

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

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INSIDE

MTSU impacts local economy



Rutherford County's economy receives a lot of support from the MTSU community

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Examining diversity on campus

Vincent Windrow introduces a six-week series on diversity at MTSU.

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Check out this week's comics.

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Blue Raiders look for first SBC win

After losing their first two conference games, MT hopes to rebound against FAU at Floyd Stadium.

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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 Library parking lot. During the construction period, the northern part of the parking lot by the Honors Building will be changed from green to white. The southern end of the lot by Ezell Hall will remain green for students. You will not be able to access the campus via Wornack 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.

Up 'Til Dawn kicks cancer

By JESSY RICHTER
Contributing Writer

Up 'Til Dawn held a kickball tournament, 'Kickin' Out Cancer,' and raised \$600 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The tournament took place Friday on the intramural fields behind Greek Row from 3 to 7 p.m.

Beta Theta Pi won the tournament, while competing against six other teams including Fraternities and the Band of Blue.

Crystal Barton, junior marketing major, said she was watching her business fraternity, Alpha Kappa Psi, while they played their first match.

"We wanted to support what Up 'Til Dawn was doing," Barton said. "This was something fun while still serving a purpose."

'Kickin' Out Cancer raised around \$600 on its own, which adds to the approximated \$3,000 already raised this year through other Up 'Til Dawn efforts.

Last year MTSU raised \$71,000, and this year the goal is to raise \$105,000.

Wil Shults, junior public relations major and associate director of marketing for Up 'Til Dawn, said that this year he wanted more campus involvement and more money raised.

Shults said after last year he "knew a campus of this size could do so much better."

This is MTSU's 10th year participating in Up 'Til Dawn. It was the second university to take part in Up

'Til Dawn, Memphis being the first.

Katie Evans, senior event marketing representative for the St. Jude's Nashville regional office, said that MTSU's Up 'Til Dawn has had a lot of success.

Evans said that out of 200 Up 'Til Dawn programs currently in action, MTSU has been chosen as one of the top 10 best.

Because MTSU is in the top 10, Up 'Til Dawn teams will be able to participate in St. Jude's two new pilot programs.

The first of these programs is mobile messaging. Students participating in Up 'Til Dawn will receive text messages from St. Jude's to remind them of upcoming events.

The second pilot program is called "buck slips." This program consists of pieces of paper being distributed with the Web site link in order to obtain more donations over the Internet.

A major portion of the fundraising comes from letter writing, and St. Jude's wanted to test if this campaign is more successful if people are able to donate over the Internet instead of only through the mail.

Shults said these are just part of what helps make Up 'Til Dawn on campus successful.

Aramark, who donated food and water for kickball games, and the campus Recreation Center, who offered its use of the intramural fields, have helped a lot,

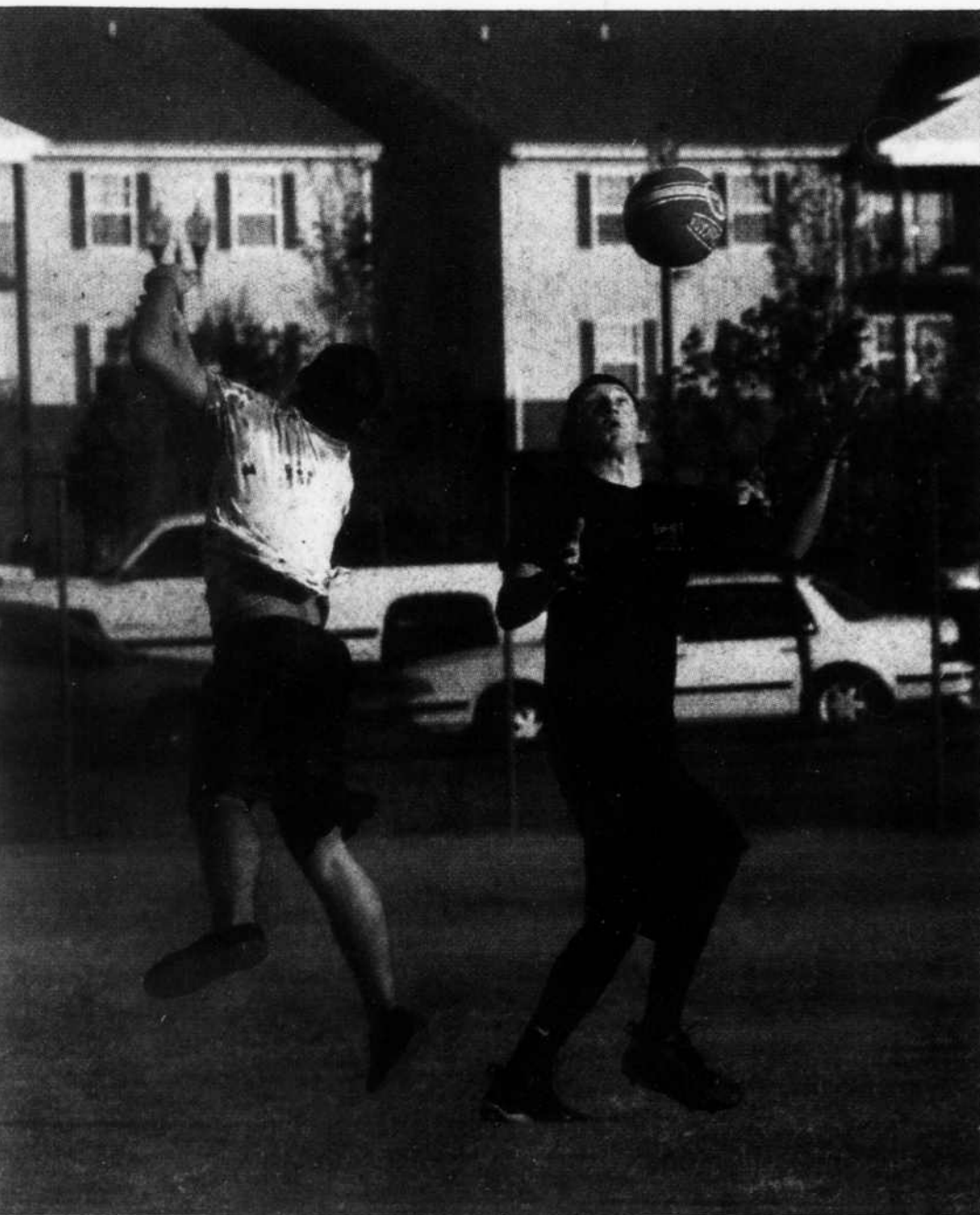


Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
Greg Blocker (L) and Thomas Gray (R) of Beta Theta Pi try to catch the kickball during Kickin' Out

Shults said.

"Now's the time to sign up for Up 'Til Dawn teams," Shults said.

It takes at most six people to make an Up 'Til Dawn team. The earlier a team

registers, the more spirit points they receive.

The final event where teams stay up until dawn will take place on Friday, Feb. 1 from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. Admission will be \$10 after

midnight to those who are not part of a team.

General information and the forms to sign up are available at the Up 'Til Dawn Web site, <http://frank.mtsu.edu/~uptildawn/>.



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
Students watch the presidential debate on television in Monohan Hall.

Students discuss debate

Professor Mohammed Albakry hosts debate session in Monohan Hall to discuss each candidate's performance

By FAITH FRANKLIN
Assistant News Editor

Students gathered after watching the presidential debate to participate in a discussion facilitated by an English professor in the first floor lobby of Monohan Hall Friday evening.

The post debate discussion asked students to detach themselves from political ties in order to gain a better understanding of the 2008 presidential candidates.

Professor Mohammed Albakry began the evening by prefacing the debate with a plea for students to "suspend party affiliations and listen to the words that both

candidates used."

Albakry wanted students to "learn how to be detached for a moment and try to be neutral," he said. "Sometimes, when you have ideological baggage, you don't see the actual performance."

Albakry does not teach literature, he teaches the scientific study of language.

"My approach was basically focusing on the strategies used and the way language was moved and manipulated," Albakry said.

Albakry centered the discussion around a strategic critique of the verbal and nonverbal communication

throughout the debate.

"The questions were all structured around the actual style and how it was presented to you. This is the best place to look at this the correct way," said Kyle Soyer, junior physics major.

Albakry asked the students what they thought about the way Obama was referring to McCain.

The first discussion point was the use of Sen. John McCain's first name by Sen. Barack Obama.

The students discussed how the word choice could be subject to interpretation.

Voter registration due date is right around the corner

By FAITH FRANKLIN
Assistant News Editor

Voter registration ends on October 6 and after that date students will not be able to register to vote for the upcoming presidential election.

Students that are registered voters have two options when voting in the election. They can either vote in their county of residence with an absentee ballot or change their voter registration to Rutherford County.

"Students wishing to vote in the presidential election from other counties, that have not changed their voter registration, need to contact their local county election commission office," said Hopper Penuel Jr., administrator for the Rutherford County election committee.

Those who are already registered in their home counties are encouraged to request absentee ballots now, although the last day to request a ballot is seven days prior to the election.

Requesting an absentee ballot on the seventh day would be cutting it pretty close, according to Penuel.

"I would not wait until that last day in order to request [a ballot] because it gets backed up, and a lot of people do that," Hooper said. "Right now is the time for students to request those absentee ballots to be sent to them."

Once a request for an absentee ballot is made, it is mailed to the student, and he or she is to mail it back to their local county where they are registered to vote.

"That's where it will be tallied, and that's where it will be counted," Hooper said.

Students not wishing to vote by absentee ballot have the option of changing their voter registration.

Those students attending MTSU are considered Rutherford County residents and can register to vote in that county.

Students can register to vote "if they are going to school here and living here," Hooper said. Their husbands or wives can also register as long as they adhere to the October

DEBATE, PAGE 3

REGISTRATION, PAGE 2

Sigma Nu walks for heart disease at Vanderbilt

By GARRETT ASPACHER
Contributing Writer

The Start! Heart Walk set out to obtain 1 billion steps from its participants and easily reached that lofty goal.

All proceeds went to the American Heart Association, which holds over 450 Heart Walks nationwide each year.

Saturday morning on the Vanderbilt University campus, the Sigma Nu fraternity participated in the American Heart Association's Start! Heart Walk that helped raise funds for heart disease.

The event began Saturday morning with a large and diverse crowd from Nashville and MTSU's Sigma Nu fraternity.

Sigma Nu participated for the first time in this year's heart walk because heart disease personally affected several of the members.

"Our members want to support the community, whether it be for someone's parents or the cause in general," said Kyle Williams, junior criminal justice major and community service chair for Sigma Nu.

The Vanderbilt University Medical Center hosted the

event, which featured many different community groups from Nashville.

Survivors of heart attack and heart disease wore red caps to signify their past struggle with the often life ending ailments.

"I am alive today because of heart research," heart disease survivor David Whitt said. Whitt said that this benefit helps spread awareness nationwide and spreads knowledge about heart disease to people who may not know.

derbilt University students come and help out with the donations.

Many different organizations helped sponsor the event, including, AstraZeneca, Healthy Choice, Subway and many others. Tents were set up on the grounds by several interest groups that handed out small gifts and pamphlets featuring educational information about heart disease prevention.

Smoothie King handed out free samples of their fruit smoothies to the high-

“Our members want to support the community, whether it be for someone's parents or the cause in general.”

Kyle Williams

Junior Criminal justice major at MTSU

"The Nashville Heart Walk is said to be the largest one nationwide," said Chairman of the event and CEO of Enterprise Electric, Jim Seabury.

"It's important for Vanderbilt students to be here, supporting a cause that's so important," said senior business major at Vanderbilt, Allison Erwin.

She said that it's great to see people from MTSU involved in such an important event in Nashville.

The fundraiser had Van-

est donors in the VIP tent, which also served freshly cooked omelets to help serve a heart healthy breakfast to the early morning walkers.

A local band covered most of the entertainment with its mix of classic hits and gave the fundraiser a fun and inviting atmosphere.

The sponsors also set up a kid's area that featured classic entertainment like the moonwalk and a virtual tour of an artery.

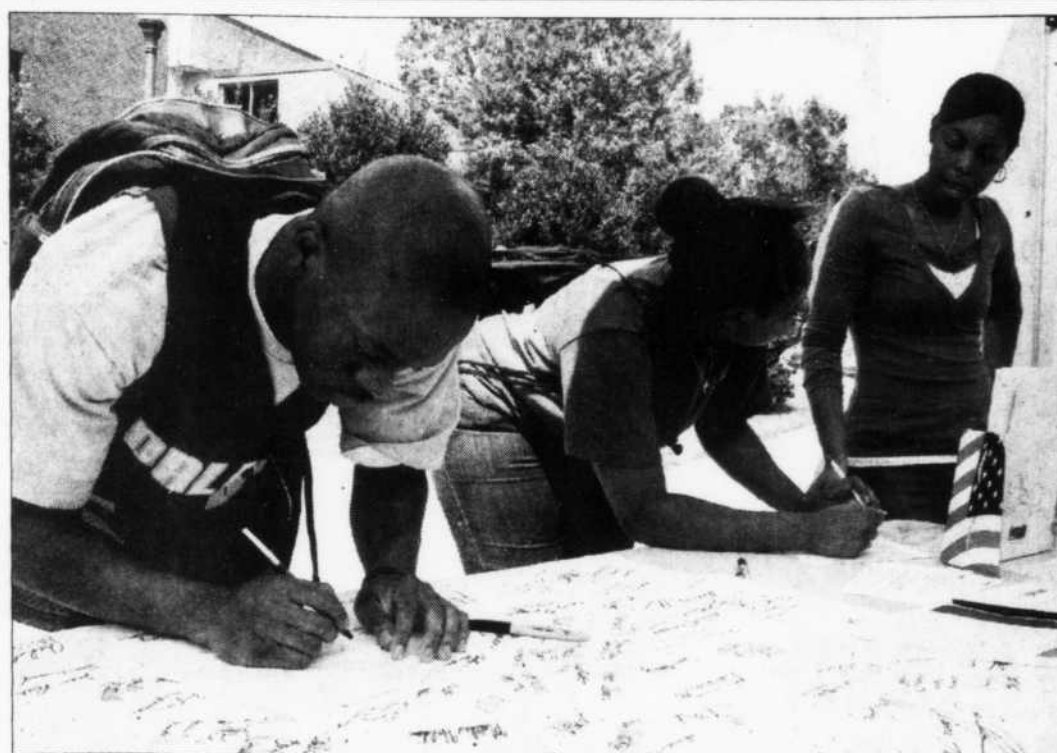


Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor

Students register to vote during Constitution day on the quad.

REGISTRATION FROM PAGE 1

6 deadline.

If the voter registration application is postmarked by October 6 it will be accepted, Hooper said. Anything received with a later postmark will be held and processed after the election.

First time registered voters are required to vote in person.

Those who have registered in their home county and have never voted in an election before are going to have to go home. "That's the law," Hooper said.

Hooper said that he encourages students to vote during the early voting period.

The early voting period typically lasts for 15 days. It begins 20 days before the election and concludes five days before the election begins.

Oct. 15 through 30 is the early voting period in Rutherford County.

"It is easy to vote early," Hooper said. "I would encourage everybody to vote early, rather than to wait until Election Day, because we are anticipating long lines."

The same principles apply to students who are from another state. Out-of-state students can register to vote in Rutherford County or may request an absentee ballot from their state of residence.

The election commission office for Rutherford County is responsible for administering elections municipal, local, county, state, and federal elections and is also responsible for voter registration, voter information and candidate information.

According to Hooper the election commission's primary mission is to get people registered and encourage them to come and vote and participate in the process.

MTSU ALERT

On Sept. 28 at 12:05 a.m., three males in the parking lot, south of the Walker Library, robbed two MTSU students.

The two students were walking through the parking lot when the suspects approached them. One of the three suspects told the victims to give them their belongings.

The victims handed over a set of keys with their I.D. cards, a silver-colored cell phone, and an Alabama baseball cap.

The first suspect was described as a black male of average build approximately 18 to 20 years of age with dreadlocks pulled back into a pony tail. He was wearing a black t-shirt over a white

t-shirt and long black baggy shorts.

The other two suspects were described as black males wearing black clothing, one with no shirt on. No other description was given.

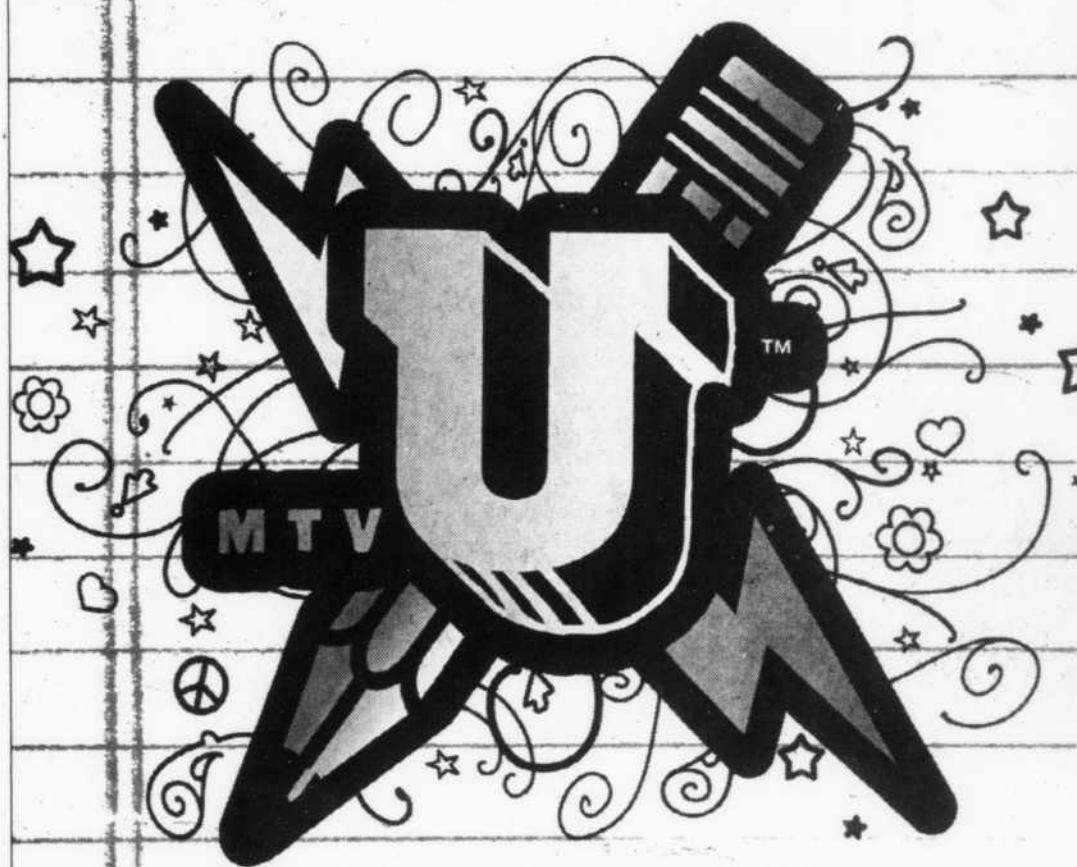
The suspects left the area on foot and a weapon was used in the robbery.

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slnews@mtsu.edu / slstate@mtsu.edu

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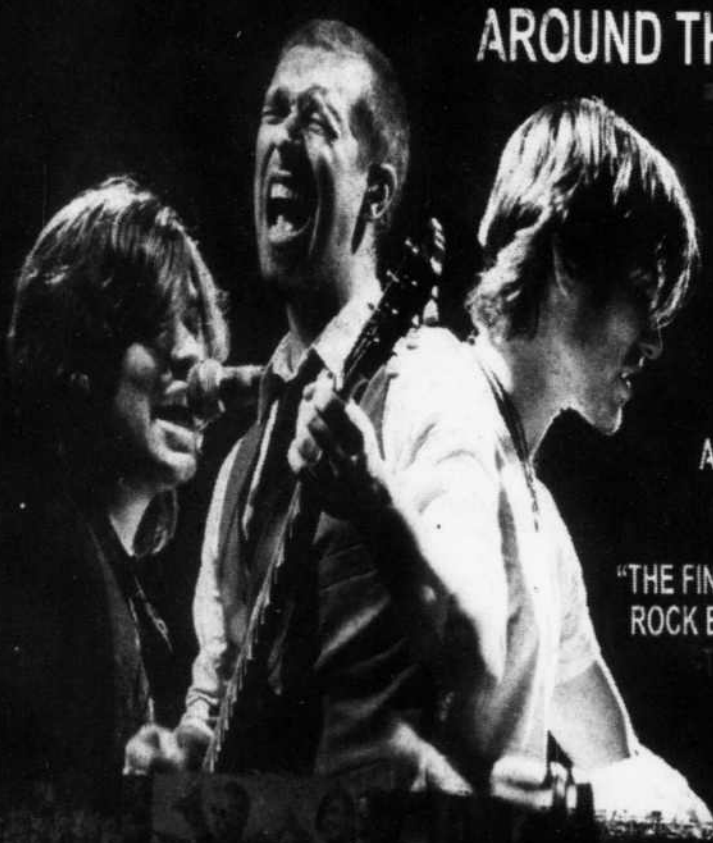


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THE WALK
IN STORES NOW

Judge provides loophole for Arkansas police

By WOODY BAIRD
Associated Press

A Memphis judge left a legal path open Friday for two Arkansas police officers to avoid trial in the shooting deaths of two motorists they chased into Tennessee.

Officers Tony Galtelli and John Gardner of the West Memphis, Ark., police department are accused of reckless homicide in the death Kelly Anne Allen, 44, a passenger in a car the officers chased into Memphis following a traffic stop in July 2004.

Legal disputes have prevented prosecutors from taking Galtelli and Gardner to trial for more than two years and the ruling from Judge John Fowlkes of state criminal court was another setback for them.

Fowlkes said prosecutors requested the officers' request for pretrial diversion, a legal procedure that lets first-time offenders avoid trial and clears their records after up to two years of good behavior.

Fowlkes said the officers meet the basic requirements for diversion set out in Ten-

nessee law.

Prosecutor Tom Henderson said his office would wait for Fowlkes to issued his decision in writing next month before deciding if it would be appealed to a higher court.

Defense attorney Steve Farese said an appeal would be a long shot.

"I think everybody is tired of riding this horse. This horse is not moving," Farese said. "It's feet are straight up in the air."

Another Memphis judge ordered prosecutors to grant diversion for the officers in

2006 and they completed a two-year diversion program that included anger management counseling.

The state Court of Criminal Appeals ruled early this year, however, that the Memphis judge should have let prosecutors reconsider their rejection decision and review the legal grounds for it.

Fowlkes said he saw nothing new from the prosecutors that would warrant a ruling in their favor.

Prosecutors contend Galtelli and Gardner were out of control when they and other

officers from West Memphis, a small town across the Mississippi River, chased a vehicle that sped off after being stopped because of a broken headlight.

Pursuing officers who managed to stop the car in Memphis said they were forced to open fire when the driver, Donald Rickard, 44, tried to drive off again and run over them.

Rickard and Allen died in the gunfire.

Galtelli and Gardner, who remain on the West Memphis force, declined comment after the hearing.

West Memphis Police Chief Robert Paudert said the officers followed departmental rules throughout the chase and shooting.

West Memphis officers will not be restricted from crossing state lines, Paudert said, but new state procedures have been set up since the fatal shootings.

"If a pursuit occurs in West Memphis, both bridges will be blocked by West Memphis police and state troopers," he said, "hope-fully preventing the possibility of going back into Memphis."



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor

Students gather on campus to watch the presidential debate Friday. Professor Albakry led a discussion afterward to discuss candidates' verbal and nonverbal cues during the debate.

DEBATE FROM PAGE 1

it was a friendly gesture on the part of Obama, since they are both United States senators.

Other students saw it as disrespectful. They said that Obama was using McCain's first name just to invoke an emotional response.

The discussion moved to nonverbal communication when students brought up the possibility that McCain was smiling to hide his anger, towards Obama.

Albakry played the devil's advocate throughout the discussion, offering input to each viewpoint, not choosing one over another.

"Sometimes you want the clash of ideas; a better interpretation comes out," Albakry said. "If nobody

came forward and offered the opposing point of view, I wanted to do that myself and see how

[the students] responded to it."

Historical name-dropping was another point of discussion. Students noticed that the candidates did a lot of name-dropping, including people like Obama with Kissinger and McCain with Reagan and Sen. Edward Kennedy.

Some students said that mentioning Kennedy was McCain's way of showing bipartisan connections.

Debating style was the next discussion point. Albakry asked students to of-

fer adjectives that described each candidate's style of debate.

"The professor opened [our] eyes to both perspectives, not just the person who you were going to vote for."

KAREN SPIVEY
SOPHOMORE ENGLISH MAJOR

The students said that McCain was melodramatic, and Obama was longwinded.

Most of the students said

"Sometimes you want the clash of ideas; a better interpretation comes out."

PROFESSOR MOHAMMAD ALBAKRY
ENGLISH PROFESSOR

that both candidates were vague with their responses.

"If I answered all of my

questions that way, I would fail all of my classes at MTSU," said Traci Cruey.

They got into it," Albakry said.

Soyer said he did not think that it was going to be possible for him to detach himself from his political ties.

"When the professor prefaced the debate with the statement to 'look at this objectively,' I thought at first that it would be harder for me to do that," he said.

Albakry said students did not tell him their beliefs; they gave him good analytical insight.

"He did not want to know who you supported, why you supported them or why the other person should be put down," said Karen Spivey, sophomore English major.

"The professor opened

[our] eyes to both perspectives, not just the person who you were going to vote for," Spivey said.

"I believe that the detached linguistic approach is very fruitful in this respect," Albakry said. "You are focusing on how language is used, on the act of communication."

This event was co-sponsored by MTSU Housing and Residential Life and the American Democracy Project at MTSU.

"We have a lot of first time voters on campus and we want them to be involved in the electoral process," said Sarah Sudak, executive director of housing and residential life. "We want our students to be informed voters and to help them become more involved."

All ADA parking will remain in its current locations and will be enforced as always. No individual displaying a valid ADA placard or plate will be turned away from an available ADA space and no vehicle without the appropriate ADA placard or plate will be allowed to park in the ADA spaces.

Parking shuffles for Tuesday's FAU game

By BYRON WILKES
Community News Editor

MTSU will take on Florida Atlantic Tuesday Sept. 30 at 7:00 p.m. while classes are still in session. Parking Services has laid out which lots will be open and which roads will be closed to alleviate traffic on game day.

Students already on campus should leave their cars

parked if going to the game or class. Fans will be arriving around 5:00 p.m., so the south side of campus will be less congested for those leaving campus. Any adjunct faculty should try to arrive early.

MTSU shuttle buses will run their normal routes until the end of the third quarter. Shuttle service will end at this point to allow campus

police to set-up for the game traffic exiting campus.

Many lots will also be blocked off before and during the game:

The Greenland Drive lot will be blocked off all day on Sept. 30 for the game. Students who normally park here may park in the Tennessee Livestock Center lot.

The Division Street lot will

be closed all day for coaches preparing for the game.

The KOM lot, adjacent to the Midgett Building behind the KOM lot, will be closed at 2:00 p.m. for reserved parking.

The ROTC lot behind Jones Hall will be closed at 1:30 p.m. and will be reserved for evening faculty.

The Nursing Building/S-Curve lots will be closed at 2:00 p.m. and will be re-

served for media parking.

Both ends of Faulkner Drive will be closed at 4:30 p.m. Students and faculty exiting will be allowed to do so at the east end onto Blue Raider Drive.

Starting at 2:00 p.m., Maintenance and Woodfin lots will have controlled access. Only those with appropriate passes/credentials, current MTSU parking per-

mit or those who pay \$5 will be admitted.

All ADA parking will remain in its current locations and will be enforced as always. No individual displaying a valid ADA placard or plate will be turned away from an available ADA space and no vehicle without the appropriate ADA placard or plate will be allowed to park in the ADA spaces.

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OPINIONS

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD
the editorial board headline will go

Both presidential campaigns have claimed victory after the first presidential debate took place Sept. 26 at the University of Mississippi.

No surprise there. Candidates have jointly claimed victory after debates since the inception of formal argument.

Obama and McCain both presented strong points for their campaigns Friday, but it is essentially impossible to draw a clear-cut "winner" from the debate. Obama may have a slight lead in the polls, but next week that could mean nothing if the polls continue to change.

At *Sidelines*, we especially appreciate the debate format, with candidates being asked to address one another and not the moderator or audience. It allowed the public to see the candidates in a different light, one that revealed the demeanor within each senator.

Yet the events that happened before the debate and the media hype surrounding it almost afforded more information about the candidates than the actual discussion at Ole Miss.

Many of us didn't even think McCain would show up until the morning of the debate when his plane landed in Memphis. We're glad that the Arizona senator suspended his campaign suspension to discuss the long-term future of America with the other major party candidate.

But McCain appeared somewhat frazzled onstage with Obama, whether it was refusing to look his opponent in the eye while speaking or making anecdotes about tensions between Israel and its neighbors.

Maybe his time is spliced too thin between single-handedly salvaging our economy and running a campaign for presidency.

Nonetheless, many democrats surely had problems with Obama's performance during the debate as well.

Obama seemed repeatedly on the defensive for his questions and yielded to McCain when many strategists believe he should have taken advantage and pounced.

The dove and the warhawk met seemingly for the first time.

If Obama - the candidate who's riled up the Democratic party's base by leading record voter registration drives and billed himself as an agent of change in an era of graft and corruption - can't stand up for himself every time his opponent lashes out, why should the public believe there is substance to his words?

The most crucial question when considering their performance is if each candidate acted and spoke in a manner congruent to a future president.

Does America really want a leader who won't look Ahmadinejad in the eyes as he reveals Iran holds nuclear weapons?

Does America really want a leader who won't stand up for the beliefs of the American people when it comes to the global stock markets' crises?

No matter how lackluster or unpolished the first debate was, we're pretty sure the vice presidential debate will attract more attention than this one.

- ☑ Hispanic
- ☑ Gay
- ☑ Chinese
- ☑ Muslim
- ☑ Jewish
- ☑ Non-traditional

like me

A six-part series examining diversity on campus

Walking in the shoes of oth-

Let's face it - walking in somebody else's moccasins sounds like a great and noble idea, but who has the time for such an exercise? For most of us, our daily lives are consumed by just that - *our* daily lives.

Who has the time, really, to be concerned about how someone else is living? With all the places we have to go and people we have to meet, we do well to handle what is on our own plates.

Sure, being sensitive about another person's experience is sublime but is probably like those sub-prime mortgages: too good to be true.

But what if you could peer into someone's daily life without dismounting from your own personal high horse? What if everyone kept their own moccasins on lit-

erally, but each of us was able to trace another's steps literally?

I mean, wouldn't it be cool if you could learn about the challenges of collegiate life without necessarily having to experience those challenges? Such a scenario would be too interesting and valuable to pass up, huh, and would seem to be almost as half as cool as knowing all about another country without ever visiting it by virtue of your being able to see it on a clear day, but I digress.

Well, if you are indeed interested in learning about life through the lens of a representative from another group, you are in luck. Welcome to the six-part "_____ like me" column series, which will detail what it's like to be a His-



Vincent Windrow
Guest Columnist

panic, gay, Chinese, Muslim, Jewish and non-traditional student here on campus.

Since it's a six-part series, please understand that the columns will be written by six different people unless, of course, we could locate one person who could fit the bill for all six categories. If we could figure that one out, we could probably be of great

service to the country by helping Congress out with a better bailout agreement, but, again, I digress.

Just in case you are wondering, the upcoming "_____ like me" column series was inspired by John Howard Griffin's *Black like Me*, the national best-seller from 1961 that captured what life was like for a black man living in the Deep South back in those days.

Griffin, a white man, had his skin temporarily darkened by medical procedures in order to go undetected as he lived as a black man for six weeks through parts of Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Georgia.

The book jolted America with its real depictions of life for millions of black people who were forced to afford

paying taxes while not being afforded the equitable representation that legally and morally came with said taxation.

Again, you are not being asked to put on anyone else's shoes by engaging in the "_____ like me" column series, but you are being challenged to put on your listening ears as you read the voices of people who may not sound like you, look like you, worship like you, date like you or talk like you, but nevertheless are students - and moreover, people - just like you.

Vincent Windrow is the director of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs and can be reached at vwindrow@mtsu.edu.

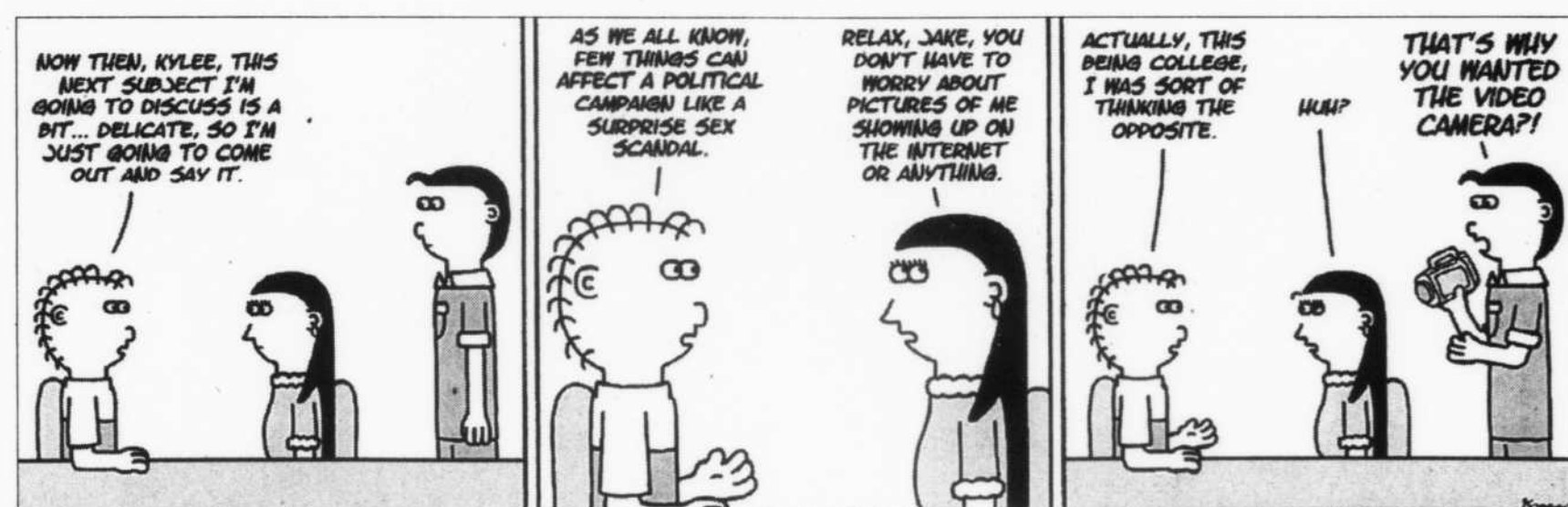
COMICS



"And Friends"

frankhasenmueller@gmail.com

Frank Hasenmueller



"Last-Ditch Effort"

kroes@lde-online.com

John Kroes

FACES IN THE CROWD

Did you watch the debate?
Who do you think won?



Wilson

"I watched some of it. Obama answered all his questions better than McCain did."

Zach Wilson, junior
Business Administration



Gunn

"No, I didn't watch the debate because I thought it was cancelled."

Mary Beth Gunn, senior
History



Vandevate

"No, I was hearing about it and meant to watch it but I completely forgot about it."

Justin Vandevate, freshman
Pre-law



Herring

"Obviously, I think Obama won. His answers flowed better and were more concise."

Shayna Herring, junior
English

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MOST OF YOUR MONEY?

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FEATURES



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MTSU's IMPACT on the local economy

By SARAH STERCHI
Contributing Writer

Try to define the word economy, and you might have a difficult time.

Intriguingly, the archaic definition of the word, according to the Merriam-Webster's dictionary, is the management of household or private affairs and especially expenses. Its significance comes from the Greek words "ioikos" and "nemein," which mean "house" and "to manage."

However, when one thinks of the economy, he or she may think of more national or global implications, not single households.

One could consider Murfreesboro as the household and MTSU as the maternal figure. The university nurtures and encourages economic growth in the household of Rutherford County in ways that most may not realize.

Murfreesboro is a completely different town in the summertime. MTSU seems to contribute certain energy and excitement to this town that is somewhat lost when many students pack up and go home for breaks from school.

One student points out that while many leave, there are many students who stay.

"Although a large portion of students do go home for summer and winter breaks, there are also a great deal who stay in Murfreesboro year round," says Daniel Essenpreis, an MTSU alumnus EMC major. "The businesses may take a small hit, but for the most part I don't think that it is a drastic one."

Indeed, even when school is not in session, MTSU affiliates still play an active part in the local economy.

The university is second on the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce's list of Murfreesboro's largest employers with over 2,000 employees as of February 2007. In addition to regular employees, there are currently around 2,100 student hourly employees working at MTSU, as well as about 400 graduate assistants and 70 resident assistants.

Along with education, students are fortunate to have access to all kinds of jobs at



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor

Boyd Mayberry, an MTSU sophomore computer information systems major, serves customer Angela Reeves at his place of employment, Blue Coast Burrito on Memorial Boulevard.

their fingertips.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Rutherford County led the nation in job growth in 2005. There were an estimated 120,718 full-time and part-time jobs in the county. Since 2000, employment has increased 19.4 percent in the county compared to 5.7 percent increase statewide and 6.6 percent in the U.S.

In 2006, Rutherford County's average rate of unemployment was 3.9 percent, with a 5.1 percent average in Tennessee and 4.6 percent national average. The unemployment rates were significantly higher for the summer months, peaking at 4.5 percent.

Many MTSU students are employed, not only by MTSU, but in the community, as well.

Kathy Musselman, assistant vice president of MTSU's Human Resources Department, says she doesn't think the local economy regulates in the same way when students go home for breaks from school.

"I would think that when 20,000 plus students leave

the Murfreesboro area to go home for the summer that it would have to affect the sales at the mall and local restaurants," Musselman says. "How could it not?"

The effects of MTSU are not limited to the students themselves, however. Brian Breece, general manager of Puleois Grille on NW Broad Street, notes that business is "absolutely affected by MTSU," but most customers

Murat Arik, associate director for MTSU's Business and Economic Research Center, says that from 2003-2006, MTSU provided more than an estimated \$800 million to local economic impact. Of this, student expenditures totaled about \$231 million.

"The presence of MTSU and its facilities, such as the library, Murphy Center Tennessee Miller Coliseum,

search and provides information to support the College of Business faculty and students as well as the business community. It works with the local government and private organizations on research projects that make university and faculty resources available to the community.

With partnerships like this, it is no wonder that Rutherford County is currently the fastest growing county in Tennessee. In 2006, Murfreesboro made CNN Money Magazine's "100 Best Places to Live" in the nation.

Holly Sears Weber, Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce's vice president of economic development, conveys just what a driving force for the economy MTSU is.

"Having the largest undergraduate university in Tennessee in our community gives us a great resource for research and available labor for a variety of jobs," Weber says. "Often times, a company will focus in on Rutherford County due to the university and the renewable resource of available labor."

MTSU, along with the Chamber, has also been a catalyst for a new organization, Mind2Marketplace. M2M is an organization dedicated to help with job creation. It was formed to help establish an aggressive strategic connection between people or organizations with marketable ideas and the final marketplace.

Weber points out that these partnerships are "just a very small part of what the university brings to our community."

Arik points out that this town would undoubtedly be a different place without the university.

MTSU's athletic, recreational, cultural and academic facilities and programs contribute to the region's quality of life significantly," Arik says.

For more on Murfreesboro's economy, visit www.rutherfordchamber.org.

"I would think that when (students go home for the summer), that it would have to affect the sales at the mall and local restaurants."

Kathy Musselman
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT OF MTSU HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

are not actually college students.

"In terms of day-to-day business, we don't see lots of MTSU students in the restaurant," Breece says. "We get more business from MTSU professors as well as visitors passing through town for MTSU events such as football games. The employee base is the main thing we get from the students population. Nearly all of our employees are students."

Campus Recreation Center and Tennessee Livestock Center provide significant, intangible benefits to the local residents who enjoy year-long activities," Arik says. "Furthermore, other intangible benefits, or benefits that are hard to put a price tag on, include numerous community outreach activities and partnerships with local K-12 school systems and businesses."

The BERC conducts re-



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor

Trenton Hughes, an MTSU senior organizational communications major, and Cassie Venable, an MTSU senior education major, put quarters in a washing machine at Duds 'n' Suds on Greeland Drive.

CALENDAR

movies, music, nightlife and more

Movies

9/29-10/2 - Get Smart - KUC Theatre @ 7&10 - \$2

10/3 - Found Footage Festival - KUC Theatre @ 7 - FREE

Music

9/29 - Moriah Harris CD release show - The Basement @ 8

9/29 - Power Cycle - The Muse @ 7

9/30 - 107.5 The River presents Secondhand Serenade, Thriving Ivory, Cory Lamb, I Hate Kate - Rockettown @ 6 - \$15/pre-order, \$18/door

9/30 - Abrams Brothers Showcase, Kennedy, Hot New Singles, Jessica Griffith - The Basement @ 7 - FREE

9/30 - Arcadium, Kill the City, Kevin Masch, Rise to Fall, Bloom - The Muse @ 7

10/1 - Jordan Caress, Jennifer Nicely, Angel Snow - The Basement @ 9 - \$5

10/1 One for the Team - The Muse @ 7

10/2 - Tha Black Dog (Led Zeppelin Tribute) - Wallstreet @ 9

10/2 - Chiodos, Motion City Soundtrack, Hit the Lights, Person L, The Arrival - Rockettown @ 6 - \$17/pre-order, \$19/door

10/2 - Travis Stephens, Shannon Lee Briggs - The Basement @ 9 - \$5

10/2 - Run Zombie Run!, Anastasia, Eve of Shadows, In Truth Be Valor - The Muse @ 7

10/3 - Chain Reaction (Journey Tribute Band) - Wallstreet @ 9 - \$7

10/3 - Central Funktion - The 'Boro @ 8

10/3 - Obamarama presents by Music City for Change w/ Marcus Hummon, Mary Gauthier, Don Henry - The Basement @ 7 - FREE w/ \$8 recommended donation Team, iLLuMiNaTi, Nick Jaina, Rae Hering - The Basement @ 9 - FREE w/ \$8 recommended donation

10/3 - Trap Them, Furnace - The Muse @ 7

10/4 - Far From Folsum - The 'Boro @ 8

10/4 - Ribbonpigeon, Hammertorch, Slithering Beast - Wallstreet @ 9

10/4 - Norma Jean, Haste the Day, The Showdown, My Children My Bride, Children 10/3 - Rockettown @ 6 - \$16/pre-order, \$18/door

10/4 - Wess Floyd and Daiseycutters, Win Win Win, Shame Train - The Basement @ 9 - \$7

10/4 - The 5th Seal, Adelaide, Perry Vincent, Of Men and Angels Flesh, The Castle is a Tomb - The Muse @ 7

Other

9/30 MTSU tailgating - The Grove @ 7 - FREE

10/1 - Live Trivia Night - Wallstreet @ 7 - \$50 first prize

Compiled by Katy Coil

The weekend in politics

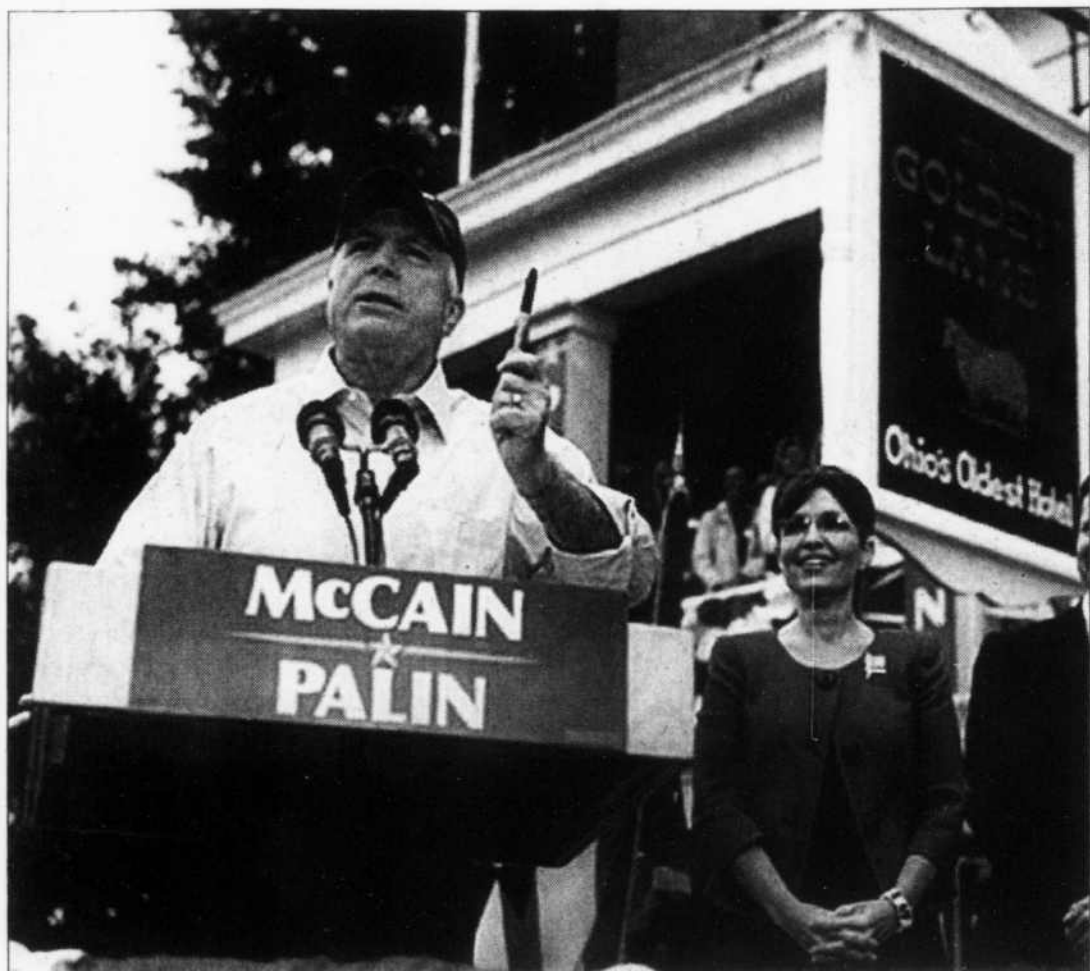
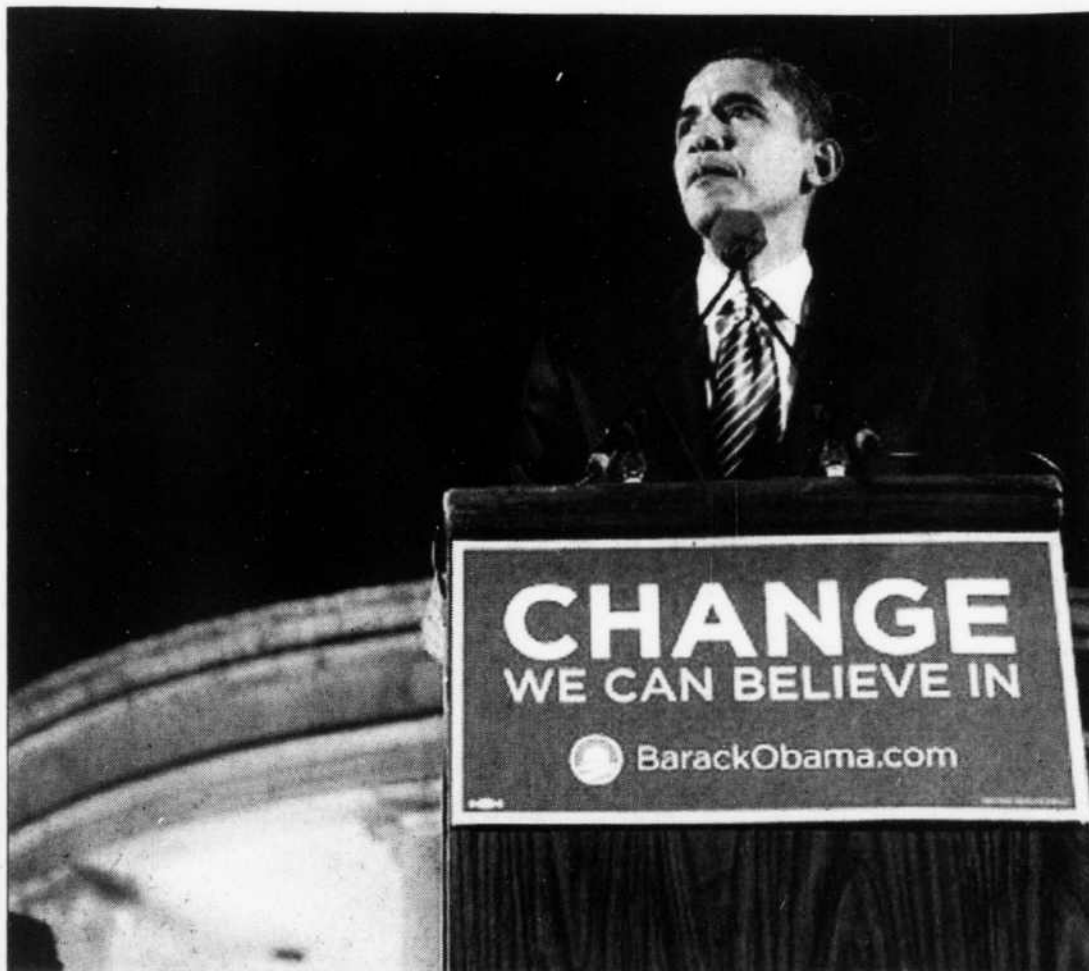


Photo courtesy John McCain.com, Obama.com

With less than six weeks remaining until election day, Sen. John McCain and Sen. Barack Obama took the stage at the performing arts center at the University of Mississippi Friday for the first of three scheduled debates.



War, taxes split candidates in first debate

By CHRISTOPHER WILLS
Associated Press

OXFORD, Miss. (AP) — In a faceoff that returned again and again to judgment, John McCain portrayed himself as a battle-tested elder running against a naive rookie, while Barack Obama suggested the Republican is a hothead who made the wrong choices on the Iraq war, corporate taxes and more.

Now they take the themes from an intense first debate back to the campaign trail, looking for some edge in a tight presidential race. With 38 days left, McCain is headed for Washington and the dispute over a Wall Street bailout, while Obama plans to visit Republican-leaning states where the Democrat thinks he can make inroads.

The debate presented a huge opportunity for the candidates to deliver their message to millions of Americans—or make an embarrassing blunder.

Interest in Friday's debate

was amplified by suspense about whether it would even take place. McCain had said he wouldn't take part unless the financial crisis was resolved, then reversed course and decided at the last minute to participate without a deal.

McCain, 72, frequently referred to his age and experience.

Sometimes he joked—at one point he wagged his eyebrows and quipped that the moderator didn't think he could hear the question—and other times he went out of his way to mention the foreign countries he has visited and the years he has spent on Capitol Hill.

"I have a long record and the American people know me very well," he said.

But Obama, a 47-year-old serving his first term in the Senate, challenged McCain frequently and offered himself as someone who can be trusted to make sound choices.

Obama noted that he op-

posed invading Iraq, while McCain supported it. He said McCain has voted with the unpopular President Bush 90 percent of the time. He argued McCain backs corporate tax breaks and lax regulation that have contributed to the Wall Street economic crisis.

"We have to recognize that this is a final verdict on eight

gles of ordinary Americans—the nurse, the teacher, the police officer who, frankly, at the end of each month they've got a little financial crisis going on."

The Obama campaign tried to back up that point in its newest ad, a spot released Saturday that notes McCain never mentioned the middle class during the debate.

"We have to recognize that this is a final verdict on years of failed economic policies promoted by Bush, supported by Senator McCain."

Sen. Barack Obama

years of failed economic policies promoted by George Bush, supported by Senator McCain," Obama said.

Obama sought to connect with voters who might have doubts about a relative newcomer to national politics, a black man with an exotic name and background. He talked often about the strug-

"McCain doesn't get it," the announcer says. "Barack Obama does."

In a long exchange with McCain over the Iraq war, Obama tried to avoid being seen as soft or reluctant to use force when necessary.

An early opponent of invading Iraq, he stressed that his position was prompted

partly by worries that it would distract from hunting down Osama bin Laden, and he said withdrawing from Iraq now would free up resources to re-energize that hunt.

Obama suggested McCain might overreact to national emergencies, noting that the Arizona senator has talked about "extinction" for North Korea and joked about bombing Iran.

McCain accused Obama of seeking to "snatch defeat from the jaws of victory" in Iraq. He said the "surge" of U.S. troops has reduced violence there and withdrawing would destabilize the country and the entire region.

Asked what lessons he had learned from the long war, McCain said, "that you cannot have a failed strategy that will then cause you to nearly lose a conflict."

In its first post-debate TV ad, the McCain campaign accused Obama of "play-

ing politics ... risking lives" when he voted against a war spending bill in May 2007, supporting the charge that Obama's "not ready to lead" with criticism from that time by Joe Biden, now Obama's running mate. When McCain cited that vote during the debate, Obama defended it as being aimed at the lack of a withdrawal timetable, not at funding for troops.

The candidates stood behind identical wooden lecterns on stage at the performing arts center at the University of Mississippi for the first of three scheduled debates with less than six weeks remaining until Election Day. The two vice presidential candidates will meet next week for their only debate, and Obama and McCain each put in a plug for his own running mate.

The presidential hopefuls are scheduled to debate twice more, at Belmont University in Nashville on Oct. 7 and at Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y., on Oct. 15.

Obama: McCain didn't mention middle class

By JESSE J. HOLLAND
Associated Press

FREDERICKSBURG, Va. (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama sought to score a quick post-debate advantage Saturday by traveling to two Republican-leaning states and accusing GOP rival John McCain of being out of touch with middle-class Americans.

"We talked about the economy for 40 minutes and not once did Sen. McCain talk about the struggles middle-class families are having," Obama told more than 26,000 people who stood out in the rain with him on the campus of the University of Mary Washington.

While Obama was out campaigning, McCain stayed in the Washington, D.C.-area monitoring by phone the congressional negotiations on a deal on stabilizing U.S. financial markets. Obama did the same while on the campaign trail, with aides saying he spoke by phone to Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, Senate Majority

Leader Harry Reid and Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., as negotiators inched toward a deal.

"Unlike Sen. McCain, it didn't take a crisis on Wall Street for me to realize that people are hurting," Obama said.

Earlier in the day, Obama debuted his post-debate attack on McCain with a campaigner swing through North Carolina, another traditionally Republican state like Virginia where Obama hopes to make inroads.

The Illinois senator repeatedly took McCain to task for not talking about any plans for helping the middle class in the midst of the country's financial and fiscal crisis.

"Through 90 minutes of debate, John McCain had a lot to say about me, but he didn't have anything to say about you," Obama told the cheering 20,000-plus crowd at the J. Douglas Galyon Depot in downtown Greensboro. "He didn't even say the words 'middle class.' He didn't even say the words 'working people.'"

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SPORTS

MT looking to 'Blackout' FAU

By CHRIS MARTIN
Sports Editor

Looking to post a victory on national television, the Blue Raiders will be hosting the Florida Atlantic Owls on Tuesday.

The game, which will be televised on ESPN2, will provide an opportunity for Middle Tennessee (1-3, 0-2 Sun Belt) to get its first conference win of the season after already losing to Troy and Arkansas State.

The Owls (1-3, 0-0 SBC) are also looking for their first SBC win after completing a four-game stretch of out-of-conference games. FAU has not been too impressive thus far, although they've faced some difficult competition thus far. In its three losses, away games against Texas, Michigan State and Minnesota, FAU has been outscored 106-13.

However, the Owls are the defending SBC champs and were selected by the conference's coaches to repeat as champions, and like last year, they don't possess an overwhelming record through the first four games.

"They started 0-4 last year and they are 1-3 now," MT Head Coach Rick Stockstill said. "It is a good team with a very talented group of guys. They got beat by Texas but so do a lot of people. They have played a tough schedule so you can't really look at their record, but their record is better right now than it was a year ago at this time."

FAU's star on offense is junior quarterback Rusty Smith. Smith was last season's SBC Player of the Year and was voted preseason Offensive Player of the Year, but he hasn't exactly put up stellar numbers—45.9 completions percentage, four touchdowns and five interceptions. Despite the underwhelming numbers, Stockstill is quick to acknowledge Smith's talent.

"He is a good quarterback," junior linebacker Danny Carmichael said. "He had an outstanding year last year with one of the top efficiency ratings in the country. He is a very good quarterback."

As good as Smith and the FAU offense is, the defense may actually be better. The Owls landed five players on



Photo by Chris Barstad, staff photographer

The Blue Raiders are looking to bounce back from two consecutive Sun Belt losses. Their first chance for a SBC victory will come against defending conference champs, Florida Atlantic.

the preseason All-SBC First Team. The defense is led by senior linebacker Frantz Joseph—the SBC's preseason Defensive Player of the Year. Joseph leads FAU with 54 tackles and is tied for the team lead in tackles for loss with 3.5.

Another stalwart to look for on the FAU defense is sophomore corner Tavious Polo. Polo ranked ninth in the nation in 2007 with seven interceptions. His seven picks were also good enough to set the school record for most in a season.

The Blue Raiders will look to continue to implement their successful passing game against a dangerous FAU secondary that features All-SBC performers Polo and Corey Small. MT senior quarterback Joe Craddock is second

FOOTBALL, PAGE 8



LEADERS



	YARDS	TDs		YARDS	TDs
PASSING			PASSING		
Joe Craddock	1076	5	Rusty Smith	874	4
RUSHING			RUSHING		
Phillip Tanner	153	3	Charles Pierre	268	2
RECEIVING			RECEIVING		
Malcolm Beyah	323	3	Cortez Gent	255	1
TACKLES			TACKLES		
Jeremy Kellern	29		Frantz Joseph	54	
SACKS			SACKS		
Five players tied	1		Michael Hancock	2	
INT			INT		
Four players tied	1		Corey Small	1	
			Tavious Polo	1	

Titans 4-0 for the first time in franchise history

By TERESA M. WALKER
AP Sports Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Tennessee Titans aren't celebrating their perfect-and-starting.

Not in September. "We still have a chance to go 4-12," Titans linebacker Keith Bulluck said.

Rookie Chris Johnson scored two touchdowns and the defense forced four turnovers that the Titans turned into 21 points as Tennessee beat the Minnesota Vikings 30-17 Sunday. The Titans improved to 4-0 for the first time in franchise history.

Not even dating back to their AFL start in Houston as the Oilers had this team started a season by winning more than three straight. But in their 10th season as the relocated Titans, they have won an NFL-best seven straight regular-season games and

had the crowd chanting "4-and-0" as the final seconds ticked off.

Cornerback Nick Harper helped seal the victory with an interception and said the Titans know they can play better still.

"We don't feel like we're there yet. We feel like we haven't played a complete game yet. ... We just feel like we're struggling. Even though we're struggling, we know we're struggling in the right direction," Harper said.

Minnesota (1-3), which came in hoping to start its own winning streak, outgained Tennessee 333-275. The Titans had allowed an NFL-fewest 29 points but gave up a season-high 17 to the Vikings.

But the Titans also came up with four sacks to go with the

turnovers.

"Obviously, we have to do a better job of taking care of the football," Minnesota coach Brad Childress said. "When you spot somebody 21 points

"We don't feel like we're there yet. We feel like we haven't played a complete game yet."

NICK HARPER
TITANS CORNERBACK

on turnovers those are pivotal things. Turnovers is the No. 1 statistic in this business. It's disappointing."

In a game featuring two of the NFL's top young running backs in Minnesota's Adrian Peterson and Tennessee's Johnson, it was two old quarterbacks—Gus Frerotte and Kerry Collins—who tried to take control against two stingy defenses against the

run. Collins had much more help from his Titans.

Albert Haynesworth sacked Frerotte twice, and Nick Harper intercepted a Frerotte pass with 3:46 left after the Vikings pulled to 23-17 on Peterson's second touchdown run. Frerotte hurt his hand on that play and left the game.

Johnson then scored his second TD on a 6-yard run, and the Titans sacked Tarvaris Jackson twice to seal the victory.

Frerotte made it interesting as he drove the Vikings downfield to set up Peterson's second TD. He drew an unnecessary roughness penalty on Titans end Kyle Vanden Bosch after overthrowing on third-and-goal, which the

quarterback called a direct shot.

"To just spear somebody like that is pretty ridiculous," Frerotte said.

Vanden Bosch denied he hit Frerotte anywhere except the thigh.

"That's where the rule book tells me to hit the quarterback," Vanden Bosch said.

Peterson scored on the next play to pull Minnesota to 23-17 with 6 minutes left.

The Titans, who gained only 70 yards in the second half, stalled again. Their punt was downed at the 2, forcing Frerotte to throw from his end zone. Harper picked him off on third down to set up Johnson's 6-yard TD run.

Peterson finished with 80 yards on 18 carries after coming into the game ranked second in the NFL with 340 yards.

Minnesota got five sacks in last week's victory over Caro-

lina. The Vikings hit Collins but never sacked him as the 14-year veteran completed passes to six different Titans for 199 yards.

The Titans opened the game by scoring on their first drive and never trailed after dominating most of the first quarter. They outgained Minnesota 102-9.

Johnson ran in for a 1-yard TD that was his first score rushing to make it 10-0 in the first quarter. LenDale White also ran in for a yard, giving him a touchdown run in four straight games. Rob Bironas added field goals of 20, 32 and 49 yards.

Peterson broke loose for a 28-yard touchdown run at the beginning of the second quarter to pull the Vikings to 10-7. That was as close as they would get. Ryan Longwell had a chance at a 48-yarder just before halftime that clanked off the right upright.

Reese Smith Field sees first action

By DEAN HOLDEN
Contributing Writer

On Friday, Sept. 26, the new and improved Reese Smith Field saw blue uniforms in play for the first time.

In Reese Smith's first game since the stadium's ribbon-cutting ceremony, the Columbia State Chargers defeated the blue-clad Chattanooga State Tigers 10-5 in the first game of the 2008 Junior College Classic.

Although the Blue Raider squad started fall practice on Sept. 8, this year's Junior College Classic is the first competition the field has seen since the completion of the renovations that forced

Middle Tennessee baseball fans into the concourse of Floyd Stadium for the entirety of the 2008 season.

Visitors to the games, primarily family, coaches, and scouts, were the first to sneak a peek at what Middle Tennessee's 2009 season will be like. Last season, dedicated Blue Raider fans endured temporary bleachers and folding chairs on the second level of Floyd Stadium giving a nosebleed perspective from left field. Next spring, fans will enjoy a view close enough to read tipped pitches, with new seating directly behind home plate and down the first and third base lines.

The 2008 Junior College Classic was the perfect opportunity to break in the new field.

Junior college teams across

Chattanooga State and Columbia State played the first game of the weekend series, with Columbia State playing solid defense and getting

the contest with a three-run first inning, but allowed Columbia State to chip away at the lead.

Right-hander Brian Satterfield worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the second inning to preserve a 3-2 lead for Chattanooga State, but Columbia State seized the momentum in the inning.

The teams traded runs in the fourth inning, but Columbia State outfielder Tony Allen nearly broke the game open with a shot to deep center field, but the play was made at the warning track to keep the game tied. The Tigers took the lead back with an RBI double to the right field gap to make it 4-3.

Freshman infielder Corey Hale nearly took the lead for Columbia State in the fifth inning, pelting Floyd Stadium with a two-run homer. However, a bizarre baserunning error, in which Hale passed his teammate on the basepath, negated the home run. The Chargers would score two runs in the inning anyway, on a double to deep right field, and a passed ball scoring a runner from third.

In the top of the sixth inning, the Chargers scored five runs to blow the seven-inning game open, due mostly to Hale's bases-clearing triple. Columbia ended up proving victorious with a 10-5 win.

Football FROM PAGE 7

back Joe Craddock is second among conference quarterbacks in passing yards with 1,076, just 34 behind ASU's Corey Leonard.

MT is hoping that it can show the crowd at Floyd Stadium an improved running game. Thus far, the Blue Raiders are averaging only 69.2 rushing yards a game with a dismal 2.0 yards per carry average.

"It is no secret, we have

struggled in all four games in the running game and it has to get better," Stockstill said. "There are a lot of contributing circumstances and hopefully some of that will turn and it will help us down the road."

Since the game will be broadcast on ESPN2, the Blue Raider coaching staff is excited about having the opportunity to play on a national stage.

"Look at the history with the TV games and it's usually the up and coming conferences doing it," Stockstill

said. "I think it's a great opportunity and the whole world is watching. If they want to watch a college game then they have to watch us."

Having a game broadcast on national television can

have plenty of positive implications for a program like MT, which has only been playing FBS football since the late-1990s.

"It helps in recruiting," Stockstill said. "It helps

showcase your program and university on a national scale. I understand why we do it and I have no problem with that. I wish we could play as many times as possible on ESPN."

The game, labeled "Black-out Night," is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. at Floyd Stadium. Everyone is encouraged to wear black shirts in order to achieve the "Black-out" effect.

Wild weekend lands Oklahoma No. 1 ranking

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Oklahoma, where the No. 1 ranking rests again.

The Sooners sit atop the AP Top 25 on Sunday after the first upset-filled weekend of the season gave the media poll a powerful shake. Alabama was both a mover and a shaker, as the Crimson Tide rose to No. 2 after a surprising 41-30 pounding of Georgia.

Previously top-ranked Southern California lost at Oregon State to set the tone for a weekend that brought back memories of the topsyturvy 2007 season.

On Saturday, two more top-five teams fell. Florida was stunned at home by Mississippi, 31-30. Georgia, which started the season No. 1, was down 31 points by halftime to Alabama and never recovered.

Overall, nine ranked teams lost, six to unranked foes.

The last time such a shake-up occurred? One year ago, when in the last week of September three of the top-five teams fell and seven ranked teams lost to unranked opponents.

"I think we talked (Friday) that anyone can beat anyone on any given Saturday, and that's why you've got to come out and you've got to play on edge, full tilt every game because if not, someone's liable to come in and beat you," Oklahoma quarterback Sam Bradford said after the Sooners' 35-10 victory over TCU on Saturday.

Oklahoma is No. 1 for the 96th time in the history of the AP poll, breaking a tie with Notre Dame for the most ever. The last time the Sooners were No. 1 was 2003, when they were atop the polls all season before losing the Big 12 title game to Kansas State.

Oklahoma received 43 of a possible 65 first-place votes and 1,599 points.

Alabama's impressive performance jumped the Tide six spots. Alabama

hasn't been ranked this high since it was No. 2 for the first eight polls of the 1993 season.

The Tide received 21 first-place votes and 1,565 points.

LSU is No. 3, moving up two spots. No. 4 Missouri, which received a first-place vote, and No. 5 Texas also moved up two places and left the top five under the control of the Big 12 (three teams) and Southeastern Conference (two).

Penn State moved up six spots to No. 6 after its 38-24 victory against Illinois.

Texas Tech was idle, but took advantage of the attrition in the top 10 to move up to No. 7. BYU is eighth, USC dropped eight spots to No. 9 and South Florida is No. 10.

In the USA Today coaches' poll, Oklahoma was No. 1, but LSU was No. 2, followed by Missouri, Alabama and Texas. In the Harris, poll which came out for the first time this season Sunday and is used in the BCS standings, Oklahoma was No. 1, followed by LSU, Alabama, Missouri and Texas.

Georgia and Florida each dropped eight spots in the AP poll. The Bulldogs are No. 11 and Florida is No. 12, followed by fellow SEC rival Auburn at 13th.

No. 14 Ohio State is followed by Utah, Kansas, Boise State and Wisconsin, which dropped nine spots after blowing a 19-point lead and losing to Michigan 27-25.

No. 19 Vanderbilt and Virginia Tech, which moved back into the rankings with 35-30 win at Nebraska, rounded out the top 20.

No. 21 Oklahoma State is ranked for the first time since 2004.

Fresno State, Oregon, Connecticut and Wake Forest, which was upset 24-17 at home by Navy, are the final five. UConn is in the rankings for the first time this season.

Clemson, Illinois, East Carolina, which lost its second straight game, and TCU all fell out of the rankings.

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