

## University mourns professor's death

By AMANDA HAGGARD  
Associate News Editor

The university is mourning the death of economics professor Richard Hannah, who served as an international goodwill ambassador on campus. "It is with deep sorrow that we inform you of the passing of professor Richard Hannah," said Jim Burton, dean of the Jennings A. Jones College of Business. Charles Baum, chair of the department of economics

and finance, was worried when Hannah missed classes last week and began efforts to search for his whereabouts by expressing his concerns to Barbara Haskew, a professor in the College of Business. Burton said Haskew has been a longtime friend of the professor. "Hannah was found dead of apparent natural causes in his Murfreesboro home on April 20 by the Murfreesboro Police Department," Burton said.

Hannah, 59, began work at the university in 1992, and his work in the University Honors College helped develop the Buchanan Fellowship program. The Buchanan Fellowship, named for Nobel Prize laureate and MTSU alumnus James Buchanan, is considered the most prestigious scholarship award given to students entering the college.



Hannah

"Richard was a distinguished professor, beloved by his students and colleagues, and greatly valued for his service to our university," President Sidney McPhee said. "His scholarship and leadership helped make MTSU stronger, and we are deeply saddened by his passing." During Hannah's most recent trip to Bangladesh in December 2010, he met

with executives of Grameen Bank, founded by Nobel laureate and former MTSU professor Muhammad Yunus, to arrange for more student internships. "Hannah believed he could inspire MTSU students by giving them examples of individuals like Buchanan and Yunus, and I believe he succeeded in this endeavor," said John Vile, dean of the University Honors College. "We are devastated by the loss." Hannah was the resident

faculty member in the College of Business and taught at the graduate and undergraduate level. For more than a decade, he was the host of "Inside Academia," a television program produced on higher education. He also created the first online, graduate-level managerial economics course at the university. "Our sympathies go out to Richard's wife, Emma,"

HANNAH, PAGE 3

## Residents react to road project

### Property owners worried about selling land to city for expansion

By LIZA SATURDAY  
Staff Writer

Plans to widen a stretch of Middle Tennessee Boulevard between Greenland Drive and Main Street have residents worried their land will be purchased for less than it is worth.

The widening will allow for the extension of the bicycle lanes that already exist on Middle Tennessee Boulevard between Broad Street and Main Street.

"They will probably confiscate [the land] and take it away from you," said Lynn Stalling, owner of the home at 2613 Middle Tennessee Blvd.

Stalling and his wife, Susan, have lived in Murfreesboro for more than 35 years, and do not want to sell their land for the construction.

"They don't give you what it's actually worth," Stalling said.

Juanita Kelliher, the property manager of the home at 2639 Middle Tennessee Blvd. said that owners are worried about getting fair market value for their property.

Stalling said most of the property the university plans on reconstructing is its own.

Dana Richardson, transportation director for the City of Murfreesboro, said the market value of land is determined through an appraisal process. He said the city has hired third-party appraisers, and although the project's deadline has been pushed back, the acquisition process is underway.

Stalling said meetings were held about this plan a few years ago, in which blueprints were laid out and people had the opportunity to give their own recommendations and suggestions. He said the area has been in the planning stages since 1997.

"I see the pros and cons of it on



Photo by Justin Bingham, staff photographer  
Robert Watson waits to cross the street April 13 at the corner of Middle Tennessee Boulevard and Bell Street.

both sides of the board," Kelliher said. "I think it would be a great idea, but it will take away property from homeowners - as a homeowner, I would not appreciate that."

John Westlund, the campus minister of Presbyterian Student Fellowship, said he thinks construction will be a huge headache, but it will be worth it.

The worship center, located on 2529 Middle Tennessee Blvd., is one of the properties currently in the plan for construction.

Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2012.

"There is no practical way to

LAND, PAGE 3

## University remains confident despite state budget cuts

By CALLAHAN D. MILLER  
& EMILY KUBIS  
Staff Writer, Contributing Writer

The university is facing a \$1.7 million budget cut, in addition to the much larger cuts made in the past two years by the governor and state legislature.

However, due to strategic planning, students are not expected to notice significant changes on campus when the new fiscal year starts July 1, according to university officials.

In interviews with the deans of the university's colleges and President Sidney McPhee, the changes the administrators said most students will see are fewer electives offered in some disciplines and classes filled to capacity.

The economic picture in 2009 was different, when much of the university community was in a panic after then-Gov. Phil Bredesen and legislative leaders announced cuts of \$300 million-plus for higher education.

The university's share of the loss eventually rose to about \$30 million. There was talk of abandoning several academic programs and initiating the layoffs of professors and support personnel.

Then came the federal stimulus money to save the day, keeping the university's coffers at essentially the same level as when classes started in

the fall of 2007. However, Bredesen and others made it clear that once the stimulus ended, universities would be on their own to find a way to compensate for the loss in state funds.

Former state Finance Commissioner David Goetz told WSMV in February 2009 that he expected the state's revenue outlook to be in poor shape by 2011, and for the most part he was correct. Unemployment remains high in Tennessee and sales tax receipts are lackluster.

"Higher education in two years is going to be back to recurring support levels, and I think anyone who builds their plans on that [stimulus] is building on a house of sand," Goetz said to the Nashville television station.

President McPhee said the university took that advice to heart.

"We've worked on this for the last three years, and we prepared in a very open and comprehensive process," McPhee said. "This is not a surprise to us, and this is not a major crisis for the university."

In 2009, the university created the Positioning the University for the Future report, which is available on the MTSU website. McPhee stated that MTSU is "in a better situation today than other universities" because of

BUDGET, PAGE 4

## SGA votes on several resolutions

### Senators approve addition of more on-campus bicycle pumps

By TODD BARNES  
News Editor

Students are likely to encounter several changes next semester, ranging from new bicycle tire pumps outside of on-campus buildings to walking under a giant horseshoe on Raider Walk.

Members of the Student Government Association unanimously passed four pieces of legislation tackling such issues during Thursday's meeting, the last one of the semester.

The senate passed Resolution

4-11-S, sponsored by Sen. Jordan Hall of the College of Business, to construct a 20-foot horseshoe over Raider Walk.

The structure would be made of concrete, and the arches would be made of lightning bolts. It would be imprinted with "1911" at the top to signify the year that the university was established and "2011" to signify its 100th year.

At-Large Sen. Katie Bogle asked how long the project would last.

"I was so excited actually when we talked to [the concrete engineers] about this because

I thought it would take a long time, but once we get campus planning's approval, it's going to take them at most four weeks to do this," said Sen. Rachel Lee, the legislation's co-sponsor.

The structure would likely be in three large pieces, Lee said, adding construction would likely take place before the start of the fall semester.

Bogle sponsored Resolution 19-11-S to add two compressed air bicycle pumps with "a minimal



Photo by Drew Gardonia, staff photographer  
At-Large Sen. Katie Bogle reads legislation to members of the Student Government Association on April 21 in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building.

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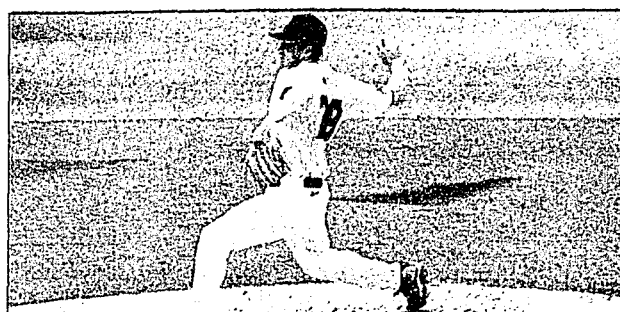
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### IN TODAY'S ISSUE



Read the first part of a two-part series about one student's journey from China to the United States.  
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Keep up to date with the latest sports coverage and view photos of this week's upcoming games.  
SPORTS

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# NATIONAL AP NEWS

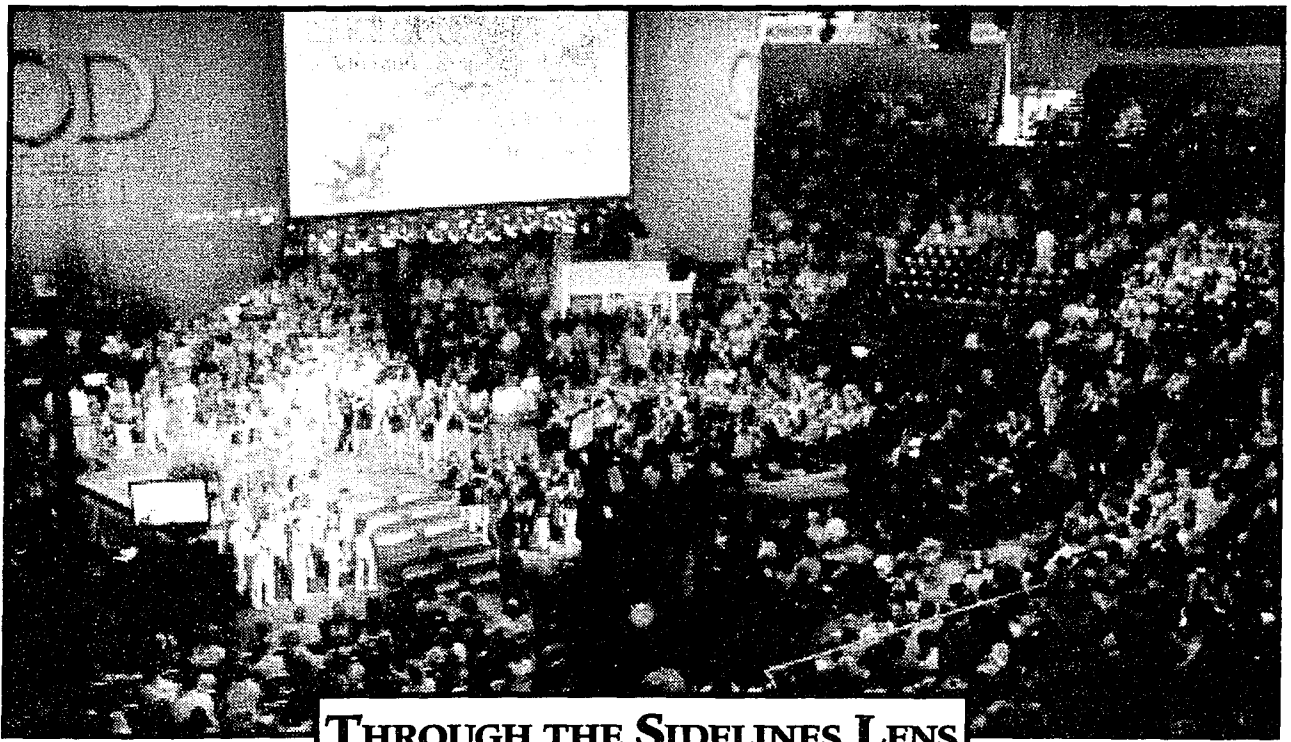
## Cleanup continues following tornado in southern Illinois

GRANITE CITY, Ill. — Cleanup continues near southwestern Illinois' Granite City two days after at least one tornado hit the area, damaging more than 100 homes.

No serious injuries resulted from the Friday night storm.

Madison County's sheriff said a dozen homes sustained major damage and 90 others had minor damage. He said most of the destruction was contained in a one-square-mile area between Granite City and Pontoon Beach.

Hundreds of southern Illinois homes and businesses also lost power.



**THROUGH THE SIDELINES LENS**

Photo by Marie Kempf, editor-in-chief  
More than 8,000 people gather April 23 for an Easter worship service held by World Outreach Church inside of the Murphy Center. The annual celebration, which featured Michael W. Smith this year, is offered on Saturday and Sunday during the holiday weekend for the entire Murfreesboro community.

## Wal-Mart rolls out new home delivery service in California

BENTONVILLE, Ark. — Wal-Mart is testing home grocery delivery in San Jose, Calif., as the world's largest retailer ratchets up competition with online retailer Amazon.com.

With the new "Walmart To Go," customers can order up groceries, health and beauty products such as soap, shampoo and over-the-counter medicines, and household supplies like paper towels and laundry detergent from the company's website. Wal-Mart will then drive the goods over to customers' homes at their time of choice.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. said Saturday that the San Jose launch is a limited test only. It didn't provide details on other possible test markets.

## Suspect named in attempted bombing of a Colorado mall

LITTLETON, Colo. — The FBI has released the name of the man suspected of leaving a pipe bomb and propane tanks at a Colorado mall the day of the anniversary of the Columbine High School shootings.

Authorities say they're searching for 65-year-old Earl Albert Moore in connection with the attempted attack Wednesday. The explosives did not detonate but it alarmed authorities and residents because the plan took place near the school on the 12th anniversary of the shootings that killed 13 people.

The FBI says Moore has an extensive criminal record and should be considered dangerous. He's described as being tall, weighing more than 200 pounds, and having a Viking tattoo on his arms.

## Scholarship being offered via Twitter

STAFF REPORT

A \$1,000 scholarship is being offered to a student who creatively and meaningfully announces through Twitter about how much the additional funds would benefit his or her future.

The Short and Tweet Twitter Scholarship contest is sponsored by Scholarships.com, and it is designed around simplicity.

"Winning scholarship money is great but doing so without having to meet astronomical word counts and double-digit page requirements is even better," according to the website.

To qualify, students must follow Scholarships.com. Then, @reply them with a tweet answering the question, "What would an extra \$1,000 for college mean to you?"

After submitting the tweet the student is automatically entered into the contest. There is no limit to how many tweets each student may submit, but Scholarships.com asks to limit the tweets to a "reasonable amount per day."

Each tweet will be a stand-alone entry. Tweets that are submitted by students who do not follow the website's Twitter account, exceed 140 characters, do not include @Scholarships.com or are submitted after the May 31 deadline will not be considered.

From there, the company will determine which comment is most deserving of the award.



Photo by Emma Egli, features editor  
Teachers play with students during an afternoon of hands-on activities Feb. 7 at Project HELP, located behind the James E. Walker Library on campus.

## Project HELP expands program

STAFF REPORT

Project HELP, a program that helps families who have babies with disabilities, announced the addition of a new class designed for 3-year-olds.

The early intervention program, which is part of the Helping Educate Little People initiative, has generally only accepted babies from ages 6 months to 36 months, however officials have decided to expand the availability to toddlers in need of specialized teaching.

The learning experiences are based on integrating children who are developing typically with children that are struggling in Rutherford County.

"We are pleased to finally be able to offer an option for families when their children turn three," said Susan Waldrop, director of Project HELP.

"Looking toward the future, we envision a program that provides a creative, highly individualized curriculum focusing on skill attainment, literacy and diversity."

The group said in the past, many families were disappointed when their children turned 3 years old because the age limit would have prohibited those children from staying in the program.

"These are exciting times," she said.

Children with developmental issues, as well as children who are developing typically are eligible to enroll in Project HELP's "pay to stay" 3-year-old class.

State funding for Project HELP only provides for those younger than 3 years old. However, with the assistance of funds generated from events such as the Project HELP Advisory Board's annual Saddle Up for Project HELP fundraiser, Waldrop said she was able to offer the new class at a modest tuition rate.

"The Project HELP staff has wanted to offer a program for 3-year-olds since I became director," Waldrop said. "As a matter of fact, I think it was the first goal in our first strategic plan."

Project HELP teacher Amanda Kelley will pilot the program. Kelley and a co-teacher will provide an environment in which for every five children there will be one teacher.

The year-round program will hold classes Monday through Thursday from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Families are offered the choice of a two-day plan or a four-day plan. The two-day programs will consist of a Monday and Wednesday option or a Tuesday and Thursday option.

# LOCAL AP NEWS

## Lambuth advisers to speak with students about future

MEMPHIS — University of Memphis advisers plan to speak with Lambuth University students about completing their degrees in the wake of the 168-year-old school announcing earlier this month that it would shut its doors.

Memphis Vice Provost Tom Nenon told *The Memphis Commercial Appeal* that concern for the students' well-being is what prompted Monday's meeting.

The Board of Trustees of Lambuth, a private, Methodist college in Jackson, voted earlier this month to cease operations June 30. More than 300 students will be displaced.

Memphis administrators reached a "teach-out" agreement last week with the troubled-school to govern Lambuth students' transfer to Memphis.

## Hundreds gather on Easter to pray for missing student

PARSONS — Hundreds of people gathered in western Tennessee for a prayer service for a missing nursing student.

The service took place Easter Sunday morning at the Decatur County Fairgrounds, WSMV-TV in Nashville reported. The gathering came as volunteers continue to search for 20-year-old Holly Bobo, who was last seen April 13 being led away from her home into a wooded area.

There is an \$80,000 reward for information leading to arrest and conviction.

Bobo is about 5 foot 3 inches tall, weighs 110 pound and has blond hair.

The kidnapper is described as a white man, about 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighing 200 pounds.

## Statewide literacy program aims to reach more children

NASHVILLE — Tennessee's Books from Birth program offers free books once a month to children from birth to age 5, but many of the families who would benefit most from the program are not participating.

Sheryl Rogers, director of Books from Birth of Middle Tennessee, told *The Tennessean* that barriers to participation by low-income families include parents who are illiterate, families without a permanent mailing address, and parents who are suspicious of the organization because they are not familiar with it.

Rogers said getting books to needy children will help give them a head start in school.

Outreach efforts include targeting new moms and moms-to-be with fliers at area hospitals, community centers and even Dollar General Stores.

## LOCAL EVENTS CRIME BRIEFS

### ON CAMPUS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Alpha's Helping Hand: Supporting March of Dimes</b><br/>April 25, 11 a.m.<br/>KUC Knoll<br/>Tickets: FREE</p>         | <p><b>MTSU Symphonic Band, Brass Ensemble and Chamber Winds</b><br/>April 27, 7:30 p.m.<br/>Wright Music Building<br/>Tickets: FREE</p> |
| <p><b>DeStress Fest</b><br/>April 26, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.<br/>KUC Knoll<br/>Tickets: FREE</p>                                  | <p><b>Corlew Luau</b><br/>April 27, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.<br/>Corlew Hall<br/>Tickets: FREE</p>   |
| <p><b>Year-End Cookout</b><br/>April 28, 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.<br/>Health, Wellness &amp; Recreation Center<br/>Tickets: FREE</p> | <p><b>Outdoor Movies: "Inception"</b><br/>April 28, 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.<br/>KUC Knoll<br/>Tickets: FREE</p>                                |

### OFF CAMPUS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Molotov Solution</b><br/>April 26, 7 p.m.<br/>The Muse<br/>Tickets: \$8</p>  | <p><b>"Burn This"</b><br/>April 28, 7:30 p.m.<br/>Out Front on Main<br/>Tickets: \$10</p>                               |
| <p><b>Reagan Youth</b><br/>April 27, 7 p.m.<br/>The Muse<br/>Tickets: \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door</p>                              | <p><b>Razzle Dazzle Magic Show</b><br/>April 29 - 30, 7 p.m.<br/>Murfreesboro Center for the Arts<br/>Tickets: \$10</p> |
| <p><b>Poet's Corner: Lisa Dordal</b><br/>April 28, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.<br/>Scarritt Bennett Center<br/>The Front Porch<br/>Tickets: FREE</p> | <p><b>Those Darlins' with Heavy Cream and Trophy Wife</b><br/>April 30, 9 p.m.<br/>Mercy Lounge<br/>Tickets: \$10</p>   |

- Vandalism**  
April 20, 2:04 a.m.  
Nicks Hall  
A complainant reported her vehicle had been damaged in the parking lot. The damage appears to have been caused by an unknown suspect kicking the vehicle.
- Theft**  
April 20, 4:16 p.m.  
Cummings Hall  
A complainant reported his textbooks and calculator had been stolen.
- Drugs**  
April 20, 5:31 p.m.  
Wood Hall  
A desk assistant noticed a small amount of marijuana on the front desk after a resident had signed in. Officers confronted the suspected owner, who denied owning it. The matter has been turned over to Judicial Affairs.
- Traffic**  
April 20, 7:20 p.m.  
Greenhouse Lot  
A complainant reported that his vehicle had been struck in the parking lot.
- Theft**  
April 20, 10:06 p.m.  
James E. Walker Library  
A complainant reported that her purse had been stolen.
- Theft**  
April 21, 2:24 p.m.  
Military Memorial  
A complainant reported his vehicle had been entered and some of his belongings had been taken.
- Vandalism**  
April 21, 2:49 p.m.  
Mass Communication Building  
A complainant reported her vehicle had been vandalized.
- Assault**  
April 21, 6:17 p.m.  
James E. Walker Library  
A complainant reported that she and a friend had been involved in a fight with one another, but she did not want to press charges at this time.
- Theft**  
April 21, 6:26 p.m.  
Keathley University Center  
A complainant reported money had been stolen from his wallet. He said that he had lost his wallet for a short period of time, and when it was found, the money was missing.
- Drugs**  
April 22, 2:38 a.m.  
Alma Mater Drive  
Byron Keith McBride Jr., 19, was issued a state citation for simple possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

## CORRECTION

In the April 18 issue, the article "Straight out of left field" was incorrectly attributed as being written by Will Trusler, sports editor. Mark Mize, staff writer, should have been credited for writing the story.

Sidelines regrets these errors.

**EVENTS POLICY**  
Sidelines welcomes current campus and community events submitted by all readers. Please e-mail events slnews@mtsu.edu. Include the name, date, time and location of the event, as well as your name and contact information. We reserve the right to refuse events at our discretion as our space is limited.



# Construction project wants to expand boulevard for cyclists

**LAND FROM PAGE 1**

construct a project of this magnitude without impact to college traffic or other roadway users," Richardson said.

Richardson said the construction projects will last more than two years while the university is still in session.

"We will certainly take MTSU schedules into account as the project unfolds and minimize disruptions to [the university] whenever possible," Richardson said.

Westlund said he thinks it will be safer.

"I'm surprised we haven't had as many accidents," Westlund said, concerning the intersection of Faulkinberry Drive and Middle Tennessee Boulevard.

"One proposal was to change the Faulkinberry Drive entrance, align it up with Eaton Street directly across from it," Stalling said. "If they had changed that road a little, it would've made for a lot safer intersection."

However, residents are skeptical that the bicycle lane will encourage more students to ride their bikes to school. Some say because lanes do not extend farther from campus, there is still no safe route for cyclists.

"I think it will help out MTSU because when it has events like concerts, football games or TSSAA, they have to block off portions of the road anyway," Stallings said. "So, widening it out will help it a little bit, and it will get people to come to more football and basketball games."

A cyclist herself, Kelliher said she could not imagine a bicycle lane would make much of a difference, but that it would make the stretch of road safer.

Richardson said he hopes the construction of a bicycle lane will encourage more students to ride their bikes to school.

"The other phases of the Middle Tennessee Boulevard project included bike lanes, and bike lanes were installed on Greenland Drive several years ago," Richardson said. "The current project will provide bike facilities in this missing gap."

He said the city might also add bicycle lanes along with roadway improvements on Main Street and Greenland Drive.

"I think MTSU will benefit from it tremendously," Stalling said.

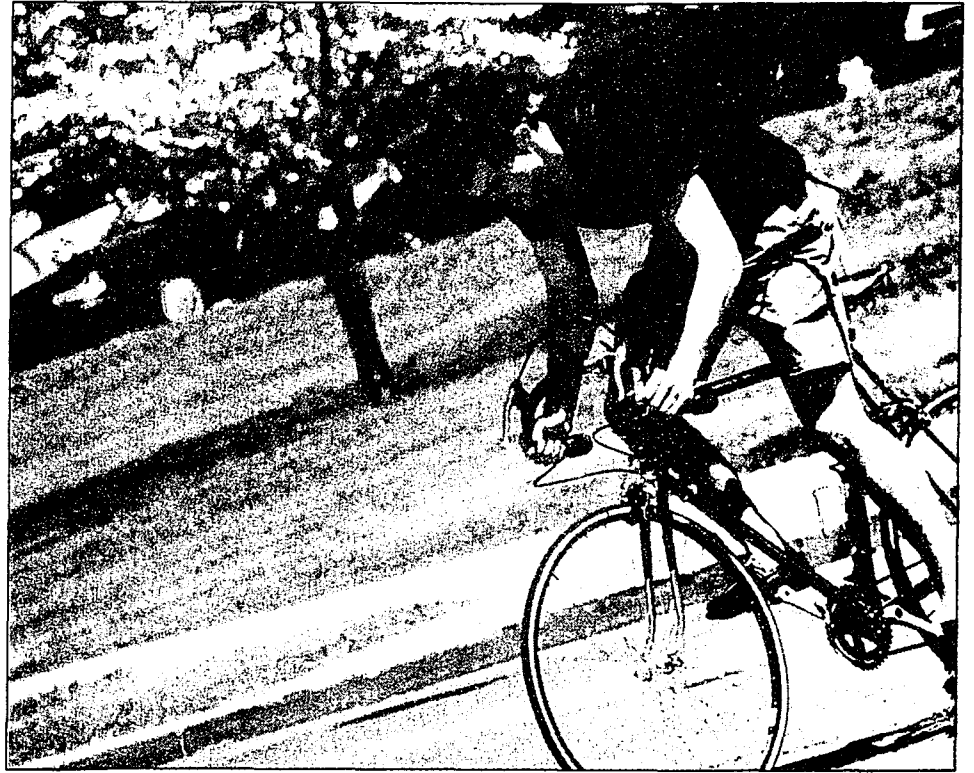


Photo by Justin Bingham, staff photographer  
Multiple students race by on their bikes on April 13 along Middle Tennessee Boulevard. The university plans to expand the boulevard in the next two years to include bicycle lanes.

## Professor remembered for active involvement in campus community

**HANNAH FROM PAGE 1**

and the entire family," McPhee said.

Hannah served as director of the Center for Economic Education and worked for the Tennessee Valley Authority before becoming a

full-time professor. "Hannah was a valued member of the faculty and will be sorely missed by his colleagues and students," Burton said.

Hannah received his Bachelor of Arts degree in history from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and another Bachelor of Arts degree in German at MTSU, where he also earned his Master of Arts degree in economics. He received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Utah.

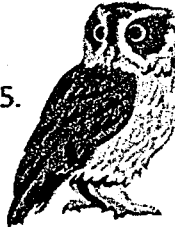
Burton said Hannah could easily be considered the "quintessential professor," adding that he was always willing to try new things to help students.



Photo courtesy of Facebook.com  
(Far right) Carol Ann Baily, director of Off-Campus Student Services, addresses members of OWLs in November 2010.

### Who Are OWLs?

- OWLs are MTSU students who are adult learners or nontraditional students - Older, Wiser Learners.
- Pinnacle is MTSU's chapter of the national Pinnacle Honor Society for nontraditional students, generally over the age of 25.



## OWLs prepares for annual picnic event

STAFF REPORT

The Older, Wiser Learners and the Pinnacle Honor Society will host its annual end of the year potluck picnic at 7:30 pm. Thursday at Shelter 1 of Barfield-Crescent Park.

OWLs will present awards to outstanding members and those who support them in their success, while Pinnacle Honor Society will induct new members into the organization.

Both organizations will provide barbecue and chicken, and they encourage attendees to bring a side dish or dessert to feed 8 to 10 people and adequate refreshments for their party.

OWLs are university students who are adult learners or nontraditional students. The organization

is composed of over 200 students who, regardless of age, have primary life responsibilities outside their studies at the university, according to its website.

Pinnacle is the university's chapter of the national Pinnacle Honor Society for nontraditional students, generally over the age of 25.

Frank Julian, a faculty member and administrator at Murray State University in 1989, founded the Pinnacle Honor Society. Julian recognized the dedication of nontraditional students and the inability to recognize these deserving students because of unobtainable requirements developed by traditional honor societies, according to the Pinnacle website.

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# 'Don't say gay bill' advances in state Senate

## Lawmaker sponsoring bill to prevent teachers from discussing sexual orientation

By AMANDA HAGGARD  
Associate News Editor

A bill that would ban teachers from discussing homosexuality in the classroom before the ninth grade has moved forward in the state Senate.

The legislation was sponsored by Republican Sen. Stacey Campfield, who has been pushing for the legislation for six years while serving in the state House.

"Seven years in the making and it finally gets out of the first subcommittee or full committee," Campfield said on his blog. "There were some twists and turns, but in the end it came out in a very acceptable form."

The bill, dubbed as the "don't say gay bill," would make it illegal for educators to discuss any sexual behavior other than heterosexuality with students in kindergarten through the eighth grade.

The bill was approved 6-3 in a partisan vote in which all of the no votes came from Democrats.

Republican state Sen. Jim Tracy of Shelbyville said current law already prohibits the speech.

Under Tennessee law, it is a misdemeanor to teach any sex education that is "not part of the family life curriculum," Tracy said.

The measure was adopted by the Tennessee Board of Education.

Tracy said he recommended an amendment to reword Campfield's bill to require the Tennessee Board of Education to research whether or not homosexuality is being discussed in classrooms.

Campfield objected to the amendment, adding that he believed homosexuality is already being discussed in classrooms. Despite Campfield's dissent, the amendment passed.

Republican Sen. Brian Kelsey of Germantown wanted to revise Tracy's amendment to indicate that after studies are completed by Feb. 1, the Board of



Tracy



Campfield

Education will adopt the language from Campfield's bill into its "family life curriculum," if studies prove teachers are using such language in classrooms.

Members of the Tennessee Equality Project, a state-based LGBT rights group, are worried the bill would isolate children.

"It means [educators] can't talk about gay issues or sexuality even with students who may be gay or have gay family [members]," said Ben Byers, a spokesman for the group.

Supporters of the bill argue an age appropriate core curriculum should not include sexuality.

Campfield has been criticized recently for requesting a \$1,000 retainer fee to discuss the bill with Del Shores, a Texas-based movie producer and director who has made films about homosexuality.

Campfield said his request was a deposit to ensure his travel expenses would be paid.

"I'm not going to pay air fare to Texas and a hotel, then have the guy stiff me," Campfield said.

Drew Rawlins, executive director of

the Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance, said in the *The Tennessean* that he did not believe the law against officials gaining compensation for legislative duties would apply to Campfield's case because a debate in Texas is "probably not part of [Campfield's] legislative duties."

Rawlins said he saw a "potential violation" law, adding that someone would have to file a complaint to trigger an investigation.

Campfield also proposed issuing death certificates for aborted fetuses and permitting guns on college campuses, legislation that would allow any full-time faculty member or staffer at a public university to have a concealed weapon on campus if they have a handgun-carry permit.

The gun bill will be up for committee vote in the state House next month.

The bill's sponsors, Republican Sen. Stacy Campfield, from Knoxville and Republican Rep. Andy Holt of Dresden, and the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police are still negotiating details of the bill.

## Proposed Code of Ethics legislation tabled until 2011 fall semester

### SGA FROM PAGE 1

cost to the university" outside of the Business and Aerospace Building and Andrew L. Todd Hall, which houses the Todd Art Gallery bicycle racks.

"I think it's worth trying," Bogle said. "I think it would be a good service to our students."

Sen. Jonathan Thomas of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences said the Health, Wellness, and Recreation Center supplies pumps and asked if Bogle knew about it when she wrote the legislation.

"I was not aware of it," Bogle said. "Once again this [legislation] was written by a student. I would be inclined if you would like to write an amendment to strike out 'from the BAS.'"

However, the senate declined amending the legislation.

Thomas also questioned what kind of pumps would be used, but SGA Vice President Samantha Cobb said leaving specifics out of legislation helps in the long run.

"The more vague the legislation is, the more room there is for interpretation of the department we send this to," Cobb said. "Instead of them saying 'We can't do this exact thing, so we're not going to do anything at all,' they will say 'We can accommodate in some small way.'"

Sen. Cody Smith of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences

sponsored Resolution 20-11-S to place recycling bins on Greek Row and the intramural fields.

Smith said the legislation had "a lot of room for interpretation," meaning that the legislation does not explicitly specify where the bins would be placed.

He said the bins would likely be placed in each fraternity house's computer lab, near the dumpsters and at the gates of the intramural field. He offered to rewrite the legislation with specifics, but the senate declined his offer.

Previously, Lee sponsored similar legislation last year, but nothing happened after passage of the bill.

"Recycling contacted [Danny] Kelley, and they never received the bill," Cobb said. "So, if it was written in the past, they've never seen it. So, it's not their fault."

Cody Smith also sponsored Resolution 21-11-S, which is called the Student Right to Know Act. It would require executive officers to write a formal e-mail to students about situations that would affect parking and travel.

Some concerned senators said requiring executive officers to gather the information might be too much for them to handle. However, Smith said he talked to Bogle, the newly elected attorney general, about it.

"The consensus that we came up with is that it wouldn't be that much information," Smith said. "I'm considering maybe one [e-mail] a month."

The senate postponed voting on Bill 15-11-S, which would insert a Code of Ethics inside its bylaws. This is the second time the bill has been up for a vote, to which the first vote was postponed because the organization's Internal Affairs Committee had not reviewed it.

Sen. Sarah Hoover of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, who called for the postponement, said it would be unfair to vote on the legislation.

"This is the very last meeting of the 73rd Congress," Hoover said. "I do not feel that it would be fair to impose a bill on the 74th Congress that we ourselves will never have to abide by, and we will never have to agree to or deal with in the future."

Sen. Alex Lewis of the College of Liberal Arts sponsored the legislation and urged the senate to vote on it.

He said he is graduating this semester and the bill will lack a sponsor if postponed. However, Cobb said the next SGA Vice President Shaun Luber would present the bill during the organization's first meeting this fall, regardless of Lewis' absence, and the senate eventually tabled the legislation.

"I understand there might be some desire to kill this, but I don't see why," Lewis said. "I don't think there is anything laid out here to be against. That is silly to do that. I think this is something needed, and it's needed now."



Photo by Drew Gardonia, staff photographer  
Sen. Cody Smith of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences reads legislation April 21 during the Student Government Association meeting.



Photo by Drew Gardonia, staff photographer  
The Student Government Association officers discuss issues on April 21 regarding final pieces of legislation for the 2011 spring semester.

## Administrators credit preparation, planning for optimism

### BUDGET FROM PAGE 1

the "strategic decisions" found in the report.

Several proposals were suggested for the university, ranging from faculty reductions to program consolidations.

The president released his response to the proposals later that year. In regards to faculty reductions, the president stated, "the university remains committed to protecting faculty positions and will seek to accomplish necessary reductions first through a voluntary buyout program."

Many deans said, to their

relief, faculty reductions have been fewer than most expected in 2009.

Harold Whiteside, dean of Behavioral and Health Sciences, said that the college has added a faculty member.

"We're adding a new chair of health and human performances," Whiteside said. "Instead of constricting, we've actually expanded."

Dean Mark Byrnes of the College of Liberal Arts said the college has not hired as many tenure-track faculty members.

"We are optimistic that that will turn around in the next year or two," Byrnes said.

Byrnes said, "no majors have been eliminated," in the

College of Liberal Arts.

"Some of the concentrations have been tweaked, but our goal was

**"Some of the concentrations have been tweaked, but our goal was not to reduce the quality of our programs."**

MARK BYRNES  
DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

not to reduce the quality of our programs and make sure that students still have the same level of opportunity," Byrnes said.

Several other deans throughout the campus

echoed this sentiment.

"We've done this in such a way that when July 1 hits, everything's going to happen

"I lost two people in the graduate school that I was not able to replace," Allen said. "As far as impacting students goes, you know I don't really think so."

Dean Lana Seviars of the College of Education said he wanted students to know that, "they are at the heart of every decision here."

However, Whiteside said, "the cuts were real," adding that the university had to redirect its resources to the most profitable areas.

"Some student support services are going to be less friendly, they are going to be less available," said Jim Burton, dean of the Jennings A. Jones College of Business. "It's going

to take longer time to get things done, the buildings will probably have less maintenance than they have in the past, and we're going to have to fill classes to the capacity of the classroom."

In addition, electives may have to be scheduled less frequently than in the past, Burton said.

Students may be concerned that tuition will be raised in response to the budget cuts.

"I can't speak about tuition increases now, because the [Tennessee Board of Regents] deals with that," McPhee said. "They won't deal with tuition until the June meeting."

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# A

## AWESOMENESS

MAY CONTAIN AWESOME PEOPLE AND  
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# FEATURES

## Part One: Made in China

For one student, the journey to the United States transformed into an odyssey of self-discovery through family secrets.

By BRANDI REVIS  
Contributing Writer

### The Lie

Jing Mei Shuan (jing-may-shawan) wasn't an imposing woman. At her death, she was barely 5 feet tall. She wasn't a gossip and could be described as introverted. She didn't fix her granddaughter's hair the way other girls did. Instead, she would cut it short — it was less maintenance that way.

She bought her granddaughter secondhand clothes, always a size too big, so she could wear them again the next year. She thought that since the children wore school uniforms, it didn't matter what she wore at home.

Despite all this, she was the only mother Cui Le Chen would know for the first 12 years of her life, and the love between them could be felt across an ocean.

Jing Mei was a woman you didn't cross, but she would help you if you needed it. She was admired by her son, Zi Qing and her granddaughter. Cui Le (chew-lee) would sit at her grandmother's feet while she cooked and tell her things, like what her doll should wear or about the other kids in school — things that most little girls tell their mothers. It didn't bother Cui Le, though. She knew her grandmother cared, and she was daddy's little girl. That was all that mattered until things changed.

Grandmother and granddaughter shared a room in their house. The weather was getting cold and sharing a room conserved heat. One night, Cui Le crept from her bed to lie down beside her grandmother. Her bed was too cold so Jing Mei welcomed her and they began to talk.

Cui Le would be leaving her soon to go to the mei gau — the beautiful country. Her father and she were to reunite with her mother, Bi Hua Zhao (by-hoo-zow). Before she left, there were things Jing Mei felt her granddaughter should know — Things that were too hard for her parents to say to her themselves.

Jing Mei told her the story of a man who found an abandoned baby on his stoop and how this man fell in love with the little girl and wanted to adopt her.

The family thought they had fooled everyone, even their daughter.

Zi Qing Chen (zee-ching) was an executive in a branch of a government-operated bank in China. His high-powered job afforded his wife and small son, Song, a nice lifestyle, but it meant he could not live with them. His family lived in a house in the small village of Guan Tou with his mother, Jing Mei. He stayed at a dorm close to his office during the week.

It was raining as Zi Qing walked home late one night.

He was tired from a long day at work and was making his way up the steps when he saw a bundle of cloth in front of the door. As he stooped to pick it up, it moved. He finally caught a glimpse inside and saw the sweet face of a baby. A baby only a few days old. This little girl was shivering from the cold and malnourished.

Zi Qing immediately brought her inside and as he fed her, he hatched a plan. He had desperately wanted a daughter, but it was too dangerous.

The Chinese Communist Party is the only political party allowed in the People's Republic of China. On September 25,

**"Sons in China are a big deal. If you are born first as a girl, the family would kill you or give you away so they could have a son."**

CUI LE CHEN  
SENIOR CHEMISTRY MAJOR

1980, the infamous "one child policy" became law. It was created to stop the overpopulation in China brought about by former ruler Mao Zedong's failed economic plan.

Under the policy, urban families could have only one child, unless the first was a girl. Rural families could have more than one child if they paid a fine. Any woman pregnant with a second child without permission could be forced into aborting the child, regardless of the stage of pregnancy. She may also be imprisoned,



Photo courtesy of Cui Le Chen

(Front row) Oscar and Angela Chen, Cui le's niece and nephew, sit on the laps of their grandparents, Bi Hua and Zi Qing, who are surrounded by (From left) Cui Le, Hong, Jun, Peng, Song and Jin.

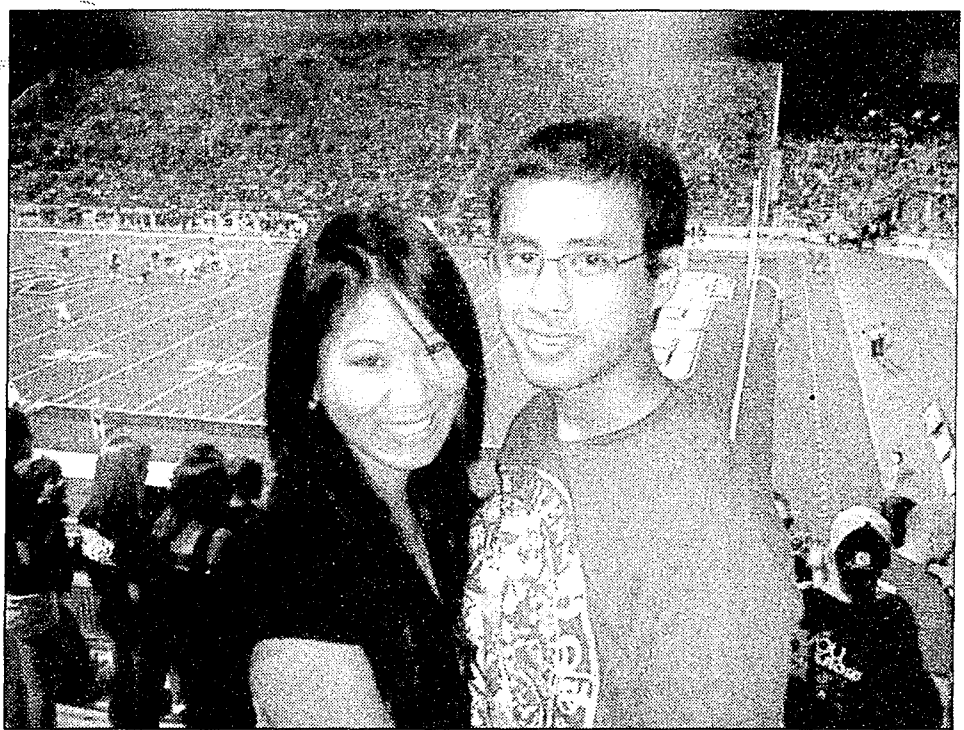


Photo courtesy of Cui Le Chen

Cui Le and her boyfriend cheer on the Blue Raiders football team during the Blackout Game, held Oct. 5, 2011, at Johnny "Red" Floyd Stadium.

of life, ill from exposure to the rain and cold. Zi Qing was heartbroken and reckless. He convinced his wife to have another child in the hopes that it would be a girl. Zi Qing figured that since his neighbors knew he had adopted a baby girl, they could just pass off their future biological child as the adopted one.

And so the lie of "the replacement" began.

### Life Goes on

There's a Murfreesboro restaurant that is a favorite with the college crowd, serving up delicious Chinese food late into the night. It's also Cui Le's family income.

The branches of China Spring belong to the Chen family. This restaurant in particular, just a mile from Cui Le's home, belongs to a cousin. She sometimes goes there in search of a quick lunch or dinner, as she does today.

As soon as she walks in, she begins a conversation with cousins, speaking quickly, so fast that the English ear can barely identify individual words let alone understand their meaning. While she waits on her food, the phone rings.

"China Spring, how can I help you?" Cui Le asks in her accented English. She takes the order and yells it back to the kitchen, in Chinese of course. This happens several times. It's a busy night. Customers waiting for takeout stand around quietly.

The only talking comes from the kitchen in rapid Chinese. Finally, Cui Le's food is prepared. She starts to leave, and shouts "Xie xie, Zai Jian."

It means goodbye and thank you. She thanks them for the food even though she worked for it. She has worked for most things in her life — including life.

### Pregnant and Scared

Communist leader Deng Xiaoping created councils of workers whose sole job was to enforce the "one child policy." These family planning councils were in every village, with some members openly investigating and others known only to the council. You couldn't trust your neighbors because they could turn you in. These councils kept files on all women of childbearing age. Once they gave birth to their first child, they were pressured, coerced and, at times, forced into sterilization.

Bi Hua spent nine months sequestered in a Buddhist temple during her third pregnancy, hidden away from curious eyes. No one could know she was pregnant. Bi Hua became a birth guerilla; a woman who had to escape to the country to try to hide her pregnancy from one of the

family planning councils. Cui Le was born in this temple only a few days before the Chinese New Year in 1989.

The Chens already had one child that they could not acknowledge. Their second born son, Peng, was sent to live with a neighboring family after he was born. He was never registered under the Chen name with the CCP. Peng would visit his family on weekends, and his father sent money for his care.

Just to be safe, they sent Cui Le away as well. She went to live with her paternal grandmother's family for the first two years of her life. This made it impossible to notice any age difference between the found daughter and the biological one.

Zi Qing suffered a heart attack not long after Cui Le was born. He was forced into bed rest for weeks. His job at one of China's national banks was very stressful, and he had to be on his guard at all times trying to hide his children. The rules were stricter for him than a lower-class man. The government required obedience from its party members. The rural people were just a work force.

After he got better, Zi Qing left his big bank job to work at a bank closer to home. Cui Le came back home before her first birthday. She would have two years with her mother before the CCP found out about her and Peng. The government knew, but it needed proof.

The family planning council of the village sent police to the Chen home. They were searching for signs of more than one child. They ransacked the family's house, destroying property. Papers were shredded, cushions ripped open and whole rooms tossed. Bi Hua had to run from these people every time. The police were looking for her, for her children or for any signs of illegal activities.

One day they surprised the family. Bi Hua had no time to hide. She jumped out of a second story window into the pond in the back yard and swam to safety. Zi Qing was fired from his job and had to start baking to support his family. Things calmed down for a while and this is when Bi Hua began to plan her future.

The only choice she had was to flee her country, leave her family, to avoid persecution. She was only fulfilling the most basic of biological needs — having children — and people wanted her punished for it. So the family made plans. Bi Hua would leave China, posing as a guardian for another little girl. She delivered this child safely to her family in the United States as she said goodbye to her own.

Bi Hua came to a new country on her own and began to save money so her family could join her. All of her children would eventually cross an ocean to reunite with her. Cui Le, the last born, would be the second to leave.

Read Part Two of Cui Le Chen's story in Thursday's issue of Sidelines.



Photo courtesy of Cui Le Chen

Cui Le and her brothers, Song and Peng, and her father, Zi Qing, pose for a picture in front of a photograph of the New York financial district.

"I know all this," Cui Le said.

She had heard the story from neighbors and friends. She knew she was an adopted child and she liked that. It made her feel important and wanted.

She didn't know it all, though. A quiet child by nature, Cui Le lay there quietly listening to her grandmother. She never cried or threw a fit. After her story, as they were about to fall asleep, Jing Mei offered one last piece of advice.

"Your mother is difficult to get used to," she warned. "Don't ask unnecessary questions."

Cui Le listened to that advice. Through the awkward reunion and the turbulent teen years, she would never mention how she felt abandoned, never ask why her mother had left and would never bring up the little girl found on a stoop.

and all children would be taken away to be placed in orphanages.

People began to weed out what they deemed unnecessary and useless to benefiting the family.

"Sons in China are a big deal," said Cui Le. "If you are born first as a girl, the family would kill you or give you away so they could have a son."

Zi Qing already had one child too many. His second son lived with friends, but maybe he could cheat the system again. An adoption would be allowed by the government because they had not given birth to an illegal child, just taken one in. Zi Qing was ecstatic about his new daughter and phoned his wife to have her come get the baby. His happiness ended before Bi Hua made it to the final bus stop to meet him.

The infant girl died after only a few days



# The Baggage-less College Student



Apple's iPad lightens backpacks while providing endless opportunities.

By JENNIFER KETTLE  
Contributing Writer

The 21st century has ushered in all kinds of new, exciting technology for people of all ages, including but certainly not limited to wireless networks, hybrid vehicles, HD television, social networking, and of course, the beloved iPhone. Technology invades every aspect of the average person's life and for good reason; it makes creating and finding information as easy as a few clicks.

Probably one of the most exciting inventions last year, the Apple iPad, caters directly to today's creative college crowd. Most college students are aware that this new device exists, but sadly too many are unaware of its usefulness when it comes to the academic world.

Weighing 1.6 pounds, the Apple iPad, has such abilities as full access to the World Wide Web, e-mail, photos, YouTube, music, games and thousands of applications that are directly downloadable to the iPad through the Apple App Store.

Most impressive are the applications which vary in cost from free to usually no more than \$10. Sure, there are some applications that cost a lot more, but generally these are very intensive applications for specific, in depth uses.

Applications are created by people like you and me who want to create and make our lives a little bit easier and more enjoyable. Application creation literally opens the gateway from anything that can be imagined to something that can be downloaded, manipulated and upgraded.

Columbia State student, Jeremy Lamirande, uses the Class Organizer application which was created to aid in note taking, organization and studying.

This application allows one to take notes, draw diagrams, and upload PDF files while simultaneously recording everything the professor says.

Jeremy is most impressed with this app when it comes to studying. "While rereading my notes I can select a portion of text and it will replay exactly what was recorded when the text was entered," he shares. "This helps me make the connection between my professor's lectures and my notes."

Class Organizer has a onetime cost of \$4.99 and can be used for every class, every semester, unlike that bulky notebook and awkward tape recorder.

"But that isn't all, the producers of this app, just like pretty much every other app, provide upgrades and fixes free for download every couple of months," Jeremy explains. "So the app keeps getting better and I don't have to do a thing except download the update." A large grin consumes his face, "It's so freakin' easy."

Adding to this amazing device is its access to the Internet. Every iPad is set up to connect to WiFi and for an initial cost of \$130 the iPad can be made 3G capable. Exactly what does this mean?

With WiFi the student will be able to access the Internet from any unprotected, open network for free. The 3G capable iPad has access everywhere, all of the time but also requires a monthly fee.

This might sound expensive, but the neat thing is that it is activated monthly so the student can use the free WiFi function until he or she is somewhere without Internet access. Then he or she can opt to buy a month of 3G service at that exact time.

Current MTSU student, Ian Disch, discusses his why he highly favors having Internet everywhere. "Besides being able to answer any weird question that comes

to my mind; having Internet all the time allows me to download my textbooks online for half the cost and a fraction of the weight of that of a normal text book."

That's right! Instead of carrying a book bag full of heavy books, today's college student only requires a small bag; if that.

"I used to use my laptop in class but it was heavy and constantly running out of battery power," Ian complains. "Now I can run all day on a single charge!" The iPad's battery life lasts at least 10 hours between charges. That means a full day of classes with hours of battery life still left at the end of the day.

With the iPad students can be in the center of the learning experience and are no longer limited to the seat by the wall.

To accompany the iPad are dozens of accessories including wireless keyboards, personalized cases, camera connection kits, AV connections, headphones with microphones and remotes, etc.

Lacey Fitch, a new iPad owner, was excited to show off her iPad case that she designed online.

"I took this picture of the Pyramids of Giza while I was in Egypt" a smile shines across Lacey's face as she shows off the case. "I simply uploaded the picture on zazzle.com, decided the size and placement and within a few days I received my own, one of a kind case. It was so easy, it is a great conversation starter and it always brightens my mood, because I made it."

It is obvious that the iPad, even without all the input/output devices of a computer, is still a valuable tool. Especially for college students, who will save both the money in their wallet and strain on their backs. This lightweight and highly customizable device is definitely the must have college investment of the year.



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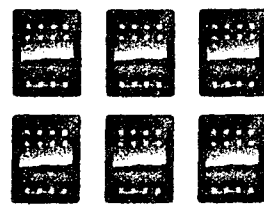
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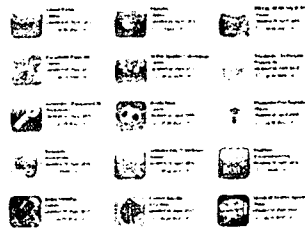
## THE APPLE TAKEOVER



Apple sold 4.7 Million iPads in the Q1 of 2011

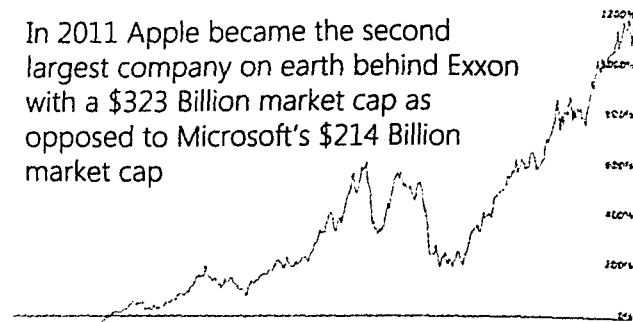


Privacy watchdogs are demanding answers from Apple about why iPhones and iPads are collecting location data on users.



Apple is expected to have sold over 150 million iPad units by the year 2015

In 2011 Apple became the second largest company on earth behind Exxon with a \$323 Billion market cap as opposed to Microsoft's \$214 Billion market cap



Graphic by Josh Fields, production manager

Letters Policy

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

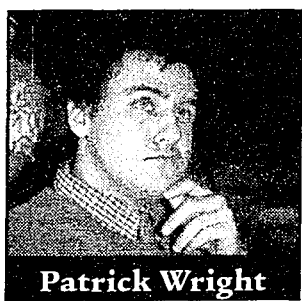
# OPINIONS

Sidelines is the editorially independent, student-produced newspaper affiliated with Middle Tennessee State University and the College of Mass Communication. Sidelines publishes Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and online during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or the university.

## Tax reform: Where do we draw the line?

### 'Fair tax' hurts those who need help

Last week was the universally detested "tax week," which means two things: complaints about taxes and the Internal Revenue Service in general, and hearing the conservative pundits tell you we need a fair tax system.



Patrick Wright

Columnist

For those unfamiliar with the proposal, it is basically a regressive tax plan. There are two versions floating around. One deals with scrapping the entire system and replacing it with a sales tax. Generally the proposal is about 24 percent. The second plan calls for everyone, no matter their income, to be taxed at a flat tax rate. The rate is usually pegged somewhere in the teens, roughly 15 percent. The second version is usually the one most touted by conservatives.

Mind you, there is nothing fair about either. Proponents say it is fair to those making above a million dollars. The percentage would be lowered from the mid-30s. At the same time, there is nothing fair about it to people whose current rate is lower than 15 percent. They would have it raised.

Millionaires would have their taxes reduced while the working poor, which has little access to healthcare or childcare, would have it raised. They also say they will get rid of all loopholes and tax credits. This, in turn, will hurt small businesses that rely on the many available tax rebates.

When given this argument, proponents point to Eastern Europe, which instituted a flat tax and has

seen its gross domestic product annually rise. They forget to point out that they did so after the fall of communism and their economies had nowhere to go but up. Due to its long history with communism, this was largely seen as a reactionary policy to the previous system that overtaxed everyone.

The flat tax proposal will also make it illegal to use offshore tax havens. Instead of going through the process of instituting a new tax system, why don't we just make it illegal to use tax havens, and keep the rebates and credits that help small businesses? We don't need to institute a flat tax to do these things.

We are in the middle of an economic recovery.

Hurting small businesses and the poor won't help the recovery. It costs money to institute tax cuts - money that we don't have. In essence, that is what a flat tax is, tax cuts for the filthy rich.

We need to simplify the tax code but not at the expense of the working poor and middle class. If anything, we need to raise taxes on those making more than a million dollars a year.

Don't forget, the rich don't pay taxes anyway. We need to fix that mess first before we start raising taxes on the lower and middle class.

Patrick Wright is a senior majoring in geography and political science and can be reached at phw2b@mtmail.mtsu.edu.

### Current tax system is far from 'fair'

April brings about a lot of antipathy toward our system of taxation. From the murky state of the tax code to the vast number of accounting lobbyists that seek to keep the complexities for their own benefit, it's undeniable that the system has its drawbacks.

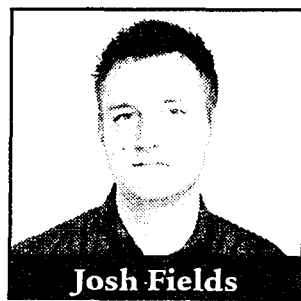
There have been various proposals, all of which have sought to eliminate many of the loopholes and the headaches. The biggest complaints that have stemmed from tax reforms are their potential adverse effects on both revenues and the political landscape. You can rest assured that the system won't change anytime soon as a result of those variables.

No matter the unlikelihood of major reform in our present day, it is not beyond us to question the system and its possible replacements from a moral and economic perspective. Certainly, a big hang up with proposals such as the fair tax and the flat tax is the perception of a system that is no longer progressive.

That is, however, not of great concern to most, and generally is argued purely from the political realm. The big hang up that many economists have with the fair tax, for instance, is the problem of lump sum. Many government officials and economists alike fear that the properties which lump the tax into sales may drive tax evasion through black market transactions.

On the other hand, the flat tax does not have such a drawback, and unlike progressive tax schemes on income, it doesn't restrain the incentive for individuals to increase their income.

We often take for granted the withholding tax system we currently have, which in



Josh Fields

Columnist

and of itself has improved the efficiency of tax collection. The man behind this structure, Milton Friedman, first proposed the flat tax for the United States in 1962. At the time, the proposed structure included something that not only would eliminate the lobbyist "capture" on the tax code, but it also spanned to eliminate U.S.

welfare programs. The proposal, now known as the negative income tax helped to alleviate the "welfare trap," which just as with the remaining progressive tax scale is due to the restraint on incentives for individual from tax bracket shifting. Essentially, there is a point in which increasing your income has a cost greater than the income rise itself. So, you could have a lower income and still have a higher take-home pay because of the bracket differentials.

Just as with the flat tax seeking to eliminate this "trap," the proposed negative income tax would remove the threshold on the poor to rely on government programs by weaning them off until their baseline rate is 0 percent.

While no system of taxation is fair, it is quite unfair to ignore the deep problems within our own tax system, which more often than not benefit the rich far more than the poor.

In the end, the flat tax at the very least would prevent changing of the tax code by businesses, which not only have the accountants to drive through the loopholes but also the lobbyists to establish the loopholes.

Josh Fields is a senior majoring in economics and can be reached at josh@virtualblend.com.



comic by: Megan Gann

## Parental involvement report card not appropriate

I remember growing up through the public school system. I'd do my best to get an "A" in every class and an "E" for participation in the extracurricular activities.

My dad knew that my sister and I did not want to hear another long and always boring explanation as to why getting an "A" in every subject and "E" in all the extracurricular activities would "enrich" our education and lives in general.

Years later, I look back and can only think of how my dad really did love his kids enough to push them for excellence. Now, his daughter is a private tutor who aspires to be a singer of No. 1 hits, and his son is a community servant who has hopes of one day leading his beloved homeland into a debt-free society.

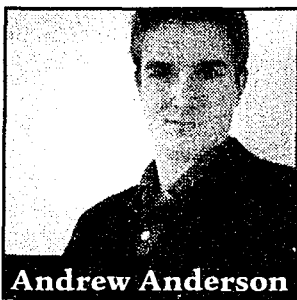
You may say, "Wow, these are some farcical dreams for sure!"

I assure you without my parents being involved when my sister and I needed it most, these dreams would not be the same at all.

Parent-teacher involvement has a boundary I believe it should stay at. While your parents should "ride" you about your grades and get on your nerves, you should never be able to get the "one up" on your parents by comparing your grades to their parent-teacher grades.

That's right. H.B. 1887, as introduced, "establishes a report card for parents in order to encourage parental involvement and accountability in public schools. - Amends TCA Title 49." If you read the title it sounds as though only the students are getting the report card, but this isn't the case.

If you read into it, the bill proposes that the state "establishes a parent report card that teachers in pre-K-through third-grade classrooms will use to grade the parents of all students in their class on the parent's involvement in their child's education. Parents will be graded separately on their response to requests for



Andrew Anderson

Columnist

conferences and communication, the student's completion of homework and preparation for tests, and the student's frequency of the student's absence or tardiness."

As much as I believe in "accountability" and encouraging "parental involvement," I still do not understand why you'd honestly think my dad would knowingly allow you to "grade" him on his involvement. I believe that accountability is when we hold ourselves accountable by the standards, morals, and statutes by which we live.

Take this for instance: Because I read the Bible, I most certainly am not going to do the child's homework no matter how bad they feel. It's deceitful, dishonest and damages the child's education because they will not know how to complete homework.

Now, if I tell the child, "This homework will either get done tonight or early in the morning," this proves I'm involved and am accountable at the same time.

I feel rather honored by the word "accountable" but also disgusted that government wants to hold parents accountable on some grade scale, which is intervening with one's personal life. Instead of balancing a budget, getting out of debt, and solving the state of Tennessee's problems with TennCare, immigration, and one party's selfish demands to in some ways change how the redistricting process can work, lawmakers are worried about grading parents.

If you truly love education, I think you'll tell the government to stick to worry about its own accountability and not try to hold others to another standard by which it falls very short.

Matthew 7:5 says, "You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

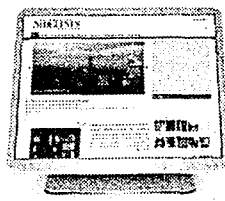
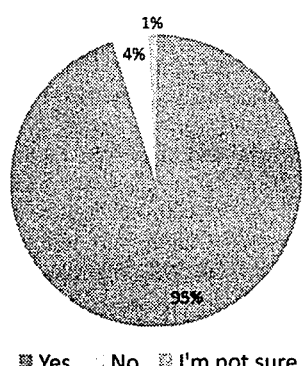
Andrew Anderson is a freshman majoring in economics. He can be reached at awa2f@mtsu.edu.



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### State lawmakers to vote on campus gun bill

"People are not allowed to protect themselves on school property. The laws keeping firearms off this property are not going to affect someone choosing to harm others. If I were a bully this would be the best place to hurt others... any location I know others cannot fight back." - Anonymous

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# SPORTS

## Preds take first round

By ALEX HUBBARD  
Staff Writer

The Nashville Predators made franchise history Sunday night.

Nick Spaling scored the game-winning goal and David Legwand potted an empty-net score on the power play to wrap up a 4-2 win and capture the franchise's first playoff-series victory, four games to two over the Anaheim Ducks.

The Predators bested the Ducks offensive juggernaut, which consisted of the NHL's regular season leading goal scorer, with goals from checking forward Nick Spaling and fourth-line veteran Steve Sullivan. In contrast to previous games in this series, Game 6 was played mostly at even strength with few penalties and flowing, back and forth play.

The Predators surrendered the opening score when Teemu Selanne scored off a wrap around, tucking the puck in on Predators goaltender Pekka Rinne's short side and silencing the sold-out crowd in the Bridgestone Arena.

After failing to capitalize on a power play, the Predators appeared certain to head to the first intermission with a one-goal deficit.

However, Spaling changed that as he scored off an Anaheim turnover with 28 seconds to go. Jordan Tootoo fed Spaling in the slot, and the shot went over goaltender Ray Emery's shoulder.

With the third line already contributing, it was time for the fourth line to get in the act in the second period.

Sullivan completed a good transitional rush by executing a nice bit of stick handling to backhand the puck behind Emery. His line mates J.P. Dumont and Blake Geoffrion drew assists on the play that originated with Geoffrion's pass in the Predator's defensive zone.

The Ducks gradually turned up the heat, however, and used their first power play of the game to tie the game at 18:23 of the period.

The third period started on a sour note for the Predators as it was ruled that Patrick Hornqvist knocked a puck in the

net with a high stick two minutes in. Three minutes later, however, Spaling struck again. Tootoo broke in the zone and got off a backhand, the rebound of which Spaling collected in the slot and snapped a shot over Emery, collecting his second goal of the game and issuing Tootoo's fourth assist in the last two games.

The Ducks pushed late in regulation, but their desperation led to a penalty in the final minute. Legwand sealed the deal when he fired into an empty net with 23 seconds remaining.

Rinne was solid in net, stopping 25 of 27 shots and even collecting an assist on the Predators third goal. Emery stopped 26 of 29 for Anaheim.

This Western Conference quarterfinal matchup turned into one of the scrappier affairs this post season, on and off the ice. Accusations by Ducks general manager Bob Murray of overly-dramatic diving by the Predators to draw penalties were fiercely denied by coach Berry Trotz. Actions on the ice kept the NHL disciplinary unit busy as the Ducks saw two players receive suspensions.

The series featured a good deal of offense as both teams scored three or more goals in four of the six games. The Predators, known more for a defensive style of play, pulled offense from all areas.

Shea Weber, in his first playoffs as team captain, put up five points, including three goals. Mike Fisher, acquired at the trade deadline precisely for his playoff experience, racked up six points, including a three-point effort in an opening-game win.

Aside from the clinching victory, perhaps the most-impressive effort for the Predators came in game 5's over-time road win, which featured checking-minded forward Jerred Smithson with the winner, assisted by Tootoo, who displayed offensive skill over his typical physical style throughout the series.

The Predators will celebrate the franchise achievement and await their next opponent as the other series finish. The NHL reseeds after each round in the playoffs.



Photo by Mark Mize, staff writer  
Senior Will Skinner (12) belts his conference-leading 11th homerun of the season April 24 against UL-Monroe at Reese Smith Jr. Field.

## Blue Raider bats heat up against Warhawks

By MARK MIZE  
Staff Writer

The Blue Raiders took two out of three games this weekend against UL-Monroe thanks to a flurry of offense and a season-high 24 runs in the series.

More importantly, the series win moves MT into a tie for seventh with Arkansas State in the Sun Belt Conference standings.

The top eight regular season teams earn a place in the conference postseason tournament, with the winner receiving an invite to the NCAA regionals.

In the opening game of the series, Friday night, the Blue Raiders found themselves behind early, 4-0, with starting pitcher Daniel Palo struggling to find his command.

However, from the third inning on, Palo was able to turn things around.

He only surrendered one more run over his next five innings of work, while striking out six batters.

"It's not like (Palo) was walking a bunch of guys in the first two innings, they were just ripping him," said head coach Steve Peterson. "When he started locating, next thing you know you look up and he's pitched you through the seventh inning. He gave us a chance to win the game."

The Blue Raiders turned it around on offense with the help of a seven-run fifth inning, in which their first eight batters reached base.

The Warhawks would come back and tie the game 9-9 in the top of the eighth though, due to a blown save by the MT bullpen, but the offense still hadn't had its last say.

Catcher Tyler Acker hit a go-ahead RBI single in the bottom of the inning, before Hank LaRue crushed a ball off the scoreboard for a three-run homerun and the Blue Raiders took game one, 15-9. The 15 runs were a season-high.

Acker received player-of-the-game honors, driving in five runs and scoring two runs in the contest.

In Saturday's game, the Warhawk pitchers found a way to

silence MT's bats.

The Blue Raiders struggled to get runners home all night, leaving 13 men on base in the 8-3 loss.

UL-Monroe had no such trouble on offense, collecting 10 hits, including two homeruns off MT starting pitcher Hunter Adkins.

Adkins did pitch well in the loss, going six innings and giving up just four runs. Designated hitter Justin Guidry continued his hot hitting as of late, smashing his third homerun of the season.

Sunday's game was vital to the Blue Raiders if they were to keep their post-season hopes alive.

Starting pitcher Eric Gilley answered the call, going eight-plus innings, while giving up just three hits and two runs. Through four innings Gilley had yet to allow a single hit, but a Warhawk homerun in the top of the fifth put an end to the senior's no-hit bid.

The MT offense found their stride again early on Sunday to help back up Gilley.

Guidry hit a two-run triple to the right field gap to make the score 3-0 in the third inning. Moments later, center fielder Will Skinner stepped to the plate and crushed a deep fly ball over the right field wall. The homerun was

Skinner's second of the series and conference-leading 11th of the year.

Right fielder Trent Miller would add another homerun off the Lee Victory Wall of Champions in left field, and the Blue Raiders took game three, 6-2.

Gilley was named the player of the game and picked up his team-leading fourth victory of the season with the win.

MT improves to 15-26 overall and 7-11 in conference with the victory. UL Monroe is now 20-19 overall and 6-12 in conference with the loss.

This week, the Blue Raiders travel to Knoxville to take on the Tennessee Volunteers on Tuesday, before hosting the Belmont Bruins at Reese Smith Jr. Field, Wednesday. The conference schedule picks up again this weekend with a three-game road series against the Arkansas State Wolves starting Friday.

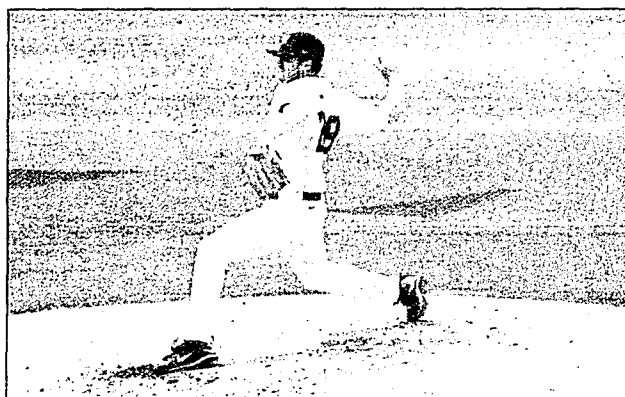


Photo by Mark Mize, staff writer  
Senior Eric Gilley threw eight solid innings to pick up his fourth win of the season April 24 at the Reese Smith Jr. Field.

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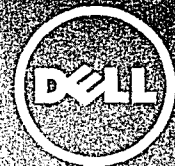
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