

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2008

VOL. 84 NO. 46

INSIDE

Nick and Norah debuts big over the weekend



The not-so-typical romantic teen comedy pulls in \$12 million and is #3 on the charts

FEATURES, 5

OPINIONS

Latina Like Me

Part one of our six-part series exploring the perspectives of minorities on campus

OPINIONS, 6

Check out this week's comics

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SPORTS, 9

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For more information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~parking.

HIV epidemic increasing

250,000 people currently have HIV and are unaware of it, so MTSU Student Health Services is encouraging students get tested to stop the spread of the deadly virus

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

An August study by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention found that HIV is spreading faster in the United States than expected, resulting in 56,300 new cases a year.

Kevin Lawson, testing and training coordinator at Nashville Cares, said that young people from the ages 24 and under make up half of these cases.

"They can be straight, gay, white or black," Lawson said. "We're talking about 27,000 young people every year becoming infected with HIV."

Lawson said that the CDC now requires everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 must get an HIV test once a year as part of their routine health care.

"This is to help us decrease stigma around HIV testing, and find 250,000 Americans who are currently living with HIV, and don't know it," Lawson said.

Even though anyone is capable of catching HIV, there has been an increase in the number of women that have contracted the disease.

"Black females account for more cases than white females," Lawson said. "[But] women still account for a little less than half of the [56,300] cases."



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
A nurse at Student Health Services performs a rapid HIV test on a student while diluting the blood to see the results.

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The study also found that black men are six times more likely to become infected as white men, and are nearly three times more likely as

Hispanic men.

Lawson said that the reason for these statistics is because there are more viruses in the black community because people who are infected are spreading the disease to others.

With the majority of young adults from the ages 24 and under attending universities, HIV testing has become a necessity to health services

on college campuses.

MTSU's Student Health Services offers several kinds of sexually transmitted disease tests, including HIV.

A rapid HIV test, which consists of a finger prick and blood results, allows students to see their results

HIV, PAGE 3



Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer
Williams engages students in a discussion after the vice presidential debate.

Students commentate on vice presidential debate at Cyber Café

By JESSY RICHTER
Staff Writer

The American Democracy Project hosted a vice presidential debate watch from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the Cyber Cafe on Thursday. Afterwards, the group held a short discussion among those who attended.

Jim Williams, history professor and campus coordinator of the ADP, moderated the discussion. He also provided voter registration information before and after the debate.

Zack Barnes, junior psychology, said there were more people than he expected at the debate watch.

He said he thought it was important for students to attend these debate watches.

"It's really good for students to get together and discuss, because we

could swing the election," Barnes said.

Williams said it is important for all Americans who are going to vote in this historic election.

"The office of vice president has grown in power and influence since 1993 with Al Gore and Dick Cheney, so probably the next vice president will continue that trend," Williams also said. "As a historian, I think Americans will have to realize that they can no longer ignore the vice presidential candidate as someone who sits on the sidelines."

Kyle Styer, junior physics major, said he agreed with the fact that the vice president's powers have been increasing.

The group at the Cyber on Thursday discussed many questions, one

DEBATE, PAGE 8

SGA tries to resolve activity fee budget for 2009 and 2010 year

By EMMA EGLI
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association tabled a resolution in its last meeting that would raise the activity fee by \$10 or \$20 per semester.

The last time the fee was officially raised was in 1998 when the fee was increased from \$5 to \$20. If the resolution is voted on again by the SGA and is passed, the student body will vote by referendum in November.

"The SGA brought up the idea of raising the activity fee for everybody's interest," said Gene Fitch, associate vice president for Student Life. "It's been about 10 years since it was last raised."

Every student who is registered seven hours or more is required to pay the \$20 per semester student activity fee. The money goes to registered student organizations for their programs and activities. The money is then distributed among each group in accordance to requests made by smaller organizations within those divisions.

Arguments have arisen as to whether or not raising the student activity fee would be in the best interest for all students who have to pay the fee. While many students do participate in sports clubs, Greek life and other organizations, there are still some who don't.

"A lot of [students] aren't involved in these student organizations," said Matthew Hurtt, senior political science major. "So their money is going to something they don't participate in."

Hurtt, who was the 2007 and 2008 senator for the college of Liberal Arts, said that each Sen

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SGA \$3.00	
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Graphic by Alicia Wilson, production manager

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"I just don't think it's fair to the students," Hurtt said. "Especially in these tight economic times where the cost of filling up your gas tank has doubled within a year and a half."

The reason for the noticeable increase in the student activity fee is that there is simply not enough money to go around for all the student organization activities, according to Fitch.

"There are over 300 different organizations at MTSU," Fitch said. "Each semester the requests for money pile in for trips, lectures, concerts and other programs. It is simply a question of need."

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FEE, PAGE 4

Alcohol is the most common
substance used in
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Cyclists worry about road injuries due to obscurity of safety rules

By ALEX MOORMAN
Assistant News Editor

With rising gas prices, growing environmental concerns and difficult parking on MTSU's campus, many students have turned to riding their bicycles.

More students at MTSU have switched from battling traffic and parking on campus to riding their bikes, but with the heavy traffic flow on campus riding bikes can prove difficult according to Sarah Borguez, junior photography major.

"I think that cars try and watch for cyclists but for the most part I think they just can't see us," Borguez said. "I do have trouble on campus sometimes, because you can't use the sidewalk; they are covered in people."

With this increase in bicyclists over the Murfreesboro

area, bicycle shops have had an increase in business over the last couple months.

"Business is doing great," said Alex Gomez, owner of Pro Cycling in Murfreesboro. "I think that gas prices have a lot to do with our increased business, but any reason is good if it gets people to ride instead of drive."

There are some rules that both bicyclists and the people around them must re-

Cyclists are expected to ride in a straight line as near to the right curb or edge of the roadway as practical, and prohibited on sidewalks and biked. Also when making left and right turns, cyclists are to turn in the same way that drivers do, using the same lanes.

When riding a bike on main roads cyclists must also remember that they are entitled to use the left turning lane but when traveling straight, they must use a center lane as opposed to riding along

the curb.

Jinsol Park, junior political science major said that she usually feels uncomfortable when riding her bike on main roads because she doesn't think there are enough regulations for people who drive cars.

While there are a number of rules for bicyclists to

member to insure the safety of both the cyclist and the driver.

Bicyclists are permitted to ride on certain sections of freeways, so drivers should be alert and prepared when bicycling. Bikers must also ride in the same direction as other traffic to avoid a collision.

“ Maybe if the government would require that all roads have bike lanes, some of those issues would stop.”

JINSOL PARK

Junior political science major



Photo by Alex Treneff, staff photographer

A bicyclist rides on the main road amongst vehicles. More students have turned to their bikes recently because of environmental concerns and to avoid rising gas prices.

remember there are a few that drivers must also abide by such as looking carefully before opening doors next to moving traffic or before turning right.

Drivers must also safely merge toward the curb or into the bike lane as to not overtake a bicyclist just before making a right turn. They must merge and then turn.

"I am sure that people who should watch out for bikers, but most of the time I don't think that drivers are re-

spectful of bikers," Park said. "Maybe if the government would require that all roads have bike lanes or set up a route specifically for bikers, some of those issues would stop."

Bikes are more susceptible to hazardous road conditions because of instability and thin tires so they must be more careful when biking on public roads. Potholes, sewer grates, and railroad tracks are all hazards for bikers on the road.

Over the last couple of

months speculation has raised that with the growing number of cyclists that the rate in accidents will raise as well but according to Gomez, he feels that the more cyclists that are on the roads the better cars will learn how to deal with them.

"If cars are not used to maneuvering around bicycles then it will cause accidents but with the growing number of bikers, cars have become more accustomed and that will cause less accidents," Gomez said.

Student Appreciation Week

Monday,
October 6

The Compromise Band
Hot Air Balloon Rides
KUC Knoll
11:30am - 1:30pm

Tuesday,
October 7

Cookout
Alumni Giveaway
KUC Knoll
11:30am

Wednesday,
October 8

Laser Tag
11:00am - 3:00pm
Pie Eating Contest
12:00pm - 1:00pm
KUC Knoll

Thursday,
October 9

Relaxation Massages
10:00am - 12:00pm
KUC Lobby
Blood Drive
KUC 3rd Floor



Sponsored by:
Student Government Association

HIV FROM PAGE 1

within 15 minutes. Since this is a preliminary test, if a negative reading appears, a serum HIV test will be given to the student for an additional charge of \$16.

A serum HIV test involves taking a blood sample and sending it off to a lab to be processed.

"Anyone who is sexually active should get tested every six months," said Allison Neal, senior anthropology major.

Student Health Services also offer an STD panel test for \$60, which checks for H.I.V., hepatitis C, hepatitis B and syphilis.

"We see very few positive results, but that's not to say we don't have them, because we do," said Pat Spangler, medical director for Student Health Services.

Spangler said that the problem is that young people don't hear about HIV now as much as they used to.

"When it first came out, everybody was scared to death, because we didn't have treatment for it," Spangler said. "In the '80s, it was a death sentence, because anyone who contracted the disease was dead within two or three years."

"Now you hear about famous people like Magic Johnson who have had HIV for over 10 years, and people think it's not a big deal," Spangler said.

Lawson said that people fail to realize that the treatment for HIV doesn't work on everyone.

"We've only had these drugs for 10 or 12 years, and we don't know their long-term effects," Lawson said. "We don't know if they'll stop working soon or if they'll do more damage to the body."

In order to educate students, Student Health Services and Nashville Cares have teamed up in previous years to hold HIV awareness days, which allowed students to be tested for free. Students also obtained information and pamphlets on how to protect themselves from HIV and STDs.

Red Washington, freshman graphic design major, said he thinks that by having HIV testing on campus, it will make it more accessible to students.

Spangler said he wasn't sure what events are going to take place this year, but with a new Health Educator joining the Health Services staff this month, he said he hopes to branch out and do more things to inform students.

"We try to remind students that it's important that with each exposure there's some risk in contracting an STD such as HIV, especially unprotected," Spangler said. "If you're going to have one or 1,000 exposures, then you are going to increase your chances of catching something."

Do you feel lucky?
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SIDELINES

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Award-winning journalists discuss election at MTSU

Walter Mears, Candy Crowley, Bill Kovach and John Seigenthaler will hold discussion panels on Oct. 8 in the Keathley University Center Theater

STAFF REPORT

Award-winning and nationally recognized journalists will discuss the presidential election in the Keathley University Center Theater on Wednesday, Oct. 8.

"History in the Making: Press Coverage of the Presidential Campaign" is the fourth event in the yearlong series of events, sponsored by the Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies that will analyze the presidential election.

The event is free and open to the public.

Walter Mears will present a lecture entitled "On the Campaign Trail: 48 Years of Covering Presidential Politics" at 10:30 a.m.

During his career, Mears covered 11 presidential campaigns. During Mears' 45 year career with the Associated Press, he was a national political reporter, Washington bureau chief, executive editor, vice president and a columnist.

Mears won the Pulitzer Prize for national reporting in 1977 for his coverage of the presidential campaign in 1976.

A panel titled "The Morning After: Who Won the Presidential Debates?" will discuss Tuesday night's events at the presidential debates at Belmont University in Nashville.

At 11:30 a.m. Mears will be joined by Bill Kovach, John Mashek and John Seigenthaler to form a panel titled "The Morning After: Who Won the Presidential Debates?"

Beverly Keel, the director of the Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence will moderate the panel.

Kovach, who has been a journalist for more than 50 years, is the founding director of the Committee of Concerned Journalists. Kovach is also a former Washington Bureau Chief of *The New York Times*, editor of *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and curator of the Nieman Fellowships at Harvard University.

Kovach is also the co-author of two books "The Elements of Journalism: What Newspeople Should Know and the Public Should Expect" and "Warp Speed: America in the Age of Mixed Media."

Mashek, an active journalist for 40 years, covered every presidential campaign from 1964 until 1992. He began as a reporter for

The Dallas Morning News in 1955. Mashek ended his career as the national political correspondent in Washington for the *Boston Globe* in 1995.

Mashek was the panelist in three presidential debates, including Bush-Ferraro in 1984, Bush-Dukakis in 1988 and Bush-Clinton-Perot in 1992. After retiring he taught journalism at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.

Seigenthaler, the namesake of MTSU's Seigenthaler

Chair of Excellence, is the chairman emeritus of *The Tennessean* as well as the founder of the First Amendment Center.

Seigenthaler is also a former president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors; he served as founding editorial director for

USA Today for ten years. He was a member of the National Commission on Federal Election Reform, which was organized in 2001 by former presidents Ford and Carter.

Crowley will share her thoughts and observations about the presidential campaign at a lecture entitled "One on One with Candy Crowley" at 12:40 p.m.

Crowley is an award-winning senior political correspondent for CNN. She is based in the network's Washington D.C. bureau. Crowley plays a major role in CNN's America Votes 2008 coverage. Her assignments have taken her all around the world.

As a member of the network's Emmy award-winning 2006 mid-term election coverage, Crowley has covered all of the national political conventions excluding one since the presidential nomination of Jimmy Carter.

For more information contact Beverly Keel at 615.898.5150 or email bkeel@mtsu.edu.



John Seigenthaler



Bill Kovach

Students celebrate Hip Hop Honors month with rhymes

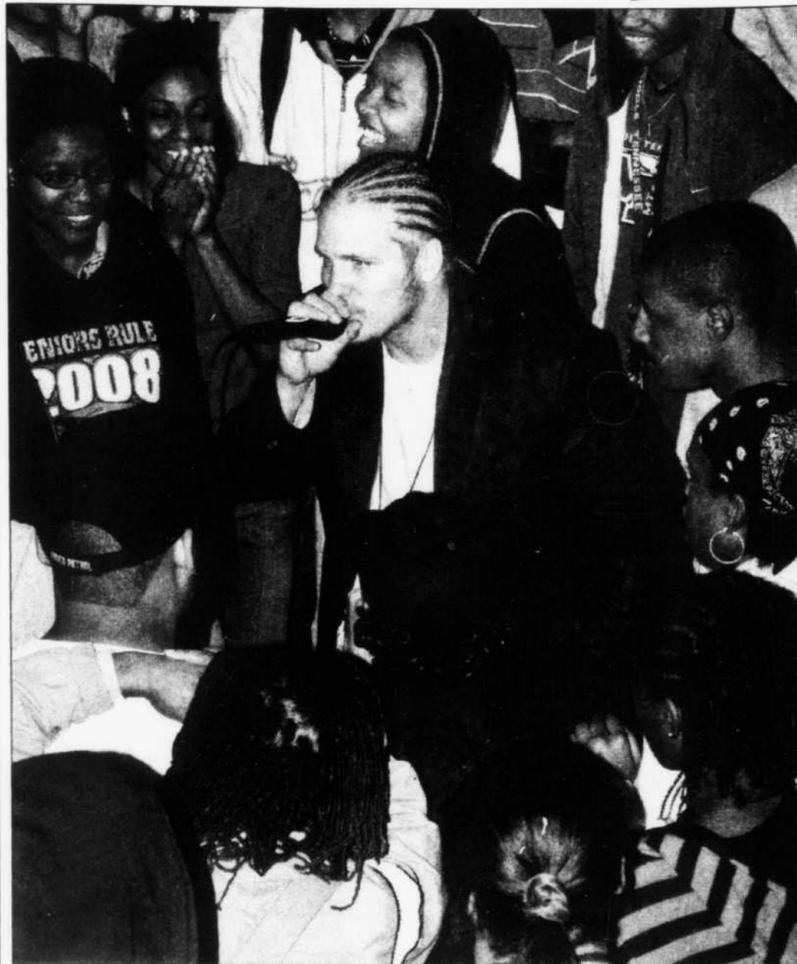


Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer

A rap battle, sponsored by Word Up!, took place outside of the library lot on Thursday.

FEE FROM PAGE 1

Although there is still debate as to whether or not the student activity fee should be increased, both sides agree that is important that the student body is educated on the issue.

Hurtt, who has started a group on Facebook for students who are against the

fee increase, said it's important for students know all the facts.

"The groundwork for the Facebook group is that we are getting people involved so that they know exactly what is going on even if they don't follow student government," Hurtt said.

"By joining the group, they will get educated on the matter and invite friends

so that everyone is clear on the issue."

Fitch also said that it crucial that students know the whole issue, especially if the legislation passes and gets voted on by students.

"The main thing is getting the correct information out," Fitch said. "It's important that students know the details as well as the position on the matter."

The Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies

presents

History in the Making: Press Coverage of the Presidential Campaign

Wednesday, Oct. 8 in the KUC Theater

10:30 a.m. — On the Campaign Trail: 48 Years of Covering Presidential Politics

Walter Mears, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who covered national politics for the Associated Press

11:30 a.m. — The Morning After: Who won the Debates?

Walter Mears, Associated Press

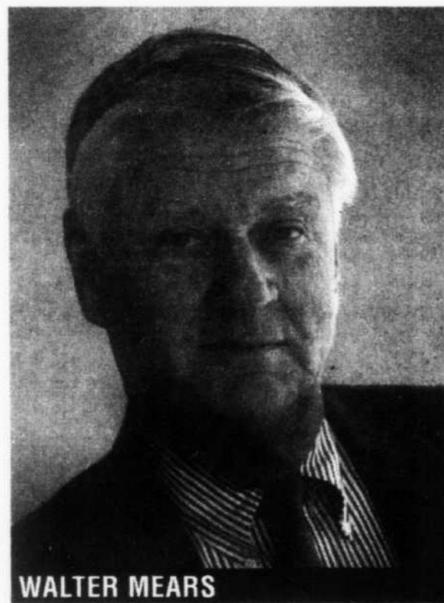
Bill Kovach, nationally known journalist and founder of the Committee of Concerned Journalists

John Mashek, former national political correspondent, Boston Globe

John Seigenthaler, chairman emeritus of The Tennessean and founder of the First Amendment Center

12:40 p.m. — One on One with Candy Crowley
A conversation with Candy Crowley, CNN's award-winning political correspondent

All events are free and open to the public.



WALTER MEARS



CANDY CROWLEY

DO YOU PLAN TO SEE NICK AND NORAH?

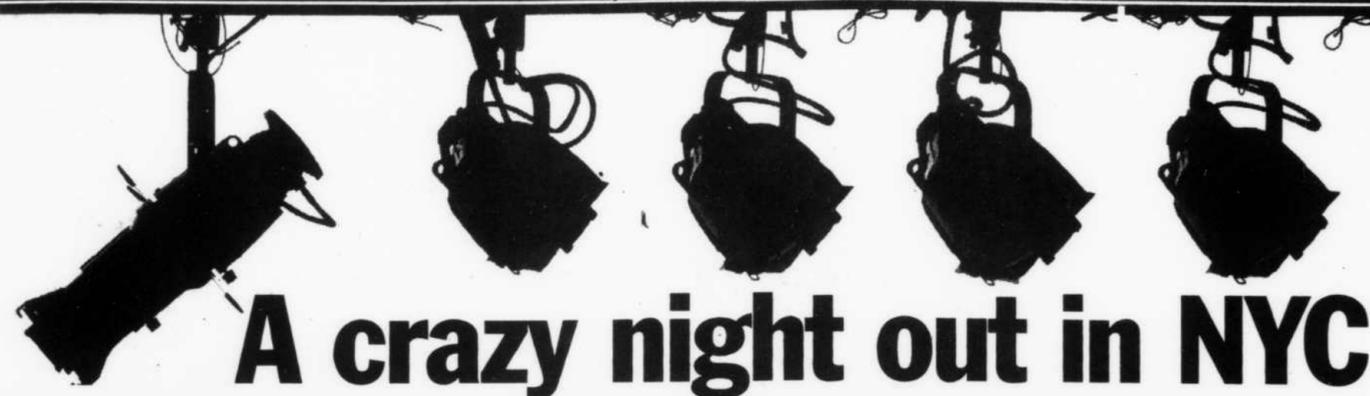
FEATURES



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A crazy night out in NYC



Photos courtesy Sony Pictures
(Left) Nick and Norah, played by Michael Cera and Kat Dennings, stroll down the street hand-in-hand. (Right) Nick pays more attention to his ex-girlfriend in the crowd than his bass guitar.



Nick and Norah is a great romp through New York City's indie music scene

By **KATY COIL**
Assistant Features Editor

Ever wanted to scramble around New York City with three hilarious gay guys looking for your lost drunk friend, pining over your ex, and all the while indulging in the best of the city's underground indie music scene?

Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist is a film that lets you do all of that while sitting in the relative comfort of the movie theatre.

Based on the novel by Rachel Cohn and David Levithan, the movie is a heartfelt, clever romp around the NYC music scene as main characters Nick O'Leary (Michael Cera) and Norah Silverberg (Kat Dennings) discover the meanings of love, life and what sort of songs come together to make a great mix CD.

The plot is a little predictable, but nonetheless fun to

follow along with. It's different from other movies of the genre, which usually end up with someone getting a makeover or a cheesy last-minute realization about someone's true good nature.

Nick and Norah is more authentic than that. The characters are all believable as hipster teenagers. And though their romp around New York City probably doesn't happen very much in real life, it is entertainingly hilarious to be along for the ride with them.

Nick is brokenhearted over his ex Tris (Alexis Dziena), the resident mean girl of Norah's private school. A straight bassist and occasional drum machine operator of a queer-core band, Nick spends his time making Tris mix CDs, which she tosses into the garbage for Norah to find.

Norah herself is the indie-rock-loving Jewish daughter of a big time record pro-

ducer. This allows her to get into any club she wants right away, even if it's just to use the bathroom. Nick is goaded into playing a show with his friends that night while he and Norah both look forward to seeing the band Where's Fluffy do a return show in the city.

Norah goes to the show of The Jerk-Offs, Nick's band, to find a sneering Tris there with her new boy-toy, Gary (Zachary Booth). Naturally, chaos ensues.

In order to prove she isn't a loser, Norah hooks up with Nick, who is still moping over his ex and completely stunned that she showed up to his show. Nick and No-

rah are momentarily caught in one of those I-saw-you-across-the-room hazes then all seems ruined when Norah's drunk friend Caroline (Ari Graynor) needs to be taken home.

Seeing that Nick needs to move on, his two wise, gay best friends, Thom (Aaron Yoo) and Rafi (Rafi Gavron), along with their friend "Beefy Guy" (Jonathan B. Wright), decide that Nick needs some Norah time and offer to take Caroline home. Just as Nick and Norah seem to be bonding, Thom, Rafi and Beefy Guy stop for hot dogs only to lose Caroline in the middle of New York City at midnight.

The rest of the evening is divided between trying to find Caroline and following some white rabbits so they can find the location of the Where's Fluffy's gig. The group travels everywhere from dingy indie clubs to a Chinese grocery store to a Christmas-themed gay bar to a rock-and-roll landmark, Electric Ladyland Studios.

Usually, teenage romantic comedies find romance not from the main characters but from the goofy antics of the supporting cast. While the supporting cast offers laughs, gross-outs and

sage advice, the relationship between Nick and Norah is what keeps viewers' eyes on the movie. The genuine sweetness and confused, nerdy antics — à la Superbad and Juno — of Michael Cera's Nick mesh perfectly with Kat Denning's sassy, smart tough-girl portrayal of Norah. The two are not only believable together, but audiences will want to root for them, as well.

Of course, no one can mention this movie without devoting a considerable amount of attention to the music. Songs such as "Ottoman" by Vampire Weekend, "After Hours" by We Are Scientists, "Lover" by DeVendra Barnhart and "Very Loud" by the Shout Out Louds don't just add to the backdrop of the film. They make the movie. The entire film features an almost essential collection of indie rock and will leave you wanting to put together your own mixed CD.

Nick and Norah combines music, comedy and romance into a teen romantic comedy that isn't on the list to be made fun of in whatever parody movie comes out next. The script is intelligent, the actors are phenomenal, and the music will make your day. All in all, it's a movie not just for lovers, audiophiles or teenyboppers, but something everyone can groove out and laugh to.

Four stars for heart, soul and music, but none for that gross scene in the public toilets.



Director: Peter Sollett

Starring: Michael Cera, Kat Dennings, Aaron Yoo, Rafi Gavron and Ari Graynor

Rating: PG-13 for teen drinking, sexuality, language and crude behavior

Run Time: 90 minutes

CALENDAR

movies, music, nightlife and more

Movies

10/6-10/10 - Hellboy II: The Golden Army - KUC Theatre @ 7&10 - \$2

Music

10/6 - Ashley Arrison w/ Blu Sanders - The Basement @ 9

10/7 - Streetlight Allstars - Wallstreet @ 9

10/7 - Holding Hands with the Dead, New Dieabolic - The Muse @ 7 - \$7

10/7 - Pale Blue Dot Showcase, Andrew M and Coalition of the Willing, Matt Saggio, Sailor Sequence, Carl Pike, Jonathan Balas, Lena Chelsea - The Basement @ 7 - FREE

10/8 - For the Fallen Dreams, Into Eternity, American ME, Shakodi, Goodbye Apathy - The Muse @ 7 - \$14

10/8 - New Found Glory, A Day to Remember, Four Year Strong, International Superheroes of Hardcore, Crime in Stereo - Rocketown @ 6 - \$15/ticketweb.com, \$17/door

10/9 - One Day Unforgotten, As the Tempest Rises, Fight 'Til They Fall, The Rare Breed, The Muse @ 7 - \$10

10/9 - Oblivion w/ Modern Skirts, Sleep Study - The Basement @ 9

10/10 - Frugal Friday, Thief - The 'Boro @ 8 - FREE

10/10 - My Beautiful Disaster - Wallstreet @ 9

10/10 Koffin Kats, Gabe Zander, First of the North Star - The Muse @ 7 - \$10

10/10 - Space Capone - The Basement @ 9

10/11 - The Great Barrier Reefs - The 'Boro @ 8

10/11 - Snow Black Sunday - Wallstreet @ 9

10/11 - Nashville Metal Music Awards Pre-voting Show - The Muse @ 7 - \$5

10/11 - Keegan Dewitt, Roman Candle, Madi Diaz - The Basement @ 9

10/11 - Indiana, Shakodi, Oh the Blood, Book of Trees, Ashes from Another, By Blood We Are Bonded - Rocketown @ 6 - \$6

10/12 - Barbara Detch, J.Y. Miller, The Oblivious Humans, The Nyte Before, Tom Smith, The Jack Ryan Project, Organic Mechanic, Ashes from Another, Psychtrea - The Muse @ 7 - \$10

10/12 - The Armory, Patrick Worley, Blake Whitworth, Katie Eckerberger, Forgotten Sanity, Nikki Cole and Steel Horse, The Antennas, Jeremy Kent - Rocketown @ 5:45 - \$10/pre-order, \$12/door

Other

10/6-10/7 - MT Idol Auditions - KUC Theatre @ 4

Compiled By Katy Coil

Movie	Weekend Gross
#1 Beverly Hills Chihuahua	\$129M
#2 Eagle Eye	\$17.7M
#3 Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist	\$12M
#4 Nights in Rodanthe	\$7.36M
#5 Appalosa	\$5.01M
#6 Lakeview Terrace	\$4.5M
#7 Burn After Reading	\$4.08M
#8 Fireproof	\$4.07M
#9 An American Carol	\$3.81M
#10 Religulous	\$3.5M

OPINIONS

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Love her or hate her, keep on talking

You can call Sarah Palin what you want. Inexperienced or charming. Dim-witted or strong-willed. Nerve-grating or adorable. But one thing's for sure—Thursday's debate created a palpable excitement throughout the community and the nation. And Joe Biden, with his old-Washington ways and arguably uncontroversial image, probably wasn't the main cause for all the hubbub. It was Palin, and millions tuned in eager to see her fail or shatter expectations and succeed.

The televised debate between vice presidential candidates Palin and Biden on Thursday was the most-watched vice presidential debate in history, according to preliminary figures from Nielsen Media Research.

From 7 to 9 p.m. MDT, 69.9 million Americans watched all or part of the debate, 17 and a half million more than those who watched the Sept. 26 presidential debate between Barack Obama and John McCain.

It's also 13 million more viewers than the 1984 vice presidential debate between Geraldine Ferraro and George H.W. Bush, and it's the most-watched of any political debate since 1992's debate between Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush and Ross Perot, which also drew 69.9 million viewers.

In the top 56 of the country's television markets, an average of 45 percent of households watched part or all of the debate.

There was more pressure on Palin to deliver than Biden, a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Senate. After a performance in her speech at the Republican National Convention was lauded by most of the Republican party, the Alaska governor had repeatedly stumbled in interviews with the national media, prompting a few party insiders to suggest she should remove herself from the ticket. She needed to show that she could go 90 minutes with Biden before millions of viewers. And although her answers weren't always responsive to the questions or entirely coherent, although she often appeared to be reciting rehearsed lines, she came across as moderately competent going face-to-face with a veteran like Biden. Biden, we think, was the victor. But Palin didn't fall flat on her face, and that's more than a lot of us expected.

It's been heavily speculated that much of the viewership was due to Palin's embarrassing comments during her now infamous interviews with CBS's Katie Couric and ABC's Charlie Gibson.

No matter why so many people tuned in, though, this election has people talking. The MTSU campus has been abuzz with debate about the debate. Whether making fun of Palin's excessive winking or extolling her likability, the community has taken notice. And right now, that's all that matters.

The question "did you watch the debate?" replaced "what did you do last night?" among several students over the weekend. Love her or hate her, Pro-Bama or No-Bama, old-Washington or new-Washington, MTSU students seem to be using their voice. So keep talking.

Latina like me

- Hispanic
- Gay
- Chinese
- Muslim
- Jewish
- Non-traditional

A six-part series examining diversity on campus

Walking in the shoes of others

By MARYIN CHAVEZ
Contributing Writer

Maryin is the name, like the left "margin" of a paper. That is usually how I have to explain how to pronounce my name. However, others pronouncing my name has not been the only thing that I have had to struggle with. Growing up as a Latina has not always been easy and living in the South did not help much, either.

When I was younger, it seemed to be difficult for teachers to categorize me in a particular race. I was not dark enough to be considered black, yet I was not light enough to be considered white. I, myself, was confused and did not know where I should fit in; however, the black community seemed to always invite me

with open arms.

As I got older, the Latino community got bigger, and Hispanics were more recognized in schools and the overall community.

It even became an option in the race section; Hispanic, Latino, Chicano, not Caucasian. Yet, as changes like that were made, growing up still wasn't easy. I was teased a lot and called many names for being Latina.

For example, I was called Mexican, which I find very offensive not because I don't want to be Mexican but because Mexican isn't a race, Mexico isn't the only Latin

American country, and people are quick to judge and think that every Hispanic is both Mexican and illegal. Illegal I am not, I am an American citizen, and I earned my citizenship the right way.

"I was not dark enough to be considered black, yet I was not white enough to be considered white."

MARYIN CHAVEZ
SENIOR MASS COMMUNICATIONS MAJOR

For 19 years I was a resident of the United States, but on June 10, 2008 I became a citizen of the United States of America and take much pride in it.

At MTSU, things, at first, seemed to repeat as if I were back in my elementary

school years. Again, I didn't know where to fall in. Luckily, I heard of a Latina sorority and automatically I felt more like myself, and it felt more like home. I joined the sorority as a founding member along with my four other line sisters. Since the sorority has started, many people have seen our dedication and ambition to make changes on the campus.

Although there are still people who are against what we believe in, Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority will continue to strive for what the national sorority and our local Delta Iota Chapter believes. We stand for unity,

love and respect of all people no matter what race, religion and/or belief.

Being in a sorority has really helped me as a person, in being confident in myself, and has given me motivation to help improve the MTSU community. MTSU is very diverse. Being active here on campus, being a part of the solution and being academically successful, I will show others that anything is possible if you believe.

I am who I am, and I wouldn't change it any other way. I am proud to be Nicaraguan. I am proud to be an American. I am a Latina.

Maryin Chavez is a senior mass communications major and can be reached at mrc3c@mtsu.edu. She is the first of six students featured in our six-week "Like Me" series.

COMICS



LETTERS

A thank-you from the local chapter of the American Red Cross

Beginning August 29, 2008, the Heart of Tennessee (HOT) Chapter of the American Red Cross was notified that it needed to establish a shelter for several hundred citizens of the State of Louisiana who were being evacuated in anticipation of

Hurricane Gustav. As Chairman of the Board of the Heart of Tennessee Chapter, I made a call to Sidney McPhee to request that we be allowed to open a shelter pursuant to a shelter agreement that the HOT Chapter had signed with MTSU just a few months prior.

Dr. McPhee agreed and preparations began to open a shelter in MTSU's newly re-modeled Rec Center to begin

receiving evacuees. The shelter remained open for a week and served more than 400 people during that time.

On behalf of the HOT Chapter of the American Red Cross, please accept my heart-felt gratitude for the hospitality that was shown to everyone involved. It was a big inconvenience for the students and faculty to not be able to use to its fullest extent the Rec Center. Despite

the disruption, everyone, from Dr. McPhee's office to Campus Police to the Rec Center staff, was very helpful and went out of their way to make this a positive experience.

I also want to commend the student body for the outpouring of support that our local Red Cross chapter received. Daily students were

Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to stlopin@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.

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

LETTERS, PAGE 7

FACES IN THE CROWD

Do you think that smoking regulations in Murfreesboro and Nashville are too strict or not strict enough?



Belleu

"I hate not being able to smoke when I'm at Waffle House at 3 a.m. There should be a time limit or something."
Deryk Belleu, biological sciences senior



Stockdell

"I think they're good like they are now. I don't smoke and the smell gives me headaches. People should smoke outside."
Jonathan Stockdell, history senior



Nashad

"I think they're too strict. I work in a tobacco store and lots of people come in to buy cigarettes. They should be allowed to smoke."
Michael Nashad, sophomore graphic design major



Bernardini

"I think it's just public courtesy not to smoke when other people who don't are around."
Paul Bernardini, public relations, junior

Students need to put down the phone

By Angel Loupe
Contributing Writer

I am walking down a golden path. Beside me are my traveling companions; a cowardly lion, a dim scarecrow, a heartless tin man and a farm girl with one fabulous pair of shoes. We are headed towards the Emerald City in search of the great wizard. All of the sudden, flying monkeys come down and begin to attack us. I am trying to fight them off the best that I can, when all of the sudden, a cell phone rings.

I am brought back to the library where I have been studying for my history class. Two seats over, there is a man who has just silenced his rather loud and obnoxious cell phone ring by answering it in an equally annoying volume of voice. It would be wonderful if this boy would have had the least amount of respect for any of the fellow library patrons surrounding him by stepping outside to take the call. I suppose this hope was just a residual of the fantasy land from which I had so abruptly been torn.

Over the next 15 minutes, I am subjected to the topic of conversation between this young man and who I can

only assume is his girlfriend. I learn when they will meet this evening, where they are to meet, how his day went, why he didn't come over last night (that I would not have believed had he even had video to prove it) and how much he loves his little sugar bear. My suspicions are confirmed by the call he receives approximately five minutes later as he recaps his escapade of the previous night with appalling detail. During that same conversation, I also learn why he missed his first class of the day, having nursed a well-earned hangover.

I typically do not hesitate to place myself in a position of authority and immediately approach the person in question in a polite but firm and authoritative manner, respectfully requesting that they either wrap up their phone call or take it outside. I also do this when people practice the ritual of lengthy conversations about nothing to do with study in the middle of a computer lab. My approach typically avoids any ugly or defiant confrontation, having had plenty of experience in the past that has aided in its fine tuning. Nonetheless, I am consistently annoyed by

these thoughtless intrusions on my study and if it was not for my bold and unwelcomed approach toward these occurrences, there would be no peace and quiet. I have tested this theory more than once, having let these inappropriately loud disturbances continue at length. I have never encountered anyone who was asked by an attendant to keep the noise down or take it outside, save one.

I decided to find out if I was being unreasonable with my own jaded attitude and lack of concentration, or whether this was a common concern of my peers. What I came to find was an attitude of appreciation for my efforts and support of my attitude. In all fairness, I failed to interview any of the people that received the phone calls during my study. However, of all the people I spoke with, one student's response summed up the issue so clearly, that its message reverberates the depth of the issue. I asked him if he was ever disrupted by cell phone usage or conversations while studying. "To be honest with you, I usually try to study at home, by myself usually, for the simple fact that I find more quiet

time there than I do necessarily here at a library," said Tavarus Taylor, a journalism student. He goes on further to say that he feels that it is sad that he has to alienate himself to his home, when there are resources available at school that he could be using. I asked Taylor if he felt the distractions in the labs and library contributed to his decision to stay home and study. "I would say 95 percent of the reason that I stay home to do my work or whatnot, is because of interruptions that occur in the library," he responded.

Another equally annoying but less recognized disturbance that I've noted is texting during class. An occasional emergency situation would be less invading, but taking classes that each has their own version of the aloof guy who sits at an angle to receive and send text messages while concealing it from the professor by doing it underneath the desk is both childish and disrespectful. Although I can certainly condone an emergency situation, repeated occurrences by the same person who openly admits to no urgency is mind-numbing to say the least.

So where does that leave us? In an age where a cell phone is described as a lifeline and an umbilical cord, it is certainly no surprise that their usage is rampant and inappropriate usage extends outside the walls of our university. Nonetheless, it is a nuisance and an obstacle for those students who actually wish to receive an education. I generally recommend not

taking the approach I do, as it generally causes more problems to confront a person who is already aware of the rules that they are breaking. However, in response to this hindrance, I encourage you to speak up and ask an assistant (who may very well be unaware of the situation, some having large areas to command), "Will you please make it stop?"

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Letters

FROM PAGE 6

coming to the shelter to volunteer their time and talents to help wherever they were needed. That was the most heartwarming and gratifying gesture of all as students pitched in to help people in need. As a 1988 graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, I was especially proud.

Once again, thanks to the MTSU family for opening

its doors to host people displaced by a terrible storm. The hospitality shown by all took what should have been a trying and taxing time and turned it into a positive and rewarding experience.

— Joseph A. Peay, chief executive officer, American Red Cross of the Tenn. Chapter

Voting shouldn't be about elitism

Let me take just a moment from your reader's busy day and put up some numbers that may remind our student body about how Tennessee and Middle Tennessee State University students vote on average: Tennessee voted against their own candidate Al Gore in 2000 and repeated our lack of judgment in 2004. So, we basically have nothing that we can legitimately complain about over the past 8 years. Your welcome, America. The current race at hand, has par-

ticularly got at my nose. It's quite understandable to want to be considered one of the wealthy in life. However, reality shows that MTSU students are not in that category overall. We typically come from hard-working middle class families. Yet, time and time again, the student body decides that in polling, we want to side with the elite. Well, voting with Vanderbilt.

— Orlandre Lawrence, Murfreesboro resident

GRADUATING?

~ Not Returning to MTSU?

The Housing and Residential Life Office is currently accepting housing CANCELLATIONS for the Spring 2009 semester from students who are graduating from MTSU and will be taking no additional classes and from students who are not returning to school at MTSU after the Fall 2008 semester.

The deadline for submitting CANCELLATIONS for prepayment refund is **Wednesday, October 15, 2008**. Requests for cancellations must be submitted in writing to the Housing Office in the Keathley University Center, Room 300 or mailed to Box 6, MTSU, faxed to the Housing Office (615-898-5459) or emailed to housing@mtsu.edu by the deadline. For additional information contact Housing and Residential Life,

615-898-2971.

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Smoking ban passes one year mark in Tenn.

Restaurants, bars and hotels cope well with no smoking policy, making necessary changes

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Industry and health groups in Tennessee say the vast majority of restaurants chose to ban smoking a year ago rather than banish those under 21 years old, and most appear glad they did.

It's been one year since restaurants went smoke-free in Tennessee. The Smoke-Free Workplace Act required restaurants to go smoke-free or limit admission to adults 21 and up.

State officials said there is no count of how many restaurants decided to limit admission to adults and allow smoking. The law does not require them to report their status to the state Department of Health.

"Support for the law is widespread across the business, restaurant and public health sectors," said Chastity Mitchell of the Campaign for a Healthy and Responsible Tennessee. "Since the law went into effect, the results have been outstanding. Tennesseans are protected from the dangers of second hand smoke and smokers are seeking help to quit."

Tennessee Restaurant Association interim manager Walt Baker said the group is generally pleased with the law and does not plan to

seek support. The association's support for the statute in the 2007 state legislature, after years of opposition, helped win its approval.

"We supported the bill unanimously. It gave individual businesses the option of going smoke-free or not," Baker said.

The state Health Department said that of the more than 20,000 hotels, motels and restaurants statewide that it inspects, only 145 warning letters were issued for violating the law within the last 12 months. Of those, only seven escalated into fines.

"Just from a maintenance standpoint, from a cleanliness standpoint, from a health standpoint, from an employee standpoint and from a financial standpoint, it saves money to be smoke-free. We think it's certainly been helpful for our employees," said Baker, who is also chief executive officer of the Tennessee Hotel & Lodging Association.

The law also required all motels and hotels to ensure that all their public areas, including lobbies and restaurants, to be smoke-free and that no more than 25 percent of rooms be smoking rooms.

mentioned as a place to find the candidates' facts' accuracy.

Other question topics covered were health care, meeting with foreign leaders, the importance of gender—if any—in the debate and the ideas of patriotic tax paying.

Barnes and Coil said the debate did not change their opinions at all.

There is another debate watch Tuesday in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building from 8 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. with discussion and refreshments following. More information can be found at the ADP's website, mtsu.edu/~amerdem.

This debate watch will be the second between the presidential candidates, and will be aired from Belmont University in Nashville.

Baker said that a survey by his association found that no Tennessee hotel or motel that had fewer than 25 percent of smoking rooms planned to increase the number and many planned to go totally smoke-free.

As for restaurants, Baker said some have felt the affects of the law, particularly those that rely more on bar business, where smoking tends to take place.

Baker said the first year has been an "adjustment period more than anything else, and businesses that have adapted well are not having a problem and those that have not are paying a little bit of a price right now."

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DEBATE FROM PAGE 1

of which was, "Is what the world thinks of us important?"

Katy Coil, junior journalist, said that the world realizes our choices affect them. Most were in agreement with the idea that world's perception of us is important.

Styer said Palin's strength seemed to be the topic of energy, while the economy was kind of a side point. There were differing opinions throughout the room over who did better than the other overall.

Williams asked the group if they believed either candidate was outright lying. No one mentioned seeing anything as an outright lie, but the source factcheck.org was

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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

Student Media Town Hall Meeting

Middle Tennessee Television and MTSU Sidelines are offering an opportunity for students and community members to speak their mind about issues surrounding our campus. In an event that will be open to the public, the Student Government Association officers will be sitting on a panel to answer questions that will be submitted before and during the program.

WHAT:

"Town Hall" meeting starting at 8 p.m.

WHEN:

Monday, Oct. 20

WHERE:

Learning Resource Center, room 221

Scheduled Speakers Include:



Sondra Wilson
SGA President



Brandon McNary
SGA Executive Vice President and Speaker of the Senate



Nathan Haynes
SGA Election Commissioner



Jamie Boyd
SGA Vice President of Administration and Public Affairs

SPORTS

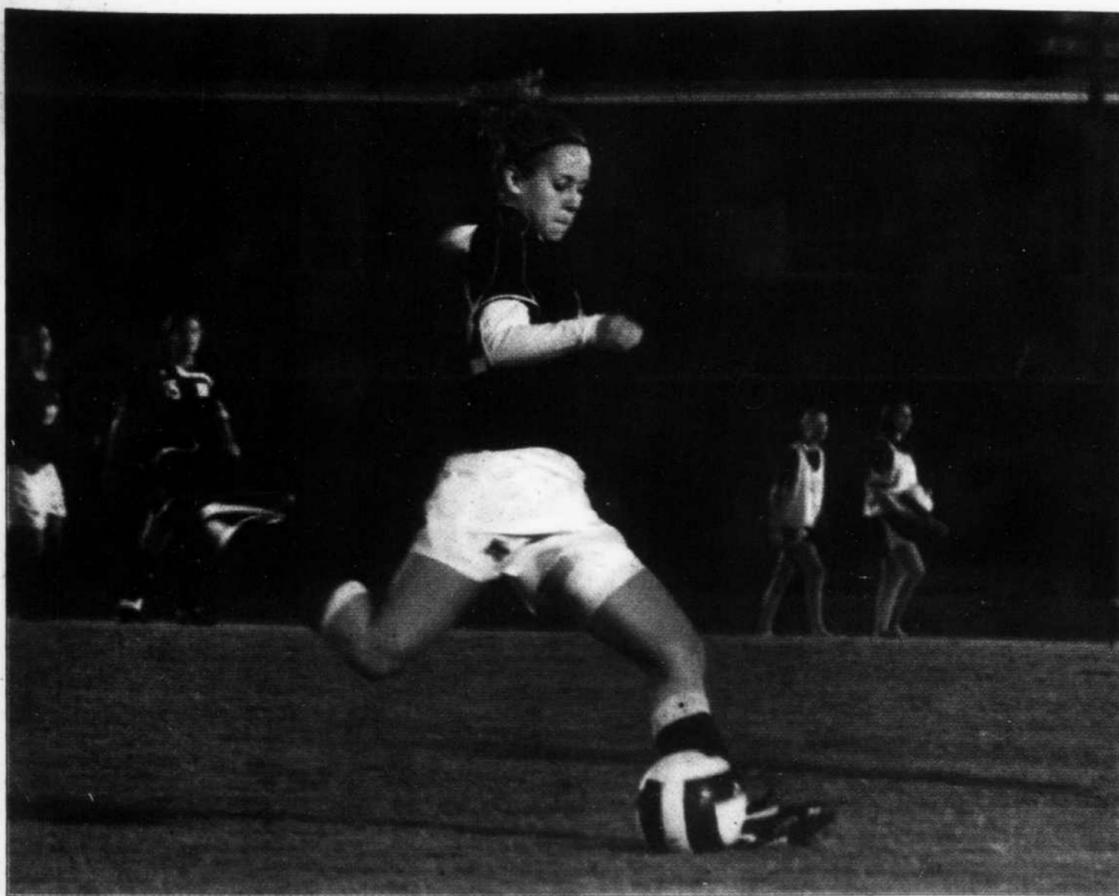


Photo by Jay Bailey, staff photographer

Following weekend wins over Troy and South Alabama, MT has won five in a row and six of its last seven games.

Soccer continues win streak, defeats South Alabama 4-0

By DAVID POWELL
MT Athletic Communications

Middle Tennessee scored two goals in each half and used suffocating defensive pressure to shut down the opposition as they extended their unbeaten start in the Sun Belt to four matches with a 4-0 shutout over the South Alabama Jaguars at Blue Raider Field Sunday afternoon.

The Blue Raiders were coming off a solid 2-0 victory over the Troy Trojans on Friday evening. Shan Jones and Vanessa Mueggler were on hand for a pair of second-half strikes as the home side outshot the Trojans 26-9, including holding a 14-4 advantage at the break.

South Alabama began conference play with two wins against Arkansas State and Arkansas-Little Rock last weekend, before falling 3-0 to Western Kentucky in Bowling Green, Ky. Friday night.

MT came out firing on all cylinders as they forced the Jaguars back with several attacking waves after the open-

ing kickoff. Freshman Jones almost gave the home side the advantage in the 11th minute, but shot just wide of the far post after finding herself all alone with Jaguar goalkeeper Kelsie Langford.

Forward Jen Threlkeld started things off for the Blue Raiders in the 25th minute. Mueggler served in a good in-swinging corner that found the junior at the back post. Threlkeld rose high in the air above two defenders to nod home her first goal of the season.

The goal scorer turned provider just five minutes later to double the MT advantage. The Carrollton, Texas native nailed a ball over the top of the Jaguar backline from well inside the Blue Raider half and into the path of Jones.

The speedy freshman took three touches and calmly finished to the far post for her team-leading eighth goal of the season. The Welsh forward has scored seven goals in MT's last nine matches.

"Our objective in the first half was denying the oppo-

sition early services, and we did a good job," Blue Raider Head Coach Aston Rhoden said. "We need to make sure we impose our style of play early in the match. We did just that, and it led to two good goals."

Mueggler made it 3-0 in favor of the home side in the 80th minute. Substitute Kim Farrant tracked down a ball on the far side and beat Jaguar defender Kasey Crowe to the end line before cutting back and delivering a perfect pass to Mueggler, who slotted home from seven yards.

Hope Suominen ounded out the scoring with her first career goal as a Blue Raider in the 82nd minute. The talented midfielder received a clever flick-on header by Farrant before sprinting clear of the South Alabama backline and coolly finishing to the far post.

"I was pleased with overall team effort. Everyone who came into match did a great job, and it was a good team win for us," Rhoden said. "We now have to look to-

wards two tough matches in Arkansas next weekend."

MT has now won five straight matches after winning just one of its first seven contests and sit atop the conference standings with Denver.

The defense has allowed just a single goal during the same span. Sophomore goalkeeper Kela Casiple picked up her 13th career shutout to move her into a tie with former Blue Raider Danielle Perreault for second all-time in school history.

"When you have 12 new players in any squad and have several playing a lot of minutes, then it is going to take some time," Rhoden said. "We have turned the corner and are starting to develop chemistry and rhythm on and off the field. It has paid off with some good results as of late."

The Blue Raiders return to action when they travel to Jonesboro, Ark. to take on Arkansas State on Friday afternoon. Kickoff is slated for 4 p.m.

Phillies power into NLCS with 6-2 win

By NANCY ARMOUR
AP National Writer

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The Philadelphia Phillies found plenty of power to go with their pitching, right in time for the NL championship series.

Pat Burrell broke out of his slump in a big way with two homers, one a three-run shot, and Jimmy Rollins and Jayson Werth added solo drives Sunday to lead the Phillies to a 6-2 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers that clinched their first trip to the NLCS since 1993.

Overshadowed by the offensive barrage was a gem by midseason addition Joe Blanton, who held the Brewers to one run after an eight-day layoff. Rollins got the Phillies started with a lead-off shot and Philadelphia won the best-of-five series three games to one, earning another crack at the Los Angeles Dodgers in the NLCS.

The teams have met for the NL pennant three times before. The Dodgers won in 1977 and '78, while the Phillies took the flag in 1983.

Game 1 is Thursday in Philadelphia. During the regular season, each team swept a four-game series from the other at home.

The wild-card Brewers, meanwhile, head for an off-season of uncertainty after their first playoff appearance in 26 years. Ace pitcher CC Sabathia, who almost singlehandedly salvaged Milwaukee's postseason hopes, is a free agent and isn't expected back. Ben Sheets, the team's second-best starter, might be gone, too.

Oh, and the Brewers need a manager after firing Ned Yost with 12 games left in the regular season. Dale Sveum took over on an interim basis.

Burrell, Chase Utley and Ryan Howard were a fearsome trio in the regular season for the Phillies, putting up the kind of numbers that make opposing pitchers shudder. Howard made a case for the NL MVP, leading the league in home runs (48) and RBIs (146), and Utley and Burrell added 33 homers each.

But their bats were deafeningly silent in the first three games of the series, even as Philadelphia jumped out to

a 2-0 lead. The three were a dismal 4-for-28 in the first three games, with Burrell going hitless. The power outage was reminiscent of last year, when they went 5-for-27 while being swept by Colorado.

This wasn't the same, Howard and Burrell insisted after Saturday night's loss. Philadelphia's offensive fortunes were about to turn.

Did they ever. Rollins led off Sunday's game with a homer, turning on a 3-2 pitch from Suppan and depositing it into the first row of seats in right field. Two innings later, Shane Victorino doubled to left with one out and went to third on a groundout by Utley. The Brewers opted to walk Howard, which wouldn't seem like a bad move, considering Burrell's single in the second was his first hit of the postseason.

But Burrell made the Brewers pay, lofting Suppan's 2-2 pitch so deep into the left-field stands that Ryan Braun barely bothered to chase it. He turned and started to jog toward the wall, but the ball was long gone by then. The Phillies weren't done, either, with Werth hitting a homer to make it 5-0. The sellout crowd at Miller Park booed Suppan, not letting up when Greg Dobbs flied out to end the inning.

It could have been even uglier for Milwaukee. The Phillies had runners at second and third with only one out in the second, but Suppan struck out Carlos Ruiz and Blanton.

Yovani Gallardo, who pitched Game 1 after missing most of the season with a knee injury, relieved Suppan and kept the Phillies in check, not allowing another hit until the seventh inning. But the damage was done by then.

Burrell hit another monster homer to left in the eighth inning off Guillermo Mota.

The Brewers had their own offensive worries, though Blanton can take credit for most of those. The burly right-hander, acquired in July from Oakland, hadn't pitched since Sept. 26 and was making only his second

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Volleyball earns second conference win, dominates FAU 3-0

By JESSICA STAUFFACHER
MT Athletic Communications

Middle Tennessee continued to turn things around on Saturday night as it dominated Florida Atlantic taking a 3-0 (25-14, 25-15, 26-24) win.

Senior Ashley Asberry set a new individual match high hitting percentage as she hit .824 with 15 kills and just one error.

As a team, Middle Tennessee (12-3, 2-1 Sun Belt) had 53 kills to FAU's 30 and posted a hitting percentage of .494.

"We served some very tough balls and got them out of their system," MT Head Coach Matt Peck said.

"We had 53 kills with just 10 errors and until the end when we had three or four errors in a row we were playing an outstanding match. I could see them relaxing at

the end of game three so I am disappointed with that but other than that we had a great match."

Adding assistance to the Blue Raiders offense, junior Ashley Mead had a team-high 16 kills. Sophomore Izabela Kozon notched 13 of her own with just one error for a .624 attack percentage.

Each team had just three blocks on the night in a match dominated by offense as no Blue Raider player hit below .300.

Junior Leslie Clark had 45 assists on the night and added depth to the defense with seven digs. Junior Ashley Waugh had six digs on the night as the team had 30 digs to FAU's 19.

"We were difficult to defend tonight and had everyone hitting at very high numbers," Peck said. "We hit .494 as a team which is great. We have had to very

good home matches against two really good teams and we need to continue this on the road next week."

The Blue Raiders began the match strong taking a 25-14 win in the first set. Middle Tennessee had 21 kills in the set with just two errors for a .613 hitting percentage.

In the second set, MT continued to dominate taking a 25-15 win.

At the end of two set, the Blue Raiders had 33 total kills with just five errors with an attack percentage of .509.

MT will hit the road for the next two weeks beginning with a trip to Arkansas.

The Blue Raiders will play Arkansas State on Friday, Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. before traveling to Little Rock, Ark., to face UALR on Sunday, Oct. 12 at 1 p.m.



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor

After defeating FAU and FIU this weekend, the Blue Raiders improved to 2-1 in the SBC.

Titans stump Ravens, improve to 5-0

By DAVID GINSBURG
AP SPORTS WRITER

BALTIMORE (AP) — Facing a rugged Baltimore Ravens defense that still conjures unpleasant memories, Kerry Collins trotted onto the field to mount an 80-yard touchdown drive to keep the Tennessee Titans unbeaten.

His first big play was to get hit in the helmet. Soon after that, Collins threw an 11-yard touchdown pass to Alge Crumpler with 1:56 left to rally Tennessee to a 13-10 victory Sunday.

The last time he started against the Ravens, Collins was thoroughly ineffective for the New York Giants in a 34-7 loss in the 2001 Super Bowl. This win didn't serve as revenge, but it sure helped ease the pain of that humbling setback.

"It's hard to forget that one. Obviously, it wasn't one

of my better days," Collins said. "Sure, I wanted to beat them, (but) I wanted to go 5-0 most of all."

The Titans trailed 10-6 in the fourth quarter before Collins engineered the pivotal 11-play scoring drive. The march was extended by a penalty against Baltimore's Terrell Suggs, who was flagged for a blow to Collins' helmet — although the hit appeared to be little more than incidental contact.

At least that's how Suggs saw it.

"If anybody can go back and show something I did illegal, then I would be happy to say I messed up and got what I deserved," he said. "We hit arms. It just goes to show the referee has too much power."

It was the last of several personal foul calls in a game marred by numerous skirmishes. Tennessee was penalized 10 times for 78 yards,

including a pair of 15-yard infractions that fueled both Baltimore's scoring drives.

The Ravens (2-2) were assessed 11 penalties for 91 yards in a matchup between two teams that once were, and seem to still be, bitter

against Tennessee, but play continued and Suggs' hit trumped the 5-yard penalty against the Titans.

"He got him on the side of the helmet," referee Bill Carroll said. "We're blowing the whistle, blowing the whistle."

“ Obviously, they're a tough defense. It wasn't always pretty today. It wasn't my best game, but at the end of the game we found a way to win.”

KERRY COLLINS
TITANS QUARTERBACK

rivals.

"We are the bad boys of football. They are always going to look at us like that," Suggs said. "From the way the game was going, I think the referee just probably wanted to feel important."

The third-and-10 play began with a false start call

He may not have heard that ... but he still can't hit the quarterback on the helmet."

Collins threw an incomplete pass on the play, but was provided with a new set of downs and coolly directed Tennessee into the end zone.

Frustrated by Baltimore's top-ranked defense for much

of the game, Collins finished 17-for-32 for 163 yards and two interceptions.

"Obviously, they're a tough defense. It wasn't always pretty today. It wasn't my best game," Collins said. "But at the end of the game we found a way to win."

After Tennessee went up 13-10, Baltimore rookie quarterback Joe Flacco was intercepted by Nick Harper, assuring the Ravens a second straight defeat.

Flacco, who went 18-for-27 for 153 yards and two interceptions, was 10 years old when Collins launched his NFL career in 1995.

"I like how, with 6 minutes left, Kerry came in and commanded the game," Tennessee linebacker Keith Bulluck said. "He showed his poise and his leadership qualities in that last drive when we scored. Being a 14-year vet, with all the things he's done, I don't care how much

talent a young quarterback has, they don't have that. They haven't played enough games."

The Ravens took a 10-3 lead with a 71-yard touchdown drive at the start of the second half. Flacco threw a 22-yard pass to Demetrius Williams and the Titans received two personal foul penalties before Le'Ron McClain scored from the 1. Tennessee also received a 15-yard penalty on the conversion.

It was the first points scored in the third quarter against the Titans this season.

Tennessee closed to 10-6 with 12:49 left when Rob Bironas kicked a 26-yard field goal to end a 13-play, 81-yard drive that featured three completions to Brandon Jones for 54 yards.

The Titans made only four first downs and 68 yards in a penalty-filled first half, which ended 3-3.

White Sox close playoff deficit to 2-1

By RICK GANO
AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Thanks to John Danks and the White Sox, Chicago still has one team standing.

Danks delivered another big game to save the season and well-traveled DeWayne Wise delivered a two-run double as the White Sox beat Tampa Bay 5-3 Sunday, trimming the Rays' lead in their AL playoff series to 2-1.

Game 4 in the best-of-five matchup is Monday in Chicago, with Gavin Floyd facing Tampa Bay's Andy Sonnanstine.

Less than 24 hours after the Cubs were swept out of the playoffs by the Dodgers, dashing Chicago's hopes for a crosstown World Series, the White Sox avoided elimination before a black-shirted, white towel-waving crowd of 40,142 in their home park.

"At least we play tomorrow," White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said. "Like I say, we played against the wall before and came out of it."

Danks, who beat Minnesota 1-0 last Tuesday in the tiebreaker for the AL Central title, shut down the Rays for 6 2-3 innings.

"I was more nervous going into the Minnesota game than this game," he said. "Guys try to approach it like a game in June. I think that helps take pressure off us."

The 23-year-old lefty gave up five hits and a run before B.J. Upton hit a long, two-run homer with two outs in the seventh that made it 5-3.

After a single by Carlos Pena, Octavio Dotel threw a third strike past Evan Longoria.

Bobby Jenks pitched the ninth, striking out Pena with a nasty curveball with a run on for his fifth postseason save. He had four in 2005, including two in the World Series victory over Houston.

ries victory over Houston.

The Rays are the second team in major league history — first in the AL — to make the postseason after having the worst record in the majors the previous season. Tampa Bay went from 96 losses to 97 victories and was trying to become the fifth team to sweep its first post-season series.

After the Rays won 6-4 and 6-2 at home, the White Sox were revived at U.S. Cellular Field, where they were 54-28 this season.

"It's a bad assumption to think you are going to come in and beat up on them," said manager Joe Maddon said. "They are very good here."

Matt Garza, pitching on eight days' rest, was popping his fastball in the mid-90s (mph) and trying to keep the homer-reliant White Sox off balance by changing speeds. The White Sox caught up with the 24-year-old righty in the fourth.

Jim Thome opened with double off the center-field fence, Paul Konerko walked and Ken Griffey Jr. hit a sharp single that loaded the bases.

Alexei Ramirez, who hit a record four grand slams as a rookie this season, hit a sacrifice fly to center for a 2-1 lead, and veterans Konerko and Griffey alertly moved up a base. Wise followed with a two-run, opposite-field double to left.

Wise, who hit a three-run homer in the opener at Tropicana Field, had been designated for assignment by Chicago on May 31. But the White Sox brought him back for the playoffs in June, and he's seen increased playing time since Carlos Quentin went down with a broken wrist Sept. 1.

Garza led six innings, allowing seven hits and five runs.

with a single, Phillies manager Charlie Manuel replaced Blanton with Ryan Madson.

Hardy advanced to third on two groundouts, but Madson retired Jason Kendall on a popout to end the threat.

The Brewers added another run in the eighth on Braun's two-out RBI single, and the Milwaukee fans — including the blue-collar truck driver in Miller ads who's made it his mission to "take back the High Life" — stood and began clapping their Thunder Stix, sensing a change in momentum.

But Utley made a gorgeous, leaping catch of Fielder's liner to second to end the inning.

Holt named to WNBA 2008 All-Rookie team

By GoBlueRaiders.com

Former Middle Tennessee All-American Amber Holt was recently honored by the WNBA by being named to its 2008 All-Rookie Team.

Holt, a first round draft choice of the Connecticut Sun, played and started all 34 regular season games. She averaged 6.5 points and 3.1 rebounds per game and had 11 double figure scoring games, including a high of 19 points against Detroit.

Holt joined Los Angeles Sparks forward Candace

Parker, the unanimous 2008 WNBA Rookie of the Year, Minnesota Lynx guard Candice Wiggins, Chicago Sky center Sylvia Fowles, Minnesota Lynx center Anosike, and Houston Comets guard Matee Ajavon. Ajavon and Holt tied for the fifth spot on the team and were both re-elected to selection.

The voting panel consisted of the WNBA's 14 head coaches, who were asked to select five players regardless of position. Coaches were not permitted to vote for players on their own team.



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, photography editor
Amber Holt (1), seen during her time spent with the Lady Raiders.

RAIDERS
Middle Tennessee State University

Bet on
Blue

<p>Thursday, October 23 FIGHT SONG Murphy Center 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Wednesday, November 5 HORSE SHOE COMPETITION Rec Center 4:30 pm</p>
<p>Monday, November 3 PAINT THE HALLS BLUE CASINO NIGHT JUB Tennessee Room 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Friday, November 7 CHILI COOK-OFF Murphy Center Lawn 5:00 pm</p>
<p>Tuesday, November 4 SWAP DAY @ THE KUC MTSU IDOL JUB Tennessee Room 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Saturday, November 8 HOMECOMING PARADE Middle Tennessee Blvd. 10:00 am</p>
	<p>RAIDER WALK Walnut Grove 12:30 pm</p>
	<p>MTSU v. UL - MONROE Floyd Stadium 2:30 pm</p>

Student Government Association Presents:
HOMECOMING 2008

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career postseason appearance. But he was in a groove from the minute he took the mound, thanks partly to Rollins' leadoff homer.

"From the first batter, it really set the tone. It allowed me to get comfortable," Blanton said.

After a first-inning single by Braun, Blanton retired his next 10 hitters, with only four balls leaving the infield. He finally wore out in the seventh, giving up a leadoff homer to Prince Fielder, who had been 0-for-12 in his first post-season. After J.J. Hardy followed