-time anywhere in the world.

The bracelets have an accuracy of 20 meters 50 percent of the time, and 50 meters 95 percent of the time.

If an offender were to leave the boundaries of his designated area, he would be contacted through the cellular device in the ankle bracelet by the Secure Alert monitoring center, and told to return home. Police are called if the offender does not return home.

TrackerPAL devices are currently used throughout the United States. ♦

Bible: Bible park in progress

Continued from 1

with the rest of the land acting as a buffer against sound and also leaving room for future expansions.

Characterized as a passive attraction, similar to a botanical garden or a zoo, all of the park's attractions will be under a roof.

"If you are in the New Testament [area of the park], and sitting in front of Paul's

Vision, we want you to have a nice, calm, and quiet experience and not be encumbered by noise from other attractions," Sterling said.

The park will have both New and Old Testament areas, which will collectively display approximately 50 stories from the Bible. There will also be teenager and children areas, as well as a state-

of-the-art amphitheater and recording studio.

In order to obtain both historical and theological accuracy, the developers have assembled an academic advisory council, consisting of theologians, archaeologists, sociologists and historians of a variety of religious backgrounds.

"The academic advisory

council is what we believe, and have been told, [is] the best in the industry," said Armon Bar-Tur, the project sponsor and co-founder and managing director of SafeHarbor Holding, LLC.

For more detailed information on the park, visit their Web site, www.bibleparkusa.com ♦

Historic house hosts Victorian Mourning Customs exhibit

By Amanda Warner

Staff Writer

The Oaklands Historic House in Murfreesboro will officially go into mourning on Tuesday. The mansion's newest exhibit, *Wartime Widows: Victorian Mourning Customs*, will open its doors at 10 a.m.

Mourners will be received in the parlor, where condolences can be made and where the tour will begin. According to its Web site, "[The] program includes video presentation and a tour of the house."

The exhibit will showcase the different items that were used in mourning during the Victorian Era, including shoes, clothing, coffins, and hair art. Visitors can also learn about the tradition associated with wearing black when a loved one dies.

The tour will take viewers through the house where they will learn about Victorian superstitions and mourning customs. All of the mirrors in the house have been covered with black, another Victorian custom.

On the weekend of Oct. 19

and 20, visitors can also walk the creepy path through the Evergreen cemetery.

Nila Guber, a tour guide at the mansion, said that this particular custom is important to showcase because it is very unlike the way people mourn today. Death has taken on a different meaning in today's society.

The Oaklands Historic House is an original mansion from the Civil War period. The house has been recognized nationally and is an important historical landmark in the South. It is the only historic house museum in Murfreesboro.

Hours for the mourning exhibit are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. On Oct. 19 and 20, the admission price is \$10 with no student discount. On this weekend, a tour of the Evergreen Cemetery will be included with the tour of the house. The cemetery tour will only be available on that weekend.

For more information or to pre-purchase tickets, call the museum at 615-893-0022. ♦

Hillel: Jews and Muslims eat at celebration of each heritage

Continued from 1



Photo by Patrick Casey | Staff Photographer

Jewish and Muslim students share a meal marking the end of Ramadan, the fasting process of the Muslim religion that exemplifies appreciation to God.

Muslims are required to perform the fajr prayer at dawn as the first of five prayers that will be recited throughout the day.

"Ramadan is a religious holiday where we fast as a way to prove to God our appreciation of essential things such as food or water," said Saleh Sbenaty, professor of electrical engineering, instrumentation/electronics and advisor to the Muslim Students Association.

While Muslims celebrate appreciation and righteousness, Jewish students celebrate harvest and the history of the Israelites wandering in the desert for forty years. This holiday is known as Sukkot and is one of the major Jewish Holidays.

Sukkot is a seven-day holiday where Jews are encouraged to take four species of plants to shake them to the winds.

Jews do this ritual, called Lulav, throughout Sukkot as a daily prayer. Jews are also required to build a Sukkah to rest in, to entertain guests and to eat their meals in.

A Sukkah consists of three walls and a ceiling made of twigs and branches.

While resting in the Sukkah, people are supposed to see at least three stars hovering above them.

The Jewish Association on campus created a Sukkah on the knoll out of materials that were donated by fellow member Laurie Thaler and her family.

The students that attended the meal were supposed to sit under the Sukkah and eat dinner together, but due to the larger quantity, twenty to twenty-five students gathered around and ate near by.

"I'm proud to be a part of something that will combine two social groups and allow a better sense of acceptance," said Laurie Thaler, freshman elementary education major.

Many people perceive Jews and Muslims as having conflicts with one another.

However, Sbenaty believes the whole conflict theory is a misconception over a political power dispute. When asked about the conflict, Nuel said that he thought it was a struggle over sharing land.

"We have to learn how to trust each other through faith," Nuel said.

Both Judaism and Islam originate in the Middle East and considered Abrahamic religions that have much in common.

"These events would help students realize the commonality between the religions and create a model that students and other religions can follow," Sbenaty said.

Sbenaty also went on to explain several other events in the past that have brought the Jewish and Muslim community closer.

One of these events was a Fast-a-Thon, which allowed people of any religious background to raise money for charities by fasting.

Sbenaty said he was pleased to see members of the Jewish Association taking part in it as well.

"It's all about accepting others and helping your fellow man," said Herbie Dorfzaun, junior recording industry major.

Members of both religions try to attend the other's events as equally and as often as permitted. By contributing to different religions, students among the organizations are willing to bridge the gap between Jewish and Islamic religions.

The coincidence that Ramadan and Sukkot fell on the same day, considering both are scheduled on two different calendars, was entirely by chance. Ultimately Sbenaty and Nuel decided to combine the two events in hope of uniting students regardless of their religious background.

In addition to celebrating holidays and sharing meals together, students of the Jewish Association and Muslim Association have also formed bonds with one another.

"Basically we're just trying to show that Jews and Muslims can get along," said Ryan Steckbeck, senior philosophy major and president of the Jewish Association.

"We figure if we start here, there's a good chance it will move to the Middle East," he said. ♦

Brand-name condoms to replace unpopular free ones

Associated Press

Residents in Washington, D.C. say the condoms being handed out have a serious problem.

As many as 70,000 condoms given away in a citywide campaign to reduce HIV and AIDS were returned this week by community groups.

Another 100,000 condoms were returned in early September because of complaints their paper packaging can be easily damaged and could make the condoms ineffective.

City health officials agreed that complaints about the pack-

aging were damaging to their citywide distribution campaign, but they have insisted the condoms were safe. They said this week they will distribute brand-name substitutes.

Since the problems were publicized, the city's condom manufacturer offered to replace all remaining supplies with Trojan, Lifestyles and other products found on drugstore shelves.

A spokeswoman for Mayor Adrian Fenty said the city has received 125,000 of the new condoms and 400,000 more are expected in the next two weeks. ♦

MTSU ROAD RALLY MEMPHIS

FRIDAY: OCTOBER 12TH

2:00 PM: DEPART FROM LIVESTOCK CENTER PARKING LOT

6:00 PM: ARRIVE IN MEMPHIS

SATURDAY: OCTOBER 13TH

7:00 PM: KICK-OFF MTSU BLUE RAIDERS VS. MEMPHIS TIGERS

FOLLOWING THE GAME: DEPARTURE TO MURFREESBORO

HOTEL:

♦ **MEMPHIS MARIOTT DOWNTOWN**
(5 BLOCKS FROM BEALE STREET)

TRIP INCLUDES:

♦ **TRANSPORTATION**
♦ **HOTEL**
♦ **\$30 GAME TICKET**

DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 3RD!
SIGN-UP IN KUC 208 OR SIGN-UP ONLINE
[HTTP://WWW.GREEKBILL.COM/MTSURoadRALLY.ASP](http://WWW.GREEKBILL.COM/MTSURoadRALLY.ASP)

ALL FOR
\$65!

Campus Briefs

Presidential Gala "Prism" Concert Benefits Katrina-Ravaged Southern University of New Orleans

A "Prism" Concert to benefit Southern University of New Orleans will be held Thursday, Oct. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Tucker Theatre.

Admission is \$20 per person; \$10 with MTSU Student ID. Proceeds will benefit Southern University of New Orleans, which was damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. It is the only University in the area that has not returned to its original campus since the disaster; a goal that is expected to be accomplished by 2009.

The concert will feature an array of bands and choral ensembles from the McLean School of Music – as well as special guests Cedric Dent of the Grammy-winning Take 6 and David Pruett, world-music percussionist.

The musicians will team to present an evening of diverse musical performances that pay tribute to the historic institution whose faculty, students and staff have operated from FEMA trailers for more than a year.

The concert will offer a unique 360-degree setting. Audience members will be seated in the center of Tucker Theatre with bands and ensembles arranged around them. The intent is to offer a continuous virtual "surround sound" experience.

Call 898-5261 for more information and to obtain tickets. Tickets will also be available at the door on a first-come, first-served basis. The event is expected to sell out.

The Concert Participants will include:

Large Ensembles:
Wind Ensemble
Symphonic Band
Concert Choral

Jazz Ensembles:
The Band of Blue Marching Band

Small- and Medium-sized Ensembles:
Chamber Winds
Flute Ensemble
Clarinet Ensemble
Brass Quintet
Trumpet Ensemble
Horn Ensemble
Trombone Choir
Low Brass Ensemble
Percussion Ensemble
String Ensemble
Hot Jazz Group

World Music Ensembles:
Steel Drum Band
Salsa Band
Silviu Ciulei

Special Guests:
Cedric Dent
David Pruett

Hypnotist Brian Imbus Coming to KUC Theatre

MTSU Variety Committee presents Hypnotist Brian Imbus, Friday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m. in the KUC Theatre.

Imbus is one of the most popular hypnotists in the country. His show is a fast-paced spectacle of laughter and excitement, and he has performed all over the world for the past 15 years.

During the show, Imbus will select volunteers from the audience to come on stage and become hypnotized. The Hypnotized volunteers are taken through an amazing journey of imagination while they become the true stars of the show!

Imbus is a Certified Hypnotist and has been trained by the most well known entertainers in the country. His unique style is second to none and he is among the top requested performers in the business.

Information on Imbus collected from http://www.hypnotism.com/brian_imbus_hyp.html.

Student admission to the event is free!

Laura Feuntes y Calicanto Concert

MTSU Ideas & Issues Committee presents Laura Feuntes y Calicanto in concert, urban and roots music from Latin America, Thursday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. in the JUB TN Room.

Admission is free.

Greek Life

Oct. 1-5 is National Hazing Prevention Week. A Greek Speak Out will take place Wednesday, Oct. 4.

A National Panhellenic Council Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 2. Contact Greek Life for time and location.

For more information on these, and other, Greek events, contact Greek Life at 898-5812 or visit the Greek Life Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~greeks/

Gender Circles

Gender Circles, weekly discussions focusing on gender related issues, will be held Wednesday, Oct. 3 from 1-3 p.m. in JUB Room 206.

"Ratatouille" at KUC Theater Oct. 1-4

MTSU Films Committee presents "Ratatouille," Oct. 1-4. Student admission is \$2.

Showtimes are 7 & 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

"Mother Courage and Her Children"

MTSU Theatre and Dance presents "Mother Courage and Her Children" by Bertolt Brecht, Wednesday, Oct. 3 and Friday-Saturday, Oct. 5-6 at 7:30 p.m. on the BDA South Lawn.

For more information contact 898-2640.

MTSU Women's Chorale

The MTSU Women's Chorale performs Thursday, Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m. at Hinton Music Hall.

Admission is free. For more information contact 898-2493.

Have a campus event you want people to know about? E-mail us at slcopy@mtsu.edu and we'll put it in the next issue. Campus Briefs run every Monday.

Duke president apologizes to lacrosse players following false rape case

By Aaron Beard
Associated Press

Duke University President Richard Brodhead apologized Saturday for not better supporting the men's lacrosse team and their families after three players were falsely accused in last year's highly publicized rape scandal.

Brodhead, speaking at the university's law school, said he regretted Duke's "failure to reach out" in a "time of extraordinary peril" after a woman accused three players of raping her at a March 2006 party thrown by the team.

"Given the complexities of this case, getting the communication right would never have been easy," Brodhead said. "But the fact is that we did not get it right, causing the families to feel abandoned when they were most in need of support. This was a mistake. I take responsibility for it and I apologize for it."

Brodhead spoke at a school-sponsored forum on legal and ethical issues common to high-profile cases, and he received a standing ovation following his speech. He left afterward and school officials said he would not be available for further comment.

As authorities began to investigate the allegations, Brodhead and the university initially suspended the highly ranked team from play. He later canceled the remainder of its season and ousted longtime coach Mike Pressler. Meanwhile, Durham County prosecutor Mike Nifong labeled the team "hooligans" as he searched for suspects. But even as Nifong won indictments against players Reade Seligmann, Collin Finnerty and Dave Evans, it became clear the allegations had no merit.

State prosecutors determined in April the accuser's story was a lie, and North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper called the three players innocent victims of Nifong's "tragic rush to accuse."

Nifong was disbarred in June for more than two dozen violations of the state bar's rules of professional conduct, including withholding results of critical DNA tests, and resigned from office. He spent one night in jail earlier this month after a judge held him in criminal contempt of court for lying to a court about having provided those test results to defense attorneys.

In the early days of the case, Brodhead was generally cautious in his comments, saying the players should be presumed innocent while also insisting the crimes alleged had no place at the elite private university.

Brodhead said Saturday he worried that making numerous public comments could be interpreted as an attempt by Duke to "influence the judicial process," especially since Nifong was insisting a crime had occurred.

That may have created an impression that Duke did not care about the accused students, Brodhead said, which he said was untrue but still something he regrets.

"Duke needed to be clear that it demanded a fair trial for its students," he said. "I took that completely for granted. If anyone doubted it, then I should have been more explicit, especially as the evidence mounted that the prosecutor was not acting in accordance with the standards of his profession."

Brodhead also said the school could have done more to show that some members of Duke's faculty who were openly critical of the lacrosse team did not speak for the university as a whole.

Duke has reached private settlements with Pressler, Rhode coach at Division II Bryant in Rhode Island, as well as the three cleared players and a teammate who was not indicted but accused a professor of giving him a failing grade because he was a lacrosse player.

Brodhead said the university is planning a national conference of lawyers, educators and student affairs leaders to discuss how schools should deal with students facing serious criminal charges. ♦

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK SITE LEADER APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Applications available in KUC 326-S and online at www.mtsu.edu/~camporgs.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: OCTOBER 19, 2007

Alternative Spring Break is a life-changing experience that provides service opportunities outside of Tennessee during spring break. Site leaders will assist in planning and leading the 2008 Alternative Spring Break trip. Applicants should be responsible, organized, and able to work well with others.

JAWC hosts free legal clinic

By Amanda Warner
Staff Writer

On the last Thursday of each month, The June Anderson Women's Center holds a free legal clinic for all MTSU students from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Women's Center sends out e-mails and poster fliers to let students know that the clinic is coming up. Reservations are required if you would like to attend one of the clinics because of limited space and time allotments.

Since beginning this program, the Women's Center has gotten positive reviews from students.

According to Courtney Miller, sophomore recording industry major, "We've gotten a lot of positive feedback because students can come and talk personally [to a lawyer]."

Miller said that students like that the clinic is free and that they can get advice about what issues are pressing in their lives.

Amanda Major, freshman journalism major, said, "It's definitely a good thing because it saves us time and money."

Jennifer LaShomb, freshman theatre major, agreed with Miller, although she thinks that the legal clinic needs more advertisement.

The Women's Center has been holding legal clinics for students for more than 10 years and Courtney Miller has been the coordinator for the past 2 years.

The Women's Center is an organization that specializes in development and preventive education for all students. It offers students support and counseling.

Students can come to the Women's Center for support or just to find someone to talk to. Students can find someone to talk to, study, read or simply relax.

According to the Web site, "The goal of the JAWC is to make a place on campus for women to come together to celebrate their womanhood and to support one another in the adventure of higher learning."

This organization is not open only to women. Men are encouraged and welcome to come to the Women's Center.

"Issues that affect women affect the men who know them and care for them," according to the JAWC Web site.

Men can come to seek help for themselves or to find support for the women in their lives.

Although the center does not offer classes, there are many workshops and events that students can participate in.

The Women's Center often has speakers come and lecture and it also hosts weekly Gender Circles. These are meetings where students can discuss the issues and diversity that exist between genders.

The next legal clinic will be held on Oct. 25. ♦

Classifieds

Marketplace of MTSU

EMPLOYMENT

Need a job? Home City Ice needs you! Flexible scheduling; minutes from campus, up to \$14.00/hour. Apply online at homecityice.com or call (800)843-8901 ask for Jon or Derek.

PT Work

Good pay, flex scheds, customer sales/svc, conditions apply, all ages 18+. 832-8448
workforstudents.com

Part-time Clerical position in Smyrna. Great work environment. Will work with school schedule. Mondays a MUST. Call 615-601-6916

Help wanted: Cashiers, cooks, shift managers. Mario's Italian Restaurant 2021 South Church, phone: 867-9111.

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OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board:

We almost wrote an inflammatory headline, but knew it'd be unethical

Absent from the pages of today's *Sidelines* is any mention, aside from this, of the infamous 'Bible burning' incident.

This is not a case of lazy college journalism, or a beer-run during newspaper production, but simply the fact that there is no story here. Anything you may have read elsewhere is sensationalized druck.

That's right. Someone lit a Bible on fire on our campus, and we are not reporting on it.

The fact of the matter is that a former student was playing with a lighter, and lit the nearest flammable object, which, apparently, was a 2-by-3 inch Gideon's Bible.

She was escorted off campus by police, received no citation, and the Earth continued to turn. In the words of MTSU Police Chief Buddy Peaster, "I just don't think 'hate crime' fits this situation."

Absent any political, religious or other kind of statement, there is nothing to report about this. This story has roughly the same magnitude as a student lighting a cigarette, paper cup or straw wrapper.

However, numerous local news outlets blew this non-issue far out of proportion, in the name of cheap sensationalism. The Murfreesboro's own *Daily News Journal* ran the following headline: "Woman kicked off campus after Bible burning."

A more appropriate headline could have read: "Absolutely nothing extraordinary happened at MTSU today."

Shame on the news outlets who flirted with this story. It must have been just another piece of appealing bad news coming out of MTSU. With "Bible burning" in the headline, any article, regardless of quality – or lack thereof, is virtually certain to attract scads of readers.

This really speaks to a larger problem. With college campuses making bad news nationwide, this is an obvious bandwagon on which to jump. Attempted murder, sign-stealing, philanthropy scandal and now a supposed Bible-burning. When it rains, it pours, and that equals a cheap, easy story for news outlets looking to ride the wave of bad news from our supposedly lost college generation.

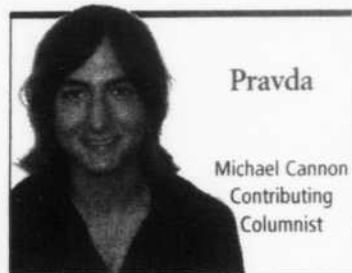
Venezuela is doing fine

Scarcely a week goes by when Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez is not assailed in the U.S. press as a tyrannical demagogue and an imminent threat to democracy. Since his election in 1999, his administration's increasingly radical policies have steadily drawn controversy and condemnation from both the United States' corporate media outlets and the U.S. government itself. However, as with most matters, the press has failed to tell the whole story.

Chavez's tenure as president has been mainly focused on carrying through what he calls a "Bolivarian Revolution," essentially a democratic socialist movement with a Latin spin. It began with a new constitution approved by referendum in mid-1999, which laid the frame for the reforms and aims of the revolution to be realized. This document radically transformed the structure of Venezuela's government by shifting the emphasis away from representative democracy to a more direct, localized form of governance. With this new constitution came a string of reforms, ranging from land redistribution, universal healthcare, education, and experiments in worker's control of industry.

To many people, the aforementioned initiatives are no cause for alarm. This leads us to wonder why Venezuela has been receiving such harsh treatment from its northern neighbor. The answer is simply that the Venezuelan Revolution challenges U.S. domination of Latin America and conflicts sharply with the former's financial interests in the region. The movement spearheaded by Chavez sets an example that proves that "Third World" nations need not be economically dependent upon the United States to survive. This is what is ringing the alarm bells in Washington.

As far as Chavez's fabled dictatorial powers are concerned, this notion is a fabrication and has a very tenuous basis in reality. Chavez has been democratically elected in free and fair elections no less than four times in the past eight years, the results being endorsed and approved by the Carter Center and the Organization of American States, amongst others. One of these elections was a recall referendum. The way this works is that if enough signatures are obtained on a petition, any public official can be subjected to a recall vote. This measure, ironically, was only possible because Chavez's government insisted that he be put into



Pravda

Michael Cannon
Contributing
Columnist

the new constitution.

It is also notable that the self-styled democrats who hurl accusations at Chavez have a rather spotty track record of respecting democracy themselves. According to *The Guardian Online*, in April 2002, a military coup was launched by Venezuela's opposition and received extensive funding and logistical support from the Bush administration. The coup ousted Chavez for about 48 hours. Interestingly, the first actions these oligarchs took were the dissolution of the National Assembly, the suspension of the Constitution, and the declaration of martial law. The people were upset by this turn of events and promptly returned their president to power in a spontaneous storming of the capital.

A more recent instance of absurdly spun Venezuela news was the so-called "closure" of the TV station RCTV. The channel in question was highly critical of Chavez's administration and its "closure" was presented as a crushing of free speech. However, contrary to mainstream news reports, the channel was not even closed. Its license for public broadcasting was simply denied when it came up for renewal, given its extensive involvement in the 2002 coup and its violations of broadcasting guidelines for violence and sexual content. The channel is still broadcasting; you just have to buy cable to watch it. Given that its viewers tend to be of Venezuela's wealthy elite, that is not much of a problem.

The American idea of democracy is tapping a box every four years to decide which millionaire will misrepresent your interests in Congress, whereas the Venezuelan model is direct involvement in the daily workings of government and economy. This emerging alternative to the status quo is not welcomed in Washington. Since Iraq has been democratized and removed from the "Axis of Evil," Venezuela could very well become Washington's next target.

Michael Cannon is a sophomore sociology major and can be reached at mrc3g@mtsu.edu.



"And Friends"

frankhasenmueller@gmail.com

Frank Hasenmueller

Personal pages becoming public

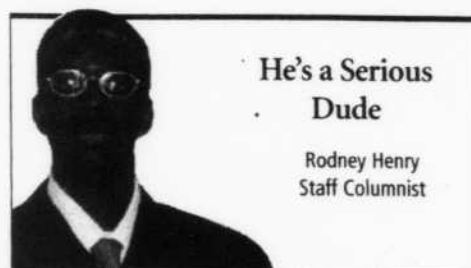
The world has changed from when it took months for simple messages to get from one place to another. The way that communication or information has advanced is amazing.

The big hype in the world of communications these days focuses on the huge growth in the usage of social networks. Social networks have become one of the leading forms of communication not only for young adults and teenagers but for everyone. Due to the fact that most people have access to the Internet they are able to join some sort of online network and have access to the pages of people they would never come in contact with physically.

The question posed to you is, "what's on your page?"

Web sites such as Myspace, Facebook, Blackplanet, MiGente and Asianave created a furor. At the beginning of the craze, most of the users had one purpose of joining, which was to be able to chat with friends and meet new people. Most of this was for social interaction only. However, the growth of this new form of networking has made noise not only on the streets but also in Corporate America.

Companies are now admitting to viewing the personal pages of candidates to get a better feeling for their character outside of the workplace. In a recent article on *The Wall Street Journal's CareerJournal.com*, Craig Silverman, a recruiter from HireAbility.com, discusses how a personal page has an effect on your future employment. Instead of doing a search



He's a Serious Dude

Rodney Henry
Staff Columnist

on Monster.com on behalf of a client, Silverman went searching on a social networking site. From that Web site, he searched for a candidate's name on another Web site where resumes are posted. Although the resume caught his eye, he found photos of the person shirtless and exposing "body art." Silverman went on to say that his client was concerned about the "presentation aspect" of the candidate and therefore was ruled out for the position.

Although you may see Web sites like Myspace or Facebook as simply ways to chat with old and new friends, employers are looking at things in a different light, or better yet from a different angle. As social networking site continue to grow, the form of usage has changed also. More sites are offering professional profiles which indicate that employers just may be checking in on you. In addition, sites like Doostang, LinkedIn and Xing have been formed for the sole purpose of landing

your next position.

Newsweek shed light on this issue, with an article informing its readers of the expansion of social networks into professional search engines. The article was titled, "Social networking is graduating-and hitting the job market. How do the online Rolodexes stack up?" While a later article labeled "It Isn't Just YourSpace Anymore," showed how new Web sites now combine all your online data for others to view. Sites like Rappleaf, Spock and Wink are among the many new Web site that have been formed to give companies or others an insider's view of your every virtual move.

Some sites do more than just allow you to create a professional page; they are now posting jobs on their sites that allow the users to view new listing in their area and across the country. Things have changed greatly, but it does not have to be a bad thing for the millions of users that log on daily. What you must realize is that if it's easy for you to find an old classmate on a site, it is just as easy for a company to do the same thing for you. It should lead you to be a little proactive and think before you post that photo of you making out, or running half-nude at the lake. Whatever it does, remember your image does matter, if not to you, to your employer.

So, what's on your page?

Rodney Henry is a senior marketing major and can be reached at rmh2n@mtsu.edu.

Letter to the Editor

Dorm security always inadequate

To the Editor:

Unfortunately, Andy Harper's article "Attempted murder in dorm" Sept. 27 is not so shocking for many an MTSU student. As a former Desk Assistant of various dormitories, including Cummings Hall, I can say without hesitation that the security of our dormitories is beyond lacking. In my three years working in the dorms, I witnessed various security breaches and incidents that MTSU should be ashamed of.

Often, people walked past unattended DAs onto the elevators without being checked in or even looked at. In 2004 at Cummings, someone rolled a projector they had stolen from Peck Hall onto the elevators without anyone noticing. In 2003, as a resident of Cummings, I witnessed a DA at three in the morning smoking marijuana on the front stoop. One of our old Resident Directors twice lost the keys to every student's room in the dormitory he supervised. Let me also say that if any of the dates I mention, specific names of dormitories or facts are slightly off it is because I am reciting this all from memory.

DAs often use their time improperly. Instead of monitoring who is coming and going into the building, they do their homework, talk to friends at the desk or watch the lobby television. Although, for a measly 5-something-an-hour, would you really be that attentive? After an incident in a female's room took place in Corlew a couple of years ago, security went up. An unwelcome male had walked up to a female's room without being stopped and an altercation between the two took place. We DAs were adamantly "reminded" to check identification of everyone entering the building. Previously, we had only checked identification of those checking into rooms and even then most desk attendants did not do that. Soon after this event, the DAs went back to waving people by.

It must also be stated that I was a DA from 2003-2006 so perhaps life in the dorms is different. After this incident, however, I severely doubt it. MTSU will most likely respond to this by stating that all DAs are informed of Housing and Residential Policies and are directed to act appropriately. Yes, this is definitely true. Yet, were any of these policies enforced strictly, if at all, when I worked three years in the dorms? I can say, except for one or two semesters when an incident occurred, no, they were not. It is sad to say that without constant supervision and an incident happening every once in a while to scare things up, most DAs won't do a good enough job to ensure the safety of our residents and anyone visiting them.

Does the university even follow its own policies? Kevin Sisco was arrested on Sept. 9 for a weapons violation in Cummings. Unless the rules have changed, he should have been instantly evicted. As a DA, I realized it was almost impossible to be kicked out of the dorms. One resident received noise complaints almost weekly, was caught by me jumping on top of a stranger's car in the parking lot and still was allowed to live in Corlew. Another year, a resident was found with marijuana in his room but was allowed to remain living in Corlew because the visit was unannounced by housing staff.

So, how safe should students and their families really feel? Policies that exist aren't being followed. Who cares what policies exist if they aren't being enforced? To be sure, not all of MTSU's DAs are incompetent. In fact, the ones who try to do their jobs are almost punished

for it. It does not encourage DAs to when they are cursed at by residents for trying to check identification. A constant problem we had was that students became belligerent when we tried to explain to them that we were doing this for their protection. "You see me every day!" they'd complain as if we could possibly remember all 400 residents in Corlew Hall.

Students often put themselves and others at risk. Residents use books to prop open stairwell doors to let their friends in after hours. The problem is that after their friends sneak in, they don't always unprop the door, which leaves the building open to anyone. In the dorms with outside entrances, students put pennies under the doors to make them appear shut. This helps when they are locked out and need to get in but it also lets in anyone else who is randomly checking doors. On top of that, the cameras in the dorms are so blurry that you can't see who anyone is. Chances are that if someone robs or attacks you and the dorm gets it on tape, we won't be able to tell who did it unless they have a crazy hairstyle and putz around the building enough to be recognized. For your safety, use check-in hours!

MTSU will not be pleased with this letter. As a DA, I admit I fell into the pitfalls that many do. As most students and I saw it, you can't beat a job where you get off work at 1:55pm and make it to class by 2:00pm. How convenient to be able to type up your notes while getting paid? Yet, here's the thing: someone was almost murdered. Regardless of what myself or anyone else did in the past, we need to make changes now. This has to stop.

Andrea Hinch
Senior, liberal arts major

Attend "Student Defense" debate

To the Editor:

Students, make sure you have your MTSU IDs on your person at all times. That's right, MTSU police might ask to see your ID if they find you walking aimlessly around campus, looking for innocent victims. This "heightened security" is in response to the attempted murder that occurred in Cummings Hall a few days ago.

It should be noted that both the assailant and the victim were MTSU students, and I would postulate that both students had MTSU IDs. What, then, is the point of checking IDs? Does MTSU think we'll actually feel safer now that they're verifying identities? What MTSU really needs to do is begin debating the issue of guns on campus. Responsible students, professors, and staff members could potentially curb violence on campus if individuals could carry their firearms.

Wait a minute, they are. MTSU's Student Government Association will debate this issue on Oct. 4 at 4:30 in Keathley University Center 322. I would ask everyone to become educated on the issue, and support the Student Defense Resolution, which asks the Administration to petition the General Assembly to allow individuals with Tennessee carry permits to carry on public universities.

Matt Hurtt
Junior, liberal arts major

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FEATURES

Alpha Kappa Lambda New organization seeks to redefine 'fraternity'

By Andy Harper
Managing Editor

Swapping cigarettes and stories from last night's party, the 20 men gathered in the backyard of a corner house on Womack Lane seem to be doing nothing more than enjoying their lazy Sunday hangout. But the men have gathered for a purpose: to update on another on the status of their fraternity — Alpha Kappa Lambda.

The fraternity developed over the summer at MTSU and has picked up speed, evolving from a group of six to nearly twenty.

"It started with us wanting to create and establish a true brotherhood here on campus," says Tradd Staecker, junior business and finance major and president of Alpha Kappa Lambda. "I don't mean to discredit any of the other Greek establishments on campus, because they are all very fine organizations. We wanted to strive for excellence and obtain character and leadership qualities."

One of the objectives of the new fraternity is to offer a place for young men during their four years of college to grow and develop, Staecker says. Social events and philanthropies are wonderful additions to college life, but it is the brotherhood support system for educational advancement that is AKL's core.

National Fraternity

Before the chapter's debut on campus, Alpha Kappa Lambda was created at the University of California at Berkeley in April 1914.

The organization established five ideals to govern their organization: Judeo-Christian principles, leadership, scholarship, loyalty and self-support.

AKL began with a club called "Los Amigos," a house club formed by 11 men who talked about the "Christian men's need for a place to live and study that was within their (financial) means."

"Los Amigos" survived as an organization for seven years and, at the suggestion of the UC Berkeley president, re-established themselves as a national fraternity.

Over the years, the fraternity took on multiple philanthropies, including cystic fibrosis in 1990 and the adopt-a-school program in 1994. But the

most widely known and commonly performed philanthropic cause is "These Hands Don't Hurt," a program that raises money and awareness for victims of domestic abuse.

AKL at MTSU

"I started looking into joining a fraternity. I wanted to be more involved with the community, mainly because I think the college experience is more than just going to classes and going back home," Staecker says.

Staecker looked into different Interfraternity Council organizations at MTSU and pledged one, but left after "feeling it wasn't the best fit." From his previous fraternal experience, Staecker met two people who would later help form MTSU's chapter of AKL: Steven Dahl and Zak Yarbrough.

The Tennessee Gamma Colony of Alpha Kappa Lambda started in late March 2007 after Staecker contacted the national office and proposed the idea of an interest group.

"I got in touch with Jeremy Slivinski, the executive director," Staecker says. "He's been a huge help in trying to push and make sure we aren't doing this alone, that we have full support of a national organization backing us. He understands us and what our motivation is for starting this chapter."

Slivinski loved the idea of starting a chapter at MTSU, Staecker says. The interesting aspect was that it was a student-based interest group and not a national fraternity trying to expand to another college campus.

"It started out with a couple of guys who got together and said, 'we want these values, this type of brotherhood, this is our emphasis,'" Staecker says. "We wanted this established so that 30, 40, 50 and 60 years from now, we can come back and look at other generations of young men [who] value the same things we value."

Pioneering the recruitment process proved somewhat difficult for Alpha Kappa Lambda in the beginning. With a fraternal colony founded over the summer session, member interest was low.

"At first, we really weren't sure how the whole recruitment thing would go," Staecker says. "We actually did something as silly as holding a recruitment cookout on the Friday right before exam week, and we were looking at

each other like 'that's probably why we only have like eight people turning out.'"

After some trial-and-error, AKL improved its recruitment efforts, organizing brotherhood retreats, throwing DJ/band parties, and pulling a double rush week.

"Towards the end of the spring semester, people weren't expecting a whole lot from us, but my main goal was to keep our momentum and keep the ball rolling," Staecker says. "Honestly, I couldn't have done it, had it not been for a few very good friends of mine who I now have the distinct honor of calling my brothers."

Looking toward the future

In addition to the eight brothers, Tennessee Gamma Colony of AKL added seven pledges for the fall semester. For now, the education process for the prospective members begins — as they learn about the history of the fraternity, the philanthropies and brotherhood.

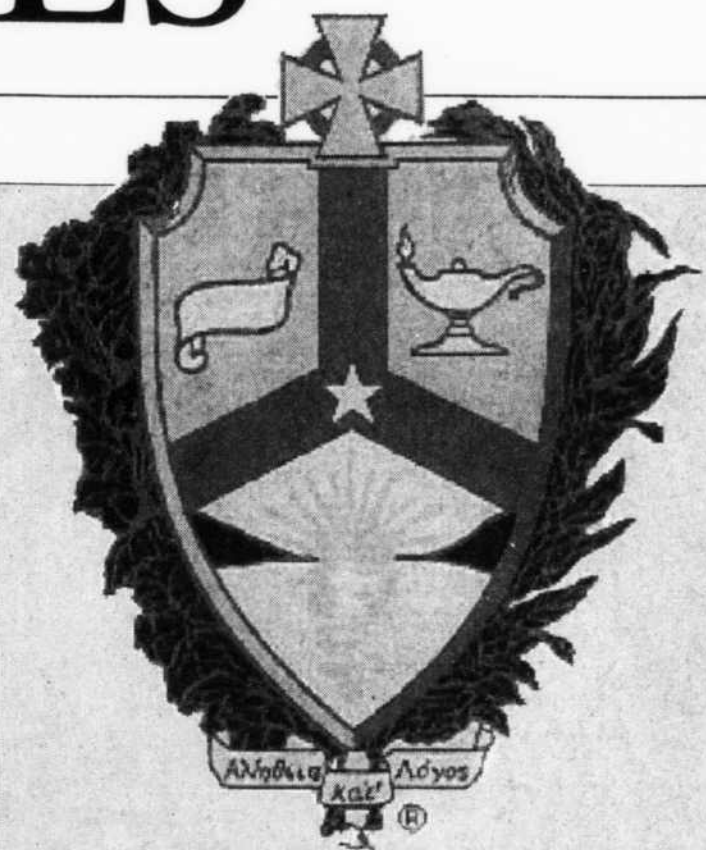
"The biggest accomplishment personally is working on trying to establish and solidify this fraternity here on campus," Staecker says. "We sat down and had all the pledges tell us why did you join us, what do you hold dear, what is it you want to pass on to future brothers?"

For the time being, the main focus for AKL's attention is to be recognized by the Interfraternity Council.

"It is vitally important for any Greek organization to cooperate with other Greek organizations," Staecker says. "It helps build Greek Life, makes Greek Life strong with every voice there."

While the national headquarters of Alpha Kappa Lambda recognizes the Tennessee Gamma Colony as official, the campus IFC does not. Staecker says they are working on the process to be recognized as an official colony by MTSU, and eventually welcomed as a chapter member into the MTSU Interfraternity Council.

"We don't want it to be about numbers. We don't want it to be about dues. We don't want it to be about money and just getting as many people in here as possible," Staecker says. "We want to have men of character, men who are a part of an organization that exists for their betterment and the betterment of their brothers."



Alpha Kappa Lambda Executive Council



Staecker

"We want to encourage our members to strive to maintain the highest qualities of manhood. It isn't about the parties or money, it's about being brothers and helping each other transition from boys to men."

-Tradd Staecker, junior business and finance major
President



Grant

"I think that establishing a group and growing with other people is top priority. We want to be active on campus and in the development of our collegiate careers."

-Logan Grant, senior political science major
Vice President



Yarbrough

"We are striving to be different with our practices and diverse with our membership. The main thing we are really focusing on is becoming a part of IFC and helping to bring about positive change to Greek Life."

-Zak Yarbrough, freshman business administration major
Secretary



Dahl

"It's a maturing and humbling experience being able to devote your efforts towards a greater cause."

-Steven Dahl, sophomore business administration major
Social Chair



Vandenberg

"What I love most is our diversity. A lot of our guys you would never find in a fraternity, myself included. I think our diversity really speaks about our character."

-John Vandenberg, junior criminal justice administration major
Sergeant-at-Arms



Alpha Kappa Lambda members Jon Albert, Steven Dahl, Tradd Staecker, Zach Wilkinson, Brady Davis, Zak Yarbrough and Logan Grant pose at their pinning ceremony.

Nearly Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 19

Jupiter is upset with you, so don't count on a good grade in any of your classes. Also, you will come down with a rare type of bacterial infection only carried by monkeys. Have a nice month!

Taurus

April 20 - May 20

The stars want nothing to do with you, so figure out the meaning of life yourself. Wait, you're sort of an idiot, so scratch that. Wait for next month to think.

Gemini

May 21 - June 21

You feel as though your life is spiraling out of control and that you will end up dying alone. On the upside, however, you have great intuition.

Cancer

June 22 - July 22

If you do not sacrifice a bottle of peach Schnapps to Mercury, you will die. Also, you will break your tailbone when you drink the Schnapps yourself and decide to skateboard.

Leo

July 23 - Aug. 22

Everyone hates you, and you are a terrible student. Get it together this month or evil, dancing marmosets will do a jig on your head. And not in a good acid flashback way, either.

Virgo

Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

Your dreams will be crushed this month because you are apathetic. You don't have any dreams. You really are just a waste of oxygen.

Libra

Sept. 23 - Oct. 23

Happy Birthday to you! It will be a blast until you have one too many birthday shots and decide that playing football with glass bottles is a good thing.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 21

You are whiny and boring, and Jupiter has decreed that you will be sterile as to not pass on your foolishness to the next generation. Your feet are also misshapen.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Mars has aligned the universe to rain curses down on you this month. Nothing specific was decreed, but beware of bananas, sporks and Carrot Top, who should be avoided anyway.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Beware of wild parties on Greek Row and anyone who offers you a cup of tea. Uranus won't be happy if you fail to heed this warning.

Aquarius

Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Have a good month. Yes, you have pleased the right stars. The left, however, are pissed, so next month will kinda suck.

Pisces

Feb. 19 - March 20

This month, you will see the undoing of your relationship. This has nothing to do with the stars, though. You just reek pretty badly.

SPORTS

MTSU decimates Panthers



In the first half, freshman Dwight Dasher ran for 58 yards and 2 rushing touchdowns. A 22-yard rush by Dasher in the first quarter was the longest of his career.

Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer



Freshman quarterback Dwight Dasher threw 10 of 17 passes for 240 yards and three touchdowns, all in the first half. He also threw the longest pass of his career, a 71-yard touchdown pass to senior running back DeMarco McNair.

Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer

The emergence of Dwight Dasher

True freshman quarterback replaces injured Joe Craddock and shines

By Richard Lowe

Assistant Sports Editor

Folkston, Ga. is home to Charlton County High School, winner of the last three AA state football championships. With a town of 2,178 and a tradition that goes beyond the three titles won, it is safe to say the town shuts down every Friday night in the fall. The quarterback for the Indians before this year was Dwight Dasher, a town favorite who led his team to a 42-2-1 record while he was the starter. His winning ways led him to receive interest from Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia. Eventually, Dasher chose Middle Tennessee and arrived on campus this past August.

The majority of the conversation surrounding Dasher involved how set the Blue Raiders were at quarterback for the future. With redshirt junior Joe Craddock getting his first opportunity to start for the Blue Raiders after sitting behind Clint Marks, the thought around the MT fan base was that Dasher would start after Craddock had graduated. Craddock started the season completing 20 of 32 passes for 190 yards against Florida Atlantic. It seemed as though the Blue Raiders could not find rhythm until the fourth quarter, when Craddock threw for his first touchdown of the season.

The next week, Craddock exploded against the University of Louisville to the tune of 290 passing yards and 51 rushing yards. While Craddock's season was flourishing, Dasher was quietly placed on the depth chart as the second string quarterback.

Against Louisiana State University, Dasher played the majority of the fourth quarter, well after the game was out of reach for MT. Fans from LSU were impressed with not only the fight of the Blue Raiders but also the talent of Dasher and other new recruits to the Blue Raider squad.

The game against Western Kentucky took place on a Thursday, just five days after taking on LSU

in Baton Rouge and the fifth game in a 20-day span. This was expected to be the coming-out party of offensive coordinator G.A. Mangus' offense with Joe Craddock at the helm, but instead it was announced that Dasher would be receiving his first start of his young career. Assumptions were abundant as fans were trying to figure out if Craddock had lost his job to the hotshot freshman or whether or not he was being punished. Only members of the media in attendance knew of Craddock's back injury that still has him on the sideline as of press time.

In front of the fifth-largest crowd to ever see the Blue Raiders in Floyd Stadium, head coach Rick Stockstill and Mangus were forced to show off a vanilla version of the offense that was seen against Louisville just two weeks earlier. The final result against Western Kentucky was a last-second missed field goal and a three-point loss, the fourth of the season. Dasher's final drive showed promise. He ran a draw through the middle of the Hilltopper defense, threw two passes, and scrambled away from a sack before setting his team up for the eventual missed field goal.

A day later, it was announced that Dasher would again be the starter, this time against Florida International. While there were not as many fans to see the Blue Raiders face off against FIU, it did not kill the excitement directed towards Dasher. In the first half alone Dasher helped his offense score 47 points, the second-most ever scored in a half since MT turned I-A in 1999. Dasher was apart of five touchdowns which is the most by a player at Middle Tennessee since Josh Harris had five in 2003 against Louisiana - Lafayette in overtime.

With Virginia coming to Floyd Stadium on Saturday, expectations are high for Dasher. If his past is any indication of his future, the Dwight Dasher era will bring unprecedented success to Rick Stockstill and the Blue Raiders. ♦

MT 'in line'

Brazilian star leads local hockey club

By Clarence Plank

Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee Inline Hockey club was down 4-1 going into the final two minutes of their game against University of Missouri.

Suddenly, the Blue Raiders managed to score two goals with only 30 seconds remaining.

That was then that Leandro "Leo" Garcia Silva found a hole in the Missouri's defense and made his shot with ten seconds left to tie the game at 4-4.

For Silva, and the other Blue Raiders, that was the most exciting moment of their season to date. It was the first tie against Missouri. It was also a game that they simply weren't expected to win.

"It was the happiest moment in my life in hockey," Silva said. "[No one] expect us to do that against a team that went to the nationals the year before."

Silva came to MTSU to get his degree in business and to play inline hockey. He talked to alumni Kevin Cook after he e-mailed an inline hockey message board and some other schools replied back telling him about Cook. Cook used to play for the Blue Raiders.

"I decided to move here to play on a more competitive level than I could in Brazil," Silva said. "He told me about the program here that was starting to grow. I wanted to help to start the program here. That's pretty much the reason why I came here because I could have gone some where else."

Last season, Head Coach John Kromm gave Silva the responsibility of being the team captain and since then he has been working hard to help the team to grow.

"Basically, he's got great leadership qualities," Kromm said. "He's got more heart than anyone I have ever known in hockey. He's all passion and dedication to the sport. You just talk to the guy for five minutes and you would know that. He has grown into a much smarter player."

Silva is a Business major and works as a math tutor over in the SAG building. He loves business and the fact that he and the other players on the



Brazilian defensive man Leandro "Leo" Garcia Silva is expected to have a big impact this season for MTHC. Photo submitted by MT Inline Club

hockey team are taking classes together this semester makes it even better. Silva wants to go to Graduate school and maybe work in the NHL in the future. Right now, he is concentrating on getting through school.

"I'm learning to be a better leader," Silva said. "Not just in hockey. When we are playing I'm the captain, but outside I'm everyone's friend. Sometimes I have to make decisions [more] as a leader, than a friend. I feel I can teach them something and they can teach me as well."

"He's an awesome friend and an even better teammate," teammate Adam Leetham said. "We learn from each other."

Silva goes home each summer and Christmas break to visit his family and friends in Brazil. During the off-season Silva also plays in the IIHF Inline Hockey World Championships with the Brazilian Nationals team. This past summer they won the Championships. It was the first for them after finishing second last year and 4th and 3rd the years before.

Silva grew up in Rio de Janeiro and when he was 11 years old he got his first set of roller blades. A friend of his came back from the United States with some old hockey sticks and later on they met a

Canadian Hockey coach who taught them to play the sport. From that moment on he was hooked.

"In Brazil, I wasn't able to play and go to school because they don't give a lot of support to sports that the government doesn't view as important," Silva said. "The government doesn't have enough money to spend on sports except soccer. For something that's not soccer, they really don't care."

His goal, like many of his teammates, to win the Nationals this season. It will be a long and difficult road since the team is based out of St. Louis, Mo.

Silva was a forward in the Brazilian Nationals team but here he is a defensive man and has to learn how to control the game. Brazil plays a different style of hockey than what is played in the states, so he has had to adjust to the team's needs.

"The game of hockey is about control," Kromm said. "I want him to be the quarterback and take control of the game and that has been my focus for the past couple of years in coaching him. He's a worker and he has talent. I need him to take a more centered role and be able to control the whole flow of the game."

The 2007-8 season starts November 4th in St. Louis ♦

Raiders win big

Continued from 1

this season, and the first time MT has held an opponent below 198 yards on the ground.

"We looked at the film [from last week]," freshman safety Jeremy Kellem said. "I myself missed a lot of tackles. In practice this week, we made

sure we improved on our tackling. This is the first time we've had a full week of practice. We really worked on our open field tackling, because [that was a problem] in past games. We wanted to come out here and show everybody that we can tackle."

After finishing the first half with a 47-0 lead, MT quickly pulled their starters once play resumed. As a result, they didn't score another point in the second half

"I told the team at halftime I wanted to be first class," Stockstill replied to questions about the second half.

Dasher was not the only freshman who had a big game. Kellem continued to make big plays. He had a tackle for loss, a pass breakup and a forced fumble. The fumble came in the second quarter when Kellem knocked the ball out of punter Chris Cook's hands in the end zone that resulted in a safety for the Raiders.

"Jeremy is a good football player," Stockstill said. "He shows up for every game. He's one of those guys that's not playing like a freshman. He's a very mature young man. I've been very impressed by how he's played."

Florida International will look to snap its 17-game losing streak next Saturday against SBC opponent Troy.

The Blue Raiders will be hosting the Virginia Cavaliers (4-1) at Johnny "Red" Floyd Field this Saturday ♦

GRADUATING?

~ *Not Returning to MTSU?*

The Housing and Residential Life Office is currently accepting housing CANCELLATIONS for the Spring 2008 semester from students who are graduating from MTSU and will be taking no additional classes and from students who are not returning to school at MTSU after the Fall 2007 semester.

The deadline for submitting CANCELLATIONS for prepayment refund is **Monday, October 15, 2007**. Requests for cancellations must be submitted in writing to the Housing Office in the Keathley University Center, Room 300 or mailed to Box 6, MTSU, faxed to the Housing Office (615-898-5459) or emailed to housing@mtsu.edu by the deadline. For additional information contact Housing and Residential Life, 615-898-2971.

**MIDDLE
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Sports briefs

Staff Report

MT Volleyball continues to dominate Sun Belt

Middle Tennessee rolls over Denver for an easy win taking the match 3-0 at the Alumni Memorial Gym on Friday.

The Blue Raiders (16-1, 3-0) recorded 48 kills and a hitting percentage of .389, shutting down the Pioneers offense allowing only 35 kills. Denver hit .026, with only one player Holly Benson, who hit .176 for the Pioneers (8-8, 2-1).

The Raiders completed the game with 28 blocks assists and 14 total blocks from as a team. Ashley Adams had 16 kills and hit .519 in the series. Ashley Mead and Ashley Asberry, each had eight kills respectively. Asberry hit .375 and Mead recorded .238 attacking percentage.

Leslie Clark finished the game with 44 assists and now has a total of 746 assists this season.

Soccer team falls to impressive FAU

The Blue Raiders fall to Florida Atlantic 2-1 in their Sun Belt Conference opener on Friday at Blue Raider Field.

FAU (4-3-1, 1-0-0) handed MT their first loss in 23 games at home since 2003 to Denver. They also lost their first game to an SBC opponent in 15 games.

Goalie Kela Casiple finished the game with a career high 10 saves. Holly Grogan recorded an assist as she set up the tying shot for Jen Threlkeld's sixth goal of the season.

FAU scored in the final 81 minute of the game to break the tie. ♦

Get the news out:

Sidelines is looking for distributors to deliver our newspaper across MTSU. Applicants must have a driver's license and proof of insurance.

If interested, or if you have questions, please call Steven Chappell at extension 2337, or Eveon Corl at extension 5111.

I am Sportacus



J. Owen Shipley
Sports Editor

Class action

Why MT 's second half was even more impressive than the 47-0 first half

When MT went in to halftime on Saturday, they were winning 47-0 and every one at Floyd Stadium knew this could be the biggest day in MT sports history.

Being a numbers guy, I remember sitting on the sidelines adding up the impossible stats MT was on pace to finish with.

Had they come out in the third quarter with true-freshman QB Dwight Dasher leading the first team offense, MT was on pace to score nearly 100 points.

Simply doubling the first half stats—which is technically all one can do to calculate the outcome of a game at the half—would have resulted in 480 passing and 120 rushing yards for Dasher alone— not to mention 10 TDs for the freshman phenom.

Though he only played the first half one series, Dasher finished the game with a passer rating of 235.65. It's a shame he didn't play long enough to count for national passer rating rankings— which require 75% of the game to be played— because he probably would have led the nation this weekend. Last week's highest rating didn't even break 200.

As a team MT would have finished with 854 yards (480 passing, 174 return, and 194 rushing), 94 points and would have done all this without surrendering a single third down conversion or point.

The points FIU did score were actually the result of a botched punt by MT that bounced off the helmet of a Golden Panther, landing in the end zone. Once there, all FIU had to do was touch the ball to earn a TD. They did so but then they missed their extra point, so their offense still never scored.

If those stats seem overblown, consider that even with the second and third team defenses on the field some stats ended pretty much as predicted. FIU was on pace to be 0-12 on third down conversions and finished an even more embarrassing 1-15.

Adding up the numbers may show how amazing the second half 'could' have been but stats alone could never show how improbable and impressive it actually was.

You may be wondering why the actual stats in the second half were so different from the projections.

Wouldn't that mean my obsession with numbers was a waste of time? No, it means the Blue Raiders simply decided enough was enough. After thirty-five minutes of destroying FIU it was time to call it a night on the scoring.

"I thought their focus, their energy, their passion, everything that we've done in this week I sensed something special was going to happen. I was very impressed with the way they responded," Stockstill said after the game.

I knew that we'd be lucky to see ten more points in the second half because it's just bad form to run up the score when someone is down, but even I had no idea how far MT would go to maintain good sportsmanship.

After the game I asked coach Stockstill about the disparity between first and second half production.

"I told the team I wanted to be first class," Stockstill said. "The game was over. I'm not into embarrassing anyone or their program. I wanted to get some of the younger guys who haven't gotten to play an opportunity to."

As I have been saying all year, MT is a first class program. What amazed me about that statement was that it is the kind of thing you might hear the coach of a top ten team say.

You never see an 0-4 team take the high road. It just doesn't happen. They generally have too much to prove to too many people, but the Blue Raiders feel like they've been this good all season. A lack of experience and the 14th toughest schedule in the country just got in the way. They didn't need to embarrass a sub-par team to discover what they already knew.

MT barely has enough players to field a solid first-team; one of the reasons the first half was so impressive. Looking at their injuries and the depth chart it seems like it would be impossible to field a team at all, let alone one that has now scored 42 on Louisville and 47 in just two quarters against FIU.

Which is why I'm now going on the record to proclaim that the first half didn't say nearly as much about the type of team MT has in the Blue Raiders as the second half did.

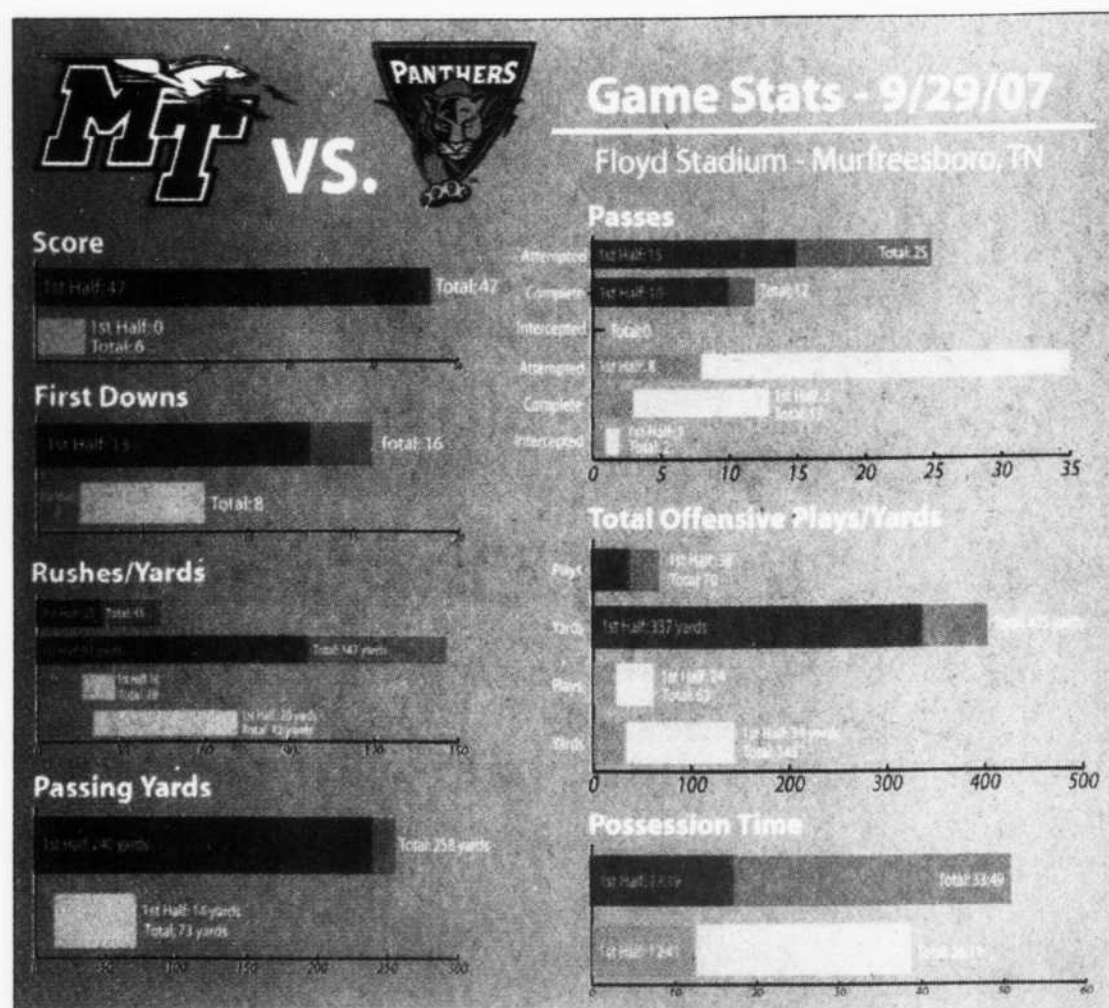
On one that Saturday night in Murfreesboro, MT not only had one of the most efficient offenses in the country, they also had, by far, the classiest.

And how did FIU respond to this kind gesture?

They blitzed MT's third string O-line and did everything in their power to sack MT's fourth string QB. To me, that's pretty classless. MT handed them a scrimmage in the second half; a chance to get some experience for their younger players and they spat in the face of good sportsmanship. Though they pummeled MT's receivers, tried their hardest to hurt Patrick Jackson and Salin Simpson, one thing remained constant about FIU. They never scored a single point on offense.

Clearly, they can't walk the walk.

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



Graphic by Matthew Adair | Production Manager

MT's most valuable



Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer

True-freshman Dwight Dasher had career numbers for a freshman despite playing less than 35 total minutes.



Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer

Junior corner back Alex Suber had a big game against the Golden Panthers. Even though he sat out much of the second half, Suber led the team with 1.5 tackles for a loss and had the second most tackles over all.

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