

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
SIDELINES

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EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT



Creationism vs. Evolution

Tennessee Legislature touches controversy with proposed Monkey Bill

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The event- which the SGA bills as the nation's largest one-day, student-run service project- allows students to work on a variety of community-improvement projects.

More than 200 volunteers volunteered for this year's BIG Event on March 31, marking an increase from last year's final total, according to Courtnei Secret, SGA's philanthropic coordinator. More than 12 projects were set up around Rutherford County.

The BIG Event is a nation-wide event that began at Texas A&M University in 1982 to serve the community surrounding the university. The event has caught on at schools around the nation including Florida State University, Virginia Tech and the University of Nebraska. (Photo courtesy of Facebook)

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Cover Art by Kelsey Klingenmeyer

Editor-in-Chief
Amanda Haggard
seditor@mtsu.edu

Editorial: 615-904-8357
Fax: 615-494-7648

www.mtsusidelines.com

Managing Editor
Becca Andrews
slmanage@mtsu.edu

Online Editor
Todd Barnes
slcampus@mtsu.edu

News Editor
Richel Albright
slnews@mtsu.edu

Associate News Editor
Emily West
slassociate@mtsu.edu

A&E Editor
Daniel Kreipe
slflash@mtsu.edu

Associate A&E Editor
Jane Horne
slflash@mtsu.edu

Opinions Editor
Brandon Thomas
slopinio@mtsu.edu

Design Manager
Virginia Erinozova
slproduction@mtsu.edu

Photo Editor
Kelsey Klingenmeyer
email@mtsu.edu

Sports Editor
Alex Hubbard
slsports@mtsu.edu

Multimedia Manager
Asher Hudson
slonline@mtsu.edu

Features Editor
Emily Kubis
slfeatur@mtsu.edu

Adviser
Leon Alligood
Leon.Alligood@mtsu.edu

Advertising Director
Justin Threlkeld
sladmgr@mtsu.edu

Students to work with man who found sunken Titanic



The ship E/V Nautilus has traveled throughout the eastern part of the world, exploring the bottom of several waters such as the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and the Aegean Sea.

by Emily West
Associate News Editor

Exploring the depths of the ocean with a team of scientists, professor Mary Nichols and her students will set sail on the Nautilus to explore this summer.

The Nautilus is a ship that sails around the world in conjunction with National Geographic for four to five months at a time with oceanic explorer Bob Ballard. The purpose of the missions is to discover and see portions of the ocean no one has laid eyes on.

Ballard and his team hope to find ancient shipwrecks and other artifacts along the way.

In an interview with "60 Minutes," Ballard said, "We're here to find lost chapters of human history, chapters we've never read before."

Ballard is credited with finding the Titanic in 1985 and the German warship the Bismarck in 1989.

Electronic media communication professor Mary Nichols has traveled with Ballard since 2005, and this past summer was the first time she was able to take students from MTSU along with her.

"Most of the time they take science-based students," Nichols said. "Since there is limited space on the ship, they haven't really had it room for it. We really try and do it with an eye on photography instead of just documenting, so they decided [my students] were definitely needed."

Graduate Emma Stickel and senior Ryan Skelley were the two students who traveled with Nichols this past year, and Skelley is going as a hired worker on the Nautilus for one month this summer.

"This year I will be headed back to the Black Sea," Skelley said. "The first week will be for getting all the systems up and running and ready for the three-month trip. We spend our time in the Black Sea searching for sunken ships. We mostly find sunken trading ships carrying amphorae, which is large clay pots used for storing wheat, spices or wine from third Century A.D. to fourth Century A.D."

In order for students to embrace opportunities like this, both Nichols and Skelley said learning the basics of

visual aesthetics were vital.

"Students have to understand composition and computer technology to do this job," Nichols said. "They have to make sure that all of the scientists are getting the proper info and footage to make the decisions they need to make."

Nichols and her students work with ROVs—remote operated vehicles. Professional pilots operate them underwater, and they are attached to the ship.

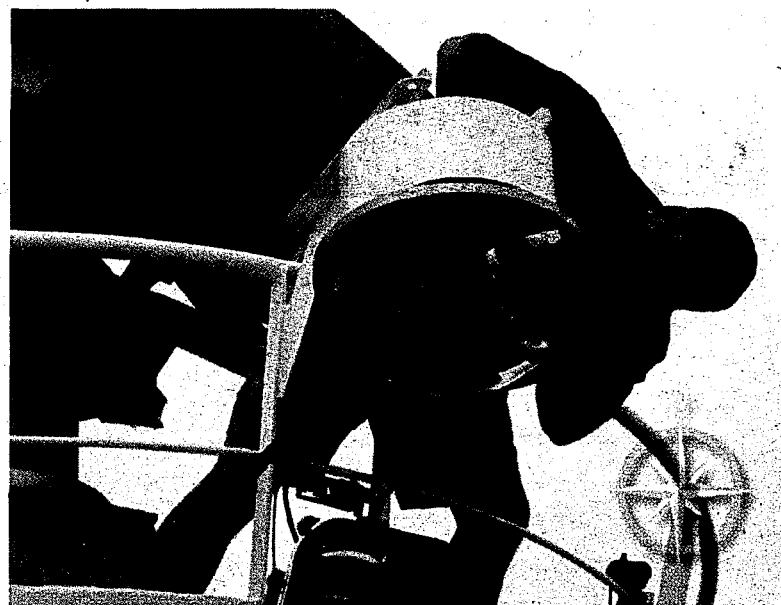
While working with the ROV Hercules this past summer, Skelley said he witnessed the most exciting part of his two trips off the coast of Sinop, Turkey.

"I was on duty operating the cameras attached to Hercules when we discovered a ship filled with amphorae that had never been seen in 1,500 years," Skelley said. "There is just so much energy and adrenaline when you are getting to see something like that."

Although Nichols' and her students' time is primarily spent on seeing the deepest parts of the ocean, they occasionally get off at different countries to look at the surrounding land around them.

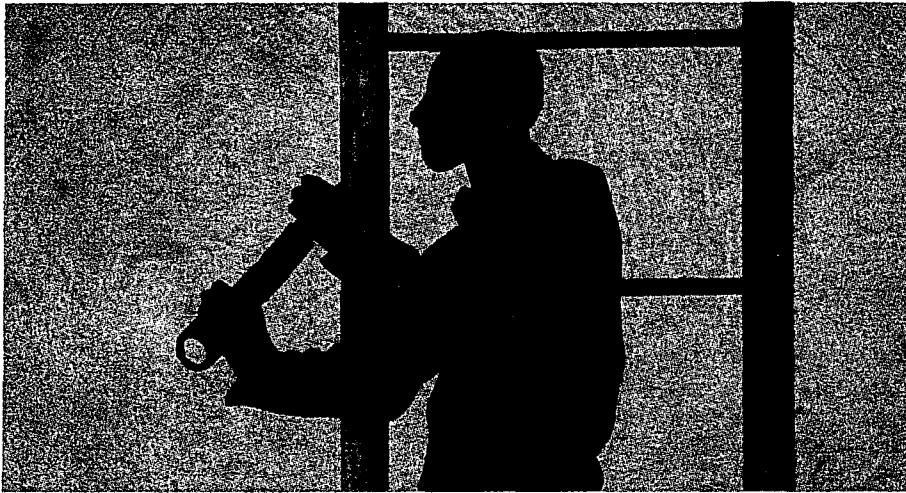
"We have gotten off for a couple of days to some of these places, and you get to explore," Nichols said. "It's such an opportunity, and some of the best pictures I have are from the countries I have gotten to visit."

After finding 21 shipwrecks and 19 ancient shipwrecks last summer, Nichols will accompany the two students selected to go back and explore the Black Sea in June. ■



Senior Ryan Skelley bends over the E/V Nautilus to clean the camera lens on one of the ROVs.

Artist professors showcase work in exhibition



Professor Michael Baggary used a linear perspective for the pieces he submitted to the exhibition and pieces uses materials such as enamel and laser engraving.

by Lauren Mandrell
Contributing Writer

Art professors Michael Baggary and Erin Anfinson will have their artwork featured April 6 through 28 at the Murfreesboro Center for the Arts gallery.

The exhibit, "Moving in Tandem," will focus on subjects related to fantasy, fairy tales and illustration by using laser engraved drawings, wax paintings, stop-motion video and pierced metal casting.

"Both Anfinson and Baggary are bringing an interesting and dynamic aspect to the exhibit," said Thomas Green, event coordinator for the Murfreesboro Center for the Arts. "The exhibit is showcasing a broad expanse of media from a nontraditional aspect, and each artist is bringing those nontraditional aspects to the exhibit."

Anfinson's work consists of two stop-motion videos and encaustic pieces. One of the stop-motion videos is a short work under two minutes dealing with the summer 2011 cicadas. The other piece is much longer in length, and is a variation from a chapter from Einstein's Dreams, which address the speed of time.

Her encaustic art deals with the colonization collapse of 2008, which is focused on the life of bees.

"These pieces are from my older collection of art work," Anfinson said. "I was thinking about colony collapse disorder, and a lot of my work these past few years is how we interpret nature through media. So, there was a lot media attention to the bee colonies disappearing, and it was really relevant to what I was working with since encaustic is made out of beeswax. That is where my idea came from."

Anfinson has won several awards for her works, including 3rd place in Compact

Exhibition at Louisiana State University and several grants and scholarships.

Along with focusing on encaustic works and stop-motion animations, she also said she concentrates on her paintings. More of her work will be featured in a group exhibit in June at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts in downtown Nashville.

Professor Baggary said he went with a different approach to his artwork, and sculpted his piece with various layers. He also sanded his art in order for his work to be as smooth as possible.

In addition to sculpting, Baggary said he also laser engraved his drawings to add a different perspective to his work.

"Michael definitely used a linear perspective to much of his work," Green said. "His sculpting piece is very neat with all of the layering techniques he used."

His works focus mainly on traditional and classical techniques of sculpture, drawings and paintings, and involve cast bronze, iron and steel. Baggary also involves experimental and new media into his works.

Baggary received degrees from both University of Iowa and his Western Kentucky University

Along with being a professor at the university, he has also worked as an instructor for several Governor's School for the Arts at MTSU. Baggary has had works featured at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, at exhibits in New Zealand and an exhibit in Mexico.

The exhibit will kick off with an opening reception held for the artists on April 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. The event will be open to the public and free of charge. ■

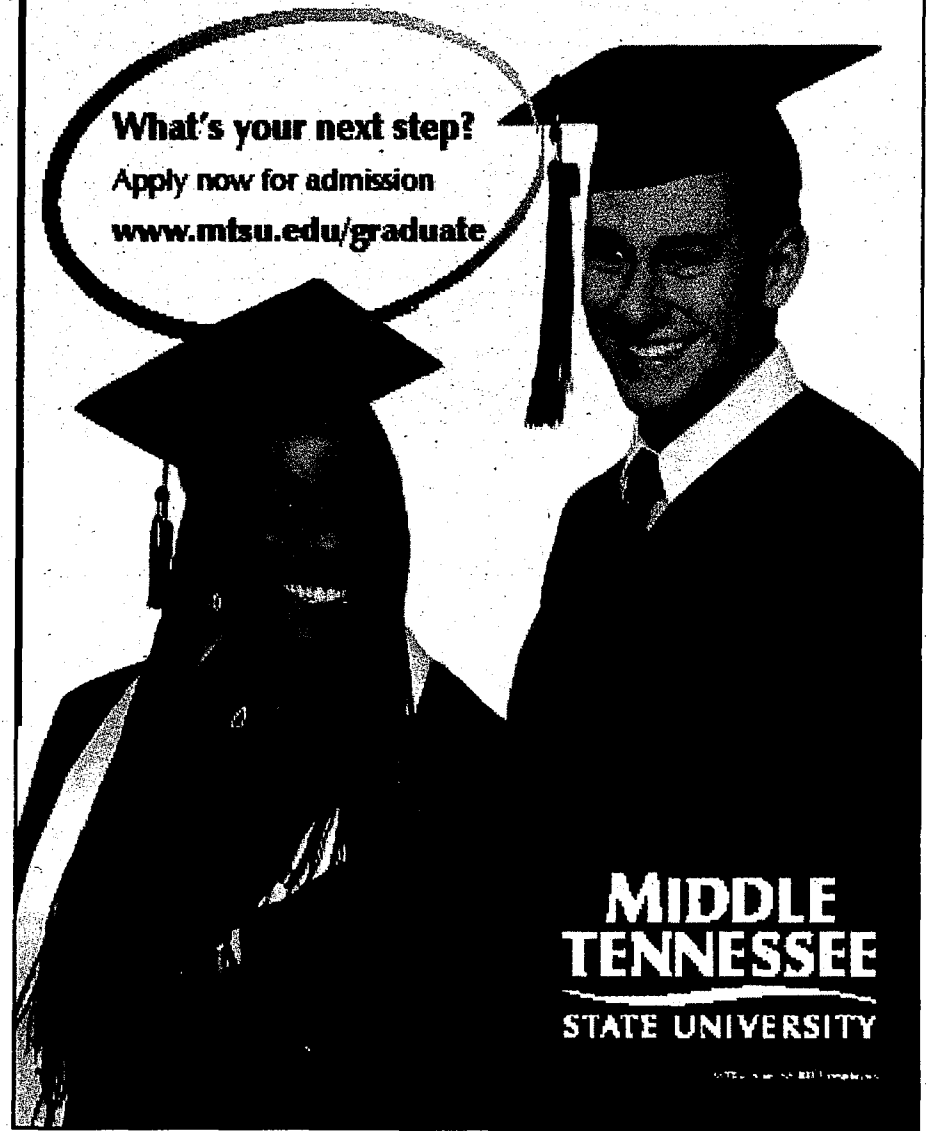
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SGA to examine traffic appeal procedures

by Alex Hubbard
Sports Editor

An SGA Constitutional Amendment meant to clarify the practices and procedures of the Court of Traffic Appeals is set for a student vote in a referendum scheduled for April 16 through 19.

Election Commissioner John Thomas announced the dates for the referendum at the March 29 senate meeting.

The amendment is an attempt to clarify and outline a set of guidelines for the attorney general and the COTA, the main appellant body for students who have been cited for parking violations.

"There are many benefits of adopting this legislation into the SGA Constitution," said Sen. Jared Adams, who represents the College of Liberal Arts and is the amendment sponsor.

"It provides clarity on the duties of the attorney general and Court of Traffic Appeals, it further explains the rights and responsibilities of the attorney general for future AG's, and it provides, for the students, a proper description of what these offices can and cannot do and the rights reserved to the students appealing their citations."

This amendment will change very little in practice, but will put in place a written framework, said Attorney General Katie Bogle.

"The authority of the attorney general and the Court of Traffic Appeals is not written in great length anywhere," Bogle said. "So the Judicial Affairs Office and some other offices on campus thought it should be included in written form in some sort of authoritative document somewhere on campus and after many meetings and discussions, we decided on the SGA Constitution as the best place to put

them."

But one change that will go into effect should the amendment pass is the length of time that students have to appeal traffic citations, Bogle said.

The amendment allows for appeals to be filed up to 15 calendar days after the citation. A maximum of seven business days is allowed under current practice.

The amendment also clarifies three reasons for the court to void a citation, including an emergency circumstance, an erroneous issuance of a citation, or if a student is cited for failure to have an on-campus permit while parked in a green lot.

The amendment passed each of the two required senate votes with no opposition. ■



John Thomas, SGA election commissioner

Campus & Community Crime Briefs

Drugs

Alma Mater Drive
March 24, 2:07 p.m.

Authorities issued Anthony Parker, 19, and Nicholas Reinehr, 19, for unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

Pornography

Womack Lane Apt. C
March 25, 2:45 p.m.

A complainant reported that she observed nude photos of her minor child in a known subject's phone.

Theft

Horseshoe Lot
March 26, 12:18 a.m.

A complainant reported several items had been stolen from his vehicle while it had been parked in the lot on campus.

Theft

Kirskey Old Main
March 26, 4:13 a.m.

A complainant reported her

bicycle was stolen from the bike rack outside of the KOM.

Pornography

Womack Lane Apt. C
March 26, 6:29 p.m.

Authorities arrested Robert Hunt Jr., 22, for three counts of sexual exploitation of a minor.

Theft

McFarland Health Services Lot
March 26, 9:44 p.m.

A complainant reported she left her trombone, case and additional items in an acquaintance's vehicle Feb. 27. The complainant reported that the acquaintance does not know where the property is.

Vandalism

McFarland Health Services Lot
March 27, 3:51 p.m.

A complainant reported the trunk of her vehicle had been vandalized in the form of

scratches.

Harassment

Keathley University Center
March 28, 11:57 a.m.

A complainant reported that he had received several unwanted calls and text messages from a known subject.

Theft

Womack Lane Apartment Club House
March 28, 4:37 p.m.

A complainant reported that several articles of his clothing were stolen from the apartment complex's club house laundry room.

Assault

James E. Walker Library
March 28, 5:19 p.m.

Authorities arrested Jacob Tackett, 19, for domestic assault as a result of a physical altercation with his brother.

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Thursday, April 5

Mom & Dad, King Arthur, J.K. Webb & the Pleasers and September Issue

The 5 Spot, 9 p.m.
1006 Forrest Ave., Nashville
Admission: \$5

This Nashville venue will be the hot spot if you're looking to have an evening full of local music, while helping raise funds for MTSU's Textile, Merchandising and Design Department.

Admittedly, I had no clue who these bands were, but after some research (thank God for YouTube), I must say that I highly recommend you attend this benefit show. J.K. Webb and the Pleasers—wow. Mom and Dad—wow, wow, wow. Both bands bring the spirit and authenticity back to the indie scene, especially Mom and Dad with that raw sound that made me fall in love with bands like The Raveonettes and The Jesus and Mary Chain.

The line-up alone is worth going for, but having the opportunity to help out one of MTSU's departments is definitely an added bonus. Grab a friend and head downtown for what is sure to be a great night in Music City. (Nataly Morales)



The Vespers
Grimey's Record Store,
6 p.m.
1604 Eighth Ave. South,
Nashville

Admission: Free
If the amplifiers and grungy guitar sounds aren't necessarily your thing, perhaps you'd enjoy a more intimate setting with a group made of ukulele and banjo players.

The Vespers will be at Grimey's to perform and promote their sophomore album, *The Fourth Wall*.

Before you get too excited, let me warn you that their banjo picking isn't on par with Earl Scruggs and their sound doesn't incorporate the banjo's unique sound into their songs like The Avett Brothers do. Sisters Callie and Phoebe Cryar sing sweet harmonies, but their voices aren't anything new or exciting; however, the sound they produce together is calming and smooth.

I'm a firm believer that a person's music choices depend on the mood and the seasons. I save my Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros playlist for the summer and whip out some soothing Civil Wars during the winter. Maybe I'd be raving about this foursome if the air was cooler and all I'd like is to be in a warm room surrounded by records and cute melodies.

I love Grimey's, so I'll always recommend you check out any of the bands they bring. The shows are always free and their record selection is always eclectic, so if you get bored listening to The Vespers, you can always browse through the records and maybe find that gem that will complete your summer record collection. (Nataly Morales)

Friday, April 6

Black History Month Keynote Address: Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr.
BAS, State Farm Room, 4 p.m.
Admission: Free

If you're like me and only skimmed the information above, I know what you're thinking. One, it's not Black History Month, and two, how awesome would it be to see such an influential figure like Jesse Jackson. Sorry to say that only one of those pieces of information is correct.

The congressman had to unfortunately reschedule the keynote address from its original date in early March, so he will be speaking to MTSU students and the general public on Friday.

Now comes the sad part—at least it was for me. Congressman Jackson Jr. is actually Jesse Jackson's son. He's not the civil rights activist who participated in the famous Selma to Montgomery marches or the man who was at the Lorraine Motel and witnessed Dr. King's death. It's an honest mistake, right? No? I'll have to read my information more carefully next time.

Even though Jackson may not be whom I originally thought, I still plan on seeing him speak

and learn about his accomplishments as a congressman, and so should you. (Nataly Morales)



Delta Spirit
Cannery Ballroom, 9 p.m.
1 Cannery Row, Nashville

Admission: \$15 advance, \$17 doors

Delta Spirit's infectious music will be pouring out on 1 Cannery Row Friday evening as they headline the Cannery Ballroom.

With songs like "People C'mon"—an upbeat song about, you guessed it, friends—and "Strange Vine," the band has easily become a staple in any indie-rock fan's music collection. I've seen them perform once before, and I seriously left the show wanting more, and since then, I've been anxiously awaiting their next show.

I promise you won't be disappointed, if you attend this show. You'll be singing and tapping your foot along with them without any hesitation—in fact, I'd be surprised if you didn't give in to the urge to. (Nataly Morales)



"American Reunion"

Check your local theatre for showtimes
Admission: \$8 - \$10

This one time, at band camp...oh, wait, you don't want to know that. That's right—they're back—let the band camp and apple-pie jokes fly.

Jim and Michelle, Kevin and Vicky and, of course, Stiffler are all back on the big screen. We once again get to see their raunchy, yet somewhat-matured, lives filled with hilarious escapades only they could get into.

It's been nearly a decade since we last saw the gang at Jim and Michelle's wedding, and I frankly can't wait to see them again. Even though "American Wedding" failed to impress and all the lame spin-offs made me want to hurl, I'm holding out hope for this film, as I often do with sequels.

Don't miss your chance to take a trip down memory lane and see how everyone has "grown up" and grown apart and relive the moments that made us fall in love with them in the first place. (Nataly Morales)

Saturday, April 7

Ill Communication: A Tribute to the Beastie Boys

Exit/In, 8 p.m.
2208 Elliston Place, Nashville
Admission: \$8

Who doesn't love the Beastie Boys? They were the group that justified ever watching music videos on MTV. Yes, remember how MTV—short for Music Television—actually played music? They were the group that revolutionized the hip-hop standards of the '80s, and they actually continue to.

As I've mentioned before, I'm not one for tribute bands, but these guys aren't that bad. They sound close enough to the actual Beastie Boys, and they actually don't take too much liberty with changing the songs and making them their own, like other tribute bands can do.

Why miss out on the opportunity to hear classic Beastie Boys songs live and at a good price too? Go and have a good time for a cheap with a couple of friends and fight for your right to party. Check-ch-ch-ch-check them out, see wha-wha-wha-wha-what they're all about. Crap! I almost made it the whole way through without one cheesy Beastie Boys reference—sorry everyone, I just couldn't resist. (Nataly Morales)



"Revenge of the Nerds"
The Belcourt Theatre, 11 p.m.
2102 Belcourt Ave., Nashville
Admission: \$12

There are cult classics, and then, there are cult classics. "Revenge of the Nerds" is definitely one of the few '80s cult classic films that doesn't include Molly Ringwald or puts the spin on teenage angst you would normally see coming.

For those of you who don't know, the film centers on a group of nerdy college freshmen who are the targets of the Alpha Beta fraternity pranks. After getting revenge on the frat one night, the counterstrike quickly escalates to a competition between the nerds and jocks. I won't tell you how it all plays out, but I will say, you will enjoy rooting for the underdog and laugh hysterically in the process.

I recommend this film to anyone who hasn't seen it—you'll walk out of the theatre with an odd sense of empowerment. For those of you who have already seen it, I still recommend you go watch it

(again) on the big screen. (Nataly Morales)

"Titanic"

Check your local theatre for show times
Admission: \$8 - \$10

100 years later and people are still as infatuated with "Titanic" as when it first set sail. OK, perhaps Leonardo DiCaprio had a little something to do with the most recent craze.

Whatever your reasoning may be for liking the story of "Titanic," one thing's for sure—the re-release of James Cameron's film in 3D will be epic and it will be something you won't want to miss. Don't worry if you don't like the idea of seeing it in 3D, theatres will also be screening the film in regular 2D.

Guys, take my advice and treat your special lady friend to a night out and go see "Titanic." You'll surely be the king of the world, if you do. Ladies, if you're like me, you've already stocked up on tissues to take with you, but take my advice also and make sure to take some extras for the person next to you. I'll never let go! (Nataly Morales)

Sunday, April 8

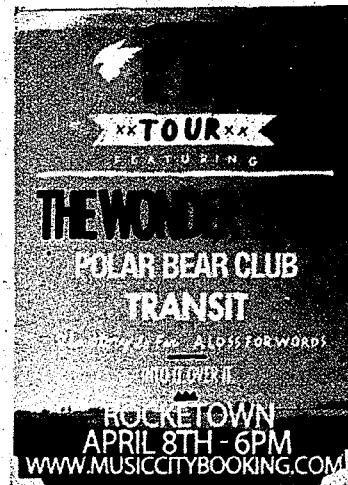
White Denim

Mercy Lounge, 9 p.m.
1 Cannery Row, Nashville
Admission: \$10 advance, \$12 doors

White Denim are... well, different. Their sound is different, but definitely enjoyable. Their presence on stage is just as enjoyable as their music, and it reflects their attitude of nonconformity to today's indie-music standards.

After seeing them a few times, I know that anyone who is a fan and hasn't had the chance to see them live yet—or even if you have seen them perform—will not be disappointed after Sunday's show. You'll surely have a great time listening to tracks like "Anvil Everything," "Street Joy," "Is and Is and Is" live and watching front man James Petralli pour his heart and soul into every song.

Go and have a good time listening to this awesome group of musicians who are the epitome of a solid indie music performance—you can thank me later. (Nataly Morales)



(Nataly Morales)

The Wonder Years
Rockettown, 6 p.m.
601 Fourth Ave. South, Nashville
Admission: \$13

Some say The Wonder Years is a pop-punk band that is good enough to stand up to the likes of Blink-182 and MXPX. Their shows are electric and full of energy and their albums are too.

Even if this kind of music isn't exactly what you like, they're still a fun band to watch. They have the ability to get an entire audience to shout along with them and jump in synchronization. It always amazes me when I see a band perform an hourlong set (sometimes longer) of pop-punk songs and they manage to do so well, even after running around the stage and diving into the crowd. The Wonder Years is one of those bands that can keep up with a crowd of rowdy fans and still deliver a good show.

I definitely recommend you take some time out of your Easter Sunday schedule and check these guys out.

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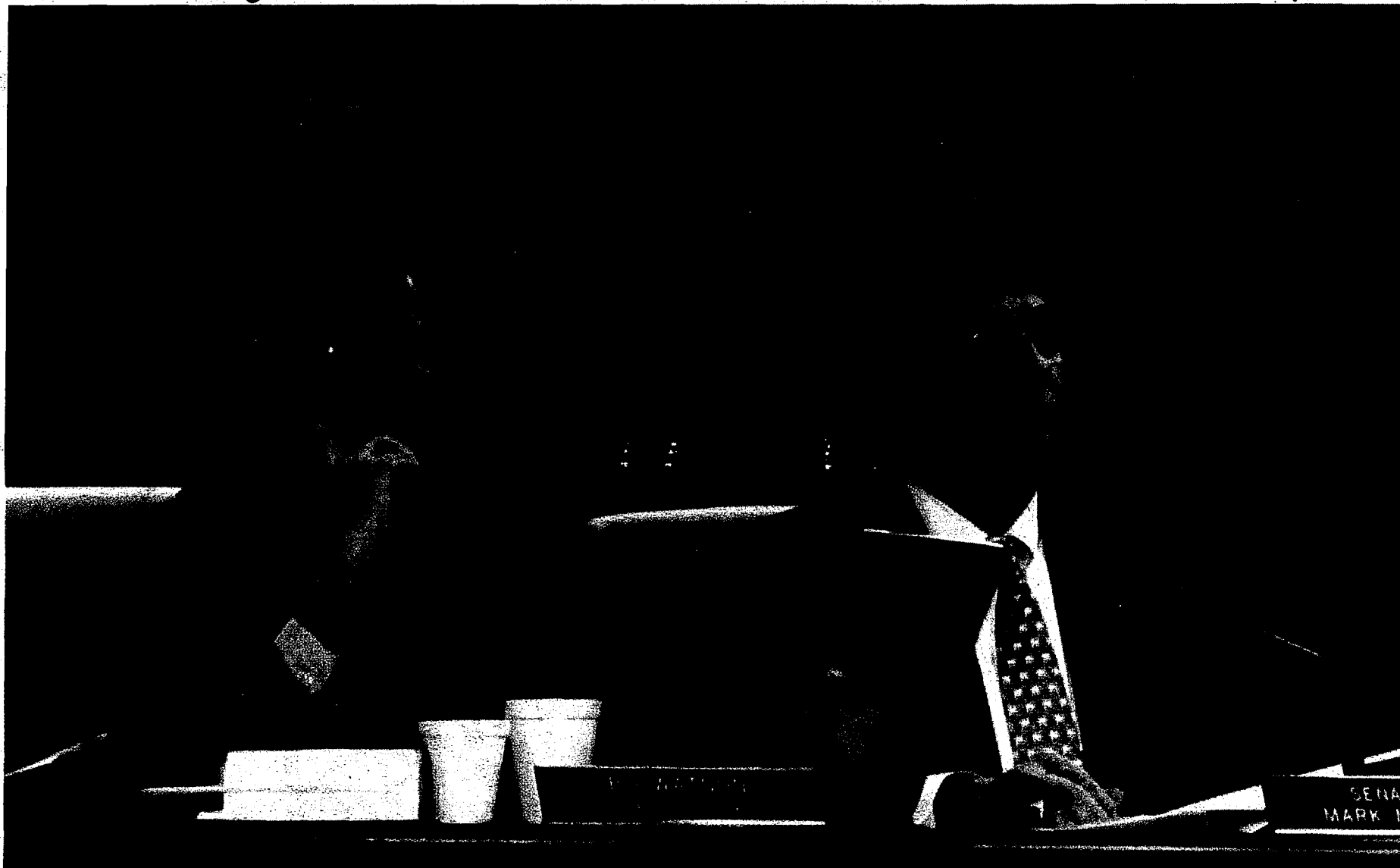
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COVER STORY

Tennessee legislature debates evolution vs. creationism with Monkey Bill



Sen. Bo Watson, R-Hixson is the main sponsor of HB 368/SB 893 known to critics as "The Monkey Bill" a bill that would provide protection to teacher's discussion "controversial" scientific theories.

by Richel Albright
News Editor

A bill that would provide teachers protection while discussing "strengths and weakness" to controversial scientific theories such as evolution recently passed in the Tennessee Legislature.

House Bill 368/Senate Bill 893, known by critics as the 'Monkey Bill' is sponsored by Sen. Bo Watson, a Republican representative from District 11 in Hamilton County. The bill is currently in the hands of Gov. Bill Haslam after passing the Senate with a 24-8 vote and the

House 73-23 last month.

"As the bill has been amended to make it clear that a classroom is guided by the curriculum framework established by the Board of Education, I think members have become much more comfortable with it and realized this is not creating a controversy between science and religion as some would advocate," Watson said in an interview with WMOT. "This is simply saying that one of the most important things with can do for our students is create critical thinking skills and the ability to communicate their thoughts.

And when teachers are engaged by students regarding theories, strengths or weaknesses of theories, teachers should understand how they should respond in a way that keeps the classroom within the guidelines of the curriculum the states established."

The curriculum standards, according to the Tennessee Department of Education for standard Biology I courses, include evolution, but it is labeled as Biodiversity and Change. The guiding question for that topic is written as, "How does natural selection explain how organisms have changed over time?"

"We're teaching what's in those standards with very little time to spare, and we're trying to prepare the students for the test," said Kelly Chastain, biology teacher and IB coordinator at Oakland High School.

Chastain is referring to the End-of-Course test that is given to all Biology I classes every year. She also mentioned there is very little tested on the subject of evolution.

A portion of Section 1 of the bill, which is what Watson is referring to and what many scientists and teachers are concerned about reads: (1) *An important purpose of science*

education is to inform students about scientific evidence and to help students develop critical thinking skills necessary to becoming intelligent, productive, and scientifically informed citizens; (2) The teaching of some scientific subjects, including, but not limited to, biological evolution, the chemical origins of life, global warming, and human cloning, can cause controversy; and (3) Some teachers may be unsure of the expectations concerning how they should present information on such subjects.

The curriculum standards for Biology I also include guidelines for teachers to use during course topics. They are listed as course-level expectations, checks for understanding, and state-performance indicators.

"The bill seems to define 'scientific controversy' as any scientific position that causes controversy outside that field on scientific inquiry," said Rami Shapiro, a religious studies professor, rabbi and award-winning author. "There is no legitimate scientific controversy over biological evolution, for example. The controversy is in the minds of those who don't like the idea of natural selection. This is not a scientific controversy, but a social controversy over the findings of science. While this is a great subject for a sociology or religion class, it has no place in the science classroom."

TENNESSEE'S EVOLVING PAST

Sen. Watson comes from an area that has a past dealing with the controversy of evolution in education.

North of Hamilton County sits Rhea County, home to the town of Dayton, Tenn., where the Scopes Trial was held in 1925.

John Scopes was a 24-year-old biology teacher and football coach at Rhea County Central High School when he was arrested on May 7, 1925, for violating Tennessee's anti-evolution statute known as the Butler Act.

The Butler Act prohibited public high school teachers from denying the biblical account of the origins of man. Those in violation of the act—teaching about the evolution of mankind—were charged with a misdemeanor, but teaching evolution

of plant and animal life were acceptable.

The courts denied the testimonies of scientific experts, ruling that the trial was not on the theory of evolution, but rather Scopes' violation of Tennessee's statute.

The highly publicized trial lasted 12 days, and made the town of Dayton a household name. Scopes was found guilty of violating the Butler Act and was ordered to pay a \$100 fine.

The Butler Act remained a part of state legislature until 1967 when a bill to repeal the act passed both houses and was then signed into law by Gov. Buford Ellington.

AN EVOLVING FUTURE?

Since the Scopes Trial and the repeal of the Butler Act, evolution has found its way back into the textbooks in most public high school biology classes and in the state science standards.

"I think a good way to start any topic discussion on evolution when you live in Tennessee, that basically science and religion can absolutely co-exist in yourself," Chastain said. "But you don't need to try and mix them in this classroom because it's two completely different subjects."

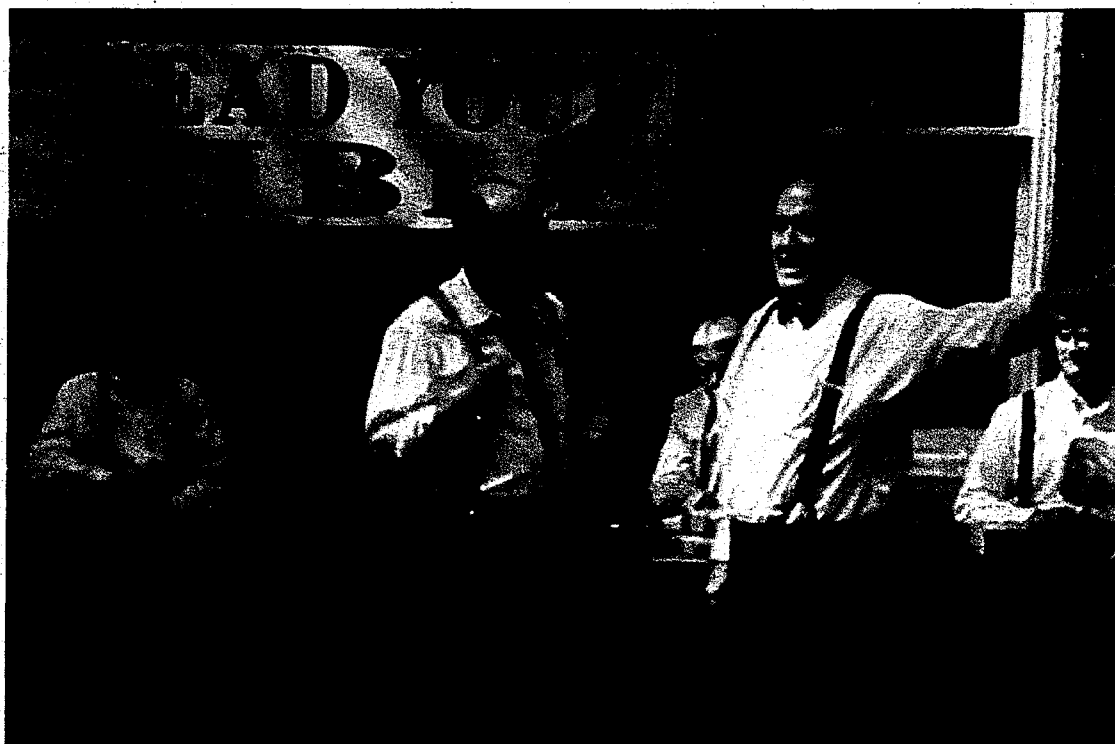
Chastain is an MTSU alumnus who received her undergraduate degree from the university in 2001.

"For Biology I, as far as state standards, we do not get into any of the things people consider controversial. It's very microevolution based," Chastain said. "In IB we get the opportunity to look at some of the discussion on origins, which absolutely raise a lot of questions. And no self-respecting educator or scientist would get up there and say they have all the answers because they just don't, but it is a discussion that is based on searching for the answers through testing hypothesis."

American Association for the Advancement of Science, the National Association of Biology Teachers, the National Association of Bioscience Teachers and the National Earth Science Teachers Association all oppose HB 368.

Scientists and science teachers across the state have raised their concerns about what would happen if this bill were to be signed into law.

continued on page 16



William Jennings Bryan represented the state of Tennessee during the Scopes Trial in 1925. He died five days after the trial.



The Rhea County Courthouse and town of Dayton, Tenn. was packed during the 12 days of the Scopes Trial.

"I THINK A GOOD WAY TO START ANY TOPIC DISCUSSION ON EVOLUTION WHEN YOU LIVE IN TENNESSEE, THAT BASICALLY SCIENCE AND RELIGION CAN ABSOLUTELY CO-EXIST IN YOURSELF," CHASTAIN SAID. "BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO TRY AND MIX THEM IN THIS CLASSROOM BECAUSE IT'S TWO COMPLETELY DIFFERENT SUBJECTS."

NASHVILLE FASHION WEEK: A WEEK OF

by Jane Horne
Associate Arts and Entertainment Editor

lamour, music, designers from near and far, and a whole lot of fabulous was what Lexus Nashville Fashion Week 2012 was all about.

March 20 through March 24, runway shows, trunk shows and events at various boutiques took over the city of Nashville. Local designers, as well as designers based out of New York City

and Los Angeles came together in Music City to show what they have offer to the world of fashion.

Over the course of these five days, runway shows at Marathon Music Works, The Parthenon, and The Pinnacle at Symphony Place

showcased these designers' collections. Both spring and fall lines were presented by talented designers, as well as everything in between from wearable, everyday clothing, to the more interesting, artistic interpretation side of fashion.

While stores from every corner of Nashville held contests and other promotional events this week, the main focus was on the runway. At the kick-off party at Club Virago on Tuesday night, designing veteran Traver Rains made the point that, "Before, runways were about showing designers what they were buying. Nowadays, it's more about hype."

And that is definitely what Nashville Fashion Week created. From the simply classic collections, to the wild and fierce, Nashville Fashion Week had something to offer everyone's taste. While most of these collections do come with a price tag a little out of reach for most college students, there is still plenty to take from this week's celebration of fashion.

ASYMMETRICAL HEMLINES

With approximately 25 designer showcasing their lines, there were many new trends to choose from. Some we have seen in recent seasons, and others are ones that are slowly making their way onto the scene.

These romantic skirts have already been seen in stores for spring and summer. Most often made out of whimsical, soft, chiffon material, they are shorter in the front and drape to almost the floor in the back, which is why some people have started referring to them as mullet skirts. But this trend is most definitely not something you would expect a middle-aged man to be rocking.

Designers T. Rains, Raed Doll and Jamie and the Jones featured an asymmetrical hemline or two, and the Sjobeck and Zang Toi lines featured a twist on the trend. Sjobeck layered a solid color mullet hemline over a printed floor-length maxi dress, while a crowd favorite was a Zang Toi evening gown that looked like a regular floor-length piece from the front, but suddenly transformed into a black sequined mini skirt in the back.

The great thing about the way this trend was the way each designer styled it into their vastly different collections, proving no matter what your personal taste, incorporating fun trends into your own wardrobe can be done easily.

COLOR

In-your-face bold colors have been drilled into the fashion scene this season.

By SMITH and T.Rains's collections on Tuesday night both used bold colors in dramatically different ways.

On the opposite end of the color spectrum, many designers such as Wai Ming, Sjobeck, Red Doll, Jamie and the Jones, Kal Reiman and Sylvia Heisel had fairly muted color palettes. Jamie and the Jones had several garments made up of a mixture of muted oranges, greens and grays—very earthy tones that went surprisingly well with the other mainly black and white outfits.

The other collections had pops of color here and there, like Wai Ming's teal mixed with the black and white, but other than that, the color selection remained fairly classic.

It is impressive to see how each designer can use similar colors to create completely different lines. Ashley Brock, who modeled for several shows this past week, especially appreciated the Red Doll collection's color choice.

"Tatyana Merenyuk's dresses were flirty and feminine, and I really love her primary use of black and white shades, as well as



her fall coats," Brock said. "The one with the hood will be in my closet come fall, I absolutely adore it."

It is worth mentioning that nude seems to be becoming the new black. Red Doll had several nude colored dresses, as did Randi Rahm. While it may in fact lack the traditional sense of color, the muted tone gives an effortlessly chic look to the garments.

FABRIC

The use of different fabrics was a large factor in the amazing outfits at NFW this year. Lace, sheer fabrics, silk and velvet were all used by designers.

While lace has always been in style, it is particularly dominant this season. Eva Franco and Katherine Kidd heavily featured lace. Magid Bernard had a combination of lace and sheer material in her clothing, and the Red



Photos by Kelsey Klingemeyer

INSPIRATION

Doll collection also used an abundance of sheer material. Some of the sheer looks are inappropriate off-runway, but can be transferred to everyday wear because of the subtle seductiveness it offers, while still remaining decent.

Velvet, a personal favorite trend, has been seen on many fashion blogs past seasons. Due to its unique texture, it is most often styled in vintage-inspired outfits. However, both Zang Toi and Randi Rahm were able to coordinate this luxurious-looking fabric into evening gowns.

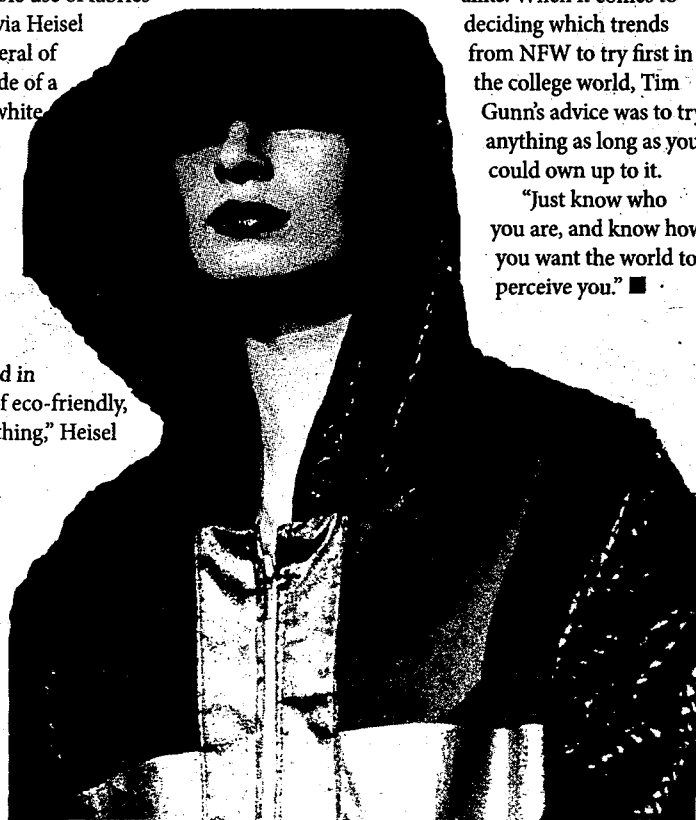
Another fabric that popped up was the use of a quilted fabric in both the Valentine and Wai Ming collections. It gives off a heavy look, so it made sense that these blended into their mainly winter-based lines. Using a crochet material for dresses and menswear shorts was an unexpected twist for memorable fabrics that was used in the T. Rains collection. Yet, somehow it made sense with the rest of his bold, fun designs.

And because everyone loves a little sparkle, silks with metallic sheens were also seen in several lines. By SMITH used it most effectively with shimmering strapless dresses and on fun skirts and trendy shorts. And, of course, what would gowns worthy of the red carpet be without some sequins? Katherine Kidd and Randi Rahm both had stunning sequin, sparkling gowns that made the Saturday night finale one to remember.

The most memorable use of fabrics was from designer Sylvia Heisel on Saturday night. Several of her garments were made of a fabric that resembled white paper bags. Heisel said that she was inspired by how technology is changing fashion, and the effect it has on new materials and new manufacturing procedures.

"I'm really interested in substantiality instead of eco-friendly, granola-crunching clothing," Heisel said.

But the going green movement still has an effect on Heisel's clothing, thanks to technology. A pair of pants that were for sale at the Nashville store Jamie had a grass print from an actual photo, and the fabric was made out of used soda cans—



something that would obviously not be possible without the new forms of technology.

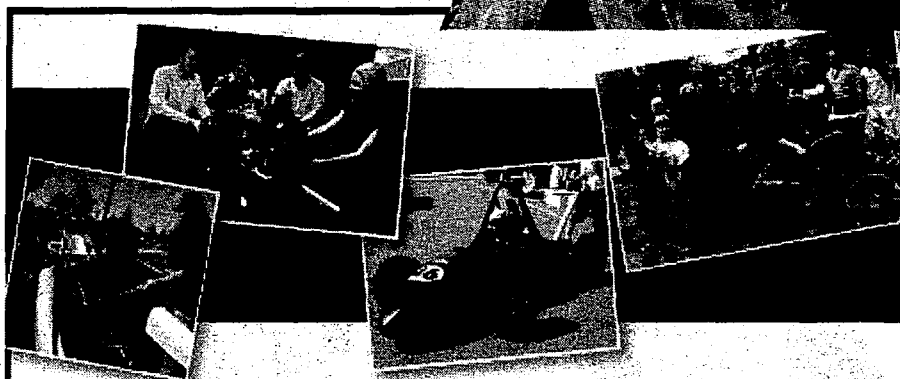
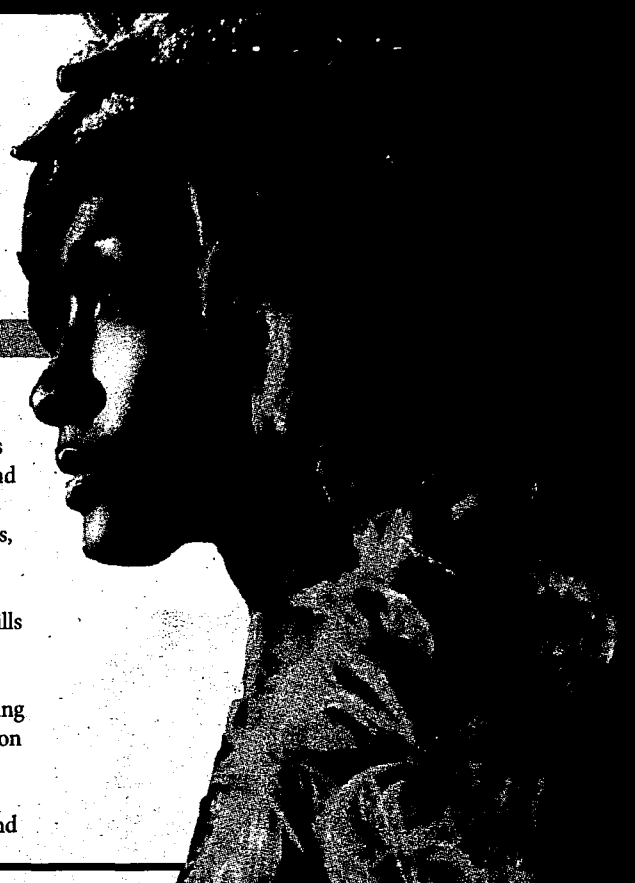
OVERSIZING

Oversized, baggy, comfortable shirts have become a staple in most women's wardrobes. Large, billowy aspects are carrying over into other garments to make long, shapeless dresses and even oversized pants. The collections for Jamie and the Jones and White Rabbit were almost exclusively sized this way. It most certainly made for some beautiful runway clothes, but when taking a part in this trend, it is essential to dress for your body type.

Tim Gunn hosted a fashion show on Saturday at Green Hills Mall that showed collections by Lucky, Kate Spade and Juicy Couture. In addition to viewing some beautiful clothing, the event turned into a Fashion 101 class with Tim Gunn. The thing he continued to stress was remembering "silhouette, proportion and fit" when dressing for your body—something to keep in mind when taking on this difficult styling trend.

Nashville Fashion Week was a success for the designers, and for audiences. The week was full of inspiration for fashion icons and college fashionistas alike. When it comes to deciding which trends from NFW to try first in the college world, Tim Gunn's advice was to try anything as long as you could own up to it.

"Just know who you are, and know how you want the world to perceive you." ■



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The Used return to form with 'Vulnerable'

by Daniel Kreipe
Arts and Entertainment Editor



The Used has traditionally been the kind of band that you either love or you absolutely hate. Proponents of the band will cite their passion, zeal to create music, and ability to create a sound that is solely theirs as reasons to love them. Opponents will likely state that they're emo dudes in tight jeans who aren't worth listening to. But despite their divisive history with the music-listening populace, their latest effort, *Vulnerable*, may just be the ticket they need to dive into the hearts of post-hardcore fans worldwide.

Not that they've had an unsuccessful career thus far. Popularity is not something The Used has struggled with. Since their self-titled debut in 2002, the band has toured the world, been signed to Warner Bros. records, been gold- and platinum-certified in six countries, and as of 2008 they had sold more than three million records worldwide. No, coming into their fifth studio album these guys had established that they are a legitimate musical force.

However, with *Vulnerable*, the band was up against strong criticism. Many felt that 2007's *Lies for the Liars* was over-produced, and the band's last album, *Artwork*, was widely believed to be their weakest album to date. The band increased their fan base with both efforts, but core listeners were starting to lose interest. The band had something to prove.

After leaving their major label, creating a label of their own with Anger Music Group, and signing a distribution deal with Hopeless Records, the band was finally ready to silence doubters by unleashing *Vulnerable*. The band starts strong with their first single, "I Come Alive." The song features eerie keyboards that have become a signature part of the band's sound, while branching out with their sampling into new wave electronic sounds. The song has a strong chorus and time signature changes that keep the listener guessing.

Track two is a surprise right out of the gate. "This Fire" features strings, and not the creepy strings you might expect, given past tracks such as "The Bird and the Worm." No, these are the kind of strings that sound at home on a Panic! at the Disco song. While this may make some early believers of the band question if they've sold out, the song features a strong chorus harkening back to something you'd hear on one of their earlier albums.

"Hands and Faces" is a divisive track. While the chorus is fun and catchy, the verses have sampling that stylistically borders

on dubstep. Not entirely, mind you—there are no flatulent breakdowns to be heard. But the sound definitely smacks of Skrillex, and it makes you wonder if the band is buying into current trends. However, the dark tone of the song still works for the band, and doesn't sound too out of place.

memorable on the album. The song is a pick-me-up for both the band and their listeners and is truly a highlight of the album.

"Now that You're Dead" is a song that will bring a smile to any fan that missed the band's heavier sound on *Artwork*. The song is a fast, punky punch in the throat. It truly shows off

lead vocalist Bert McCracken's edgier vocals, as well as how energetic the band can be. It's similar to the sound shown on "Wake the Dead" on *Lies for the Liars*, only more developed and interesting.

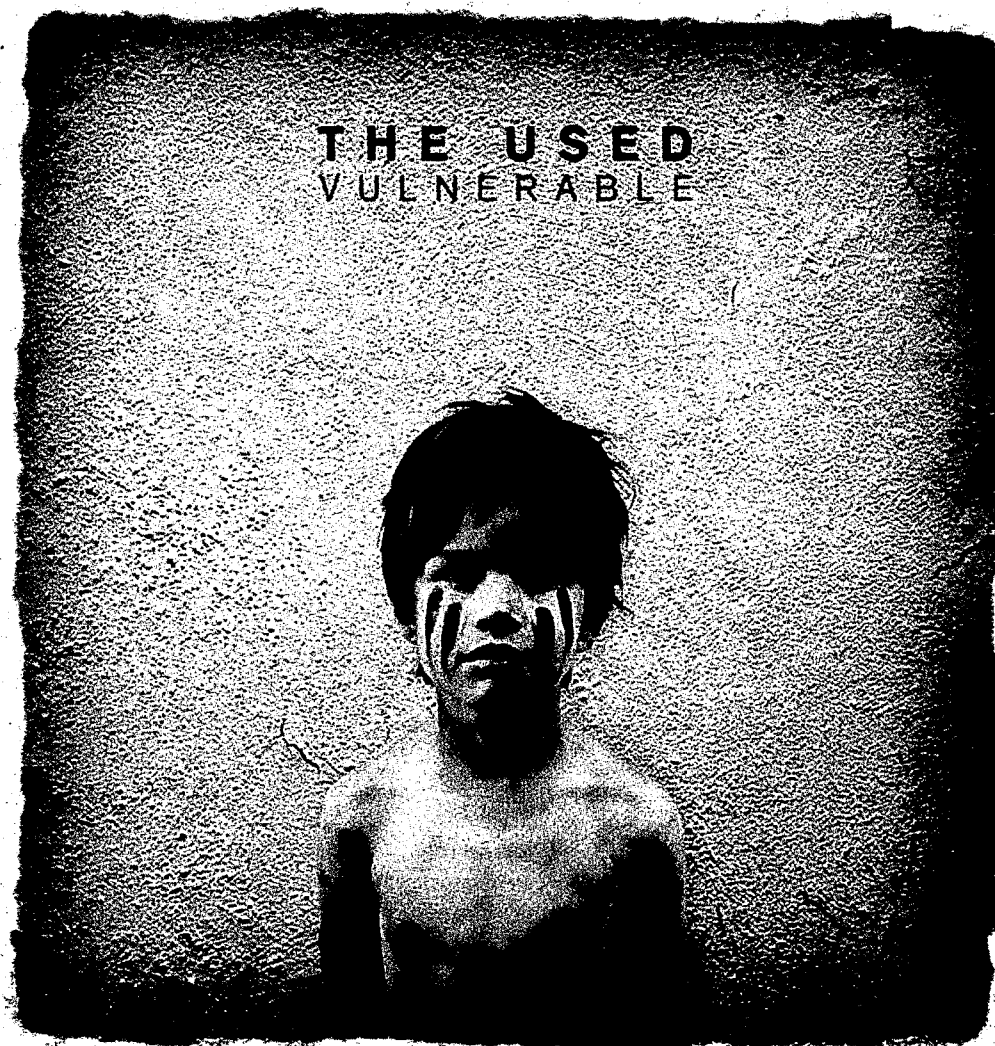
The next three tracks—"Give Me Love," "Moving On," and "Getting Over You"—offer a reprieve from the relentless first half of the album. The first two are still rock songs, but they slow the tempo down a little bit and offer some versatility to the album. "Getting Over You" is the first true ballad on the album, in the vein of "Smother Me" from *Lies for the Liars*, and easily evokes images of lighters and cell phones waving in the crowd.

"Kiss it Goodbye" and "Hurt No One" pick the energy back up, but neither track really stands out from the rest of the album. "Kiss it Goodbye" has a fantastic bass line, more fun sampling, and a humorous beat boxing/a cappella outro. "Hurt No One" is a powerful enough anthem that is carried by the slowly building drum beat. Both are strong enough tracks, but neither feels completely essential.

The album closer, "Together Burning Bright," is an enjoyable ballad, but as the final track on the album, it feels lacking. The song is a slow build that never fully climaxes, and it leads to disappointment as the final notes of the album ring out. It feels like foreplay that never really leads to any action. Perhaps this reviewer is clinging too much to albums of the late '90s/early 2000s that truly knew how to end an album with a bang, but it feels like the band could have given more than the

weak and sudden ending that the album offers.

Despite the fact that the album's first half is significantly stronger than the second, it should be more than enough to silence any naysayers. It contains enough of the band's older sound to make original fans happy, enough of their newer sound to retain fans they've gained along the way and enough innovation to make listeners happy all around. All in all, the band has always seemed to make the albums they were in the mood to make, and *Vulnerable* is no exception. Fortunately, they were in the mood to make something that fans of post-hardcore and hard rock can enjoy. ■

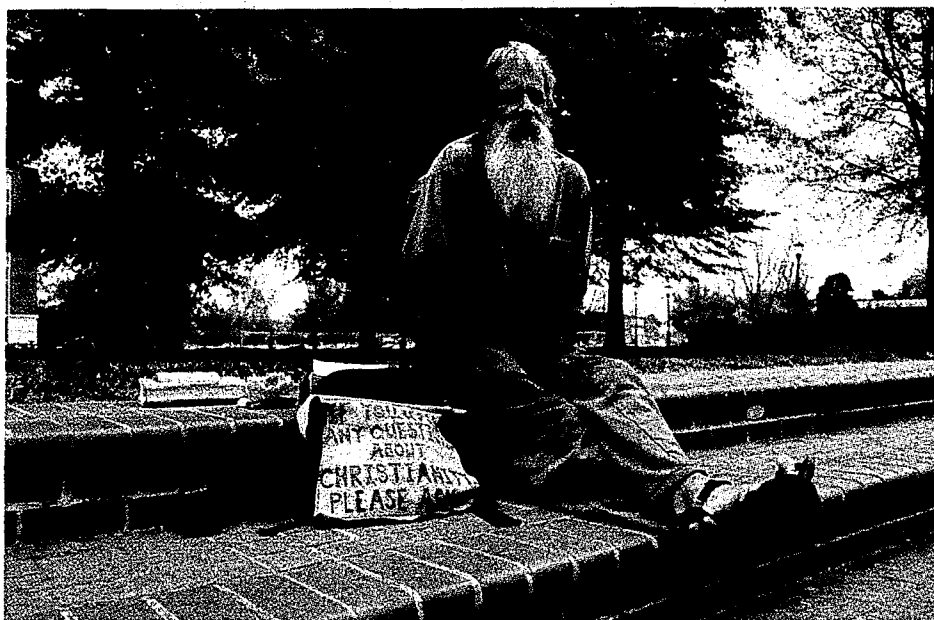


"Put Me Out" is simultaneously strange, and completely wonderful. The intro borders on biker metal. If you heard this track playing on "Sons of Anarchy," you wouldn't bat an eyelash. It makes for a fun departure for the band while somehow still fitting into their overall sound. The choruses are fun and defiant, and beg for a live performance.

"Shine" is an important track for the band. Given the depressing lyrical content and dark sound of *Artwork*, the band was understandably eager to lighten up. Lyrics this positive and hopeful haven't been heard since "The Taste of Ink" on their first album, and the main lick and drumbeat are some of the most

FEATURES

A CHRISTIAN IN THE QUAD



Local man Johnny Ruhl said he sees the university as an evangelical opportunity. Photo by Kelsey Klingemeyer.

by Katie Rae Davis
Contributing Writer

Every day, there's a familiar presence in the quad. Many of the students who frequent the library or the surrounding buildings have begun to recognize the man with the gray beard, but few know his name.

Those who have seen his bag that reads, "If you have any questions about Christianity, please ask," probably have a preconceived idea of who he is. But until you get to know Johnny Ruhl, you are missing out on a fascinating person.

Ruhl, a horse trainer and riding instructor by trade, became a part-time student at MTSU a few years ago after his short academic stint here in 1968-1969. He left school in the '60s to protest a cause he felt deserved his attention.

"I lived in the '60s. Our president lied to us, and people were being killed and not being let into school because of something they could change," he said. "I was out of here."

Ruhl lived in 16 places before he was 18, hitchhiked over 40,000 miles and has travelled to Honduras, Indonesia and Mexico on mission trips. But the 61-year-old has found a "mission" much closer to home.

"The Bible says you should start at home and then move out," Ruhl said. "I live 19 miles from 26,000 students; what better place to start?"

In his time getting to know the student body, one thing has been very apparent to him: Generation Y is missing something.

"Lots of young people are discouraged because they have received a form of Christianity that is academic, and they haven't seen lives changed--people that look differently from the rest of the world," he said.

But he understands why students feel this way, because he did too. Growing up in a Christian home, Ruhl knew a lot about Christianity, but little about what really mattered.

"I came away knowing more about the Bible than I knew about the Lord," Ruhl said.

Because he feels many of those in Generation Y have had the same experience and as a result have turned away from the Christian faith, he wants them to know there are many out there who can relate to how they are feeling.

"They see that the Bible says one thing and the Christian community says another," he said. "They can't find others who see it the way they do, and they are looking for something real."

If anything, Ruhl is here to proclaim one message: "Religion and Christianity are two different things."

Students often come to visit with Ruhl. He seems to know everything about them, asking about their classes, families and girlfriends. He knows that what is imperative to some might be irrelevant to others.

"Describing the typical MTSU student would be like describing a typical day in February in Tennessee; there is such a great variety and each has a different need," he said. "I'm interested in meeting students where they are."

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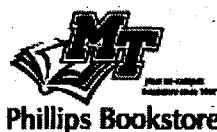
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O'SHANNON

Not all queer spaces are safe spaces

by Christina Gaza
Contributing Columnist

I was very optimistic about transferring to MTSU. I had made more connections with people here before my transfer than I had in an entire year at Tennessee State University. A majority of those connections were with fellow queers, feminists, and, in general, those seeking equality. I was really hoping to find safe spaces in which we all could coexist and work together.

There is a well-known organization on this campus, which gives off the impression that they have a monopoly on all things queer-related. This same organization also has an immense tendency to ostracize anyone who offers any constructive criticisms or simply calls them out for their problematic behavior-meaning people within the organization participate in actions meant to shut up the dissenters until they go away. This is really not my idea of a safe space.

I've had quite a few negative experiences with this particular group, but my latest experience was the straw that broke this queer camel's back.

This organization held an annual event in which it gave people in attendance the opportunity to ask anything they've ever wanted to know about members of the GLBTQI (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex - even this acronym does not cover all the letters) community. To be "fair," I will let you know now that I could only stand about 15 to 20 minutes of this event.

Topics discussed ranged from "Coming Out" (When

did you know?) to "Born vs. Choice" (Why did you choose to be gay? Are gay people born gay or is it a choice?), and "Being Transgender" (Does a sex change surgery hurt? Why does someone choose to become male-to-female? When do you tell someone you are dating about your biological gender?).

While some of these are legitimate questions that people who do not quite understand the queer experience might have, I don't feel the organization took everything seriously. Such as the sex change question, common sense should tell you that a medical procedure in which a part of the body is removed or added would be accompanied with pain.

As much as I appreciated one of the panelist's answers - that her body is enhanced and she does not wish to "cut anything off" - I feel that there was a missed opportunity for an educational interjection explaining the fact that not all trans persons undergo medical transitions, meaning some trans people go their entire life without surgery or hormone replacement therapy.

Another problem with this event was the panelists. From my understanding of conversations on the event invite page, the panelists had already been chosen prior to March 19, yet upon arrival one person who was told they were too late to sign up suddenly appeared on the panel, while others who had signed up were removed.

Also, almost all (if not all) of the final panelists were

members of the organization. A tip from someone who has participated in a few panel discussions: don't use your own organization members as panelists because a) it is really unprofessional, and b) unless you're going for the "groupthink" mentality, you're preventing the audience from getting outside perspectives on the subject matter.

I realize that there is no way to avoid this piece from being taken the "wrong way" and it isn't entirely personal - I've known other people who were turned off by this organization for similar reasons - but if we keep ignoring it, it's not going to get better. I really hope that we can build and mend bridges and form some inter-organizational cohesion. I truly do not see why we all can't work together to create safer spaces for everyone. ☐



Christina Gaza is a sociology major. They (gender-neutral pronoun) can be reached at christinagaza@gmail.com.

Sidelines is the editorially independent, student-run newspaper affiliated with Middle Tennessee State University and the College of Mass Communication. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or the university.



The next day the boys would be rewarded for surviving 12 days in the wilderness, even after their scoutmaster Ricky went missing.

True Blue: I am committed to reason not violence

by Laurie Witherow
Contributing Columnist

I love being a part of this diverse community: diverse in demography, to be sure, but diverse in opinions, beliefs and values as well. One of my greatest pleasures is to walk across campus overhearing fragments of conversations in which students discuss topics both grave and trivial.

Several years ago on this campus, there was a distinct separation of students by race. Students segregated themselves on the knoll, in the dining halls and in the stands at athletic events. This is no longer the case and reflects a robust positive change in the culture at MTSU.

I would caution students against segregating themselves along ideological lines as well. Discussion, debate, passionate disagreement should be welcomed, even invited into our university community. Perhaps the outcome will be an agreement to disagree, but that should not be your initial position. It is the ideas and values we hold most strongly and dearly that we must be most willing to examine, test and discuss. They will, if worthy, stand up to the scrutiny and debate.

Dr. Francis Crick gave this advice to a fellow brain researcher: "The dangerous man is the one who has only one idea, because then he'll fight and die for it. The way real science goes is that you come up with lots of ideas, and most of them will be wrong." So the message is to look for opportunities to explore new ideas. Seek out people who believe and think about things differently from the way you do. You will be enriched.

The opportunity to disagree, to debate, to encounter new ideas and perspectives and size

them up against our own ideas is a cornerstone of becoming an educated person. This type of critical thinking is a skill that must be learned and practiced. The ability to judge the merits of an idea and see how it stands up to evidence and reason is a necessary skill in the work world and is a truly marketable skill.

In University College, one of our responsibilities is to bring the Summer Reading program to the campus each year. In doing so, we always look for a book that will appeal to a number of disciplines across the curriculum at MTSU. We want the campus to encounter the book from a number of perspectives, to discuss it, and yes, to disagree. Each year we also develop a reading guide to present to new students at CUSTOMS. In the reading guide we present essays written by MTSU faculty and staff. If we are successful, those essays reflect the diversity of opinion on the campus. It doesn't matter that everyone likes the book. What matters is that we read and think about the book. What matters is that we engage one another.

John Frederick Boyles said, "Violence in the voice is often only the death rattle of reason in the throat." You will encounter lots of ideas at MTSU. Test them and think about them. Attack the ideas, but never their advocate or presenter.

Dr. Laurie Witherow is the Assistant Dean of the University College Advising Center. She can be reached at Laurie.Witherow@mtsu.edu.



Senior still tossing for success

Blue Raider spotlight: Caty Jutson

by Jordan Powell
Staff Writer

Slowly making her way from all-purpose player to the circle, senior Blue Raider softball pitcher Caty Jutson has proved herself as a true Blue Raider on the diamond.

The Phoenix, Ariz., native made her way to Middle Tennessee to play softball and as a freshman, Jutson made 43 appearances, with the majority coming as a designated player. As time progressed, Jutson's starts began to come in her sophomore year and increased throughout her junior year.

This season, Jutson has served as a mainstay of the softball pitching staff.

Recently, Jutson sat down with *Sidelines* to discuss the softball team, her goals for the future and how she strives for greatness.

SL: *The softball team has been hit or miss, no pun intended, for most of the season. What do you think the team needs to do as a whole in order to be more successful?*

CJ: It's one of those things, per game. To play a perfect game you have to have perfect defense, perfect offense and pretty much perfect pitching. There are very few games where you can look back and say, "As a whole, we played completely perfect." So, when one of them is lacking, for instance, I didn't pitch well yesterday, and my offense totally came in and picked me up. So, it's definitely one of those things that we aren't going to have every game. So if we can have one pick the other up, then we are definitely going to win games.

SL: *You have personally had almost equal parts success and struggle this season. What makes the difference between the good and bad outings?*

CJ: You know, I wish I could figure that out for myself. It's just one of those things that, as a senior, I should figure that out. I wish I had the answer to that question. I guess it's just going at hitters, attacking hitters, never underestimating, and never overestimating. We played really well against Tennessee, and no one expected that. If we can just have that attitude every game, no matter who our opponent is, then we should be able to stay with everybody.

SL: *How did you get recruited, and what made you want to play for MTSU?*

CJ: I was in California, actually at the same recruiting tournament that our catcher Natalie was at. I went on all my visits to other schools, and obviously far away from home I felt like Murfreesboro was the perfect place: it was a small town, and it was a total change from a big city like Phoenix. I felt like it was safe. It was a new, Southern atmosphere, and it was still close enough to where my friends and family could come to visit, like fly into Nashville and be here in 20 to 25 minutes. It was pretty much the perfect package.

SL: *What is it like to come from Arizona to Middle Tennessee to play softball?*

CJ: Well it's definitely a change. Like I said, I grew up in a city, so, I feel like everyone here knows each other and what high school everyone went to and stuff like that. I guess the biggest change is that I'm away from my family and, I mean, everyone talks a little bit different (laughs). And there's definitely not the Mexican food, I can tell you that. Nothing beats Arizona Mexican food.

SL: *As a student-athlete, how do you succeed both on the field and in the classroom?*

CJ: I think it's dedication and having a good attitude. I think everyone on our team and everyone that's a student-athlete had to give up something to be where they are today and a lot of that is your time. Most of my teammates didn't go to homecoming or prom and they're OK with that. At the end of the day, softball has given me a lot: it's brought me closer to my family, it's given me most of my friends and, actually, my boyfriend is in softball. It's given me so much, and it's my way of giving back by still playing.

SL: *Who motivates you the most, both on and off the field?*

CJ: Both of my parents, but my dad is the one who drives me to be my best every day. I know that if I didn't do something with 100 percent effort I know that he would be disappointed. I

continued on page 16

Pitching great remembers career, ground-breaking surgery at MLB conference hosted on campus

by Emily West
Associate News Editor

Major League Baseball elbow surgery namesake Tommy John visited campus March 30 as the keynote speaker for the 7th Annual Literature in Baseball conference hosted in the James Union Building.

"We are very happy to get a guest of this magnitude for our conference, and we think he will bring an interesting perspective to MLB," said Warren Tormey, assistant English professor. "The point of the conference is to talk about the place of baseball in American culture with an eye on historical periods with various years. As long as there has been America, there has been baseball."

A native of Indiana, John pitched 760 major-league games for the Cleveland Indians, Chicago White Sox, Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Yankees, California Athletics and Oakland Athletics.

During his 26 years of play, John amassed 2,245 strikeouts with a 288-231 record. He is the seventh winningest left-handed pitcher in major league history.

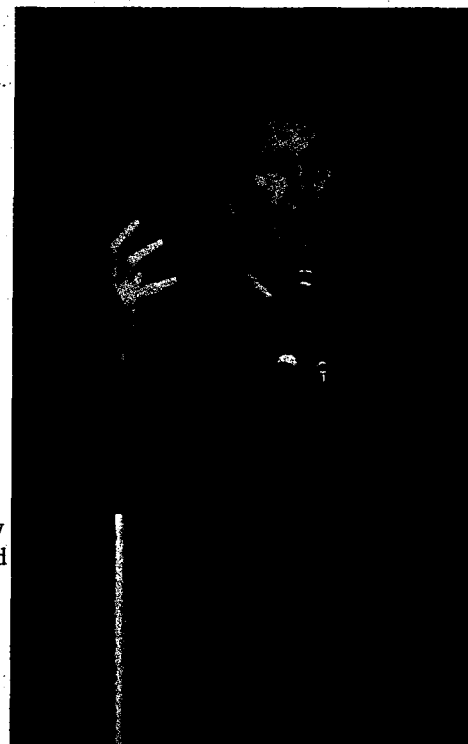
John's talk focused on a variety of topics including his personal stories and hitting the highlights of his career.

"Some days I was good and some days I was OK," John said. "But some days I was bad. I thought about every game like a college test. If I prepared myself for a midterm and a final and kept up with the classroom and didn't cram, I would do fairly well. It was all about how well I prepared myself. Each time I pitched was a test. Sometimes I passed, and sometimes I failed. Each time I failed, I always would go home and try to think about how to make it better."

John's pitching career came to a halt while he was playing for the L.A. Dodgers in 1974 when doctors took a tendon from his right forearm to replace the ulnar collateral ligament in his left arm. He was the first pitcher to receive the now routine surgery, which led to the name "Tommy John surgery."

John missed the entire 1975 season as he worked to make a comeback. He went on to pitch 14 subsequent MLB seasons.

"It was not excruciating pain," John said. "I have talked to a lot of kids that had it and



Tommy John speaks to MTSU community about the highs and pitfalls of his baseball career. Photo by Emily West.

they complained of horrible pain. It was just the type of pain that was telling you that you hadn't used your arm in 16 or 18 weeks. I knew that preparing was the key to pitching and rehabilitation was the key to surgery. I told my doctor I would work as hard and long as I needed to."

John overcame rehabilitation and went on to continue his career in the major leagues.

"I was a Cub fan growing up and later I watched Tommy John play, and he was always beating my team," said Michael Browning, MTSU multimedia content specialist. "He was a very good left hander who was a very good pitcher for his time. I remember him going on to have a great career after his surgery."

After John retired from baseball in 1989, he began to work as a high school baseball coach and the minor leagues.

Currently, John works as a sports and entertainment agent for MK Sports. ■

continued

Haslam to decide classroom protocol: continued from page 10

On March 26, keynote speaker for MTSU Scholar's Week and director for the National Center for Science Education Eugenie Scott, commented that this bill and others like it "provide a backdoor way for creationism to be taught."

According to a 2010 survey by The Pew Forum on Religious and Public Life, 51 percent of Tennesseans said they are affiliated with Evangelical Protestant traditions, 18 percent have Mainline Protestant traditions, 12 percent are unaffiliated, 8 percent are Historically Black Protestant, and 7 percent are Catholic.

"I was never taught evolution in school," said April Crabtree, a sophomore from Cookeville majoring in chemistry. "I knew about but never had it in class until college. I come from a very religious town."

Teachers like Chastain said they think that students are being presented evolution in the most basic ways and basic terms without the label of 'evolution.'

"I think you can look at not just where we are, but the United States compared to the rest of the world. This is not an issue in the rest of the world," Chastain said. "In the United States it's an issue in select areas of the country. It's

eye-opening to look at other countries and see how they view evolution and how we view it."

Biology professor Kim Sadler said America's diversity should also be taken into consideration.

"We're not a country that is of one religion, and so this is the problem that I have with this bill and I think it's very craftily written," Sadler said. "First off, it's not science so it doesn't belong in a science classroom but if these conversations want to be opened up in a philosophy or maybe even a segue way to an English class or a debate class I think go for it. But, the problem is that there are so many religious factions in America and what this bill will do in Tennessee, and in other states that have approved this type of bill, it will give legal rights to all these other groups to step in and give their creation account and I think that's wrong to take away from the actual science education. This shouldn't be in a science class. Boom, end of story."

Section 1 Part E of Sen. Watson's bill reads: *This section only protects the teaching of scientific information, and shall not be construed to promote any religious or non-religious doctrine, promote discrimination for or against*

a particular set of religious beliefs or non-beliefs, or promote discrimination for or against religion or non-religion.

"I'm not threatened by the questions, but again I'm extremely bothered that— we'll call it what it is— religion is going to be brought into the science classroom," Chastain said.

Haslam, a devout conservative Christian, has said in the past that he has "no problem with evolution being taught in public schools and saw no push for creationism to be taught." He is working with the Board of Education as to whether the bill should be signed into law or vetoed.

"If this bill becomes law, and I suspect it will, and science teachers are forced to teach every story of creation no matter how far removed from scientific evidence and the scientific method, I for one will be only too happy to help them understand the creation theories of the world's religions," Shapiro said. "And would be quite ready to work with the state of Tennessee and MTSU to create a curriculum for science teachers so that they can do justice the various creation theories of the world's religions."

Softball success: continued from page 15

look up to my parents so much, but he is the one that definitely drives me to be my best.

SL: *What has been your most embarrassing moment on the field in your time here?*

CJ: I don't really have one here, but one from high school comes to mind. I hurt my knee in high school, so I wore a knee brace. I was a freshman and our senior was about to hit her career-tying double, and I was on first and she hit the ball, and I was running and my knee brace came unhooked and hooked to the other knee. I had to slow down to get to second, because I was running with my legs tied together, and I had to stop at second and she ended up not getting the double.

SL: *What do you plan to do after graduation?*

CJ: I'm looking into grad school, and I think I'm probably going to head back West, probably towards the Texas area and look at going and getting my master's. Probably my master's in business, my MBA. I thought about going to law school, that's probably not going to happen, but definitely still going towards my education and starting my career after that. ■



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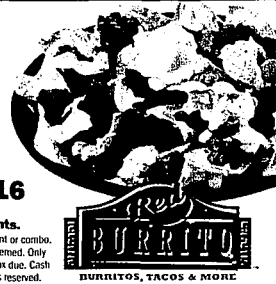
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