

Wednesday

HI: 85°  
LO: 59°

Thursday

HI: 85°  
LO: 61°

Student DJs on the air

page 4



MT wins fourth

in a row

page 6

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# MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

September 6, 2006  
Editorially independent

## Student hospitalized after blow to head

By Andy Harper

Campus Life Editor

An MTSU student was transported Monday night to Vanderbilt Medical Center for emergency surgery due to injuries sustained Sunday night at the Beta Theta Pi house on Greek Row.

The young men had been drinking alcohol and the horseplay between the brothers may have become heated, Buddy Peaster, MTSU police chief, said in an MTSU press release.

"The student remains in stable condition after surgery was performed to stop hemorrhaging and

pressure that might have caused brain damage," said Gentry McCreary, director of Greek Life.

The victim, Michael Morrison, 19, was struck in the head by a pool cue during horseplay with another fraternity brother, reported the MTSU press release.

According to the police incident report, William Vinson was charged with aggravated assault after he admitted during police



Morrison

questioning to attacking Morrison.

"Michael went to bed Sunday night, [and] the next morning he was checked on by Ross Johnson, the chapter president," McCreary said.

Johnson reported Morrison as being awake and alert Monday morning, but said Morrison did mention that his head was hurting, McCreary said.

"Ross left the Beta house for the day and



Vinson

returned Monday evening around 5 p.m. to find Michael unconscious," McCreary said.

"According to doctors, Michael is moving his hands and legs, so the doctors are hopeful the damage is minimal," McCreary said in the press release.

"We're cooperating with local authorities," said Judson Horras, spokesperson for Beta Theta Pi. Horras declined further comment.

The MTSU police department is still investigating. Head officer Matt Foster was unavailable for comment.

"Of course Greek Life is deeply saddened by this tragedy and we wish Michael well," McCreary said.

## MT claims season-opener win over FIU

Team breaks five-year home-opener losing streak, breaks in new coach, turf, uniforms

Thursday, August 31

MT 7

FIU 6

Next game at Maryland, September 9

By J. Owen Shipley

Contributing Writer

MTSU hadn't won a home opener in five years before Thursday night. In those five years, they had posted four straight losing seasons. With a new coach, new state of the art turf, and a new attitude the Blue Raiders had a lot to prove in Thursday's grudge match against Florida International, the same team that had closed their season last year with a win against the last MTSU team coached by Andy McCollum. A lot was on the line, and all eyes were on new coach Rick Stockskill to see how the Raiders would respond.

As an after fan piled into Floyd Stadium Thursday night, they carried big question marks in between their eyes. They had no idea what to expect of this supposedly "new" Blue Raider football team. Memories of years passed had taught them that this wasn't a team that won too often, even when it should have. Mistakes, miscues and mismanagement abounded towards the end of Andy McCollum's reign as coach of MTSU's ambitious football program. And yet, something new was in the air. Excitement. Even with all questions people have had about this team's talent

and depth, fans were genuinely excited. Talk of MTSU's new coach had reached all corners of Murfreesboro and people were genuinely curious how much of a difference he could make.

Two things were sure after seeing the Blue Raiders face off against Florida International: First of all, the Blue Raider offense does need work. Receivers that were wide open went unnoticed. Passes perfectly executed were dropped. The offensive line had a hard time consistently creating holes in clutch situations. Most importantly, third down conversions were abysmal. But MTSU is used to statements like these. What is new in Murfreesboro, is that this team did everything it could to win with the weapons it had. After Florida International's first scoring drive the MT defense shut them down. The offense protected the ball, controlled the clock, and won the battle for field position. They scored the only touchdown they needed to win and held FIU in place long enough for them to leave Floyd Stadium with a win.

In a play that summed up FIU's only scoring drive, tight end Samuel Smith made an amazing catch on 3rd and long to keep the chains moving. MTSU's defense was swarming all over the field. They



Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

Quarterback Clint Marks prepares for the pass in MTSU's Thursday night win over FIU at Floyd Stadium.

pounded the ball carrier on each tackle but gaping holes were evident in their coverage. With the bigger than usual crowd chanting "Let's Go Blue!" the defense might have been a little too pumped up. They were over-pursuing so much that FIU had the confidence to attempt two fourth down conversions during that first drive. Luckily for MTSU, it ended in Florida International's only touchdown and the extra point attempt was a wild miss that

would come back to haunt FIU all night long. With 10 for 14 passing and 40 yards rushing yards in the first quarter alone, FIU played as if the game was in their control. The Blue Raiders took advantage of that attitude and never let the Panthers get close to having another drive that long or productive.

See Football, 6

## MT staff monitors student canvassing

By Blake Boldt

Contributing Writer

The writing is on the wall at MTSU, but with strict regulations regarding the posting of advertisements, students must be careful when trying to publicize events on campus.

The MTSU rules and regulations contain a specific clause pertaining to the placement of advertising flyers and related literature in campus parking lots. This clause, an extension of a city ordinance, forbids any individual from advertising on parked vehicles on campus.

As exceptions to the rule, advertisements may be placed on vehicles if the advertiser owns the vehicle, or the advertiser has consent from the vehicle owner.

The same rules apply to posting in all areas on campus, said Gene Fitch, vice president for Student Affairs at MTSU, but each building has its own policy.

"The policies for posting are pretty liberal around campus," Fitch said when asked about the significant number of advertisements in campus buildings.

"Many bulletin boards in campus buildings are open to advertisements," said Jacqueline Victory, the director of Student Organizations and Community Service. She cautioned that most buildings require permission from the departments' administration.

Victory welcomes the publicity of campus functions, but she encourages students to contact her office before posting. Students can send their advertisements in a text format to the Student Organizations office for authorization.

"The cheapest way to advertise in a good way is to email me and (we will) post it on Pipeline," Victory said.

Also, the unauthorized use of graffiti in any form is forbidden on campus. According to the rules and regulations, this includes the "damage or defacement of MTSU property by painting, chalking, writing, stencil-painting, or by any other means of

See Canvassing, 5



Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

Tailgating in Walnut Grove before the game Thursday evening was themed around a beach bash, including tropical food and music. The festivities continued at the game, where there was a pool in the stands.

## Employers offer mixed reaction to online profiles

By Christin Pepple

Staff Writer

In the not-so-distant past, the Internet was in its infancy – a flashy tool that high-powered businessmen used to keep in touch. Today, that same invention is not only fun and convenient, it's powerful.

The Internet's reach extends into every facet of life, including socializing, learning and working. The influence of the Internet in shaping one's career has come into the public eye and with the advent of Web sites like Facebook and Myspace that allow users to essentially live their lives—the good, the bad and the ugly—before the world.

In a recent survey by Careerbuilder.com, 35 percent of employers polled have either reprimanded or

fired someone in their employment for something they posted on the Internet.

Subsequently, students may find themselves on the other end of an electronic microscope if employers get curious about what their hires, or potential hires, do in their free time. Suddenly, the small get together with a few friends and some beers last weekend is at the forefront of the company boss's awareness.

Many students and employers, though, are speaking out against this use of personal Web space.

Kevin Stokes, an assistant manager at Starbucks in Murfreesboro, said it is absolutely not ethical for employers to check applicants' Internet profiles before hiring them.

"MySpace is an expression like [a] Letter to the Editor is an expression," he said. "America prides

itself on freedom of speech. Employers have no right to take that away from their employees."

Barbara Fuller, the managing attorney at the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee, described a similar policy.

"We only base employment on a written reference check and interview," she said. "We don't use the Internet."

Among the student workers, who are often those most directly affected by employer trolling, many express frustration with what they believe is an unfair use of a medium that doesn't lend itself to secrets.

"Everything on the net needs to be taken with a grain of salt. It doesn't need to always be taken seriously," said Sarah Catlett, who works at Spencer's Gifts.

Chris Sutor, an employer of Buckle, echoed that sentiment.

"[Your boss] shouldn't be able to 'Google' you and fire you for it," he said. "Personal and professional lives are separate."

Brandy Gibbs, a general manager at Hastings, expressed a middle-of-the-road view on the subject, putting the debate in terms of what's best for the company. She said she agreed with an employer's right to fire someone for what they post on the Internet, but only if it is directly harmful to the company in question.

"If [employees] talk about customers or use names, for Hastings, it's a breach of contract," Gibbs

See MySpace, 2

# New fellowship offered for students

By Daniel Potter and Wesley Murchison  
Staff Writer and Administration Editor

MTSU has designed a new scholarship to attract students who excel academically. The scholarship will be awarded through the College of University Honors and is intended for students in the honors program.

The idea behind the James Buchanan Fellowship, according to Philip Mathis, dean of University Honors, was for MTSU to compete in enrolling students with higher academic excellence.

To attract these students, the Buchanan Fellowship will provide a full ride to students who are qualified, \$1,000 semester book allowance, assistance after graduation and programs to study abroad.

Mathis said this package of funds is to show students that not only can they get the same kind of education, but also they wouldn't incur too much personal cost.

"With the way some of these scholarships work, they can actually make money," Mathis said.

In conjunction with the scholarships, the Buchanan Fellowship will also include six seminars specially tailored to students in the fellowship. These seminars, called the Buchanan Seminars, will consist of two seminars over humanities, social sciences and applied sciences. The humanities courses will be made up of literature classes while the social sciences will be lectures on government and economics. The applied sciences will cover astronomy and chemistry. Chemistry will have a particular bearing on modern forensics and DNA technology.

The fellowship's minimum requirements are the same as the honors program, a high school grade point average of 3.5 and an ACT score of 25. The average freshman entering the honors program brings a GPA of 3.7 and an ACT score of 29, which means that the typical Buchanan Fellowship member will perform well beyond

those minimums.

"But that doesn't mean we judge them based just on those criteria," Mathis said of the requirements.

In addition, candidates will be evaluated for a "whole range of things that make for a diverse and desirable class each year," including gender, socio-economic background and involvement in the community.

"We will have a lot of information on each applicant on which to base their suitability for the Buchanan Fellowship," Mathis said. "There will be a special application form, and they will be required to write an essay."

Twenty incoming freshmen will receive the Buchanan Fellowship in fall of 2007, followed by another 20 the following fall and continuing until it reaches the total enrollment of 80 Buchanan Fellowship members, all funded by the scholarship.

While the fellowship will provide funding for out-of-state tuition, it does not give housing allowance. Recipients, however, will be eligible for honors housing if they so choose. There is no requirement for them to cluster.

Another intention of the fellowship, Mathis said, is that it addresses what he called a "brain

drain" in Tennessee resulting from students enrolling in universities outside of the state.

"Often when they stay at home, they end up living their lives here and contributing to our economy and to the intellectual and cultural life of the state," Mathis said. "The honors college at

MTSU is just one of a few programs around the state designed to attract students who might otherwise pursue opportunities out of state."

The program will also help students after they graduate.

"Buchanan Fellowships should support some continued success among those students that seek to attend such prestigious universities as Oxford or Yale," Mathis said.

More than two-thirds of the students in the honors program go on to medical, graduate or law school, Mathis said.

"They've had the most improved record of entering the most elite schools," Mathis said.

Mathis expects the Buchanan Fellowship to continue that trend, providing stu-

dents with as many options as possible, including "admission to top schools that we want our students to be able to go to when they get done here."

**Buchanan Fellowships should support some continued success among those students that seek to attend such prestigious universities as Oxford or Yale.**

Philip Mathis  
Dean of the  
College of University Honors

## Canvassing: Students need permission to post flyers

Continued from 1

application on such property." Fitch noted that this policy was enacted two years ago in an effort to beautify the campus.

If information is obtained regarding a group involved with graffiti, then the group is brought in and reprimanded for its actions. Very few problems have occurred as a result of the regulations, Victory said.

"There's been a couple instances to go through Judicial Affairs, but it doesn't happen often," she said.

Fitch added that about one to two incidents occur per month. The offenders are called in to the Student Life office and warned, with subsequent offenses resulting in stronger penalties.

To ensure that illegal advertisements do not remain posted, the evening building staffs are instructed

to throw away any flyers or posters that do not have an administrative stamp of approval. Victory says that the Student Life staff is constantly on the lookout for illegal advertisements and will often tear them down.

"There are administrators that look for those sort of things," said Victory.

Although students are often guilty of prohibited advertisements, the main problem stems from local places of business. Any solicitation by outside companies is prohibited, but Fitch said that the majority of illegal advertisements are posted from off-campus vendors.

"Seventy to 80 percent of what is posted is from outside establishments," Fitch said.

Although it is difficult to assist these establishments, the administrative staffs are accommodating toward them, as well as their priori-

ty, the student body. Fitch encouraged students to promote on-campus programs, but he urged them to contact the administrations of each building before posting advertisements.

Fitch also suggested three guidelines that will assist students in the process of advertising on campus. Students and off-campus advertisers should know the policies, maintain respect for the campus, and contact the Office of Student Organizations and Community Service for any questions.

Policies regarding advertisements can be found in the Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook. Fitch stressed that communication with the proper authorities will ensure a successful publicity effort.

"The opportunities are there to get [students'] message across," said Fitch.

## MySpace: Opinions from employers vary

Continued from 1

said. "We have a contract that we sign that says we can't let out sale information. So if it's a breach of contract, sure, they can be fired."

In addition to photos and comments posted on Web sites like Facebook and MySpace, many students put themselves on display through personal Web logs, or blogs.

John Merchant, a graduate student for recording industry arts and technology said he had no sympathy for students who experience consequences for something they post in a blog.

"It is a publicly viewable document," he said. "It's

like posting something on a wall and saying 'I have a reasonable claim to privacy.'"

Caution is the name of the game where the Internet is concerned, said Anantha Babbili, dean of the college of Mass Communications.

"Whenever you have a leap in technology, you have to see the positive and negative aspects of it," Babbili said. "The positive is that your expression is seen and experienced by many people. The negative aspect is that it invades your privacy, and it is the latter that will have an effect on how you will be shaped."

"My true advice is, don't be vulnerable to information about you in the public arena. Be cautious."

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incoming class of  
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Good Luck!

# OPINIONS

## From the Editorial Board

### Incident at Greek Row shows Beta values face over safety

Michael Morrison, a member of the Beta Theta Pi house was injured Sunday night after being hit in the head by another member in the fraternity's house. According to the police report, suspect William Vinson admitted he had struck Morrison, with what was later stated to have been a pool cue. The incident occurred Sunday night around 11:00 p.m. However, it was not reported to the police until 6:10 p.m. the following day.

Gentry McCreary, director of Greek Life, said that Morrison initially refused medical treatment, and at 10:30 Monday morning, Morrison was fine. "When they checked on him later, he was unresponsive," according to an MTSU press release. Since the police were not called until 6 p.m., it can be reasoned that Morrison was not checked on until around that time.

Why did the fraternity wait so long before seeking medical attention for this man, and why didn't anyone check on him for almost eight hours? According to MTSU Police Chief Buddy Peaster, alcohol was involved in the incident. While it is not stated in the report that Morrison, 19, was drinking, it does claim that drinking was occurring in the house on Greek Row at the time of the incident. Was Beta Theta Pi too concerned with the repercussions of being caught drinking on a dry campus to seek medical attention for one of its members?

Being Greek can be a difficult line to walk. On the one hand, Greeks are one of the most visible groups on campus, and are often held up to more criticism and harsher judgments than most, and expected to show a good example. At the same time, they are also often dismissed as being drinking partiers more concerned with socializing than education. The incident at Beta Theta Pi involved only its members, and thus, the actions are theirs alone, and these comments do not necessarily apply to the other Greeks.

If the members of this house cannot be to act maturely and responsibly, perhaps there should be some sort of system to monitor them. Every other sort of living arrangement on campus has resident advisors and routine inspections to prevent things like this.

According to the Beta Theta Pi Web site, their goal is to "identify and pledge men on MTSU campus who are committed to being the best...in leadership roles, in the community, and in their relationships with others." Too bad this fraternity seems more concerned with keeping face than ensuring the safety of its members.

## Letter to the Editor

### So-called contraceptive is still murder

To the Editor:

The recent editorial in *Sidelines* online, "Plan B acceptable contraceptive, a safe alternative to abortion" (Sept. 1, 2006,) misinforms your readers concerning the manner in which the so-called emergency, contraceptive pill regimen works.

Here are the facts. A human being begins at fertilization. From that moment on, a brand new person, with its own unique DNA, is in existence. Plan B has the potential to destroy this human being during her first seven days of life.

According to the drug's own manufacturer, one of the ways in which the pill works is to irritate the lining of the uterine wall to prevent the newly formed baby from implanting in the womb. "Contraception," as defined literally, does not kill; Plan B can and does.

Thus, despite what the media or the Food and Drug Administration or even the medical community chooses to say, the so-called emergency, contraceptive pill regimen can and does kill.

No woman, including the mother of a human being in the earliest stages of development, has a right to kill by pill, by device, or by any other means.

Amber Dolle  
Media Director American Life League

## Don't make stem cells victims of abortion-based grudge

The religio-ethical debate over stem cell research rages on and off like pocket-insurgence in some nameless Middle Eastern war. It's a muddle of pointless and righteous phonies, so let's wade right in.

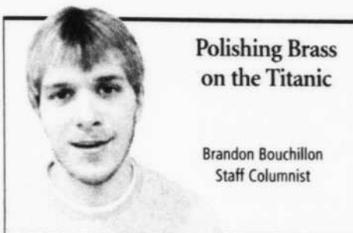
Stem cells are unspecialized cells which never received instructions on what body part to become. They remain amorphous, and this pliability lends itself to a number of scientific uses. Spinal cord injury, Parkinson's disease, diabetes and heart failure are just a few of the defects these cells could be used to combat.

Embryonic stem cells come from human embryos, the type some mothers choose to abort. Another type, called adult stem cells, are extracted from the umbilical cord and bone marrow. This type has shown a number of health advances already, but their numbers aren't nearly so readily available as the embryonic type.

Here's where our blessed moral majority sees a catch. Pat Robertson would have us believe that since the most promising stem cells come from aborted babies, then they're inadmissible for scientific use. Robertson feels that life begins upon conception, as soon as a female egg is fertilized.

Trying to pin down the precise moment a mass of cells ceases to be just building blocks and begins its human life is just semantics. What's sad is the religious right sees abortion as a definitive end. They can't possibly condone using 'soon-to-be-thrown-out' embryonic cells for scientific research and to ultimately help the living.

This demon right of choice that has been with us since *Roe v. Wade* doesn't seem to be retreating, and it plagues the Jerry Falwells of this world.



Polishing Brass on the Titanic

Brandon Bouchillon  
Staff Columnist

The battle they never won over abortion blinds them; it eclipses the fact that terminated pregnancies are a sad-but-true reality. Like it or not, abortions happen thousands of times a day. It's a right women have grabbed a hold of and run with because their lives, their bodies and their decisions are entirely their concern.

These abortions leave us with mountains of decomposing 'might-have-beens.' From our opposing stances of religion and individualism, one obvious question arises - what do we do with these remains?

Society has only two viable options. One option is they pile up and biodegrade, becoming even more forgotten and serving no purpose, save for long ago been the outcome of some ill-conceived pairing. Under option A, these stem cells never mattered. They amount to medical waste.

The second option is that we can recycle these lives that almost were. Use them to fight against disease, to heal the sick and to help in the re-growth of life, which, though it cannot justify its original use in the slightest of their death.

Our heap of aborted 'potential' can be either thrown away or recycled back into human life through aiding advances in health science. A California biotech company, Advanced

Cell Technology, recently published research claiming they could harvest stem cells while still leaving the embryo intact. Their method extracts a single cell from an embryo, and this solitary cell can grow a chains of stem cells. Though, admittedly a slow procedure, here we see the first sign of middle ground in the stem cell debate.

Of course, Falwell still wouldn't dream of condoning such stem cell research. Now why, if his real issue is the preservation of human life, would he care what science does with already-terminated fetuses? Why should he care that researchers are turning our abortive reality into medical advancement, battling debilitating disease with the weapons at hand and using what the sad, potential abortion leaves us with to seek out some good?

Apparently, he shouldn't. So this must mean Falwell, and the 'moral' majority, still harbor some deep-seated grudge over abortion as an issue. They conceded the fight, and the right of choice became more than just a notion. And it sticks in the sides of the "holier-than-thous" to this day.

The loss of them the twisted so much that it forms for them this righted rationality, one that justifies their delusion of opposing stem cell research.

They remind me of a small child in the midst of a squabble who says, "If I can't have it, no one can," then smashes some coveted toy into a hundred pieces.

No, tell me, Mr. Falwell, where is the logic in that?

Brandon Bouchillon is a junior mass communications major and can be reached at [bcb2r@mtsu.edu](mailto:bcb2r@mtsu.edu).

## Tennesseans deserve truth regarding governor's health

The Pew Research Center polled several thousand Americans, and roughly two-thirds of those polled responded negatively to the question, "Do you trust the government?"

Recent federal and state-level occurrences have dramatically reduced the amount of trust American people put in government.

Democrats and Republicans alike usually quickly identify Nixon's Watergate scandal as a turning point in the relationship between American government and her people; however, the concept of scandal did not originate from one paranoid president's dream of re-election. As long as humans have relied on governments for protection, scandal and deceit have been forces in the equation.

Most recent and relevant in the lives of Tennesseans is the deceptive approach Governor Phil Bredesen took to his alleged "tick



Hurt Pride

Matt Hurt  
Staff Columnist

bite" and the subsequent treatment for it lasting a few weeks.

Every legislator and political consultant outside of the Bredesen administration suggested the illness was something far worse than Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever; from cancer to AIDS, the rumors and faulty diagnoses spread like wildfire.

With legislators and lobbyists suspecting the worst, Bredesen did little to comfort Tennesseans. According to Tennessee Code Annotated, no clear plan of succession exists if the governor is too sick to carry out his duties.

In fact, the sitting governor must first die before the lieutenant governor, currently John Wilder

of West Tennessee, can assume the role.

Lydia Lenker, former news anchor from Nashville and current director of communications for Bredesen, did little to answer questions and respond to comments made by the public.

What motivated her and the rest of those in Bredesen's administration to avoid the truth?

Even though health is oftentimes a serious and private matter, the public should be kept informed of a leader's health such as the governor's illness. Even the president's illness makes headline news every year.

What are we as Tennesseans supposed to think when the governor flies to the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota for something as simple as a tick bite? The last news released by Bredesen's doctor did not include a complete diagnosis.

Antibiotics can easily cure both Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Lyme Disease. Not to men-

tion, diagnosing the two diseases is even easier. Why then was the doctor's response, "No clear diagnosis?" Following logic and reason, the governor clearly was not battling a mere "tick bite."

This incident follows a string of democratic scandals. From bribery to fraud to corruption, Tennessee Democrats can not seem to stay out of legal matters.

Is it too much for citizens to ask for honesty in government? Why do politicians feel the need to keep us from the truth?

Bredesen's illness raises one other very important question; are we as Tennesseans ready to be led by a man - Lt. Gov. John Wilder - who routinely consults the "cosmos" to sustain over the Senate and seeks sustenance in the matter he finds in his nose?

I think not.

Matt Hurt is a sophomore liberal arts major and can be reached at [mch2x@mtsu.edu](mailto:mch2x@mtsu.edu).

## Irwin's passion for life's work a model worth following

It is one of those things that you don't believe at first, because it's one of those things that seems impossible. That's why it took a few minutes to realize that it wasn't a hoax and that Steve Irwin, Australia's excitable conservationist and television personality, had actually died.

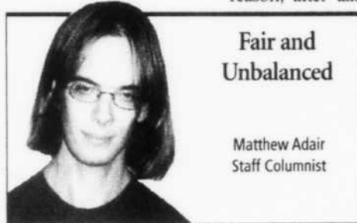
It's almost fitting that The Crocodile Hunter died immersed - literally - in what he loved doing. His need to get a little closer happened to be too close for once, leaving him with not enough time or space to get out of the way before a sting ray hit him in the heart. People around the world seem to be as shocked as I was at first. This can't be real; the man was practically immortal from danger like he'd put himself in before.

Part of me envies the life he led, though. He worked as much as any man could with something he was obsessively passionate about. It was even something he could bring the whole family into. We were taken into the wild, following the camera into danger, wondering if he was going to get his limbs torn off this time or not. People were riveted to what they saw, and he milked every moment of it to show everyone just what was out there.

It makes you feel a little smaller, doesn't it? It's not just what we saw that does that to us, though - it was the fact that he was a guy who loved his job. How many of us can say that with a straight face?

People call their jobs 'the daily grind' for a

reason, after all.



Fair and Unbalanced

Matthew Adair  
Staff Columnist

either) and not just in your back account, either) and hardly motivating. We come home exhausted and dread going back again the next day. It's draining, and we hardly have the chance to catch our breath before starting over again.

The fact that we get paid next to nothing for all of this just adds insult to injury. So, why do we put up with it?

It's widely accepted that a better mood increases productivity, so what better way to do so than doing something that you enjoy? Why not make a little money on the side for it, while you're at it? You probably won't get rich, but it beats flipping burgers for gas money, at least.

The reality, of course, is that service jobs are usually the only work we can get while in college. We're young, not going anywhere anytime soon and desperate for a paycheck. It's work that needs to be done, anyway, so why

not give it to us? However, when the largest industry in the United States is one full of positions that require no education, minimal training and present few opportunities, it's worth wondering what's going on here. What happened to wanting more out of life?

What we should do is simply do something else. Work 'the grind' to pay the bills, but do something else that's important to you. Do it on the weekends, or whenever else you have time. Make time, if need be.

Find something that's important that, when you get up at eight in the morning, you wouldn't mind doing. If whatever it is you choose doesn't make you feel that way, you probably haven't thought about it hard enough.

It's easy to get caught in the race to keep up with the cost of living. However, we all spent our childhoods with ideas in our heads of what we wanted to do when we grew up. Those might have changed since then, but it's probably something more exciting than being a cashier at your local department store.

It's time to put those daydreams into action. Irwin had plenty of wide-eyed enthusiasm to go around, with all. It wouldn't hurt to take some of it with us.

Matthew Adair is a senior art education major and can be reached at [matt.adair@gmail.com](mailto:matt.adair@gmail.com).

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# FEATURES

## Student DJs rock the airwaves

By Jared Brickey

Contributing Writer

What does it take to be a disk jockey?

Driving home at night after a tough day at school or on the job, sometimes the only company to be found comes from the radio. A soft voice preceding hits, classic or new, making humorous quips between songs that can help listeners slough off the day's tension and relax at home. But how do those voices get on the air?

"I guess the most important thing is to be doing it for the music," said William Fancher, a senior who has been a DJ at WMTS, MTSU's radio station, for seven semesters.

"Sometime around my freshman year, I got it in my head to start a radio show," he said. "I was into music, and I had a big enough collection that I felt otherwise I'm not going to listen to. I had heard of a student-run station, so I thought it might be kind of fun to do a show."

Of course, becoming a DJ, professionally or for a student-based station, isn't as easy as writing down a name down on an application. A two-month period is spent producing a number of episodes before a test is given to see if the applicant can perform on the air.

It may sound like a lot of work, but the station isn't hurting for applicants since there's no shortage of aspiring DJs. The more unique the show, the harder it will be to find a slot for it in the week. After going through these processes, applicants



Graphic by  
Blake Arnold  
Kirstin Johnson

begin an internship with an accomplished DJ and an established show.

"The internship is mostly that you sit in with a show, and the DJ there sort of shows you what to do on a technical aspect – how to work the board and troubleshooting things," Fancher said. "He shows you certain on-air etiquettes, and what you can say and can't say with university radio."

Even if it's lengthy ordeal to get a show, Fancher said he believes it's very doable.

"It's a pretty painless process, getting in," Fancher said. "I started as an intern on a show in the fall of 2003 [as a sophomore]. I interned on a show that was pretty close to the kind of music that I wanted to play, and the next semester I applied for a show, and I got one, and I've been doing it ever since."

Being a DJ isn't all fun and games, though. After getting a show, the work begins to pick up as planning and preparation comes into play before each program, Fancher said.

"What I do, and what I have done in the past, is sometime during the week I'll read what I call my 'pattern,' which is a few minutes of monologue which I'll start the show with," Fancher said. "Then I'll maybe write some other stuff to go at the top of the next hour, and every once in a while I'll do theme shows."

Fancher explained that planning is a continual process, one that begins during the week, but one that doesn't leave once you start the show. After so much time doing so many shows, preparation and knowing the material comes into play, he said.

"I have, as I come into the studio, an idea of what the first three or four songs I'm going to play are," he

said. "From there, I'll feel it as I go and time it out as best as possible. I have a pretty good idea of how long the songs I play are, so I can hit when the station breaks are supposed to be."

The technical aspects of being a DJ are only one facet of the job, however, the performance aspect of the show is just as important, if not more so, Fancher said.

"So many of the shows out there that play good music are forgettable, they're anonymous," he said. "Being yourself isn't always such a good thing, because frankly most people are fairly boring when they're being themselves. Make it interesting. Think about what you would want to listen to."

For Fancher, a part of his job is his performance. Not only does he see being a DJ as his job, he sees his job as similar to voice acting for a cartoon as he steps away from himself and into a character he portrays for entertainment between songs.

"You have a few DJs that are more performance based," he said. "They're more doing a show, and that's something you don't find on a lot of the shows – a lot of effort put into the presentation beyond the music. Even though the music was a big thing for me, over the years my show has been more performance."

Willie Dynamite, Furious George Mitchell and even the SGA candidate Norman "Lefty" Leftwich are all characters Fancher has played on different programs. Many DJs develop a persona, but never

### The Need to Know:

**Want to have your voice heard across the air waves? Doing so requires a balancing act of planning and performance. Take these tips from veteran DJ Will Fancher:**

- ◆ Don't expect to be handed a microphone right away since the application and internship process can take more than two months
- ◆ Create an on-air persona for yourself you would want to listen to
- ◆ Practice becoming that persona
- ◆ Find a niche for your show, but keep in mind that more unique shows are harder to schedule for
- ◆ Planning is key – monologues and play lists need to be arranged ahead of time

Being yourself isn't always such a good thing, because frankly, most people are fairly boring when they're being themselves.

Will Fancher  
Student DJ at WMTS

fully explore another character.

Fancher said he feels this is something that could certainly change, as the response he's received for his work on his show, "Willie Dynamite Presents," has been mostly positive.

"I was going back and forth to work and testing out voices in the car, talking to myself and testing out ideas I had," he said with a grin.

After a good run with Willie Dynamite, Fancher said he feels it's time to move on as he approaches graduation.

Deciding to retire Willie in favor of moving on to a new show based more on himself, Fancher has appropriately titled what may be his next program as the "World Famous Will Fancher Radio Show." After the SGA experiment with Norman Leftwich, anything's possible – he could even become homecoming king.

## Students living in dorms enjoy social benefits

By Stacy Williams

Contributing Writer

Moving away from home to live with a complete stranger can be a frightening concept to grasp, but emerging from the experience, whether scarred or not, can be an important factor in personal development during college.

A student's experience at their first home away from home will have a big impact on their academic career and social life. Although it seems frightening or crazy to some, dormitory life is something every student should experience, said Sarah Sudak, director of MTSU Student Housing.

"[While living on campus,] students learn how to negotiate, how to make friends, how to have a conversation," she said. "But it takes a certain person who's interested in meeting a diverse group of people."

This year, 2,800 students – the maximum capacity of campus housing – decided they were willing to experience the diversity, even if community baths and resident assistants were part of the package, Sudak said.

Of course, on-campus living is not for everyone, but MTSU is working hard to try to accommodate different students' needs by remodeling on-campus residence halls. This

\$70 million, 10-year project involves working on restoring several dorms, including Monohan Hall, Reynolds Hall, Schardt Hall and six buildings of Wornack Lane Apartments, Sudak said.

With Murfreesboro growing, there will soon be more space for both locals and students off campus, but while apartment complexes are a great fit for many, there are plenty of aspects of dorm life that can make the first year away from home easier, Sudak said.

On-campus residents are provided the "complete package," which includes a variety of meal plans, tutoring assistants and 24-hour access to a computer lab. While on campus, residents also experience a sense of belonging, she said.

Whether engaging in an intellectual conversation in the laundry room or attending classes with others from the same dorm, there are priceless memories being made and shared between dorm residents. This opportunity for connections is the key benefit to living in the dorms, Sudak said.

"When you build those connections, both academically and socially, then students are retained here at the institution," she said. "They graduate at higher numbers, and they feel that connection."

[Living in a dorm] just helps to add to the whole university experience. If I had to drive to school everyday, it would feel almost like a job.

Andy Harness  
Junior media communications major

The positive feedback from students and parents about the on-campus experience is why MTSU started the renovation program, Sudak said.

"Students liked the learning communities in [Jim] Cummings [Hall] and Corlew [Hall], so we are planning to set those up in other dorms," she said.

While supporting the academic mission is high on Sudak's priority list, students tend to have other focuses.

Freshman Nick Bridges wanted to meet people. He said he chose Scarlett Commons Apartments because he "didn't want to share a bathroom with a bunch of guys."

Scarlett Commons also provides easy access to campus and is close enough to ride a bike to classes, so parking and traffic jams aren't an issue, Bridges said.

In fact, Student Housing began working directly with MTSU Parking Services so residents will be able to park close to their dorms. No one should have to walk from Murphy Center to Felder Hall in the middle of the night, Sudak said.

Other than ease of access, the quality of campus life is also based on its facilities, space and variety, Sudak said. Students and their parents want a dorm room to feel like home. This is one of the main reasons for the renovation program.

But if variety with less restriction is important, then why not rent an apartment? As far as Sudak is concerned, the two are different enough to warrant a nod to the adage of comparing apples and oranges.

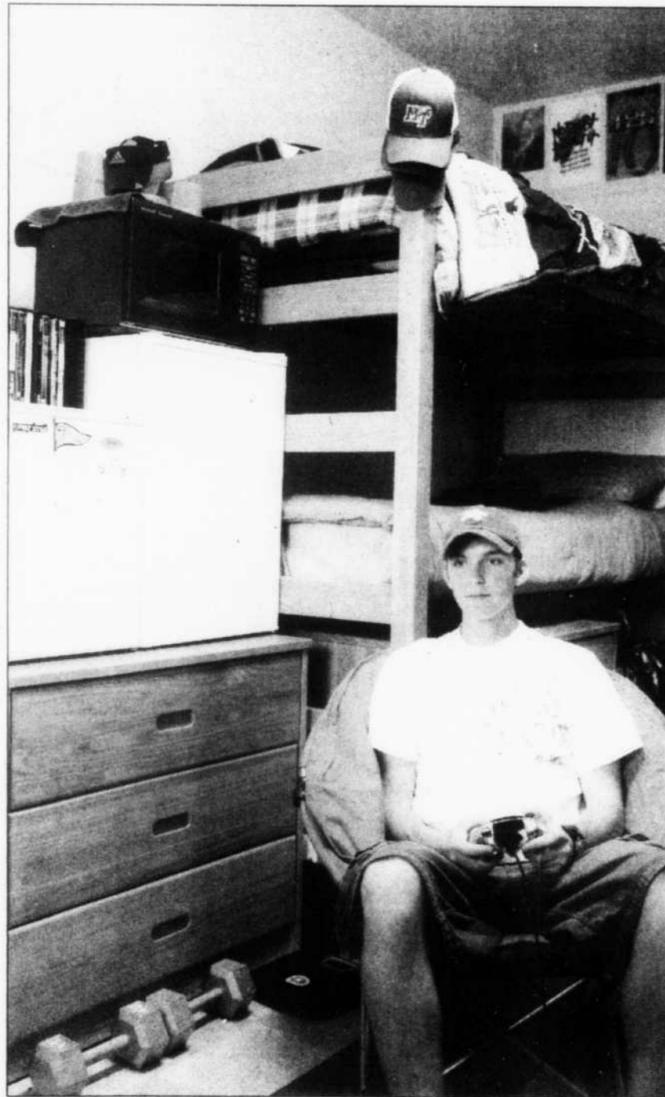


Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

Junior media communications major Andy Harness' dorm room has more than enough room for the mandatory electronic toys. Halo parties and the other social aspects of dorm life are a big draw for many students, student housing officials said.

"I don't compare what we do with off-campus [housing] because I think we're very different," she said. "We're really focused on the academic mission, and we don't want to connect them to a facility as much as the institution, their major, their faculty and other students."

This sense of community is a strong draw for a junior media communications major, Andy Harness, who lives in Judd Hall.

"It's a good community experience," he

said. "I've met some of my best friends living in the dorms, and I don't think I would have met those people if I had lived in an apartment."

Convenience factors into his living arrangement, too, though.

"With the way that parking is, [living on campus] is a whole lot easier," he said. "I guess it just helps to add to the whole university experience. If I had to drive to school everyday, it would feel almost like a job."

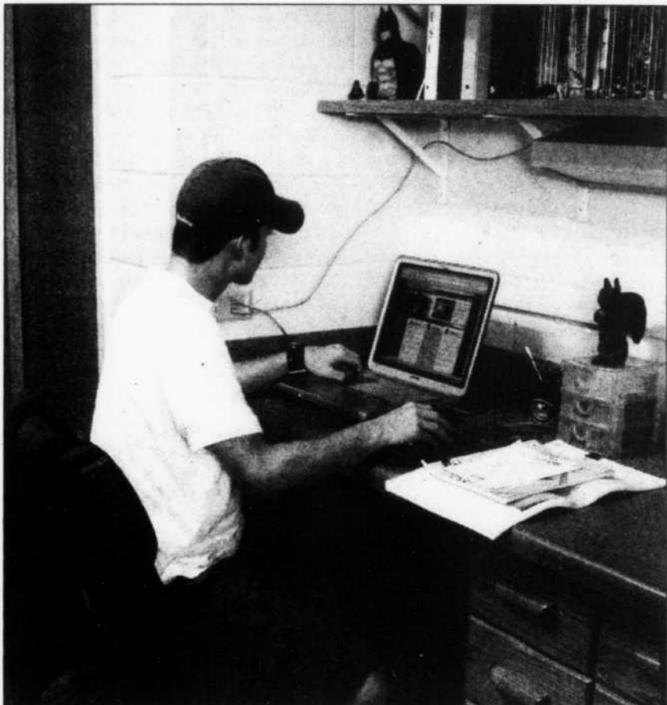


Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

Junior media communications major Andy Harness sits in his Judd Hall dorm room. Harness said remaining on campus was convenient because parking wasn't an issue.

# SPORTS



Blue Raider Sarah Beth Lee goes in for the kick around a Jacksonville opponent in a 4-1 win Sunday at Blue Raider Field. The win brings the team to 4-0-0 on the season, with a 15-game winning streak at home.

Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

## MT pulls out one victory

By Wade Neely  
Staff Writer

After losing two games in as many days in the Nebraska Volleyball Tournament, the Blue Raiders were staring a fruitless trip right between the eyes.

After falling to Long Beach State 3-1 Friday and the host Nebraska Cornhuskers 3-0 Saturday, the Blue Raiders managed to eke out a win over St. Mary's by a score of 3-2.

After falling to Long Beach State, the Blue Raiders needed to regroup quickly if they were to upset Nebraska, who entered the game as the No. 1 team in the nation. That didn't happen, as the Cornhuskers held the Blue Raiders to their lowest hitting percentage of the season.

Nebraska also forced the Blue Raiders into 30 errors.

The Blue Raiders got off to a solid start Sunday against St. Mary's, winning the first game 30-24, but the Gaels responded with a 30-23 win in the second game. The Blue Raiders then put away 26 kills and took the third game, 36-34.

The Gaels won Game 4 30-23, putting the Blue Raiders in danger of going 0-3 for the tournament. After being down 8-3 in the final game, the Blue Raiders responded in a big way, coming all the way back to win the game 15-13 and the match 3-2.

On the individual front, sophomore Ashley Adams, who was named to the All-Tournament team, recorded 24 kills in the victory. Adams also had 45 kills throughout the tournament, averaging 3.75 kills per game in the three matches. Adams also netted a .214 attack percentage in the Blue Raider's only victory of the tournament.

The Blue Raiders face Miami of Ohio Friday in Murfreesboro.

## MT remains undefeated thus far, continues home winning streak

By Tony Stinett

Courtesy of MT Media Relations

The Blue Raider Soccer Express continues to roll. Middle Tennessee turned back Jacksonville State 4-1 in front of 420 fans Sunday at Blue Raider Field to win its third straight Middle Tennessee Soccer Classic.

In the process, MT improved to 4-0-0 to start the season; increased its win streak to 15 at Blue Raider Field; won its 10th consecutive regular season match dating to last season; and delivered fifth-year head coach Aston Rhoden his 50th win at MT.

"This was a very good showing by our team in this tournament, and I'm proud of their play in both games," said Rhoden, who is the winningest coach in program history with a 50-28-7 mark.

When asked what the highlight of those 50 wins would be, Rhoden responded, "It would be hard to say which would be a highlight because the one I want hasn't happened yet, which is to get into the NCAA Tournament. That would be the highlight."

The Blue Raiders built a 3-0 lead and secured the victory to conclude a four-match homestand to start the season.

Holly Grogan, Kala Morgan, Sara Wohlhueter and Ingrid Christensen were named to the All-Tournament team, with Grogan being named Offensive MVP and Christensen earning the Defensive MVP award, as voted on by a five-member tournament committee.

Grogan capped a hot start to the season with her fourth goal of the season to open the scoring. Kala Morgan delivered a cross in the box to Grogan, who beat her defender inside and smashed a shot into the far left corner for a 1-0 lead in the 11th minute.

The score would hold until the 27th minute, when Morgan and Jen Threlkeld teamed on an assist to Mary Zapapas, who finished strong for her second career goal and a 2-0 Blue Raider lead.

Threlkeld, who scored two goals and assisted on another, finished the first-half scoring in the 35th minute when she took a header from Kathrine Andresen and sent it past the keeper from 10 yards out to send the Blue Raiders into the half with a 3-0 lead.

"We were expecting Jacksonville State to basically be the type of team that would sit in and try to counterattack and they did just that," Rhoden said. "I think we changed some things in our lineup to prevent the counterattack and it paid off – plus, we were very aggressive and attacking on offense, and that led to several scoring chances."

The Blue Raiders, who outshot the Gamecocks 24-6,

added its final goal when Threlkeld headed in a corner from Kim Farrant in the 47th minute. Daniela Malta scored JSU's only goal in the 67th minute to deny the Blue Raiders their first shutout of the season.

The Blue Raiders utilized every player on their roster in the championship triumph, which was decided by goal differential. MT and Western Kentucky each went 2-0 in the Classic; however, the Blue Raiders had a plus-5 goal differential to the Hilltoppers' plus-3.

WKU turned back Evansville 1-0 in overtime in the earlier contest Sunday.

In the Blue Raiders' opening game, Grogan engineered a hard-fought 3-1 win against Evansville Friday night.

Grogan powered in two goals and assisted Morgan on another as MT put itself in position to win the Classic for the third time in as many tries.

"This Evansville team, I think, is the best team we have played thus far and the toughest team we have played," Rhoden said. "I don't think the score reflects how close this game was. This was a very good win for us."

Grogan continued her torrid start to the 2006 season with five points in the contest against the Purple Aces (1-1).

"This team has been brilliant at the start, and I think the biggest thing is we play so well together," Grogan said. "The atmosphere has been great and our team chemistry is very good. We are all contributing in different ways, and that's a good thing because it makes us difficult to defend."

Defending Grogan was no easy task Friday as she moved into a tie for first on the career game-winning goals list at MT with the 10th of her career.

She was at her best in the clutch against Evansville with two second-half goals to break a 1-1 deadlock and help keep the Blue Raiders perfect on the season.

The forward earned her third assist of the season when she chipped a pass to Morgan, who pounced on the loose ball in the box and knocked it past a stranded Whitney Raeon in goal in the fourth minute.

Evansville tied the score 1-1 in the 11th minute on Kayla Lambert's second goal of the season, and the game remained tied until the intermission.

"Evansville is a very physical team and we challenged our team at the half," Rhoden said. "We talked to them about protecting what is our house and to make sure we get back to doing what we like to do, which is make teams defend us. We defended way too much in the first half for the type of players we have."

MT gained the lead thanks to Morgan, who passed



Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

Mary Zapapas draws back for a kick in Sunday's game against Jacksonville. Zapapas's goal brought her to two for her career at MT.

two defenders before finding Threlkeld, whose shot was punched clear by Raeon. Grogan swooped up the rebound and volleyed it past Raeon and into the net for what proved to be the game-winner in the 46th minute.

Grogan saved her best for last, however, as she chased down an overhead ball from the right side, turned and faced the goal, cut inside her defender and unleashed a shot into the far top corner to put the finishing touches on the win.

MT continued to receive outstanding defensive play, particularly in the second half. The Blue Raiders have not allowed a second-half goal and are outscoring the opposition 6-0 after the break. MT sophomore keeper Courtney Fortner had two saves and curtailed two other scoring opportunities in one-on-one chances to improve to 4-0 in goal for her career. Fortner's only start as a freshman came at Evansville, a 2-1 MT win.

"She had a very good performance – I guess she likes playing Evansville," Rhoden said. "She came up big against them last year and when we needed her tonight, she came up big."

The Blue Raiders travel to Knoxville to open the University of Tennessee Tournament against Mercer University on Friday.

## Four MT runners finish in top 50 at opener

By Wade Neely

Staff Writer

The Blue Raiders had four runners finish in the top 50 at the Belmont Opener at Percy Warner Park on Friday in the season opener for both Middle Tennessee squads.

Senior Sara Lunning led the female squad with a 49th-place finish on the 4K course with a time of 16:13.53, while junior Tony Carufe led the male

squad with a 44th-place finish. Carufe's 17:17.37 bested teammate Phillip Benevides, who finished second for the Blue Raiders at 17:32.06.

Rounding out the girls' times, Marjorie Gombert finished 58th overall, running a 16:43.38, while Sangau Zamzam made her Blue Raider debut with a 17:27.32 time, good enough for 63rd overall.

Ashleigh Thaler finished 68th with a time of 18:00.29, while fellow sophomores Tiffany Sawyer and Catherine

Chester finished in 69th and 71st positions, respectively, with times of 18:03.36 and 18:08.53.

The female squad was without last season's top runner in Ashley Comstock, who did not participate due to an ankle injury.

On the men's side, Matt Young finished in 49th with a time of 17:52.57, while sophomores Luke Pfleger and Ryan Hood finished in 52nd and 53rd positions, respectively.

"We ran well for the first race of the

year, about what we expected," MT head coach Dean Hayes told MT Media Relations. "It hurts not having Ashley run, and right now we're still waiting on at least one more guy. We'll keep working and building one meet at a time."

The Blue Raiders will run again this weekend at the UTC Opener at Moccasin Bend Course in Chattanooga.

Courtesy of MT Media Relations

Middle Tennessee kicker Colby Smith was named the Sun Belt Conference Special Teams Player of the Week Monday for his performance in Thursday's season-opening win over Florida International. It marks the second player of the week honor for Smith during his career and the eighth special team's award for the Blue Raiders since they entered the league in 2001.

Smith enjoyed one of the best punting nights in Blue Raider history Thursday, while also providing the extra point that proved to be the difference in MT's 7-6 win. Smith averaged 43.4 yards on nine punt attempts, with four of his punts falling inside the 20-yard line.

Smith's biggest effort proved to be the play of the game. With less than seven minutes left in the fourth quarter, Smith had to punt from his own end zone on a fourth-and-seven play from the 5-yard line. Smith boomed a 79-yard punt that was downed on FIU's 16-yard line, and the Golden Panthers were unable to recover.

Smith's punt went down as the second longest in MT history and equaled the conference record.

## Football: At Tucker Theater

Continued from 1

The rest of the game belonged to MTSU. Big penalties and huge special teams mistakes marred a strong effort by FIU. MTSU managed to avoid those kinds of mistakes.

As coach Stockskill said at Tuesday's press luncheon, "I was proud...from the whole possession standpoint we didn't have a lot of game penalties, we didn't have 12 guys on the field. Things like that can sometimes happen in the first game."

It was just that kind of mistake that helped MTSU on the way to their only scoring drive. The second quarter possession seemed destined to end in a punt after quarterback Clint Marks was sacked for the fourth time on a third down and 9 play. The Panther defender who sacked him, however, received an unsportsmanlike conduct call. After several big runs by Eugene Gross, 47 yards on 6 carries, the drive resulted in a MT touchdown. With less than a minute left in the half, MTSU was in position to control the field yet again.

The second half was a fierce defensive battle and one that the Blue Raiders seemed determined to win. The evenly matched teams were unable to gain a real edge with their offenses. Both coaches knew that they wouldn't be able to pull together an 80 yard drive. Field possession quickly became the most important element of the game. In that situation, coach

Stockskill must have known he had an edge in his All-SBC kicker Colby Smith. As one of only nine players in all of I-A football who kicks punts, placekicking and kick offs, Smith probably started the night hoping he'd be lining for more field goals than punts. But late in the fourth quarter his strong leg still had a chance to win the game for the Blue Raiders. Standing on the very back edge of the endzone as the fourth quarter drew to a close he took that ball and kicked it 79 yards across the field. He kicked it so high, and so hard that FIU's return man, John Whiddon, didn't have a chance to catch it. The ball took an MTSU bounce and rolled past the FIU 20 putting MTSU right where they wanted to be, in control of the field, the clock, and the game.

That Smith closed the game with another perfect punt in the closing seconds was fitting. Ball control, a tough attitude and nearly mistake-free play brought a young MTSU team its first opening night win in five years. Thursday's game showed that football is about more than touchdowns and stats. Sometimes it's the just team that does less to lose the game that gets the win. While that's hardly a new idea to most football fans the Blue Raiders have long been on the wrong side of that logic. Maybe all that excitement in the air before kick-off really was justified. And maybe, just maybe MTSU is finally becoming a football school.



Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

MTSU scored the ultimately-winning touchdown of the game just minutes before the end of the first half, driving into the end zone on the strength of a 47-yard six-carry push by Eugene Gross. Coach Stockskill expressed his pleasure with the team at his weekly press luncheon Tuesday: "I was proud...from the whole possession standpoint we didn't have delay of game penalties, we didn't have 12 guys on the field. Things like that can sometimes happen in the first game."



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Continued from last column

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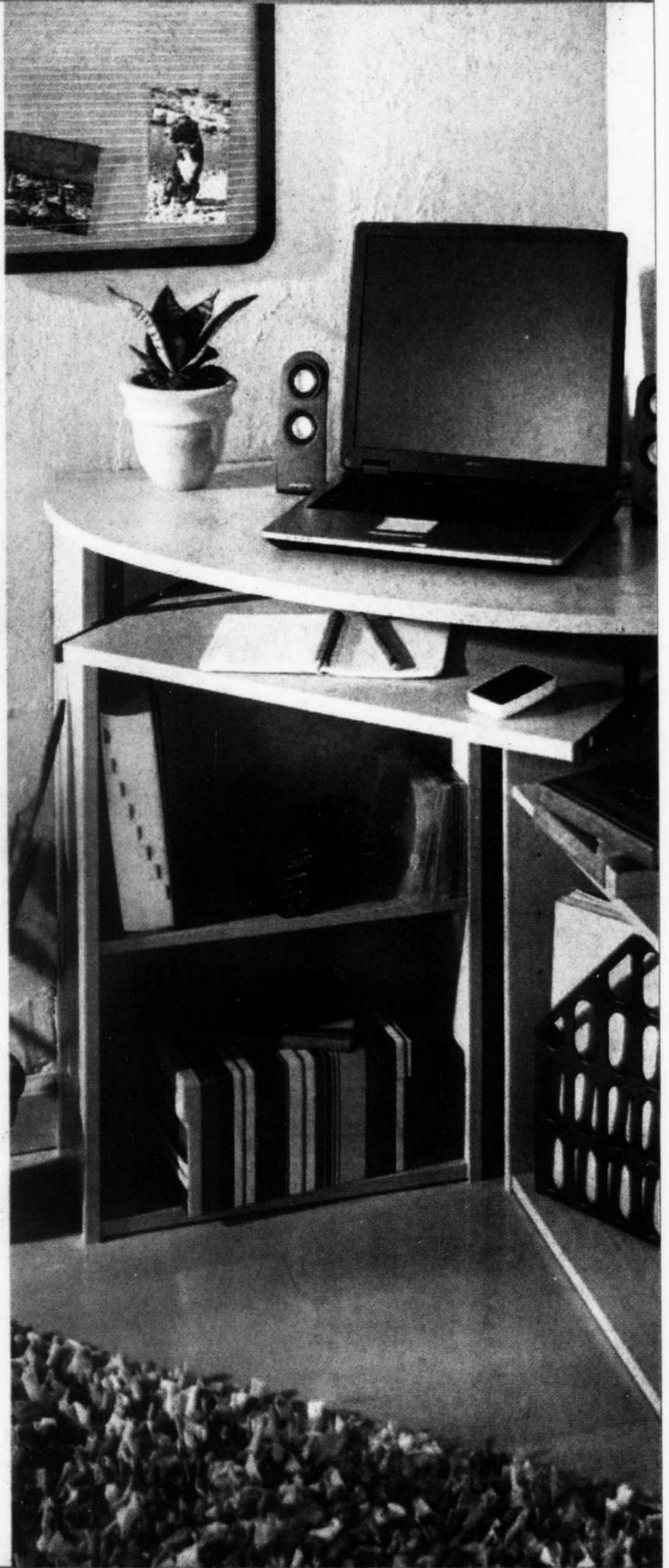
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