

# MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

MONDAY, FEB. 23, 2009

VOL. 85, NO. 11

## Campus stays awake for St. Jude's



Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer  
Elizabeth Stewart (center) and her mother talk about St. Jude's Children Research Hospital and how it has helped their family. Stewart said she hopes people will continue to donate to the hospital for research.

By TIFFANY GIBSON  
Managing Editor

Up 'Til Dawn raised \$81,600 with the help of students and community members during its 10th year anniversary celebration for cancer research

at St. Jude's Children Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

The event was sponsored by Kroger, Pepsi, Maples Wedding Cakes, Publix, MTSU Production Services, Papa Johns, Preferred Entertainment, Playtime

Sports and Aramark. "Last year we raised \$72,000," said Jameel Braddock, a senior political science major and executive director for Up 'Til Dawn. "We plan to take in close to \$80,000, [and] probably maybe even beat

the goal because we have so many people coming in from the Murfreesboro community, which is a lot different from past years." Up 'Til Dawn recognized Alpha Delta Pi as the top-raising team at the end of the night. In the banner

competition, Gamma Beta Phi won first place, Students Dietetic Association took second and Alpha Chi Omega won third. A former cancer patient of St. Jude's Children Research Hospital, Elizabeth Stewart, talked about her

experiences with cancer and chemotherapy. Her mother, Lisa Moore, and her friends accompanied her on stage to encourage people to donate to St. Jude's Children Research Hospital.

FUNDRAISER, PAGE 4

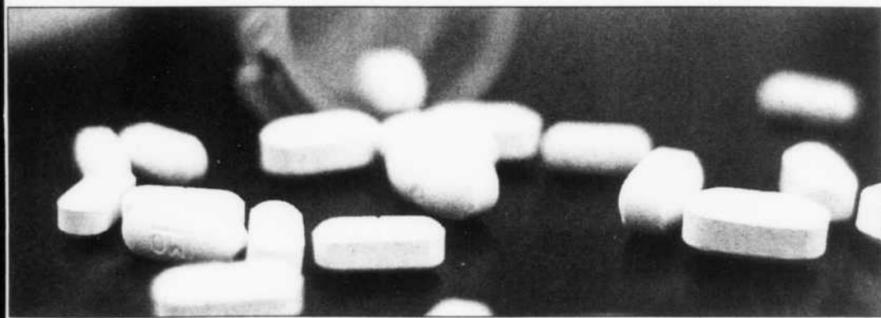


Photo illustration by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor  
Some people with eating disorders abuse weight loss pills or dietary supplements to fit in their jeans.

## Women can kick the 'blues'

### New office of Health Promotions hosts a healthy event for better living in community

By DUSTIN EVANS  
Staff Writer

MTSU Health Promotion is hosting "Be Comfortable in Your Genes," an event to commemorate the 22nd annual Eating Disorders Awareness Week from Feb. 23 through Feb. 27.

This event mirrors the National Eating Disorders Association's "Great Jeans Giveaway," an opportunity for women to shed clothes that no longer fit.

"They [The National Eating Disorders Association] constructed the Great Jeans Giveaway as a way for women to give away clothes that don't

comfortably fit anymore — as a way of embracing the sizes and shapes of their natural bodies," said Lisa Thomason, the director of MTSU Health Promotion.

Nationaleatingdisorders.org said that NEDA Week is "the largest eating disorders outreach effort in the country, and [it] has helped reach millions of people with messages of prevention, hope and recovery."

"Our aim of NEDA Week is to ultimately prevent eating disorders and body image issues while reducing the stigma surrounding eating disorders and improving

access to treatment," said Nationaleatingdisorders.org. "Eating disorders are serious, life-threatening illnesses — not choices — and it's important to recognize the pressures, attitudes and behaviors that shape the disorder."

Thomason said that by wearing clothing that fit comfortably, people could feel better about themselves.

To read more, visit us online.



## Final draft for cuts released

### Committee produces final suggestions for reductions

By FAITH FRANKLIN  
Community News Editor

The working groups responsible for offering suggestions to deal with university budget cuts submitted their final reports Thursday to the committee overseeing their research.

The new reports included several adjustments not included in the Strategic Work Groups Jan. 29 reports to the Oversight Steering Committee.

Within the work groups, the Non-Academic Strategic Work Group was given the task of examining programs and departments that could be up for realignment, restructuring, consolidation or elimination.

President Sidney McPhee sent an e-mail to faculty and staff on Friday announcing the final report.

"Please remember at this point no decisions have been made on any of the items in

the reports," McPhee said in the e-mail.

McPhee said that the next step is for the Steering Committee to review the work groups' final report and submit their final report to the university administration for consideration.

"I am planning to conduct another series of fo-



runs in the very near future to bring the university community up-to-date on recommendations that are under serious consideration for implementation," McPhee said.

The work group divided their two proposed actions into two sections in order of priority.

The first section includes a proposal not included in the first report to consolidate administrative oversight with the Day Care

Service Campus Wide. This suggestion could possibly save the university \$100,000.

The day care services include the Daycare Lab, Project Help and the Child Development Center.

According to the report, "Daycare subsidy benefits [a] minimal number of students, [and will have] no negative impact on the academic master plan."

The group proposed a \$50,000 increase in the restructuring of publications and graphics, suggesting a total possible savings of \$300,000.

"It is more cost effective to print on campus," according to the report. The restructuring would require departments to print predominantly on campus rather than using an outside source, such as Kinko's.

To read more, visit us online.



## CURRENT EVENTS

### Spoken-Word: Poetry and Liberation

With speaker Saul Williams, Spoken-Word artist and actor  
Monday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m.  
Admission: free

Location: Murphy Center  
More Information: contact Rich Kershaw at rkershaw@mtsu.edu

**Bolt**  
Feb. 23-27  
Monday-Thursday 7 & 10 p.m.  
Friday 7p.m.  
Admission: \$2  
Location: KUC Theater

### SGA Elections/ Vote for All-Access Plan

Election ballot with attached referendum will be sent to student e-mail accounts.  
Feb. 24, 25 and 26

More Information: visit <http://www.allaccessmtsu.net/index.php>

### Events Policy

Sidelines welcomes current campus and community events submitted by all readers. Please e-mail events to [scipy@mtsu.edu](mailto:scipy@mtsu.edu) and include the name, date, time and location of the event, as well as your name and a phone number for verification. We reserve the right to refuse events at our discretion as our space is limited.

## CRIME BRIEFS

**Feb. 19, 2:19 a.m.**  
**Public Intoxication/ Underage Drinking**  
Off Campus  
Amanda Finch was arrested for public intoxication, underage consumption of alcohol, and possession of a fake ID.

**Feb. 19, 4:48 p.m.**  
**Theft**  
Greek Row  
Complainant requested to speak with an officer to take a report on a missing or stolen wallet.

**Feb. 19, 3:57 p.m.**  
**Traffic**  
Mass Communications Lot  
Subject called and reported that someone had hit her vehicle and left a note.

**Feb. 20, 2:20 a.m.**  
**DUI**  
Old Main Circle  
Bradley Pugh was arrested for DUI, open container violation, implied consent violation, simple possession of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

## CORRECTIONS

In the article entitled "Budget cuts throw a curve ball to athletics" in Thursday's edition of *Sidelines*, Alan Farley, associate athletic director of Blue Raider Athletic Association, is quoted as saying, "They'd be cutting some of the people who raised \$6.7 million for this school last year." Farley said the following statement to clarify his previous quote - "The athletic department is an internal customer to the university by giving back \$6.7 million to the university

in tuition cost, housing and other things."  
  
In the article entitled "Student acquitted of rape" in Thursday's edition of *Sidelines*, the following information was left out of the article. Garrick Hock, a sophomore mass communications major, has been acquitted of all charges based upon circumstances he agreed to with District Attorneys.

*Sidelines regrets these errors.*

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# Do you want better parking, faster shuttles, more bike lanes and a safer campus?

**Here is your chance, MTSU students, to make all of the above happen.**

MTSU has long needed a parking garage, bigger shuttle buses and roadway improvements along MTSU Boulevard to add more lighting, bike lanes and better pedestrian facilities. And it can't be done in these tough economic times without your help.

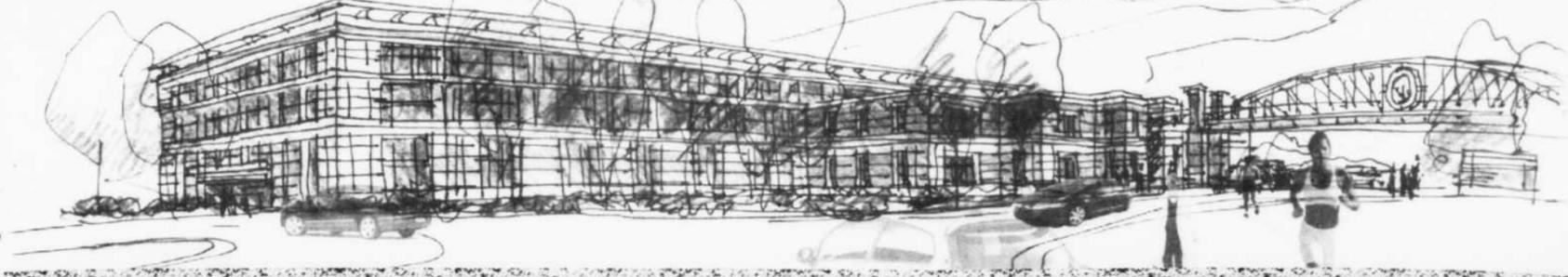
We have developed a plan that allows current and future students to invest in the future for future generations---at the lowest possible cost. After hearing from you and your SGA leaders, we went back to the drawing board and developed a long range plan with smaller per-semester increases to the

Program Services Fee. The first year the increase is \$5, second year \$15, third year \$20, fourth year \$40 and capped at \$60 the fifth and final year.

**We can't keep putting off the future. Let's start in small steps NOW to create a better MTSU for you-to get you where you need go to-FASTER and EASIER.**

**Thank you for your support, Blue Raiders! We can't do it without YOU!**

# VOTE YES ALL-ACCESS CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN



**Visit [allaccessmtsu.net](http://allaccessmtsu.net) for more information.**



Courtesy of Greg Feiling, coordinator of Student Unions and Programming at MTSU

# Augustana concert "Can't Hurt"

Nationally recognized band comes to Tucker Theatre to entertain community

By DUSTIN EVANS  
Staff Writer

Augustana, the band famous for the song "Boston," is scheduled to appear at MTSU's Tucker Theatre on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Augustana is a band originally formed three years ago by Dan Layus, songwriter and frontman, and his friend Jared Palomar, the bassist, Augustanamusic.com said. The duo completed their group with Dustin South, John Frederick and Chris Sachtelban. The band will be play-

ing its hits along with songs from its recent album "Can't Love, Can't Hurt" which was released in April 2008 under the Epic Records label.

Augustanamusic.com said that since Augustana's success with All the Stars and Boulevards, their debut album, the group has been able to open for Snow Patrol, Dashboard Confessional and Counting Crows, all the while improving their songwriting and musical skills.

"The result is an intensely emotional album, borne of the band's growth, cohesion as a unit, and Layus' newfound fatherhood," said Augustanamusic.com.

Greg Feiling, the coordinator of Student Unions and Programming at MTSU, said that the band's arrival is highly anticipated by the Southeast.

"We have had a really large response from all across the southern part of the country," Feiling said. "We are drawing a

regional crowd for this."

Feiling said that students would be able to reserve the tickets online at mtsu.edu/~events, due to the high demand of the concert.

"I like [their] soothing style of music," said Margaret May, a sophomore in fashion design. "My favorite song is 'Sweet and Low.'"

To read more, visit us online.



www.mtsusidelines.com

# Scholars Week requests abstracts

Campus events to showcase research talents of students

By JESSICA HASTON  
Copy Editor

Students and faculty wishing to present research activities at Scholars Week have until March 2 to submit their abstracts.

This year's celebration takes place March 30 through April 3.

"Scholars Week is an opportunity for students, faculty and everybody on campus to see the kinds of research activities that are going on on campus, to participate themselves in some of those activities and also to enjoy some really nice events," said Kaylene Gebert, executive vice president and provost and the chair of Scholars Week.

Gebert said that many students often have difficulty seeing themselves as scholars.

"We want students at MTSU to be scholars and to have the kind of skills and habits and inquiry levels that let them participate in solving some really significant issues and reporting on those, as well in many cases doing some basic research," Gebert said. Different colleges within the university are responsible for each day's program, Gebert said, allowing for a diverse array of activities.

Gebert said that past Scholars Weeks have featured speakers, luncheons and salsa bands.

"[Presenting at Scholar's Week] is a good opportunity to get something on your resume," said Walter Roberts, a senior psychology major. "Having a presentation anywhere is impressive as an undergraduate."

Roberts said he will be presenting "a study of relationship satisfaction in couples where one person has attention problems," which was funded by an Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity grant and guided by Mary Ellen Fromuth, a psychology professor.

The week's events culminate in a poster session, where participants display posters containing an overview of research.

The poster session gives students and faculty an opportunity to discuss their work with one another and enjoy refreshments, Gebert said.

"Being able to put research on a poster is an important skill," Roberts said.

An award ceremony will follow the session.

"The different colleges will either give certificates and sometimes monetary awards to the top award winners," Gebert said.

For more information, visit mtsu.edu/~research/scholarsweek.html.

# Students jumpstart their health

MTSU Health Promotions holds festival to promote healthy living

By DUSTIN EVANS  
Staff Writer

MTSU Campus Recreation and Health Promotions are joining together to celebrate the opening of the new campus pharmacy with "Jumpstart Your Health," a health fair at the Rec. Center atrium on Wednesday.

The fair will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and is composed of exhibits that cover all areas of health awareness and well-being.

Richard Chapman, the director of Health Services, said the new wing of Campus Recreation, which broke ground over Spring break in 2007, is the vision of Bob Glenn, the former vice president of Student Affairs, Charlie Gregory, the director of Campus Recreation, Pat Spangler, the medical director of Health Services, and Chapman himself.

Lisa Thomason, director of Health Promotion,

said this event marks the grand opening of the pharmacy and Health Promotions.

"Jumpstart Your Health" plans to have experts on hand to administer physical checkups and screenings, as well as nutrition students and personal trainers to give attendees a better look at healthy living in general.

"I think it's a great place to come to get some baseline information about yourself," Thomason said. "Whether that's what your blood pressure reading is, your fitness assessment is, or your vision or hearing levels, this is the place to come if you know you want to make some improvements."

Thomason said attendees will also be able to get their blood pressure checked or enjoy a relaxing massage.

"Everyone should take advantage of this great opportunity to improve his or her health," Thomason said.

## STUDENT NOMINATION for OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARDS 2008-2009

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Deadline

Monday, March 9, 2009

# MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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# MTSU students get down to business

National Entrepreneurship Week brings new perspective on owning businesses

By CHAD HOWSE  
Contributing Writer

Business owners from across Middle Tennessee are scheduled to speak at MTSU this week as the university hosts National Entrepreneurship Week.

"We hope to extend the concept of owning your own business out to other majors," said Rachel Wilson, an MTSU entrepreneurship professor involved in organizing the event.

NEW will begin today at 9:10 a.m. with a lecture by Jenny Piper, owner of Pied

based business specializing in the wholesale of native plants.

Three speakers are scheduled to give lectures Tuesday: Beth Chase, Lorenzo Spikes and Jim Gilmore.

Beth Chase, president and CEO of C3 Consulting, is scheduled to speak in BAS room S324 at 9:40 a.m. with her speech, "An Entrepreneur's Story: From Tennis to C3." C3 Consulting is a Nashville-based consulting firm aimed at leadership opportunities for companies

**"We hope to extend the concept of owning your own business out to other majors."**

**RACHEL WILSON**  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROFESSOR AND INVOLVED IN ORGANIZING THE EVENT

Piper Creamery in Nashville, as she presents a speech entitled "Building a Business by Doing What You Love." Free ice cream will be offered before the speech, which will take place in the Business and Aerospace Building room S130A.

Following the speech by Piper, Kevin Guenther, president and CEO of Design Resource, and Patrick Geho, an MTSU business professor, will give speeches.

Monday is scheduled to end with a lecture by Mike Berkley, owner of Growild, Inc. Growild is a Fairview-

going through growth or change.

Following Chase, Lorenzo Spikes, CEO of Eclipse Artist Management Group, LLC, is scheduled to speak about entrepreneurship and the music industry at 1 p.m. Eclipse Artist Management Group is an artist-management firm based in Jacksonville, Fla., with a second location in Murfreesboro.

To read more, visit us online.



www.mtsusidelines.com

## FUNDRAISER FROM PAGE 1

Stewart talked about the newly built Kay Cafe, courtesy of Sterling Jeweler's, that donated \$16 million for the cafeteria to be built. Moore said that things like the Kay Cafe help make staying at St. Jude's Children Research Hospital fun for children.

The 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. celebration was held in the Murphy Center to make room for inflatables, a mechanical bull, Dance Dance Revolution contests, food, character portraits, a wax hand sculpture center and a patient service section so people could make cards and decorations for St. Jude patients.

Felicia Brown, a junior liberal arts major and Sigma Alpha treasurer, took part in making decorations for patients and said that she also participated in last year's celebration with her sorority.

"It's our future, and we are lucky to be in college," Brown said. "Some of these kids don't even make it to elementary school."

Volunteer and sophomore business education major Travis Stratton said that he decided to volunteer because he likes working with children.

"If they [my family] were in the same predicament as these kids, then I would want someone to help them," Stratton said.

The Murphy Center court was used as a stage for Magician Dave Maze,



Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer  
(Left to right) Nicki DeCroce, Brenna McDaniel, Katie Messick and Danielle Underhill make their own music video during Up 'Til Dawn.

the band Gino and special guest star Chris Young to perform.

Maze used pop musical scores and volunteers from the audience to help demonstrate tricks involving quarters, string and swallowing a blown-up balloon.

Later, rising country star Young took the stage. Braddock said that Young is an advocate for St. Jude's Children Research Hospital.

"He wanted to be involved," Braddock said. "He's a Murfreesboro native and heard about our event and we worked with Student Programming, and he's going to show up here for us."

Before the event, Public Relations person Sierra McMillan said that Up 'Til Dawn had raised \$24,000 prior to the cel-

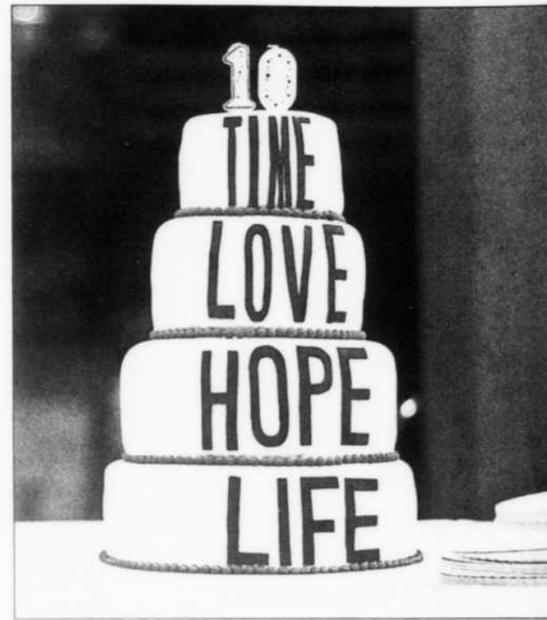


Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer  
Up 'Til Dawn celebrated its 10th year anniversary Friday and had a birthday cake donated by Maples Wedding Cakes.

bration. "We wrote letters, so we will still be getting money until May," McMillan said. "It's a grassroots effort to get people to write letters to their families and communities."

AMBASSADOR

The Middle Tennessee State University

National Alumni Association

announces...



We are now accepting applications for our newest group of Student Ambassadors, the official hosts of the University.

Applications are available at the MTSU Alumni House, the KUC information desk and online at [www.mtalumni.com](http://www.mtalumni.com).

The deadline to apply is February 27, 2009.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

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'09  
'10

## Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@mtsu.edu and include your name and a phone number for verification. Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit grammar, length and content.

# OPINIONS

Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or MTSU.

## FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

## Anger over student's trial moot, baseless

There has been a great deal of commotion and comments on Sidelines' Web site, mtsusidelines.com, surrounding Thursday's article "Student acquitted of rape" about a sophomore who was accused of raping a female in the Alpha Tau Omega house last semester.

Some online users said they feel that the reporter who covered both the incident in September 2008 and the follow-up court case owes former alleged suspect Garrick Hock an apology to package with a front-page article.

The article did run on the front page of Thursday's issue. It didn't go across all six columns at the top because the front page had already been planned days before.

As far as running an apology letter for reporting on both stories, we as journalists are supposed to report the news. The situation is a campus-safety issue, and our job is to make sure students are aware of these events. This has nothing to do with slandering a fraternity's reputation or belittling one of its members.

The reporter who covered the first story received a press release from News and Public Affairs on Friday, Sept. 5 that said a woman had been raped at the Alpha Tau Omega house on campus. The reporter went to speak to campus police Chief Buddy Peaster immediately to view the report that was filed and also speak with Peaster about the details surrounding the incident.

Sidelines ran the first story based on the report filed and information given by Peaster. The reporter also used words such as "alleged" and "accused" purposefully. We did not want to insinuate that Hock was guilty.

The second article was from information obtained inside the courtroom. After waiting three hours with Hock outside, the reporter entered the general sessions court room and listened as Judge Ben McFarlin dismissed the case without any costs.

Speaking to a general sessions office clerk afterwards, the reporter was told that the case was dismissed based on circumstances Hock agreed to with district attorneys. This sentence was accidentally left out of both the online and print edition. It has now been fixed online.

To read more, visit us online.

online  
www.mtsusidelines.com

## Parking garage needed, feasible

*Editor's note: This letter was submitted to Sidelines in response to Thursday's article "No spot for parking garage." It was submitted by Sondra Wilson (Student Government Association president), Brandon McNary (SGA vice president), Ron Malone (assistant vice president of Events and Transportation Services) and Patti Miller (assistant vice president of Campus Planning).*

This week students will be able to vote to bring a five-level parking garage, MTSU Boulevard street improvements and larger shuttles to the MTSU campus. We need student support; we're asking for students to vote yes on this plan, and here's why.

A group of students, faculty and staff have worked for nearly six months to bring this plan to students this week. We're bringing this plan to students now because as the largest public undergraduate univer-

sity in the state, we need to continue to improve our facilities and infrastructure, especially those that make the campus more accessible and more efficient for students.

The parking garage has been a long-held goal for many students, faculty and staff at MTSU. For years, we have worked to get to a point where we could propose a parking garage that makes efficient use of our available land by building up not out. This would be the very first of five proposed parking garages to be built over the next 10 to 20 years.

The garage's location is by the new Student Union building, which will begin construction in May, and by the Campus Recreation Center. We'll need additional efficient parking nearby as soon as the Student Union opens, and there will be a bridge-way between the garage and the Student Union to allow

easy access back and forth. To ensure the facility is safe for all users, we have included a 24-hour staff and electronic security as part of the plan.

By building new lanes on MTSU Boulevard for bikes and shuttle buses and adding green space and lighting, we're not only increasing access through the heart of campus, but we're also improving pedestrian facilities and creating a safer environment. The ultimate goal is to make MTSU a pedestrian campus with fewer cars, a faster shuttle-bus system and better facilities for bikers and walkers, with the improvements to MTSU Boulevard beginning this spring.

By purchasing larger shuttle buses that can run on bio-diesel fuel, we are not only becoming more energy-efficient, we are increasing the shuttles' frequency from arriving at bus stops every 12 minutes to every 7 minutes. This

will make riding the shuttle buses a better choice for more students and will help you get there faster. You will see immediate results of this piece of the plan, with the larger shuttle buses running routes on campus by the end of this summer.

Unfortunately, the state of Tennessee does not provide funds for parking and transportation on college campuses statewide. Instead, the users of those facilities must pay the cost. That is why we're asking you for your financial support. Faculty and staff will also share in funding these new facilities.

We know that times are tough, and we've continued to listen to the financial concerns of the many students we have spoken to as we've worked through this proposal. As a result of student input, we've adjusted the length of the funding (when we are told the economy will improve)

and the amount of the funding to get us through this year and well into next year before the fee takes a larger step upward. For the 2009 - 2010 academic year, the increase to the Parking Services fee will be just \$54 per semester; in the academic year 2010-2011, the increase goes to \$15 per semester, and so on, until the fifth year, when the increase will be capped at \$60 per semester.

MTSU students before you invested in facilities that you are now using today, such as the Rec Center. We need you to vote yes now to fund immediate and long-term improvements to our campus to benefit you and students who will come after you. Please vote yes this week for the All-Access Campus Improvement Plan, and let's make MTSU a better, easier and more efficient campus for students to navigate. We appreciate your support. Thank you.

## Who deserves SGA positions, vote no on parking referendum

*Editor's note: The following endorsements are a reflection of the individual writer and not a reflection of the Sidelines' staff as a whole.*

The Student Government Association elections take place this Tuesday through Thursday.

Whether students realize this or not, the SGA is by far the most important student organization on campus. Legislation is passed and initiatives are implemented by this body that affect every student on campus. As I enter my last semester at MTSU, I hope to once again engage the entire campus by discussing the issues which matter most.

I have selected my slate of the most-qualified executive candidates for SGA, and I hope that you will seriously consider these suggestions and MTSU's future when you vote this week.

MTSU faces serious budget cuts in the coming academic year, as outlined by President Sidney McPhee in a number of town hall-style presentations last fall and this semester. The next SGA president,



**Hurtt Pride**

Matthew Hurtt

who will sit on President McPhee's cabinet and contribute ideas and suggestions during meetings with other members of the administration, should be someone who is not afraid to speak his mind.

Furthermore, I believe that any additional qualifications he can bring to the table on behalf of the students can only benefit the students as a whole.

I believe that Steven Altum can be that voice. He is articulate and understands the gravity of the state's financial crisis. Not only will Altum advocate all MTSU students as a member of President McPhee's cabinet, but he will also advocate MTSU students in Nashville, where he has established relationships with members of both the House and Senate Educa-

tion Committees, where higher education bills are debated and policy is shaped.

The SGA Senate operates under the direction of the executive vice president and speaker of the Senate. The person running this office must preside over the senate with dignity and decorum, guiding both inexperienced newcomers and experienced senators.

Heather Rawston exhibits such professional qualities, which would allow her to be an effective leader within the SGA senate. She consistently outperforms those who are less committed on the senate, and there are a few. She would be an excellent addition.

Erin Johnson, a public relations major and SGA veteran, has the experience and dedication needed to be an effective arbiter for the student body. Since her freshman year, Johnson has

worked diligently on the SGA senate and by educating the students, she represents what SGA does. As vice president of Administration and Public Affairs, Johnson will continue to do what she has been doing all along - engaging students and developing a dialogue

referendum (It's interesting to note that this is the same Sterling Communications that attempted to market the Bible Theme Park to Blackman residents last year).

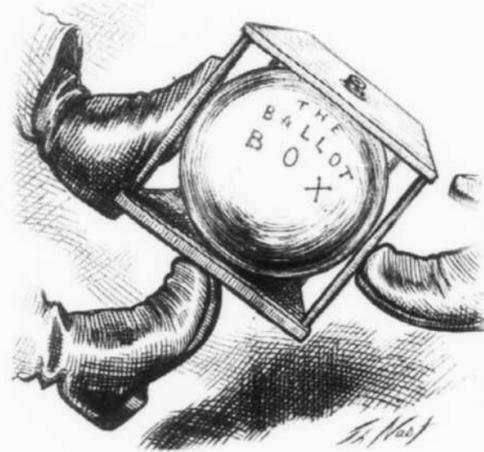
This is the second time this academic year that some facet of administration has lobbied the student body to raise a fee, and it is unethical and incorrigible that the administration would use student funds to lobby the students to raise a fee. Several Facebook groups have surfaced opposing the fee, and others have written extensively on the pros and

cons, so I just ask you to vote

"no." Make an effort to learn about the candidates and issues, and vote this week.

Make an effort to learn about the candidates and issues, and vote this week.

Matthew Hurtt is a senior history/political science major and can be reached at [Matt.Hurt@gmail.com](mailto:Matt.Hurt@gmail.com) or [matthewhurt.com](http://matthewhurt.com).



## COMICS



"And Friends"

frankhasenmueller@gmail.com

Frank Hasenmueller

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# FEATURES

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BASED ON VOTES FROM [MTSUSIDELINES.COM](http://MTSUSIDELINES.COM).

## Rapper educates against hate Athens Boys Choir draws attention to transgender issues

By **BYRON WILKES**  
Opinions Editor

The morning is still in Warrington, Mo. The inside of Harvey Katz's Super 8 Hotel room looks like every other Super 8 Hotel room in the country. Only his belongings and toiletries mark some sort of individuality.

Harvey wakes up at 5 a.m., slightly groggy from a Nyquil hangover and possibly coming down with the flu. His fever was 102 degrees for most of the day before.

He feels sick for the next few hours, but manages to pack up and leave the hotel to grab a bite to eat before hitting the road for Columbia, Mo., for his next show.

He sits down at Denny's after picking up a *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. Harvey orders the Grand Slam Breakfast – a Denny's classic.

The restaurant's patrons are much like the rooms at the Super 8 Hotel. You see them at every Denny's around the country.

There are people of all sorts and, much like other Denny's, none of them know one another. They are strangers in a place they identify with, hungry for familiarity.

Yet the veil of anonymity draped over the occupants provides more than just erratic ends of conversations and idle glances. For Harvey, it is a safety net. It allows him to be himself.

Harvey's legal name is Elizabeth. Anatomically a transsexual, Harvey identifies himself as a transgender who is pansexual, meaning he is essentially gender-blind.

The factors of anatomy, self-awareness and association are integral to the transsexual population and culture.

But the people enjoying their meals or perusing through their standard menus at Denny's are probably just as aware of this fact. They probably aren't aware that Harvey is Jewish or actually a rapper known as Athens Boys Choir.

Harvey, of others' perceptions and pays with cash when leaving Denny's. The use of a credit card

would specify his legal name, abruptly bringing his background to the public's attention. He says that checking into hotels can be a more than awkward experience.

"People just think I'm a young dude," Harvey shrugs.

Harvey self-administers testosterone shots every two weeks with a thick needle about an inch-and-a-half long. The translucent fluid is very viscous and rich, and has only the slightest tinge of jade.

"It feels good in my body," Harvey says. "It feels like cottonseed oil."

Harvey has been taking the shot for years, but he says that some feel antsy as levels of the synthetic hormone deteriorate in the days before the next dose.

The battle between hormones can be especially turbulent during menstruation, which Harvey describes as "going through menopause and puberty at the same time."

Harvey lives a large portion of his life on the road, traveling from college to college performing his art for mostly student audiences.

His music has strong LGBT (lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender) themes that are underscored by personal life experiences, including references to his family and childhood.

He draws attention to important issues within the transgender community like the wrongful murders of many of its constituents. He performs spoken word and raps with music that has an undeniably inimitable sound and continuous flow that is ABC.

Harvey draws his inspiration from everyday life. Sometimes it's an interesting fact or everyday occurrence. He tends to write while being in motion or making a drive, keeping a journal with him on bike rides and road trips in case a muse finds its way to his pen.



Photo courtesy of athensboyschoir.com  
Harvey Katz (seen above and right) is a transgender rapper who writes songs to help raise awareness of issues within the LGBT (lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender) community. His performances, which he does under the stage name Athens Boys Choir, help him convey his messages.

Harvey realized he was transgender at age 17, and he came to friends with the fact at 21. He had a mastectomy, or breast removal

surgery led to a subsequent unnoticed infection, and Harvey also almost lost a nipple as a result.

But Harvey isn't bitter about the past and is appreciative to those doctors who are actually willing to work with the transgender community.

The emphasis on gender reassignment surgery, though, is largely constructed by those outside of the transsexual culture.

To many transgender people, it's just not that important. This common misperception demonstrates the large gap of misunderstanding between the majority of the nation's population and those who

attend Harvey's shows.

"The people I meet at my shows are usually very receptive to my work," Harvey says. "Most of the time I'm playing for people that can relate to it."

Harvey played a show at Hendrix College recently, a liberal arts school in Conway, Ark. He performed concurrently with Trans Week, a week designed to memorialize those transgender individuals who were the victims of bigotry and violence.

It is meant to educate the non-transgender community with guest panels and artistic displays. The venue was full, and the audience was receptive and particularly amiable to him and his art.

People came up to him after the show to tell him



how much they like his spoken word or musical performances, but they eventually dwindled out of the venue and left Harvey to pick up the facets of his life while on the road. He says he doesn't mind the solitude.

"I'm pretty lucky to be able to do what I do," Harvey says. "Sometimes it's a lot of work, but it's all worth it."

Musical appearances for ABC can be quite arduous. Harvey also runs his own merchandise sales and sets up the technical aspects of the show. He truly is a one-man band.

Life is good, and Harvey feels right where he is. His life is very similar to his road trips: people coming, going, passing by, slowing down, some of them staying and most of them fleeting.

To listen to music clips, view pictures and videos, and purchase merchandise, check out Athens Boys Choir at [athensboyschoir.com](http://athensboyschoir.com) or [myspace.com/athensboyschoir](http://myspace.com/athensboyschoir)

surgery, three-and-a-half years ago, though the medical field's general lack of experience and approximation with the transsexual community became apparent firsthand for Harvey. Nerve endings cut in the

### CALENDAR

movies, music, nightlife and more

#### MUSIC

##### Feb. 23

Devon Sproule w/ Robby Hecht @ The Basement - 7 p.m. - \$5

Hard Rock Zombies w/ Telecommunicators and Molly Venter @ The Basement - 9 p.m. - \$5

##### Feb. 24

Clock Hand Strangles

w/ A Slight Breeze and Flight Case for Sushi @ The End - 9 p.m.

Rock The Block @ Exit/In - 8 p.m. - free

Philos w/ Willi Campbell @ The Basement - 7 p.m. - free

New Faces Nite @ The Basement - 9 p.m. - free

##### Feb. 25

Nashville AllStar Band @ Graffiti Bar - 10 p.m.

The Foxcult @ The End - 9 p.m.

Reckless Kelly w/ Sons of Bill @ Exit/In - 8 p.m.

##### Feb. 26

Far From Folsom @ Graffiti Bar - 10 p.m.

The Last Straw CD release @ Club 527 - 9 p.m.

The Hollywood 10 w/ Oscar Anthony & The West Folk Band @ The End - 9 p.m.

Benefit for MTSA w/ Andy Hackbarth, The Antennas and Satellites and Sirens @ Exit/In - 6:30 p.m. - \$5

##### Feb. 27

Vakated @ The 'Boro - 8 p.m.

All We Seabees @ Wall Street - 9 p.m.

The Highlife w/ The Corbitt Brothers @ Graffiti Bar - 10 p.m.

Parachute Musical, Oso Closo, Space Capone, Snarky Puppy @ Club 527 - 9 p.m.

BUZZ New Music Showcase w/ Lovers and Liars, One Less Reason and The Becoming @ Exit/In - 9 p.m. - \$13

##### Feb. 28

Caitlin Rose, Hammer-torch, Norene @ The 'Boro - 8 p.m.

Ronnie Pittman Band @ Graffiti Bar - 10 p.m.

Eclipse @ Club 527 - 10 p.m.

Unknown Hinson @ Exit/In - 10 p.m. - \$15

Rock n Roll Houligans w/ All We Seabees, The Tits @ The Basement - 9 p.m. - \$5

##### Mar. 1

PacAKracRs @ Graffiti Bar - 8 p.m.

Motive, Exit 81, Bright Wood, Young and Divine, Floral Terrace @ Club 527 - 8 p.m.

#### OTHER

##### Feb. 23

Joker's Poker @ Graffiti Bar - 7 p.m.

##### Feb. 24

Karaoke Contest @ Graffiti Bar - 9 p.m.

##### Feb. 25

Live Trivia @ Wall Street - 8 p.m.

Know of anything really, really cool going on in Middle Tennessee soon?

We want to know!  
[sifeatur@mtsu.edu](mailto:sifeatur@mtsu.edu)

# SPORTS

## Blue Raider baseball starts season with sweep

Newly renovated Reese Smith Jr. Field opens with 38-run explosion against Missouri State



Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer

Justin Miller, a sophomore infielder, sprints to first base as Missouri State first baseman Ben Carlson looks for the out Friday at the newly renovated Reese Smith Jr. Field, which opened over the weekend.

By ZACH REVES  
Assistant Sports Editor

Over the weekend, the Blue Raider baseball team opened the season and the renovated Reese Smith Jr. Field with a series sweep over Missouri State.

MT showcased a lineup with top to bottom power as it totaled 38 runs in three games to start the season perfect. The Blue Raiders won 19-4 on Friday, 12-7 Saturday and 7-6 on Sunday.

In Friday's season opener, sophomore pitcher/out-

fielder Bryce Brentz took the mound and gave the more than 1,200 fans in attendance a dominant performance. Brentz earned the win, pitching five innings while allowing one run on two hits and five strikeouts.

"It starts with Bryce. He knows the game," MT head coach Steve Peterson said. "He buckled down [after a rough start], hit the strike zone and got through his innings."

In the first inning, Brentz and the Blue Raider defense

allowed Missouri State to load the bases with no outs, but they settled down and only gave up one run on a sacrifice fly.

"I was trying too hard to start the game," Brentz said. "I switched to the fastball and started getting some outs. My catcher called a great game, and I'm pleased with the pitching outcome."

Offensively, the Blue Raiders could hardly be stopped as they had two big innings in the fourth and the eighth. MT scored seven runs in the fourth

to take an 8-1 lead and 10 in the eighth to finish the game, 19-4.

The Blue Raider offense was led by senior third baseman Rawley Bishop who went 3-for-5 with a home run, five RBIs and scored three runs. Junior first baseman Blake McDade went 3-for-5 with four RBIs and scored three runs. Even Brentz got into the offensive swing of things by hitting a three-run homer after he finished pitching.

"Everyone was right on

cue with everything," Bishop said. "This is a great way to start the season."

In game two, the Blue Raiders continued their success with a 12-6 victory supplied by junior pitcher Kenneth Roberts. Roberts earned the win as he took the mound and pitched five innings, giving up four earned runs on five hits with five strikeouts.

The weather conditions at the game were less than perfect, but the Blue Raiders accommodated well.

"I told the team we had

to play defense," Peterson said. "We knew it was going to be tough, and the weather was going to deteriorate all day."

"I think our solid defense won the game."

The offense, however, helped as McDade powered MT's scoring, going 2-for-4 with four RBIs and scoring three runs.

To read more, visit us online.



www.mtsusidelines.com

## Men's basketball snaps three-game losing streak

By ZACH REVES  
Assistant Sports Editor

With its season spiraling out of control, the Blue Raider men's basketball team found stability in an unlikely place during its 74-68 comeback win over Florida Atlantic.

Reserve guard Eric Allen played the best game of his MT career as he came off the bench and lit up the scoreboard with 17 points on 6-of-12 shooting while adding 11 rebounds for the Blue Raiders. The effort was Allen's first career double-double, and it couldn't have come on a better night.

Going into the game the Blue Raiders (16-12, 9-7) were desperate for a win, having dropped their past three Sun Belt Conference contests. It wasn't going to be easy, as MT had to play without junior guard/forward Montarrío Had-

dock, who was serving a one-game suspension, and senior guard Demetrius Green, who suffered a sprained ankle 10 minutes into the game and would not return. On top of all that, senior guard Kevin Kanaskie had to play through a viral illness that left him in less than perfect health.

But when the chips were down, MT rose to the occasion and salvaged its season with a tough, hard-fought victory.

"I am so proud of this team and the way they have responded in practices and battled here tonight," MT head coach Kermit Davis said. "We had several players step up in this game and contribute to the win, but that's what had to happen to win this game."

One of the players who stepped up his game was

Kanaskie, who looked like he plays even better when he's sick. He scored a season and game-high 24 points on 6-of-16 shooting and added a career-best nine rebounds. Despite his illness, Kanaskie logged in 40 minutes of game time for the Blue Raiders.

Junior forward Desmond Yates and junior guard Calvin O'Neil also finished in the double figures for MT. Yates finished with 12 points and five rebounds, while O'Neil produced 13 points and four rebounds.

For the game, the Blue Raiders shot 38 percent from the floor, including a paltry 30 percent during the first half.

To read more, visit us online.



www.mtsusidelines.com



Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer

Senior guard Nigel Johnson powers down the court as South Alabama's Bryan Sherrer tries to make a steal. MT ended up losing the game 63-57 in the Murphy Center Thursday.

## Men's, women's tennis serve up refreshing, winning weekend

By CHRIS WELCH  
Sports Editor

Both the men's and the women's tennis team brought home wins over the weekend. Overcoming injuries, tough opponents and the ever-present flu, the women extended their winning streak and the

men started another.

The weekend started for the men's team on Thursday, when they traveled to Johnson City, Tenn., to snap their losing streak with a win against No. 38-ranked East Tennessee State University.

ETSU has a nationally

recognized men's tennis team and fell to MTSU only a week after nearly upsetting No. 3 Georgia.

"We came out flat today," said ETSU head coach Yasser Zaatini. "I don't know if the guys really understood the seriousness of the match."

MT clenched the doubles game with the teams of sophomore John Peers and freshman Victor Melo and the duo of junior Robert McKenzie and senior Morgan Richard.

"It was a huge team performance," said head coach David McNamara. "Every-

one stepped up, and going into the match, we were certainly an underdog.

"We showed [we] can compete with a top-40 team, and if we can get everyone healthy, we will be a team to watch out for."

In singles play, ETSU's Enrique Olivares, ranked

15th in the nation, defeated MT's Melo 6-1, 6-1. However, McKenzie topped ETSU's Charles Bottoni 6-4, 6-1. MT's Peers and Richard also won their matches, giving the singles game to the Blue Raiders.

TENNIS, PAGE 8

# Owls take fight out of Lady Raiders

MT fought hard, failed to maintain perfect Sun Belt Conference record with 73-70 loss to FAU

By CHRIS WELCH  
Sports Editor

It's been more than two months since the MT women's basketball team has seen a loss; even then, it was against now No. 11-ranked Tennessee. But Saturday, the Owls of Florida Atlantic saw fit to give the Lady Raiders another "L" in the losses column.

A late defensive stand gave the Owls the upper hand and was too much for the Lady Raiders to overcome. The clock wound down with a series of missed MT shots and stopped with a 73-70 decision to FAU.

Junior forward Alysha Clark achieved her 13th double-double of the season with a game high 32 points and 13 rebounds,

all while playing under the weather.

Junior forward Brandi Brown trailed Clark in double digit scoring, mounting 15 points and a trio of 3-pointers. Junior guard Chelsia Lymon recorded 13 points, while making three 3-pointers of her own.

Compared to MT's 23-4 overall record, the Owls entered into the game with a 7-8 Sun Belt record, 10-15 overall, and took the early initiative with a 10-2 lead at 16:39 in the first.

The Lady Raiders scored 11 of the next 13 points to take the lead, led by sophomore guard Anne Marie Lanning. Lanning capped the rally with a 3-pointer at 13:50.

MT and FAU stayed neck-and-neck throughout

the first half, with one team never gaining more than six points above the other.

FAU ended the first half with a trio of shots, all by junior guard Carla Stubbs. The Owls went into the locker room leading 39-33.

FAU came out swinging in the second half, making the first five goals to add another eight points to the lead. The Owls gained a 14-point lead, the largest cushion of the game, on a jumper by junior guard Andrea Taylor.

A barrage of points from Clark, Lymon and junior guard Jackie Pickel would frighten the Owls, but the points were never enough to cause real harm. The closest the Lady Raiders came to the lead was the 67-63 3-pointer by Pickel.

Clark rallied the final seven points of the MT offense but failed to carry the whole team. As the clock wound down, the number of MT turnovers and fouls increased.

The game drew to a close with a steal by FAU's Jessica Knurick. The teams left the floor with a final score of 73-70.

This is only the eighth time the Lady Raiders had trailed at halftime, and was only their fifth loss all season. The loss also brought an end to their winning streak, which was the fourth longest in the nation.

The Lady Raiders will return to Florida to play fellow SBC team Florida International Feb. 25 in Miami. Tipoff is at 6 p.m.



Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer  
Junior guard Dana Garrett posts up to block a pass from South Alabama junior guard Morriah Smith Wednesday.

## TENNIS

### Top Performers

**(#111) Robert McKenzie**  
(r-JR-TR)

**Morgan Richard**  
(SR-3L)

**Victor Melo**  
(FR/HS)

**(#72) John Peers**  
(SO-1L)

### TENNIS FROM PAGE 7

The men's team played once again on Saturday. The opponents, No. 74 Old Dominion, boasted the No. 8-ranked player in the nation, Tobias Fanselow.

MT once again defeated the doubles game 2-1, led by Peers/Melo. The MT duo defeated Old Dominion's Aleksandr Selznev and Tobias Fanselow 9-8. McKenzie and Richard followed suit, defeating Matt Fawcett and Ben Marks 8-4.

The Blue Raiders lost the No. 1 singles match, an unfinished 6-4, 6-7 (1-7), 0-1 decision over McKenzie to

ODU's Selznev.

ODU took No. 5 and 6 matches, but Richard and Peers took the helm in No. 4 and 3 matches to give MT the lead.

Then, in match 2, Victor Melo upset No. 8 Tobias Fanselow 6-4, 7-5. This not only uprooted a national contender but also gave MT the singles game win.

"If you had told me we would be 2-0 going into tomorrow, I would not have believed you with the injuries we have," McNamara said. "The team is stepping up to the challenge, and I have to give them a lot of credit for competing and fighting."

The men's team will travel to Los Angeles to participate at the Loyola Marymount event this Friday.

The women's team fared just as well, travelling to Nashville on Friday to play against the Belmont University Bruins. The women extended their streak to four while snapping Belmont's three-win streak with a 5-2 decision.

The Lady Raiders began the match by winning the doubles game 2-1. Junior Natalie Araya and freshman Taylor Coffey paved the way by defeating Bruins Laura Stack and Lindsey Bennett 8-4.

MT got off to a rough

start in the singles game, with senior Andrea Herrera winning to Belmont's Whittanie Warren 6-1, 6-0. But Araya picked up the slack and rallied to a tie with a 4-6, 6-1, 6-3 win.

The Lady Raiders stayed neck-and-neck with the Bruins throughout most of the singles game. Singles play was tied until senior Marlene Chemin rounded out the match with her 6-4, 6-4 win over Belmont's Laura Stack, giving MT the win overall.

The Lady Raiders will try to continue their streak this Thursday when they travel to Louisville. The match starts at 2 p.m.

MTSU's Tom T. Hall Writer's Series Presents...

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