

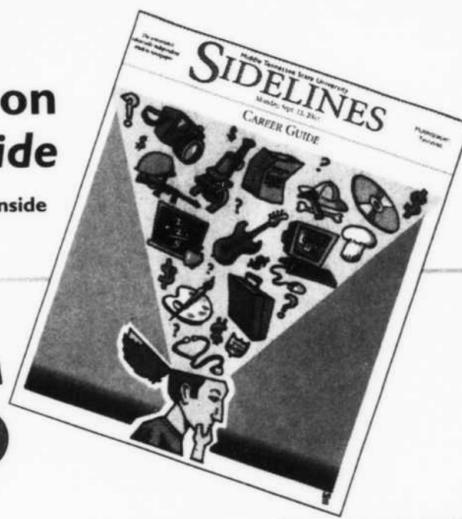


This weeks poll question  
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"Do you want the university to offer  
more online courses?"

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Inside



Middle Tennessee State University

# SIDELINES

The university's  
editorially independent  
student newspaper

Volume 79 No. 18

## No room for the classroom



Photo by Jamie Lorange | Staff Photographer

Students prepare for class in a master classroom, which provides professors with computers and projectors for multimedia presentations.

## Scheduling classroom space proves difficult

### Increased enrollment makes time in master classroom scarce commodity

By Leah Massey  
Staff Writer

It is becoming increasingly difficult to place academic classes into the available rooms with enrollment increasing every year.

Connie Pimentel, assistant director of the Scheduling Center, said that the Scheduling Center usually receives more requests for specific time slots than there are classrooms available, forcing teachers to rethink their class times.

"We always have more requests than we can fill," she said. "Space has always been an issue."

There are over 300 academic spaces available on campus, including master classrooms, labs and normal classrooms.

The center began working on the schedule book for spring of 2004 in March of this year, and it has

now been sent to the printer.

In March, teachers sent requests for class times and rooms through their departments to the center. Afterwards, the center made sure there were no discrepancies and placed remaining classes into rooms and times that were vacant.

After the schedule book has gone to the printer, a professor who wishes to change times, rooms or even add a class must make arrangements with the Scheduling Center.

Assistant professor of psychology Dennis Kramer chose to try teaching abnormal psychology as a night class this fall. Because of the high turnout of interested students, he decided that he would like to do the same thing in the spring.

Kramer went online and used the scheduling program known as Rescue 25. Kramer looked through the available master classrooms in the Business and Aerospace Building in the evening. Because he was doing this late, he had to take whatever classroom he could get.

Believing he had found an available room, he contacted the scheduling center and put in his request. He later received a message that the room was being used.

Kramer finally got a master classroom that he could use for every night he held classes except for two. For those nights, he was scheduled to use a room in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building.

The reason he cannot use that room every night is because an online class has been scheduled to take midterm and final exams in that room during the evening.

Kramer looked again at the room he had first tried to schedule. It was open every night he wanted to teach the class except for once at the very end of the semester, when an online class took a final exam.

If Kramer had been told that there was an exam scheduled for that room at the end of the semester, he would have accepted the room and just foregone that one class period.

"If they'd have told me that, I'd have taken it anyway," he said.

He would have been able to fit 30 more people into the classroom he originally wanted.

The Scheduling Center handles requests every day from teachers, clubs and other activities to schedule

See Scheduling, 2

## Shuttle service assists the blind

By Tiffany Brown  
Staff Writer

A new shuttle service is now being provided free of charge to visually impaired students by Pi Kappa Phi.

Push America, a nonprofit organization serving people with disabilities, is the national outreach project of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity.

Josh Higgins, the service chairperson of the Delta Iota chapter of Pi Kappa Phi, said that currently he and two of his fraternity brothers are providing the shuttle service using their own vehicles.

"The original idea was to have a person with a cell phone who would be on-call, in addition to doing regular stops," Higgins said.

"But that fell through because when we approached the administration about using university vans, they said it was absolutely not possible due to state regulations and the high liability and insurance costs," he said.

Although Higgins said this was a setback, it has not stopped the fraternity in its quest to help the visually impaired students on campus get to and from classes. He said that a large portion of these students live off of campus due to the uncomfortable conditions and accommodation that have been provided to them in the past with on-campus housing.

Visually impaired students have had bad experiences in on-campus housing, he said, including incidents of theft of their belongings.

"As the comfort level goes down, more disabled students chose to live off campus," Higgins said.

As of this point in time, Higgins said that the students have only asked for transportation to and from class. However, he said that the service is actually available for any errands or transportation that students might need.

A large bulk of it's funding comes from money that the fraternities raise, he said.

In addition to the shuttle service, Pi Kappa Phi and Push America raise funds and awareness for disabled students through other various service projects and fund-raisers throughout the year.

They donate carbon-copy notebooks to Disabled Student Services, which are used for note taking, and they have also thrown parties at Scarlett Commons for disabled students.

Beginning next week, Pi Kappa Phi members will be pushing an empty wheelchair across campus that will contain a bucket for donations and brochures.

"The purpose of the Push-A-Thon is to raise funds and promote empathy awareness," Higgins said.

He encourages anyone who sees the wheelchair being pushed across campus to stop and donate and get some information.

Any visually impaired students who are interested in participating in the shuttle service can call Higgins at 898-4631, or e-mail him at jab4j@mtsu.edu. ♦



Photo by Steve Cross | Staff Photographer

Pianist Peter Serkin performs Stefan Wolpe's "Passacaglia" at the Steinway Dedication Concert Sunday afternoon at the music hall in the Wright Music Building.

## Renowned pianist performs at concert

Staff Reports

Grammy nominated pianist Peter Serkin performed at the music hall of the Wright Music Building as part of the Steinway Dedication Concert series.

Serkin performed Stefan Wolpe's "Passacaglia" and two songs by Ludwig van Beethoven, "Piano Sonata in E Major" and "Variations on a Waltz" by Anton Diabelli.

The concert series comes after Robert McLean, a private investor, donated 54 Steinway pianos to the School of Music

valued at \$1.5 million. MTSU is now an "All-Steinway" school.

Serkin has collaborated with cellist Yo-Yo Ma, Orion String Quartets and TASHI, of which he was a founding member.

The final dedication concert features the Beaux Arts Trio, a group consisting of Menahem Pressler on the piano, Daniel Hope on the violin and Antonio Meneses on the cello. The concert is on Oct. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the music hall in the Wright Music Building. ♦

## Tech-savvy students demand online courses

### Study to explore technology use among students

By Stephanie Shoup  
Contributor

Seeking to meet the needs of new freshmen, Dorothy Craig, associate dean for teacher education, plans to determine what technological innovations MTSU needs to make.

"Chances are that some of our freshmen have been involved in a higher level of learning," Craig said.

Craig will be conducting a study next spring involving this year's incoming freshmen. She said these students will create a

new demand for online courses. The coordinator for online courses Cindy Womack said she was concerned that more students will be looking for online courses, and they will "migrate" to the schools that offer what they want.

Craig mentioned that Don Tapscott, author of *Growing Up Digital*, understands how technology is going to change the traditional classroom. Tapscott considers the Internet the antithesis of television. He explains in his book that children today control much of their world on the Internet, while all other media innovations are controlled by adults. He considers the Net-Generation a better name for these students than Generation

"They were showing the teachers how to utilize the Internet,"

— Dorothy Craig

Associate Dean for Teacher Education

X. He reasons that this generation will be in control of their learning methods.

"They will consider poor digital tools a cruel and unusual punishment and unacceptable," Tapscott wrote in his book.

During the summer of 1995, Craig studied the integration of technology in elementary classrooms. She began with a small group of fourth-grade students. With a partner, she studied the children using problem-solving programs like *Where in the World is Carmen San Diego?*,

*Oregon Trail* and others.

"This is a tech-savvy group of kids," Craig said. She also watched children as they navigated through the Internet. She found that these students were learning problem-solving skills that advanced them above their classmates.

"They were showing teachers how to utilize the Internet," Craig said. "In an informal way they were training teachers."

"One child we worked with was severely dyslexic," Craig said. "He could barely read or

write, but when given the opportunity to learn how to write on the computer, this child published multiple children's books through kids' publications."

The year after Craig's research was conducted, the U.S. Department of Education issued a report stating the President's Technology Literacy Challenge.

The report put forth four goals:

- All teachers in the nation will have the training and support they need to help students learn using computers and the Internet.
- All teachers and students will have modern multimedia

See Technology, 2

# Technology: Video games teach problem solving skills, says study

Continued from 1  
computers in their classrooms.  
• Every classroom will be connected to the Internet.  
• Effective software and on-line learning resources will be an integral part of every school's curriculum.  
These technological innovations have paved the way for a generation totally submerged in technology, which Tapscott said, should be called the N-gen. The predictions are that these students will transform traditional classrooms.  
"They are young navigators,"

writes Tapscott. "They doubt that traditional institutions can provide them with the good life, and [they] take personal responsibility for their lives."  
For this reason, Craig said that MTSU must provide the most innovative online courses possible.  
Originally, it was the nontraditional students taking online courses, but she said that will change because of the advances in technology in the school system. In order to find out what changes need to be made, she needs to know what the students want. She plans to ask

them how many online courses would they like to take and what they expect from them. She predicts there will be more mobile computers on campus than ever before.  
Dean of Continuing Studies, Rosemary Owens, said that her attempts to make the college experience accessible.  
"We are trying to grasp alternative methods to make education work best," Owens said.  
They are used to getting on the web and doing research on their own, and they will want that offered to them, she said.  
Craig said she has already

seen a trend in freshman students' enterprising behavior. She said that her niece and nephew are new freshman at other colleges. They wrote her e-mails explaining that they found their classes and what books they needed by using the Internet.  
"They will be bored with just lecture," Craig said. "These kids are multi-taskers. They can do a task, leave and get a Coke, go watch TV for a few minutes, then answer their e-mail, read something else, then return to their original task."  
Craig said this could result in

a potential clash between the traditional professor and the highly technological student. This is why it is so important for MTSU to find out the most efficient way of meeting their goals.  
"The students may be turned off by the online courses, depending on how they are structured, or they may be really excited," she said.  
Craig said she plans to find out their technological needs and cater to the students because, "they are the ones who will define how things are done." ♦

# Scheduling

Continued from 1  
rooms for classes and other non-academic activities. Online course exams are scheduled at the same time as normal classes to accommodate the class size.  
Kramer's concern is how many classrooms, specifically master classrooms, are tied up for an entire semester because of one or two tests for online classes.  
He said that most of those tests could probably be administered in any normal classroom. ♦

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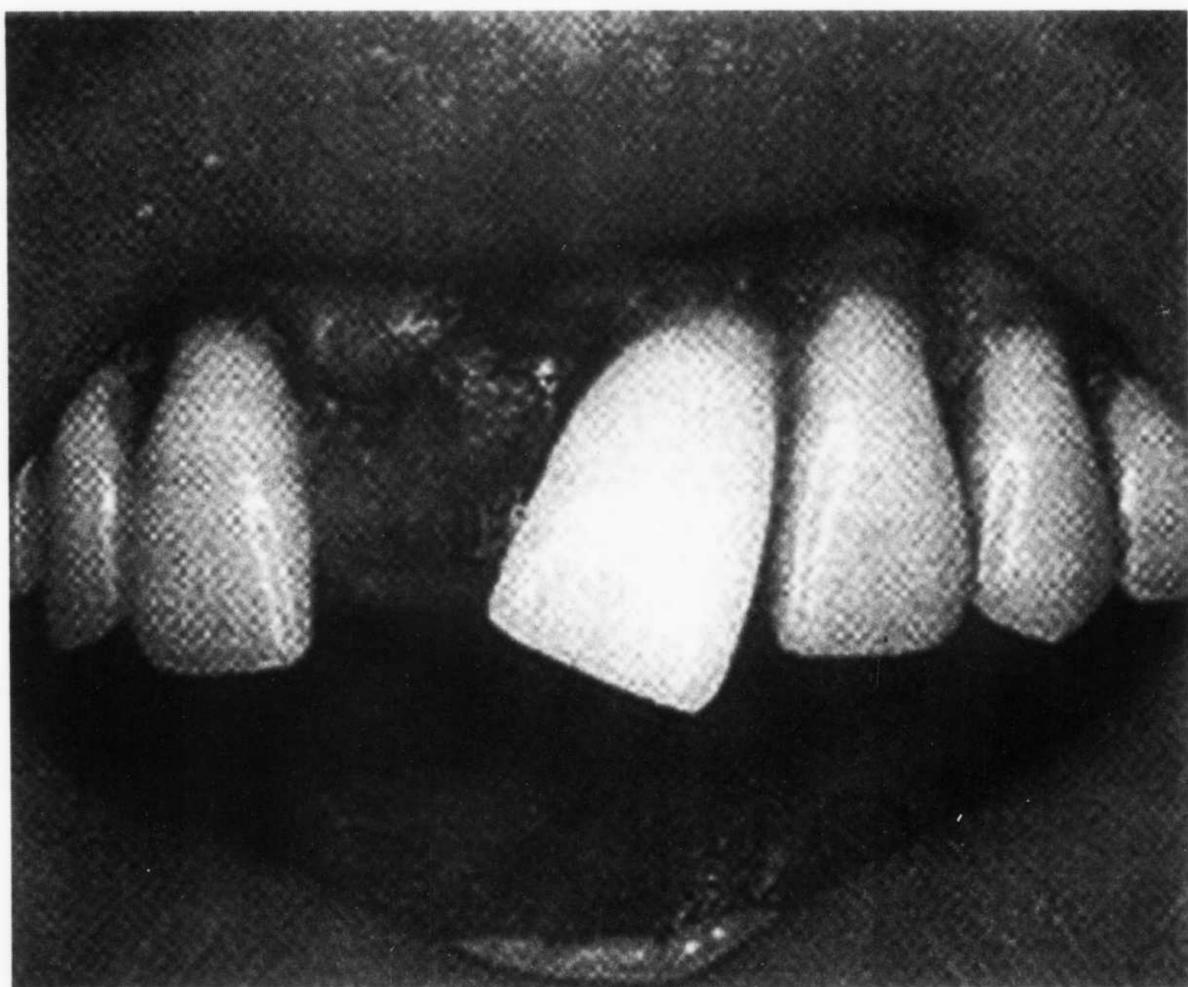
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# OPINIONS

3 ◆ SIDELINES

Monday, September 15, 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

## From the Editorial Board

### Better use of classrooms fuels learning process

With the demand for more technological advanced classrooms increasing, so does the need for adequate classroom time for professors. As more incoming freshmen turn to online courses, available classrooms for on-campus courses have begun to diminish. More importantly, master classroom time is now in jeopardy.

A master classroom differs from a regular classroom in certain areas. Master classrooms have computers, overhead projectors and more access to the Internet. Professors vie for these classrooms in hopes that the increased technology access will enhance their students' learning capabilities.

Professors often run into problems when scheduling master classrooms as well as regular classrooms because online courses use these classroom for midterm and final exams. When trying to schedule a room, it would appear to a professor that a room was taken for the entire semester, even though the online class uses it only twice a semester.

This creates a contradictory situation in that it is a good idea for students to invest in online courses as well as have an opportunity to learn in a master classroom for their on-campus classes. A solution to the problem is not evident, but a suggestion could be made.

A more detailed and in-depth scheduling process should be created for professor to see exactly what kind of class is scheduled in a desired room and how many times a semester the class would be needed. For some this may be an elementary idea, but for others it may open a window of opportunity.

Professors teaching online classes and professors teaching on campus classes could double book a classroom. The on-campus class could reschedule class for the two days the online class has scheduled for midterms and final exams. It is a compromise that could increase learning for all students and professors involved. ◆

## President hasn't earned second term



Half Naked

Wendy Caldwell  
Staff Columnist

Election time is still a year away, but it's never too early to start campaigning or, in this case, anti-campaigning.

I'm sure our fearless leader will seek another term, so it's time to ask yourselves: Can you take another four years?

Luckily, I haven't been brainwashed. I don't keep a stash of bottled water in my own personal bomb shelter, and I certainly don't pay attention to whatever color of the rain-

bow is currently being used to describe our terror status.

When the power went out in the Northeast this summer, the first thought many had was, "It's the terrorists!"

What? Are you kidding me? The terrorists made the lights go out? Yeah, and there's a monster under my bed, and the terrorists made me sleep through class.

Actually, sickness made me sleep through class, but I haven't ruled out the possibility that terrorists made me sick.

I don't like the leader of my country hiding behind terrorism, especially this long after the fact. Did it never occur to anyone that we Americans are perfectly

capable of screwing things up without terrorists?

The next thing I expect to hear is, "Make no mistake, them terrorists make me talk bad vocabularially."

That's another issue I have with Bush, and I'll admit that it's a shallow one. I just can't watch the man speak without fighting the urge to bust out laughing.

Every time I watch him give a speech, I'm reminded of how he resembles a monkey, and I really dislike the constant butchering of the English language. If you haven't mastered it by the time you're, say, 40, it's time to give up. Start learning Yiddish or something. English is not the language for you.

Of course, my main beef with our president is that I strongly disagree with him politically. Everything else just kind of adds icing to the cake. And sprinkles. And candles – trick candles that never blow out.

Sometimes I really think that voting for Bush is worse than not voting at all. Here's why.

When you choose not to vote, you're basically saying that you don't care about your country's future, only you're doing so in a passive way. It's a way of saying, "I can't make a difference, one vote doesn't matter and no politician is worth casting a vote for."

On some level, I can even condone that. Not

voting could be a sign of either apathy or rebellion.

When you vote for George W. Bush, you're voting for a man who reacts instead of acts. I understand that sometimes people just want someone to blame, so they pick a group (say, religious radicals) to take the brunt of it. Then they figure they can always claim they didn't know any better and apologize later.

It's time we took a stand. Say no to tyranny, no to reducing your civil liberties for a false sense of security and no to George W. Bush. ◆

Wendy Caldwell is a junior mathematics major and can be reached via e-mail at [visa717@aol.com](mailto:visa717@aol.com).

## Watch out for what you watch: 'Weasel' words often misleading



Kacey's Corner

Kacey Hercules  
Staff Columnist

In the article "The Language of Advertising Claims," Jeffrey Schrank defined 10 different categories of misleading advertising.

Schrank said, "Although few people admit to being greatly influenced by ads, surveys and sales figures show that well-designed advertising campaigns have dramatic effects."

A logical conclusion is that advertising works below the level of the conscious awareness and it works even on those who claim immunity to its message.

Schrank's message is very true, and we cannot escape from the ads we see every day.

The most misleading ads are the ones with the "weasel" claims and the "We're different and unique" claims because we want to believe what we think is being said.

According to Schrank, "A weasel word is a modifier that practically negates the claim that follows. The name 'weasel' comes from how a weasel can eat the inside of an egg while leaving the shell unbroken, making you think the egg is still untouched."

This claim makes you think the product is promising you something when, in reality, it is not. There are millions of

weasel words, but the most common words are 'helps,' 'fights,' and 'virtually.'

Almost every ad we see has some type of weasel words in it. For example, Nature's Cure says its tablets "help stop acne before it starts." Nature's Cure is not a cure for acne because it only says it will 'help' stop it. Don't all acne products help stop acne?

Another example is Olay Total Effects; the maker says its cleaning cloths "will help fight seven signs of aging." Because it uses both 'helps' and 'fights,' this ad has a double weasel claim, so it is promising nothing. This product is stating it might fight the signs of aging, but don't expect it to cure the signs of aging.

The "we're different and unique" claim implies that there is nothing else quite like the product being advertised. There are very few products that are one of a kind.

Products being advertised this way shouldn't put so much emphasis on a product that can't possibly be unique or different. Most products, when first invented, end up being copied anyway.

Many advertisements will claim they are different or unique, but this is not the case. For example, Neutrogena says its "cleaning cloth's unique texture removes dirt and oil." There is nothing unique about Neutrogena because all cleaning cloths are textured to remove dirt and oil.

In the same ad, it also states that it is "The first

acne fighting cleansing cloth." This statement can only be true if it is Neutrogena's first cleansing cloth, because it is not the first cleansing cloth ever made. The weasel word 'fights' is present in this ad as well, which makes this a very convincing ad.

Another example of the different and unique claim is an advertisement for Veet Aqua system wax for hair removal.

Veet states that it is, "The only wax heated with warm tap water," and it has a "unique roll-on applicator."

If you look at other brands of wax at the store, I bet they would promise the same things. How dumb do advertisers think we are?

We as consumers need to be careful about how we read advertisements and make sure we know what we are getting for our money.

Schrank told us, "Advertisers delight in an audience which believes ads to be harmless nonsense."

People cannot escape from ads, but smart consumers can evaluate their worth.

We shouldn't let them fool us because we have the choice to buy the product, and they can't take that freedom away from us. ◆

Kacey Hercules is a sophomore social work major and can be reached via e-mail at [kah2x@mtsu.edu](mailto:kah2x@mtsu.edu).

## WHAT A SCHMUCK!!



Photo courtesy [www.thesmokinggun.com](http://www.thesmokinggun.com)

### Sidelines' occasional watch for mutton-heads.

We've held a variety of jobs during our young careers, most of which involved handling money. Never, however, have we dealt with anyone cagey enough to try and pass off a \$200 bill, and we've certainly never been gullible enough to accept one.

That's not been the case in two Roanoke Rapids, N.C., stores in the past few weeks.

Last month, Michael Harris was arrested on two counts, including a felony charge of obtaining property by false pretenses.

Roanoke Rapids police are still searching for the man who presented the bill at a Food Lion grocery store to purchase \$150 in groceries, and was actually given \$50 in change.

Holy Roanoke rip-off, Batman. Yes, it's

wrong for people to try and get away with theft – that's why it's a felony, after all.

But we have to be at least a little impressed with a person who has the gall (or maybe just stupidity) to try to pass off the bill, pictured above.

It has the current president on it, for crying out loud. The serial number starts off with "Dubya." On the reverse, the lawn of the White House is littered with signs reading "We like broccoli" and "U.S.A. deserves a tax cut."

What were the cashiers thinking when they took these bills? That they had missed the Treasury Department memo about the new currency? Furthermore, we've seen drag queens who look more like the real thing. While passing fake bills may be a felony, the real crime here is a lack of common sense. ◆

Story information from [www.thesmokinggun.com](http://www.thesmokinggun.com), Sept. 12.

## SIDELINES

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

### Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. E-mail letters to [slopinio@mtsu.edu](mailto: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.

### Letter to the Editor

#### Drunk drivers responsible for actions, not bar owners, city, anyone else

To the editor:

As I was scouring the newspaper for even the slightest insight, I was shocked to find a column headlining that it had the solution for drunk driving, especially in the opinions section ("A solution to drunk driving," Jared Clark, Sept. 8). Something like this should make front headlines. But as I read on, I found that it was right where it belonged.

This column made it seem like drunk drivers are the innocent ones and that they are forced to make the decision to drive while in the midst of a drunken stupor. So they go the entire night drinking – ignoring the fact that they have no way to get home until they come staggering into the parking lot and are suddenly forced to face this gross realization?

And yet, they do this weekend on top of weekend. They do have a choice. I'm not arguing that people shouldn't go to bars, but they should just give it half a thought and plan ahead.

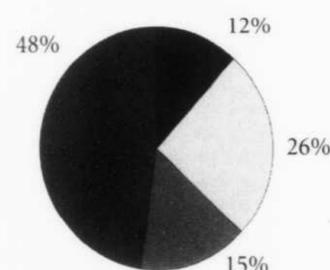
Besides, do you think that bars are going to care about their customers enough to pack the front door with buses and possibly drive some of their regular customers away? I can't help but point out some contradictions within the column. "Murfreesboro can come to the conclusion that this is a college town." I think they have if their "over-stuffed police force" is mentioned later in the column. Clark also practically mocks the city for trying to move forward when young adults are behind the wheel cross-eyed. A city cannot progress if they constantly have to take care of their low-lives.

I personally don't have the slightest problem with anybody getting drunk, but when you ask others to take care of your problems for you, I believe that you have been pampered for far too long. Furthermore, I doubt if any cop or bar owner would mind it if you slept in the back seat of your car for a few hours, or possibly even the night, instead of driving under the influence.

Jason Varnell  
Freshman, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

### Sidelines online poll results

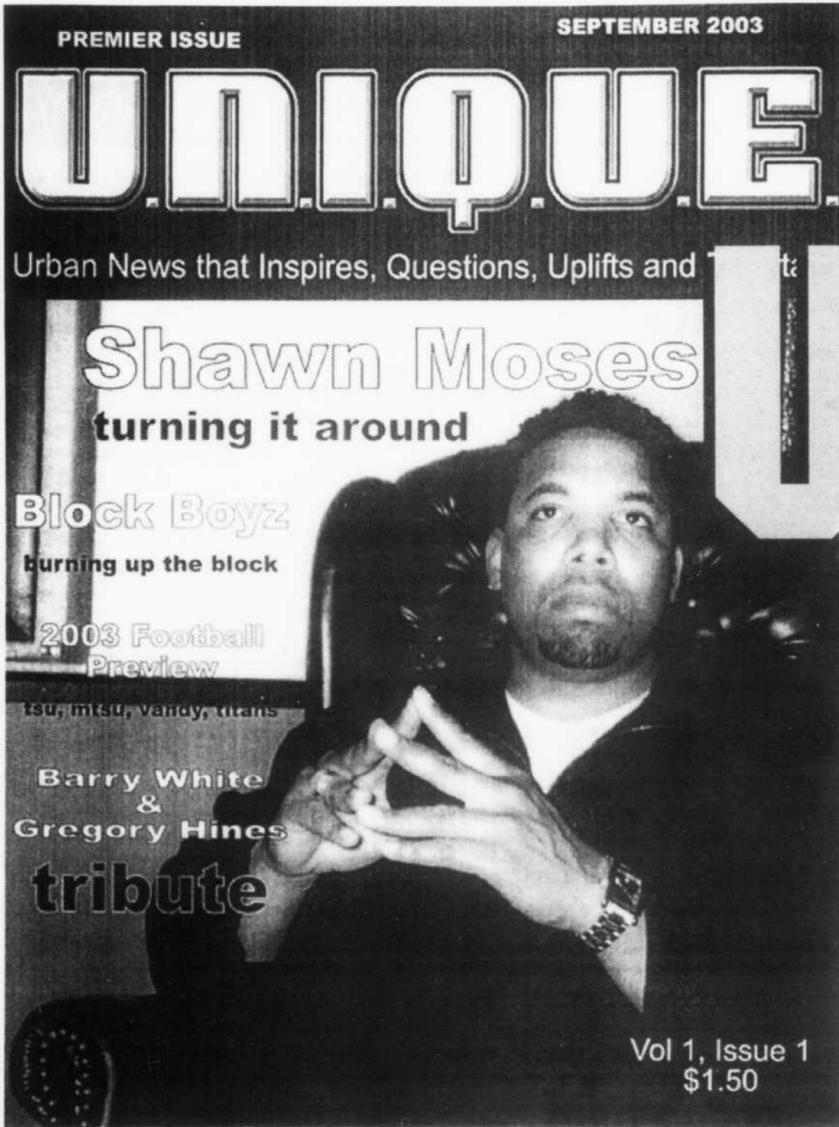
Last week we asked readers, "Has college stress gotten to you yet?" Here's what readers said:



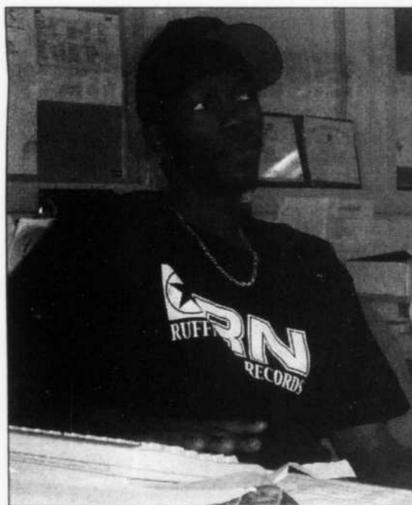
- Yes – but I can manage to keep my head above water until December (48 percent, 41 votes).
- No – I know the secret to zen and the art of college (26 percent, 22 votes).
- Yes – I'm working on my umpteenth breakdown (15 percent, 13 votes).
- No – I've only been here for three weeks. Stop scaring me (12 percent, 10 votes).

Be sure to visit [www.mtsusidelines.com](http://www.mtsusidelines.com) to vote in this week's poll question: "Do you want the university to offer more online courses?"

People that intentionally dump pork rinds on the floor should be beaten.  
[slopinio@mtsu.edu](mailto:slopinio@mtsu.edu)



(Above) The front cover of the premier issue of U.N.I.Q.U.E. can be found throughout Nashville and Murfreesboro. Founding partners Shawn Whitsell (Below left) and Dwayne Douglas (Below right) are ready for the challenge of publishing a magazine.



## It's

# U.N.I.Q.U.E

### Former Sidelines editor in chief publishes magazine

By Devora Butler  
Staff Writer

Where do you see yourself in the future? How are you making a difference in your community? A group of MTSU students and alumni have not only given thought to such questions, but are answering them a rather U.N.I.Q.U.E. manner. They are publishing a magazine comprised of urban news that will inspire, question, uplift and entertain.

Shawn Whitsell and Dwayne Douglas are partners in this endeavor and one can easily tell that they are in it for the long haul.

"We wanted to create a magazine that would not only entertain, inform, inspire, but get a dialogue going within the community," Whitsell, a senior sociology, public relations double major in the recording industry, says.

"We felt strongly that there was a void that needed to be filled, and we are out to fill it," he adds.

Whitsell, *Sidelines* editor in chief during the summer of 1999, believes that having served in that capacity, as well as a number of others at the newspaper, has given him the journalism experience and knowledge needed to tackle such a far-reaching endeavor.

Douglas was a mass communications and broadcasting major while at MTSU. During his tenure as a student, he worked at MTTV, the campus television station, and was an active member of a fraternity. Douglas feels that his campus experience gave him the confidence and background to tackle the task of publishing a magazine.

He also thinks the magazine has something different to offer readers.

"The sections, which include sports, music, features and entertainment, will be approached from, innovative angles," Douglas says. "We will take basic sports and player interviews, for example, and spotlight them in a more in-depth man-

ner." The magazine's staff of eight individuals is comprised exclusively of MTSU students and alumni.

"We were looking to start with a core group of knowns," Douglas says. "We wanted to tap people who would stay focused on the true spirit of the project and would understand going in that there will be a lot of sacrificing and loss before gain."

The partners see the magazine's communication with its readership vital to its existence.

In each issue the readership will be encouraged to e-mail their comments directly to the magazine, where they will be used to influence the magazine's format, layout and content.

Such solicited feedback is important, say the partners, for it will provide crucial information to the staff as to what is desired by the readers they aim to please.

The target audience will be those 18 to 38 years old in Murfreesboro and Nashville. Eventually, if all goes smoothly the group has plans to branch out to even greater distances. The magazine is being financed from the founders' own pockets and will be distributed by their own grassroots efforts – through local businesses, colleges, universities and community special events.

"I believe that this project shows the talent represented by the campus student population, and that MTSU folks can think for themselves and possess the entrepreneurial spirit," Lamont Gholston, the magazine's graphic designer, says.

Gholston is also a senior recording industry major who works at WTMS, the campus radio station.

One of Gholston's favorite aspects of the magazine is the planned financial and money management section. He is also excited about the inclusion of some spiritual aspects and hopes that whether it be through music – where the focus might be gospel – or through a column, that the reader will be challenged to view an issue from a different perspective and dig deep to question their core values.

The one piece of advice consistently shared by the magazine staff is that students should not underestimate the power of their MTSU experience. For as these gentlemen have proven, it can surely take you to some pretty "unique" places.

Look for the premiere copy of U.N.I.Q.U.E. magazine, available this month. ♦

# RESTORING OUR HERITAGE

## The Bradley Academy museum preserves Murfreesboro's diverse history

By Juanita Thoun  
Features Editor

A simple, two story brick building still stands on South Academy Street. Its once crumbling, 86 year-old facade serves as testament to a young nation struggling with racial equality.

Murfreesboro's black children used to roam the halls, sit quietly at their desks and learn to read in this building. It was their school, Bradley Academy.

During the turbulent 1960s, America did away with segregation and the children of African descent were integrated into schools for white children, leaving Bradley Academy standing empty.

In 1990, a group of black citizens began to talk about preserving their history in Murfreesboro. Since much of that history centered around Bradley Academy, it became the focus of a restoration movement that eventually resulted in the old school becoming a museum and cultural center.

"There was concern by [blacks] in the community that it would be torn down," John Lodle, director of the Bradley Academy Museum and Cultural Center says.

Lodle went on to say that what started as a movement by the black community soon involved white citizens as well.

As the history of the building and the land it occupies unfolded, it became apparent that Bradley Academy encompassed a local heritage for both races.

According to Canetta Hankins, projects coordinator for MTSU's Center for Historic Preservation, over the years, three buildings, called Bradley Academy have stood on the site of the current museum.

Hankins says the first building was made of logs, and its students were the white children of



Bradley Academy has been restored and turned into a museum and cultural center. The museum's exhibits focus on the diverse heritage of Murfreesboro.

wealthy landowners. The most notable of these students was James K. Polk. Polk, who graduated from Bradley Academy in 1814, went on to become the 11th president of the United States.

The second building, according to Hankins, was a brick one erected sometime during the late 1820s or early 1830s. Throughout the years, it was a university and then a hospital. In 1884, it became Murfreesboro's first school for black children.

Hankins says that by 1917 the school was "terribly dilapidated." In an effort to improve its education for blacks, the city of Murfreesboro demolished the old building and built a new Bradley Academy.

Thirteen years ago, Bradley Academy was listed in the National Register Of Historic Places. Then, through the joint efforts of MTSU's Center for Historic Preservation, the city of Murfreesboro, the Tennessee Historical

Commission, U.S. Rep. Bart Gordon, the Christy-Houston Foundation, the Tennessee General Assembly and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the building was restored.

"We are here to preserve the diverse history of our community while paying tribute to the history of the black community," Lodle says of the new museum and cultural center's focus.

Lodle says since its official opening in February of this year, the center has averaged 100 visitors per month.

Lodle also notes that the museum currently houses three sections. One section is devoted to the history of the building and Murfreesboro. Another serves as an auditorium and meeting space for special events. The third contains an exhibit titled, "From African Warriors to Civil War Soldiers."

The exhibit chronicles how blacks fought slave traders in Africa and then slave owners in America. Their fight eventually led them to risk their lives on the Underground Railroad and to serve as soldiers in the Civil War.

The museum should not be confused with the current Bradley Elementary school located on Mercury Boulevard.

The museum is located at 415 S. Academy St., and is open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors and students and \$1 for children under 12 years of age.

A Web site, where interested persons will be able to read more about the history of Bradley Academy and get an updated listing of special events and activities, is scheduled to go online in late September. The Web address will be [www.bradleymuseum.org](http://www.bradleymuseum.org).

Until then, those seeking more information can call 867-2633. ♦

# 'Nothing runs like a Deere'

## John Deere makes fashion statement on campus

By Erica Rodefer  
Staff Writer

They say nothing runs like a Deere, but tractors aren't the only John Deere product that just won't quit.

John Deere-brand fashions and collectibles have been popular among farmers, outdoorsmen and grandpas since the mid 1800s. However, for the first time in recent years, the tractor company has made it into the mainstream fashion scene.

The timeless green and gold logo, which could be spotted on the hats of hundreds of students the first week of school, is becoming more and more prevalent among the college crowd.

"The John Deere 'trucker cap' is a fashion fad," Teresa Robinson, a fashion merchandising professor at MTSU, says. "This fad began primarily with the hipster consumer in New York City, and has transcended to other cities and the mass consumer."

It's a process Robinson called the "geographic fashion adoption theory" and it has hit this campus with full-force.

Some are even calling the trucker hat fashion trend part of a larger "blue-collar fad" falling under the same category as construction jackets, steel toe boots and Pabst Blue Ribbon beer.

"Mesh trucker caps, the kind with the beloved foam façade screaming 'John Deere' and other never-in-New York logos, [are] perched on the pates of intrepid hipsters in some edgy haunts as Williamsburg, a Brooklyn neighborhood," according to a June 11 article in *USA Today*.

Robinson says she expects the trucker cap fad, like most modern fashion trends, to last a short amount of time.

"Even though the 'trucker cap' fad will pass within a season or two, the John Deere product availability will not dwindle, due to collectors and their demands," Robinson says.

"R.I.P. the trucker hat, a fashion statement that traveled from downtown to the mall so swiftly it is still below the radar of most mainstream fashion publications, even as some hipsters themselves

seem unaware it has been declared over," proclaimed *The New York Times* on May 18.

Though this fad may not last for long, and has already run its course in some parts of the country, it is still very trendy on MTSU's campus.

Some students have gone out of their way to achieve the look. "I borrowed it [her trucker hat] from my boyfriend's dad," Angie Figgins, a junior mass communications student, says. "I think he got it as a free gift when he bought his lawn mower."

"I think the reason why everybody wears them now is because you see rappers like Pharrell and other famous people wearing them," Figgins adds.

"I got one because I like green, and they're cool," John Moore, a senior criminal justice major, says. "Those kind of hats are very stylish at this time."

Moore also mentions being attracted to the trend because of the celebrity factor.

"A lot of celebrities are wearing the trucker hats, like Ashton Kutcher from *Punk'd*," he says. "I like that show – and I like green – so I wanted one too."

"I see the occasional person wearing the trucker hat, but usually the people wearing it are fashion forward dressers," Jennifer Newhart, a fashion merchandising major, says. "Personally, I like the trend. I think it's fun because it mixes a bit of punk in with everyday attire," Newhart says. "Also, I like it because it's like playing dress-up. You get to be a trucker for a day, just like how in past seasons military attire was the fashion trend."

But she sums it all up when she says, "Fads come and go, the trick is to be in front – not behind." ♦



## Dear Emily,

Dear Emily is *Sidelines'* new advice columnist and she's ready to answer your questions about relationships, college woes and moral dilemmas.

To send a letter to Dear Emily:

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# Campus Calendar

**Monday, Sept. 15**  
Honors Lecture Series  
"State of U.S. Constitution"  
Speaker: John Vile  
Peck Hall, Room 109A, 3-3:50 p.m.  
Free and open to public  
For information, 898-2152

**Sept. 15 - 20**  
MTSU Films presents *Finding Nemo*  
Keathley University Center Theater,  
Monday through Thursday 7 p.m. and  
9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 6 p.m.  
2003, 100 minutes, rated G  
Admission is \$2  
For information, call 898-2551

**Tuesday, Sept. 16**  
MTSU Health Fair  
KUC, 10 a.m.  
For information, call 904-8138

Native American Student Association  
General Interest Meeting  
Peck Hall, Room 318, 5 p.m.  
For information, call 898-5958

**Thursday, Sept. 18**  
Strickland Scholar Lecture  
Business and Aerospace Building  
State Farm Room, 7 p.m.  
For information, call 898-2544

Career and Graduate School Fair  
MTSU Career and Employment Center  
Track level at Murphy Center, 10 a.m.  
until 3 p.m.  
For information, call 898-2500

**Friday, Sept. 19**  
Women's Soccer  
Blue Raiders vs. Southwest Missouri State  
Blue Raider Field, 4 p.m.  
For information, call 898-2450

Women's Volleyball  
Blue Raiders vs. Appalachian State  
Alumni Memorial Gym, 7 p.m.  
For information, call 898-2450

**Friday, Sept. 19-20**  
Tennessee Speech Communication  
Association  
Foundation House, 8:30 a.m.  
For information, call 898-2275

**Sunday, Sept. 21**  
Women's Soccer  
Blue Raiders vs. Birmingham Southern  
Blue Raider Field, 2 p.m.  
For information, call 898-2450

**Monday, Sept. 22**  
Honors Lecture Series  
"Gender, Race and Today's U.S. Media  
Superwomen"  
Speaker: Elyce Helford  
Peck Hall, Room 109A, 3-3:50 p.m.  
Free and open to public  
For information, call 898-2152

**Tuesday, Sept. 23**  
Society For Success Lecture  
BAS State Farm Room, 6 p.m.  
For information, call 898-2551

**Wednesday, Sept. 24**  
*The Music Man*  
Through Sept. 27  
Tucker Theatre, 7:30 p.m.  
For information, call 898-5916

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## Raiders lose in Death Valley, 37-14

By Jerry Wilkinson  
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders traveled to Clemson, S.C., Saturday to take on the Clemson University Tigers.

The Tigers beat MT 37-14 in Death Valley.

Once Clemson started scoring, there was no looking back. After a 6-0 jump in the first quarter, MT had a hard time hanging with the Tigers, who are now 2-1 for the season.

The Clemson offense put up a total of 498 yards, with 298 yards in the air. MT mustered up some offensive drives that were hampered by key penalties. MT had eight penalties for 75 yards.

By halftime, Clemson had a 27-7 lead over MT, who struggled through the first half but put up 154 total yards.

"When we got inside the red zone, we just killed ourselves with penalties," MT tailback Don Calloway said to *The*

*Tennessean*. "Penalties will kill any offensive team. You get inside the red zone, you've got to put points on the board no matter what. It was just bad luck."

MT was forced to punt in their first three possessions. The Clemson defense was on fire, holding the Raiders to only eight first downs in the first half.

After a six-minute MT offensive drive, Clemson forced the Blue Raiders into a punting situation. The Tigers capitalized on the possession exchange with quarterback Charlie Whitehurst's pass to wide receiver Airese Currie.

Currie finished the day with 133 yards receiving, breaking the record set in 1965 by Phil Rogers and tied by Rod Garner in 1999.

"It looks like somebody parachutes [Currie] in sometimes," MT head coach McCollum said to *The Tennessean*. "He can fly."

The Tigers had 30 first downs on the day and set the record for the most rushing yards in a game against the Blue Raiders. Whitehurst finished the day with 23 of 28 passes completed and four touchdowns with no interceptions.

MT sophomore quarterback Josh Harris saw some action late in the third quarter and rallied the offense on his first drive with 10 plays, 78 yards and a touchdown.

Eugene Gross, MT sophomore running back, started the game against the Tigers at quarterback. Gross rushed for 37 yards but had 122 yards on kickoff returns, placing him seventh on the all-time single game list.

The Blue Raiders have started the season off as 0-3 for the second season in a row.

MT will travel to Columbia, Mo., Saturday to take on the University of Missouri. Kickoff is 1 p.m. CST. ♦

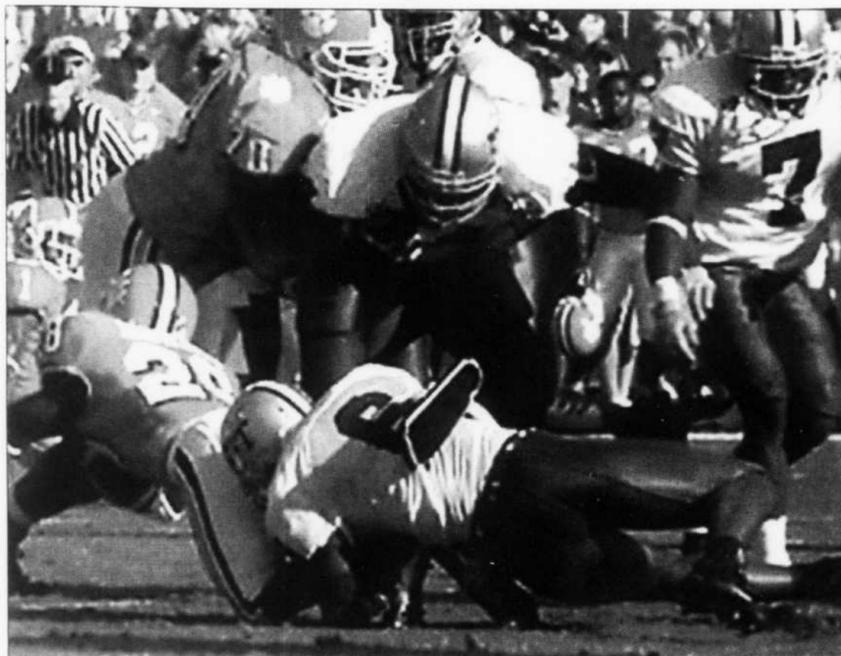


Photo courtesy of MT Media Relations

In a mass of Blue Raiders, Will Martin (6) tackles Tramaine Billie (20) at Clemson.

## MT kickers record loss

### Road trip claims Blue Raiders' undefeated record

By Colby Sledge  
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee soccer team quickly learned the difficulties of playing on the road, losing 2-0 at the University of Southern Mississippi and 5-1 at Tulane University last weekend.

The Blue Raiders, away from home for the first time this season, succumbed to the high emotional level of Friday's game against USM. The match was the first home game for the Lady Eagles this season.

"We played like this was our first away game," MT head coach Aston Rhoden said. "We did not adjust to the officiating or the emotion USM had with it being their first home game."

The Lady Eagles were able to score twice against MT goalkeeper Danielle Perreault in a three-minute span during the second half. After Carly Barkley's goal during minute No. 71 broke the scoreless tie, Micah Stephens scored on a high, lofting shot from 40 yards out that bounced over Perreault's head as she tried to make the save.

The match was certainly not a clean one, as the teams combined for 19 fouls and a yellow card for each team. Despite the physical nature of the game, Rhoden was disappointed in his team's lack of intensity.

"We did not play with the kind of urgency or intensity that we typically play with, and that kept [USM] in the game,"

Rhoden said. "[USM's] emotion, intensity and home-field advantage made it a game, and they went out and won it."

The Lady Eagles (4-0-1) outshot MT 15-12 and USM goalkeeper Anna Snyder finished the shutout with four saves. Emily Carter, Danielle LaDuke, and Christine Mascaro led MT with two shots each.

The Blue Raiders had little time to recover from their first loss of the season before suffering their second loss Sunday at the hands of the Tulane Green Wave.

Tulane (3-2-1) jumped on MT early, scoring twice in the first 11 minutes of the contest with goals from Lindsay Morris and freshman Melissa Wheeler.

Katy Rayburn's goal off a corner kick from Rachel Holmes cut the deficit to 2-1, but the Green Wave scored just three minutes later, this time from freshman Jill Sharp. The score was Sharp's first collegiate goal for Tulane, which has 13 freshmen on its roster this season.

Tulane would add two more goals in the second half on a 35-yard free kick from Asia Simons and Wheeler's second goal of the game.

"Finishing has been one of our weaknesses, but we did a lot better today," Tulane head coach Betsy Anderson told *tulane-greenwave.com*.

Morris, who also had an assist, and Wheeler were named Co-Players of the Game for



Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Laura Miguez runs up field for the ball against SMU.

Tulane. Perreault only made three saves for MT and was replaced by reserve keeper Caroline Scheupbach late in the game.

The Blue Raiders (3-2) had been eager to improve on their quick start to this season that featured three shutout wins at home, including a 5-0 win on Sept. 5 over Louisiana-Monroe

that saw freshman Rebecca Rodriguez score a school-record four goals.

Now the team will look to regroup for next weekend's home games against Southwest Missouri State University on Sept. 19 and Birmingham Southern University on Sept. 21. ♦

## Players' heart contributed to victories

Are you serious?



Jonathon Long  
Staff Columnist

offensive scheme.

Perry talked with his mother and after speaking with the coach she suggested otherwise to Perry. She told him that the coaches were questioning his heart. Perry didn't transfer, and he pushed himself harder than ever before.

Heart was the deciding factor in the success of Florida State quarterback Chris Rix and Michigan running back Chris Perry on Saturday.

Involved in two totally different situations, both relied on heart to lead their teams to victory.

Midway through the fourth quarter, FSU was down 13-0 at home to unranked Georgia Tech. Their previous two possessions ended with Rix interceptions. The last one was picked off in the end zone and led to a Tech touchdown, the first given up by the Seminole defense this year.

The Noles need a touchdown to stay in the game. Rix walks back onto the field with the pride of every FSU fan weighing heavily on his shoulders.

Just hours earlier, Michigan's Chris Perry carried that same weight. Before playing against No. 17 Notre Dame, it was said of Perry's prior performances, those were nobodies; he won't be able to run on the Irish defense.

Obviously they didn't know much about Perry's desire for success. A year ago he was called into head coach Lloyd Carr's office and asked, "Why don't you transfer?" This was because he was just not fitting in the

Now with a NCAA record 111,726 crowd at "The Big House" and a national television audience, Perry showed how much talent and heart he had. He dominated the Notre Dame defense on his way to a four touchdown (3 run, 1 pass) 133 rushing yard performance in the 38-0 embarrassment of the Fighting Irish. The pressure Perry carried in on his shoulders turned into praise; Rix would also be as fortunate. He walked back to the huddle and pioneered a 12-play, 82-yard drive.

The game was highlighted by a quarterback draw, where he took a severe hit to the back of the head but still forced his way into the end zone. Still down 13-7, Rix stepped his game up completing important passes for first downs and scrambling when the secondary gave him nothing. With 2:57 left, he found receiver P.K. Sam for a 5-yard touchdown pass to take a 14-13 lead, which would be enough to win the game.

Rix who was 1-7 for 7 yards in the first half, ended the game 15-30 for 160 yards passing and two interceptions, but accounted for 201 of the FSU's 251 total yards and both scores.

See Heart, 8

## Colts' victory places team in AFC lead

By Michael Marot  
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indianapolis Colts made a statement Sunday, and the Tennessee Titans heard it loud and clear: The AFC South is more than just a one-team division.

Edgerrin James rushed for 120 yards and scored one touchdown, a stifling defense limited Tennessee to just 236 total yards and Indianapolis finally protected their home field against the Titans with a 33-7 victory.

For the Colts (2-0), it was almost by design. James ran with power and looked like his

old self, Peyton Manning threw with precision and Tennessee (1-1) never really got started. Indianapolis even knocked out Steve McNair for two series with a dislocated ring finger on his throwing hand.

By beating a second straight playoff team, the Colts snapped a three-game losing streak against the defending AFC South champs. Two of those losses came in Indianapolis.

The Colts knew that to change the division's dynamics, they had to win Sunday and this early season contest had the feel of a playoff game.

See Titans, 8

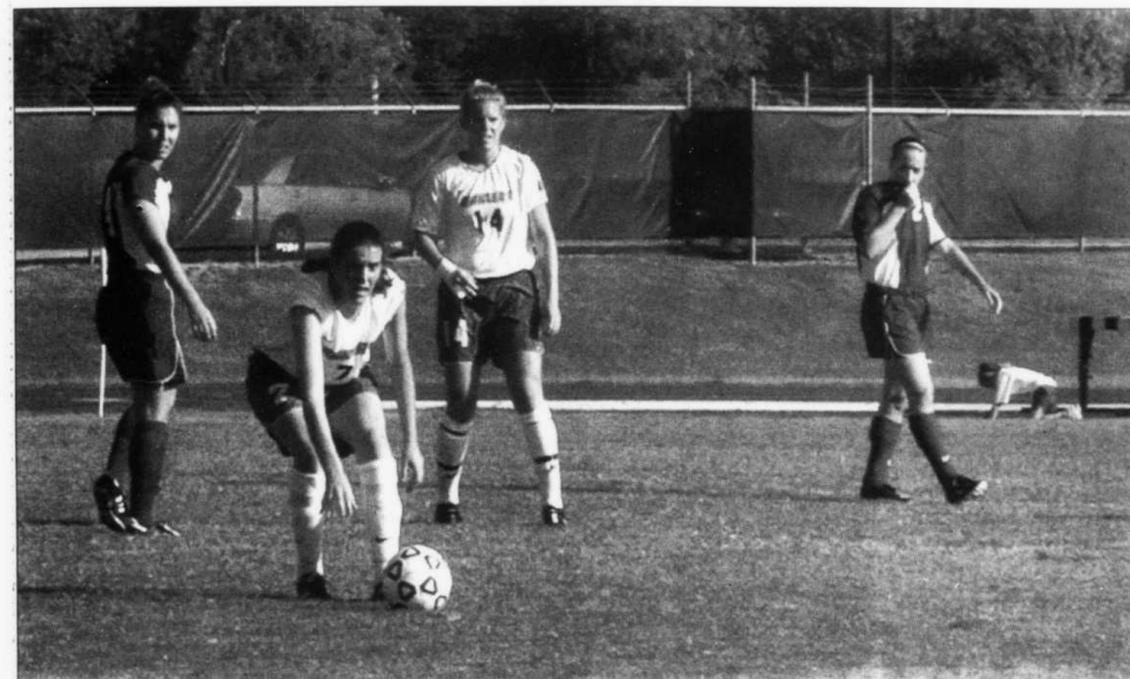
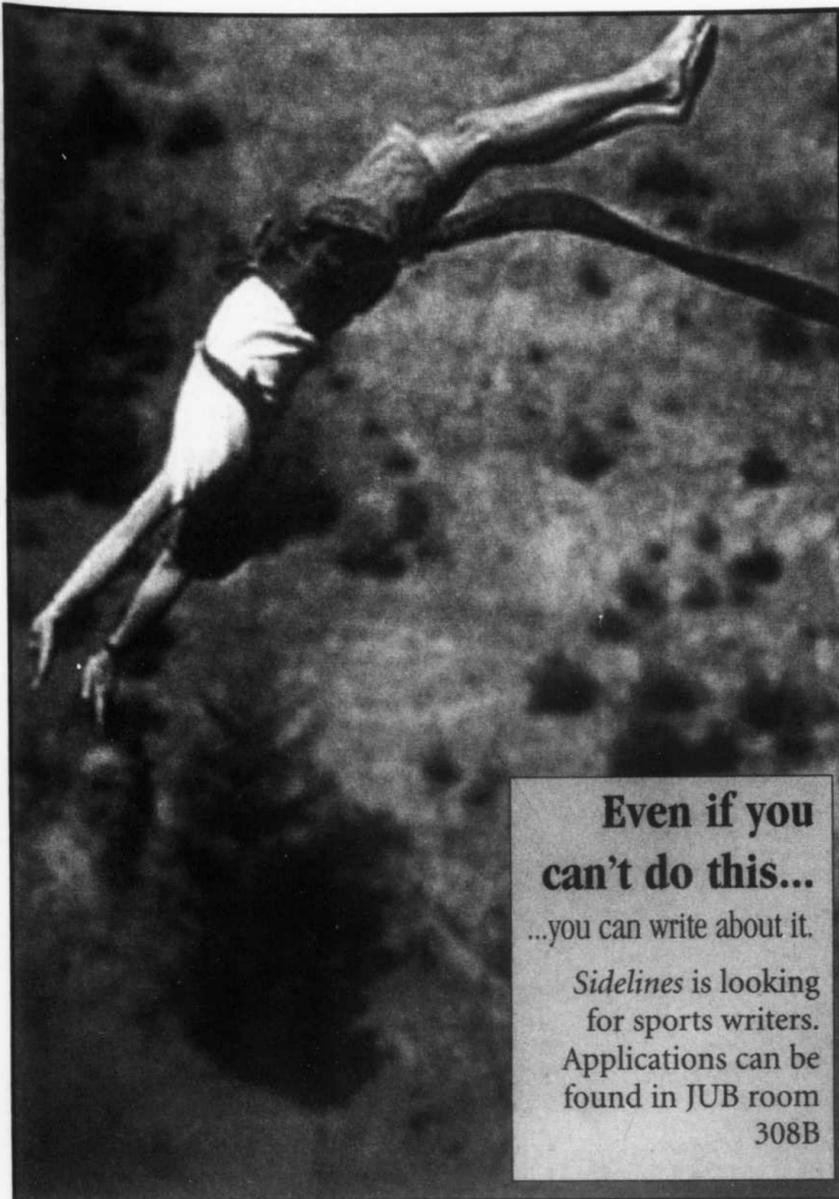


Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Midfielder Claire Ward prepares to kickoff against Southern Mississippi last week.



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## Follow MT into Tiger territory



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**Sept. 20, 1 p.m.**

- 1: Start out going South on S SPRING ST toward E VINE ST.
- 2: Turn RIGHT onto E VINE ST.
- 3: Turn RIGHT onto NW BROAD ST/ US-41/ US-70S.
- 4: Turn LEFT onto TN-96 W/ OLD FORT PKWY/ TN-99 W.. Continue to follow TN-96 W/ OLD FORT PKWY.
- 5: Merge onto I-24 W toward NASHVILLE.
- 6: Merge onto I-57 N via exit number 44B- on the left-toward CHICAGO.
- 7: Take I-64 W toward ST LOUIS.
- 8: Merge onto I-70 W toward KANSAS CITY.
- 9: Take the MO-163/ PROVIDENCE RD exit- exit number 126- toward DOWNTOWN.
- 10: Turn LEFT onto MO-163/ N PROVIDENCE RD.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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Honda Accord, 1990 model, 2 door, 196k miles. Fairly good condition. Priced at \$1,900. Call Paul at 615-631-5562.

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Honda Accord LX '99 V6 Pearl Grey, 4 Door, Auto 98k miles. CD, PW, PDL. Perfect Condition \$8499 obo. call 615-260-9059.

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Ibanez 7 string guitar. Like new. \$200 obo. Jeremy 494-8973.

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hmg2c@mtsu.edu.

### Services

Guitar Lessons-comfortable studio. \$10 per 1/2 hour. One minute from campus. Call Matthew for times. 849-1680. Leave a message.

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\$300 a month, includes all utilities, you rent your own room and share common living spaces (kitchen, living room, bath...). The house is located on a large farm (w/ a big front yard) off of 96 1-1/2 miles from I-24. A quick 15 minute commute in the morning traffic to campuses via 99. \$300 refundable deposit, \$300 on the first of each month, will gladly prorate August. For more information, call Wallace @ (615) 397-8243.

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## Heart: Teams' future bright

Continued from 6

One loss can cost you a National Championship. Both FSU and Michigan kept their title hopes alive Saturday, primarily due to their stars, Rix and Perry.

To say that each put his team on his back would be an understatement. In Division I-A foot-

ball, the talent level is beginning to equal out year by year.

Though the talent level may be similar, one thing often separates a win from a loss: heart. Both Florida State and Michigan found out that they have leaders who possess enough of it to lead them on the road to a title. ♦

## Titans: Colts score late TD

Continued from 6

Towels waved, fans chanted and when the crowd noise increased, Tennessee struggled. On the field, the Colts took a playoff approach, demonstrating they could win with power football.

James carried 30 times and produced his first 100-yard rushing game since going for 106 against Dallas on Nov. 17, 2002. It was his highest rushing total since gaining 138 yards against Miami on Sept. 15, 2002.

Manning didn't have to be overly productive, but he was efficient. He completed 14 of 21 for 173 yards with one touchdown.

And when the Colts needed stops, the defense produced, too.

Tennessee's Pro Bowl running back Eddie George was limited to 46 yards on 15 carries, and McNair was 15 of 24 for 138 yards and one touchdown. Nick Harper's 75-yard interception return to close out the game was the Colts' first

defensive TD since coach Tony Dungy arrived last season.

The tone was set early. Tennessee got only one first down in the first quarter, which came on a fake punt. Meanwhile, the Colts chewed up the clock. James carried eight times on Indianapolis' first series, setting up Mike Vanderjagt's 29-yard field goal.

After Tennessee took a 7-3 lead midway through the second quarter on McNair's 7-yard TD pass to rookie Tyrone Calico, Manning hooked up with rookie Dallas Clark for a 42-yard pass play. The Colts' longest play of the season.

The Colts regained the lead three plays later, when James ran in from two yards for Indianapolis' first TD this year.

Indianapolis took control late in the half when Marvin Harrison tiptoed the sideline on a 35-yard TD catch to make it 17-7. The Colts finished the scoring with two field goals by Vanderjagt and Harper's interception return in the final minute. ♦

## Lady Raiders fall in Purdue tourney

Staff Reports

The Lady Raiders volleyball team went on the road Friday to the Purdue Tournament in West Lafayette, Ind.

At the tourney, MT went 1-2 with losses to Indiana State University and Purdue University.

The Lady Raiders' win came against Mississippi State University during their third matchup while at Purdue.

During the first game, MT played against Indiana State. The Lady Raiders won the first game of the match with 19 kills and a .308 hitting percentage. ISU had seven kills and fell with 30-19. Close games followed as the Lady Raiders fell short.

Serving errors plagued the Lady Raiders as the team handed over 11 service errors to ISU. The match with the Sycamores resulted in scores of 31-29, 30-27, 28-30 ending in a loss for MT.

Junior KeKe Deckard slated 23 kills, which was good enough for second best kill total of the season.

Three other Lady Raiders placed in the double figure of kills as Andressa Lyra had 14, Dara McLean had 13 and Karisse Baker had 12.

The Lady Raiders returned to more action when the team played the host Purdue.

Purdue began game one with an advantage in hitting; the team posted a .333 percentage.

MT cut the lead to three at 13-10, but Purdue took over from there.

The Boilermakers hit .300 for the match while holding the Lady Raiders to a .193 effort. Lyra had the lead in kills with 12 and was the only Lady Raider in

double figure kills.

MT took the final match in the tournament with Mississippi State.

The Lady Raiders closed out MSU with a .652 hitting percentage in the fourth game; the Bulldogs could only hold a .120. Deckard led the team with 18 kills and also recorded 12 digs for her fourth double-double of the season.

"Playing back-to-back matches this afternoon took its toll on us, and it hurt having Jami Hester sidelined by a leg injury this weekend," MSU head coach Brenda Bowlin said to [www.mstateathletics.com](http://www.mstateathletics.com). "I was pleased with the improvement in our blocking. But we had so many offensive break-downs that we were never able to sustain any momentum."

Baker placed behind her with 17 kills and notched a .414 attack percentage.

The Lady Raiders will return to the Alumni Memorial Gym next weekend to host the MT

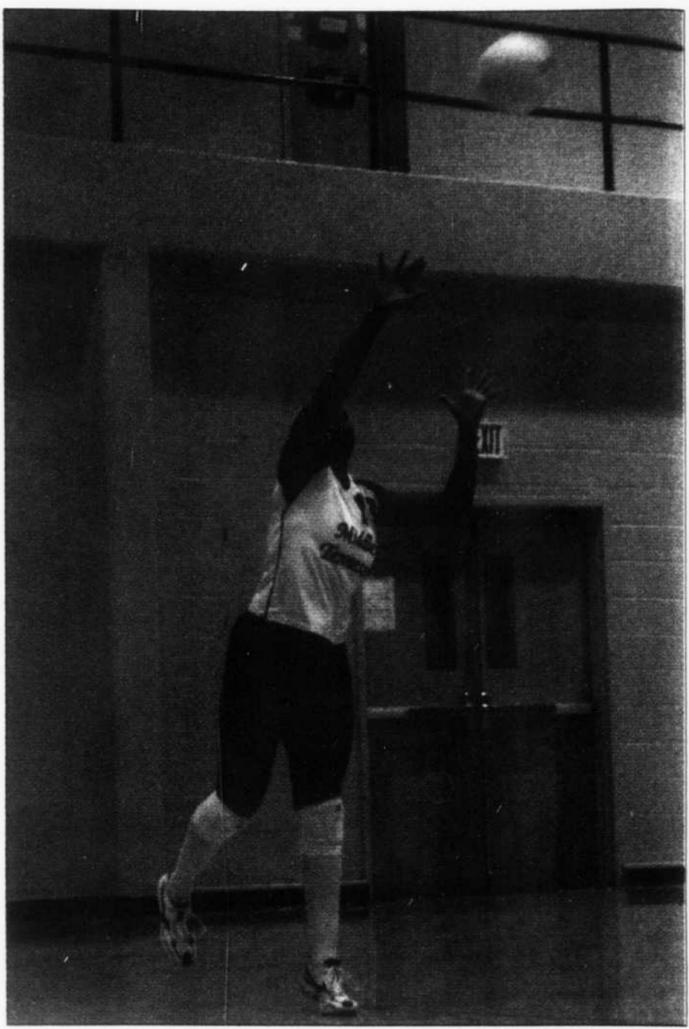


Photo by Steve Cross | Staff Photographer

KeKe Deckard serves the ball against Belmont last week.

Invitational.

MT will welcome Appalachian State University, Murray State University and Western Illinois University in a

two-day tournament, which begins Friday Sept. 19. ♦

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# Career center hosts annual Career Fair

By **Stephanie Hill**  
Staff Writer

Murphy Center will be filled with more than 100 employers and graduate school representatives, ready to answer questions and provide information on employment opportunities and post-graduation schooling.

The 21st Annual Career Fair will take place Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the track level of Murphy Center. Interested students and alumni are encouraged to dress professionally, and seniors and graduate students are advised to bring copies of their resumes to distribute to employers and schools.

"It would be very helpful for students to bring copies of their resume, especially if they are graduating, because the employers will be looking for full-time and part-time employment as well as internships," said Martha Turner, director of the Career and Employment Center.

The Center has a database that is updated with potential attendees each year.

"We keep file of companies that have gone out of business or merged with another company so we can add companies or take them off the list of attendees," Turner said.

Some of the employers attending include AFLAC, Bi-Lo, the Boys and Girls Club of

America, Cingular Wireless, Bridgestone/Firestone, FedEx and *The Tennessean*.

Graduate schools include the Nashville School of Law, University of Memphis School of Law, Belmont University College of Health Sciences, University of North Alabama and MTSU College of Graduate Studies.

The armed forces, such as the U.S. Marine Corps Officer Program, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army will also be present. The Tennessee Air National Guard will also be available to talk to students.

The Career and Employment Center, located in Keathley University Center, Room 328, provides many services to students such as career planning, resume writing and interview tips. Two satellite locations are also on campus in the Business and Aerospace Building, Room S123, and Jones Hall, Room 158. Right now, the satellite location in the BAS is temporarily closed. However, the other locations are up and running. Turner and Karen Austin, the associate director of the center, have offices in the main location in the KUC. Mimi Thomas is the coordinator of placement located in Jones Hall, Room 158.

"We have been planning this event since last June," Turner said. "We expect to

have about 1,500 students attending. However, we would like to have more than that come to the fair."

"Three years ago, we had the largest number of employers and graduate schools to ever attend this Career Day, at 165 representatives," Turner said. "However, the last two years, we have decreased in number. This year we are increasing again, with 130 representatives attending the event."

Upcoming events the Career and Employment Center will offer include the Nurse/Health Career Day in November – specifically designed for nursing and health-related fields – and the Summer Job and Internship Fair held in January.

The Nashville Area Teaching Recruitment Fair and the Nashville Area College to Career Fair are both held in the spring in Nashville and are sponsored by area universities.

The center will also have a workshop on Sept. 23 from 11 a.m. to 12:25 p.m. in the Stark Agricultural Building, Room 125, titled, "Your Job Search."

Employers will have information about full-time and part-time jobs and internships for students and will provide students with exhibits and handouts to assist in their career search. ♦

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# Hiring rates for graduates on incline

By Andrew Young  
Staff Writer

Students who started college during the biggest economic boom in history are graduating into the longest employment slump since the Great Depression.

The current recession has hit college graduates especially hard.

Since 2000, the overall employment rate for college graduates has declined by more than 2 percent – the largest drop in decades. In addition, starting salaries have also declined, especially in once-popular fields such as information technology.

While the country is still facing a jobless recovery, it appears that the worst has already passed. Economic indicators are slowly edging upward, and the National Association of Colleges and Employers reports that hiring rates for new graduates are on the increase for the 2003-2004 school year.

More than half of all respondents to the NACE survey report that they'll hire more college graduates than last year, and about 20 percent expect to maintain their current hiring levels. The service sector is reporting the biggest increase, hiring around 22 percent.

The hottest fields right now for college graduates, according to the NACE, include sales, management, teaching, accounting, finance, construction, engineering, health care and information technology consulting. The majors paying the best starting salaries include the various engineering fields, computer science, construction management, information systems and

accounting.

New graduates will have to stand out from the crowd to land the right job in today's market. Many employers cite internships as a key factor.

The NACE reports that more than half of all new college graduate hires have some form of internship experience, and many companies will hire at least one-third of their own interns.

It's important to start early on the job search, according to Martha Turner, director of MTSU's Career and Employment Center.

"Beginning the first of their senior year, students need to write their resume and have it polished, learn some interview skills, develop some sample letters they can use for various reasons during the job search, identify employers they would like to work for and start contacting them, as well as responding to announced job opportunities," Turner said.

Excelling academically is important, she said, but it alone is not enough.

"There is a lot of emphasis on personality and communication skills, because candidates with the same academic qualifications frequently are competing, but how they sell themselves in an interview will make a difference," Turner said.

The NACE recommends that graduates research potential employers and then craft a cover letter and resume that specifically targets that employer's needs.

Finding a dream job in today's market is tough, so consider accepting a job that is less than perfect with a company you'd like to work for.

See Market, 11

# Internships provide skills, gateway into working world

By Matthew Adair  
Staff Writer

Most college students spend at least part of their time looking to the world beyond university life to the jobs and, hopefully, careers lying ahead of them.

Most of them walk with confidence, believing that with a degree in their pocket they will be ready to take on the business world.

A degree, however, isn't enough to guarantee employment. In fact, MTSU's Guidance Services Web site warns students that a degree is not enough to guarantee a job in a student's field of interest.

With a work environment where the knowledge each individual needs to have increases regularly, students need more than the classroom knowledge a university pro-

vides.

"A child educated only at school is an uneducated child," Cooperative Education Director Wayne Rollins said, quoting philosopher George Santayana.

Experience is the decisive factor today in determining who gets a job and who does not. The key to gaining this valuable experience is through internships and co-ops.

Internships provide individuals with interest in a particular field to see for themselves what will be in store for them. A broad array of companies, from organizations such as the YMCA to large corporations such as Walt Disney World Resorts, recruit and interview students at career fairs and similar events throughout the year.

This range opens the possibility of further investigation

into interests as well as options that might not have made themselves clear previously, a must for achieving career and personal satisfaction.

The easiest way to secure an internship is to actively seek them out: a calendar of upcoming recruitment dates is provided at both the Guidance Services office in Room 328 of the Keathley University Center and the Career and Employment Center's Web site at [www.mtsu.edu/~career](http://www.mtsu.edu/~career).

Students interested in working with a particular company can visit its booth to ask questions and set up an interview at this year's Career Fair. The Career Center also provides a workshop teaching interview skills as well as

See Internships, 8

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# Online aids assist employment candidates

By Leah Massey  
Staff Writer

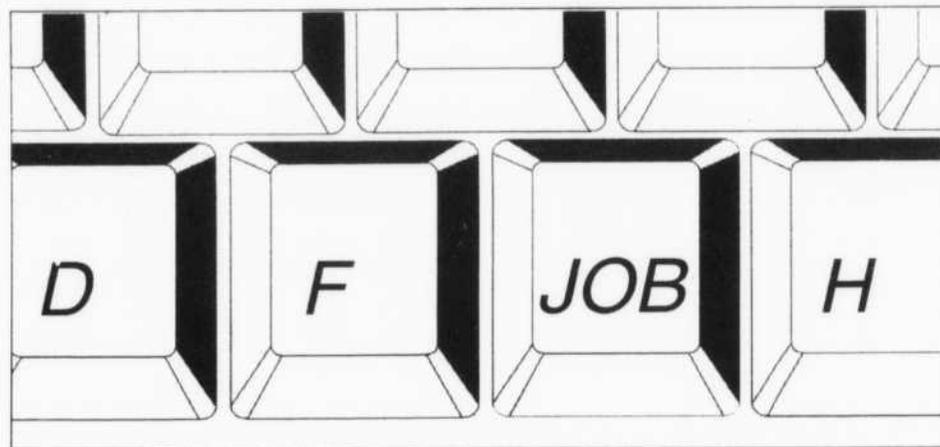
The Internet serves as a valuable tool for those searching for jobs, resume writing tips and a host of other career-related information.

Some Web sites serve multiple functions: They allow those seeking employment to post resumes and search the job market, and they offer resume writing and interview tips. Many Web sites also permit prospective employers to research potential employees.

Sites such as [www.careerbuilder.com](http://www.careerbuilder.com), [www.jobweb.com](http://www.jobweb.com) and [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com) are three examples of such "all-purpose" Web sites.

These Web sites can do many of the above mentioned functions and also allow users to seek out an employer through either a keyword search or by looking through a list of jobs available by category. The sites basically serve as search engines of job openings.

Another thing these sites all have in



common is that they are free to sign up for and use.

Martha Turner, director of MTSU's Career and Employment Center, warns students not to use sites that require payment to use their services.

"Don't sign up for anything you have to pay for," she said.

She also warned that the search engines on those sites did not concentrate on any particular employer.

"It's not usually focused or targeted to certain employers," she said. "There

are very few responses when posting the resume online."

The Occupational Outlook Handbook, found at [www.stats.bls.gov/oco/home.htm](http://www.stats.bls.gov/oco/home.htm), is basically an online handbook describing what workers do on the job, the working conditions, required training and education, earnings and possible job prospects for individual careers.

The information on this Web site is organized by categories, and anyone wishing for information on a specific

career can search under its respective category.

At [www.rileyguide.com](http://www.rileyguide.com), job seekers can get advice for using the Internet when searching for jobs. There are resume and cover letter tips and a job search, as well as tips for networking, interviewing and negotiating. This site also has an alphabetical listing of all articles and topics on the Web site.

Many other sites can be found easily using search engines by typing in keywords such as "jobs" or "resume tips."

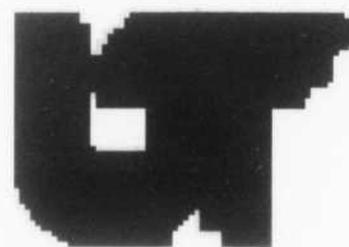
Also, Turner said that going out and searching for a job in person is more effective than using the Internet. Only 5 or at most 10 percent of the time spent seeking employment should be spent searching online.

She cautioned that students should spend most of their time networking and speaking with potential employers in person.

For a list of helpful career sites, visit [www.mtsu.edu/~career/links.htm](http://www.mtsu.edu/~career/links.htm). ♦

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# Resume and interview tips

By **Melissa Bowman**  
Staff Writer

Students approaching the end of their tenure at MTSU – although glad to be almost done with classes, papers and searching for parking spots – face another anxiety: stepping out of the classroom and into the “real world.”

For most students this means a job search, and, consequently, the dreaded resume and interview.

There’s no need to fret – there are abundant resources out there to help improve resumes and lessen the stress of interviews. Resources abound on campus for job-seeking students, primarily at the Career and Employment Center, located in the Keathley University Center, Room 328.

Martha Turner, director of the center, says there are many programs to help students develop their resumes and help prepare them for interviews.

“Workshops are held throughout the year to help students plan their job search, and that includes writing their resumes and developing interview skills,” she said.

Turner had a few resume and interview tips of her own to share with students.

“The resume consists of the ... name and address information, a job objective, your educational qualifications, work experience, which includes internships, and then extracurricular activities [and] honors ... in that order,” Turner said.

Turner also emphasized the importance of spelling and grammar, as well as an appealing design.

“The most important thing is to have researched the organization that you are



interviewing,” Turner said. “Secondly, know about the position for which you are interviewing.”

She also said that professional attire is a must for any interview. Popular job-search Web site [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com) has pages of resume and interview tips. According to the site, the No. 1 pet peeve of recruiters is bad spelling and grammar on a resume.

Also listed as things to remember when compiling a resume are to include only the achievements and honors that relate to the job for which you are applying, to keep your format simple and to keep the items within the resume short – recruiters don’t have time to read long paragraphs.

Monster has ample pointers for interviews, too: Demonstrate confidence by standing up straight, making eye contact and giving your interviewer a firm handshake.

The site also says not to get overly talkative; unprepared interviewees tend to ramble, and they can sometimes tell their interviewers more than they should, so only tell the interviewer information that pertains to your qualification

for the job.

The Career and Employment Center’s Web site, [www.mtsu.edu/~career](http://www.mtsu.edu/~career), provides resume and interview tips as well.

Interview tips include being on time, or even arriving 10 to 15 minutes early for an interview. The site also encourages interviewees to anticipate the questions they will be asked and to prepare responses. Another program offered by the center is eRecruiting. This program puts students in a database available to employers all over the nation.

“[E-recruiting] gives us a database of students with resumes to make referrals to employers,” Turner said. “It also gives us an easy means of communicating with students because with them in our database we automatically send e-mails, announcements regarding events and activities, job opportunities and on-campus interviews.”

Turner says this resource is primarily to help juniors and seniors find jobs and internships, but freshmen and sophomores are encouraged to register as well. ♦

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# Self-determination vital to creating destiny

## 21st Century Patriot



**Jeremy Majors**  
Staff columnist

I love America. America is the place where anyone – and I do mean anyone – can fulfill their dreams. Of course, it takes a lot of dedication, hope, spirit and help, too. As any of you reading this column knows, personal dreams are not easily achieved.

If you look at the brief history of our nation, however, we have always had the attitude of “we can do it.” Our history is full of individuals who not only have made a difference, but also have achieved their goals. America has always

been known as the place to come to achieve success, and it still is.

One of the best principles of American value is the high regard in which we hold the principle of self-determination: the principle that, under lawful conditions, people are free and unchallenged to create their own destiny.

People are free to choose which path to take, what beliefs to follow, what job to choose, whom they decide to love. Self-determination, or freedom, is the value that Americans have always held dear, and that is what has made our society so successful.

If someone tells you that conditions must be “ripe” in order for you to succeed, create your own “conditions.” In other words, you should create your own destiny. When some-

one you know tells you that something is difficult or you can't do it, don't listen to them. Simply put, don't take “no” for an answer.

Of course, there is no justice or good in breaking the law in order to trample over others on your path to glory. There is just no excuse for corruption. I am not writing about those things.

What I am writing about when I say “create your own conditions” are simple things that you can do to make sure you can succeed in your career or life goals.

I'm telling you that you and only you must choose your path. It's like in the movie *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*, in which the knight says to Indy (everyone think with me), “Choose wisely.”

Those of us who are fans of

Indiana Jones know what happens.

Creating your own path to glory takes hard work. There's not a magical pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, contrary to popular belief.

It would be nice if a small guy decked in bright green clothing exploded out of some magic cloud and granted you riches and power beyond your wildest dreams, but people in reality have to settle for working hard for every dollar they get.

The best part of self-determination is the fact that if you do choose your path wisely, you can obtain greatness and a feeling of self-worth like no other. Every time I achieve my goals I get a great sense of achievement. There really is no substitute for success.

So, my fellow students, my

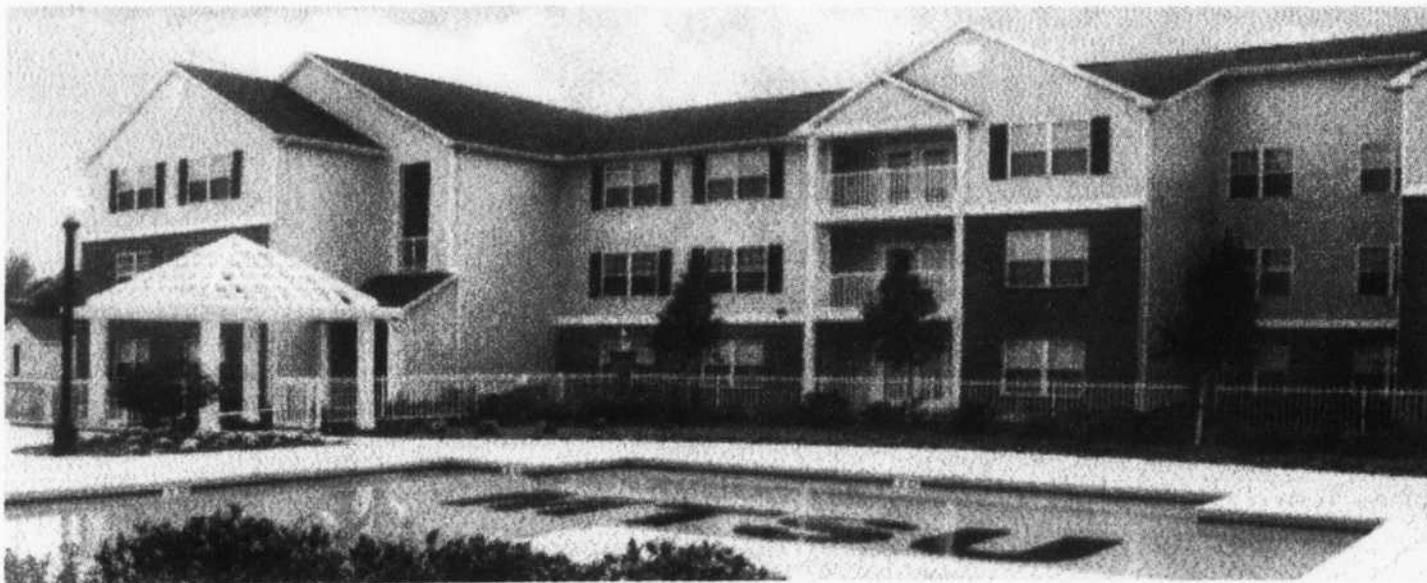
message to you is this: Stay the course, take the risks and don't let the rainy days stop you (there will be rainy days, I assure you).

Go for the gold every chance you get. Lend a hand and there will be someone there when you need help.

Don't give up, even when there are mountains against you. Decide what is best for you, create the conditions that are best for you, and don't let anyone tell you what is best for you either.

Go out there, and create your own destiny. ♦

*Jeremy Majors is a senior international relations major and can be reached at [jnm2g@mtsu.edu](mailto:jnm2g@mtsu.edu).*



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## Internships: Co-ops provide experience

Continued from 3

preparing a resume. The workshop is held Sept. 23. More information is available at the Career and Employment Center's Web site. Regardless of field, pay and benefits are an important part of searching for internship opportunities. While some companies offer either full- or part-time pay to interns, others pay nothing at all. Benefits also vary from company to company.

For those positions that are salaried, expect the pay to be at a lower rate than a permanent employee. Always clarify the question of pay if it is unclear, and be prepared to balance time between school, internship and a second job.

Co-op work is another option students can pursue in supplementing their educa-

tion. Differing from internships, co-ops are paid positions arranged with a company with the assistance of the university's Cooperative Education office.

While employed, the student is appraised on 10 aspects of behavior and performance. Students who participate are also routinely checked in on by Cooperative Education to ensure that students are treated fairly and with respect. Students also complete a report on their co-op experience to serve as their final exam.

A majority of students come out of the experience not only with the knowledge needed for their field of work, but also with a stronger sense of maturity and responsibility for themselves.

"They [students in the pro-

gram] now know that they know that they know... Students who never do that, the most they can do is think they can do a job," Rollins said.

Students interested in pursuing cooperative work can visit the Cooperative Education office in KUC, Room 360-O. Applications are also online at the office's Web site at [www.mtsu.edu/~cooped](http://www.mtsu.edu/~cooped).

Students wishing to apply are required to have a major declared as well as two semesters of university study and a 2.5 GPA.

With some effort and a little luck, students who get involved with internships and co-op programs will be prepared to make the transition from college to career in the most engaging classroom possible: the world. ♦

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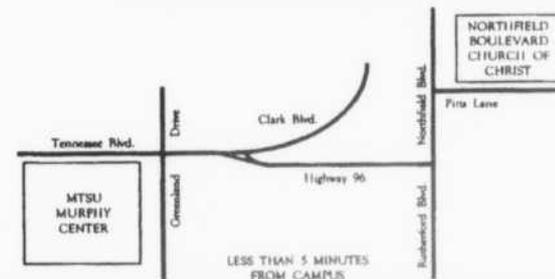
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Photo by Jessica Watson | Staff Photographer

**MTSU's Career and Employment Center aids students in finding employment and preparing for post-graduation careers.**

# Career Center benefits students

**By Wendy Caldwell**  
*Career Guide editor*

MTSU's Career and Employment Center offers a variety of services to students seeking employment.

The center focuses on preparing students for the work force and does so with a variety of events, workshops and services aimed at improving skills such as resume-writing and interviewing.

"We have services designed to be of assistance and make [the students'] job searches easier," Martha Turner, director of the career center, says.

Students who register with the center become part of its database. The center uses this database when employers are seeking job candidates. Registered students also receive e-mails from the center concerning available jobs.

"We have an educational component that helps students learn the job search process," Turner adds.

This fall, the center is holding a workshop entitled "Your Job Search." This workshop will take place on five days in the months of September, October and November. A complete list of workshops is available on the center's Web site.

"We work on behalf of the student," Turner says.

A student can expect to spend six to

**"We work on behalf of the student,"**

**Martha Turner**

*Director of Career and Employment Center*



nine months searching for a job, being selected for the job and being officially hired, according to Turner. Because of this, Turner hopes that juniors and early seniors will make use of the services the center offers.

"We have graduates who come to us saying, 'I didn't use your office. I never knew it would be so hard to find a job,'" Turner states.

In addition to holding workshops, the center also hosts companies in the area that come to MTSU to conduct interviews.

Although sometimes the students interviewed by companies are selected by their human resource panel, the center also hosts companies that conduct open interviews. At these events, any interested student can attend.

These events are on-campus recruitment interviews. A complete list of these events is available on the center's Web site.

"We suggest and recommend for on-campus interviews business attire," Turner says.

In the past, the center conducted mock interviews with students. During these mock interviews, graduate assistants acted as human resource managers. The interviews were videotaped, and afterwards, critiqued.

"It's [the mock interview] one of the best things a student can have," Turner says.

However, due to state budget cuts, the center does not currently offer this service. The center does hope to offer mock interviews again in the future.

Students seeking interviewing tips can visit the center's Web site. Also on the site, students can find a list of the top 25 questions asked by employers during interviews.

The Web site also posts job listings, and this list is updated frequently. The listings include full- and part-time jobs,

summer jobs and internships.

Students can register on the center's password-protected site for the services listed above and other services, such as resume referral, career planning and links to career-related Web sites.

Some employers can also search registered students for potential job candidates for a limited time.

To register with the Career and Employment Center, visit the center or its Web site for the appropriate forms.

The Career and Employment Center will host the 21st Annual Career Fair Sept. 18. The fair will take place on the track level of the Murphy Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. More than 100 employers and representatives from 19 graduate schools will be available to students (see "Career center hosts annual Career Fair," page 2).

The Career and Employment Center is located the Keathley University Center, Room 328. In addition to this, the center has an office in Jones Hall, Room 158. Another office, located in Room S123 of the Business and Aerospace Building, is temporarily closed.

For more information on the Career Center, visit the center's Web site at [www.mtsu.edu/~career](http://www.mtsu.edu/~career).

*Juanita Thouin contributed to this story.* ♦

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## Career Guide

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## Market: Resources give students advantage

Continued from 3

In addition, consider temporary work or volunteer positions that utilize your chosen career skills. Most importantly, utilize all of the job search resources that are available, including the Career and Employment Center.

The Center offers a variety

of career planning tools such as a career library, resume writing assistance and critiquing, interviewing skills, job listings and resume referrals, personal consultation, networking and on-campus interview opportunities such as the upcoming Career and Employment Fair.

For more information on

the Career and Employment Center, call the center at 898-2500 or visit their Web site at [www.mtsu.edu/~career](http://www.mtsu.edu/~career).

The Web site also offers links to other online resources that focus on job searching (see "Online aids assist employment candidates," page 4). ♦

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