

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2008

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

VOL. 84 NO. 50

INSIDE

Check out the Band of the Week



A band that came back from the dead is making Murfreesboroians get on their feet.

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Does Palin have what it takes?

Students question the potential vice president's experience and political motivations.

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OPINIONS, 5

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On the road again

Blue Raiders head to Starkville, Miss. for their third consecutive road game against the Mississippi State Bulldogs.

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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 Mississippi State Bulldogs 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.

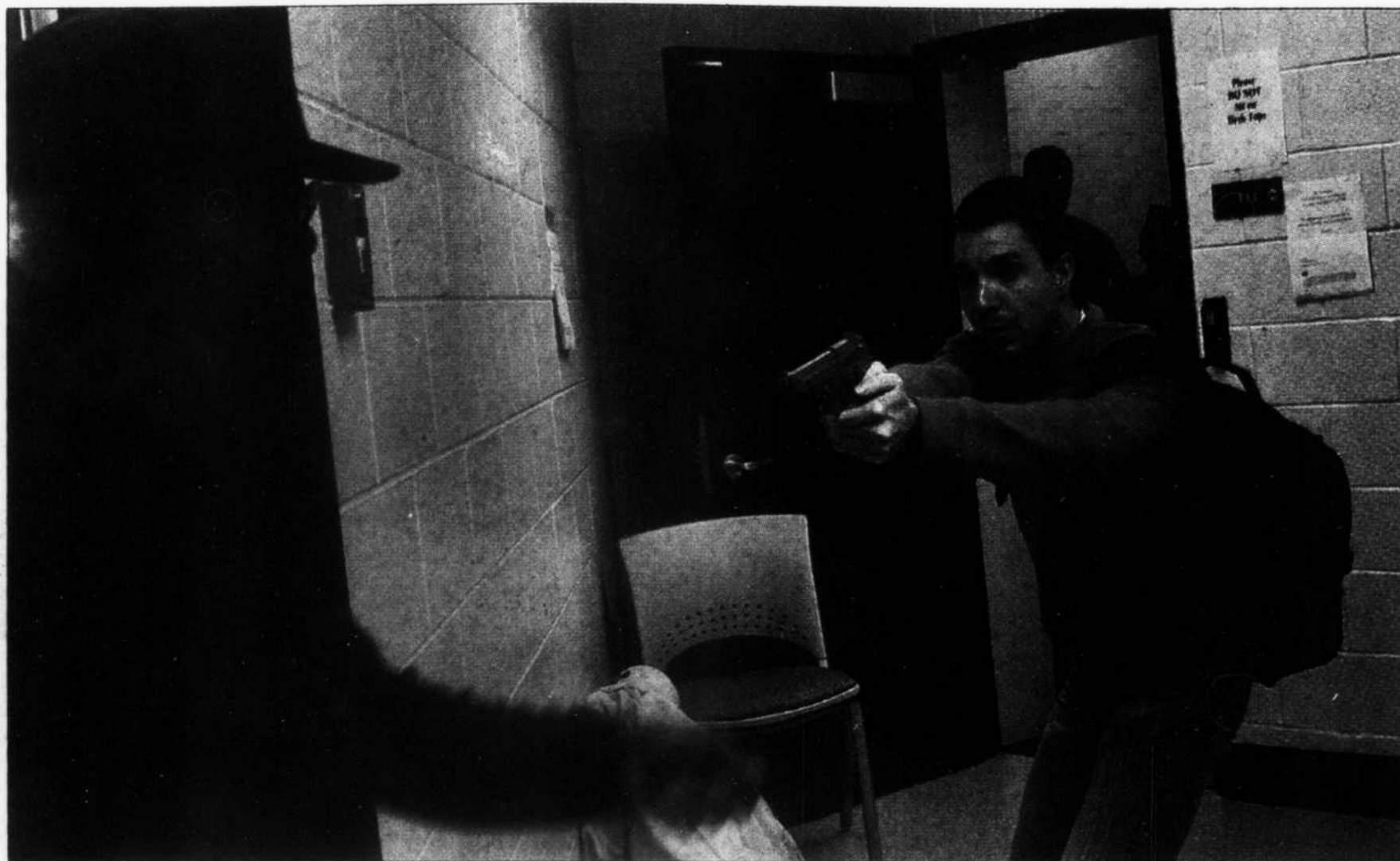


Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
CJA major Stephen Hughes attempts to secure the mock crime scene as Det. Sergeant William Sykes pretends to be an assailant surprising him.

CSI: Murfreesboro hits campus

By COURTNEY WATSON
Staff Writer

Murfreesboro City Police were on campus Wednesday afternoon to hold a mock crime scene exercise for Dennis D. Powell's Crime Scene Investigation course.

An official Crime Scene Unit van was parked behind the BAS and the LRC. The van had several signs posted stating that it was a training exercise in order to avoid panic.

Powell made the initial request for the exercise, and it was set up specifically for his class. His students were "deputized," becoming Murfreesboro police officers for the duration of the exercise. For this, they were given a red plastic gun and a sticker badge.

"MTSU is a partner in training

law enforcement, lawyers and other legal professionals," Murfreesboro Police Spokesman Kyle Evans said.

The class members were told they were the first responding officers to the call and before entering were questioned over what to do when arriving at the scene.

"You have to arrive safely when you get there. You have to basically secure the scene before you can render aid," Evans said.

The crime scene evidence included bullets, casings, a pocketknife and money. It also involved some things one might not expect to find, such as a breakfast pastry, an energy drink and a toy truck. At the end of the hall was a dummy made to represent a dead body. He had a bloodied head and a gun in his hand.

"The class will walk through the crime scene where they may be surprised if they haven't secured it properly," Evans said before the first students entered the scene.

"I was not looking for any evidence," said Mark Francis, senior criminal justice major. "I was looking to make sure I didn't get shot."

Some students who entered did get "shot" at by an officer who came in unexpectedly through a side door in the hallway where the scene was set up.

"It happened so fast. I just turned around and he had a weapon," said junior criminal justice major Stephen Hughes. "He's the threat, and you take him out."

After walking through the set-up, the students had to sketch the crime

scene and record details about it that they could remember. They weren't allowed to re-enter the hallway where it was set up.

Exercises like these have no downfall, said Murfreesboro Police Major Clyde Adkinson. They benefit the city police, the campus police and students. "We're all in it for the same mission—to deter and to solve crimes," he said.

Hughes found the mock crime scene to be very beneficial to his education as a criminal justice administration student.

"This is really good, them coming in and giving us a practical opportunity," Hughes said.

The Murfreesboro City Police were happy to be involved in the education process, Evans said.

SGA participates in town hall meeting to answer questions

By BYRON WILKES
Community News Editor

The executive branch of the MTSU Student Government Association held its first ever Student Media Town Hall Meeting, fielding student-written questions and audience questions about issues concerning the student body.

The meeting took place Monday at the Learning Resources Center in Room 221, starting at 8 p.m. and was open to the public.

"It was great and we're glad [students] came out," said Sondra Wilson, president of the SGA. "We want students to get involved, like going to meetings and giving us suggestions directly, so we can try to do our jobs better."

Questions asked to the board included what the SGA is currently doing to repress the notion that MTSU is a 'suitcase campus,' and convince students there are plenty of things to do on the weekend.

"Students need to take the time to go to clubs and events," said Brandon McNary, SGA executive vice president and speaker of the senate. "Plenty of people are here on the weekends for athletic events. Some people choose not to go to club meetings and some people choose to go, and [the latter] are part of what makes [MTSU] such a great campus."

Student involvement was a large focus of the meeting as several audience members inquired about

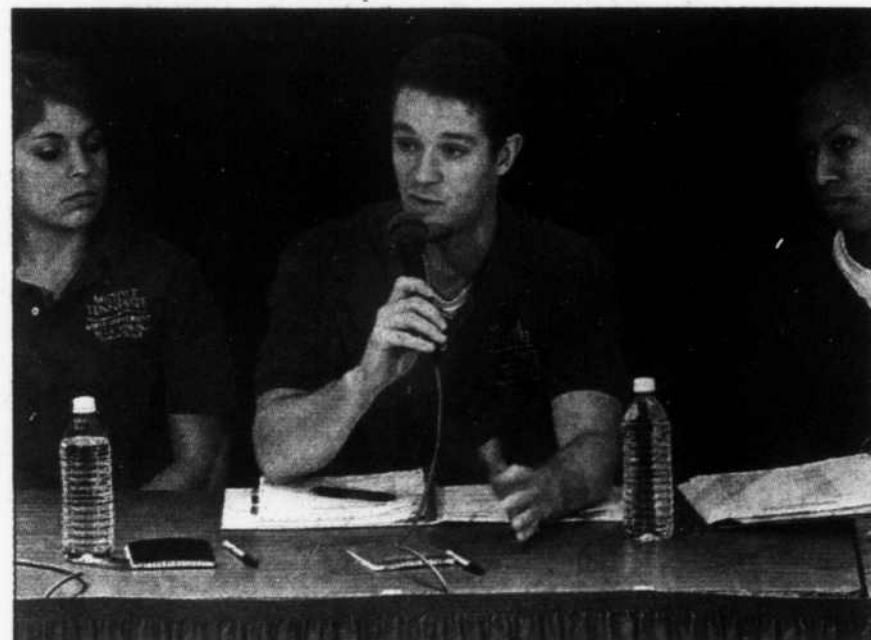


Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
Jamie Boyd (left), Brandon McNary (middle) and Sondra Wilson (right) answer questions at the student town hall meeting in the LRC 221 on Monday.

what the SGA was doing to promote crossing Greek/non-Greek lines in terms of membership.

"I think it's the job of all SGA members to take the time to get in touch with the people they represent, and also encourage all students to get involved and I think we're trying to do that," McNary said. "There are over 23,000 students at MTSU and it's their job to elect senators and representatives. Each senator represents about 750 students. It just so happens that a lot of people elected are Greek; not all Greeks in the Senate are voting on one side and non-

Greeks on the other."

Another main focus of the meeting was student fees, which the SGA has proposed to raise by \$20, and the SGA budget.

"We have passed a bill to let students vote on [the increase]," McNary said. "There are several organizations that are not able to do events because they don't have the money. By raising the fee, we can allocate more money for students and do things like more concerts. This increase could greatly discourage

Students prepare for flu season

By FAITH FRANKLIN
Assistant News Editor

Student Health Services is offering flu vaccinations for students, faculty and staff as a preventative measure for the upcoming flu season.

Thursday, SHS will offer the shots in the Keathley University Center from 8:30 a.m. until noon. Shot costs \$15 for students and \$20 for faculty and staff.

Payment can be made with cash or check at the KUC. Students may also bill the cost of their shot to their student account or use credit cards when they are at the SHS location only.

SHS started giving flu shots last Thursday at the employee benefit fair, according to Tabby Ragland, pharmacy director for SHS.

Several students, faculty and staff have already taken advantage of the vaccinations offered by SHS.

"We have given probably 150 shots so far, and we would love to give out every bit of that we have," Ragland said.

The flu is a contagious disease that can be contracted by coughing, sneezing or nasal secretions.

There are two different kinds of flu vaccines, which come in different forms. The first, which is already offered by SHS, is an inactivated, a killed

FLU SHOTS FROM PAGE 1

vaccine. The second is live, or attenuated, which means it is a weakened virus.

The inactivated virus comes in the form of a shot, and the live attenuated virus comes in the form of a nasal mist.

According to Ragland, the flu shot is highly recommended because it is very easy to get.

"[Students] are exposed to the virus probably the whole flu season, just in class and in the dorms and closed spaces," Ragland said.

Flu season can last from October through March and April, Ragland said. "We do recommend it as soon as it is available, which is usually not before October."

Some students are hesitant about getting the shot for fear that they may contract the virus, because they are, technically, being infected.

"I am not getting the flu shot because I think that it causes the flu. My grandma gets sick with the flu every year after she gets the flu shot," said Trisha Thompson, freshman mass communications major.

There are also other students

who prefer natural medicine.

"I don't want to get the flu from the shot. I am really into letting my immune system take care of itself. That is the natural way," said Samantha Strader, senior theater and psychology major.

It is impossible to contract the flu from the flu shot, because the flu shot is a killed virus, according to Ragland.

"If someone gets sick around the time they take it, it usually means that they were already exposed to the flu before they got their shot," Ragland said.

Fear of needles keeps some people from having the vaccine.

"I am scared of the needle, that's another reason why I probably won't get the flu shot," Thompson said.

"For those people who are needle-phobic we are also [offering] the flu mist, which is a nasal flu vaccination," Ragland said. "It is possible to get flu-like symptoms from [it] because it is a modified live virus. Most people don't have any symptoms or they are very minimal."

SHS has ordered the nasal vaccination and it should arrive later this week. SHS also offers flu vaccinations daily. An appointment is not necessary.

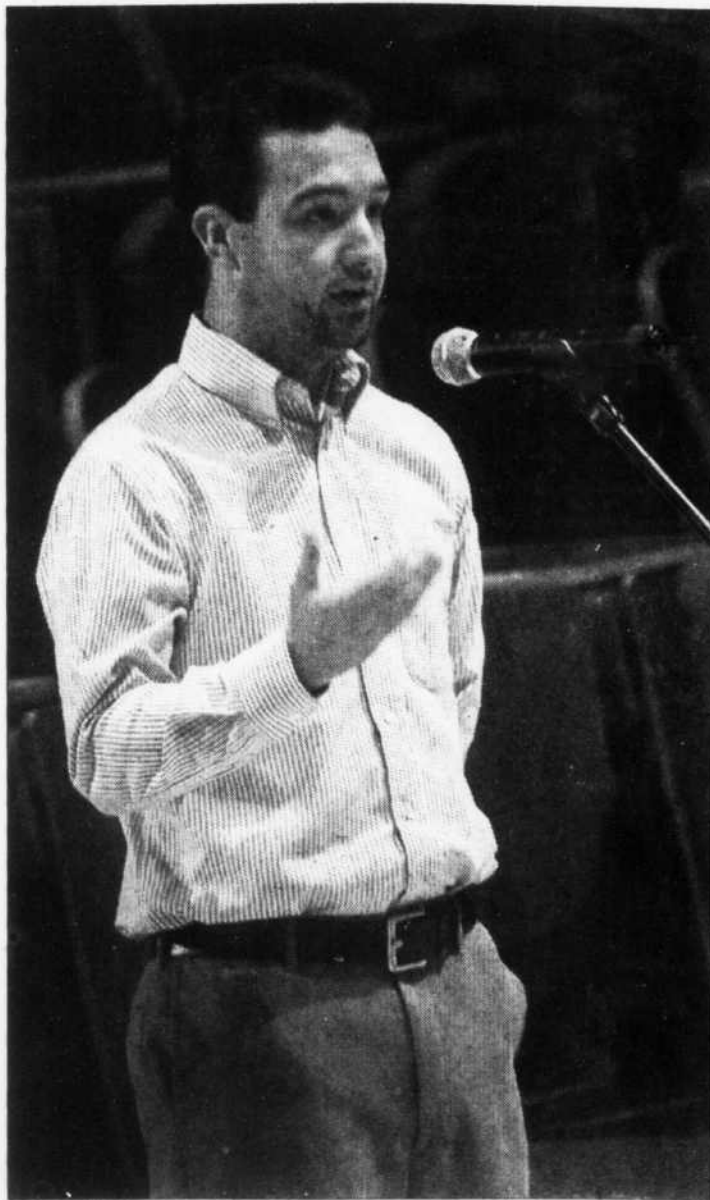


Photo by Alex Blackweider, photography editor
Jimmy Richardson asks about increasing non-Greek involvement.

SGA FROM PAGE 1

'the suitcase campus' idea."

The current status of the economy, accompanied by raising tuition and student fees, raised concerns among the student body that the quality of their education might suffer.

"We've met with Dr. [Sidney] McPhee, and he assured us the administration is doing everything in their power to make sure educational quality remains a top priority," McNary said. "The administration is doing a great job."

The SGA also answered questions about "Fight Song," an MTSU program on Oct. 23 that showcases various organizations' renditions of the MTSU fight song including singing, dancing and short dialogues. A few of the students in the audience voiced concern and confusion that the free event takes much of the budget, up to a few thousand dollars, yet many of them had seen or heard nothing of "Fight Song" until the meeting itself.

"We're not allowed to send mass e-mails," Wilson said. "Students complain about spam and full inboxes. We use SGA's Web site to publicize and we en-

courage students to subscribe."

Wilson also said that the SGA uses fliers and banners to promote events in general, especially in high traffic areas like the KUC knoll and Peck Hall.

"Fight Song" is not Greek," said Clarissa Blackwood, the SGA officer in charge of the Homecoming committee. "It's open to anyone willing to participate. We approached a few groups including some religious organizations, but they said that they didn't have the time."

Students also complained about the parking situation and asked the SGA what recent action has been taken to alleviate some of these problems.

"We have several new lots on campus right now," said Shayna Taylor, the SGA Attorney General who is also in charge of parking. "The Rutherford lot has the most parking on campus and we've increased the shuttles' efficiency for students who claim it is far. The parking situation has greatly improved."

Taylor said that changes in parking are determined by a board that is comprised of parking services staff, faculty and also students.

"Currently, we're talking about transferring other green parking spaces to white parking spaces and possibly parking garages," Taylor said. "Nothing officially has been decided yet, though."

Other issues touched on at the meeting were the cancellation of a Road Rally due to liability issues and on-campus food services.

In closing, the board urged students to approach the SGA in person or via e-mail with any concerns, suggestions or comments about what they'd like to see done at MTSU.

Also present on the board were Jessica Putman, philanthropic coordinator; Nathan Haynes, election commissioner and Jamie Boyd, vice president of administration and public affairs.

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State candidates address MT issues

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

Candidates running for the state House of Representatives and Senate in Tennessee participated in a forum to discuss their plans to increase funding for higher education without affecting students.

Jean Anne Rogers, Jim Tracy, Joe Carr, Tim Tipp, Rishi Saxena, Kent Coleman and Rick Womick all participated in the forum, sponsored by the American Democracy Project.

Rogers and Tracy, who are both running for Senate candidate in District 16, both said that the budget cuts MTSU is experiencing are important to focus on.

"It's very important with the budget cuts that we have been having yearly and mid-term too, that MTSU's classes are not cut," Rogers said. "We need to make sure on the state level that MTSU is getting its share of money."

Tracy said that his focus would not only be on the quality of education, but the professors at the university.

"After talking to folks around the district and Dr. McPhee, I said I would like to start a teacher quality initiative and we did it," Rogers said. "The [Tennessee] Board of Regents generated \$500,000 this past year to start the teacher quality initiative."



Photo Courtesy Connie Huddleston
(Left to Right)
Rick Womick, Tim Tipp, Rishi Saxena, Jim Williams, Jim Tracy, Kent Coleman, Jean Anne Rogers and Joe Carr all participated Wed.

Tracy said that this would help keep our good young teachers involved and help the economy.

"Budget cuts are very important right now, [and] I know we need to retain and recruit good quality professors," Tracy said. "We're in competition with other states that are recruiting good professors."

In addition to helping professors, Tracy said that he, along with others, as able to expand the lottery scholarship requirements so that 12,000 more students could have the opportunity to obtain the scholarship.

Another issue Tracy focused on was the funding of the science building.

"Last year, we had a bill to get the science building started but we couldn't get the support from the administration to do it," Tracy said. "We need to get it funded because the cost every year is going up, and we need to at least get a down payment on it."

Carr, House candidate for District 48, said that if elected, he would approach the science building issue with a new tactic.

"If it means be a little obnoxious to get that done, then

let's be a little obnoxious," Carr said. "The time for waiting is past due."

Womick, House candidate in District 49, said that \$12 million disappeared from the science building fund last year right around the same time \$12 million was given to Gov. Phil Bredesen for a party bunker.

"I don't see how a party bunker outranks a science building at MTSU," Womick said. "I'm not pointing fingers of blame, but that makes no sense to me as a Tennessean or tax payer."

"I guarantee that Governor Bredesen will let me have a

birthday party in that party bunker for free, because I helped pay for it."

While focusing on the science building, Tracy said that he would like to improve the health care system so seniors would have more options.

Saxena, practicing cardiologist and House candidate in District 34, said that health care is a major reason why he is running.

"I see people struggle to get to doctors because of insurance companies," Saxena said. "I will negotiate the cost of medicine with drug companies."

Saxena said he was not

afraid to stand up against monopolies such as Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

With the economy almost reaching a recession, Coleman, House candidate in District 49, said that even though Rutherford County is one of the fastest growing counties in the state, it is falling farther behind.

"Universities are always first on the chopping block, and I don't like that," Coleman said.

Coleman also said that in an attempt to raise revenue for higher education, he voted to add an additional tobacco tax of 42 cents per pack.

"That money was the biggest benefit if you look at portion size," Coleman said. "I'm here to tell you that I'm the only person in this room that supported that tax."

On the other hand, Womick said that the tax actually discouraged people from buying their cigarettes in Tennessee. He said that he met a woman that said she bought her cigarettes online from Kentucky because of the additional fee.

Womick said that there is now a decrease of \$30 million in tobacco revenue because of the tax.

"We need to fund education first before we fund anything else," Womick said. "If we have any money left over, then maybe we can pay our representatives a salary."

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

seeks an

Editor in Chief
for the Spring 2009 semester

Candidates for the position must be currently enrolled students in good standing, have a 2.5 minimum GPA, and have two semesters of media experience.

To apply, complete a Sidelines Editor application (available in COMM 269) and attach a resume, cover letter, three letters of reference and at least three bylined clips, and deliver to:

Steven Chappell, Sidelines Director, Box 8
or deliver applications to COMM 269

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:

Managing Editor
News editor
Sports editor
Features editor
Photo editor
Opinions editor

Copy editor
Assistant Editors
Staff writers
Staff photographers
Production Manager
Staff designers

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

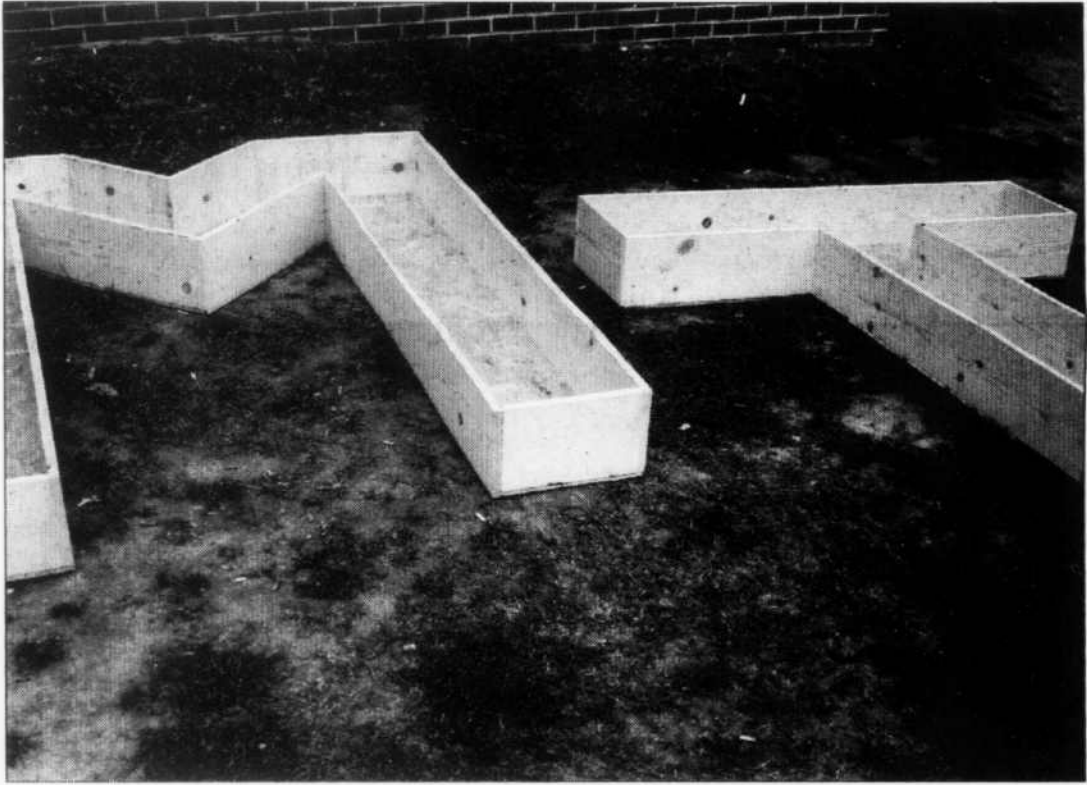


Photo by Alex Trenell, staff photographer
Students are being asked to place nonperishable food in these MT boxes outside of the KUC.

SGA collects food

Food drive helps local homeless shelter

By MICHAEL STONE
Features Editor

The Student Government Association is hosting a food drive to benefit Room in the Inn, a local homeless shelter.

The event, which began Monday, has received approximately 15 food items thus far.

"This is the first year we have tried a canned food drive, and I'm hoping it will catch on as more students hear about it," said Jessica Putman, SGA philanthropic coordinator.

To publicize the event to the student body, Putman said banners and flyers were placed around campus, an e-mail was sent out to the presidents of all student organizations and an announcement was placed on Pipeline.

Putman said that several senators of SGA have made

promises of bringing food to donate since the event was publicized.

Christine Huddleston, director and founder of Room in the Inn, said she was appreciative of SGA's efforts.

"I'm delighted to hear that MTSU is thinking about us," Huddleston said upon hearing about the food drive for the first time in a phone interview.

Huddleston said that some of the food the shelter receives is used at its 640 W. Main St. location and some of it is handed out in baskets to those in need.

"If we ever have any extra (food) – which we rarely do – we share it with the local food bank," Huddleston said.

The event was created to replace SGA's usual fall philanthropy, Putman said.

"Normally we try to build

a house for Habitat for Humanity, but we haven't received the full amount of funding for that yet," Putman said.

Putman said students wishing to donate should gather any nonperishable food items they are able to spare, and drop them off in the wooden boxes located outside the Keathley University Center. Students should drop off their donations before 4:30 p.m. so the food can be picked up before the SGA office closes.

The event, which was originally planned to end Friday, may continue on through next week, Putman said.

"I would like to see it keep going, but we'll have to see," Putman said.

For more information about the event, contact the SGA office at 898-2464.

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Murfreesboro files for grant to aid homeless

By BYRON WILKES
Community News Editor

The Murfreesboro Community Development Department hopes to receive as much as \$158,000 in a federal grant in order to expand the city's permanent and tentative housing to combat homelessness.

The grant is part of the 10-year initiative, The Strategic Framework for Ending Chronic Homelessness in Murfreesboro, which is similar to many other programs adopted by cities across the U.S.

The aim of the initiative is to abolish chronic homelessness in terms of all the facets that contribute to being homeless.

Chronic homelessness is used to describe individuals who have been homeless for one consecutive year or who have had at least four episodes of homelessness over a period of three years. To be classified as chronically homeless,

these individuals must also be diagnosed with a disability, which includes physical and mental disabilities, as well as substance abuse and psychological problems.

According to Middle Tennessee Housing Facilitator Vonda Gray, a large percentage of chronically homeless individuals have mental disabilities accompanied by substance abuse issues which can compound the problem and make aid that much more difficult. Gray is also responsible for drafting the grant, which she said was very nearly complete.

"The \$158,000 [Emergency Shelter Grant] will be used for emergency homelessness, which will include two new projects concerning leasing units to individuals," Gray said. "The second grant is a bonus for \$25,000 and is aimed at chronic homelessness. This money will be used to build one unit in Murfreesboro to put a person in."

While emergency homelessness is becoming more and more prevalent due to early foreclosures and mortgage crises, the national anti-homelessness program Continuum of Care, an umbrella organization that is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Development, funnels money to other nonprofit organizations that distribute funds to create transitional and permanent (longer than six months) housing.

"We are renewing the annual 35 Shelter Plus Care vouchers, which allows us to provide temporary local housing," Gray said. "Really, there's a serious need for more permanent housing in Murfreesboro and, to a lesser extent, transitional housing."

Continuum of Care provides more than just housing for homeless individuals, including rehabilitation centers and skills training.

"One thing the Continuum

of Care is doing is providing alcohol and substance treatment with these grants," said John Callow, director of the Murfreesboro Community Development Department. "We're also trying to give these individuals skills for re-entry into the job market and help feed them. We're working very hard with Greenhouse Ministries and the Veterans Administration; the fact is that a lot of these people are veterans. Last year, we had pretty good funding for things like transitional housing."

With so many nonprofit organizations all aimed towards homelessness, the channeling of resources can sometimes become problematic with so many fractions of the budget being pulled in different directions.

"One of the problems we've had is that when writing a federal grant, it's difficult for, say, 18 [homelessness] programs in Murfreesboro to all ask for some amount

of money," Callow said. "It's hard to respond that way so we've authorized combining it into a single effort towards a HUD grant."

The decision to cut back the number of grants was made largely for the sake of efficiency, according to Callow.

"When you're looking at all these grants, you've got to make decisions like 'what do you apply for,'" Callow said. "You've got any number of different programs and we're trying to combine these so you only have one application. I think the first thing it will do is cut the administrative burden of the application process. Time is expensive, especially when writing grants."

A major obstacle in attaining more money to allocate to nonprofit organizations is the relatively small prevalence homelessness has taken as a priority in the community at large.

"The [programs to end

homelessness] that work are the ones that have a high level of engagement by top decision-makers in the community who buy in and who are willing to say 'we've got a problem, we've got a big problem,'" Callow said. "[Murfreesboro] hasn't had to make homelessness a high visibility item yet, so we're sort of victims of our successes, albeit these are welcome successes. It's similar to the rest of the country, you have to have the support of the people in a city and it just hasn't come to that."

As the economic downturn of the U.S. continues, Callow affirmed that the problem of emergency and chronic homelessness will continue to grow.

"This problem is going to grow not just here, but everywhere," Callow said. "Our Continuum of Care and service providers have done a pretty nice job coping with the problem given the funding provided to them."



Photo by Alex Treneff, staff photographer
Sigma Alpha Epsilon helps children partake in the Halloween festivities at the carnival.

Greeks host carnival

The office of Greek Affairs throws festival for community, children at Walnut Grove

By ALEX MOORMAN
Assistant News Editor

In an effort to get the community more involved on MTSU's campus, the Panhellenic Association and the office of Greek Affairs held their annual Halloween Carnival yesterday on Walnut Grove.

"A lot of the time people don't realize what Greek organizations do for the community, and this is a good opportunity to have a great time while helping the community," said Byron Lightsey, coordinator of Greek Affairs.

Children pre-K through 5th grade from around the community were all welcomed to come and join in the festivities free of charge.

"The festival gives kids a safe option to come out and have fun in an environment that parents can feel safe with," said Danny Kelley, associate vice president of Student Affairs and dean of Student Life. "We as Greeks are part of the community and it's a great way to show them that they are important to us by making them a part of our campus."

All of the Greek organizations represented themselves by setting up booths with activities for the kids such as a costume contest and candy prizes.

"We have a candy toss," said Jimmy Crytzer, senior electronic journalism major. "The kids have fun, and this helps show MTSU and the community that we really do care about them."

Halloween Express from Murfreesboro set up a booth

supplying free hot chocolate to the participants in the carnival.

"We set up a duck pond where the kids pick a duck and if it's a certain color they get to take home the rubber duck," said Betsy Jo Culbreath, junior science major. "They seem to really enjoy it."

The organizations passed out flyers to local schools and churches to help spread the word about the carnival.

"It is important for Greek life members to give back to our community because they do so much for us," said Rebecca Cathey, junior accounting major. "A majority

of the kids out here are the teacher's kids, so that also gives us a way to show that we appreciate our teachers, as well."

The carnival started at 5 p.m. and ended around 7 p.m. They played Halloween songs, and most of the Greek participants were dressed up in costumes.

"This festival is important for Greek life to get out into the community and give back something to the kids," said Libby Forester, senior public health major. "Parents have relief that their kids are safe, and since this is an annual event, we just want to make it even more fun every year."

Back to school-do's

Do get a great cut
Don't skip class to receive (...and DON'Ts)
Do get a professional massage
Don't nap in the mall massage lounge
Do get a rejuvenating facial
Don't rejoice over the bad boys
Do get a real manicure
Don't clean your nails with your new



1233 Commerce Park Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37132
(Next to Coop on MTSU Blvd)

CRIME BRIEFS

Oct. 17, 10:16 a.m.

Assault

Military Memorial

Ticket writer received threats from a subject from Greek Row. Officer attempted to locate the suspect.

Oct. 17, 12:32 a.m.

Theft

Peck Hall

Subject came to the station to fill out a report that his bike had been stolen.

Oct. 17, 2:05 p.m.

Theft

Voorhies Industrial Studies

Subject reported her bike stolen from the VIS approximately 30 minutes prior.

Oct. 18, 8:36 a.m.

Vandalism

Wright Music Building

Student patrol officer noticed vandalism on the side of the building.

Oct. 18, 12:39 a.m.

Accident

MTSU Police Department

Complainant came in to report an accident. Both parties exchanged

information prior to coming to the office.

Oct. 18, 6:27 p.m.

Assault

Recreation Center

There was a report of a fight outside the main entrance of the Recreation Center. Five black males involved, two actively fighting; one subject already injured and had retreated indoors, ambulance in route. Kevin Carter, was arrested for outstanding criminal trespassing and theft under \$500.

Oct. 19, 3:00 a.m.

Alarm

Felder Hall

An unknown person pulled the fire alarm on the second floor of the building. No fire was present.

Oct. 20, 10:51 p.m.

Theft

Boutwell Dramatic Arts

Officer advised he was flagged down because a subject had her purse lost or stolen.

Oct. 21, 6:20 a.m.

Traffic

Scarlett Commons.

Complainant advised that she heard a collision outside of Building 4. She saw two white trucks involved in the accident. Both left the scene and were last seen doing donuts. The caller then called back and said that she was half asleep when she called and she meant the trucks had hit another dark colored truck.

Oct. 21, 8:17 a.m.

Traffic

Scarlett Commons

Joseph Dixon was arrested for leaving the scene of an accident involving property damage.

Oct. 21, 2:57 p.m.

Assistance

Bell Street Lot

Parking services requested assistance in reference to a disorderly subject.

Oct. 21, 7:44 p.m.

Theft

Murphy Center

Report of theft of an iPod from a Murphy Center locker room.

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HANK

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"GRAND OLD OPELY AIN'T SO GRAND"
"P.F.F."
"SIX PACK OF BEER"

HANK III
DOWN RIGHT REBEL PROUD

IN STORES NOW **BEST BUY**

OPINIONS

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Face the facts on our failing economy

The rumors surrounding the impending MTSU budget cuts are getting progressively worse.

A plan to deal with the cuts entails the elimination of vacant positions in areas such as the Records Office, Development and University Relations and Business and Finance. It calls for a reduction in athletic scholarship funds, student programming, training and development activities, travel and professional development funds and custodial and grounds services. There will be additional reductions in university landscaping, cleaning schedules and HVAC service calls.

As a result of these latest cuts and reductions, we will begin to notice a decrease in the level of certain campus services; a shift toward more online communications to reduce printing and mailing costs, lagging response times, particularly in areas such as maintenance and custodial services, and offices where there was already heavy traffic such as financial aid.

Our campus will start running slower and slower. Our grounds will get dirtier and dirtier. And the entire university will surely become more and more panicked.

With the presidential election looming and our economy becoming evermore unstable, it's time to take these budget cuts as a serious indication of what's to come depending on the choice Americans make Nov. 4.

Republicans often tout that they are the economic whizzes – they are the ones that put economy first. Democrats are the ones that brush it aside in favor of unnecessary government-sponsorship.

But facts state otherwise. A little bit of research turns up astounding numbers about the differences in the two parties and their economic successes. According to The Los Angeles Times, which analyzed data since 1960, Democratic reigns have enjoyed far superior economies than their Republican counterparts.

The research – which has been echoed again and again – denotes that under Republican presidents since 1960, the federal deficit has averaged \$131 billion a year. Under Democrats, that figure is \$30 billion.

In an average Republican year the deficit has grown by \$36 billion. In the average Democratic year it has shrunk by \$25 billion.

The national debt has gone up more than \$200 billion a year under Republican presidents and less than \$100 billion a year under Democrats.

Democratic administrations have statistically delivered lower inflation, lower unemployment, higher economic growth, better stock market growth and higher median wage growth. This performance holds up even if you lag the analysis by a few years to allow time for economic policies to have an effect, according to *Washington Monthly*.

And now that the fumbling economy has taken hold of our university, we can't help but face the facts. In choosing the next "leader of the Free World," we need to remember that the worth and respectability of our degrees will be reflected by that person's economic policy.

Oh goodness, she is just too cute

But is that good enough to become Vice President of the United States?

Forgive my language, but you've gotta be gosh darn kidding me. How ever in the world can Alaskan Governor Sarah Palin actually be in the running for the second-most influential position in this country?

I was having dinner with some friends and one of their moms a couple weeks ago. The topic of the vice presidential debate came up, so I asked my friend's mom, "Who do you like out of the vice presidential candidates?" She responded with, "Well, I really like Palin."

Of course, I wanted to tell her a lot of things in a very short period of time after that answer. But I responded simply with, "Why Palin?" And she said, "Because she focuses on all the right issues like being pro-life."

I decided to take it slow and just point out a quick fact. "Did you know that while Palin was mayor of Wasilla, the city billed rape victims for rape test kits?" I

asked.

That's correct. The Associated Press came out with the story over a month ago. Four years after Palin had been elected as mayor of the town, the state of Alaska came down on Wasilla for billing sexual assault victims and their insurance companies for rape kits. Eric Croft, a former Democratic Representative in the Alaskan House, was forced to push a bill saying the town couldn't do that. This was after Wasilla Police Chief Charlie Fannon was simply asked to stop and refused.

My friend's mom responded by saying, "Well that's not as important an issue as being pro-life."

If there is anyone out there that feels the same way about abortion issues being so important, please just think about things critically for a second. Abortion is not an issue that should be used to determine who to vote for, especially in the upcoming



Aye yai yai
Michael Stone

election. As you all have surely seen, this country has much bigger fish to fry. Those fish include economy-spiraling-down salmon, neck-deep-in-two-wars flounder and mortgage-foreclosure trout.

Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court case that made abortion legal universally in the United States, won't be overturned, so the abortion issue doesn't even matter when it comes to the election.

If Palin is elected, our country will need to be armed with legal abortion anyway. This is considering, if she has her way of course, that children will learn primarily about ab-

stinence in school rather than safe sex and contraceptives.

Well, maybe I'm being a little too harsh on Governor Palin. I forgot all the other credentials she has that would make her a good VP and possibly president.

She has foreign policy experience because Alaska is so close to Canada and Russia. She supports strong infrastructure projects, even if they are \$200 million bridges that go to islands with very small populations and an airport. She does have clever catchphrases that follow her everywhere she goes like, "hockey mom," "doggone it" and "maverick."

Wait - maverick? Doesn't that mean someone who is a nonconformist and thinks independently of the people he or she is around? I'm sure glad Palin is a maverick. Oh wait...

Well, I guess she was a nonconformist when she used state money to bring her children along on trips

with her. What politician does that?

According a recent AP article, Sarah Palin charged the state of Alaska \$21,012 for her daughters to fly one way 64 times and round trip 12 times. The article also points out that she charged the state for hotel rooms the girls stayed in. And the icing on the cake – she amended expense reports to specify the trips were for official business.

I guess you should forget me ever mentioning anything about credentials. Have you heard of Bob Barr, Libertarian Party member? He's running for president and he dislikes abortion. Oh, and guess what, he's on the Tennessee ballot. And best of all, he doesn't have Sarah Palin as a running mate.

Michael Stone is a senior journalism major and can be reached at sifeatur@mtsu.edu.

Gov. Palin: where is the 'real America?'

By AARON CAMMARN
Guest Columnist

Where is the real America? Can it be found between the clean sidewalks and cul-de-sacs of the suburbs? Is it in the towering glass skyscrapers of the big cities? Or is it in the sweeping cornfields of the rural Midwest?

Governor Sarah Palin of Alaska seems to think it is in the small towns of swing states where she stumps. At a fund raiser last week in North Carolina, Palin said: "We believe that the best of America is in these small towns that we get to visit, and in these wonderful little pockets of what I call the

"real America," being here with all of you hard-working, very patriotic, very pro-America areas of this great nation."

So what are the rest of us Gov. Palin, faux Americans?

Nothing in politics is more disrespectful than attempting to divide a common people into factions, especially by manipulating voters in rural areas with the ideas of patriotism.

Why is it that the people who agree with the republican agenda are patriotic, "real" Americans, and those who have different ideas are anti-American and thus not "real?"

By this reasoning, are the

eight million inhabitants residing in New York City not real Americans? Or does simply living in a big bad city disqualify them from true patriotism?

Are the scary city folk anti-American because they choose to live in an urban area? Must one be a citizen of a small town to be pro-American? Is not every city and every town across America represented in our military?

We must be careful how we use divisive tactics in the current political climate. America has already begun to split into two opposing cultures over social policies and those who take advan-

tage of this fact by extorting it do the American public a disservice.

It is upside-down thinking to claim that highly-populated areas are less American than those in rural areas. Quite obviously, the majority populations live in these urban areas, thus by disqualifying them from the ranks of the "real" America we deport the majority of the population.

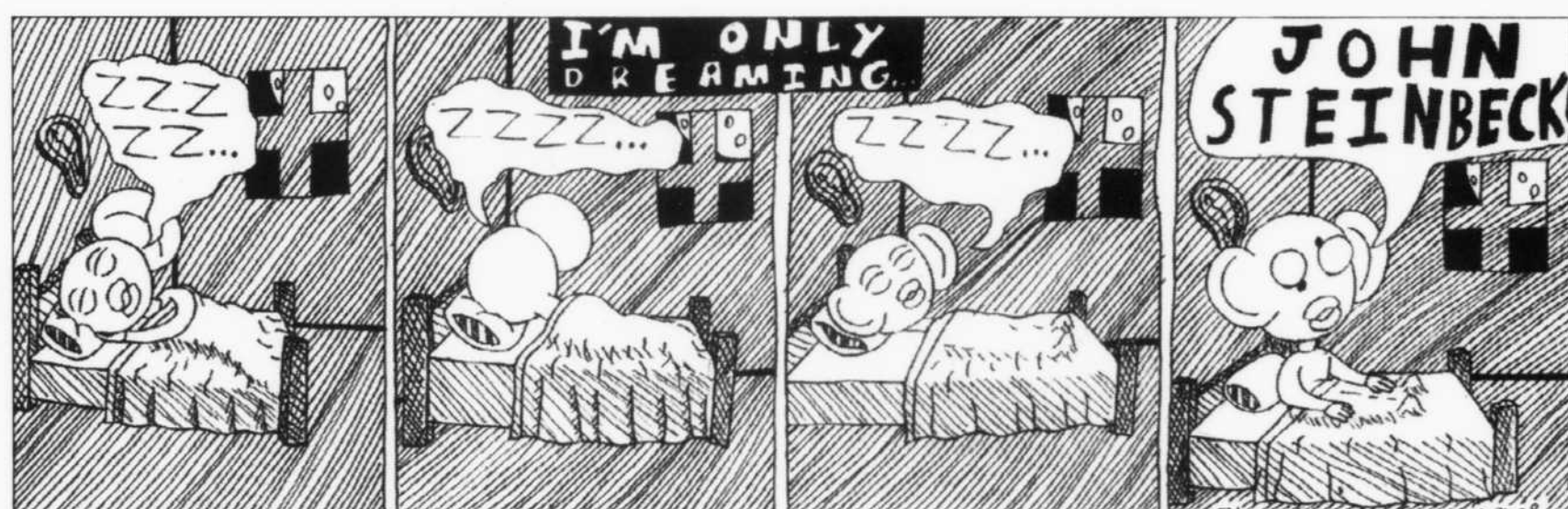
There is an inherent contempt in measuring American's patriotism by judging them solely by their place of residence. Rural folk do not have a monopoly on being American nor one on being patriotic.

Everywhere in America is "real" Gov. Palin and everyone is a patriot who seeks to better this country, even if they happen to disagree with you.

A "real" leader does not divide his or her people into factions for personal political gain. A "real" leader does not discredit and disrespect over half of the population based on geography. A "real" leader does in fact, place country first and not themselves, something you could learn by reading your campaign's own propaganda.

Aaron Cammarn is a junior liberal arts major and can be reached at akc2u@mtsu.edu.

COMICS



"And Friends"

frankhasenmueller@gmail.com

Frank Hasenmueller

FACES IN THE CROWD

Have you received your flu shot yet?



Hortman

"No I haven't because I just haven't gotten around to it. It's not really a priority."

Aaron Hortman, freshman journalism



Richardson

"Yeah. I decided that I should go and get it out of the way."

Apryll Richardson, freshman chemistry



Pitto

"No I haven't. It's just not convenient."

Josh Pitto, junior math education



Applegate

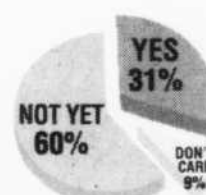
"No, I've never gotten one and I've never had the flu I don't think."

Allison Applegate, freshman undeclared

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FEATURES



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Living dead take over the Boro

Zombie Bazooka Patrol raises hellish good time at Club 527

By LAURA RAINES
Staff Writer

The night is young, and Club 527 is an empty saloon on a street that makes Murfreesboro look like a ghost town. The only occupants of the club are bored bar keepers who are waiting for the first customers to show.

Few cars pass by outside the club, and the wet streets are mostly empty on this dreary night. Rain is drizzling lazily to the pavement, and voices from the tattoo shop next door drift up the stairs to the door of 527.

As the temperature begins to drop, a few people drift into the club from outside and sit at the bar to enjoy spirits.

Over the next few hours, people seem to magically appear. And by 11:30 p.m., the place is packed full of people waiting to hear the headlining band of the night, Zombie Bazooka Patrol.

With the guys' faces so they look zombie-like, their instruments warm and the mic check complete, ZBP takes the stage and rocks Club 527 hard enough to wake the dead.

The show itself proves to be nothing short of wild. By the end, two brooms are broken, lead vocalist and mandolin player Spy Zombie has leapt offstage into the crowd and Toxic Zombie, lead guitarist, had broken his guitar. At least for this show, the \$6 cover is well worth the financial sacrifice.

This folk punk rock group possesses original lyrics



Photo by Erin O'Leary, staff photographer

(From left to right) Guest guitarist Seizure Zombie, Toxic Zombie, Soul Zombie and Lieutenant Zombie watch as Spy Zombie breaks a broom at Club 527.

to their catchy sound. On stage, Spy Zombie sings, "When you're all done biting brains, you ain't got nothin' to do, come on over to my place and shake what God gave you," from their song titled Zombie Shake.

In another song titled "Shania" about country singer Shania Twain, ZBP sings, "Oh Shania don't make us annihilate you, you know we can. Your influence on country is drivin' us crazy. You are our sworn enemy."

With comedic jabs at celebrities and songs about all things zombie, it's no wonder this face-painted foursome has such a strong following.

After the zombies complete their set, Lieutenant, Spy, Soul and Toxic exit stage right and go outside to talk with their next victims. Many people come up to congratulate the band on the show.

Some, who have never seen ZBP perform before, ask

questions about the band at a safe distance, looking unsure as to whether they will be bitten or not.

"We originally formed in the year 2025 as a crime-fighting duo — not a band," Toxic Zombie says. "We had a couple nemeses like Pirate Pharaoh and his pals Time Phara, Shania Twain, Scream Dog and the Robot Bazooka Patrol."

Soul ZOMBIE, the drummer for ZBP, says that crime fighting became old and that playing music was more suitable for zombies.

"We reached neo-Beatle status and were the biggest band on earth by 2054," Soul Zombie says. "That's when we got distracted, and Time John took us back to the past to 2005. Ever since then, we've just been trying to reclaim our fame."

Though crime fighting, hating Shania Twain and struggling to reclaim their once-revered status in the music industry is tough, the four still manage to work on side projects as pizza guys and waiters.

And on top of all this, the ZBP has managed to cut a new album called *Zombie Bazooka Patrol* at the Center of the Earth, scheduled to drop this week.

The band says the album is their third and favorite to this point in their somewhat backtracked career. The guys admit they haven't really listened to it, or much of their other material, because they play it too much.

The band recorded its new album at The Pride House, or what the four like to call the "command center." According to ZBP, zombies reside and produce at Pride House, which just so happens to be where the four live.

"Our house is pretty much like our command center," Toxic Zombie says over his own laughter. "We are able to operate and do most things within the walls of House Pride. By most things, I mean most things you can do...ever...in the world."

Tomorrow marks the first day of ZBP's month-and-a-half-long *Dress Like a Zombie Tour*, which includes shows in Chattanooga, Knoxville and Johnson City.

The band plans to play a few out-of-state gigs in Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas. ZBP enjoys giving

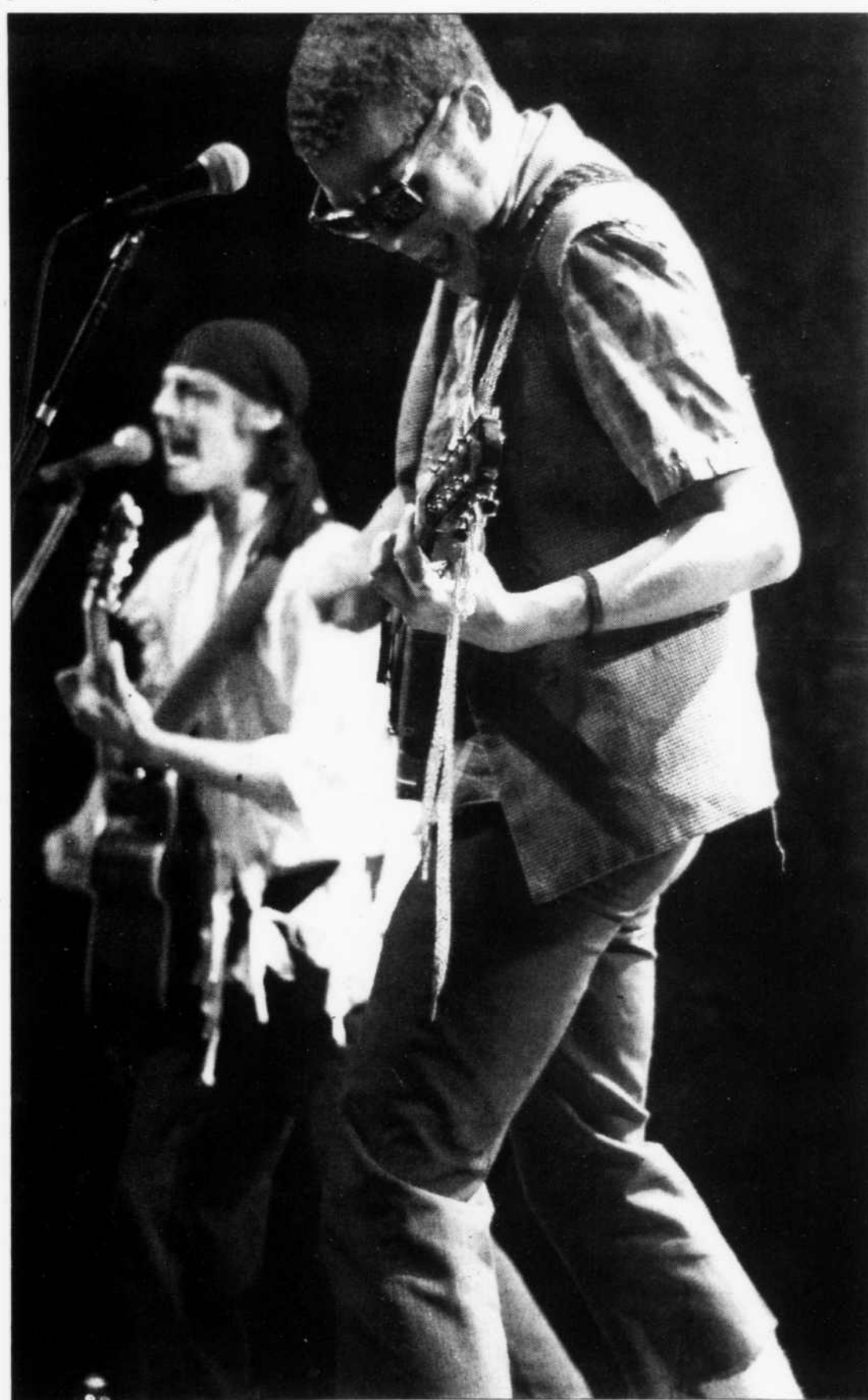
words of wisdom to aspiring musicians and adoring fans that the four come in contact with on tours like its upcoming one. The guys advise that people should keep their minds open, keep their dreams alive, buckle up, strive for greatness, achieve excellence, not smoke, support local music, slow their rolls, ride the wave, take heed to those who have made mistakes before and "get ready to pee their pants."

"We will kill your dad," adds bassist Lieutenant Zombie as an afterthought to all the advice.

Leaving everyone around them dancing in their wake, ZBP slowly begins to load up their equipment to head back to The Pride House. Fans are sad to see them go, but they know that it won't be long before the band will be back on a local stage eating brains and rocking out the only way Zombie Bazooka Patrol knows how. Zombie-style.

**CHECK OUT
SIGHTS & SOUNDS
OF ZBP AT
MTSUSIDELINES.COM**

online



Photos by Erin O'Leary, staff photographer

(Right) Spy Zombie rocks out with his mandolin while Toxic Zombie sings the vocals to the song "Zombie Shake." (Left) Toxic Zombie and Lieutenant Zombie take a break while fans wait anxiously.



SPORTS

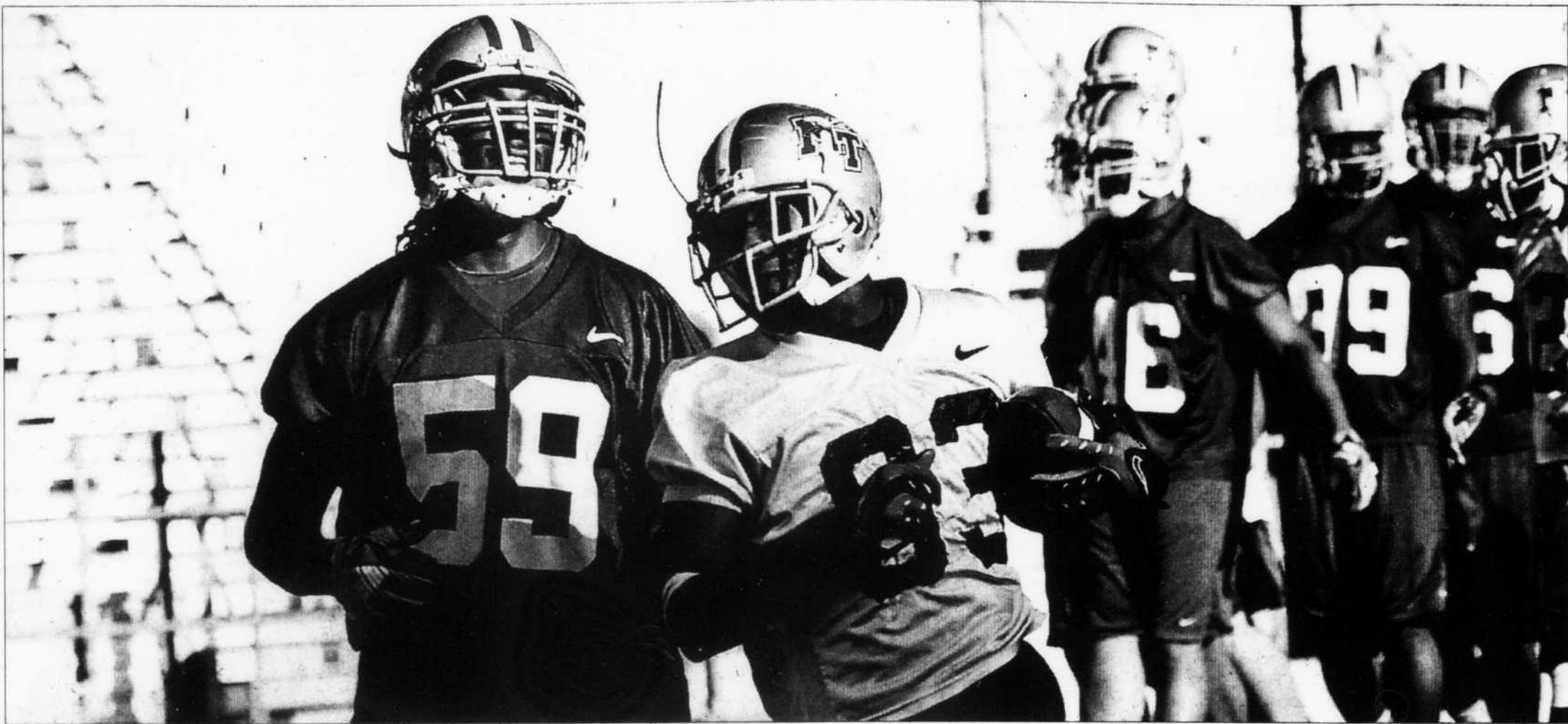


Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
Freshman linebacker Darin Davis (59) and junior wide receiver Eldred King (83) prepare for Saturday's game against MSU. King has 25 receptions on the year, good for second on the Blue Raiders.

MT looks for redemption in Starkville

By CHRIS MARTIN
Sports Editor

For the third consecutive week, the MT Blue Raiders will be on the road heading into Saturday's game against the SEC's Mississippi State Bulldogs.

The Blue Raiders (2-5, 1-3 Sun Belt) are coming off a 42-23 loss against Big East competitor Louisville, despite holding a 17-14 lead at halftime.

"We did a good job in the first half," MT Head Coach Rick Stockstill said at Tuesday's press conference. "In the second half, we got hemmed up a little field-position wise and their front seven dominated us."

MT will try to stop the MSU (2-5, 1-3 SEC) offense without two starters in the secondary. Starting cornerback Alex Suber and safety Anthony Glover will not play against the Bulldogs due to injury.

"It is season-ending for Alex Suber," Stockstill said. "He broke his jaw in two places. As far as Glover, he couldn't practice the last two days. His is an ankle sprain. It is not season-ending, but if

he does not have a miraculous recovery, I don't anticipate he can come in a play this week at Mississippi State."

Fortunately for the Blue Raiders, the Bulldogs have not been very successful in the passing department. Quarterbacks Tyson Lee and Wesley Carroll have split time this season and have only managed to combine for 1,195 passing yards (170.7 per game) with five touchdowns against nine interceptions.

On defense, MSU will look to its talented defensive line and linebacking corps to stop a Blue Raider offense that is averaging 322.3 yards a game.

"They are extremely fast and talented up front," Stockstill said. "Their edge players present a legitimate problem. Your quarterback does not have time to stand back there and go through his reads. Their linebackers are good. They do a good job covering receivers and getting pressure on the quarterback, so it's a combination of a lot of things."

One area of weakness for the Bulldogs' has been its rushing defense. The MSU

MT			LEADERS			STATE		
PASSING			YARDS			TDs		
Joe Craddock			1521			8		
RUSHING			YARDS			TDs		
Phillip Tanner			316			5		
RECEIVING			YARDS			TDs		
Malcolm Beyah			447			5		
TACKLES			YARDS			TDs		
Dann Carmichael			55			2		
INT			YARDS			TDs		
Three players tied			2			2		
SACKS			YARDS			TDs		
Eight players tied			1			2		

defense has allowed 12 rushing touchdowns and is giving up an average of 153.7 yards a game on the ground. In its Sept. 20 game against Georgia Tech, the Bulldogs allowed 438 rushing yards, while only allowing nine passes.

On the other hand, MT has

had difficulty establishing any kind of running game all season. The Blue Raiders are averaging 86.9 yards on the ground and have yet to have a player run for more than 79 yards a game. Further, MT has gained less than 60 total rushing yards in three games

this season.

However, the Blue Raiders have gained a total of 276 yards on the ground in their past two contests.

"The offensive linemen are getting more comfortable and that's a big thing," MT junior running back Phillip

Tanner said. "I think they are getting better every week, and it's easy to see they are a big reason our ground game is improving."

The two teams will square off at Davis Wade Stadium in Starkville, Miss. at 6 p.m.

Don't look down on Middle; look closer

Volleyball comes from behind

As I was walking through campus this week, I heard some things - things that made me cringe inside.

A lot of people have given up on Middle Tennessee athletics.

I'm not going to go into detail about how the entire situation made me feel, but I will say I was extremely thwarted by my fellow students.

One team's success, or lack thereof, is all that some people are basing their opinion on. Our football team is 2-5 and 1-3 in our conference - and to some - that seems to have cast a shadow over the entire Blue Raider athletic program.

Things are not as bad as they seem, my friends.

Let's start with the infamous football team. In a way, I think beating Maryland might have been a bad thing. Some people, who know nothing about our team's history, have let that game become a precursor to every other game and were spoiled by the Blue Raiders feat.

That's not fair to our team.



Real Talk with C-Bow
Casey Bowman

That was a huge win, but to anyone who knows this team, it was just a glimpse of the future and nothing more.

This team is young. Real young. The only reason they can compete this year is because the upperclassmen on the team are playing positions exactly where we need them to be. Thank the lord for that at least, because lord knows if they weren't playing where they are, MT football would be winless right now. Remember that.

The good thing about being so young though is that the future of the program is enormously bright - enough so that maybe in two years fans will actually have a rea-

son to put high expectations on Rick Stockstill.

Speaking of high expectations, has anyone been keeping up with basketball? If you haven't heard by now - which apparently some have not - our teams are predicted to have a big year. We've got the men's preseason player of the year, and both teams are predicted to be dancing by March.

That has been unheard of in the past 20 years.

Men's coach Kermit Davis and women's coach Rick Insell have been selling their program for some time now, and it actually appears as if this is the year MT will get over the hump.

Pessimists will say neither team has ever really lived up to expectations so there is no reason to drink the magic kool-aid. Well if you think that way, then don't worry about the expectations, because your mind is already made up. And even when the expectations are met this year, you'll still be a cynic.

It's sad, really, but sadly

even MT has these "fans" running around talking and typing.

And how can I forget about the "other" sports that Middle Tennessee has to offer?

The women's soccer team has been on fire as of late and has turned its season around, climbing to second place in the Sun Belt Conference. The team still has a chance at reaching the number 1 spot before the season is over.

Head coach Aston Rhoden has done a fantastic job getting his team ready to compete this season, but often it has often gone unnoticed.

If you haven't seen the Lady Raiders in action this year, you only have one more chance. Western Kentucky is visiting Murfreesboro on Halloween night, so if you are not one of the naysayers, get out and support your university.

Also, if you have been living under a rock, then you wouldn't know that the MT volleyball team has won sev-

By JESSICA STAUFFACHER
MT Athletic Communications

For the second time this season Middle Tennessee pulled out a 3-2 (25-27, 23-25, 25-20, 25-17, 15-11) win after trailing 0-2 to begin the match as it defeated rival Western Kentucky on Monday night.

Senior Ashley Asberry led MT in the comeback as she recorded 16 kills and 10 block assists and two solo blocks on the night. After two sets, the Murfreesboro, Tenn., native had just six kills and three block assists but turned it on the lead to lead in the Blue Raider rally.

"Ashley started to take control of the match and while I don't think it was one of her best offensive matches she really stepped it up on the block," MT Head Coach Matt Peck said. "She did a nice job stepping in a leading the team. She is a very competitive and emotional player and never gave up. She truly loves competing in whatever she is doing and tonight was her night to win a big match for us. She did a lot to really help

us win that match."

MT's last 0-2 comeback was against Duke in the UT-Arlington Invitational on Sept. 13. The Blue Raiders have now won seven straight matches, improving to 17-3 on the season and 7-1 in Sun Belt Conference action.

To begin play, MT trailed 11-5 and while it continued to fight the Blue Raiders trailed by four, 17-13.

Then in the second set, WKU jumped out to a 15-12 lead at the halfway point and held on taking a late four-point lead, 19-15 before the Blue Raiders tied it at 22. The Hilltoppers held on to take a 2-0 lead in the match with the win.

"I looked at our team in the first two games and they looked nervous and I didn't know why," Peck said. "We are playing at home against our biggest rival and we had no reason to be nervous. I told them after game two this match is over. I'm looking at your faces and this match is over."

Titans challenge to chase, sack Peyton

By TERESA M. WALKER
AP Sports Writer

Peyton Manning sat in with the Tennessee Titans' defensive line meeting Wednesday. Not in person, but as a life-size decal stuck on the wall.

The Titans know only too well that getting to the two-time MVP is never easy. They've sacked him only 11 times in 13 games against the Indianapolis Colts, but that remains the top goal defensively as the Titans prepare to play their AFC South rival on Monday night.

"I'm just looking at getting after Peyton," defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth said. "That's our whole key: just to get him off his spot, to hit him as many times as we can, just to rattle him. That's our whole goal. I know as a defensive front, you go in our

room you see that Fathead of Peyton on our wall, so that's what we're looking for."

Getting to Manning has been challenging for Tennessee over the years. The Titans went through four straight games in 2005 and 2006 without sacking Manning even once. Even as they became a playoff team last season, they still only sacked Manning twice, although a big hit by Kyle Vanden Bosch on Manning led to Cortland Finnegan's first career interception.

This season, the Titans have 18 sacks that have them ranked sixth in the NFL. Haynesworth already has matched his career high with six through the first six games, and sacking Manning could be a big step toward the

Titans improving the best start in franchise history to 7-0 and seizing control of the division.

"I'm just looking at getting after Peyton. That's our whole key: just to get him off his spot, to hit him as many times as we can, just to rattle him."

ALBERT HAYNESWORTH
TITANS DEFENSIVE TACKLE

Protecting Manning is the Colts' main goal, something that has been tougher for Indianapolis (3-3) with two rookies starting at guard the past three games: Mike Polak and Jamey Richard. Manning has been sacked nine

times through the first three games. Green Bay didn't sack Manning in last week's 34-14 win, but returned two inter-

ceptions for touchdowns.

hands. He gets rid of the ball on time," Kearsa said. Kearsa hasn't had a chance to chase Manning since 2003, when he was last with the Titans. He missed the Colts' game while with Philadelphia in 2006 because of a knee injury, but he did sack Manning's brother, Eli, five times in two games combined in 2005 and 2006. Kearsa has only 1½ sacks and nine quarterback pressures since re-signing with Tennessee this offseason.

He can't wait for Monday night's bright lights.

"They say freaks come out at night," the defensive end nicknamed the Freak said. "I'm waiting to have my one big breakout game."

The Titans aren't buying

into talk that Manning isn't quite himself after needing two surgeries on his left knee, procedures that kept him out of the preseason. Manning still is completing 60.7 percent of his passes even though he has only one more touchdown pass (eight) than interceptions (seven).

"You don't see any evidence of any problems with his lower body," Titans coach Jeff Fisher said.

"He's setting up, he's scrambling, runs for a first downs if need be. He's throwing with accuracy. They've played several games that they very well could have won, so the record's misleading, and I think the buzz out there is misleading. He always shows up big in big games like this so we'll get him at his best."

Volleyball FROM PAGE 7

In the third set, the Blue Raiders got it together taking a 16-12 lead and then WKU called a time out trailing 19-14. MT caught a break as a service mayer by WKU's Kelly Hoffmeyer handed it a 25-20 win keeping the match alive.

"One thing that motivates our team is getting mad," Peck said. "Sometimes they don't get mad at the other team so I let them get mad at me. I told them I thought we were being out played and they were shaking their heads to I told them to prove it. They stepped up their game tremendously in the

match and we started to do some good things."

Junior Lauren Britton who had not played since the Blue Raiders lost to WKU in September stepped in to help the defense. The Murfreesboro, Tenn. native ended the night with seven digs while junior libero Ashley Waugh added 14 digs to lead the defense throughout the night.

Junior Ashley Mead added 16 kills of her own followed by sophomore Izabela Kozon with 10. As a team, MT had 62 kills on the night for a .301 hitting percentage as WKU had the same number of kills but only posted an attack percentage of .205.

The Blue Raiders also had 20 blocks on the night notching some at critical points in

the match while the Hilltoppers had nine.

MT continued the momentum into the fourth set as it jumped out to an early 8-3 lead forcing the Hilltoppers to take an early timeout. Then WKU closed the gap to three, 15-12, but could not close it out as it then trailed 23-17.

The Blue Raiders kept the spark alive taking a 6-3 lead in the fifth set and then pushing ahead 8-4 at the eight-point break.

The Blue Raiders will be back in action this weekend as they play host to UL-Lafayette, UL-Monroe and New Orleans on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

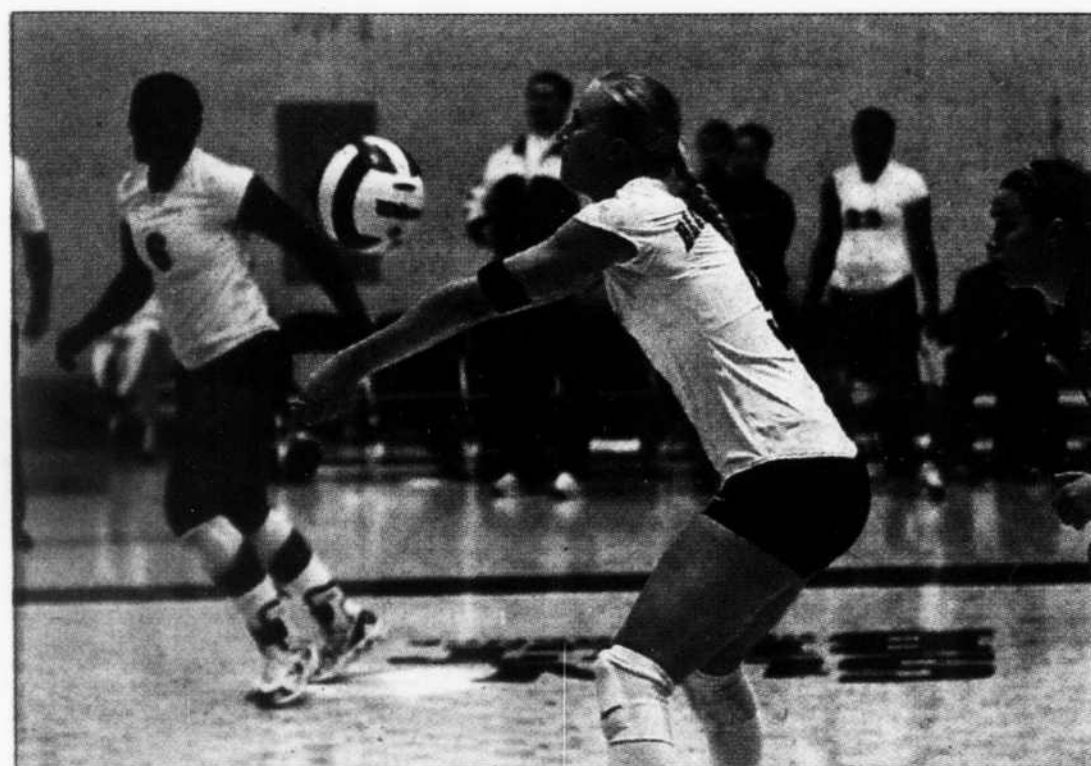


Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
Following the win over the Hilltoppers, the Blue Raiders improved 17-3 overall and 7-1 in the SBC.

White sweeps series

By JESSICA STAUFFACHER
MT Athletic Communications

Middle Tennessee concluded the Blue and White series on Tuesday afternoon when it resumed game two from Sunday with the game tied at 13.

In the top of the 10th, the Blue team put up three runs, but the White team rallied in the bottom of the inning with four runs for the 17-16 win.

With runners for the second and third and one out, the Blue team walked Taylor Dennis to load the bases. Kenneth Roberts followed with a base on balls to cut it to a two-run deficit.

Then Justin Guidry handed the White team the win with his walk-off double to centerfield.

MT then began the third game of the series with White leading 2-0.

The White team took an early 3-0 lead scoring two runs in the second and one run in the third.

Blue added two runs of

its own in the bottom of the fourth to cut the lead to one.

Tyler Hyde received the start on the mound for the White team working 4.1 innings and allowing three runs on six hits. Chad Coley took the win working 2.2 innings and allowing one run on two hits.

The Blue squad took a 4-3 lead in the bottom of the fifth after scoring two runs but the White team maintained control. Rawley Bishop hit a solo shot to left field in the top of the sixth to tie the game at four.

Zach Hudson broke the tie with his lead-off home run in the top of the seventh inning to put the White team ahead.

MT will conclude fall practice on Wednesday, Oct. 22. The Blue Raiders will open the 2009 season at Reese Smith Field on Feb. 20th when they play host to Missouri State for a three-game series.

ter capturing her second first place finish of the year.

The Sun Belt Conference Championships for cross country are set to begin on Nov. 1, and both the men's and women's teams are expected to perform well and could bring home some more hardware if they compete to their potential.

Can you see the picture now? The big picture, that is.

Things aren't so bad in Murfreesboro. So if you want to focus on one team and dwell on the fact that they aren't living up to your expectations, then go right ahead.

I'll be marking my calendar for all the upcoming sporting events on campus because that's what a true Blue Raider fan does. We don't wallow on one sport. We support the masses.

Some of you should try it sometime.

Casey Bowman is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at cbow0328@gmail.com

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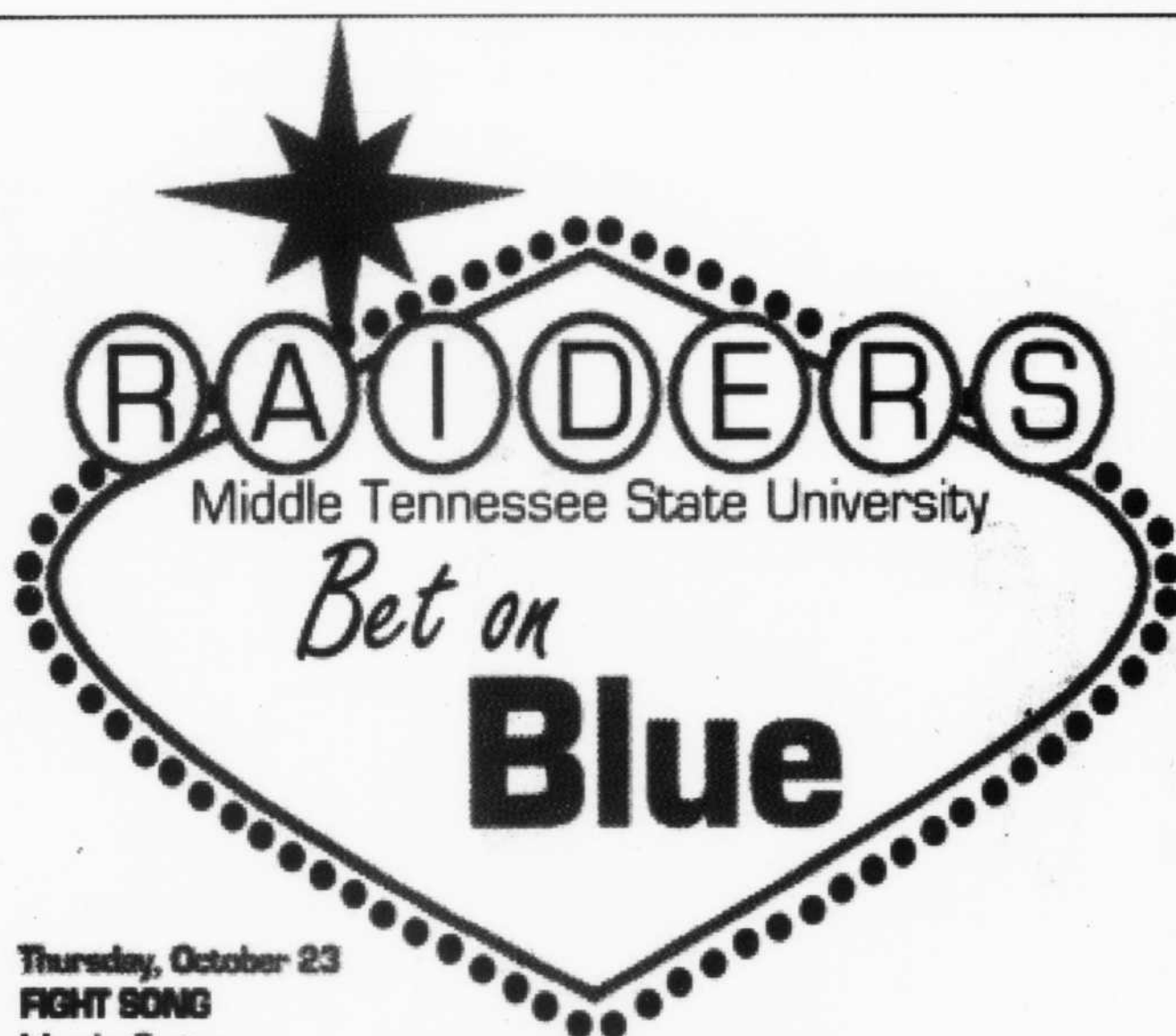
en consecutive matches, or that they are only a half of a game outside of first place in the SBC, or that they are an eyelash away from being back in the top 25.

And nevermind the fact that they reached the Sweet 16 last year, for it was last year when that happened, and therefore, is irrelevant now, right?

In golf, sophomore Jason Millard became the second Blue Raider to ever make the cut at the US Amateur this year. Last year, Millard was named an honorable mention All-American as a freshman.

The Millard-led golf team also finished 15th at last year's NCAA Division I Men's National Championship.

Finally, the men's and women's cross country teams have been coming on strong lately. Runner Zamzam Sangau was just named the Sun Belt Runner of the Week af-



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

Student Government Association Presents:

HOMECOMING 2008