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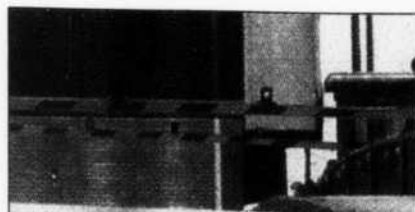
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facebook
myspace.com
a place for friends

Facebook faces changes
page 3



Work for Sidelines!
page 4

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
SIDELINES

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Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Editorially independent

Lawsuit may take popular Facebook off-line

Staff Reports

A federal lawsuit last Monday accused Mark Zuckerberg, creator of the networking site Facebook, of stealing ideas from ConnectU.

The allegations against Zuckerberg include fraud, copyright infringement and misappropriation of trade secrets. The lawsuit asks the court to transfer control and all assets of Facebook to the three founders of ConnectU.

Currently, the "MTSU" network of Facebook contains 23,093 registered profiles. Members of the network include students, faculty, staff and alumni of Middle Tennessee. Other area networks like "Nashville, TN" lists 50,061 registered profiles.

Facebook originally launched in February 2004, months before ConnectU, a similar college-based networking site developed at Harvard University.

ConnectU originally filed a lawsuit in 2004, but the suit was dismissed on a technicality. The company immediately refilled the suit.

In the allegations against Zuckerberg, the three founders of ConnectU, Cameron Winklevoss, Tyler Winklevoss and Divya Narendra, claimed Zuckerberg had agreed to help with the completion of software for their networking Web site.

According to the Associated Press, the three had requested Zuckerberg to finish the database before their 2004 graduation, to which Zuckerberg allegedly consented.

"Such statements were false and Zuckerberg never intended to provide the code and instead intended to breach his promise," stated the suit. "[Zuckerberg] intended to steal the idea for the Harvard Connection Web site, and in fact he did so."

The court date for the lawsuit has been set for Aug. 8. ♦

For more on Facebook see Features, page 3



Photo by Andy Harper | News Editor

Participants in Critical Mass began their long around-town trip Friday night at the water tower located off of Ewing Boulevard. The ride took bikers from the MTSU area to Medical Center Parkway.

Students hit Critical Mass

Members of the MTSU and Murfreesboro communities gather to promote bicycling

By Andy Harper
News Editor

Last Friday night, MTSU students and members of the Murfreesboro community gathered to share a common love of bicycling.

The event, known as Critical Mass, began at the water tower off of Ewing Boulevard. The 40-plus bicyclist rode from the water tower to the city square, looping to Medical Center Parkway, headed back around MTSU and finished on Greenland Drive.

"The event was awesome," said Wayne Pollard, sophomore mass communication major. "Compared to Nashville, we had twice as many people."

According to the Critical Mass Web site, the first Critical Mass was held in San Francisco in 1992. The event itself is in protest of the over usage of automotive transportation. Bikers band together and ride city streets in protest of biker advocacy.

"We aren't a club or official organization," Pollard said. "We are really just an idea to open peoples minds on the aspect of riding bikes. It does take people to start a ride but the event is not run by a specific person."

The Critical Mass event did intend on originally starting in front of the James Walker Library building, Pollard said.

However, opposition was met from adminis-

tration after the group did not file proper paperwork. Fliers were posted advertising the appointed meeting place as an event of "Mischief and Mayhem."

"The person responsible for this had no intention of causing anyone to be upset. They only wanted to advertise our event."

A participant in Critical Mass sent an e-mail to Gene Fitch, associate dean of student affairs and dean of student life, a few days before the event to request permission to meet in front of the library.

"We received a two sentence e-mail back saying that there was not enough time to schedule the event and the proper authorities had be alerted about the event," Pollard said.

Despite minor bumps in the road, Pollard said all the participants were overwhelmingly happy with the success of the ride.

"We want to get people who are involved at the school to recognize the huge parking problems and the option to ride a bike. It's a better, cleaner form of transportation."

Critical Mass plans to hold a bicycling ride on the last Friday of every month. Meeting points are sporadic, Pollard said, although the general consensus seemed favorable to the water tower.

"We will put up fliers announcing the next meeting place for Critical Mass," Pollard said. ♦

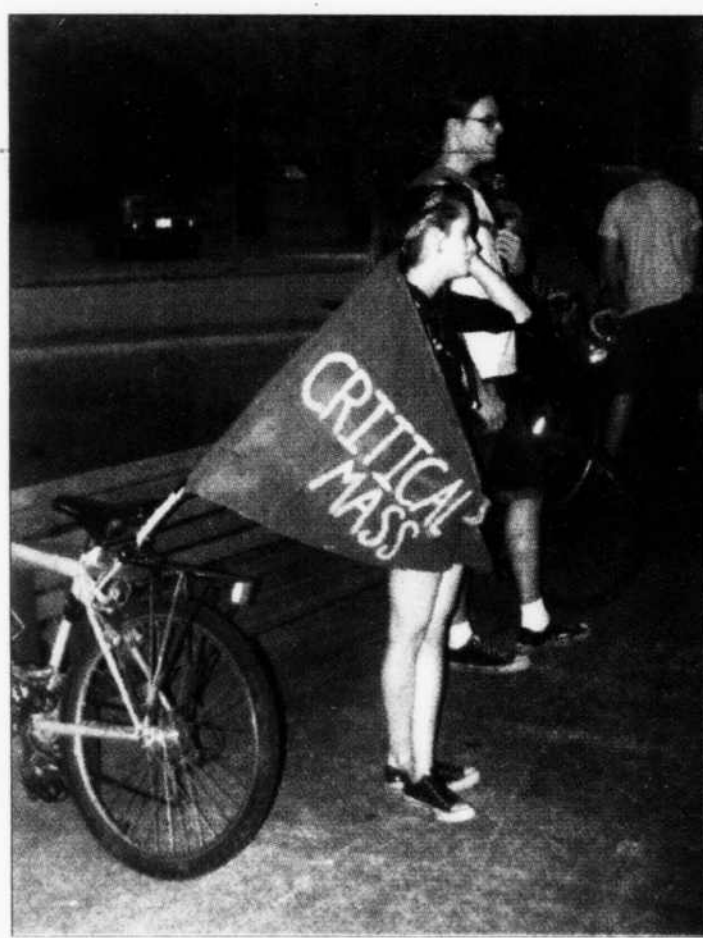


Photo by Andy Harper | News Editor

Participants of Critical Mass wait to begin the long bike ride across Murfreesboro. The event promotes bicycling as main form of transportation in the community.

Master's Swim club seeks new members

New club officers talk about the club and the challenges they face coming in the fall

By Clarence Plank
Sports Editor

The Master's Swim Club is open to either competitive swimmers or just the average person who likes to swim.

The Master's Swim program has been around for years, but was started here at Middle Tennessee by Pam Footit three years ago.

Club president Karen Wallace has been on the swim team for three years and currently competing in the meets. She was on the diving team in high school and she got the diving team started here.

Master's Swim team has been pulling double duty in many different events because they are short handed during meets.

"We actually do a lot of stuff. It's pretty much based on how many people you can actually get to each meet," Wallace said.

"We don't have a lot people, but we did really well in where we placed."

The club go to tournaments at the University of Tennessee, the University of Memphis for the Memphis Master's Meet, Auburn, Music City Master's and the Wildcat Invitational just to name a few.

Members compete in the butterfly, freestyle, intermediate and backstroke. The distance they have to do is either 50, 100, 200 and 500-meters or more. Swimmers compete in age brackets that range from 18-100 years of age.

Treasurer Bethany Powell was active on her high school swimming team before she came to Middle Tennessee.

"I competed in high school and I really wanted to get back into competition and back into swimming," Powell said. "I missed it, for a while there after

high school I've been wanting to get back into it."

Powell learned about the club at MT through some of her friends and she thought it would be fun to join.

"Last year was my first real year of competitive swimming," said vice president Sue Ann Holton.

Holton was looking for a chance to get back into competitive swim after high school.

Last fall and this spring the swim team competed in different meets and some of the members qualified for the nationals in Washington State. They were unable to go due to a lack of funds.

"A lot of people didn't have the money," Wallace said. "That's our biggest problem is having the money to actually go to these meets and compete."

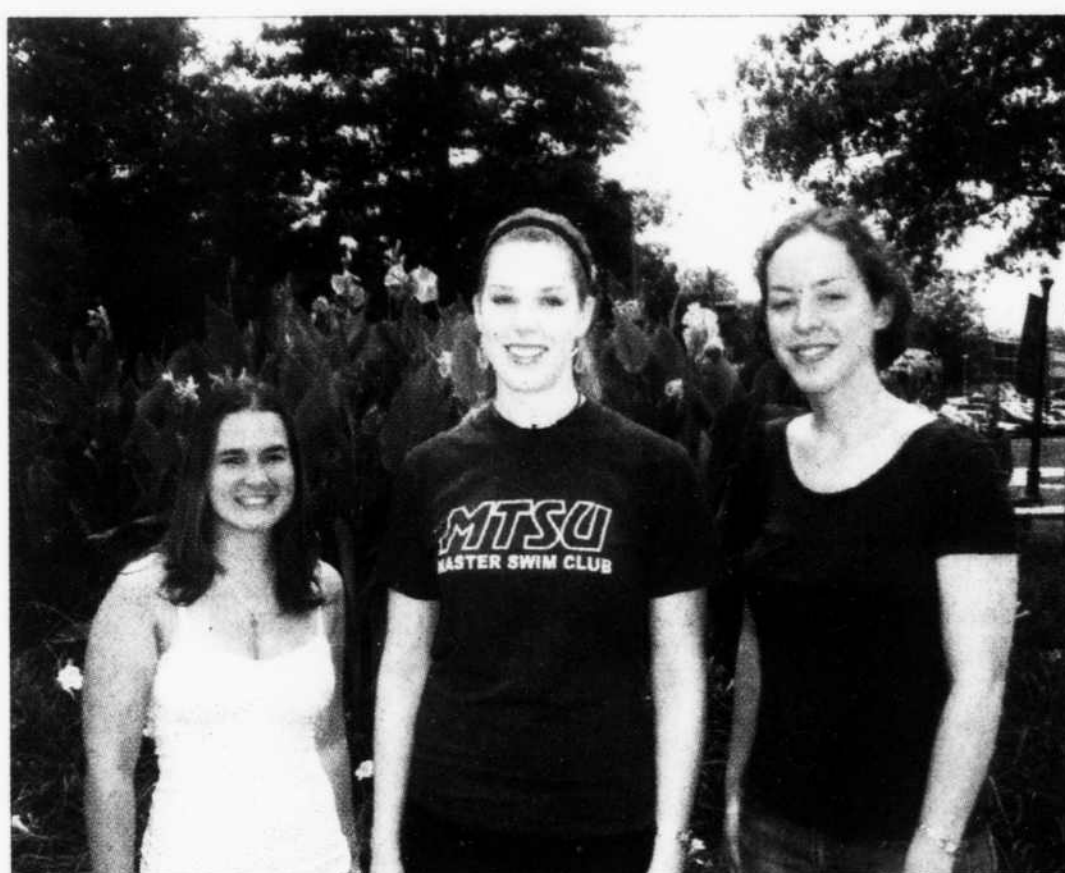


Photo by Clarence Plank | Sports Editor

(Left to Right) New Master's Swim Club officers President Karen Wallace, Vice President Sue Ann Holton and Treasurer Bethany Powell.

See Swimmers, 4

OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board:

Don't judge us by our profiles: more than just Myspace users

Within colleges, Facebook has become a vital socializing tool. You can see who's in your classes (along with their picture, interests, favorite movies, books and music) before you even catch a glimpse of a syllabus.

What started as a purely collegiate experience, though, has evolved into a Myspace mini-me. Everyone can have a Facebook now – your mom, your butcher, even your friendly neighborhood stalker – and it just doesn't feel the same.

And why did Zuckerberg and Co. even feel the need to undergo such an expansion? Twenty-three-year-old Mark Zuckerberg created Facebook as a way for his fellow Harvard students to communicate with each other, and when the idea spread to universities across the world, it was genius. Unlike its creepier older brother, Myspace, Facebook felt private, at least, within your campus.

The change, surely, comes back to money. With its expansion, Facebook is catching up to Myspace in terms of advertising revenue. When it opened its doors to all ages, it underwent a booming growth, and a little bit of its magic died.

At least on Facebook, the profile page you put up is encouraged to represent you, whereas on MySpace, it's just as likely to stumble upon Omega's Squire, the Harbinger of Anarchy-Chaos's page as it is John Smith's.

Most of us have a Facebook or a Myspace. It's one of those strange predicaments – we can talk on and on about how annoying the site can be, how creepy the newsfeed has become and yet, we can't get enough of it. We use it to keep in touch with our long-lost friends from kindergarten, to find out about the lives of people we would never talk to in real life. We've forgotten what life is like without it.

Please, whatever you do, don't call us the Myspace generation.

Yes, many of us have Myspaces, but this blanket term is a bland generalization of a sprawling age bracket.

We use the internet for communication, for convenience and, yes, for goofing off during class or work. However, some of us are intelligent enough to realize these sites are little more than their creators than money-making tools, and that we shouldn't go too far with what we put our name and face on online.

We understand the risks and benefits of these Web sites, and it doesn't mean we're all careless, irresponsible children with no attention span and an unhealthy obsession with what the girl from our Biology class drank last night. Most of the time, anyway.

Letter to the Editor

'Vulgar' online post strikes chord

To the Editor:

I appreciate *Sidelines* for providing an outlet for opinions just as any viable news outlet would. I do not take issue with anyone's right to express their opinion or *Sidelines'* right to publish them. I do however, question your screening process in posting "responses" to opinions on your Web site.

I am speaking specifically about a response to the opinion entitled "Why hate responsible sex." [written by Andy Harper, June 27] The response, written by some anonymous "Christopher" was posted July 19. It is filled with profanity, vulgarity, misogyny and is just obviously the work of a very sick and perverse individual. If it were a racist or anti-homosexual rant posted – would it be allowed to stay there as well? Is this what *Sidelines* is about?

Does anyone screen these responses? Is this newspaper not subject to certain rules regarding its content with profanity, etc.? That type of ignorant and hateful ranting shouldn't be what a student newspaper is about. If the powers that be do not agree with me here, that's fine. I just wanted it known that I think it's a shame that a simple intellectual discourse can be ruined by postings such as these.

There are some rules regarding content posted on every other internet forum as well as moderators to ensure that the rules are followed. Can we not show some responsibility for our content other than not allowing spam?

Maima Massaquoi
Continuations Accounts
James E. Walker Library

Got something to say?

Want to write for
Opinions this fall?

You know where to find us:

slopinio@mtsu.edu

TVA abuses land-use power

There are lots of things people expect when they wake up in the morning: the newspaper, a cup of coffee and maybe a warm pair of slippers. A hundred-foot electrical pole lying in the middle of your front lawn is probably not among these things.

One Rockvale resident, however, received just this sort rude awakening when Tennessee Valley Authority workers left just such an object on her lawn Monday.

The pole, measuring a mere three feet wide by 96 feet long, is meant to be raised within 70 feet from her house, according to *The Tennessean*.

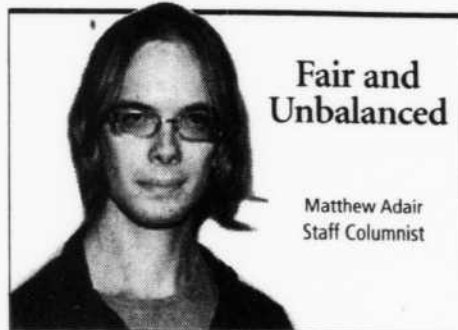
Lorie Sisk, the resident in question, told reporters that she would challenge TVA all the way up to federal court if necessary. The pole, she said, could fall on her house, which is a reasonable argument.

Severe weather knocks down trees easily in the rural community, and as isolated as some homes are in Rockvale, getting emergency assistance quickly, especially if power or phone lines have been damaged, could be difficult.

Sisk has also noted her concern with the electromagnetic radiation generated by the power lines, which others in the area have repeated. TVA has assured residents that studies relating electromagnetic fields and cancer have proven too inconsistent to draw conclusions from.

Health and home aside, the real uproar over TVA's new power line between Franklin and Murfreesboro, is that they didn't actually let anyone in Rockvale know that they were running this power line through their front yards. TVA's Web site has a map of the Rockvale area posted Feb. 27 of this year that indicates the intended placement of the new line, and Sisk was aware that an easement, where a property owner gives someone, such as TVA, the right to build on private land, was placed on her property. When she contacted TVA, however, she was told that there were no plans to place anything on the site.

What is confusing here is that the purchase of property easements is, by TVA's own statement, the first stage in establishing a new power line. It would then follow



Fair and
Unbalanced

Matthew Adair
Staff Columnist

that the owners of the 42 properties affected by construction would have known when the easements were bought that TVA was going to be putting up the lines. No one knew, which means that the impact assessment TVA assembled and published in March was made without discussing these plans with the community.

This is unfair to that community.

While TVA may own the usage of the intended path of the power line, the property still belongs to its owners, who will have to absorb the consequences of the construction being done. With such a dramatic impact on the usage and condition of the property in question, it should have been TVA's responsibility to actively inform the affected residents of their plans before going ahead.

This is not to say that the power line should not be built at all. The Murfreesboro area needs an additional source of electricity – the power failures that occur here, especially during the summer months, are testament enough to that need.

The construction of a new line will benefit the area as Murfreesboro continues to expand, and as the communities around the city, such as Rockvale and others, see new subdivisions built.

No one is disagreeing with that. Such development, however, should not come at the cost of the rights of those who already have ownership of the land.

TVA has overstepped the authority and power it should have, and the affected landowners should be able to blow the whistle on them for this abuse. Civic

improvements should always be made when the need for them arises, but never without the people's knowledge.

This is especially true considering the unknown impact of electrical energy running through power lines on health. While it is generally agreed among scientists that living next to a high-voltage line does not present a significantly higher risk of cancer, most would also agree that the amount of radiation emitted from these lines cannot be proven to be absolutely safe.

There is also the more probable risk of one of these lines becoming damaged in a severe storm, or a pole falling. While the poles that are being placed on this new line are very durable, it is entirely possible for part of the line to fail, endangering dozens of families and their homes, as well as the wildlife and environment over a large strip of land. All of these are dangers that Rockvale residents should have been informed of and that they should have had a chance to respond to before work began.

As it stands now, the small community is contending with noisy construction work, blocked roads and periodic power disruptions. A community meeting is planned for Friday, and residents are attempting to lobby TVA for a public meeting. Few in Rockvale think they will succeed in getting the power company to reconsider the line placement, but few question the need to stand up and fight back.

They should, and so should the rest of us. There are many things that we don't want in our backyards, and massive, unsightly and hazardous power lines are definitely high on that list.

TVA should stop and listen to the complaints being made over this project, and should work with residents to modify construction plans in a way that will satisfy everyone involved.

Now that would be giving power to the people.

Matthew Adair is a senior art education major and can be reached at matt.adair@gmail.com.

Bad Newz: Vick is screwed

The gloves are off sports fans. Sportacus has had enough.

I've always worked hard as possible to conceal as much of my personal feelings, chiefly my anger, when writing a column but this story makes me angrier every day.

When I wrote the piece entitled, "What's wrong with the NFL?" for the June 27 edition of *Sidelines*, I received a lot of criticism for my extreme views on the Michael Vick case.

The crux of the criticism was that Michael Vick was untouchable, no one cares about PETA and that America wouldn't love football more than it respects life – I guess, I always got confused by the pro-Vick crowd. These reasons are exactly why I wrote that column. Vick believing in the same fairy tale is what led him to make such deplorable decisions.

Look around. America cares. PETA is more powerful than any organization I can think of. Vick has been touched. Tag, you're screwed.

I want to stress the despicable nature of his alleged crime so that I can say I've done my part to silence the people who have argued that, "It's just a dog. What about people who have hurt other people?"

First of all, look up Ray Caruth. See if he got off easy. Maybe he and Vick will be bunk mates.

Secondly, they are just dogs. It's true. And yes, dogs do fight in nature. These are all semi-valid points. I've had them



I am
Sportacus

J. Owen Shipley
Staff Columnist

explained to me several times now.

What I don't understand, however, is when in nature do pitt bulls get electrocuted, stabbed, drowned and body slammed? When does a crime of that nature stop being about the species of the victim and start being about the soullessness of the perpetrator?

Vick isn't from another culture, he isn't uneducated and he doesn't need the money.

I want to stress that when he allegedly picked those dogs up by the neck, choked them, and threw them as hard as his \$130 million arm could onto a concrete floor he did it by choice.

When he allegedly allowed or participated in the hanging, drowning, and electrocution of the other dogs that died by human hands he also did that by choice.

They use syringes to train the dogs – he could have put the dying ones to sleep. So why treat harmless animals so viciously that it would make Alberto Gonzales blush?

Because that's how they (allegedly) roll at the Bad Newz Kennel. They even printed T-shirts, because nothing says

'classy' like an airbrushed item of evidence.

Analysts from ESPN have widely reported that Tony Taylor – Vick's alleged partner who entered a plea bargain of guilty in exchange for his cooperation – will testify that the Kennel was entirely funded by Vick and that it was a "business enterprise."

And what do we call an illegal business enterprise centered around gambling with a clear leader? If you said 'racketeering,' you win the big prize.

Vick, on the other hand isn't likely to win anything.

I have been cavalier with my use of the word 'alleged' for two reasons. The federal government has a conviction rate above 90 percent once they choose to indict someone. They have several material witnesses, evidence and a co-defendant willing to testify.

He is going to lose this case. Next month, a revised version of Vick's indictment will be released, probably adding more charges like racketeering. That would be a more serious case and, yes, he would lose it, too.

Any prosecutor that went after the world's highest paid team athlete without just cause would undoubtedly become the most vilified and successfully sued lawyer in American history. That's not an easy distinction. I have no doubt that the people involved in this case know this happened and that they can prove it.

Which makes me happy. Even

if by some miracle, Vick is acquitted, his guilt will be made so clear that he will never be able to take the field again. Taking that premise a little farther, if Vick is innocent of fighting, killing, and profiting from the suffering of these dogs, than he is guilty of being the dumbest athlete in NFL history.

He was there. He paid for the kennels. He paid for the dogs, would he not have been curious why half of the dogs died every other Saturday night? Would he not have wondered why there was blood on his carpets?

And what of his teammates? The men he has trained beside, taken out to dinner, shared his glories with? Well there aren't any. Vick kept to himself in the locker room, didn't associate with his team more than he had to and maintained an aloof persona his entire tenure in the NFL. Even the fans who love him don't know him, and that is becoming ever more apparent as Vick fan after Vick fan turns their back on a man who is nothing more than a number on jersey to most.

As sure as Bad Newz Kennels have ended his career, I promise you that Vick will learn a whole new meaning of the term "team player" on the basketball courts of whatever federal penitentiary he "allegedly" deserves to be in.

J. Owen Shipley is a junior English major and can be reached at slopinio@mtsu.edu.

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

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FEATURES

Facebook grows, troubles multiply

With its growing popularity, is the site getting better or worse?

By Sarah Lavery

Features Editor

It might sound silly to scrutinize the social and cultural implications of Web sites like Myspace and Facebook, but in this day and age, it seems sillier to write the trend off as a passing phase.

The sites are so prolific that the current high-school and college-kid age bracket has been dubbed the "Myspace generation," a moniker that has become a blanket term for ages 16-25. Students have no problem mindlessly searching the millions of pages under the domains, playing both investigator and voyeur, searching for their next love interest or their new worst enemy.

As important of a cultural staple that Myspace has become, Facebook has always been the college-centric site. Once limited only to people with certified university e-mail addresses, thereby limiting the influx of 50-year-old "To Catch a Predator" guest stars, Facebook promised a purely collegiate experience.

Then the pressure of Myspace's immense and growing popularity must have gotten to the Facebook powers-that-be, because that all changed.

Mark Zuckerberg, 23, originally started Facebook in 2004 as a socializing site for fellow Harvard University students, then evolving into a massive collegiate network. Over a year ago, the site opened up to allow users of all ages to create personal profiles to share with friends.

Facebook may have started in colleges, but over the past year, it saw its slowest growth among college kids. Instead, because Facebook recently opened up to the wider public (and allowed developers to create applications on the site), its users include a vast majority of people beyond college and in high-school. Today, 4 million teenagers visit Facebook a month, and 3 million people aged 25 to 34; not very much less than the 7 million college kids who use it. Most surprisingly, it's people over 35 who make up Facebook's largest demographic — more than 10 million people, or almost 40 percent of the site's monthly visitors, are in this group, according to Salon.com.

The most controversial change in the site's global overhaul has been the news feed, a program that monitors the activity on its members' pages — a change in one's relationship status, the addition of a new person to one's friends list, the listing of a new favorite song or interest — and sends that information to everyone in your circle in a constantly updating news ticker. Basically, it's virtual gossip

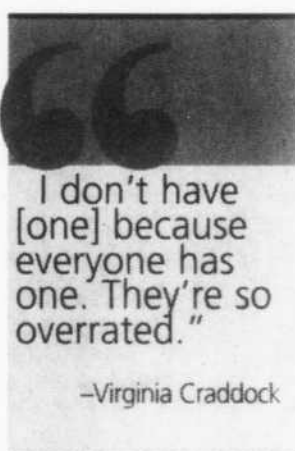
— just a little more intrusive.

But within hours of the new feature's debut, thousands of Facebook members had rallied behind a desperate, angry plea: Bring the old Facebook back.

The transition from a college-only member-base to internet free-for-all certainly has been met with a myriad of complaints, from groups entitled "As a stalker, I find Facebook's news feed an incredibly valuable tool," boasting hundreds of members to the largest with over 284,000 members called "Students Against Facebook."

The fact remains, though, that busy college students can't seem to get enough of Facebook's one-stop socialization.

"Facebook keeps me up to date," senior political science major Ashley DeSabetino says. "It's so much easier than using a cell phone."



Aside from the negative reaction to Facebook's growth, some people renounce these social networking sites — not in spite of their popularity, but because of it.

"I don't have a [Facebook or Myspace] because everyone has one," incoming freshman Virginia Craddock says. "They're so overrated. The sites don't do anything, don't help anyone. Even though they have the ability to band students together for worthwhile causes, they don't."

Both Myspace and Facebook lost visitors last year, according to Nielsen/NetRatings, a Web-tracking service. The number of unique U.S. visitors at Myspace fell to 47.2 million from 49.2 million last year, and the number of visitors to Facebook fell 12 percent to 7.8 million from 8.9 million.

More Facebook controversy erupted Tuesday with reports that the site won't let people sign up with the last name "Gay," which has led to accusations of homophobia. It might not be up there with "Smith" and "Johnson," but blocking Gay as a surname could pose a bit of a problem. According to the 1990 census, "Gay" was the 774th most-common last name in the United States.

Online LGBT hub GenerationQ pointed out that "you're allowed to be Hitler, but don't even try being Gay on social networking site Facebook." The site still allows new users to register using terms such as "Homosexual" in place of a surname.

name, however.

The issue will probably quickly boil over, but Facebook naysayers will remain.

Protection of privacy has always been the biggest hot-button issue with social-networking sites. Last Monday, Facebook came under fire from a state attorney general who accused the fast-growing site of falling short in protecting young users from sexual predators.

"I don't think it's an invasion of privacy," freshman Lourdes Benarente says. "It's your decision to put it out there, and you control how much you want to tell the public."

Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal said in an interview his office had learned of "at least three" convicted sex offenders on Facebook's site and that may be the "tip of the iceberg."

"These individuals are using their real names after convictions for felony sexual offenses," Blumenthal told Reuters. "There may be thousands or hundreds of thousands of aliases or false identities who have never been convicted."

Facebook's immense growth appears to have increased the risk of predators and pornography infiltrating the site, problems that the larger and less restrictive Myspace has long endured. Last week, Reuters reported that Myspace deleted 29,000 convicted sex offenders from its own service, which attracts 60 million U.S. visitors.

Facebook's Chief Privacy Officer Chris Kelly told *The New York Times* the site has privacy features unlike other social network sites that segment users by age, organization and region and make it hard for adults to contact users under the age of 18.

In particular, Facebook makes an effort to protect underage users by preventing adults from contacting them if the adults are not affiliated with a specific school network, Kelly said.

Kelly did, however, acknowledge that Facebook has detected sexual predators and other abusive practices on the site.

Once upon a time, before the phrase "Add Me on Myspace" entered the pop culture lexicon and "Are you on Facebook?" became the newest pick-up line, the concept of a Web site that boasted your personal information — from your cell phone number, your relationship status, pictures from your last wild night out — would have undeniably seemed terrifying. But the "Myspace generation" seems to have become, for the most, inured to that whole "protection of privacy" thing, for better or worse. ♦

What's New

Recently, an influx of applications have become available on Facebook, from the mindless to the political. Here's a look at some of the most interesting (and hilarious) choices:

- ♦ **Superpoke:** Allows you to virtually throw sheep, drop-kick, tickle and "take sexy back from" your friends.
- ♦ **Top Friends:** Lets you list your favorite people on your profile.
- ♦ **Fortune Cookie:** Displays a daily-changing fortune on your profile page, so the whole world can see what fate has in store for you.
- ♦ **Where I've Been:** Creates an interactive travel map to pin all the cities, towns, and even suburbs you've visited.
- ♦ **Honesty Box:** Lets users send each other anonymous messages, removing any inhibitions, thus enabling strangers to let you know what they're feeling, disgusting things they think of you. At least their feelings won't get hurt.
- ♦ **Zombies:** Allows you to bite your friends and make them zombies, thereby building your zombie empire. Seriously.
- ♦ **Vibrating Hampster:** Um, it's a vibrating hamster for your profile. That's about it.
- ♦ **Happy Hour:** Buy your friends virtual tasty beverages, no fake LD required.
- ♦ **LOLcats:** "Im in ur prezants, stealin ur Chrstmaz." Need we say more?
- ♦ **Awareness Ribbons:** Display Awareness Ribbons spanning more than 400 causes to let people know the causes you support.
- ♦ **Election '08:** Add a presidential endorsement to your Facebook profile and let your friends know exactly where you stand.
- ♦ **Greek Family Tree:** your fraternity or sorority genealogy.
- ♦ **Pirates vs. Ninjas:** Who would win in a fight: Pirates or Ninjas? Add this application and find out.
- ♦ **Chuck Norris Fact Generator:** 'Nuff said.
- ♦ **The Sorting Hat:** Show off your favorite Hogwarts' school by adding a house badge to your profile, and cast spells on your friends. Avada Kevadra!
- ♦ **Drunkometer:** Show the world how drunk you are and see your friends' status, too.
- ♦ **Friend Stats:** Which one of your friends has the most wall posts? Who has the longest first name? Countless random questions are answered on your page.
- ♦ **Virtual Mom:** Your online mothering can include free nagging, positive daily praise and motherly advice.

Graphic by Matthew Adair

Nearly Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 19

If you thought that after the horrible month you just had, that Saturn has taken pity on your situation, you're wrong. Saturn hates you and so do any gods in your neighborhood.

Taurus

April 20 - May 20

You will meet a dark, tall stranger soon who is not handsome, charming, suave or looking to hook up with you. He just wants your money and your reproduction Prada bag.

Gemini

May 21 - June 21

Mars dictates that the first two weeks of this month will be rascally to you, but after that party, you'll have a headache, someone else's pants and a rash that just won't quit.

Cancer

June 22 - July 22

Zombies with the heads of sheep will come to you in your dreams and tell you that in actuality, no one appreciates you just for being you. Get a new haircut and quit crying in public.

Leo

July 23 - Aug. 22

Happy Birthday to you, and yet, it won't be. You will most assuredly blow your birthday cash on something ridiculously silly, like a Powerpuff Girl T-shirt and a six pack of O'Doules.

Virgo

Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

Your situation is grim and it won't get better. You know what Mars is talking about!

Libra

Sept. 23 - Oct. 23

There is nothing to say to you but BEWARE! A movement of Uranus shows that you are about to have a crappy week. Stay far away from Taco Bell.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 21

You will be sad, lonely, depressing to be around, and, in an unexplained turn of events, smell like feet for a week.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Stay away from banana-flavored popsicles and men in tight pants — your significant other is about to play a prank on you.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

You would have had a great week if Saturn liked you better.

Aquarius

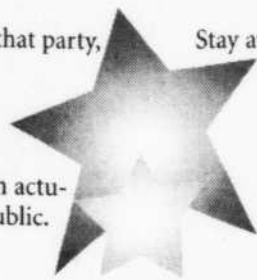
Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Your best friends wish your death, and so does everyone else who has heard you talk about your thoughts on the upcoming presidential election.

Pisces

Feb. 19 - March 20

You will have a good month. If you don't, well, that is your own fault, just like the fact that your boyfriend thinks your mom is hotter than you.



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Sports: Swimmers

Continued from 4

The cost of joining the club is \$50 and that goes toward the membership and helping with equipment and expenses. New members receive swimsuits, goggles and MTMS swim cap. The membership can be renewed annually every year.

They also have dues and try to find ways to raise money to help lessen the burden they put on their budget through travel.

The Master's Swim club is a number one tier club so they receive some money from the recreation center like some of the other clubs to help with expenses.

For further information e-mail Pam Footit at pfootit@mtsu or e-mail Karen Wallace at kmw3i@mtsu.edu. Those interested can also go to <http://www.mtsu.edu/~mtms/> to read more about the club. ♦

CRIME BRIEFS

Crime Briefs

June 25, 12:39 a.m.

Weapon carried on MTSU property
Felder Hall
Subject allegedly stole a bank card. Arrested subject was Khalil Kharif, charged with possession of weapon on campus.

June 25, 3:24 p.m.

Leaving the scene of an accident
Bell Street parking lot
Subject came to police station to fill out a report in reference to a hit and run.

June 26, 6:03 p.m.

Leaving the scene of an accident
Mass Communication south parking lot
Subject injured a silver Honda Accura was the victim of a hit and run auto accident.

June 27, 1:30 a.m.

Simple Possession
Greenland Drive
James Tyler Bowman, of Murfreesboro, was arrested for simple possession of marijuana and consumption of alcohol under the age of 21.

Correction

In last week's issue, July 25, of *Sidelines*, the article "Is this the end of the theater?" was written by Neil McCormack.

In the article "Greek Life director takes post at UAB," Gentry McCreary has transferred to UAT (University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa) and not the UAB (University of Alabama at Birmingham).

Sidelines regrets these errors.

This bridge goes nowhere. Work for Sidelines, and you'll fare better.

Sidelines is looking for distributors to deliver our newspaper across MTSU. Applicants must have a driver's license and proof of insurance. Please direct inquiries or questions to Steven Chappell at extension 2337 or Eveon Corl at extension 5111.

Sidelines is also seeking an Opinions Editor, Photo Editor, and copy editors for the fall semester. If interested, please visit COMM 269 or call 904-8357.

Classifieds

Marketplace of MTSU

EMPLOYMENT

Retiring physician needs care taker & part-time house keeper in Unionville area. 4 days-Monday thru Thursday. Preferred nursing student. Salary discussed on interview. Call 931-294-7127.

Church Nursery Worker
Need reliable person to keep church nursery on Sunday mornings from 9:30-12:30. Will pay \$50 per Sunday for the right person. Must have references & undergo background check. Call 556-0826 for more info.

P/T Clerical position in Smyrna. Great work environment. Will work with school schedule. Saturdays a MUST. Call 223-1287

FOR RENT

3 BR/1BA house for rent. Washer/dryer, 3 miles

from MTSU, \$750/month, \$400/deposit, no pets, no smoking. Serious inquiries only. 615-238-4833

FOR LEASE

2 bedroom apt. in Historic District of M'boro. Electric, water & gas furnished, many EXTRAS. No

Pets. Available now. \$400.00 deposit \$750.00 per month 615-895-0075 or 615-347-1676

5 BR/2 BA House. \$270/student x 5 (or \$315/student x 4) + utilities. Security deposit: \$375/student, new car-

pets, washer & dryer, no pets. Call 400-9967

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Sidelines will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified advertisement. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations. Sidelines reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems objectionable for any

reason. Classifieds will only be accepted on a prepaid basis. Ads may be placed in the Sidelines office in Mass Comm, Rm 269. For more information, call the business office at 615-898-5111. Ads are not accepted over the phone. Ads are free for students and faculty for the first two weeks.