



HI: 83°
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SIDELINES

MT Theatre presents "Hay Fever"

By Christin Pepple
Staff Writer

"I can take any amount of criticism as long as I can consider it unqualified praise," said Noel Coward, the English playwright who wrote the play, "Hay Fever," being performed at Tucker Theater.

"Hay Fever," a wickedly funny play of the comedy genre, hits the stage at Tucker theater in the Boutwell Dramatic Arts building on Sept. 29th. Coward's "Hay Fever" first debuted in 1925 and is the first in a series of productions in the CenterStage Series that begins Sept. 29th, continuing into October.

The play follows a family

named Bliss who is spending quality time at their summer home during the remaining stages of the summer. The play's comic relief is in the form of all four members of the family inviting interesting guests simultaneously without previous knowledge of other invites made.

"The guests include an amateur boxer, a diplomat, a flapper and an almost socialite," said Jeff Gibson, assistant professor of speech and theater and stage manager for the play. "Just with that hand of characters alone, it will prove to be entertaining to any audience. It doesn't make any difference that it was written in 1925. It's the kind of play that will resonate with today's audience as well as 1925's."

The members of the family include Judith Bliss-- a stage actress and mother, David Bliss-- the father and a writer and Simon and Sorel Bliss-- the children. The witty and popular play is set in the 1920s.

"The guests are almost toys," Gibson said. "The family is messing with them, and we all get a good laugh because of it."

The laugh has proven difficult to actors of every caliber, Gibson said. Earlier this year in London, Judi Dench took the role of Judith Bliss.

Still, Gibson spoke confidently of the student actors in their ability to master Coward's work.

"It's going really well," said Gibson. "The cast plays off each

other well, off and on set."

"I have a fabulous cast," said Deborah Anderson, professor of Speech and Theater and the director. "Even though it is a difficult period and it's hard to pin down, they really pull it off. It's really difficult to drive the dialogue very fast and clipped like it's supposed to be and still maintain their characters. They do it wonderfully. They wrapped their minds around it quickly."

Coward is known for his hilarious and fast paced plays. Anderson required that her cast take dance lessons to fully understand the concepts of fast-paced

See 'Hay Fever', 2

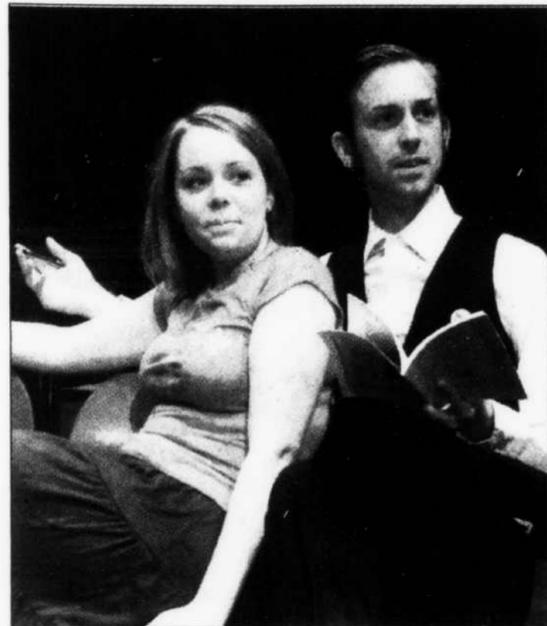


Photo Courtesy of The Record

Theatre majors Leah Fincher, left, and Alex Vernon rehearse for the upcoming production of the Noel Coward comedy "Hay Fever" which opens Sept. 29.

Greeks host annual step-off



Photo by Stephanie Bible | Contributing Photographer

(Left to right) Ashley Tyler, Whitney Cobb and Cierra Hayes participated in the third annual National Panhellenic Council Step-off Tuesday evening behind Corlew Hall. They were also celebrating the reactivation of their sorority, Sigma Gamma Rho, which has not been on campus since 2002. Tyler is the secretary of SGR, Cobb is the president and Hayes is the treasurer.

Student assaults MTSU officer

Offender restrained before taken to hospital, arrested

By Wesley Murchison

Campus Administration Editor

A student assaulted an MTSU Police officer Saturday, Sept. 23 in front of Jim Cummings Hall. The student was reported as being "high on mushrooms" when officer Alyssa Costa arrived on the scene.

According to Resident Assistant Gray Sanborn, freshman Gideon Casto was outside during the day until around 5 p.m. Sanborn said that he could hear Casto form his seventh story window.

"He was extremely loud and very energetic," Sanborn said.

Sanborn and fellow resident assistant Jeff Crawford tried to calm Casto down, but Casto continued to be unruly.

"He got more and more hyped up," Sanborn said.

When officer Costa arrived, Casto's roommate tried to calm him down while Sanborn and Costa were approaching him. At that point, according to Sanborn, Casto punched his

roommate in the chin.

Officer Costa tried to calm him by placing her hands on Casto's shoulders when Casto hit Costa in the right cheekbone, according to Sanborn. After the assault, Costa, Sanborn, floor-six tutor Eric Roberts and an unidentified resident Cummings Hall were able to pin Casto to the ground and handcuff him.

Casto was sent to MT Medical Center after being restrained to a gurney.

Casto's behavior is still under investigation to determine if he was on any illegal substance, according to Assistant Police Chief Roy Brewer.

Casto was charged with disorderly conduct, simple possession and unlawful drug paraphernalia, according to the police report. He will also be charged with assaulting an officer, Brewer said.

Casto's bond was set at \$10,000 and his trial is scheduled for January 2007.



Photos by Stephanie Bible | Contributing Photographer
(Above) James Fend (left) and Danny Bounds (right) of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity participate in Tuesday's Show. (Left) Corderyl Martin of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity serenades his sorors of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

MT holds second-highest HOPE retention rate

By Diana Casey

Contributing Writer

MTSU is ranked second in the state for student retention rate of the HOPE scholarship, according to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

Top retention rates belong to the University of Tennessee

MTSU has 6,237 students receiving Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarships, according to recently released statewide scholarship retention rates for fall 2004 to fall 2005.

The HOPE base award requires a 3.0 high school GPA or composite ACT score of 21. The retention rate for the basic award throughout all state colleges was 56.1 percent.

Broken down by college type,

independent institutions lead the way with a 63.5 percent retention rate. This was followed by 57.9 percent for public universities and 45.2 percent for two-year community colleges across the state.

Sidelines reported last week that there was a slight decrease in enrollment for juniors and seniors at MTSU. Melanie Collins, MTSU scholarship coordinator, said the decrease was not because of upperclassmen losing their scholarships.

"We are looking at a 91 to 95 percent retention rate currently for juniors and seniors," she said. "We do see a decrease in sophomores for a variety of reasons. There are no statistics to say that the student dropped due to loss

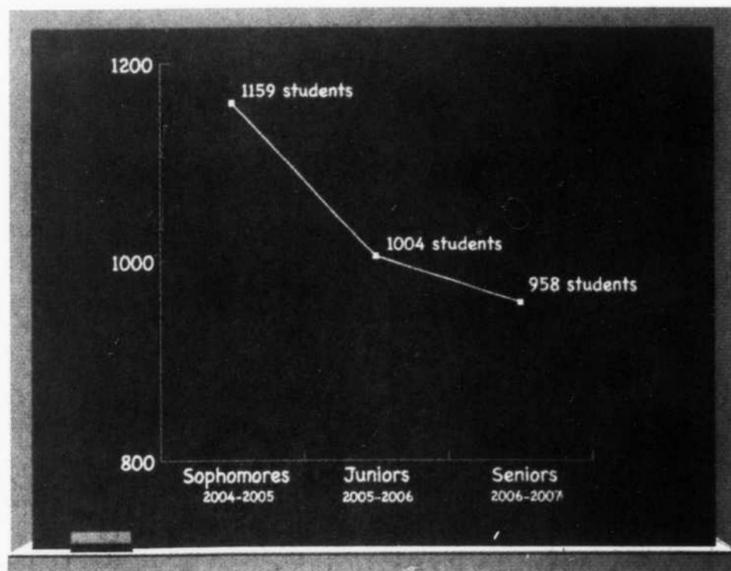
of scholarship."

2003 high school grads, the first to receive the scholarship, had to complete 24 credit hours to be eligible to receive the award.

Following the class that graduated high school in 2003, 1,159 students held the HOPE scholarship during their sophomore year. In 2005-2006, the following school year, 87 percent of the original recipients retained the scholarship. This year, with 958 students still receiving the scholarship, there was a 95 percent retention rate from the previous year (see graph).

There will be records at the end of the 2008 spring semester of students who have received lottery scholarships for four years.

The class that graduated high school in 2003 was the first to receive the HOPE scholarship after completing 24 credit hours at MTSU. Here is a breakdown of their retention rates each school year.



Graphic by Kirstin Johnson

Tardy residents can expect stiffer fines

By Christina Runkel
Staff Writer

Students who haven't been taking their housing pre-payment seriously will know have to pay up an additional \$100, making it a total of \$300.

The reason for the increase was because students were canceling their housing reservations prior to the start of the school year. This resulted in vacancies that otherwise could have gone to students who wanted to live on campus. The faculty at Residential and Housing Life hoped the increase would deter that kind of behavior.

"We found that [if] it wasn't a big deal for people to plop down \$200 and lose it, hopefully they'll think about plopping down \$300," said Sarah Sudak, director of Housing and Residential Life.

MTSU wrote a letter back in

May asking for approval from the Tennessee Board of Regents. The Business and Finance Office for TBR evaluated the request before it was voted on in the last regular quarterly session in June, which also included a 4.1 increase in tuition.

At the moment, MTSU can house around 3,400 students on campus in either renovated or non-renovated dorms.

The increased payment will go towards funding the renovations of all the housing facilities on campus that include the largest dormitories, Corlew and Jim Cummings Hall, both of which are scheduled to begin in coming years.

The fall 2006 semester marks the beginning of the fourth year of the ten-year project. Once complete, the project will provide students with new laundry facilities on every floor, improved study and vending areas, individ-

/// We found that if [it] wasn't a big deal to lose \$200, hopefully they'll think about plopping down \$300.

Sarah Sudak
Director, Housing and Residential Life

ual in-room temperature control and a limited access elevator.

The Monohan Complex – which is a combination of Monohan, Reynolds and Scharde

Halls – are undergoing renovation and have been shut down for the entire 2006-2007 academic year, re-opening for students in August 2007.

Womack Lane buildings are also receiving improvements. A fire sprinkler system will be installed, as well as significant exterior work to accommodate life safety code requirements.

Julianne Stout, a junior pre-law and philosophy major, has lived in both the non-renovated and renovated dormitories.

"Three hundred doesn't make a difference when you look at the whole college experience and cost," Stout said.

Stout also said that she does not think the students will worry about losing \$300 if they find a better place. She also noted that even after the renovations, Gracy Hall still had problems leaking water.

Peter Cothron, a desk assistant at Jim Cummings Hall and a resident at Judd Hall for a year and a half, felt that since the increase was approved during the summer, when most students are

working, students were not able to give their opinion on the matter. However, he could understand "where they were coming from."

"The fact is someone else is paying for someone else's mistake," Cothron said.

Sudak said that she would like students to think about what is in their best interest, but she still believed that on-campus housing was the better approach for freshman students "because it allows [them] to be connected to the campus."

She did, however, want to advise students to look at the MTSU housing lease like they would any other lease. She believed sometimes students did not think of the on-campus lease the same way they would an off-campus lease.

"They need to know what they're signing," Sudak said.

'Hay Fever': Opens this Friday

Continued from 1

interaction with fluidity.

"One of the cast warm-ups was learning how to dance-- salsa, ballroom, tango, etcetera," Anderson said. "It's a good way for them to interact with each other, and it warms up their characters and what they are about to do."

"Hay Fever" has proven for over 80 years that audiences of every kind have come out of the theater still laughing with Cowards' brilliant and witty play, Gibson said.

"It's fun and lively," Gibson said. "It is chock full of well-written characters and relationships. It's just fun."

Anderson herself has been in several of Noel Coward productions, and said she was delighted at being able to direct one herself.

"It feels good to be able to give direction to the work of a man that is so brilliant," Anderson said. "He is one of my favorites of all time. His play is so well written that when we all began, we didn't have to bring anything new to it."

"Everyone is always trying to jazz up the classics with a new twist. But 'Hay Fever' is one of the best-written plays and we didn't have to jazz it up. It stands on its own two feet."

"Hay Fever" opens Friday, Sept. 29th. The lobby doors open at 6:00 p.m., and the play begins at 7:30 p.m.

"It really doesn't matter who you are or what your interests are as far as entertainment goes," Gibson said. "You are going to love this play. I have a lot of faith that our own rendition of Cowards' work will be worth the time."

The price for admission is \$8 for general admission, \$6 for MTSU faculty and \$4 for students K-12. MTSU students will be admitted for free with a valid MTSU ID.

Health programs catch on in city

Murfreesboro plan mirrors recent university wellness benefits

By Mary Thorsby

Contributing Writer

Murfreesboro city employees can now enroll in "Fit for Success," a new wellness program being offered by the city in keeping with recent Tennessee health trends.

MTSU has a similar new wellness program that was recently created for MTSU employees.

These new programs are becoming common because Tennesseans are less productive than in the past, according to a report released last August by Trust for America's Health.

The report states that Tennessee's adult obesity rate is 26.6 percent, ranking Tennessee the sixth heaviest in the nation. One of the main reasons for obesity in Tennessee, according to TFAH, is inadequate funding of health initiatives.

In light of these statistics, some employers have created new health benefits and pro-

grams to change the overall health of their employees.

By creating the "Fit for Success" wellness program as a health benefit for employees, the city is "creating a more productive workforce," said Sherry Carpenter, personnel director for the city of Murfreesboro.

Through healthier lifestyles of the employees, the city anticipates that absenteeism and lost productivity rates will decrease.

Starting Oct. 1, the Sports Com gym and Patterson Community Center will offer full-time employees of the city a pass to their facilities at no cost other than additional taxes.

Not only will the employees be able to exercise at Sports Com and Patterson Community Center, but they will also learn about maintaining good health.

"We are hoping to add educational programs as well," said Alison Davidson, wellness coordinator for Sports Com.

The employees are not the only ones benefiting from the "Fit for Success" program – the city is also saving money.

"For every dollar spent on wellness programs for employees, it is expected that \$3.41 comes back to the city in insurance savings," Carpenter said.

By keeping their employees healthy, they are also keeping them at work and out of the doctor's office.

The "Fit for Success" program is not a new idea.

"Since Sports Com opened 20 years ago, we've always had employees requesting programs," Davidson said.

Davidson, Carpenter, and Lanny Goodwin, Parks and Recreation deputy director, created the program over a two-year period, and introduced it to the City Council in June.

"The interest has been great. Many employees are happy to start the program," Davidson said.

Students face increase vote

By Wesley Murchison

Campus Administration Editor

The passage of Resolution Number 2-06-F by the Student Government Associates places before students a difficult decision. The benefit and cost of the new university center must be weighed by students on an individual basis when they go to vote this Oct. 3 through 5.

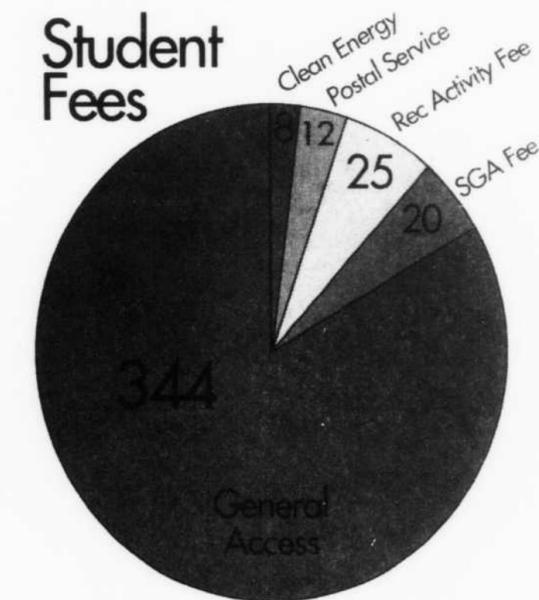
They can choose to increase student fees that will pay for a new university center for future generations, or they can keep personal costs at a minimum so they can graduate without incurring too much debt.

Already 9,500 to 10,000 students withdraw \$60 million worth of student loans a year to pay for tuition, according to David Hutton, director for the Student Financial Aid Office.

According to a report by the Tennessee Board of Regents, MTSU has seen a 75.9 percent increase in tuition since from 1998-1999 to 2004-2005 (with an additional 4.1 percent increase recently passage last June).

An additional \$75 to \$125 per semester would make up for an 30.6 percent increase in student fees for students taking 12 hours or more.

The way that general access fees are charged depends on how many hours a student takes. Each student is charged an initial \$23



Graphic by Blake Arnold

fee, and then an additional \$25 is charged for every hour. The general access fee total cannot exceed \$321, however. Then students pay fees for Clean Energy (\$8), Recreation Activity (\$25), Postal Service (\$12) and a SGA Fee (\$20).

In light of the increasing financial burden, one of the students' largest issues against the referen-

dum is that they don't want to have to pay more money to the university to pay for a center that they themselves will not enjoy.

Natalie LeBert, an undeclared freshman with a two-year-old son, said that while the idea of a new center is nice, it is not crucial. She already splits her time between two jobs, a son and school. If the referendum is

approved, LeBert said that it would be paid for out of her loans.

Another potential problem with placing the referendum on the ballot for October is the short amount of time for the student body to consider the increase and the lack of a central forum to inform the students about the nature of the referendum.

Spencer Wood, the SGA senator who wrote the resolution, believes that the amount of time is sufficient to inform students and to have an in-depth debate.

"You can move things swiftly and you can move things informatively," Wood said.

Wood said that with the channels available to communicate, accessibility to students and the amount of concentration given to the issue is more than adequate to inform students about the student fee increase.

There appears to be an overwhelming voice for support in light of the unanimous vote by SGA to place the resolution on the ballot and the "several million dollars worth of planning and design" already committed by MTSU administration to fund the project, according to Gene Fitch, vice president for Student Affairs.

Carrie Baker, a junior biology major, said she will vote for the center, but is concerned with "tuition going up and how it will affect me financially."

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New Fraternity Focuses On Recording

By Josh Cross
Staff Writer

Omega Delta Psi is a brand new co-ed fraternity that organizes to help students break into the music industry and it has the hope of one day going national.

"We're a professional recording industry fraternity," said James Saxon, president of Omega Delta Psi. "Our main goal is to help mentor to students in the recording industry and help them one day get outside of MTSU and get a job in Nashville or anywhere else. We are just kind of a common ground for all recording industry students."

According to Saxon, Omega Delta Psi started as a joke in the spring of 2005 between himself, his roommate, and a sorority friend.

"We didn't think that think that we were fraternity material for Greek Row," Saxon said. "But we were really into the recording industry because this is

going to be our life."

Saxon and his friends started to research about establishing a fraternity.

"So we Googled 'how to start a fraternity' and nothing came up but it just kind of snowballed from that," Saxon said. "Hopefully one day we will start a national chapter here."

The new fraternity decided to participate in the fall semester Rush, but unlike social fraternities, Omega Delta Psi is available to all genders.

"We accept any students that want to pledge, but our main concentration is the recording industry," Saxon said.

The fraternity has six current members and following fraternity Rush last week, they now have 25 potential members.

"We had about thirty-five to forty people show up and out of those people we've got twenty-five solid members that want to participate," Saxon said. "But now that Rush is over we might take a few more

members," but as far as trying to plan stuff I think that we are going to try and hold them off until the spring semester."

Starting a new fraternity hasn't been very easy to do, but Saxon said it has its advantages.

"I didn't think it as going to be this much work, but it is, and paperwork is still piling up," Saxon said. "It's challenging but all fun and very worth the cause. I have like twenty-five new Facebook friends now and I've also gotten twenty-five more messages saying how glad people are that something like this has started."

Omega Delta Psi does not have philanthropy, but still plans to do several fundraisers for charity this year. Some of the events will be through the school, for example a battle of the bands charity concert is in the works.

"I've also been talking to the Up 'Til Dawn people about doing that kind of philanthropy too," Saxon said.

Some of the things the fraternity wants to do this year are to get people from the industry involved with the organization.

"We really want to do a couple of industry panels in Nashville and talk to some industry people," Saxon said. "Also by the end of the semester we want to try and have our own concert that is produced by us."

While there is no current fraternity house, Omega Delta Psi is hopeful in establishing one in the future. "It won't be immediate because it costs a lot of money," said Erica Sims, Vice President of Omega Delta Psi. "First we want to get a house and then it will cost a lot more money to put a studio inside of it, which is the plan eventually."

For now, their meetings take place in the Business and Aerospace Building but due to the size increases of the fraternity they are going to have to change rooms.

National organizations focus on getting young vote

By Karlee Weinmann
U-Wire

MINNEAPOLIS - With the youngest part of the electorate notoriously apathetic on Election Day, nonpartisan organizations hope to educate young voters and change attitudes on a local and national scale in preparation for Nov. 7.

The Ad Council is working with the Federal Voting Assistance Program to generate interest and emphasize the importance of voting, especially among college-age citizens.

The national public service announcement campaign, called "Pay Attention and Vote," targets 18- to 30-

year-olds, a valuable and often untapped population.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 19.4 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds voted in the 2002 midterm election, making that demographic the most underrepresented at the polls.

Michelle Hillman, Ad Council vice president and campaign director for "Pay Attention and Vote," said the Ad Council conducted research to gain information about the target demographic that proved valuable in deciding how to approach young voters.

This campaign presents mock candidates at its Web site, such as "side of hash browns," "bag of leaves" and "tacky ceramic rooster," and uses the tagline, "If you're not voting, who are

you electing?"

These public service announcements are distributed through media including print, online, television and radio.

The campaign focuses broadly on creating awareness of the power of civic engagement in a democratic society.

"Our goal is to help create a generation of voters," Hillman said.

NEW VOTERS PROJECT

Another organization, the New Voters Project, is focusing on college-age voters this election year.

The project began as a grassroots campaign in 2004 to approach students on campuses and at social events.

Student public interest research

groups developed the project, but it receives funding in part from The Pew Charitable Trusts, a nonprofit organization committed to encouraging civic engagement.

Michael Caudell-Feagen, Pew senior program officer, said the organization thought it was important to endow funds to promote the health of American democracy.

"The habits of citizenship develop early in life," he said. "It (is) important to engage voters at an early age."

According to Tina Post, communications director of the New Voters Project, initial efforts registered 524,000 young voters for the last presidential elections, making it the largest nonpartisan, youth-motivated move-

ment in history.

Post stressed the importance of involving as many young people as possible in the electoral process.

"The youth vote in America is prime to become an important constituency," she said. "By 2015, 18- to 35-year-olds will represent one-third of the electorate."

The group also has a broader mission of encouraging the integration of involvement into the lifestyles of young people, Post said.

"It's important for young people to be civically engaged," she said. "It's something that's important for the rest of your life."

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Backing up computer files can save time

By Jennifer Prystupa
U-Wire

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. - Among the items most students bring to campus are pillows, posters, clothes, and a little machine that contains virtually all the information vital to their everyday lives. But despite the value of personal computers, they are highly susceptible to crashes and viruses. The New York Times reported in June that nine out of 10 Microsoft users do not properly back up their files, leaving their personal information in jeopardy.

While viruses and physical damage to hardware can be rendered computers unusable, methods exist to guard against technological malfunction. Alan Belowich, a professor in the Computer Science Department, said owning multiple hard drives is especially effective.

It's a good option, he said, because, "You can easily transfer data — one drive mimics the other. However, make sure you have the proper protection, such as a surge protector and anti-virus software, or else the drives will still be at risk of becoming fried or infected," Belowich said.

Another way of saving important information is on portable storage devices, such as zip drives, flash/thumb drives, DVD, CD-Rs

I woke up one morning and found my computer flashing the 'screen of death.'

Jennifer Gibbs
Professor of Communication at Rutgers University

and CD-RWs. Jennifer Gibbs, a professor at the School of Communication, Information and Library Studies, said she had her files stored on CDs when her computer crashed. "I woke up one morning and found my computer

flashing the 'screen of death' — my hard drive couldn't be detected, but luckily I found a lot of my files on backup hard drives and in my inbox in my e-mail."

The floppy disk is an older portable storage device that is slowly becoming obsolete. Computer manufacturers are ceasing to offer floppy disc drives as standard features on their machines because of the discs' limited capacity.

"It is not uncommon to not see a single computer with a floppy disk drive on display when you go to the computer store to buy a new computer," said Stevens. "CD-Rs and CD-RWs allow hundreds of times more storage space than a floppy disk could ever hope to have," he said. Some software companies and Internet service providers have heard the message. Microsoft, Google, AOL and Carbonite are offering to back up hard drives online. Price and incentive packages vary by company and length of subscription.

No matter which method one decides to use, backing up computer is a necessary step in securing files, Belowich said.

"With portable storage devices so accessible there are no excuses for not backing up files. I always suggest that any computer file considered important be backed up in at least one other location."

GRADUATING?

~ Not Returning to MTSU?

The Housing and Residential Life Office is currently accepting housing CANCELLATIONS for the Spring 2007 semester from students who are graduating from MTSU and will be taking no additional classes and from students who are not returning to school at MTSU after the Fall 2006 semester.

The deadline for submitting CANCELLATIONS for prepayment refund is Monday, October 16, 2006. Requests for cancellations must be submitted in writing to the Housing Office in the Keathley University Center, Room 300 or mailed to Box 6, MTSU, faxed to the Housing Office (615-898-5459) or emailed to housing@mtsu.edu by the deadline. For additional information contact Housing and Residential Life,

615-898-2971.

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OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board

Tennesseans fat, getting fatter, wellness programs any good?

Americans are getting fatter (thank you, Captain Obvious). So is it not great that we are finally taking notice by creating wellness initiatives for county, city and MTSU employees?

The answer is twofold. Firstly – hooray! People are finally taking notice now that Tennessee has climbed to the sixth fattest state in the nation. This trend surly points to a public awareness of how detrimental obesity is to health as well as a desire for change.

Many people have the will to lose weight, but haven't the knowledge, access or encouragement. After all, if everyone is doing it ...

So praises aside, there is a negative aspect to these wellness programs.

Why are we waiting until a person becomes overweight rather than preventing it in childhood? Though there are also initiatives to reform the nutrition guidelines in schools, physical – more importantly health – education is often not required.

Eating patterns are learned at home first, and those are the toughest to break. So realistically, people should take the initiative to change the way they eat at home without relying on government programs. But alas, we do live in land of deep-fried tradition.

So is it utterly hopeless that Tennesseans will ever become more health-conscious or conceivable that we will lose our top-ten ranking (and ten plus pounds) among the nation's largest states? Supposing that these wellness programs take hold and actually prove beneficial for employees, than perhaps it will become cyclical. When adults change their eating patterns at home, their children will hopefully follow, thus changing our societal eating patterns.

But don't break out the sparkling wine too quickly, change is slow and painful (much like losing weight). The good news is, people as a collective whole are dumb and will inevitably follow the fads. So maybe, just maybe, eating healthy and exercising regularly will become "cool." We can only hope so.

Divorce rate result of short attention spans

While sitting in class, I discovered something very disturbing about myself. During my teacher's lecture, my mind drifted to places that it had no business going. I was thinking about my next meal, my next column and, frankly, everything completely unassociated with the lecture.

I am not promoting this behavior because I am not proud of it, yet, I feel it tackles an important issue in American culture: short attention spans.

No, this is not my personal advertisement for Riddlin, but I would like to address the issue.

Television, technology and TV dinners are to blame. We not only want things now, but they must be the latest and the greatest.

What is the big deal you ask? Our current divorce rate.

It is often said that nearly fifty percent of marriages end in separation. Some experts believe this is caused by issues such as finances. I believe it is because of our short attention spans.

The good ol' days where marriages lasted more than 10 years is now a thing of the past.

I was surprised Bobby Brown and Whitney Houston lasted as long as they did. Sure, they are an extreme case full of drugs, court dates and infidelity, but I really invested a lot of hope in them. I hope their reality show still continues. "Being Bobby Brown" was in my line up of favorites.

As you can see, I easily get off topic and venture into non-related material. It is not a mistake – this is done purposely to keep my reader excited and ready for more.

However, back to the issue at hand – our attention spans are ruining our relationships. Men and women get tired of their significant others and want an instant upgrade.

The minute the woman has a few wrinkles or the man loses stamina, we are out looking to replace the old model with newer and better one. The grass seems so much greener on the other side.

What we forget is that it is a whole other lawn to cut. And yes, that grass turns brown too.

We are submerged in a tech-



My 'Keep It Real' Policy
Shannon Mitchell
Contributing Columnist

nology driven society. Sure, it definitely has its advantages, which are obvious. What we do not pay attention to are its not-so-obvious disadvantages.

No, I am not blaming computers for failed marriages, but they do kind of make us out of touch.

Many people spend more time chatting in chat rooms than actually talking in real life.

Talking must happen to sustain a fruitful relationship. Communication rules the nation. Without communication, a relationship has nothing.

Communication blockers such as the Internet have diverted attention to something less important than the relationship itself.

Okay, since I am saying so many relationships are ruined by short attention spans, I have derived a solution. First things first, get time to know your lover. Find out their desires and what interest them. Make them feel important in a conversation, do not be so anxious to talk, be more anxious to listen.

Guys, I have a special message for you. Those hot girls on magazines usually receive way more airbrushing than they are willing to admit. That means, do not give up on your girl in hopes of meeting one of them, because they more than likely do not exist. If you have a good lady, focus your attention on her.

Ladies, sure, he may not be as buff as you would like, but spend time learning his ambitions and dreams. Pay close attention to all of those things.

Hopefully, I have not gone off on too many tangents. My goal is not to lose you in this sea of words, but to simply to catch your attention.

Shannon Mitchell is a junior public relations major and can be reached at srm3i@mtsu.edu.



Frank Hausenmuller

Media too concerned with profits

Why is it when Katie Couric interviews a fashion designer, it's news, but when Jon Stewart interviews former President Bill Clinton, it's parody?

I've been contemplating the news lately. Not what's going on in the news, but the actual nature of the news, it's format and style. When our nation was in its infancy, the news of the day was dispersed to the public through party "rags" – low-budget newspapers produced by political parties for the express purpose of putting their spin on events. There was no objectivity in those papers, nor was anyone asking for it. If you wanted the most accurate version of the truth, of course, then you bought the Democratic paper. If you felt nostalgic for taxation without representation, then you bought the *Colonial Times*. And, if you felt like blaming the nation's ills on the poor and minorities, then you read the Republican paper.

I'm kidding, of course. However, there is a lesson to be learned from this colorful epoch in the history of American journalism. The ethics and professional practices of journalism are not static. They have evolved over time and continue to evolve even now. The unabashedly opinionated party rags of our past served the public well for a long time, but eventually, the professional code of ethics that supported them was supplanted by a new code – one that replaced the virtue of party loyalty with neutrality and opinion with objectivity. The Rush Limbaughs and Bill O'Reillys of the Civil War era were eventually replaced with more sober, objective and serious-minded reporters.

American journalism had entered the Walter Cronkite era.

The Cronkite era was a very good era, in a way that was radically different from the eras that preceded it and those that followed. The journalists of the Cronkite era had high ideals and were very, very serious about their work. They reported events not to sway public opinion or further the interests of their party but



Speaking Truth To Power
Shana Lynn Hammaker
Contributing Columnist

rather to inform the public – I capitalize that phrase to indicate just how important Cronkite-era journalists considered it be.

Where early American journalists delivered opinion and analysis as much – if not more than – cold hard facts, Cronkite-era journalists placed a premium on objectivity.

Reporters weren't seen to be working for a news organization as much as for the public at large, and it was the interests of the public that were considered paramount. Indeed, the sanctity of reporting was held in such high regard that, though the vast majority of news organizations in the United States now are for-profit enterprises, journalists didn't speak much about profits. In fact, within media firms, the news and sales departments were kept separate, and, in general, media managers didn't expect the news department to be profitable. It didn't need to justify its existence with sales.

It was engaged in serious work. It was Informing the Public.

Like the partisan era that preceded it though, the Cronkite era was destined to pass. Those media managers that had once considered the news department to be beyond the reach of profitability came to realize that more Americans tune in to sensationalistic news programs than to dry, objective ones.

There was money to be made.

Before long, thoughtful programming was replaced with emotional reporting and flashy technology. The serious, somber-voiced Cronkite-era journalists were replaced with young, attractive anchor people.

Journalism had entered the business era.

The business era decimated most of the institutions set up during the Cronkite era in a wave of mergers and consolidations. After a few brief years, most of the news reported in the United States was produced by a mere handful of media firms intent, not on indoctrinating or informing the public, but on selling the public's attention to advertisers.

And sell, it did. Media firms began to rake in the advertising dollars. Millions tuned in rapturously as a smartly-dressed Anderson Cooper deplored the conditions in New Orleans, post-Katrina. Thousands tuned in to hear Bill O'Reilly lambaste the liberal media.

Making news became a profit-fest.

Here's the silly thing, though. The journalistic attitude of self-righteousness never changed. Even after the focus of reporting shifted from Informing the Public to Making a Profit, reporters continued to speak about themselves and about their work with the same level of idealism as they did during the Cronkite era. It was a sorry spectacle, indeed.

Cynicism about the media skyrocketed. Millions stopped paying attention to anything except their local newscasts. Millions of young people stopped paying attention altogether.

Until we found "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart." This self-described "fake news program" delivers news about current events all while drawing attention to the absurdity of the rituals of mainstream reporting. The result is a hilarious, in-your-face style of reporting that frequently delivers news that is closer to reality than the mediated reality produced by more traditional news sources. It's no wonder that a survey by the Pew Research Center, 2003, found that close to 30 percent of Americans under the age of 30 get their news from "The Daily Show."

Shana Lynn Hammaker is a mass communication graduate student and can be reached at slh3a@mtsu.edu.

Letters to the Editor

Jewish role in crucifixion misconstrued

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Brian Petraitis' Sept. 21st letter to the editor regarding Sarah Lavery's Sept. 18th column, "Anti-Semitic bigotry unacceptable."

The reason Lavery refers to the story of the Jews killing Jesus as "made up" is because it is. Even though Petraitis seems to so eloquently reduce the entire New Testament to a single conflict between Jesus Christ and the Jews, the fact remains that Jesus (whose actual name was Yeshua) was actually crucified by the Romans, who were the "federal government" at that time. (Does this mean that every time our federal government gives a judge authority to sentence someone to death, that we as U.S. citizens, along with all of our descendants, are personally responsible?)

Secondly, the only gospel that seems to put any real blame on the Jews for the crucifixion is the Gospel of John, which would later be interpreted by medieval theologians as a justification for the hatred of Jews – a trend that continues to this day, as Mel Gibson's film shows.

John was written later than the other gospels and for a Greek (gentile) audience, unlike some of the earlier gospels which were originally intended to reach a Jewish audience. This reflects a second century desire to define Christianity as a religion distinct from Judaism.

Sadly, until Christians learn to read scripture in its proper historical and cultural context, not only will the actual meaning of such scripture remain obscured, but it will continue to be used as the justification for unfounded bigotry and prejudice.

Valerie Mitchell
Senior, College of Liberal Arts

MTSU should rethink spending choices

To the Editor:

Green power, University Centers, Recreation Centers, Athletic stuff? MTSU's spending is consistently wasteful and pointless. These are all great ideas and amenities – I'd love to have them, and I use some of them already. Yet, for a school with a graduation rate that's a stunning 43 percent, has had a very real parking issue for years and

years, a high turnover rate for professors, notoriously incompetent advising, etc. these seem like the icing on a cake not yet complete.

How many of us have had a class in the Alumni Memorial Gym that's under a basketball court in use? How many of us have had rotten professors we're suspicious were hired simply to lower class size? How many of us have classes on our transcript we don't need?

Green power is a great idea, but MTSU has bigger fish to fry. The real pollution from this school is the 67 percent emission of human beings destined to be disgruntled, over-educated workers as the jobs they get because they didn't get a degree. It's the years we've all wasted on shifting curriculums, the hours over the years that we've driven in circles to park in a gravel lot behind a cattle pen and the thousands upon thousands of dollars spent by students who clearly are not achieving the level of personal success they aimed for.

Once MTSU has dealt with those issues, maybe they should consider a hike in tuition to make the green power switch – but not before.

David Caudill
Senior, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

"Gone Wild" rewards, does not exploit

To the Editor:

I found Sarah Lavery's most recent column, "'Girls Gone Wild' oppresses, demeans," [Sept. 25] to be narrow-minded and sexist. She says it's unfair for girls to bare all, while men make all the money. However, she also says that if these same girls would keep their shirts down, it would hurt "Girls Gone Wild." So, the company is not really oppressive at all, it's just capitalizing on stupid people.

Furthermore, she seems to think that females are the only ones being exploited. Surely, she's seen the commercials for "Guys Gone Wild." In the porn industry, it is well known that female stars make much more money than their male counterparts. Should I be mad because women are making all the money? No, because men and women make their own decisions to bare all for little or no money. There's nothing oppressive about it.

Jason McClenney
Junior, College of Basic and Applied Sciences

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FEATURES

Wednesday: Health & Life



Sonic carhop Rachel Reddon offers up the latest order at the restaurant on Middle Tennessee Boulevard Tuesday afternoon. Many students turn to Sonic and other fast-food chains when facing time constraints. Photo by Jay Richardson | Chief Photographer

Chains offer advice on Web

By Colby Sledge
Features Editor

Recently the fast food industry has taken a public-relations black eye after facing criticism from media like Morgan Spurlock's Golden Arch-bashing documentary "Super Size Me" and Eric Schlosser's best-selling exposé *Fast Food Nation*.

In response, many fast-food chains have taken steps to offer healthier menu options, such as mandarin oranges at Wendy's and the much-maligned veggie burger at Burger King. Those restaurants and others have gone even further, however, to making nutritional suggestions online. A look at some of the offerings:

Burger King
(<http://www.bk.com>): The Web site for the perennial No. 2 burger place looks like it was done by a 14-year-old with way too much time on his hands. Animations accompany seemingly every menu, and every product has a photo — I mean, don't we know what a cheeseburger looks like? The "Eating Strategy" link is a three-slide document that basically tells you to order burgers without mayonnaise. Classy.

McDonald's
(<http://www.mcdonalds.com>): As the leader of the pack (and the subject of *Super Size Me*), Mickey D's has received the brunt of the industry criticism, so it's only appropriate that Ronald and friends have responded with a Web site that goes above and beyond its competitors'. Features include presentations detailing the origin of its products (Chicken McNuggets are mysteriously absent), meal-specific nutritional information and even tips from Bob Greene, Oprah's personal trainer. The "Food News" link just leads to advertisements for McDonald's menu items, though, and let's just say that the people featured on the site menus probably don't make McDonald's a regular part of their diet.

Subway
(<http://subway.com>): Not to be outdone by McDonald's, Subway features advice from JJ Virgin (the nutritionist for Dr. Phil) who offers up inspiring statements like "Don't invite the enemy to the table." Subway also employs a corporate dietician, who offers helpful tips for substitutions that don't necessarily include Subway products. And of course, there's Jared.

Wendy's
(<http://www.wendys.com>): The late, great Dave Thomas might have wanted his brainchild to rethink its site design, which comes off as bland compared to the bells and whistles on its competitors' sites. The site includes nutrition facts, healthy eating tips and, as a plus, specialized menus for customers with diabetes and gluten allergies.

Eating on the run takes toll on students

Small changes can make big impact on energy levels

By Will Cade
Staff Writer

It's 7:50 in the morning, and you know if you don't get out the door in the next thirty seconds you'll be late to class for the second time this week. As you slip into some pants and put on your shoes (hopefully in that order), breakfast is probably the last thing on your mind.

The last-minute morning rush is only one of the common ways in which students neglect their diet when confronted with the fast-paced college lifestyle.

"When students get about planning a schedule, getting a job, or social activities, nutrition can take a back burner," says Barbara Presley, nurse practitioner at MTSU's Student Health Services.

Juggling those responsibilities is difficult enough, but if poor nutrition is thrown into the mix, a student's overall functioning could suffer even more. If you grab whatever is quick, easy, and unhealthy, you can actually impede your day-to-day functioning.

"Some of the consequences of a poor diet are lack of energy, fatigue and poor performance in

every aspect of your life," Presley explains. "If you're trying to balance work and school, you need the fuel."

That fuel is called glucose, or blood sugar, and it serves as an energy source for your body and mind.

"If you don't eat well, then your body won't metabolize calories into usable glucose," Presley warns. "You need glucose to be able to think."

Part of the problem with eating on the run is that many students may not know how to eat healthy in the first place, so when quick decisions are made, they tend not to be the best.

"You need some protein, some fat, and some carbohydrates, then fruits and vegetables, and also water," Presley explains.

The reasoning behind a diverse diet is not simply so you can look good and keep your weight down, but so that you can function at an optimal level. Your energy level boils down to the glucose levels in your blood.

"If you look at the things students eat — carbohydrates, sweets, starches, fats — they're in your blood sugar in 15 minutes to half an hour, and then they're gone an

hour later," Presley explains. "Proteins take longer to metabolize, so when the plummet is coming from your quick active carbs, the protein keeps your blood sugar more stable over a couple of hours."

Eating more protein can help prevent what's known as the lunchtime blues, that droopy state which plagues many of us after midday meals. For more information on creating a balanced diet, visit www.mypyramid.gov, a government website run by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which provides specialized and interactive dieting information and tips.

But a healthy diet consists of more than just eating healthier foods. The way in which you eat is equally important to a healthy — and more importantly active — lifestyle.

"Students don't eat but once or twice a day," Presley says. "The less frequently you eat, the more your metabolism thinks you're starving it and it will actually slow itself down."

This translates into less energy and poorer mental focus if you skip breakfast to catch twenty more minutes of snooze time.

Often skipped meals can lead to

poor decisions made on the run.

"You skip lunch, thinking you'll be fine," warns Dr. Janet Colson, associate professor of nutrition and food science at MTSU. "But then when you get hungry around 1:30, you just raid the vending machine."

Senior recording industry major Cari Gray was doing just that Tuesday evening, pulling a bag of Munchies Cheese Fix out of a vending machine during a class break.

"I have a class from 3:00 to 7:30, so this is kinda like dinnertime," Gray said. "But then I go to the gym after that."

Graduate business administration major Jiten Anand was right behind Gray, grabbing an apple Danish.

"It's so I don't pass out in class," Anand explained.

In order to prevent such last-minute mishaps, Colson says, plan ahead.

"If you live in an apartment or a dorm room with a refrigerator, stock it with things that are healthy, but that you can eat quickly," Dr. Colson suggests. "Juices, fruits, vegetables, sandwich meat, there's also a lot of good granola bars."

For students, finances influence food

By Will Cade
Staff Writer

Say you're that student who by some strange stroke of fate knows about balancing proteins and carbohydrates, likes carrots more than candy, and drinks water like you live in the desert.

And yet, your finances still could get in the way of eating healthy.

"If you're standing at Wal-Mart looking at what you can get the most of for your money, carbohydrates are the cheapest," explains Barbara Presley, nurse practitioner for health services at MTSU. "Protein tends to be more expensive."

Jennifer Carter, a senior English major at MTSU, has had to live with balancing finances and food since she moved off campus.

"My finances keep me to one-skillet or one-pot meals with not a lot of meat," Carter says. "I'll have some ground beef for hamburger helper maybe, but frozen food tends to be too expensive."

Peanut butter and eggs are inexpensive forms of protein, Presley says, and they can also be quick and easy food choices.

At the other extreme, however, all-you-can-eat buffets can be particularly deceiving in terms of balancing the cost of a meal with its benefit.

"Students are in a place where for eight bucks you can eat all you want," Presley says. "They make all the wrong choices and think they're getting more bang for their buck."

For students that support themselves, the cheapest solution is often considered the best.

Students who work full time and still have to study might not be concerned about nutrition, says Rick Chapman, director of student health services at MTSU.

"If they're working a sedentary job — of course, studying is a sedentary type activity — going through the McDonald's drive-thru will eventually catch up to them," Chapman warns.

Melissa James, a senior elementary education major at MTSU, eats fast food at least once a day.

"I can make more homemade dinners when not on campus," explained James. "When you go to the grocery store, though, you spend more money at one time."

Eating out breaks up spending over smaller increments, but it usually adds up to be more expensive overall, James admitted.

There are, however, a few ways to minimize your expenditures.

"For students, the ideal thing to do is pack your

lunch," suggests Dr. Janet Colson, associate professor of nutrition and food science at MTSU. "And water's free here on campus, so bring a water bottle and reuse it every day."

You may not be able live a lifestyle of dietary perfection, but it is possible to skimp a dollar here and a dollar there without sacrificing your own health.

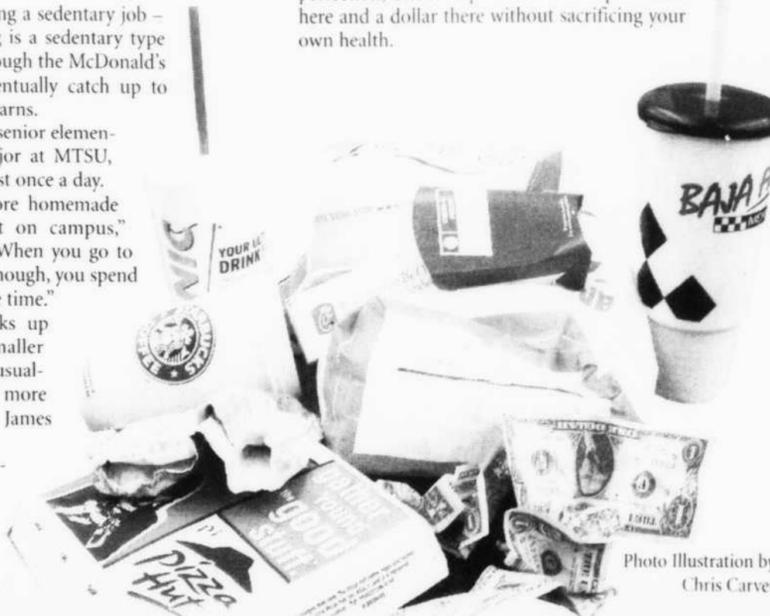
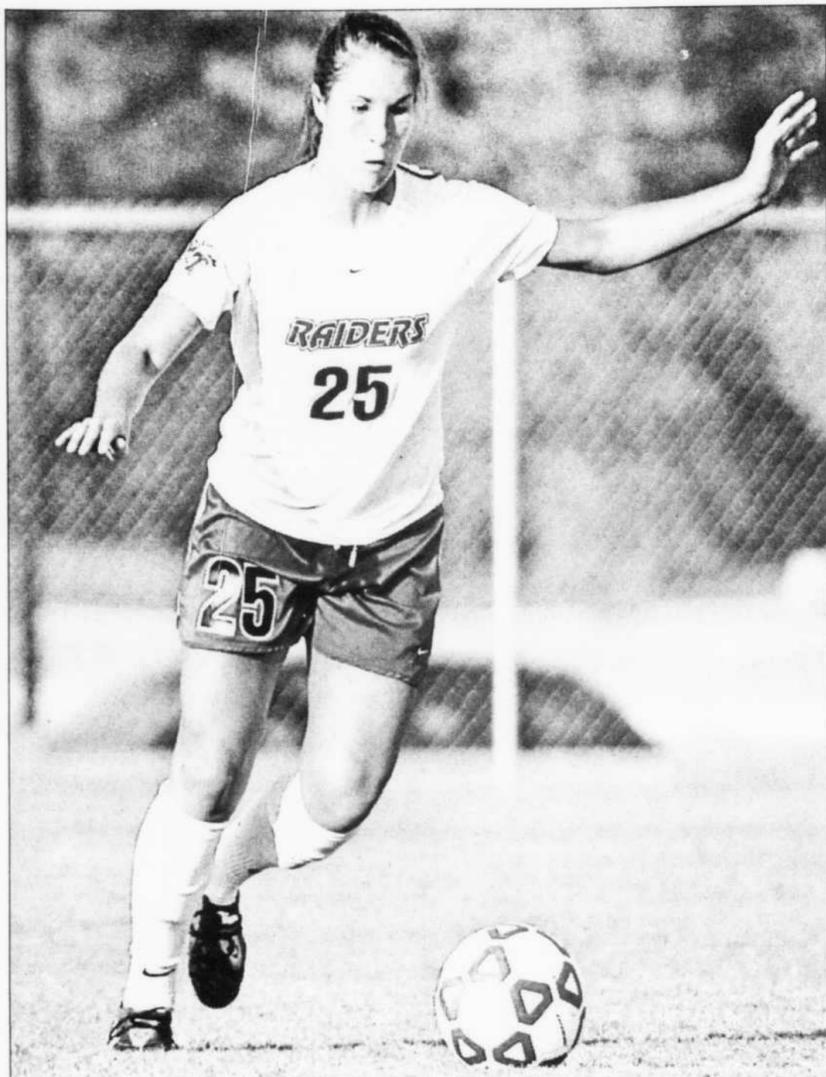


Photo Illustration by Chris Carver

SPORTS

MT defense holds off SBC foes



Senior defender Katy Rayburn attempts a shot on goal against Florida Atlantic Friday at Boca Raton, Fla.

Late goals give Blue Raiders first 2-0 conference start since 2003

Sunday, September 24

MT 2

FIU 0

Friday, September 22

MT 2

Florida Atlantic 1

Next game against South Alabama, September 29

By Clarence Plank

Sports Editor

The Middle Tennessee soccer team opened the Sun Belt Conference schedule with two road wins against Florida Atlantic on Friday and Florida International on Sunday. The Blue Raiders (8-2, 2-0) won their first SBC opener since 2003.

Friday freshmen midfielder Mary Zapapas scored the game winning goal to keep MT from going into over-



Grogan

time for the third time in four games. She found an opening in the FAU defense to score with only 2:41 left in regulation.

"It was a well-deserved win against a very good Florida Atlantic team," MT head coach Aston Rhoden told MT Media Relations. "Florida Atlantic is very well coached, they are organized, and they caused problems for us. They had us on the ropes in the first half, but we made some changes at the half that helped us win the game. Our players did a great job of winning this game against a tough team on the road."

FAU came out fighting and the Blue Raiders fought back with defense and timely scoring. MT trailed 1-0 coming out of halftime. FAU scored off the leg of forward Susanna Lehtinen, who shot the ball by MT keeper Erynn Murray in the 12th minute of the first half.

After that, Murray kept FAU from scoring and made three saves for her second win of the season. Senior Rebecca Rodriguez assisted junior Holly Grogan in scoring on a corner shot and giving Grogan her 23rd goal of the year. Grogan is now tied for fourth with Emily Carter on the career goals list with 23.

The game then remained

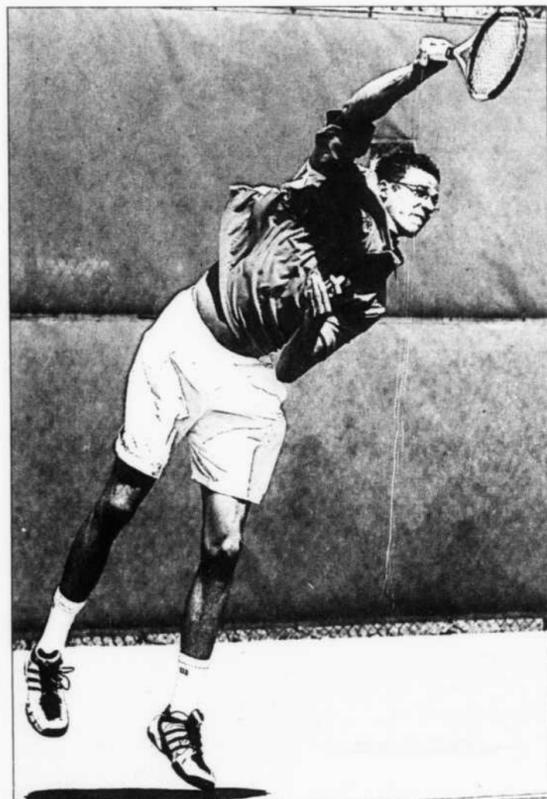
close until Zapapas scored the winning goal.

"It was a big win because it's the league opener, it's on the road, and it was against a very good team," Rhoden told MT Media Relations. "I believe our non-conference schedule helped us today because we had to win a tough game on the road and our players have been in tough games, home and away. The proved they know how to come from behind and win a big game. I'm really proud of their effort."

On Sunday against MT won against Florida International 2-0 as Grogan scored both goals to help the Blue Raiders to their second conference win.

"We talked about ending the curse because we had not won at Florida International," Rhoden told MT Media Relations. "Anytime you can win two conference road games during a weekend in our league it is a big accomplishment. I was pleased with how the team came out focused and played solidly throughout after a very intense game Friday. We put together two impressive matches on the road and that's always a good thing. It was nice to finally get a

See Soccer, 7



MT senior Marco Born and doubles teammate Andreas Siljestrom lost in the finals.

MT falls in Fall Invitational No. 3 Born, Siljestrom fall to Ole Miss in finals

By Clarence Plank

Sports Editor

The Blue Raiders' remaining players lost their semifinal matches Sunday in the 20th Annual Middle Tennessee Fall Invitational. Due to inclement weather over the weekend the consolation games were canceled as the matches were moved indoors.

Sophomore Morgan Richard lost in the A2 singles 6-3, 4-6, 2-10 to the University of Tennessee's Davey Sandgren, who is ranked 116th in the nation. Freshman Marc Rocafort lost to the Tennessee's Ben Rogers 4-6, 1-6. Over in the A3 singles match, Tennessee's Kiril Tcherveniachki beat Blue Raider redshirt freshmen Joao Paoliello 3-6, 2-6 in the semifinals.

Saturday the squads were forced to play indoors at the Racquet Club in Murfreesboro. In doubles action, seniors Marco Born and Andreas Siljestrom had a first-round bye and beat Jacob McLeod and Adam Storti of Morehead State 8-2 in the quarterfinals. Born and Siljestrom are ranked third in the nation.

Born and Siljestrom continued their winning streak against Tennessee's Bobby Cameron and Kaden Hensel 8-5, to move on to the semifinals. They lost 8-6 to Jakob Klaeson and Chris Rea of Ole Miss in doubles.

In the B1 doubles quarterfinals junior Marc Boiron and Paoliello beat William Treadwell and Jaala Brooks of Tennessee State 8-0. They also beat John Crawford Freeman and Martin Crockett of

Birmingham Southern 8-2, in the semifinals. They then lost in the finals to Daniel Isaza and Sebastian Serrano of East Tennessee 8-4.

Rocafort and Richard lost to Auburn's Terence Nugent and Stephen Nash 8-4 in the A2 doubles quarterfinals. Rocafort and Richard were selected to play in the consolation matches.

Recapping the results from Friday in the Fall Invitational, Rocafort beat McLeod 6-1, 6-2 in the 16th round and beat Lisandro Picardo of East Tennessee 6-7 (4), 6-3, 10-7 to reach the semifinals, only to lose to Sandgren.

Paoliello won his match against Ryan Farlow of Mississippi State 6-1, 6-4 and beat Memphis Benedikt Fischer 6-4, 6-4 in the quarterfinals. He played Tcherveniachki in Tennessee and lost. Born beat Ales Svegeil of South Florida 6-4, 6-3 in the round of 16 before losing to Tennessee's Hensel 6-7 (1), 3-6.

Siljestrom had a bye during the first round, but then lost to Phillipps Frayssinoux. He was scheduled to play against Henning Hipp of South Florida, but the consolation quarterfinals were later canceled. Siljestrom and Born were suppose to compete in the consolation against other opponents from the previous matches. both lost in the quarterfinals.

The men's squad now will head to Tulsa, Okla., for the Polo Ralph Lauren ITA All-American Championships September 30-Oct 8 and the women will be heading to California.

The women will be playing in the Riviera/ITA Women's All-American Championships Sept. 30-Oct 8 at Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Anything but a controversy: Marks still QB Stockstill plays down move to Craddock in Oklahoma rout



The Cynic

J. Owen Shipley
Staff Columnist

When Clint Marks arrived to Middle Tennessee as a freshman, he only weighed 163 pounds. Four months of hard work, forty pounds of muscle and several passing records later, the last thing the senior expected was a quarterback controversy.

After leaving the game early against Oklahoma, Marks had to watch from the sidelines as redshirt sophomore Joe Craddock took his place under center.

While he didn't score, Craddock did move the ball.

At a lot of other schools, there could easily be a quarterback controversy in the works, along with new coaches, a struggling offense and community pressure. Sound familiar?

Some coaches love benching the other guy's star. I never have known why; maybe they just don't like sloppy seconds. But that doesn't make sense to

me either. Sloppy Seconds is a great band.

I've seen indecisiveness blow up in quite a few team's faces. For example, does anyone remember the movie *Remember the Titans*? No? Well, neither do I.

I asked head coach Rick Stockstill about the situation in hopes of getting a lead, but he didn't bite.

"We didn't take Clint out because he threw the interception. We took him out because we weren't moving the ball offensively," Stockstill said. "We're not going to stay the same [if it's not working]."

And then, as if there were any doubt, he quickly added, "You know ... I've got confidence in Clint."

While we're on the subject, I'd like to

speak directly to the three of you in my family who have read every column I've written. You've probably noticed by now that I've been somewhat critical of Marks. I've seen him play in person just yards away from me. I've seen him from the top of the press box and I've seen him on film. One thing stands out.

It's not all his fault. If we are limited in size, depth, or talent on one side of the ball, it would definitely be on offense. While Marks hasn't played brilliantly this year, he's still the best quarterback to lead the team.

Except when he's not. At least I think that's the message Stockstill was trying to convey. These things are always a bit confusing.

Either way, don't expect Clint's streak of 25 straight starts to end anytime

soon. He may have to learn to share, but I don't see him losing his job. Stockstill is the kind of coach that knows the difference between being patient and passive.

"The guys that are playing the best during the game will play the most during the game," Stockstill said, adding that he didn't "have any doubt that if Clint is struggling, Joe can come in there and help us." After talking to him, I don't have any doubt that if Craddock was struggling, we'd see Marks come back in. Whatever it takes to win.

For MT's conference record's sake, they should hope the guy under center is a non-issue this weekend, because that would mean the Blue Raiders finally would have beaten North Texas.

Lucky, Cornhuskers run over Trojans

Saturday,
September 23
MT 56
Troy 0

By Evan Bland
U-wire

LINCOLN, Neb. -- So much for a Southern California hang-over.
One week after suffering its first loss of the season, No. 23 Nebraska bounced back in a big way, blanking Troy 56-0 Saturday night in front of a sold-out crowd of 84,799 at Memorial Stadium.

The Cornhusker offense roared to life, churning out 597 yards of total offense while putting up eight offensive touchdowns. Sophomore running back Marlon Lucky scored three of them to go with a career-high 156 yards rushing on 10 carries.

On defense, NU posted its first shutout since a 28-0 win against Iowa State in 2003.

"I'm really excited about our defense shutting out today," NU head coach Bill Callahan said. "It was a good win for our football team, the way we handled ourselves and the preparation of the week. To come back in this fashion (from the USC loss) and in this type of form is very satisfying." The Husker defense was so

dominant that Troy ran only five plays from scrimmage in Nebraska territory and never got closer than the NU 37-yard line.

Callahan said he thought the offensive and defensive lines played exceptionally well, hurrying Troy quarterback Omar Haugabook on seemingly every play and sacking him four times.

But maybe more soothing to Husker fans was watching the offense click after recording just 10 points a week earlier.

On Nebraska's opening possession, it marched down the field and took an early 7-0 lead when Lucky outran Trojan defenders for a career-long 34-yard touchdown.

But Lucky wasn't done. The North Hollywood, Calif., native broke a 45-yard run for a score in the second quarter and established his third career-high run of the game when he sprinted into the end zone from 51 yards out to give NU a 35-0 lead early in the third quarter.

Lucky said the offensive line played its best game of the season, giving him some choices as to where he wanted to run.

"Linemen blocked a hell of a game today," Lucky said. "They had some big holes."

NU running back Kenny Wilson thought so, too. The junior ran the ball 19 times for 106 yards and two touchdowns, both times capping off Husker drives lasting more than five

minutes.
The last time Nebraska had two 100-yard rushers in a game was in 2004, when Cory Ross and current NU junior safety Pierre Green turned the trick against Western Illinois.

"We didn't overlook this game a second," Nebraska senior safety Andrew Shanle said. "We wanted to, in a physical sense, get the game over by half-time."

Shanle was responsible for one of three NU takeaways on the night, intercepting a Haugabook pass deep in Nebraska territory.

The other two Troy turnovers came on special teams -- one when Trojan punter Jason Wright muffed a snap, and the

other when Troy punt returner Leodis McKelvin fumbled a Husker punt.

Nebraska's lone turnover came in the second quarter when quarterback Zac Taylor threw an interception, just his second of the season. The senior finished 14-of-17 passing for 268 yards and a touchdown.

With the offense rolling -- it had 10 plays of at least 20 yards -- and the defense as strong as ever, NU junior cornerback Andre Jones said he and the team proved they are ready for the Big 12 Kancense season, starting with Kansas next week.

"We were all on the same page," Jones said. "I almost hated that it ended."

MT returns home to face USA

South Alabama brings three-game winning streak to Blue Raider Field

By Clarence Plank
Sports Editor

Middle Tennessee (8-2, 2-0 Sun Belt) will hope to continue its winning streak against conference foe South Alabama this Friday in Murfreesboro.

The Blue Raider defense has been stepping up and shutting down their opponents' ability to score. Erynn Murray will be looking for her fourth career win and hoping for another shutout as well.

The Blue Raiders will also be looking to avenge their 2-1 loss to South Alabama last year.

Freshmen midfielder Mary Zapapas has already scored a hat trick against Lipscomb two weeks ago and scored a goal against Florida Atlantic. Holly Grogan and Rebecca Rodriguez will be sharing the ball and looking to continue their domination of the opposition.

Grogan scored three goals in both the Florida Atlantic and Florida International games last weekend. She also got her sixth career multi-goal game against FIU moving her into fourth on the career goals scored list.

Rodriguez had an assist, which was her

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Blue Raider Soccer Schedule.**

Sept 29.	South Ala.	@7 p.m.
Oct 1.	Troy	@1 p.m.
Oct 6.	@ Arkansas-Little Rock	@4 p.m.
Oct 8.	@ Arkansas State	@1 p.m.
Oct 13.	Louisiana-Lafayette	@7 p.m.
Oct 15.	Louisiana-Monroe	@1 p.m.
Oct 20.	@ Denver	@4:30 p.m.
Oct 22.	@ North Texas	@ Noon
Oct 27	Western Kentucky	@ 7 p.m.

78th of her career. She is nine points away from the school record set by current assistant Laura Miguez-Howarth.

On the other side of the ball, South Alabama (4-6, 2-0) is coming in on a small streak of their own after winning both of their SBC opening matches against Arkansas-Little Rock and Arkansas State.

The Jaguars shut out UALR 4-0 and then held off ASU 2-1.

The Blue Raiders defense will be keying on freshman Sam Stocker, who got her first career hat trick against Mississippi Valley State last week and scored six goals in three games. USA has scored 13 goals in the last five matches.

Soccer: MT wins Sun Belt opener

Continued from 7

twin in Miami."

The defense made out against FIU, helping MT to go 2-0 in the SBC since 2003. The Grogan-to-Rodriguez connection scored again as Rodriguez passed the ball to Grogan, who put the ball in the net in the fifth minute. Zapapas got her first assist in

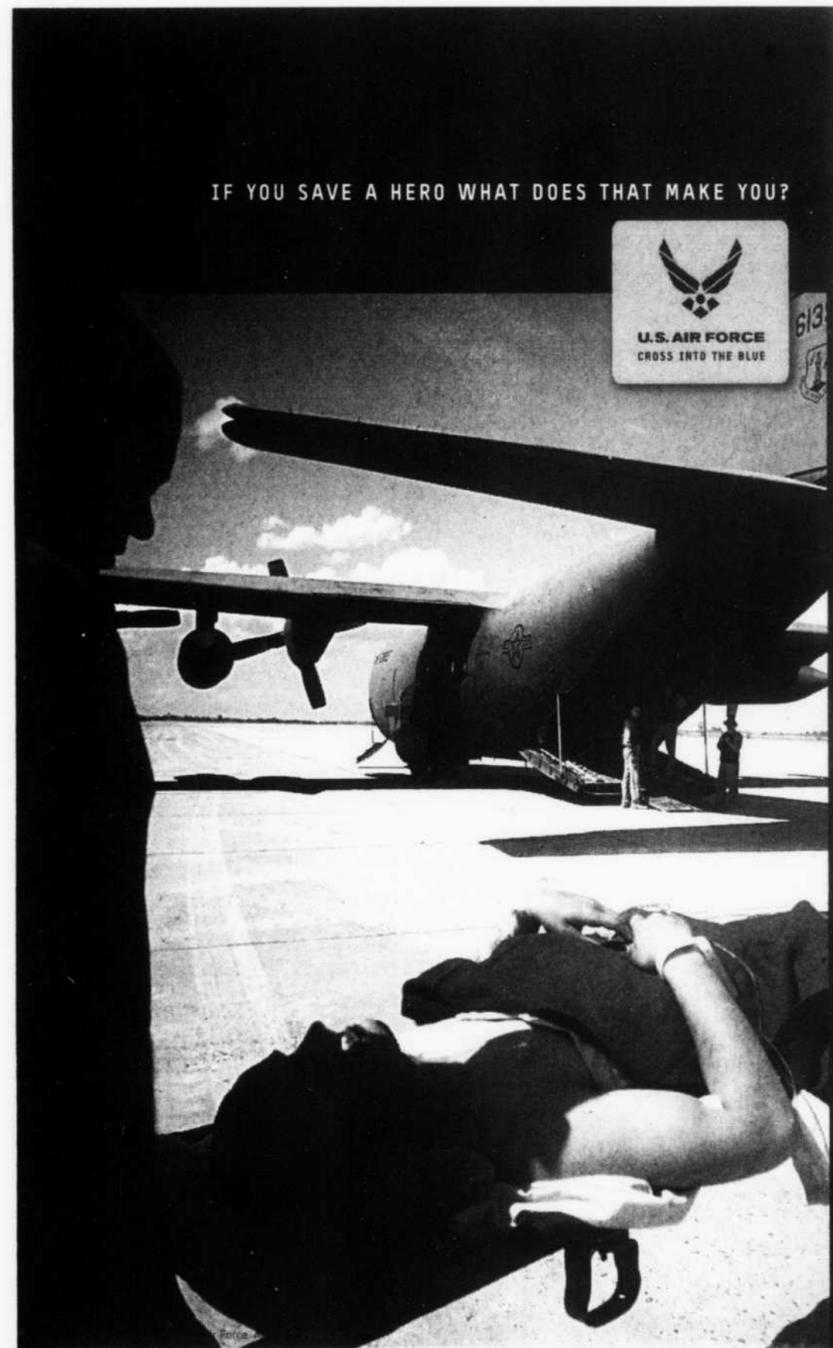
helping Grogan score with a corner shot for her sixth career multi-goal game.

That goal moved her past Emily Carter for fourth place on the career goals scored list. The defense only allowed four shots on goal and was able to get its third shutout of the season and give Murray her third win.

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