

# MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

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## Earth Science Week begins Events slated to explore environmental issues

By JORDAN BRIEN  
Staff Writer

The Cumberland River Basin flood of 2010 will be one of the main topics discussed during Earth Science Week, which begins tomorrow.

The weeklong event will also focus on how oil spills and urban development affects on the environment, according to an MTSU press release.

"The Earth Science [Week] talks provide students with a fantastic opportunity to learn more about planet Earth," Abolins said.

Since 1998, the American Geological Institute has sponsored Earth Science Week, a nationally recognized educational event held each October. This year's theme is "Exploring Energy."

Its objective is to engage students in discovering the Earth

sciences, encourage Earth stewardship through understanding of science, and motivate geoscientists to share their knowledge and enthusiasm about the Earth, according to the institute's website.

Bob Sneed, chief of the Water Management Section of the Nashville District, is scheduled to speak Thursday about the flooding that occurred in May, which ravaged much of Middle Tennessee. Sneed, who is a member of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will speak at 6 p.m. in Room 452 of the Kirksey Old Main building on campus, according to the press release.

The May floods took 21 lives, 10 of which were in Davidson County.

The National Weather Service reported that the equivalent of 420 billion gallons of water fell on the Middle Tennessee region in just two days. The heaviest rainfall was recorded in parts of Davidson, Williamson, Dickson, Hickman, Benton, Perry and Humphreys counties.

Most deaths, according to Sneed, happened on the tributary streams, not the actual Cumberland River, which is the responsibility of the Corps of Engineers.

Sneed's lecture will be followed by a catered barbecue dinner, free of charge, at 7:30 p.m., and it will be hosted by the MTSU Mineral, Gem and Fossil Museum, in Room 122 of Ezell Hall, according to the press release.

On Tuesday, Clay Harris, an associate professor of geosciences in the College of Liberal Arts, will discuss "BP's Crude Oil Disaster: Ancient Origins, Uncertain Future," from 4:20 until 5:15 p.m. in KOM Room 452, according to the press release.

Colleague Mark Abolins, an associate professor of geography and geology in the College of Liberal Arts, will examine "Urban growth near Mobile Bay, Alabama: The 'Other' Threat to the Gulf Coast Wetlands," according to the press release.

EARTH, PAGE 3

File photo

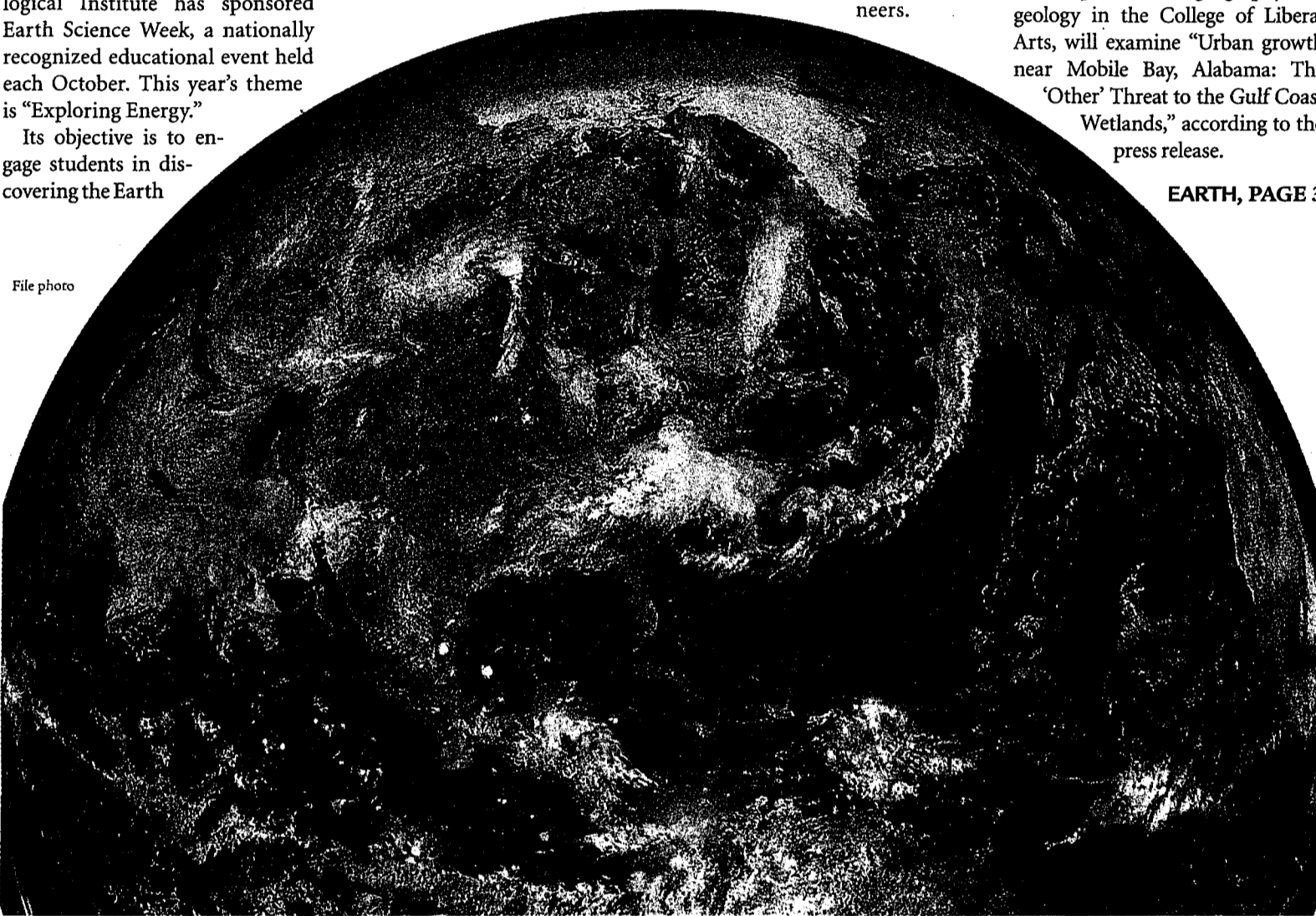


Photo by Holland Glover, staff photographer  
Ashley Lewanski, a member of MTSU Hoop Troop, taught members of the Murfreesboro community how to hula-hoop Sunday at Old Fort Park as part of an open event to get people involved with the organization, as well as give back to the community.

## Hoop Troop in full swing

By JOSHUA M. WARD  
Assistant News Editor

Hoop Troop celebrated World Hoop Day on Sunday at Old Fort Park with an afternoon of live music, face painting and hula hooping to raise money for needy children around the world.

"There are [more than] 365 cities celebrating this on this exact same day all over the world," said Courtney Johnson, a senior majoring in English, who serves

as president of Hoop Troop. "It raises money [to provide] children in impoverished and underdeveloped countries their own toy hoops."

Treasurer Robbie Sobieralski, a senior majoring in recording industry, said people of all ages and skill levels came out to hula-hoop and donate money to World Hoop Day.

**online** To read more, visit us online.  
[www.mtsusidelines.com](http://www.mtsusidelines.com)

## Fraternity calls for eco-friendly drive on campus

Alpha Tau Omega  
collects cell  
phones for charity

By AMANDA HAGGARD  
Staff Report

Alpha Tau Omega will be hosting a charity cell phone drive from now until the first week of November to encourage eco-friendly action in the community.

ATO member Austin Powell, a sophomore in the College of Mass Communication, said he believes it is time people start doing something about the environment.

"We came across the donation idea on a website," Powell said. "It said that one cell phone can pollute 35 thousand gallons of water."

The phones will be

donated through Phoneraiser, an online company that was founded in 2003 to provide environmentally responsible ways to raise funds for a wide variety of organizations, according to the organization's website.

Phoneraiser encourages organizations to donate used cell phones for profit, which are then shipped to the company so that it can recycle the used items. Ink cartridges will also be accepted for donation.

In each home at least two phones sit in junk drawers waiting to be trashed, according to the Phoneraiser website, while only 5 percent of used ink cartridges are recycled each year.

FRATERNITY, PAGE 2

## "QUOTE OF THE DAY"

"Following the light of the sun, we left the Old World."

Christopher Columbus

## Students outraged over parking tickets

By TODD BARNES  
Staff Writer

Forty students appealed parking tickets last week following the MTSU Black-out Game held Tuesday, according to the Student Government Association.

During an SGA meeting Thursday, senators discussed various problems associated with parking on campus during high-profile events, most notably football games, as well as other issues regarding transportation on university grounds.

SGA's Attorney General Caitlin Orman said Thursday that she has received several e-mails from outraged students who received parking tickets because they parked in areas not designated for parking, such as grassy areas and gravel outside of the boundaries of a parking lot.

"All of [the e-mails] complained about how MTSU only cares about football, and not their students," Orman said.

Numerous attempts were made to discuss the matter with Parking and Transportation Services officials, but no one from the department responded by print deadline.

It is unclear how many tickets were issued to students - meaning there could be more who received fines but did not appeal. However, of the 40 students who did appeal, the cost of those fines could range between an estimated \$800 and \$1,200, depending on the type of ticket issued.

A \$20 ticket is issued for being improperly parked or parked on grassy areas, while students who park in unassigned spaces during regular hours are fined \$25. Drivers who park on campus without a permit may receive a \$30 fine, according to the Traffic and Parking Regulations handbook.

However, after 6:30 p.m., parking lots designated for students and employees are "open for any permitted vehicle," according to the handbook.

In response to the numerous tickets written against students Tuesday night, Orman said there are SGA senators working on legislation to address the game day parking dilemma.

SGA, PAGE 2

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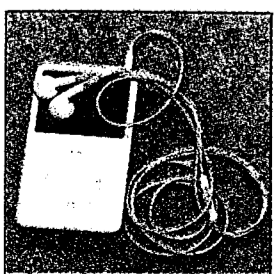


## Sports:

Check out the Blue Raider Spotlight on senior tennis player Kyle Wishing.

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IN TODAY'S ISSUE



What's on your iPod?

Check out what fellow students, faculty and staff are listening to this week.

ONLINE @  
MTSUSIDELINES.COM

## MONDAY FORECAST

SUNNY  
NO THREAT OF RAIN  
HIGH 88, LOW 54

# SGA, Homecoming Court winners announced

## FRESHMAN SENATE

- Everett Batten
- Katie Brantley
- Lauren Cassity
- Nathan Daniels
- Cedric Hunt
- Makeda Lewis
- Kaila Lipford
- Anit Patel
- Carl Payne
- Amber Robinson
- Preston Sorg
- Christopher Townsend

### STAFF REPORT

The names of the newly elected Student Government freshman senators and Homecoming Court nominees were announced Friday.

Thirteen new senators were elected last week: Everett Batten, Katie Brantley, Lauren Cassity, Nathan Daniels, Cedric Hunt, Makeda Lewis, Kaila Lipford, Anit Patel, Carl Payne, Amber Robinson, Preston Sorg and Christopher Townsend. All will begin representing the freshman student population beginning this week after they are sworn in as officers during Thursday's SGA meeting.

Of the Homecoming Court candidates, five men were nominated: Justin Hart, a senior in the College of Mass Communication; SGA President Brandon

Batts, Beau Sherrill and JaMichael Smith, all of who are seniors in the College of Behavioral and Health Sciences; and John Thomas, a junior in the College of Basic and Applied Science.

Five women were nominated to Homecoming Court: Ashley Brooks, a senior in the College of Behavioral and Health Sciences; SGA Sens. Brittany Holt and Nicole Gallardo, both of whom are juniors in the College of Business; and Hannah Davenport and Kate Gallivan, both of whom are seniors in the College of Mass Communication.

The Homecoming Court king and queen will be announced Oct. 23 at halftime during the MTSU and University of Louisiana—Monroe football game, which will be held at Floyd Stadium.

## QUEENS



Ashley Brooks



Brittany Holt



Nicole Gallardo



Hannah Davenport



Kate Gallivan

## KINGS



Brandon Batts



Justin Hart



JaMichael Smith



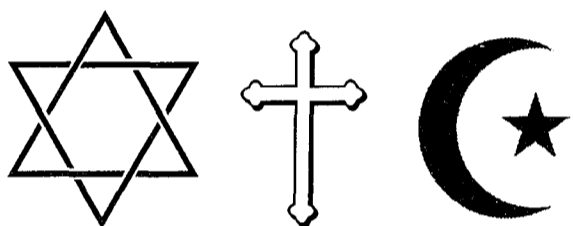
Beau Sherrill



John Thomas

## Pathways to Religious Freedom: Respecting & Promoting Religious Tolerance

### A Panel Forum



Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2010  
7:00 PM

Wright Music Hall  
MTSU

Co-sponsored by the Wesley Foundation, the Jewish Student Union & the Muslim Student Association

## Game day parking boasts more tickets

### SGA FROM PAGE 1

"That was awesome that I was able to tell these students, 'SGA is listening to them and doing something about it,'" Orman said.

Sen. Rachel Lee of the College of Liberal Arts is sponsoring Resolution 10-10-F. The resolution would give students the right to park in the grassy areas of the parking lot near the Vocational Agriculture building as a last resort on MTSU game days, whereas green parking spaces are taken by alumni and other guests.

There are questions with the SGA regarding how Parking and Transportation Services will regulate this, considering that if the parked car is not a safety hazard, or blocking other cars, then the officer is supposed to be "lenient."

Senators said that the term "lenient" needed to be defined more clearly. The resolution will be re-examined and then will be up for a senate vote next week.

In other transportation news, Sen. Gavin Mosley proposed Resolution 07-10-F that considers increasing the speed limit of Alumni Drive from 15 mph to 25 mph, and Sen. Sarah Hoover of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences said she had spoken with a few Department of Public Safety officers who were in support of raising the speed limit.

Mosley said that traffic is "few and far between" and increasing the speed limit would not be a safety hazard, especially if there are walkways to encourage travel for pedestrians and cyclists.

However, Sgt. Vergena Forbes of campus police said that she had

never heard of the idea of changing the speed limit but said she has some concerns regarding the proposed legislation.

Alumni Drive is within the boundaries of the university, and by changing the speed limit, it might induce confusion among students regarding what the speed limit is on the rest of campus, Forbes said.

"If we raise it in that area then people might think it's 25 [mph] on campus," Forbes said. "That's not what we need to do."

Forbes, as well as a few SGA senators, are concerned that some drivers exceed the speed limit by 5 to 10 mph and that raising the speed limit may give drivers the notion to do so, which will in turn create hazardous traveling conditions.

"My fear is, if we raised the speed limit, it would cause injury to a stu-

dent eventually," Forbes said. "It would be different if everyone uses the crosswalk, but not everybody does."

The senate will vote on the resolution next week.

In other business, the senate will be voting on resolutions regarding placing a ban on social-networking websites from the James E. Walker Library and computer lab located in the Business and Aerospace Building.

Other proposals that are up for consideration include one resolution that would involve changing the university's name from Middle Tennessee State University to the University of Middle Tennessee, and another that proposes creating a "Salute to Service Day" in honor of the U.S. military, which would be held every Nov. 10.

Marie Kempf, news editor, contributed to this report.

## Fraternity promotes environmentally friendly habits for community

### FRATERNITY FROM PAGE 1

Powell said donation bins would be set up in front of the entrance to the Keathley University Center Grill from Oct. 24 until Oct. 28. ATO will also have a bin set up in front of its house on Greek Row.

"ATO is a leadership fraternity," said David Herbert, sophomore in the College of Mass Communication, who is a member of ATO. "It's important to us that the community know that we care enough to give back."

Michael Filyaw, a sophomore in the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, said he thinks it's important for fraternities to branch out and engage the community with charity work.

"Fraternities often get a bad name," Filyaw said. "Events like this give the community a positive representation of Greek life."

Filyaw said that had ATO not initiated this drive, he might not have realized the amount of

damage cell phones do to the environment.

Powell said the fraternity would also conduct a door-to-door collection drive, asking people to donate any phones they aren't using.

"We've already got a laundry basket just from in-house donations," Powell said. "We hope to get better results by branching out on campus and from the door-to-door drive."

Amber Webb, a junior in the College of Behavioral and Health Sciences, said she thinks the door-to-door drive will be great because it brings the community to campus.

"It's always a good thing when everyone, not just MTSU students, can be involved in events like the phone drive," Webb said. "It proves to the community that we want them to be part of our education."

Powell said he hoped the whole community would want to be involved.

"Community service builds good character," Powell said. "It also brings the community together, and that's what's important."



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# Mosque controversy influences religious forum



File Photo  
Community members marched from Central Middle School to the Rutherford County Court House on July 14 in protest of the new Islamic Center of Murfreesboro. A forum Tuesday will address religious freedom and the controversy surrounding the construction of the mosque.

STAFF REPORT

A religious forum on "Pathways to Religious Freedom: Respecting and Promoting Religious Tolerance" will be held Tuesday night inside of the Wright Music Hall from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., according to an MTSU press release.

"Our hope for this event is for students and the general public to gain an understanding of our common religious life and the liberties we enjoy in our country to not only live out our beliefs, but also the freedom to engage each other in dialogue," said Rev. Bill Campbell of the United Methodist Campus Ministers Association, who serves as co-chair of the Wesley Foundation, in the press release.

**"Our hope for this event is for students and the general public to gain an understanding of our common religious life and liberties."**

**REV. BILL CAMPBELL**  
UNITED METHODIST CAMPUS MINISTERS ASSOCIATION

The forum, which is being held in response to the controversy surrounding the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro, is being co-sponsored by the Jewish Student Union, Muslim Student Association and the Wesley Foundation. The event is free and open to the public.

John Vile, dean of the Univer-

sity Honors College, will moderate the forum. Panel members will be Rev. David Lowes Watson of the West End United Methodist Church in Nashville, Rabbi Rami Shapiro, an adjunct professor in the department of religious studies, and Imam Ossama Bahloul of the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro.

"I am pleased to have been included in the planning of this much needed panel discussion," said William Levine, an assistant professor in the English department, in the press release. "I see it as a way of binding people from different generations and religious backgrounds in a shared dialogue that will help solidify our community."

## LOCAL EVENTS

### On Campus

**Events:**  
**2010 Grand Slam Fish Fry**  
Sponsored by the Baseball Club  
Oct. 11, 6 p.m.  
Tennessee Livestock Center  
Tickets: \$20

**StandUP/StandOUT Candlelight Vigil**  
Sponsored by MT Lambda  
Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m.  
Murphy Center Parking Lot  
FREE

**2010 Fall Career Fair**  
Sponsored by the Career Development Center  
Oct. 13, 10 a.m.  
Murphy Center  
FREE

**Concerts:**  
**Chamber Winds & Brass Ensemble**  
Presented by the School of Music

Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Hinton Music Hall  
FREE

**Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band**  
Presented by the School of Music  
Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m.  
Hinton Music Hall  
FREE

**Lecture:**  
**"MTSU & China: Our Past, Present & Potential"**  
Presented by Diane Miller  
Oct. 11, 3 p.m.  
University Honors College, Room 106  
FREE

**Student Life:**  
**"Twilight"**  
Sponsored by Student Programming  
Oct. 14, 10 p.m.  
Keathley University Center  
Theatre

Tickets: \$2

**Videogame Night**  
Sponsored by Student Programming  
Oct. 15, 4 p.m.

Keathley University Center, 2nd Floor  
FREE

**Karaoke Night**  
Sponsored by Student Programming  
Oct. 17, 10 p.m.

Cyber Cafe  
FREE

#### Events Policy

*Sidelines* welcomes current campus and community events submitted by all readers. Please e-mail events to [sicampus@mtsu.edu](mailto:sicampus@mtsu.edu) or [snews@mtsu.edu](mailto:snews@mtsu.edu), and include the name, date, time and location of the event, as well as your name and a phone number for verification. We reserve the right to refuse events at our discretion as our space is limited.

*Sidelines* is the editorially independent, nonprofit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. *Sidelines* publishes Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and online during June and July. The events listed are not necessarily associated with *Sidelines* or MTSU.

## Students to learn about environment

### EARTH FROM PAGE 1

Abolins' lecture is slated to begin at 3:30 p.m. and will last until 4:15 p.m. on Wednesday in KOM Room 452, and he will discuss ongoing undergraduate remote sensing and field research, funded in large part by the National Aeronautics and Space Agency.

Charles White, a senior majoring in anthropology, is a member of the student-led group Students for Environmental Action. He said SEA will host the Mountain-top Removal Show from 4:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, which will be located in Room S128 of the Business and Aerospace Building.

White said the presentation includes a 20-minute slideshow featuring the impacts of mountain-top removal on coalfield

residents, communities and the environment, and it will highlight traditional Appalachian Mountain music and aerial photos of decapitated Appalachian Mountains.

White said SEA and Young Americans for Liberty, a libertarian student-led organization, are co-presenting Beehive Design Collective's "The True Cost of Coal" in the State Farm Room inside of the BAS on Oct. 21 from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m.

The Beehive Collective is a collective graphics workshop that creates political posters, graphics and mosaics designed to bring attention to many issues around the world.

Abolins said a Tennessee Space Grant will also be given away this semester, which will be divided into five \$2,745 fellowships that will be

awarded to students who will spend much of the next few months working on environmentally related projects.

The fellowships are awarded by the MTSU Space Grant Faculty. Abolins said the winners will work 250 hours during the fall semester, winter break and the first month of the spring semester. Part of this work will be spent on the Gulf Coast for up to a week during winter break.

Students who are chosen will use satellite images, aerial photos and digital maps to better understand the changing environment of the Gulf Coast, and they will travel to the Gulf of Mexico to collect field observations. The top applicant will have the opportunity to travel to San Francisco, Calif., to attend the American Geophysical Union meeting in December.

## CRIME BRIEFS

### Vandalism

Oct. 4, 9:01 a.m.

Greek Row

A complainant reported that a window had been broken at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house.

### Theft

Oct. 4, 12:45 p.m.

Peck Hall

A complainant reported that a computer had been stolen from the history department.

### Traffic

Oct. 4, 1:09 p.m.

McFarland Health Services parking lot

A complainant reported that had his car had been struck while parked.

### Assault

Oct. 4, 2:28 p.m.

Rutledge Hall

A warrant was obtained by a complainant who reported being assaulted.

### Alarm

Oct. 4, 9 p.m.

Boutwell Dramatic Arts

A fire alarm was reportedly activated by a fog machine. The Murfreesboro Fire Department checked the building and did not find any other problem.

### Alarm

Oct. 5, 12:37 a.m.

Keathley University Center

A faulty microwave oven reportedly activated a smoke alarm on the 3rd floor of the KUC. The Murfreesboro Fire Department cleared the building, though no fire was present.

### Vandalism

Oct. 5, 12:47 a.m.

Friendship Street

A complainant reported that her car had been vandalized while parked in the parking lot on Friendship Street near Beasley Hall.

### Vagrancy

Oct. 5, 4:37 a.m.

Murphy Center Complex

A subject was issued a criminal trespass warning.

### Theft

Oct. 5, 10:05 a.m.

Keathley University Center

A complainant reported that his backpack had been stolen.

### Theft

Oct. 5, 11:17 a.m.

Alumni Drive

David Fiskel, 25, was cited for possession of a stolen license plate.

### Traffic

Oct. 5, 11:23 a.m.

Rutherford Boulevard

Samuel L. Smith, 23, was issued a state citation for a registration violation, a light law violation, and financial responsibility.

### Harassment

Oct. 5, 2:19 p.m.

MTSU Department of Public Safety  
A complainant reported being harassed online by another student.

### Alcohol

Oct. 5, 6:38 p.m.

Corlew Hall

Michael Arnold, 19, was arrested for underage consumption of alcohol.

### Assault

Oct. 5, 6:55 p.m.

Floyd Stadium

A complainant reported that she was being threatened by her son's father. No physical assault was reported, but the suspect was ejected from the stadium. No charges were filed at the time of the complaint.

### Alcohol

Oct. 5, 8:25 p.m.

Jim Cummings Hall

A complainant reported that a woman was sick in the women's restroom on Floor 3 of Cummings Hall. The woman was transported to Middle Tennessee Medical Center for further evaluation, and was referred to Judicial Affairs for underage consumption of alcohol.

### Burglary

Oct. 5, 8:30 p.m.

Murphy Center

Several items were stolen from the cheerleader's locker room at the Murphy Center. Multiple juvenile suspects were identified and questioned about the complaint on Oct. 7. Petitions are to be taken out against the suspects. Some of the stolen items were recovered.

### Burglary

Oct. 5, 8:30 p.m.

Murphy Center

A complainant reported that an unidentified male entered the women's basketball locker room and fled when he was seen.

### Disorderly Conduct

Oct. 5, 8:36 p.m.

Johnny "Red" Floyd Stadium

Robert S. Perryman, 21, and Iain Donham, 23, were arrested for disorderly conduct. Jason A. Grass, 22, was charged with disorderly conduct.

### Assault

Oct. 5, 9:21 p.m.

Old Main Circle

An altercation was reported in front of the James Union Building, where a motorcycle had been knocked over. An officer spoke to two of the parties involved, and both declined to press charges at the time of the complaint.

### Burglary

Oct. 5, 9:33 p.m.

Murphy Center

A complainant reported that property had been stolen from the dance studio.

### Theft

Peck Hall

An officer reported that he observed an individual carrying a banner that had been posted near Peck Hall. The officer spoke with the student and issued a dean citation for attempted theft.

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# FEATURES

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BASED ON VOTES FROM MTSUSIDELINES.COM.

## Cotton replaced by bamboo

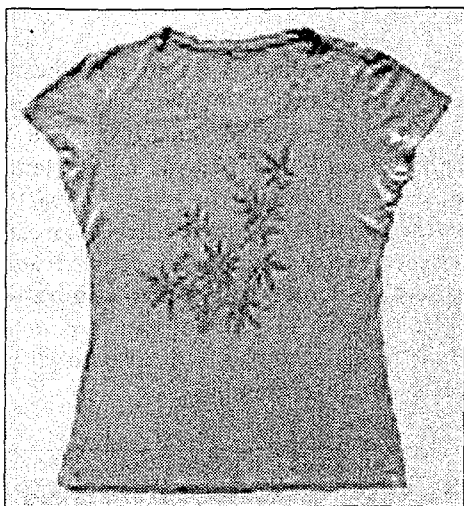


Photo courtesy of Bamboo U

By NATALY MORALES  
Contributing Writer

Move over cotton, silk and cashmere, a new feel-good fabric is in town – bamboo.

With the help of Scarlett Begonia, a fair-trade shop in Nashville, Bamboo U is bringing environmentally friendly T-shirts made out of bamboo cotton and water-based inks to Middle Tennessee.

For those who prefer a neutral-colored wardrobe, there is a selection of earthy tones, like black and brown. Those who want a little pop of color in their environmentally conscious closet can choose between a bright green or hot pink selection. Prices range from \$19 to \$30.

As of right now, Bamboo U only produces T-shirts, but founder Jeff Fulmer said he hopes to incorporate yoga pants, hoodies and

men's T-shirts in future designs.

Scarlett Begonia owner Jack Elias said he decided to sell Bamboo U because he believes in the importance of using bamboo as a textile and enjoys wearing it himself.

"[It] breathes well," Elias explained. "There's so much bamboo in the world – it needs to be used more often."

Elias often receives praise from new and returning customers who purchase Fulmer's T-shirts and says they sell well.

"Everyone who buys them loves them," Elias gushed. "People like that they are fair-trade items too; that's very important."

Although Scarlett Begonia is the only location that sells Bamboo U in Middle Tennessee, the T-shirts can also be purchased on the company's website.

So, why choose bamboo? According to the Greenzer website, an online green-shopping

search engine, unlike other eco-friendly fabrics, such as organic cotton, bamboo is 100 percent natural. No pesticides or fertilizers are used to grow the bamboo.

Other benefits to bamboo clothing are that it stays cool in the heat and warm in the cold – better than most other fabrics. In addition, a sheen wicks away moisture, so it is beneficial for exercising. A natural anti-bacterial agent has also been found in bamboo that eliminates odor that can sometimes build up in clothing.

Fulmer said he also enjoys wearing the shirts because of their comfort. For Fulmer, bamboo's minimal carbon footprint and his straightforward opinions on going green set the precedent for starting his company.

"We don't sell enough T-shirts to fundamentally scale back global warming," he chuckled, "but I think [the T-shirts] make

people, and particularly college students, a little more aware of everyday things that add up and make a difference."

Fulmer said that simply being conscious of what you wear everyday is a step in the right direction toward being environmentally conscious, and that he set out for Bamboo U to be more of an educational process than a plan to change commerce overnight.

"One T-shirt may not change the world," he conceded. "but I think, in time, people will really accept that we need to do things differently."

Fulmer may not be as big as Al Gore, and Bamboo U may not be gracing the runways of Paris Fashion Week, but the bigger message of being eco-friendly by making greener decisions in the clothes people wear is spreading in Middle Tennessee.



Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor

Members of the Middle Tennesseans for Religious Freedom advocacy group held a peace vigil Aug. 30 outside of the Rutherford County Courthouse to show support for the Muslim community.

## Building a place to pray in Murfreesboro

Professor, planning committee member discusses problems with rebuilding the center

By JESSICA PACE  
Staff Writer

It's hard to see what's coming. That's why on the morning of Aug. 28, when Saleh Sbenaty went to the construction site for Murfreesboro's new Islamic Center on Veals Road, he

was nearly moved to tears.

Sbenaty allegedly heard gunshots at the Mosque construction site in August, when the controversy hit fever pitch. Now, he revisits a time when he initially realized the disagreements were more than a mere zoning issue.

The construction equipment destroyed by a recent arson was an obvious setback, and the sight of it was an utter shock to the MTSU engineering professor. Since the site was purchased, the organization had received overwhelming community support and donations for the new center's construction.

Almost a decade has elapsed since 9/11, with another anniversary just passed, and Sbenaty admits the local organization had expected that event to set off a wave of opposition. Immediately after the incident, however, the Islamic Center received a wave

of support and continued to function peacefully as usual.

Why the sudden opposition to the center's relocation is a difficult question to answer, but Sbenaty dares to speculate.

He describes Muslims as a peaceful people who love the United States, and yet some non-Muslims are intent on building visions of violence and terror around the religion and its people.

What will help the misinformed to understand? Sbenaty has a simple answer: more knowledge.

Sbenaty has loved the United States since he was a child. As a 12-year-old born and raised in Damascus, Syria, he recalls the strained relationship between his country and the U.S. at the time, but he took pride in wearing a T-shirt sporting the Statue of Liberty. He earned his bachelor's degree in 1980 at Damascus University, and as a top graduating student in the mechanical engineering department, he had the option of studying abroad.

London and France were common destinations, but he preferred to study alone and come to America. Despite both parents' protests, he came to the U.S. – settling in Cookeville, Tenn., because he had a friend who lived there. He mastered English after five months spent in the English Lan-

guage Institute at Tennessee Technological University and completed his master's degree there in 1985.

He earned his doctorate in 1991 at the same university. Facing a dubious job market and limited options without citizenship, he began applying to universities. When MTSU had an opening in the physics department, he began work as a temporary employee in January 1993, though a career in education was never what he'd imagined.

"I thought of myself as a researcher, not a teacher, but I loved the environment, so I decided to stay," Sbenaty says.

Soon after, Tennessee became something much more for Sbenaty: a place he considered home.

The roots of Murfreesboro's Islamic Center are about as old as Sbenaty's. The Muslim community began praying in a one-bedroom apartment 30 years ago, he says, and as the community grew, they moved to a two-bedroom apartment, continuing to relocate in such a manner until they purchased a business suite at the center's current location at 862 Middle Tennessee Blvd.

This proved to be unaccommodating as well, when the community looked to celebrate the end of Ramadan and a lack of space forced Muslims to pray out-

side on the concrete. Thus, the new site was purchased in November.

In January 2010, the sign stating what was to be built on the site was defaced with the statement "Not welcome," but the sign was replaced free of charge, and as Sbenaty explains, "We did not think much of it."

On the planning committee, Sbenaty works closely with the architect to ensure the center becomes what the Muslim community envisions. Apart from a mosque, the 52,000-square-foot area will hold a gym, school, pool, tennis and basketball courts, areas for social gatherings that will seat from 300 to 500 people, and an outdoor walkway with a fountain where non-Muslims are welcome to visit and enjoy the scenery.

Phase one will include a gathering and dining room that will seat 300, a small library and offices for board members. The community donated \$1 million over the course of six months for phase one's construction, more than 95 percent of which came from Murfreesboro's Muslim community who worship at the center.

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# SPORTS

## Program promotes athletic sportsmanship

By KYLE MCCORMICK  
Staff Writer

A new program created to assess perceptions and behaviors of both athletes and coaches is evaluating sportsmanship at MTSU

and other schools in the Sun Belt Conference.

The Real Sportsmanship initiative was designed by Colby Jubenville, a professor of sport management and director of the Center for Sport Policy Research

at MTSU.

The program places coaches and student athletes in real-life scenarios to test their value systems and response mechanisms. In addition, it advises how to handle and avoid nega-

tive situations.

Jubenville, who has experience as a former NCAA Division III football player and a former NAIA coach, supports the study's chief finding that the role of the coach plays a large role in teams'

levels of sportsmanship.

"The role of the coach is the biggest factor in how sportsmanship is valued in coaches and athletes," Jubenville said.

A news release about the program quoted Jubenville

asking the question, "How many times have we seen coaches go off on officials and then turn around and get mad at their players when they go off on the official?"

SPORTSMAN, PAGE 6

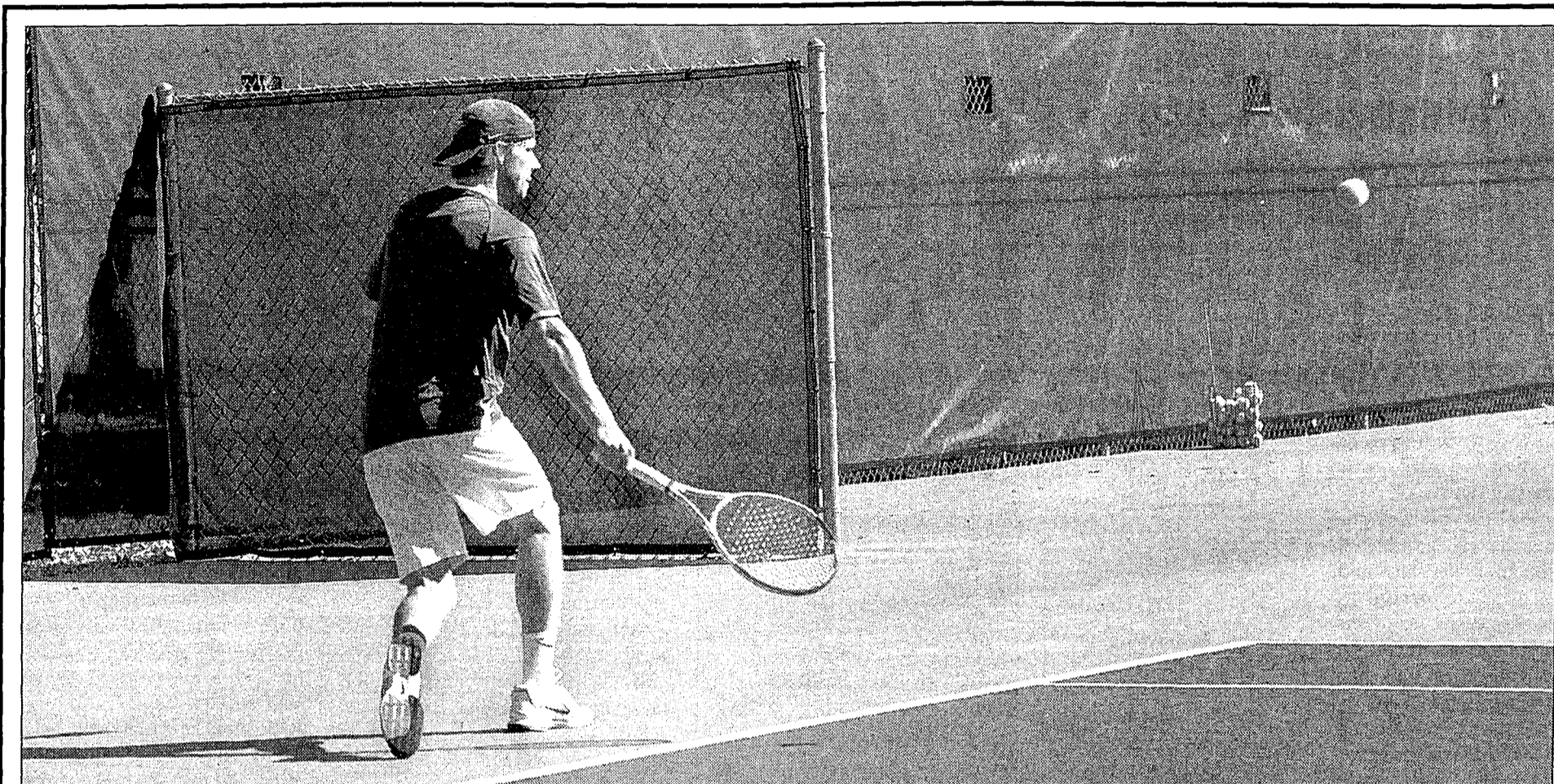


Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor

Kyle Wishing practices volleying Saturday afternoon at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center. Wishing, a senior finance major, has been playing tennis since he was six years old.

## No 'Wishing' for star player

### Murfreesboro native fulfills dream of playing at MTSU

By WILL TRUSHER  
Sports Editor

The rewards of hard work and dedication are incomparable to those who choose to devote themselves to a craft.

For senior tennis player Kyle Wishing, the payoff for years and years of practice has been especially meaningful. The Murfreesboro native achieved his lifelong dream when he received a scholarship to play for his hometown university.

While Wishing enjoyed brief stints with some of the more glamorous American sports, such as soccer, baseball and basketball, his love for tennis and the satisfaction he found in competing as an individual led his devotion to the blacktops.

Wishing shares the rare distinction of being one of very the few local athletes who have the opportunity to represent the Blue Raiders athletically; however, this

season he has the even more unique experience of not only being the only player from Murfreesboro, but also being the only American on the MT tennis team.

The senior enjoys the dynamic and hopes the chemistry will propel the team to another Sun Belt Conference championship.

Wishing took some time out of the team's fall competition schedule to speak with *Sidelines* about his experience in the blue and white and how preparation is going for the official spring season.

**SL:** How do you feel about where the team is at this point in the year?

**KW:** Well, we're a pretty young team this year, and we only have four guys, but we're doing pretty well. Since it's the fall, we're basically just working hard to get where we want to be for the spring.

**SL:** What are your goals for the rest of the season?

**KW:** Our biggest goal is to win the Sun Belt Conference. We want to play in the NCAA's, but always number one is to win the conference. Individually, I'd like to be ranked in doubles. We were last year, but I'd like to get back again.

**SL:** How does it feel knowing this is your last season with the team?

**KW:** It's a lot different. I'm trying to savor everything, knowing I'm not going to be playing competitive tennis after this year. It's really flown by though.

**SL:** How has your experience been playing for MTSU, and being that you are from Murfreesboro?

**KW:** I had always wanted to play tennis here, so it's been great. Just having support from the people here in Murfreesboro, I've had several ups and downs in my career, but their support has been a big help.

## BLUE RAIDER SPOTLIGHT



KYLE WISHING

**Class:** Senior **Major:** Finance  
**Hometown:** Murfreesboro, Tenn.  
**Role Model:** Roger Federer  
**Favorite Movie:** "Inception"  
**Favorite Band/Singer:** Led Zeppelin  
**Favorite Food:** "Anything my mom cooks"  
**Pre-Game Rituals:** "Saying a prayer"

SPOTLIGHT, PAGE 6

## Tanner named semifinalist for Campbell trophy

By ALEX HUBBARD  
Staff Writer

Redshirt senior running back Phillip Tanner saw his athletic and academic accomplishments come together when he was named as a semifinalist for the William V. Campbell Trophy, which recognizes a player for his leadership traits combined with athletic and academic abilities.

Eligible players are nominated by their teams and must be a senior or in graduate school, hold a GPA of at least 3.2, and contribute as a starting player, or at

a significant level on the football field.

Tanner has indeed asserted himself this football season as the starting running back for the Blue Raiders. He has played in all five games, rushed for 324 yards, averaged nearly six yards per carry, and scored five touchdowns.

In the classroom, Tanner's talents are equally on display. The Dallas native earned his degree in liberal studies last May and is now sporting a 3.5 grade point average, as he works toward a master's degree in sports management.

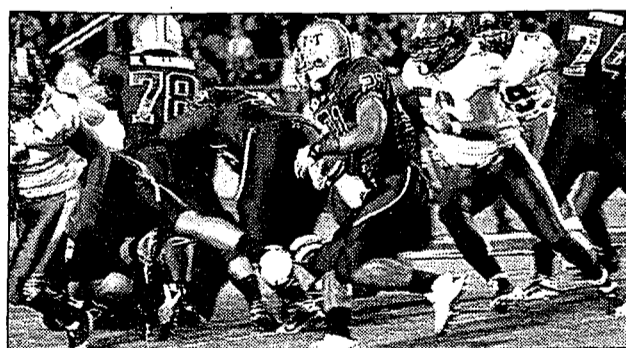


Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor

Phillip Tanner attempts to cut through the Trojan defense.

Tanner, who redshirted last season after an injury, was nominated for the same award last year.

Though he recognizes the achievement, Tanner keeps the recognition

in prospective.

"I don't know if you ever expect to be on any list like this," Tanner said. "Making it for a second straight year is definitely humbling."

The semifinalists, one

from each of the 121 football-bowl-subdivision schools, were announced by the National Football Foundation. The NFF's awards committee will now name up to 15 finalists, who will all receive an \$18,000 scholarship for graduate studies, on Oct. 28. The winner will receive a bronze trophy, an increased scholarship of \$25,000 and recognition at the NFF's annual awards dinner in December.

Tanner finds himself in good company with a host of well-known names in college football, which include Alabama's Greg McElroy, Flor-

ida State's Christian Ponder, Tennessee's Daniel Lincoln and Minnesota's Adam Weber. He takes it all in stride, pointing not to himself, but to all student athletes, as well as, the support offered to the athletic community at MT.

"We all work extremely hard, but we also have a great support system at Middle Tennessee," Tanner said. "All student-athletes aspire to perform equally as well both on and off the field, and it takes a lot of determination, but ultimately we are here to earn a degree and hopefully go out and make a difference in the community."

## GAME PLAN

**Intramural Flag Football**  
Registration: Oct. 12  
\$55 per team

**Blue Ridge Backpacking Trip**  
Registration: Oct. 13  
\$45 per student

**Palatial Concert Series**  
Oct. 14 @ 4 p.m.  
Campus Recreation Lawn

**Women's Soccer**  
vs Louisiana  
Oct. 15 @ 7 p.m.  
Dean A. Hayees Track and Soccer Stadium

**Football**  
vs. Georgia Tech  
Oct. 16 @ 2:30 p.m.  
ESPN3.com to see live stream

**Football**  
vs. Louisiana-Monroe  
Oct. 23 @ 3:30 p.m.  
ESPN3.com to see live stream

**Pilates for PINK Day**  
Oct. 24 @ 2:30 p.m.  
Registration opened Oct. 7  
Pilates, Zumba, Butts and Guts, and Striptease classes offered.  
\$5 per class/\$15 for all four

## Events Policy

*Sidelines* welcomes current campus and community events submitted by all readers. Please e-mail events to [sisports@mtsu.edu](mailto:sisports@mtsu.edu), and include the name, date, time and location of the event, as well as your name and a phone number for verification. We reserve the right to refuse events at our discretion as our space is limited.

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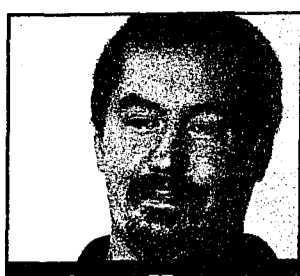
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online

# ESPN provides students experience during Blackout

While the Blue Raider football team had its difficulties during Tuesday's Blackout Game against Troy, several other MTSU students were on the field for a different purpose. Nine students, myself included, were hired for temporary utility work to aid ESPN in broadcasting the game.

We spent a maximum of 20 hours Monday and Tuesday, in-and-around Floyd Stadium, performing tasks like stringing cable, hauling cameras and holding parabolic microphones. During the game, part of my task was to walk ahead of the



**Scott Henry**  
**Overtime**

large cart carrying the sideline camera, making sure no one was run over.

Except for making the Troy marching band highly nervous just before halftime, the evening passed without incident.

The experience started at 8 a.m. on Monday and didn't end until almost 1 a.m. on Wednesday morning. Between placing the equipment and tearing it down, one thing that stands out is the sheer scope of what is required to put a game on national TV.

Operations Assistant Eddie Stachulski, who was in charge of hiring and managing the student utilities, said that reaction is typical.

"Students are usually very overwhelmed with the scale of the events and equipment ESPN uses," Stachulski said. "But, with

a little background knowledge it's somewhat easy to break down all the components of the production trucks and crew into comprehensible items."

This kind of operation seems big enough at MTSU, but as I noted on the radio last Thursday, it lends a new perspective on what it takes to broadcast a game from the gridiron meccas in Tuscaloosa, Ann Arbor or South Bend.

After seeing miles of cable come pouring out of the production trucks to set up signals from a 32,000-seat bandbox like Floyd Stadium,

it's difficult to conceive the mountain of equipment that would be required at a 100,000-seat stadium.

Both Stachulski and Operations Producer Devon Elstun, who was in charge of the Tuesday night production, started as student utilities, giving them some credence when they speak on the benefits to students who take some time out to help with these events.

Networking opportunities and hands-on experience are the primary goals here, the kinds of experiences that no professor or textbook can offer. People who claim that

they have aspirations in sports broadcasting did themselves a disservice if they didn't make an attempt to get themselves one of these positions.

The late night after the game Tuesday notwithstanding, there wasn't much downside to my two days of work for the "worldwide leader in sports."

Well, there wasn't much downside for me, personally. That 42-13 situation? That's a whole other story.

*Check out Scott's radio show "4 Quarters" every Thursday morning at 10 a.m. on WMTS 88.3 FM or at wmts.org.*

## New initiative helps players

### SPORTSMAN FROM PAGE 5

In total, 3,476 student-athletes and 478 coaches of the Sun Belt Conference are committed to the program over a five-year period. The program is currently in its second year, and the results from the first year's tests have revealed some important statistics.

One of the study's findings is that college athletes' ability to understand and implement sportsmanship decreases as their year in school increases. Jubenville calls this the Sportsmanship Paradox.

"We start to see the end and lose focus on the game, and think about 'what's the next step [in life]?" Jubenville said, concerning the reason behind the Sportsmanship Paradox.

Fletcher Burkhardt, 23, a senior majoring in political science, plays rugby for MTSU. He said some players view demonstrations of poor sportsmanship on the field as part of the game.

"After the game, you're just friends, but out there, it's a battlefield," Burkhardt said. "We talk pretty badly to each other on the field, but it's just intimidation."

Jubenville said his program is the first sportsmanship initiative to use an online system to provide feedback. Real Sportsmanship is only being used in the Sun Belt Conference right now, but Jubenville believes the program could be successful at a national level.

"Sports have always had a huge impact on me," Jubenville said. "This is something I can do to impact other coaches and athletes."



Photo by Jay Bailey, photo editor  
Kyle Wishing is thinking about attending grad school for an M.B.A.

## Wishing prepares for Sun Belt Conference

### SPOTLIGHT FROM PAGE 5

SL: What's it been like being the only American on the roster?

KW: It's really been a great experience. I've had teammates from Brazil, Australia, France, England and South Africa. From a team aspect, everyone brings a different culture and different expectations. We've all come together and gelled. It's been a really good experience.

SL: What is your most memorable moment as a Blue Raider?

KW: When we won conference my sophomore year, beating Denver in the semifinals was really big. Tennis is very much an individual sport, but to win a team event, when everyone comes together

feels so good. Our hard work paid off, and we ended up getting some rings.

SL: What is the biggest challenge of being a student-athlete?

KW: It's definitely just balancing your schedule. Everyone else gets to go out all the time. Sometimes it's tough to fit in when you're always doing schoolwork or tennis or you're on the road.

SL: What do you enjoy doing when you're not playing tennis?

KW: Well right now I'm trying to learn to play guitar [laughs].

SL: What are your plans after you graduate?

KW: I'm keeping my options open. I might go to grad school and get my M.B.A., and I'd really like to go to England and study. I'm not going to try out the pro circuit, but I'm sure I'll still be out on the courts messing around.

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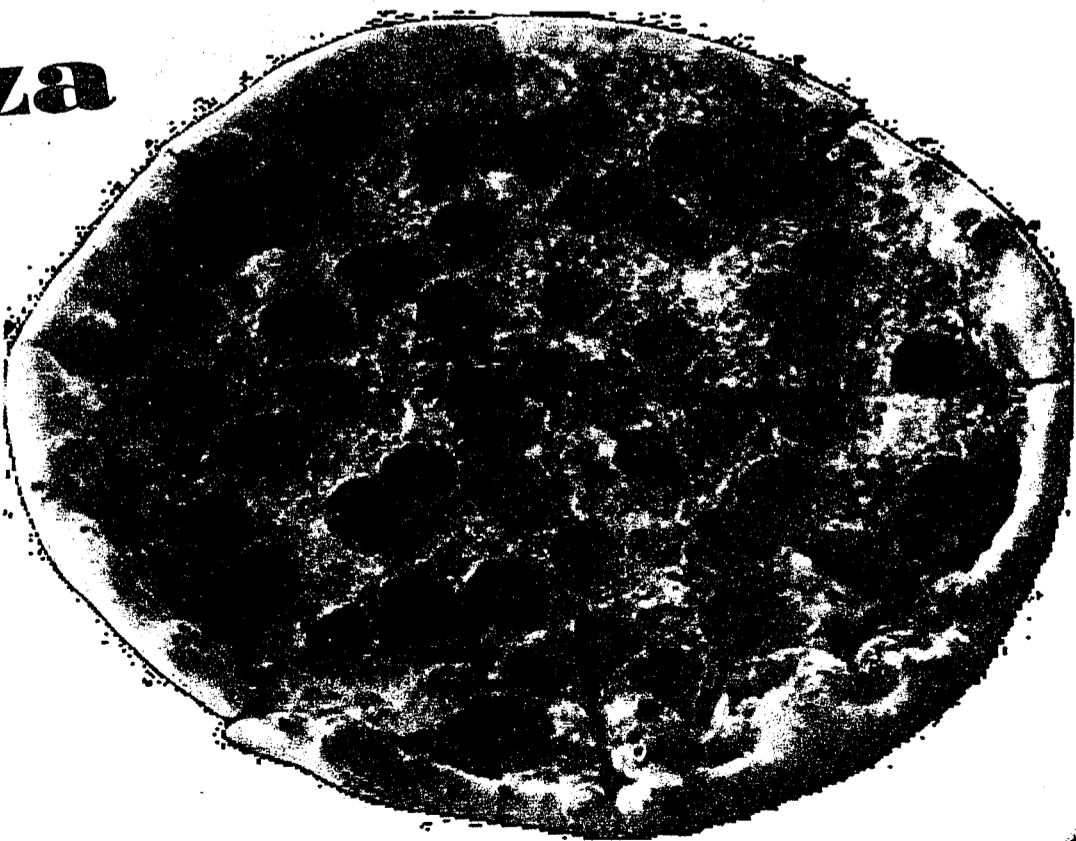
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# OPINIONS

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## The skinny on women in society

In the 1990s, the pop group Aqua released the song "Barbie Girl," which includes the lyrics, "I'm a Barbie girl in a Barbie world." Barbie is perfect – tall, long haired, with a beautiful smile and thin. She isn't curvy, and she has no cellulite or freckles.

Being visual creatures, we live in a society in which personal image is important and greatly judged. It is easy to believe the hype that is seen on TV. More often than not, there aren't too many shows that cater to the more voluptuous audience members, unless it is about weight loss. There are shows like "Dance You're a\*\* Off," "Biggest Loser," "One Big Happy Family" and "Too Fat for 15."

When did it become a crime to be different from everyone else?

Watching TV and the perceptions that are given, a woman may begin to feel ashamed about her body. Skinny people are always portrayed. Thin is in, or so it seems.

"Drop Dead Diva" and "Ugly Betty," which was canceled in April and is now syndicated on TV Guide, are among the few shows that catered to the curvy audience.

Some women find empowerment through their appearance. If they are not seeing more women like themselves represented, they may have reason to believe they are in fact flawed. There is an idealized beauty with quick-fix remedies that are often unnecessary and extreme.

Jeremy Nance, 20, a sophomore majoring in recording industry management, says, "The way the media portray the perfect body" is the reason Americans are so obsessed with extra skin.

"Subconsciously, we know that there is nothing wrong with how we look, but we are constantly bombarded with this image of what we're supposed to look like," Nance says. "Without trying, we feel less than adequate when we don't look like the latest sex symbol." The average woman is a size 14. Why



**Jessica Harris**  
Columnist

do young women feel they must look like models?

By definition, a model is a person or thing that serves as pattern for an art-

ist. Unless that is what you aspire to be, why consume yourself with unrealistic images, unhealthy habits, and lose your uniqueness?

Heidi Klum is paid to be a model. It is her job. Klum has to maintain her figure. In the fashion world, it may be acceptable to be a Size 0, but that is not the standard for most people.

There is immense pressure on young girls to meet this standard. Some may feel they have to look a certain way in order to be successful in life, have

friends, or attract the opposite sex.

With eating disorders on the rise, many are going to extreme lengths to maintain a facade.

Dr. Pat Spangler, medical director for Student Health Services, agrees there should be more positive images in the media.

"Everyone's perception of themselves is different," Spangler assesses. "It is estimated as many as 10 million women and girls suffer from

anorexia or bulimia."

There is no middle ground it seems. Society is either telling people to fight obesity or demand people lighten up. The real issue should be health. Not every one is made to be thin – young women who are "thick," mean-

ing they aren't necessarily fat, but they aren't skin and bones.

"My wife prefers the word 'solid,'" Spangler laughs. "Rather than thick or fat – larger framed – those body types do weigh more. Women are overall much more aware of this self-image."

Men don't live in a world where their bodies are constantly objectified.

"The pressure is just as great for men," Nance explains. "However, the pressures last longer for women...expected to look 20 forever. If she doesn't, then she's labeled as aging or old, [whereas] if a man were to gain 20 pounds when he's older, it's acceptable."

Women should feel empowered about themselves – not ashamed.

The recent Dove campaign is a start in the right direction. The company uses real women in its commercials and ads to exemplify true beauty. It has a "Body Think" workshop that is geared toward "providing a balanced view point for young children dealing with feelings about physical appearances"

"But, if it's a health concern address that," Spangler says. Nance's advice for women who

struggle with body image: "Don't focus so much on what the world thinks you should look like. If you wake up comfortable, self-confident in the way you look, [well] that's where you need to be."

We shouldn't be so critical of someone who has extra skin. Some companies that have catered to the curvy audience are Curves, a recreational facility for women encouraging health and embracing body, Faith 21, a sub-brand of Forever 21, carries larger sizes in its chic, yet affordable, clothing.

"Healthy, comfortable and vital that's the place you need to be," Nance declares.

So be bold, confident, unique, but always be a healthy you.



Photo courtesy Aldo Marcelo Vitacca Gerardi

### Average weight of women in the media: 100 pounds.

EATING DISORDER RECOVERY CENTER

## COMICS

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Resident Evil movies disappoint fans

The Resident Evil movies are terrible, and they don't deserve your money.

My name is Tanner Eads, and I'm a professional nerd. By that, I mean I'm a comic artist, a fiction writer and a nerd blogger, and I really love the Resident Evil games.

In the first game, the Special Tactics and Rescue Service of the Raccoon City police department heads into the woods to investigate bizarre murders and end up being chased by reanimated dogs and forced to hide in an 'abandoned' mansion.

There, officers encountered a zombie infection brought about by the Umbrella Corporation. The team, headed by Jill Valentine and Chris Redfield, assault the undead, which are headed by the terrible Tyrant boss.

From the secret laboratories beneath the mansion, they battle the zombies of Raccoon City in 'R.E.2'. The war continues with an added beast, Nemesis, in 'R.E. 3: Nemesis.'

This isn't entirely ignored, unfortunately. The movies turn the tentacle-wielding,

unstoppable, behemoth into a machine-gunning zombie that turns good at the end, saving Alice. However, know what happens in the games? He tries to kill you repeatedly and kills several S.T.A.R.S. members.

He even turns into, an all but immortal, monster at the end. That's right, no hugging, just a terrible monster driven by the commands of Europe's Umbrella branch.

Umbrella is then disbanded. In the games, frozen by the government for its crimes, he goes underground which creates an evil place called the Las Plagas. The Plagas have all the faculties of humans with none of the humanity, pain or fear. They infect communities in Spain and Africa before being stopped by Leon Kennedy and Chris Redfield. Jill Valentine, from Resident Evil and R.E. 3 also returns, mind controlled by Albert Wesker.

The movies still managed to mind control Jill, arguably the least believable part, and did away with the rest. Instead of keeping it in modern times in a real-world setting, the team

was thrown into a desert wasteland in 'R.E.: Apocalypse,' and then a Tokyo cityscape in 'Afterlife,' and they still wage war on Umbrella, which isn't disbanded somehow.

They do still use monsters from four and five, though—who knows why.

Alice then loses all her super powers (telekinesis, super strength, etc.) for the newest movie, leading into the most horrifying realization of the movies: This is the first of a new trilogy, and the next one is allegedly a reboot.

Joy of joys, time to see a great game franchise tied to a tree and butchered all over again, this time in 3D.

If you want to see a real Resident Evil movie, scope out the CG film, "Resident Evil: Degeneration," which is soon to be followed with a sequel entitled "Resident Evil: Damnation." They use the real characters and storylines, and no Millia Jovovich in sight.

Tanner Eads is a senior in the College of Mass Communication. He can be reached at tre2f@mtmail.mtsu.edu.

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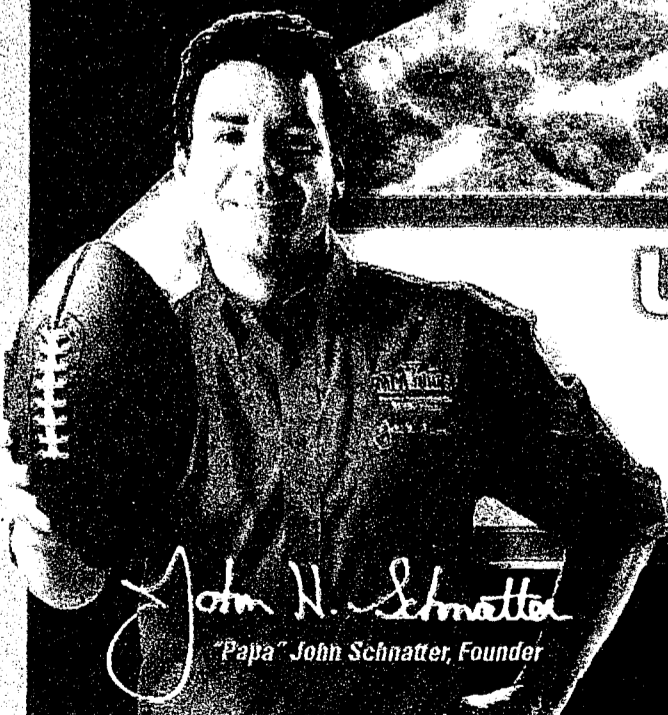


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