

Unemployment in Tennessee has risen the last few months, but the rate is lower that it was

On Oct. 19, Tennessee's Department of Labor and Workforce Developed released the unemployment figures for September 2007, stating that the rate was 4.7 percent. The rate is up 0.7 percent form August's 4.0 percent.

The national average was slightly up from August's 4.6 percent to September's 4.7 percent.

Labor and Workforce Commissioner James Neeley said the rise in unemployment is "the result of 18,100 new job seekers entering the labor force last month.

The month-to-month decline includes the fields of leisure and hospitality, which are down 4,900. There is also a slight decline in industry-wide manufacturing jobs, which are down 1, 100, as well as retail trade, which is down 900 jobs.

But some MTSU students are not threatened by the recent rise in unemployment.

"A 0.7 percent increase is not cause for major alarm," said Stephanie Wilburn, sophomore, special education major. "In the beginning of September employment [rates] are going to be down until the Christmas season starts.

"Once the season starts, people, especially students, will need or want money and stores will need workers. So the unemployment rate will go down," said Wilburn.

"The rise in unemployment is not a cause to sound the alarm," said Tiffany Gray, sophomore, speech and theater major. "You have to take into consideration that Tennessee has a string of colleges and college students will be leaving in August to return to school."

"As a result of that they are going to quit their summer jobs and consequently con-

Tennessee unemployment rates are a concern for students, especially since most of MTSU students are from the state.

Although according to the report by the Dept. of Labor and Workforce for September 2007, our graduates are in a good position. Austin said, especially MTSU'S upcoming December graduates.

Although the employment rates are up, We have seen Tennessee's jobless rate decline over the past year from when it was 5.1 percent in September 2006," Neeley said.

There were some real hard times in the Career and Employment Center a few years ago, especially after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, according to Austin.

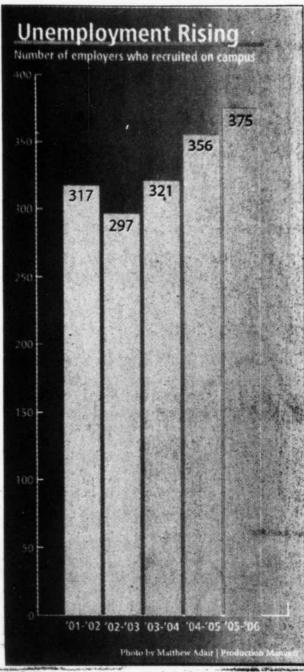
"It was difficult, I think a lot of people did not expect the ripple effect throughout the economy," said Austin. "In 2003 we started to see things getting a little bit better. "In 2004 and 2005 [prospects] went up as far

as the quantity as well as the quality of jobs that we have gotten in [for students]," said Austin.

The Career and Employment Center's Annual Report for 2005-2006 shows a significant increase over the years of employment recruiters coming to MTSU students on campus.

The annual report's data comes from MTSU students who were registered with the Career and Employment Center.

The report shows in detail employers who came to campus specifically to recruit students through the academic years of 2001 through 2006. The results are the total number of employers from Business and Government, and Graduate Schools, Summer Nurses/Health Career Day, Jobs/Internships Fair and Career Day.



Campus concerned with conserving energy

By Andy Harper

Managing Editor

MTSU is currently accepting applications for project proposals focused on the fees collected for the Clean Energy Fund.

"A university committee has been established to administer the funds generated by this fee," said Gene Fitch, associate vice president for Student Affairs and dean of Student Life, in an August e-mail to faculty and staff.

Proposals for review include renewable energy, energy conservation/efficiency, alternative fuels and sustainable design.

Funding for the projects comes from the Clean Energy Fee enacted in fall 2006. The \$8 increase in tuition began as a sponsored proposal by Students for Environmental Action. In spring 2006, the Student Government Association senate voted on allowing the issue of clean energy to appear on the fall ballot. The issue was then placed on a referendum and passed by

The Clean Energy Fund can be used for various campus projects including solar array displays. Projects can also save money by partnering with rebate programs like the Generation Partners program sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority and Murfreesboro Electric Department.

"Up to 10 percent of the total annual appropriations may be used for research grants, as well as academic programs for educational, training and research purposes, [and] to help develop awareness of energy use, con-

sumption and conservation to be awarded within the MTSU community," Fitch said.

Another 10 percent of the total annual funds may also be awarded to researchers interested in conducting studies on more efficient energy uses. SEA established their own proposals for the fund at their meeting last Thursday, said Jennifer Ray, secretary for the Office of Student Life and co-

sponsor of SEA. SEA proposals for the Clean Energy Fund include solar panel charging stations for the campus golf carts, energy-generating wind turbines for

each building and rainwater tanks for watering the grass. Additional projects SEA is looking at are compost bins for the livestock area and switching trucks used by the campus to biodiesel, Ray said.

"Our next big campaign is a plastics recycling competition for Greek Row," Ray said. "There is also a wetlands cleanup on Nov. 17 and a hazardous waste cleanup on Nov. 3 [and] we need a lot of volunteers."

SEA is also participating in an upcoming environmental summit sponsored by the Tennessee Alumni and Students for Sustainable Campuses, a coalition of students and alumni from Tennessee colleges and universities who work to make their campuses and Tennessee clean, just and

The summit will be hosted in Murfreesboro from Nov. 16 to Nov. 18, Ray said. Interested parties for the summit can contact either SEA or visit the TASSC Web site for more information.

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underwear-baring subject of a series of best-selling children's books. Long Beach High School Principal Nicholas Restivo, who sent the three seniors home to change last year, said the episode solidified his sense that

School bans Halloween costumes after

Captain Underpants costume caper

LONG BEACH, N.Y. (AP) - Call it the

Misadventure of Captain Underpants and the

A suburban Long Island high school has

banned all Halloween costumes after three sen-

ior girls showed up last year dressed as the

Associated Press

Peeved Principal.

Halloween Briefs

AP poll: Minorities less likely to trick-

WASHINGTON (AP) _ Two-thirds of parents

say their children will trick-or-treat this Halloween,

but fewer minorities will let their kids go door to

door, with some citing safety worries, a poll shows.

The survey found that 73 percent of whites

versus 56 percent of minorities said their chil-

That disparity in the survey is similar to the dif-

ference in how people view the safety of their neigh-

borhoods, according to the poll by The Associated

Press and Ipsos. Lower-income people and minori-

ties are more likely to worry that it might not be safe

Thomas Link, 50, and his family are new to

"I'm very particular about who I let my kids

Overall, 86 percent of those questioned in the survey said their neighborhoods are safe for trick-or-treating. Ninety-one percent of whites, compared with 75 percent of minorities, said they felt their kids would be secure when they

Similarly, 93 percent of people earning \$50,000 or more said their communities are safe for trick-or-treating, compared with 76 percent

Even many people who view their neighbor-

Kristi Nichols, 35, of Seaford, Del., who said she lives in the community where she grew up, accompanies her children on their Halloween rounds. I'm a forensic nurse and I know what happens," she said. "It's very different from when I was little."

their trailer park in Palatka, Fla. He said he con-

siders it unsafe because he does not know many neighbors, but had not decided whether to let his

to send their children out on Halloween night.

three young children trick-or-treat.

went out seeking candy in their area.

of those making less than \$25,000.

hoods as safe take precautions.

deal with," he said.

dren will trick-or-treat on Wednesday.

or-treat this Halloween, citing safety

By Alan Fram

Associated Press Writer

the school's costume tradition was disruptive. For the Captain Underpants costumes, the three girls donned beige leotards and nude stockings under white briefs and red capes to portray the superhero, who has battled such foes as talking toilets. To Restivo, the appearance was

'I'm being a principal. I'm not being an ogre," Restivo said.

He added that some gory costumes could make some students uncomfortable.

Some students don't see it that way. They are circulating a petition opposing the costume

It's one thing if the school won't let us wear out-

See Halloween, 2

that the girls were naked.

Dinosaurs invade Sommet Center

Monday

HI: 67°

See Features, 3

Adjuncts underpaid, under-appreciated

See Opinions, 4

FB wins four of last five; QB injured

See Sports, 5

LOCAL FORECAST

Thursday Tuesday Wednesday LO: 43° LO: 48°

Campus Briefs

MTSU and Red Cross Volunteers needed

MTSU and the American Red Cross Heart of Tennessee Chapter ecently signed an agreement whereby MTSU's Recreation Center

s now designated an emergency Red Cross shelter.

Wiley is now issuing a call for faculty, staff and students who would be willing to take the disaster training that would qualify hem to become shelter volunteers. The four training classes, free of charge, will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 30, Nov. 1, 6 and 8, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the MTSU Police Training Room on East Main Street.

Wiley says they need 50 trained volunteers for the MTSU shelter facility. For more information or to sign up for the training, call Wiley at 898-2104.

Question and Answer with Sidney McPhee

A Question and Answer session with MTSU President Sidney McPhee, is being held Oct. 29 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the James Union Building Tennessee Room. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Habitat Blitz Build needs Volunteers

Volunteers are being recruited for the Habitat Blitz Build through Nov. 8. New dates have been added because of the recent rain. If you are seeking community service hours, this is the perfect opportunity to work toward your goal. If interested, contact 898-5812 or visit the Student Life office in Keathley University Center Room 326-S, and be a part of one of MTSU's largest service projects.

Up 'Til Dawn General Interest Meeting

A general interest meeting is being held Oct. 30 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Keathley University Center Theater. Find out about MTSU's St. Jude Children's Hospital Fundraiser, Up 'Til Dawn.

Greek Life

A Halloween Carnival, sponsored by the National Panhellenic Council, is being held Oct. 29 in Cummings Hall.

A Trick or Treat Fest is being sponsored by the NPC and the Student Government Association Oct, 29 from 5-7 p.m. in Walnut Grove. Come in costumes to enjoy games, candy and safe, family fun. Free to all families and children.

Men's Greek Speakout is being held Nov. I and is sponsored by

For more information on these, and other, Greek events contact Greek Life at 898-5812 or visit the Web site at mtsu.edu/~greeks/

Student Dietetic Association Bake Sale

The Student Dietetic Association is hosting a Halloween bake sale on Oct. 30 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. in the Ellington Human Sciences Building and in front of Forrest Hall.

Halloween Horrorfest

Monday: "The Shining" will be shown at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. for a \$2 admission.

Tuesday: Alfred Hitchcock's "Vertigo" will be shown at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m for a \$2 admission.

Wednesday: "Nightmare on Elm Street" at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. \$2 admission. The "Rocky Horror Picture Show" will be shown at midnight for a \$3 admission. There will also be a costume contest. Thursday: "The Exorcist" at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. \$2 admission.

MTSU Idol

MTSU Idol Round One will be held Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. in the Keathley University Center Theater. Admission is free.

"Romeo & Juliet"

MTSU Theatre and Dance presents "Romeo & Juliet," Nov. 2-3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Tucker Theatre. Call 898-2640 for more information.

Book Club

The "Our Friends: Our Selves Book Club" meets on Oct. 29 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the James Union Building, Room 206. The featured book is "Golden Mountain" by Irene Kai. For more information call 898-2193.

Brass Performance Clinic

The School of Music is pleased to announce the fourth annual MTSU Brass Performance Clinic on Nov. 3. The all day event is open to all high school students, grades nine through 12. School music teachers and private instructors are also invited to attend.

Due to space limitations, it may be necessary to limit attendance in certain clinics; to ensure availability of certain events, sign up now. Registration is simple and only takes a couple of minutes. The cost for the entire event, including tickets to the Brass Band of Huntsville, is only \$15.00 in advance, or \$20.00 at the door. All proceeds are used to defray costs necessary to bring this event to the public.

Halloween

Continued from 1

innocent Halloween costume, we should be allowed to wear it," said junior Meghan Beck.

HALLOWEEN - You don't know Jack

By Julie Reed

Associate Press

Tom Nardone wants to bring scary back.The author of "Extreme Pumpkins: Diabolical Do-it-Yourself Designs to Amuse Your Friends and Scare Your Neighbors" (Home Books, \$13.95) believes that Halloween, and one of its best-known symbols, the jack-o'-lantern, has become too wimpy.

The pumpkins in Nardone's book (and on his Web site) aren't your typical gap-toothed, triangle-eyed specimens - these pumpkins are covered in (fake) blood, drowning in plastic bags, eating other pumpkins and being electrocuted.

"Kids like to be scared," he says. "Once I dressed up in a trash barrel as a Transformer - my wife was giving out candy - and I jumped out at a group of 5-year-olds and said 'Boo!' One kid looked at me and said 'You're not scary - you're a trash can.' I have never been so insulted in my life."

Despite that failure to fright, the Halloween scenes on Nardone's lawn in suburban Detroit typically draw many onlookers - and, in the case of a 'mooning' pumpkin he installed on a former neighbor's yard, stop traffic. He constructs his displays with an array of power tools like jig saws and routers; his Web site started as a how-to guide.

New this year, he says, will be a flame cannon built especially for use with pumpkins: "It shoots flames 15 feet into the air." He's

also busy thinking up new and different ways to smash pumpkins and thinking about a pumpkin accelerator.

"There's a long tradition of carving jack-o'-lanterns - it was something fun that was done by kids and their parents and it was supposed to be spooky," Nardone says. "It was the one time you got to use a knife and fire - and it's been co-opted into something cutesy. I want to tell the moms and dads out there to take another look at Halloween and to go back and make this a really exciting tradition again."

Find it online extremepumpkins.com.

Fear of memory loss gives the biggest scare

Associate Press

NEW YORK (AP) - Can't remember what's special about Oct. 31? That's really scary.

A survey of 1,037 Americans found that about 21 percent say losing their memories is their top fear this Halloween, followed by being buried alive (which worries about 19 percent). Even snakes (the top fear for 11.5 percent surveyed) beat out a terrorist attack (10.4 percent).

The survey, commissioned by FearNet.com, a Web site and video-on-demand service devoted to horror movies and thrillers, also asked respondents to pick the scariest horror movies to watch on Halloween. "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre" chilled 20 percent, while "Halloween," terrified 13.5 percent.

As for whom they fear the most, it was just about a tie. Given a list that included two world-stage players among zombies and devils you know (such as your boss), Osama bin Laden took 26.4 percent of the vote and President George W. Bush pulled in 24.2 percent. ◆

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If interested, or if you have questions, please call Steven Chappell at extension 2337 Eveon Corl at extension 5111



Murfreesboro, TN 37130 OPEN MON-SAT 11-7







what

The National Guard is hosting a free paintball tournament open to students. All equipment including markers, paintballs, and safety gear will be provided for free.

1st place team will win \$1,000 and additional prizes will be given to the 2nd and 3rd place teams. Free lunch provided to all tournament participants.

who

Create your own team of up to 10 players and go head-to-head against other students.

when Saturday, November 3, 2007

Winning Team Walks Away with

where The tournament will take place just minutes from campus.

how Visit www.GuardPaintball.com to register and get more information about the paintball tournament and upcoming campus events.

> Are you familiar with the benefits the National Guard offers college students?

- \$20,000 Enlistment Bonus
- · Up to 100% Tultion Assistance
- \$20,000 in Student Loan Repayment
- · Up to \$509 per month in G.I. Bill benefits

Sound good? Talk to a recruiter or visit www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com to get more information about these benefits, as well as the R.O.T.C & Simultaneous Membership Program on your campus!

FEATURES

Graphic novel review

'Shortcomings'

By Jamie Lovett

Contributing Writer

There's been a small wave lately of young, Asian-American artists making a name for themselves in the American comics arena. Eisner-Award-nominated Derek Kirk Kim did it with his anthology "Same Difference and Other Stories." Gene Yang did it with his award winning web-comic turned graphic novel "American Born Chinese."

Adrian Tomine has done it with his ongoing series of short, serialized stories "Optic Nerve."

"Shortcomings" is the third and longest of the "Optic Nerve" stories collected thus far.

Throughout the story, Tomine deals with stereotypes of race, gender and sexual orientation, the challenge of dealing with change and ones own personal deficiencies.

"Shortcomings" focuses on the life of Ben Tanaka, a Japanese-American university dropout living in Berkeley with his girlfriend, Miko Hayashi, and working as a movie theater manager. Despite their devotion to each other, Ben and Miko's relationship is deteriorating and feels cold unless heated by an argument about race, politics or Ben's fixation with white women. When Miko decides to take an internship opportunity in New York, Ben is left on his own, forced into a series of events and changes that he has to deal with.

What makes "Shortcomings" so memorable is the way Tomine tells Tanaka's story through his supporting cast, rather than the main character himself. As the lives of the people around him seem to move at a pace faster than they can keep up with, Tanaka is left spinning his wheels in a failed attempt to move forward. It brilliantly illustrates Tanaka's unwillingness or inability to deal with the fast-paced world around him and how desperately he tries to stop it from moving at all.

Tomine sets himself apart from his contemporaries through a sense of sad realism that contrasts starkly with the bright, stylized work of Kim and Yang. The work is entirely black and white, and Tomine shows an incredible amount of skill in using light and dark contrasts to let the panel reflect the emotion of the characters within it.

The black and white adds to the underlying mirror symmetry in the story that is present in how Ben and Miko's relationship plays out, the certain amount of East Coast versus West Coast sentiment mixed into the story, and the structure of the graphic novel itself.

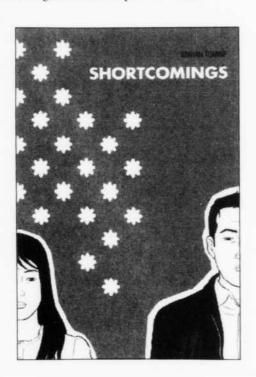
The characters are masterfully crafted, particular Tanaka. At the beginning of the story, you feel a certain amount of pity for Ben because he is so awkward, but the more you get to know him, the more you start to cringe at the things he says and does. By the end of the story, you simply want to strangle him for his stubbornness. The relationship between Miko and Alice - Ben's Korean and homosexual best friend - is equally solid. Miko's sense of sadness at being trapped in her relationship with Ben is constantly on display during her conversations with him. Alice's more spirited conversations with Ben provide an appropriate amount of comic relief to the otherwise downbeat story.

Tomine manages to juggle all of these elements and themes skillfully and weaves the various threads into a tightly-knit tapestry. No panel is wasted and no one plot thread ever takes the spotlight longer than it should. All of the themes and plot points fit together perfectly to create one emotionally saturated story.

"Shortcomings" is a great comic that's full of tension: racial, sexual and those inherent in relationships and, simply, living life. Tomine's characters transcend the racial barriers that are focused on throughout the story, so that any reader can relate to them emotionally. We can feel their pain and frustration as they deal, or fail to deal, with life's unexpected challenges and their own shortcomings.

With "Shortcomings," Tomine not only stands 'shoulder-to-shoulder with other popular Asian-American comics artists, but, perhaps, through his sense of realism and incredible comic craftsmanship, pushes himself to the forefront.

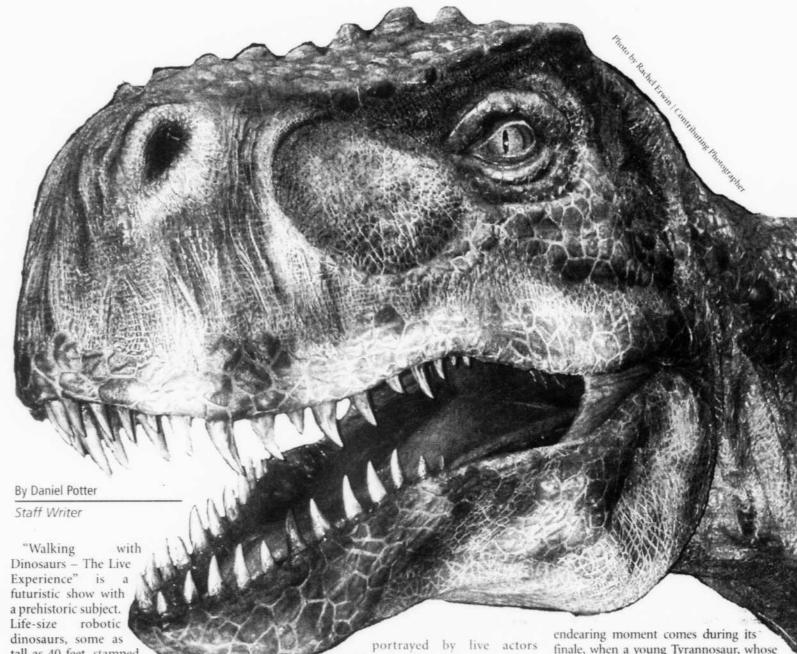
Adrian Tomine proves to be a creator worthy of the indie scene buzz surrounding him, and "Shortcomings" proves itself to be a relevant, endearing, and resonant piece of work.



Graphic Novel Review Title: Shortcomings Writer/Artist: Adrian Tomine Publisher: Drawn and Quarterly Price: \$19.99

RAWR!

Dinosaur show invades Sommet Center



tall as 40 feet, stamped through the arena of the Sommet Center in Nashville last Friday night as part of a weekend engagement

for the touring show. Almost a dozen different species were showcased, several with multiple representatives. Providing educational commentary from the floor was a stereotypical paleontologist - complete with khakis and vest - who narrated the dinosaur's reign, progressing from their origins in the Triassic period to their extinction some 65 million years ago.

Founded in Australia, the event is new to the United States and looks to visit Europe early next year. The dinosaurs were all custom-built for the show; some cost nearly a million dollars a piece and took over two months to assemble.

The larger creatures, like the towering longneck Brachiosaurus, are suspended above tiny cars disguised as rocks to blend into the terrain; for bipeds like the Tyrannosaurus this effects a vague impression of skateboarding.

Mannerisms from tail-lashing to teethgnashing are operated wirelessly, and with striking detail. A stalking Allosaurus even seems to grin sinisterly upon approaching its prey, a sweetly oblivious Stegosaurus grazing on vegetation along the arena's edge.

The show's smaller carnivores are actually

inside suits that cost more than a Mercedes. The only recognizably human feature to be seen is their legs, too different from theropods' to fully conceal. Whenever the dinosaurs fight, the studied footwork of these human legs evokes thoughts of some primal dance, an impression further cemented by a dramatic and sometimes abrupt symphonic score.

The music is complimented through careful use of colorful lights, which are used to reflect certain moods - lush greens explode with the advent of flowering vegetation, while in combat a sudden shift to red signifies a death blow.

The result is epic, and at times unsettling. At one point a scavenging pack of Utahraptors the closest known analogue to the villains of Steven Spielberg's "Jurassic Park" - find and devour a carcass, prompting moans from little boy seated behind me to his mother, "No, they

This was the grimmest moment of the show, however, which is intended and generally wellsuited for families. Even so, the Sommet Center did appear to have adult beverages for sale, perhaps to take the edge off the \$20 cost of a program - merely the chilling tip of the costly souvenir iceberg.

Back to the matter of family, the show's most

finale, when a young Tyrannosaur, whose voice cracks comically whenever he tries to roar, draws the ire of an Ankylosaurus, an armored vegetarian wielding a 150-pound bone club on its tail.

The situation appears dire for the scrappy juvenile until his mother arrives to protect him, simultaneously displaying sweetness and ferocity as only a mother can.

Throughout the show, the paleontologist host proves useful in providing a sense of scale - he's often dwarfed by the massive beasts, and acts appropriately, sometimes breaking the tension of a savage struggle with brief moments of comic relief as he scurries from the path of charging carnivores.

He occasionally sneaks in witty asides, as when two horned Torosaurs spar for dominance of their herd: "Who will win? Well, the male with the biggest head of course - Some things never change."

A recurring theme throughout his narration was that of arms race, as herbivores were continually developing new countermeasures to defend against the ever deadlier adaptations of their predators.

And on the subject of natural selection, let me conclude by saying the show is an easy choice for dinosaur fans young and old, casual and ravenous alike.

Nearly Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 19

Happy Halloween to you! But it won't be, sadly, because your face is your own birth control. Freddy Kruger wouldn't even date you.

Taurus

April 20 - May 20 Your unpopularity probably has something to do with those "Charlie the Unicorn," "Shoes" and Chris Crocker YouTube videos you keep going on about in your classes. Get off your computer and do something produc-

tive. If this is too difficult for you, then just

don't talk. Now that is cause for celebration.

Gemini

May 21 - June 21 Jupiter had decreed that you will be heckled by a group of trick-or-treaters who think your normal self is your costume. Do something about that.

Cancer

June 22 - July 22

Beware of going to costume parties this Halloween. Your party repartee is so filled with inane chatter that the other party goers will play a prank on you and that ugly "Matrix"

get-up you wear every year will be ruined. Actually, please go.

Leo July 23 - Aug. 22

Your luck will end this month on All Hallows Eve. Your significant other will dump you because you won't stop talking about your Playboy Bunny costume, with the fuzzy ears and pink fishnets. How original you are.

Virgo Aug. 23 - Sept. 22 Uranus wishes for you to enjoy your Halloween, since he has vowed to curse you on the first of next month. The reasons behind this hex are not clear, but it is most likely because you are yourself and there is nothing anyone can do to change that. Too bad.

> Libra Sept. 23 - Oct. 23

The stars have aligned to rain curses down on your head in the form of giant iack-o-lanterns.

> Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 21

Happy Birthday and Halloween to you. Seriously, all the planets love you, your

friends adore you and you've finally scored that delicious tidbit who sits in front of you in Biology. Things will go great this month. Nah, just joshing with you, dude. This month is going to suck.

> Sagittarius Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Happy Halloween. Or is it? Figure this out on your own. The planets are tired of you. So is fate. So is your mom.

> Capricom Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Don't eat any Halloween candy in your class. Someone has a hankering to embarrass you. Two words: Chocolate laxatives.

Aquarius

Jan. 20 - Feb. 18 Halloween does not like you and neither does "The Exorcist." The planets suggest that you do not become a cess pit for demons, in case you didn't know that already.

Pisces

Feb. 19 - March 20

Quit looking forward to Halloween. Another excuse for you to dress up like a hot cop, a french maid or just wear lingerie and cat ears is no cause for celebration.

()PINIONS

From the Editorial Board: Dinosaurs are awesome, but Halloween is better

Dinosaurs are awesome.

This conclusive evidence is the result of an informal, non-scientific poll conducted by the editorial board about the editorial board for the

Pterodactyls came in fifth, behind Utahraptor, Stegosaurus and Triceratops, respectively. Our number one favorite dinosaur is Fred Thompson, although it should be noted that the Triceratops came in at a very close second.

Realizing that the polling process was far too complicated, we decided to change our methodology and take a completely different approach halfway through the poll. Instead, our studies have shown that although dinosaurs are awesome, Halloween provides substance for a much longer and more interesting editorial.

Because the topic of Halloween is such a diverse subject, encompassing multiple aspects of exploration, we have decided to focus on a few of our favorite areas, many of which are covered in today's news section.

Halloween is an excellent example of a holiday on which to conserve energy. Electric lights are turned out, candlelight is used to create a spooky atmosphere and walking is actually viewed as progressive despite the fact that candy is handed out as a reward.

Sadly, there are downfalls to the holiday, particularly concerning safe ty. It is extremely disheartening to think that some children will forego the festivities simply because some communities might be unsafe. Even more disturbing, minorities have a higher likelihood for fearing their communities compared to their white counterparts.

Speaking of fear, 21 percent of Americans are afraid of losing their memory. Although awful, losing one's memory could be slightly bene ficial because you would forget everything else you're scared of like being buried alive with a bunch of snakes and terrorists

Overall, the scariest part of the poll was the fact that the top choice of horror characters to scare up some fun on Halloween was Elvira - prov ing once more that cleavage always trumps cleavers.

Unfortunately for some, cleavage or even faux bodily no-no. In the case of the three California high school garls, creativity

resulted in banning of costumes at school on Halloween. Captain Underpants is a significantly less offensive costume 'sexy' nurse, policewoman or Catholic schoolgirl. Had a male dressed in

a similar costume, sans the beige leotard, would there have been conflict? Despite the monstrous inconsistencies between fear and fun for the Halloween holiday, dinosaurs are still awesome

Happy Halloween.

Large corporations want your talents

Sure, we all want to start off at the top of the list for the best companies out there doing business in the world. That would be nice, but for most, it is simply a dream.

The thing that holds many recent grads back is accepting this notion and doing so, taking any job that sounds fair. The job that is best is always the one that is right for you; the one that allows your career to reflect your passions. This is not the way most are describing the current job market. How have a few on either end of the spectrum become the norm for the total group?

It would make sense for everyone to know what the Google Effect is. It is the aftermath of the fabulous work life Google gives its employees, things like free lunches, on-site massages and yoga classes. This is not just the old guys, but the newbies, too. Then again, Google is only a couple of years old, with its founders being only a few years removed from this new generation which they seem to have inside information on how to deal with this eager, challenge-welcoming and entrepreneurial bunch. What this has caused in the

work force is more employers becoming more flexible with their companies' culture. In years past, a job hunt was a process of how to join a great company, for the most part, any company. In today's world, the process is no process. Careers are started by getting out there; taking whatever experience you have and making it shine for you. There still are the many that are able to get in the door via a company buddy. So yes, networking is still as important as it was years ago, maybe even more. With more of the United State's young generations continuing on to college and graduating there will continue to be more and more

competition when you are finally

ready to join "the real world."

What makes it so real is not the



work, it is more the effort you put into the work to advance. If you are fine with just landing a job, then you're already half way there. In order to have a lasting impact, an effect that will help shape the company, you must put much more into your every move. It's like a well-played chess game. One wrong move and - checkmate.

Surprisingly, the industries that are fighting each other for you are the ones most would have thought would be under the rug these days. After all, the problems that companies like Enron and Arthur. Andersen have battled, and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which increased the pressure for companies to polish up their books, the companies at the top of most lists of best places to start a career are within the financial industry. If they are not one of the 'Big Five" accounting firms, they are investment banking firms looking to grow through their newfound talent. If you took a trip to MTSU's Career Fair you should have noticed all the investment guys, in their dark blue and gray suits, pure white shirts and sailor-shiny shoes. Maybe paying attention in accounting class will get you somewhere; the money is good, then again, if you can't muster up the energy to crunch the numbers now then, the money will not matter because you will dislike the job.

So, what does this mean for all you recent or soon to be graduates? Career hunting is not what it used to be, but it is still a job in and of itself.

Rodney Henry is a senior marketing major and can be reached at rmh2n@mtsu.edu.



Adjuncts unpaid, under-appreciated

By James H. Williams

Contributing Writer

How would you feel if, after working part time for the same employer for more than 10 years at basically minimum wage, you had

How would you feel if, at the same time you hadn't received a raise, the full-time employees at your company had received yearly cost-ofliving raises and increases in benefits, and probably promoted to higher wage levels, too?

You'd probably feel like the faculty who teach part time across Tennessee, These faculty in the Board of Regents system of which MTSU is a part have not had a raise in more than 10 years. Nor have they ever received health insurance, retirement benefits or any of the other benefits that other state employees receive. (Even the most poorly paid MTSU employees get health insurance and retirement, but only if they work full time.)

Can you agree with me that this sucks? When the TBR approves tuition increases each year, do you assume that some of that money goes toward raises for all MTSU employees? Think again.

At MTSU, there are now over 900 full-time faculty members who receive state benefits and market salary adjustments. Left out are the more than 300 faculty who teach part time at MTSU. Why? Because the TBR refuses to increase the pay cap for part-time faculty.

What can be done? The American Association of University Professors

(www.aaup.org) this week is observing Campus Equity Week. Across the nation we are drawing attention to the plight of faculty who teach part time.

This week in your classes ask your professors which ones have full-time contracts and which ones teach on a part-time, semester-to-semester basis. (Hint: If you have a night class, it is probably with a part-timer.) You'll likely find that some of your best teachers fall into the part-time appointment category. Ask them why they teach for so little money. I'll bet they say because they like teaching, they like the subjects they teach and they like being around college students. They won't say it's mostly for the money. The minimum pay for an adjunct professor at MTSU is \$1650 a course; the maximum is \$2100. Vanderbilt pays three to four times that amount.

Why hasn't the pay scale been increased? First, the TBR and others operate with a fastfood mentality when it comes to hiring parttime faculty. We find the people who will accept the lowest pay. Needless to say, hiring a high school kid to flip burgers should not be the same as hiring teachers with masters and doctorate degrees to teach you in college.

Second, some believe that faculty who teach part time do it for fun, not money, and therefore don't mind being left behind. Ask your professors and let me know how many have trust funds that subsidize their opulent style of life or are 1950s housewives teaching just to "get them out of the house for awhile." What you'll find instead is that a good part of your

professors are among the working poor with families to feed, mortgages to pay and no health insurance. Many of them piece together two or three classes here with two or three at some other school in hopes of making about \$10,000 a semester, if they're lucky.) Don't forget to factor in the gas costs as they drive all over Middle Tennessee to teach.

Finally, the refusal to increase pay for parttime professors is clearly an economic one. In the United States today, nearly half of all college faculty have part-time appointments. With lower wages and no benefits, part-time faculty are cheaper. That's the bottom line: cost, not quality or fairness. You pay for fulltime faculty but are getting a quarter who are on campus only a few hours each week.

If you think this situation is fair, then do nothing. If you would like to know that your professors are all fairly paid and that your tuition and tax dollars are helping them each year keep up with rising costs of living, then get involved. Write the TBR and the governor (who is a member of the TBR). Contact your SGA representative and state legislators. Work

I like teaching at MTSU and believe I'm fairly compensated. On the other hand, I think it's despicable how we have neglected my faculty colleagues in the TBR system who teach parttime. They and you deserve better.

James H. Williams is a professor of history and the MTSU chapter president of the American Association of University Professors.

Letters to the Editor

Housing manages projects badly

To the Editor:

I wish to complain about the terrible management of MTSU Housing, Everyone believes the Wood Hall/Felder Hall dorm will be demolished at the end of this spring. However, it is being painted, beginning with the first floor of Felder. I have asked Housing [and Residential Life], attempting to ascertain that it will, in fact, be torn down after this school year, yet no one was willing to confess the fact.

In the meantime, Felder continues to be painted. Unwilling to sit and watch such wasteful nonsense, I called Housing Maintenance a third time, when I was transferred to Richard Smith, [Associate Director of Housing Administration]. Smith proceeded with the poorest conversation I have ever had. He stopped just short of lying to me, blatantly refusing to answer my question. He told me that projects are driven by funding, and prospects are always uncertain and as the economy changes, projects are pushed back. In the meantime, Felder continues to be painted.

We discussed various issues of the painting, mainly how it was unnecessary, and how the paint job that is being done is actually making the place look worse. Instead of off-white and blue, we have entirely off-white. Even duller, even less attractive. Asked about this, and whether he'd seen the progress, Smith said he had and that he liked it.

I turned the topic back to whether Wood/Felder would be demolished. He repeated himself: projects are driven by funding. Logically, this means that Wood/Felder is being painted because there is not sufficient funding to demolish it. When asked if this was the case, he replied angrily, "That is not what I said. I said that projects are driven by funding." I was wondered why he was intentionally dodging the question. "Okay, then, so we do have the funding for it." Logically, if he will not simply say that the funding is missing, then it means the funding is not missing. His response was even more acrid: "Now you're trying to put words in my mouth. Again, projects are driven by funding.

He then interrupted me and told me that these questions are to be addressed to Troy Arrington, Area Coordinator, Everything I said was ignored as he repeated only this statement. When it was clear that he was about to hang up on me, I said, "... I see. Well, thank you for your time." "Yeah." I hung up the phone.

To be frank, this is pathetic. When a question is asked, what reason is there for not answering it? Furthermore, members of the Honors College have been told this building will be demolished at the end of this Spring, and that the new science building will (eventually) be built

I say "the new science building" because it is common knowledge at this point among students. The Resident Assistants in Area IV agree that it is nonsense, yet this nonsense continues. I am disgusted. Either

money is being wasted or information is being intentionally withheld, or both, and none of these situations is reasonable or acceptable, especially for what pretends to be a University.

I am interested in applying for the Academic Assistant position, desiring to teach, but at this point I am becoming more interested in moving off-campus to avoid funding further nonsense and poor management.

Daniel S. Bridges Junior, College of Basic and Applied Sciences

'McLean' not music building's name

I am a junior vocal music education major here at MTSU, and I picked up a copy of the paper today on my way to class. On the front page I noticed a section of quotes about Robert McLean's affiliations with the School of Music ["Faces in the Crowd," Oct. 25].

This section was very misleading and filled with misinformation. First off, I find it interesting that there is only one music major asked to comment on the situation, and that person is a freshman. No offense to him, but he has only been here a couple months, which is not been long enough to know how to answer the question.

The rest of the people interviewed have no relation to the music school. It seems like whoever did the interview did not even set foot into our building to find out the real facts. As for the information that was incorrect, it should be known that we have been the Robert McLean School of Music well before his money laundering and certainly before his suicide occurred.

We did not name the school for his death, we named it for the substantial amount of financial help he gave us by turning us into an all-Steinway School. To comment on the RIM major's quote, it is our not our music hall's name. Our [performance] hall is the T. Earl Hinton Music Hall. Robert McLean is not even the part of the building's name. It is the Wright Music Building.

We named our program here after him. It's not our building that is in the light of McLean; it is our program, our classes, our pianos that have his name on them. This merely attests to the fact that there was not a good even decent demographic represented to inform people about what is going on here in the McLean School of Music. Please be sure to get your facts from sources that are in touch with the subject and perhaps even have some feelings towards the matter.

Grant Farmer Junior, vocal music education major



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SPORTS

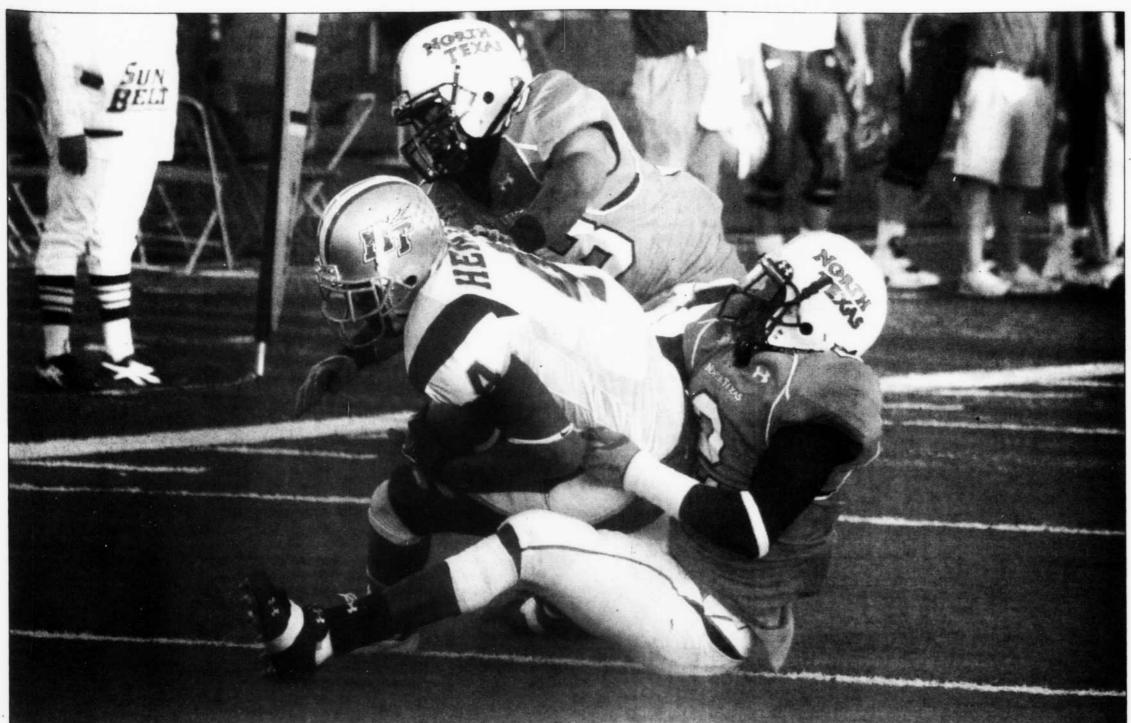


Photo by Bradley Lambert | MT Media Relations Redshirt senior Taron Henry continued his stellar season as he recorded another score on a 51-yard catch from Dwight Dasher against the Mean Green and finished the game with six catches for a career-best 103 yards. Henry is the first Blue Raider receiver to top the 100-yard mark since Desmond Gee (109 yards) against Louisiana-Monroe last year

Craddock, defense win shootout

QB Dasher injured in the final minute of the first half; Nickson, Jones and Jenkins grab interceptions in win

By Chris Martin

Staff Writer

The Blue Raider defense turned in another great performance while spoiling North Texas' homecoming in Middle Tennessee's 48-28 win over the Mean Green.

The defense, which set the school single-game record for sacks last week against Arkansas State, terrorized UNT quarterback Giovanni Vizza on the way to racking up four interceptions, two sacks and four

"We knew North Texas had problems with pressure and we brought plenty of it," senior defensive end Erik Walden said.

The Mean Green rushing game wasn't spared by the Blue Raider defense either. UNT gained 87 rushing yards on 22 attempts. However, 77 of those yards came on a Jamario Thomas touchdown in the first quarter. After allowing that touchdown run, MT was able to limit the

Mean Green rushing attack to just nine yards on 20 carries for an aver-

age of .45 yards a carry. One big part of the success for the team was the exemplary play on special teams, especially that of punter David Defatta. Defatta averaged 47.2 yards on his eight punts, four of which he pinned inside the opponents twenty. Of those four punts inside the twenty, three were downed at the UNT 1 yard line leading to two MT safeties, both occurring in the fourth quarter.

Several players came through with big performances for the Blue Raiders. Senior wideout Taron Henry brought in six catches for 103 yards and one touchdown. Tailback DeMarco McNair collected three touchdowns in the game, two on the ground and one in the air to give him an Sun Belt Conference-leading 12 on the season. Walden had three tackles for loss, a sack and an interception.

Not to be outdone by his fellow linemate, senior defensive end Tavares Jones collected four tackles, an interception and a pass break-up. Jones nearly scored while returning the interception, but was dragged down at the UNT 5 yard line.

"The play that turned the game was the great play that [Jones] made, the interception," UNT head coach Todd Dodge said. "Chalk it up to a player who is playing really well this year and made a play for his football team at a big time.

The impressive MT performance did not come without its setbacks. Freshman quarterback Dwight Dasher left the game in the second quarter with a knee injury; he did not return to action. Before getting injured, Dasher completed 16 of 21 passes for 159 yards and two touchdowns with no interceptions, He also added 24 yards on the ground.

"We're not going to lose focus of the present, and [Saturday night] we got a tough road win," MTSU Coach Rick Stockstill said. "We had so many people hurt in this game that it was a credit to our players to win on the road. That's hard, and this team did it."

Dasher's injury was just the latest in a series of injuries that have threatened the Blue Raiders' shot at an SBC title defense. The freshman quarterback first came in as a replacement against LSU on Sept. 15 when redshirt junior Joe Craddock was injured in the second half. Now Craddock is likely to be the one who has to step in for an injured starter.

X-rays taken Saturday night were inconclusive. Dasher is expected to receive an MRI before Monday. It appears that Dasher's season could well be over; for now all the Blue Raiders can do is wait on the results of

Offensive coordinator G.A. Mangus has said in recent weeks that he plans to increase the occurrence of the two QB formations first used against ASU. Now, it appears the innovative system will have to be shelved until the Blue Raiders again have two healthy quarterbacks.

Dasher's replacement, Craddock, finished the game with a rusty 6 of 17 performance and admitted afterwards that it's been a while since he's had to take that many snaps.

The MT defense has forced nine turnovers in the last two games and is now second in the SBC in points allowed.

The win moves the Blue Raiders (4-5, 3-1 Sun Belt) into a tie with Florida Atlantic, who lost to Louisiana-Monroe on Saturday, for second place in the Sun Belt Conference. With the loss UNT (1-7, 1-4 SBC) is now ahead of only Florida International in the SBC standings. Troy (6-2, 5-0 SBC) is now the only team that remains undefeated in

The Blue Raiders will get back on the road next Saturday to take on Louisiana-Monroe in Sun Belt action. The game is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. •

Sidelines Players of the

Offense

DeMarco McNair

RB 5-11 195 pounds, r-Senior

McNair led the offense on the ground and in scoring with 11 carries for 62 yards and three touchdowns (two rushing and one receiving). It was his eighth rushing touchdown of the season and the fourth receiving score to give him 12 on the year. He now has scored at least one touchdown in five of his last six games.

Defense

Damon Nickson

S 6-0 177 pounds, Senior

Nickson's interception slump finally ended after almost a year. He grabbed two against North Texas' Giovanni Vizza. This was the second multiple interception game of his career and now has eight interceptions in the same time span.

Soccer finishes home season

Grogan and Forrest score game-clinching goals in final home games

By Dwayne Douglas

Staff Writer

MT (8-5-1, 5-2 SBC) entered the weekend near the middle of the conference and faced 2 of the 3 teams in front of them at home over

They also entered the weekend unbeaten over the last 5 games. The team was 4-0-1 with the tie coming in a scoreless game against Arkansas State on Oct. 14th.

The temperature was not enough to stop some MTSU faithful fans from coming out.

"It's a little cold out here and this game is a little less crowded than normal. I believe the weather is keeping some people in," says MTSU baseball player Taylor Dennis.

It looked like Denver was going to score early Friday after taking several quick shots but as the crowd got louder and louder, it seemed the Blue Raider defenders worked harder and harder. It was then evident that the 12th man would have a lot to do with the way the game was going to be played.

The game had reached the midway point of the first half and there were still no points on the scoreboard. After the injuries of Kala Morgan and Kelly Downs, Holly Grogan scored an unassisted goal with 13:08 left in the first half. The shot was only the Blue Raiders' second shot of the game.

The goal by Grogan turned out to be the only goal of the game and marked her 13th game winning goal, a new school record. The goal gave her 101 points in her career, also a school record. "I was not aware of the records, but I am proud of them," said Grogan.

Kala Morgan recorded her 6th shut out of the season, putting her in 2nd on the MTSU single season record list.

After the win against Denver, the Blue Raiders were ready to continue their run at a

Sun Belt title, playing North Texas Sunday. At halftime the Blue Raiders were down 0-1 and

didn't look to be very aggressive. The second half of the game was the exact opposite. The team had several great shots that were close to scoring, but the Blue Raiders were still scoreless at the 15-minute mark. A goal tied it up late in the game, with the Blue Raiders avoiding overtime with another score. The seniors were able to walk off the field with

a win on Senior Day. Senior Kaley Forrest was happy with this win, but she made sure it was known that this was a win that was very special for many other reasons. The wins keep the Blue Raiders in the running for the conference title, something Forrest would love to share with her teammates.

"I got a Conference championship as a freshman, and I want to leave that for the girls here as well," says Forrest. •

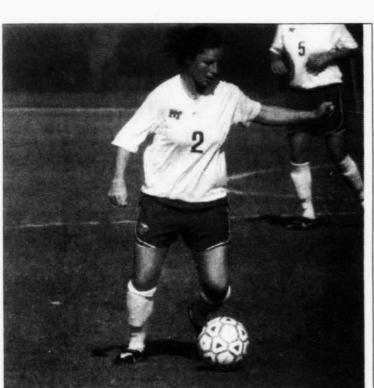


Photo by Ryan DeBooy | Staff Photographer Senior Kaley Forrest, of Franklin, Tenn, scored the game winning goal against the UNT mean Green on Sunday. The weekend's wins propelled MT to second in the SBC

Kellem rises to occasion

By Chris Martin

Staff Writer

A cold rain beats down upon the Blue Raider athletic complex after a Wednesday practice. The players slowly make their way to the locker room, rubbing their hands and anxious to change into warm clothes. Off to the side, true freshman Jeremy Kellem lingers.

To the untrained eye, he doesn't look like much. Few would guess that the 5-10 175 pound Kellem is the secondleading tackler on the team. At under six feet tall with an unimposing frame, he does not fit the stereotypical mold of a football player. But he's definitely not shy not shy about discussing his size.

"One thing I need to improve on is getting my weight up," Kellem said. "I'm only like 175 and a lot of people we go against, their receivers are 190 and running backs are 205."

Despite his lack of bulk, the youthful-looking Kellem leads the team in pass breakups and is tied for the lead in interceptions. Yet, the humble safety still says he's disappointed in his performance.

"I think I have a lot to [improve] on," Kellem said. "I'm not really satisfied with my play. I think I could do much better with learning our defenses and learning how to watch tape."

Perhaps even more impressive is that the North Lauderdale, FL native is a freshman playing for a team that won the Sun Belt championship last year. Kellem didn't let his freshman classification prevent him from being an impact player immediately. In the first game of the season, he blocked a field goal. In the second week, against thenno. 8 ranked Louisville, Kellem had four tackles and a fum-

"I thought I was basically going to be a special teams guy, playing on the punt team," Kellem said. "As far as on defense, I thought I was going to just give Damon Nickson and Anthony Glover a break every three plays or something like that. As the season went on, I had to take on a bigger role so I had to grow up quick."

Kellem's ability to rise to the occasion has been welcome

on a team that is seeing standout performances from numerous freshmen. Quarterback Dwight Dasher has been able to help turn around the Blue Raiders' season after a 0-4 start. Offensive tackle Mark Fisher quite admirably handled the starting right tackle position, and nickel back Rod Issac has been able to make some big plays on defense and special teams. Seeing his classmates do well is a big encouragement for Kellem since they've already built a bond with each other that came from entering school at the same time.

"When we came in in the summer time, we didn't really know the other players," Kellem said. "We had workouts the same time and pretty much the same classes. So, everyday we pretty much got closer and closer. We all came from a background where we always wanted to play right away. We didn't just want to sit on the sidelines just because we were freshmen. Allowing young players to come up and make big plays allows the future to look promising."

Part of growing up in the world of college football is class. Many freshmen find the college routine difficult to manage, and most freshmen don't play football. Kellem is facing the same hurdles other college students try to overcome, only his schedule is twice as full as most of his peers'.

"It's not really a struggle, but it's a bigger task than in high school," Kellem said. "In high school, you just went to class and then you went to practice. Basically, your whole day in college [revolves] around football. You have weights every day at six o'clock in the morning, then you have to be at a meeting after classes, then you have practice, then after practice you get a couple of hours [of free time], then you have to go to study hall."

Kellem has to maintain his full courseload and then come to practice on days like these, where the rain is hardly malevolent, but reminds you that it's there while the Cumberland Plateau wind pushes it onto your face.

As we walk into the Murphy Center to seek shelter from the cold, Kellem says, "I'm not used to this kind of weather man. I'm from Florida. Everybody up here says it isn't even the cold part yet."

He's going to be in for a treat come November. •

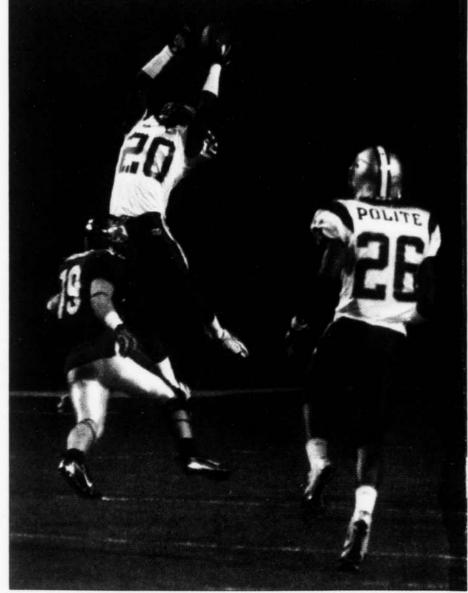


Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer

True freshman safety Jeremy Kellem has made an impact early in his career. He is second in total tackles, first in pass break ups, tied for first with Bradley Robinson in interceptions, blocked a kick, recovered a furnble and has a sack thus far in the season



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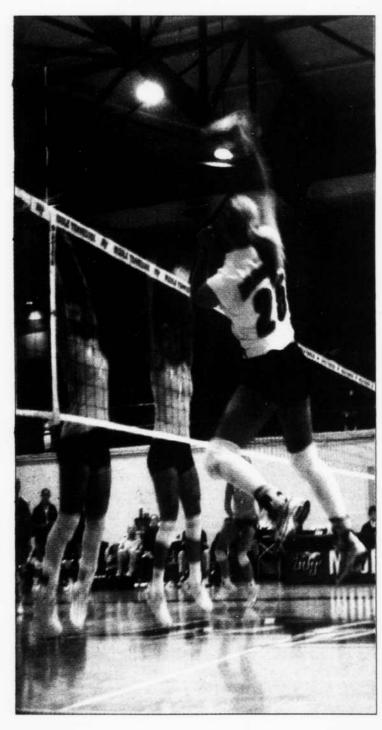
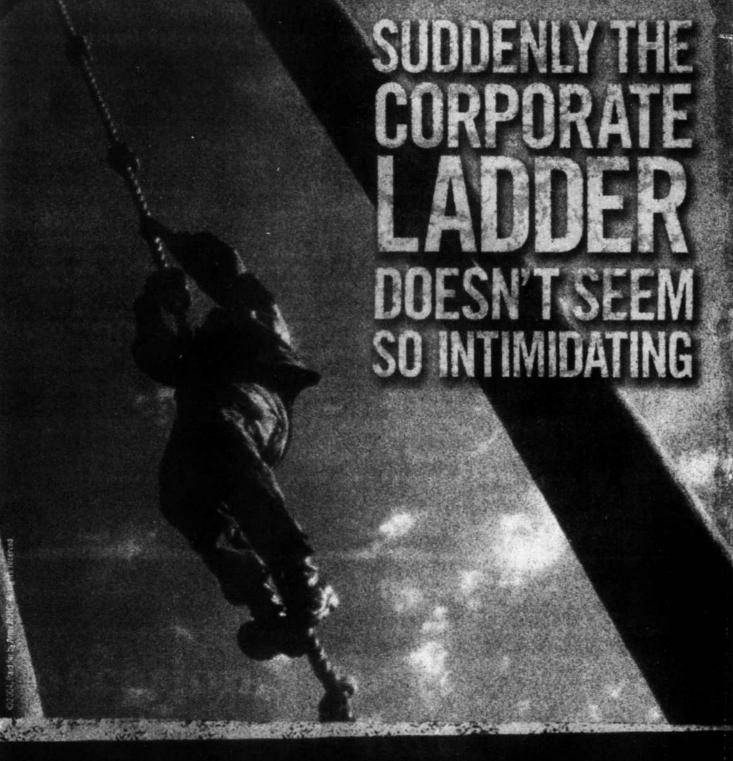


Photo by Justin Keoninh | Photography Editor With a 3-1 win against FIU on Saturday and a 3-0 win over FAU on Friday the Blue Raiders remain in first place of the east division of the SBC. Two of the three Ashleys, Adams and Asbery, combined for 33 of MT's 59 kills



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