



Morning showers

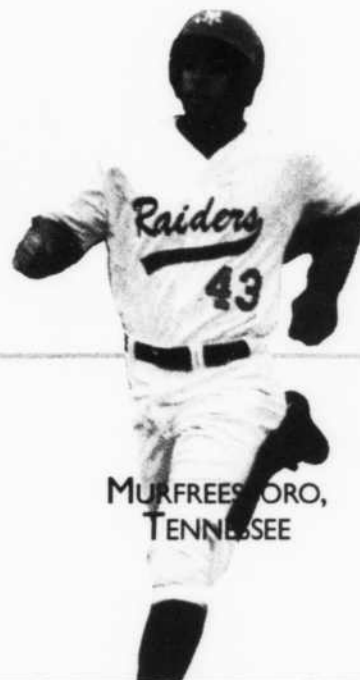


This week's poll question at www.mtsusidelines.com

Will McCallie Dining Hall's failed health inspection deter you from campus eateries?

Baseball drops series to Aggies

In Sports, page 7



MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

Middle Tennessee State University

SIDELINES

An editorially independent newspaper

Volume 78 No. 80

Campus Briefs

Women for Women seeking new members

Women for Women is seeking new members, particularly women, who will be on campus during the summer and who would like to help with the rock 'n' roll camp for girls. There will be a meeting of the group tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. in the Keathley University Center, Room 320.

Famous author to read from own writings

Canadian author Alan R. Wilson will be holding a public reading today from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Peck Hall, Room 109A. Wilson is the author of *Before The Flood*, a novel published in 1999, and two volumes of poetry.

The reading is free and open to the public. Wilson will also attend four sessions of Honors English 1020 to further discuss his book and host a writer's workshop tomorrow. For more information, contact Ron Kates at 898-2595.

Local cafe to host benefit concert Friday

The Red Rose Coffee House and Bistro will be hosting the Take Back The Night Benefit Concert on Friday at 8 p.m.

Featured acts include Carolina Ave., Exit 81 and Soon.

There will be a \$5 cover charge, and all proceeds go to benefit Domestic Violence, Inc. For more information, contact the June Anderson Women's Center at 898-2193.

Workshops will focus on job search, resumes

MTSU's Career and Employment Center will be hosting two workshops on job searching today at 11 a.m. and tomorrow at 2 p.m. in the Keathley University Center, Room 322.

For more information, call 898-2500.

Women in History host presentation Thursday

Carol Baldwin of the National Museum of Natural History will be giving a presentation in the McWhorter Learning Resources Center, Room 221, tomorrow at 7 p.m. It will feature an IMAX film titled *Fishes! Bizarre Beginnings Under The Sea*.

The film will also be presented Friday at 10 a.m. in the Business and Aerospace Building, Room 101. For more information, contact the Women's Studies Office at 898-5910.

Tunnel of Love or Pain to offer education, tests

The health, physical education, recreation and safety department with several sponsors will present the Tunnel of Love or Pain April 1 in the Dance Studios at the Murphy Center from 9:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The presentation will include education on sexually transmitted diseases and will offer free counseling and testing for attendees. ♦

Sunny days



Photo by Callie E. Butler | Staff Photographer

Senior Cory Bowen, middle, flies a kite with juniors Barbara Simpson, left, and Vickie Dills, right, in between the Business and Aerospace Building and Cummings Hall yesterday. Temperatures reached over 70 degrees.

Tennesseans split on issue of war

Staff Reports

Tennesseans don't seem to like the idea of a war in Iraq without United Nations approval, according to the most recent MT Poll conducted by MTSU's Office of Communication Research.

The telephone poll, held Feb. 17 to March 1 - several weeks before the United States officially declared war on Iraq - found that the percentage of Tennesseans favoring a war on Iraq rises to 74 percent if the UN supports the move. However, less than a majority

(38 percent) supports a war without full UN support.

Though Tennesseans would like to see Saddam Hussein defeated, they "would be more comfortable with Congressional support, even if the United Nations or other countries disapprove of the war," according to the poll's official results.

A majority of Tennesseans (56 percent) favor sending ground troops to remove Hussein when the question is asked in the abstract.

According to the poll, almost

See Poll, 2

Taxes, astronauts discussed

Social issues

Less than half think Columbia astronauts in Heaven

Forty-two percent of Tennesseans believe that the Columbia astronauts are in heaven.

Of the 74 percent who believe in an afterlife, 53 percent think they are in heaven, while one-third said they don't know.

Support for journalists higher than after Sept. 11

Thirty-two percent of Tennesseans would protect the right of journalists to report classified information the government wants to keep secret. This number is up from 28 percent in the fall 2001 survey.

State issues

Governor can solve problems without tax hike

More than half of Tennesseans believe that Gov. Phil Bredesen can solve the state's budget problems without raising taxes.

Nearly one-third think he can't. Fifty-eight percent approve of the way Bredesen is handling his job as governor.

Most support income tax

Support for a state income tax that entails eliminating sales taxes on groceries and cutting sales taxes on other items has grown to 61 percent. ♦

Summer school to help business graduates

Accelerated program gets students ready for MBA studies

By Chris Jones
Staff Writer

For the past few days, Betty James has sat at her desk stuffing envelopes with what she said is an opportunity that can change lives. "It's a decision that can really add to

someone's career," said James, a graduate administrative assistant.

"There are 1,275 non-business and business students graduating this semester and they're all going to hear from us," James said.

James and the Jennings A. Jones College of Business are sending out applications for Immersion 2003, an intensive summer school business program designed specifically for non-business graduates who want to pursue an advanced business degree.

"It's similar to learning to swim by

jumping into the deep end of the pool," said Troy Festervand, associate dean for graduate and executive education in the College of Business.

These eight prerequisite courses are conducted over the summer terms. They are Legal Environment of Business, Management and Operations Concepts, Marketing Concepts, Quantitative Methods Survey, Survey of Accounting Principles, Survey of Economic Theory, Survey of

See MBA, 2

First 24-hour computer lab now open to students

CLUE approves pilot venture for secure building

By Mealand Ragland
Staff Writer

Students returning to campus after Spring Break received news that may make their semester go a little smoother.

The computer lab located in the Business and Aerospace Building is now accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The recommendation to keep the lab open was made by the Classroom Laboratory Utilization and Effectiveness Committee and was approved by university President Sidney McPhee.

According to committee member Watson Hannah, the BAS lab was chosen because of its location and the security of the building.

"The rest of the BAS can be closed off so that the lab is the only thing open," Hannah said. "It's really a separate lab in itself."

Robin Jones, director of



Photo by Jenny Cordle | Chief Photographer

The new Business and Aerospace Building computer lab will feature an information desk manned by Information Technology Division workers from 4:30 p.m. to 8 a.m.

Communication Support Services, says that there will be workers from the Information Technology Division on hand from 4:30 p.m. to 8 a.m. to aid students and lab assistants.

"There will be someone on

duty after hours when the IT department closes, as well as on weekends," Jones said.

Usage data, such as how many students are in the lab and the types of problems students encounter, will be chart-

ed. This data helps to determine if it's feasible for the lab to stay open after the 2003-2004 school year.

"If the data is there, then we

See Labs, 2

Project seeks MTSU interns

Participants will research candidates

By Leah Massey
Staff Writer

Project Vote Smart is looking for MTSU students interested in spending 10 weeks doing political research.

The project has approved funds for five students to attend the 10-week seminar with all expenses covered. More than five students may be accepted to the program with scholarships, but five full scholarships covering room and board have been approved.

"We lack researchers from Tennessee and are very interested in attracting students from Middle Tennessee State University," said Lisa Coligan, the project's intern coordinator.

Project Vote Smart gathers information about governmental candidates at national, state and sometimes local levels. The project also comes highly recommended by the federal government, according to *The New York Times*.

Students attending must commit to a 10-week internship that can be scheduled at any time.

The summer internship is likely to start around June 2, so any interested students are encouraged to turn in applications soon.

Interns majoring in communications, journalism and political science are encouraged to apply, but anyone with an interest in politics may take part and receive scholarship support.

Students should also be willing to work in a non-politically charged atmosphere.

The project is a nonpartisan, non-profit, independent and objective organization. Each candidate is treated fairly with no rhetoric. Only unbiased facts are presented and no lobbying for any candidate is done by the project.

Information about each candidate is available for viewing on the project's Web site, www.vote-smart.org.

The interns will do research to make sure that information about candidates is accurate, among other things.

Interns will go to the Great Divide Ranch Retreat and Research facility located in the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness 30 minutes south of Philipsburg, Mont.

According to Coligan, the project began in 1992. The national internship program began in 1999.

Students who apply for the scholarships and take part over the summer will most likely help gather information for the 2004 presidential campaign as well as other projects. Applications can be printed out at the Vote Smart Web site.

Interested students can visit the Web site and click on "internships/volunteer" under the "Get Involved" headline on the left side of the Web page.

For more information, contact the Voter's Research Hotline at 1-888-868-3762. ♦

MBA: Program could cap this year at nearly 100 students

Continued from 1

Information Systems Issues and Survey of Managerial Finance.

Students must complete the courses and achieve a certain score on the General Management Admissions Test before entering the accelerated advanced degree program. Required scores for candidacy vary according to the student's previous undergraduate or graduate grade point average.

three components to determine admittance.

"Immersion 2003 has the potential to reduce the amount of time required to complete prerequisites from an academic year to one summer," Festervand said. "That's virtually unheard of, but in this program, it can be done."

Around 40 students completed the program in 2002 – the first year for the accelerated track at the university. This year, the College of Business and Applied Sciences wants its numbers to cap near

100.

"This program is set up for students who are just getting out of undergrad and can do it full-time," James said.

People already enrolled in the program, such as Marc Malone, can attest to the program's usefulness.

"You have to work, but it's nothing that can't be done," said Malone, who began the program in spring 2002 and completed the remaining courses that summer. "If it wasn't for the program, I'd probably have to knock out an extra

semester."

Festervand said the program is worth the time because of the perks that come with receiving a master's degree in business administration.

This type of degree basically pays for itself in less than four years, he added. And it generates an additional average annual income of more than \$20,000 to those who hold the degree.

For more information, contact the MTSU Office of Graduate Business Studies at (615) 898 2964. ♦



Outraged?
Write a letter to the editor!
slopinio@mtsu.edu

Labs: New program to aid computer lab assistants

Continued from 1

will keep it open," Hannah said. CLUE has no plans to test the campus' other computer labs at this time.

While using the lab, students may encounter a problem that a lab assistant doesn't know how to solve.

Now, a student technology training program has been

designed to help lab workers solve those problems.

"It's a Web-based program that takes the lab assistant through different levels of [computer] knowledge," Jones said.

The program quizzes the assistants on what they have learned and sends the scores to ITD.

Students on and off campus

are excited about the change and plan to put the lab to use.

"It's about time we have a lab open 24 hours," senior Alonzo Hudgins said.

For some students, the 24-hour lab adds more flexibility to a student's social calendar.

Often times, students are unable to attend movies or parties because they have to finish a report or presentation before

the lab closes.

"Now I can go to a party, come back, take a nap, then finish my paper," freshman Sean Martin said.

A student ID is required to use the computer lab.

For more information, contact the IT help desk at 898-5345. ♦



Poll: Citizens still confident in military

Continued from 1

three-fourths support the invasion if other nations agree but this support drops to 38 percent if other nations oppose.

"Thus, any opposition seems to make support melt," the report says.

Similarly to the MT Poll results, a nationwide Gallup Poll conducted March 3-5 found 59 percent of Americans in favor of sending ground troops into Iraq. However, the figure drops to 38 percent when the issue of U.N. opposition is brought up.

Party lines and individuals' views of President George W. Bush also played a major role in Tennessee residents' views on the war.

Tennesseans' attitudes toward Bush is the best predictor of their feelings toward an invasion of Iraq. A majority (53 percent) of those who approve of Bush favor a war even with U.N. opposition. Twenty percent of those who disapprove of Bush favor action.

After attitudes toward Bush, party identification becomes the most important indication of residents' feelings about war in Iraq. Fifty-three percent of Republicans but 31 percent of all other party persuasions endorse even with U.N. opposition.

Bush's overall approval rating stands at 55 percent, with 35 percent disapproval. Just 10 percent were uncertain or refused to say.

Despite Tennesseans' feelings about war, the U.S. military received the highest vote of confidence of any public institutions, followed by medicine and the Supreme Court.

Tennesseans also had strong and varied opinions regarding the rights of gay men and lesbians. Eighty-two percent said they believe gays and lesbians should be guaranteed equal housing rights, and 78 percent support equal employment rights.

However, a vast majority of Tennesseans do not believe

these rights should be expanded to include full marital rights.

Religious preference seems to be a prime factor in these decisions, according to the poll summary. Even among those who attend religious services weekly, support for gay employment rights is strong, with 72 percent support.

The margin of support rises to 85 percent among those who attend less frequently or not at all. And, though political party affiliation plays a role in support for housing rights, support across party identification seems to be consistent – 88 percent for Democrats, 87 percent for independents and 74 percent for Republicans.

The MT Poll is conducted twice each year by students in the College of Mass Communication. For this survey, students interviewed 609 people age 18 or older chosen at random from the state population.

For full results of the poll, visit www.mtsu.edu/mtpoll. ♦

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From the Editorial Board MT Poll sheds light on Tennessee minds

The spring 2003 MT Poll is out, and it has several surprising – and a few not-so-surprising – findings on what our fellow Tennesseans are thinking.

At the state level, most state residents think Gov. Phil Bredesen won't need a tax hike to solve the state's pervasive budget problems. However, six out of 10 polled support a state income tax that would end sales taxation on groceries and slash sales taxes across the board. In addition, the same number believes the majority of Tennesseans oppose the income tax.

Judging by the hell raised by the window-breakers and horn-honkers on Capitol Hill the past two years, this isn't surprising. But, we're sure that the irony of destroying public property and using state cops' resources was lost on the protesters.

As for Iraq – while the majority of Tennesseans want Saddam Hussein out, only 38 percent voiced support for going in without U.N. approval.

We should note that this poll was conducted prior to the coalition's attack on Iraq began, and a solid 72 percent of Americans support the new war, according to a CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll released Monday. The dramatic increase of support should be expected considering public support of war and the presidential administration typically goes up during a conflict.

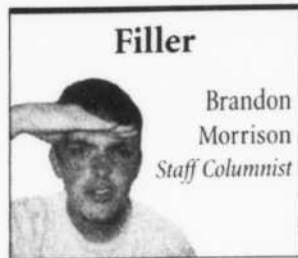
Also in the poll, it was found that 80 percent want equal employment and housing rights for gays and lesbians – pretty surprising considering how divisive a proposal to mandate just that was in Nashville/Davidson County earlier this year. However, the numbers flip when the issue of gay/lesbian marriages arises. Only 30 percent supported granting full marital rights.

While it was almost shocking that such a large majority support housing and job rights, it's too bad that the prospect of same-sex marriages did not appeal to a majority.

This could perhaps be attributed to the highly religious nature of the area. However, it's good to know most people realize gays and lesbians have to work and live somewhere and should not be stymied in doing so.

As usual, the MT Poll reaffirmed some of our perceptions about our neighbors, disproved others and has given us some things to think about. ◆

Blind attacks Moore's specialty



Filler

Brandon Morrison
Staff Columnist

"Shame on you, Mr. Bush. Shame on you."

With those words, Michael Moore was officially booted off the Oscar stage with his tactless anti-war speech Sunday night.

Moore first made it big with 1989's *Roger and Me*, a documentary about the collapse of the Ford auto plant in Flint, Mich. His most recent movie, *Bowling for Columbine*, earned him an Oscar for best documentary.

During his acceptance speech, Moore brought up a few of his colleagues who had also been nominated for best documentary. He gave an impassioned speech about the "fictitious times" he believes we live in.

"We live in the time where we have fictitious election results that elect a fictitious president," Moore said.

"We live in a time where

we have a man who's sending us to war for fictitious reasons, whether it's the fiction of duct tape or the fiction of orange alerts."

Moore was greeted with a mixed crowd of a few cheers followed by a booing audience.

As the non-fiction players were played off stage, Moore shot out a few more insults.

"Anytime you've got the pope and the Dixie Chicks against you, it's a bad sign," Moore said.

Moore's bashing of the Iraqi conflict is a great example of how not to protest a war.

His condescending attitude of others who don't believe his views will not further his cause.

In his speech, he demonizes President George W. Bush. Moore scolds Bush like a parent scolds a child after pushing one of his classmates in the mud. The major difference is, unlike a parent's scolding, Moore's attack was no labor of love.

Rather than voice his concern and offer an alternative, he attacks him, treating him like "he's no smarter than an 8-year-

old.

This isn't the first time Moore treated his marks like dirt. In *Roger and Me*, he gives the impression that Ford executive Roger Smith has the moral fiber of a German dictator. Granted, the link between the closing of the Ford plant in Flint and the ensuing decline of the town are unmistakable. If Ford could do it over again, hopefully they would try to either wean the town off of the plant before closing or leave the plant open.

However, the company is not just the bringer of death and despair, as *Roger and Me* might have one believe. Ford donates a substantial amount to hundreds of charities every year.

Does that excuse them from their responsibilities to the towns that they support? No, but they certainly aren't as evil as Moore's movie shows.

More recently, Moore published an open letter to Bush, in which he criticizes Bush for his ties to Enron.

Along with his ballsy style of writing and filmmaking, Moore apparently picked up a sense of sarcasm since *Roger and Me*.

"Don't get me wrong, George, I do not think you're an evil man. You don't need any crap from people like me – heck, you got mother-in-law problems! Now, I have a very good relationship with my mother-in-law, but then, I never told her to put \$8,000 of her money into a company my administration knew was going belly-up," Moore wrote in his 2,000-word open letter to Bush.

Once again, Moore is attacking his target only to belittle it. He criticizes only to make his voice heard, not to improve the situation.

Undoubtedly, Moore was not the only person in the room on Oscar night that had anti-war views. However, his brash, chauvinistic attitude toward anyone in power won't further his cause.

Had Moore truly wanted to push an American ceasefire against Iraq instead of being a mouthpiece, he should have followed Adrien Brody's example.

Brody won Best Actor for *The Pianist*, a movie

about a prisoner-of-war in World War II who survived by entertaining German officers with his piano-playing abilities.

Brody also spoke out about the horrors of war. Rather than falling into the trap of blindly attacking Bush's policy against Iraq, he spoke on the consequences of war and reflected on a friend stationed in Kuwait.

"After making this movie, I am aware of the sadness and dehumanization of people at times of war and the repercussions of war. Whatever you believe in, whether it be God or Allah, may he watch over you, and pray for a peaceful and swift resolution," Brody said.

Brody managed to do what Moore should learn: to express his opposition to war without alienating opposing viewpoints to his cause.

Good job, Mr. Brody. Good job. ◆

Brandon Morrison is a sophomore media design major and can be reached via e-mail at bjm2k@mtsu.edu.

Anti-war isn't anti-American



A Single Voice

Heidi Ward
Staff Columnist

"Now that we're at war, it's time for us to stand united."

I'm sure you've heard that. I've heard it and variations on it a lot, too. The problem with that statement is, every time I've heard it, it's in response to anti-war opinions.

What the person really means is, "Now that we're at war, it's time for everyone to stop voicing their opinions unless they're pro-war." To voice anything other than, "All right, let's kick their butts," or "Woo-hoo, we're at war," is unpatriotic.

I've even heard people say protesting is treason. My personal favorite is that celebrities shouldn't voice their opinions because who are they, anyway?

A definition of treason is "the offense of attempting to overthrow the government of one's country, or of assisting its enemies in war."

To disagree with the government is not the same as trying to overthrow it. When someone says they don't want war, they aren't giving Saddam Hussein secret information.

I think most of the anti-war people you ask don't want to overthrow our government; they just want to feel like their voice is being heard.

Many would argue we should all support the troops. To be against the war is not to be anti-troops.

The troops are people who volunteered to do an important job. Everyone should respect that.

But you can respect them and still disagree with the people that sent them to Iraq.

That isn't unpatriotic. Patriotism is the love of one's country. You can love your country and not love its actions. You can love your country and think it's not perfect.

For some, it's love of their country that makes them vocal. You want to fix all of its mistakes. If you love something, you don't want it to do something you feel is wrong. You don't want to sit by and watch it make mistakes.

But, in this country, our government's actions are in the names of its citizens. No one wants what he or she considers to be mistakes made in his or her name.

That's also one important reason to speak out. Our government is there to represent the people. We're supposed to give our opinions.

Also, by speaking out, the world will see that not every single person in America made the decision to go to war.

That's why celebrities should voice their opinions.

They're citizens. They just happen to have more exposure.

When we start telling people what they can and cannot say, we lose the meaning of being American.

We also close down avenues of discussion, which is one of the reasons we were given the freedom of speech.

It's important that we remember, in this time of war, that it will not benefit anyone if we silence voices – our own or others'. ◆

Heidi Ward is a senior journalism major and can be reached via e-mail at hlw2a@mtsu.edu.

Letters to the Editor

'Books Not Bombs' ineffective display

To the Editor:

There has certainly been a lot of debate about the "Books Not Bombs" rally, but the coverage on the front page was atrocious. First, I want to commend the rally's overall presentation – it was very intelligent and amusing. What made the coverage atrocious was the journalist's classifying demonstrators into two categories: "anti-war" and "pro-war." I was standing with what the journalist called the "pro-war" demonstrators, but I am against war. I'm all for peace, but not a false sense of peace.

While the anti-war demonstrators spoke loud and with a lot of feeling, they failed to address the objections made by those who support ousting Hussein. No one denied the fact that Hussein invaded the sovereign state of Kuwait, and no one seems to deny that he killed hundreds of thousands of Kurds and his own people. It's all about the methodology. So why are the peaceniks ranting now? Where were they when Clinton bombed Bosnia? Perhaps Clinton was en vogue, and Bush is not.

Of course, I also need to say that the anti-war demonstrators are also "pro-American." They were demonstrating what they feel is the right thing to do. I detest the people who stood outside the anti-war demonstration calling people names and using obscenities. But, since the anti-war demonstrators can't show any consistency using "Books Not Bombs" as their effective deterrent to war, what makes them think they can provide a lasting, secure peace with Hussein when the man consistently shows he can't be trusted?

Stephen Brace.

Students should recognize ridiculousness

To the Editor:

As students of an institution for higher learning, we represent hard work, motivation, determination and a drive for success. The condition of our future, as a nation, depends on our performance in preparation for the future.

The situation surrounding the war has brought out the ridiculousness in some of us due to a lack of understanding. It's as if we hear an idea or opinion, think it sounds great and then take it in as our own. But, this idea goes beyond the war and elements encompassing it. It's about the idea that, as humans, we hold our own individuality, including the thinking process and belief system. Our own ignorance radiates when we disregard individual thinking for the idea that there is strength in numbers or popular opinion. How strong is a group of individuals who just hear and follow?

The "Books Not Bombs" rally was the most intriguing event I've seen. Hundreds of students gathered, but for what? No real impact was produced, and I find it ridiculous that the protesters were simultaneously throwing money away on the classes that they felt were inferior compared to their puerile cause. The war is about ridding the world of an evil force – a force threatening our liberties and freedoms.

May God be with those blessed with the honor of defending our victorious nation, and may he be with us as we bring peace, comfort, security, stability and, most importantly, hope to an oppressed nation.

Jesse Waterman

Cheap oil isn't the reason for war in Iraq

To the Editor:

While I agree that war isn't entertainment, I disagree with Wendy Caldwell's assertion that the action in taking the oil fields first was simply because the United States wants cheap oil ("War not entertainment," March 24).

Caldwell apparently threw out the idea that perhaps coalition forces took them in an effort to minimize environmental destruction and the waste of a source of income for the Iraqi people. First of all, anyone who thinks this war is simply about oil needs to stop watching television and listening to the infantile ramblings of sycophants for peace and put forth a little research of his or her own. One might look into where U.S. oil comes from, where the oil industry in the Middle East emerged from and how the international distribution of oil is handled. Second, they might want to take the time to read up on the history of the region since the end of the Ottoman empire.

I'm not challenging anyone's right to say this war is right or wrong. Even if it was about oil, securing an oil field to keep it from being burned is certainly not a sign. God forbid it might just have been to stop a repeat of the destruction caused by the burning of the oil fields in 1991.

Jason Cain
Recording industry

SIDELINES

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Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers.

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



Rockettown

Coffeehouse rocks Nashville

By Kristin Hall
Staff Writer

For those of us who spent our high school years in Murfreesboro, the only venue in town geared toward teenagers was, and still is, the Skate Center West.

Overpriced nachos and a set list including bad 1980s classics and the ubiquitous "Hokey Pokey" characterized the teen scene for many unfortunate kids.

However, these days, it's suddenly cool to be a teenager again.

With the opening of Rockettown, a four-in-one, under-21 venue in Nashville, teenagers now have a lot more to do on Friday night.

The former Wesco warehouse was revamped into a multi-layered, 40,000-square-foot building to house a coffee shop, a clothing boutique, a nightclub and an indoor skate park.

Rockettown director of administration Matt Grace is a recent graduate of Vanderbilt University, but at 25 years old, he's just the right age for this venue.

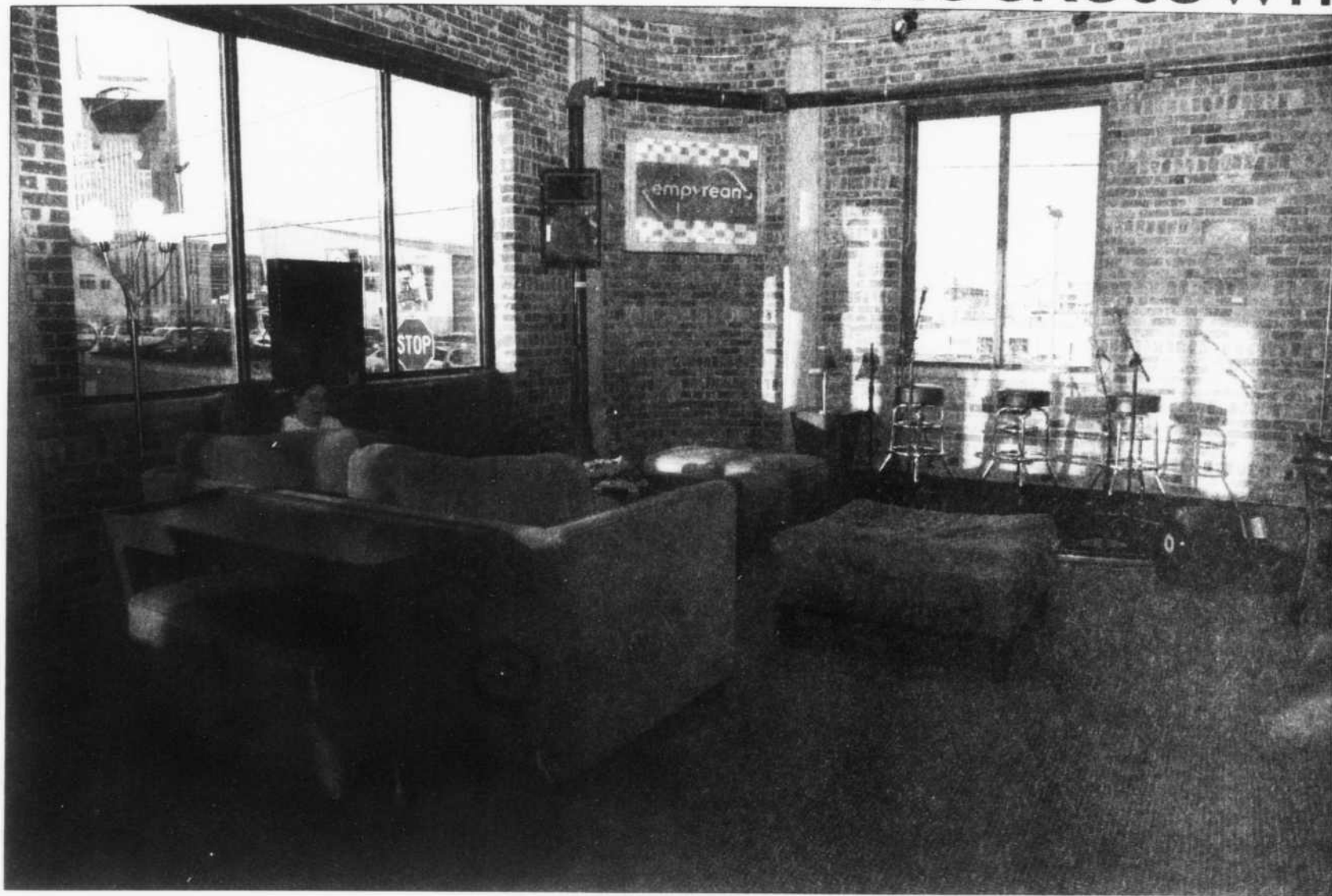
"There is no one on our staff that is older than 32," Grace explains.

Contemporary Christian singer Michael W. Smith first set up the funds for the original Rockettown club in Cool Springs.

"The original inspiration was driving in my hometown and seeing three blocks bumper-to-bumper of a bunch of kids cruisin' with no place to go," Smith says on his Web site, www.michael-wsmith.com.

"From 1994 to 1997, they had over 70,000 kids come through the doors," Grace says.

Despite its success, Rockettown lost its lease in 1997, and the board of directors looked for ways



to expand and enlarge the club's vision.

"The board looked at the bigger picture of what teenagers in Nashville needed," Grace says.

Celebrating its grand opening with a concert by the Grammy-nominated hip-hop duo GRITS, Rockettown is quickly on its way to becoming a Nashville hot spot.

The club is open to all ages Sunday through Thursday, with a hip-hop and R&B disc jockey on Friday nights and a Top 40 dance party on Saturday nights.

Cover charges are usually \$8 for Thursdays and \$10 for Fridays and Saturdays, but with a \$19 monthly membership fee, the shows are free.

As an underage venue, Rockettown is both alcohol- and smoke-free, which makes the nightclub one of the cleanest places in Nashville.

"You're not going to have nasty beer on the floor or get burned by a cigarette when you walk

through the crowd," Grace says.

Grace isn't worried that the rules will push people who do smoke and drink away.

"If you really want to see the show, you're going to come here even if you don't drink," Grace says.

With the compact disc release party on April 3 of the Nashville pop disc group Popular Genius, it's hard to deny that Rockettown has built a following.

The nightclub boasts a Funktion-One sound system, complete with 12 18-inch subwoofers lining the stage and dance floor that has an occupancy maximum of 1,200 people.

"There's not a stage of this size in Nashville that compares with us in terms of the quality of our sound and the quality of our lights," Grace

See **Rockettown**, 6

Photos by Jenny Cordle | Chief Photographer

Teens relax on oversized couches at Rockettown, a Christian club in downtown Nashville geared toward young adults under the age of 21.

A Wedding Story:

Getting married? Vow to plan with tips to perfect your wedding

By Melissa Coker
Staff Writer

It's springtime, and love is in the air. Many of your crazy kids are no doubt head over heels in the L-word, so what follows are a few ideas to big day and prepare for the big day.

Admit your fascination with geekdom and check out Web sites about wedding trends.

A popular wedding site is TheKnot.com, which provides many services, including a

guestbook.

Brides and bridesmaids, indulge yourselves.

BeautiControl, an international direct sales company, seeks to help people look their best through a total image solution that includes customized skin care, color-coded cosmetics and wellness products for women, plus complimentary image services.

"Brides are often overwhelmed by all the style and

makeup choices available to them," says local BeautiControl consultant Melanie Peterson.

"We offer complimentary Bridal Image Parties for the bride and her bridesmaids, and the entire wedding party. Brides receive a complimentary Bridal Beauty Countdown, which helps them plan their beauty regimen up to their wedding day," she says.

Interested brides will also receive personalized information and recommendations for choosing the best gown, looking their best in wedding pictures, color-coded makeup application and an at-home spa retreat.

According to Peterson, the hottest look this spring is fairytale princess. Full skirts, beaded tulle headbands, white leather

or lace gloves, luxurious jewelry, intricate embroideries, delicate ruffles, corset styles and necklines gathered with ribbons are all in style this year.

"The new bridesmaid dress isn't a bridesmaid dress at all, but one that women would be proud to wear again and again," she says.

For more information on BeautiControl, contact Peterson at (615) 494-3408 or e-mail her at sparetreat@hotmail.com.

Her Web site is www.beauti-control.com/melaniejoy.

Fun new trends for the actual wedding day, according to Allison Rushby, an Australian wedding consultant, can also be found at www.weddingnet.com.au and include:

- If you're worried about your local feathered friends, choose not to throw rice or confetti after the wedding. An alternative is to throw bird seed or blow bubbles.

- Really think about the bridesmaids' gifts. It should reflect each bridesmaid's personality rather than buying all of the bridesmaids the same gift.

- Consider hanging a personalized wedding banner at your reception. You can then ask your guests to sign it. This will not only make a nice keepsake but may also be used as a decoration at anniversary parties.

- A good way to save money is to give reception guests, who bring their own cameras, a roll of film rather than giving each

guest a disposable camera. Mark a specific hour of your reception on the film. This way your guests can have a good time recording their hour of the day, but you end up with a smaller film processing bill and not a lot of pictures of the same thing.

Lastly, if there will be a break of 45 minutes to an hour while you are having your photographs taken, arrange to have a presentation made about you and the groom. This could be a video or slide show that should serve to better entertain your guests while you have pictures taken.

Finally, no matter how the wedding is planned, in the end, the bride still gets her groom. ♦



Photos by Jenny Cordle | Chief Photographer

(Above) An array of wedding gowns is available at Bride's Storey, a bridal and formal wear shop on North Maple Street in Murfreesboro. (Left) These two gowns are just a sample of what Bride's Storey offers to any bride-to-be.

You don't have
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Of course, using condoms is the only way to protect yourself against HIV/AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases, but make sure you're also as protected as possible against pregnancy. That's why more women than ever are choosing *Depo-Provera*—it's 99.7% effective when administered on time every 3 months.

Remember, *Depo-Provera* doesn't protect you from HIV/AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases.

Some women using *Depo-Provera* experience side effects. The most common are irregular

periods or spotting. Many women stop having periods altogether after a few months and some may experience a slight weight gain. You shouldn't use *Depo-Provera* if you could be pregnant, if you have had any unexplained periods, or if you have a history of breast cancer, blood clots, stroke, or liver disease. When using *Depo-Provera*, there may be a possible decrease in bone density.

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Birth control you think about just 4 x a year.

Please see important product information on adjacent page.

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Rockettown: Skating park, clothing shop part of club

Continued from 4

says. Epyrean, the coffee shop, can easily hold its own without the help of the music venue, thanks to a lush inviting atmosphere and top quality coffee.

The coffeehouse offers a nice view of Sixth Avenue South and overstuffed suede leather couches to relax on while sipping their most popular drink, the Alotta Frickin' Chocolate Mocha.

"I think people like it mainly because it has the word, frickin' in it," Daphne Green, master barista at Epyrean, says of the white chocolate and raspberry coffee.

The coffeehouse also practices latte art, the art of making designs in the foam of a latte with milk or cream, such as an intricate leaf or heart pattern.

Green has been practicing the art since the club first opened, and although her designs are now top-notch, she admits they weren't always.

"At first it was more like latte graffiti than latte art," Green says.

After a cup of joe, the 11,000-square-foot skating park is the next scene to check out, if only for the 16-foot vertical wall.

Skaters, bikers or in-line bladders of any age can use the park for \$10 a session or pay a monthly membership fee of \$39.

Next to the pro shop is the Wall of Shame, a line-up of broken boards nailed to the wall with descriptions of the attempted stunts scrawled on the decks.

And finally, Driven, the new and vintage clothing boutique next to the coffee shop, sells the Rockettown line of clothing.

Relying mainly on word-of-mouth for advertising, Rockettown is starting off quietly but has a growing reputation with bands and promoters as a quality venue.

"Every promoter, every band

that plays here just freaks out about it," Grace says. "That's why we get 10 e-mails a day from bands that want to play here."

Grace said the management of the club is really focusing on this summer to increase its numbers and influence in the Nashville music scene.

"I think that because of the quality of our stage and the venue that we have, we're going to attract a lot of great bands, which will then bring out the crowds," Grace says. ♦

Depo-Provera[®] Contraceptive Injection

medroxyprogesterone acetate injectable suspension

DEPO-PROVERA[®] Contraceptive Injection (medroxyprogesterone acetate injectable suspension, USP)

This product is intended to prevent pregnancy. It does not protect against HIV infection (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases.

What is DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection is a form of birth control that is given as an intramuscular injection (a shot) in the buttock or upper arm once every 3 months (13 weeks). To continue your contraceptive protection, you must return for your next injection promptly at the end of 3 months (13 weeks). DEPO-PROVERA contains medroxyprogesterone acetate, a chemical similar to (but not the same as) the natural hormone progesterone, which is produced by your ovaries during the second half of your menstrual cycle. DEPO-PROVERA acts by preventing your egg cells from ripening. If an egg is not released from the ovaries during your menstrual cycle, it cannot become fertilized by sperm and result in pregnancy. DEPO-PROVERA also causes changes in the lining of your uterus (endometrium) to help prevent pregnancy from occurring.

How effective is DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

The efficacy of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection depends on following the recommended dosage schedule exactly (see "How often do I get my shot of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?"). To make sure you are not pregnant when you first get DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection, your first injection must be given ONLY during the first 5 days of a normal menstrual cycle ONLY within the first 5 days after childbirth (not breast-feeding and, if exclusively breast-feeding, ONLY at the sixth week after childbirth). It is a long-term, reversible contraceptive which administered at 3 months (13 weeks) intervals. DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection is over 99% effective, making it one of the most reliable methods of birth control available. This means that the average annual pregnancy rate is less than one for every 100 women who use DEPO-PROVERA. The effectiveness of most contraceptive methods depends in part on how reliably men or women use the method. The effectiveness of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection depends only on the patient's return every 3 months (13 weeks) for her next injection. Your health-care provider will help you complete DEPO-PROVERA with other contraceptive methods and give you the information you need in order to decide which contraceptive method is the right choice for you.

The following table shows the percent of women who get pregnant while using different kinds of contraceptive methods. It gives both the lowest expected rate of pregnancy (the rate expected in women who use each method exactly as it should be used) and the typical rate of pregnancy (which includes women who become pregnant because they forgot to use their birth control or because they did not follow the directions exactly).

Method	Lowest Expected	Typical
DEPO-PROVERA	0.1	0.1
Implants (Norplant)	0.05	0.1
Female sterilization	0.02	0.05
Male sterilization	0.02	0.05
Oral contraceptive pill (Combined)	0.02	0.1
Oral contraceptive pill (Progestin only)	0.02	0.1
IUD		
Progesteron	0.02	0.1
Copper T, IUD	0.08	0.1
Copper intrauterine system	0.02	0.1
Diaphragm (with spermicide)	0.18	0.18
Cervical cap	0.18	0.18
Withdrawal	0.4	0.18
Fertility awareness	1.9	0.20
Spermicide alone	3	0.21
Vaginal sponge (used before childbirth)	0	18
Vaginal sponge (used after childbirth)	0	20
No method	85	85

Source: Trussardi et al. *Obstet Gynecol* 1990;74:558-567.
 *From Nisalak et al. *Chang* 1997;7:158-162.
 †Not all women should use DEPO-PROVERA. You should not use DEPO-PROVERA if you have any of the following conditions:
 • If you think you might be pregnant.
 • If you have any vaginal bleeding without a known reason.

Birth control you think about just 4 x a year.

- If you have had cancer of the breast.
 - If you have had a stroke.
 - If you have or have had blood clots (phlebitis) in your legs.
 - If you have or have had problems with your liver or liver disease.
 - If you are allergic to DEPO-PROVERA (medroxyprogesterone acetate) or any of its other ingredients.
- What other things should I consider before using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
- You will have a physical examination before your doctor prescribes DEPO-PROVERA. It is important to tell your health care provider if you have any of the following:
 - a family history of breast cancer
 - an abnormal mammogram (breast x-ray), fibrocystic breast disease, breast nodules or lumps, or a bleeding from your nipples
 - history of depression
 - if you are taking any prescription or over-the-counter medications

This product is intended to prevent pregnancy. It does not protect against transmission of HIV (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases such as chlamydia, genital herpes, genital warts, gonorrhea, hepatitis B, and syphilis.

What if I want to become pregnant after using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

DEPO-PROVERA is a long-acting birth control method. It takes some time after your last injection to stop its effect. Based on the results from a large study done in the United States, for women who stop using DEPO-PROVERA in order to become pregnant, it is expected that about half of those who become pregnant will do so in about 10 months after their last injection, about two thirds of those who become pregnant will do so in about 15 months, and about 95% of those who become pregnant will do so in about 18 months after their last injection. The length of time you use DEPO-PROVERA has no effect on how long it takes you to become pregnant after you stop using it.

What are the risks of using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

• Irregular Menstrual Bleeding. The side effects reported most frequently by women who use DEPO-PROVERA for contraception is a change in their normal menstrual cycle. During the first year of using DEPO-PROVERA, you might have one or more of the following changes: irregular or unpredictable bleeding or spotting; an increase or decrease in menstrual bleeding; or no bleeding at all. Unusually heavy or continuous bleeding, however, is not a usual effect of DEPO-PROVERA; if this happens, you should see your health care provider right away. With continued use of DEPO-PROVERA, bleeding usually decreases, and many women stop having periods completely. In a clinical study of DEPO-PROVERA, 55% of the women studied reported no menstrual bleeding after 2 years of use. The reason that your periods stop is because DEPO-PROVERA causes a resting state in your ovaries. When your ovaries do not release an egg monthly, the regular monthly growth of the lining of your uterus stops, and therefore, the bleeding that comes with your normal menstruation does not take place. When you stop using DEPO-PROVERA, your normal menstrual cycle will usually return to its normal cycle.

• Bone Mineral Changes. The side effects reported most frequently by women who use DEPO-PROVERA for contraception is a decrease in their normal menstrual cycle. During the first year of using DEPO-PROVERA, you might have one or more of the following changes: irregular or unpredictable bleeding or spotting; an increase or decrease in menstrual bleeding; or no bleeding at all. Unusually heavy or continuous bleeding, however, is not a usual effect of DEPO-PROVERA; if this happens, you should see your health care provider right away. With continued use of DEPO-PROVERA, bleeding usually decreases, and many women stop having periods completely. In a clinical study of DEPO-PROVERA, 55% of the women studied reported no menstrual bleeding after 2 years of use. The reason that your periods stop is because DEPO-PROVERA causes a resting state in your ovaries. When your ovaries do not release an egg monthly, the regular monthly growth of the lining of your uterus stops, and therefore, the bleeding that comes with your normal menstruation does not take place. When you stop using DEPO-PROVERA, your normal menstrual cycle will usually return to its normal cycle.

Use of DEPO-PROVERA may be associated with a decrease in the amount of mineral stored in your bones. This could increase your risk of developing bone fractures. The rate of bone mineral loss is greatest in the early years of DEPO-PROVERA use, but after that it begins to resemble the normal rate of age-related bone mineral loss.

Studies of women who have used different forms of contraception find that women who used DEPO-PROVERA for contraception had no increased overall risk of developing cancer of the breast, cervix, uterus, cervix, or liver. However, women under 35 years of age whose first exposure to DEPO-PROVERA was within the previous 4 to 5 years may have a slightly increased risk of developing breast cancer similar to that seen with oral contraceptives. You should discuss this with your health care provider.

• Unintended Pregnancy. Because DEPO-PROVERA is such an effective contraceptive method, the risk of accidental pregnancy for women who get their shots regularly (every 3 months [13 weeks]) is very low. While there have been reports of an increased risk of low birth weight and neonatal infant death or other health problems in infants conceived close to the time of using DEPO-PROVERA as an emergency contraceptive, if you think you may have become pregnant while using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception, tell your health care provider as soon as possible.

Some women using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection have reported severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reactions (including anaphylactic reactions). Symptoms include the sudden onset of fever or swelling and itching of the skin, breathing difficulties, and a drop in blood pressure.

• Other Risks. Women who use hormone-based contraceptives may have an increased risk of blood clots or stroke. Also, if a contraceptive method fails, there is a possibility that the fertilized egg will begin to develop outside of the uterus (ectopic pregnancy). While these events are rare, you should tell your health care provider if you have any of the problems listed in the report. Women in one large study who used DEPO-PROVERA for 2 years gained an average total of 13.8 pounds over those 4 years or approximately 3.5 pounds per year. Women who continued for 6 years gained an average total of 16.5 pounds over those 6 years or approximately 2.75 pounds per year.

• Possible Side Effects. Some women who use DEPO-PROVERA for contraception may experience a weight gain while they are using DEPO-PROVERA. About two thirds of the women who used DEPO-PROVERA in clinical trials reported a weight gain of about 5 pounds during the first year of use. You may continue to gain weight after the first year of use. In one large study who used DEPO-PROVERA for 2 years gained an average total of 13.8 pounds over those 2 years or approximately 4 pounds per year. Women who continued for 4 years gained an average total of 13.8 pounds over those 4 years or approximately 3.5 pounds per year. Women who continued for 6 years gained an average total of 16.5 pounds over those 6 years or approximately 2.75 pounds per year.

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or 481-5600 as for Marcus Bell. One male and one female needed to sublease 2 bdrms in a 4 bdrm/4bath apartment @ Univ. Courtyards. Will pay 1/2 of 1st months rent and security dep. Call 347-3956 or 347-3954 ask for David or Sarah. Apt. for sublease at University Courtyard for summer. Last 2 weeks of May are discounted. June & July are \$339 a month. Includes all utilities, furnishings, private bedroom, share bath. Call Kelly @ 893-6354. Female needed to take over lease @ Univ. Courtyard. Private bed/bath \$365 a month, reg. \$385.5 5 minutes from campus. Call Leigh [615] 482-3090.

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SPORTS

7 ◆ SIDELINES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Buzz Classic proves to be buzz killer for MT softball

By David Hunter
Senior Staff Reporter

The Lady Raider softball team came away from this weekend's Buzz Classic at Georgia Tech in Atlanta with mixed results.

The Buzz Classic was scheduled as an all-weekend event with pool play on the first two days and bracket play on Sunday. However, the persistent rain in the area during the week made the fields unplayable for the first day of competition on Friday. Officials canceled the bracket play and held pool play until Saturday.

The Lady Raiders began with a loss against Georgia State, 5-3. MT got on the board first in the first inning with an RBI single by Megan Cherinka that brought Murial Ledbetter home.

GSU broke the game wide open in the third and fourth innings, with five runs to go ahead 5-1. The Lady Raiders closed the gap to 5-3 in the seventh inning by scoring two runs. Leah Grothouse hit an RBI single, and Cortney Mitchell

2003 Sun Belt Conference Softball Records

	SBC Games			Stk.	All Games		
	W	L	Pct.		W	L	Pct.
Louisiana-Lafayette	0	0	.000	W14	15	5	.750
Middle Tennessee	0	0	.000	W5	15	8	.652
Western Kentucky	0	0	.000	W1	15	14	.517
Florida International	0	0	.000	L1	20	19	.513
New Mexico State	0	0	.000	L4	7	34	.171

Latest National Rankings (March 18): USA Today/NFCA: ORV Louisiana-Lafayette
NCAA Midwest Region: (2002 Final) No. 5 Louisiana-Lafayette

scored off an error by GSU. Tiffany Childress was the losing pitcher for the Lady Raiders.

MT earned their first victory in the Buzz Classic in the second game with a 5-4 win over Princeton. Princeton began scoring in the bottom of the second with two runs, one on an RBI single and one unearned run.

MT took control in the top of the third with four runs. Kip Phillips doubled, and Ledbetter walked. Mitchell hit an RBI double to give Phillips a score. Grothouse added another double to bring Ledbetter home.

Erica Buhl hit a single to score Mitchell. Grothouse ended the scoring in the inning by coming home on an error by Princeton to give MT a 4-2 lead.

Phillips added another run in the top of the fourth by coming home on a wild pitch. Princeton tried to cut the lead down by scoring two runs in the bottom of the sixth.

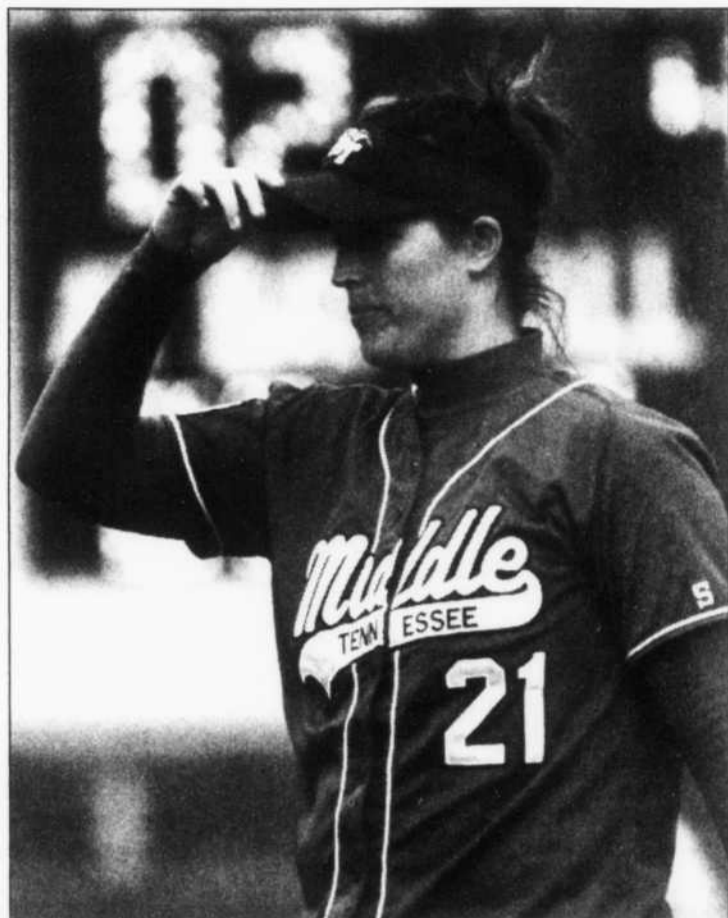
Stacy Preator continued her winning ways and picked up her fifth consecutive win. Her record now stands at 8-2.

In the last game, MT ran into No. 16 Florida State (22-9) and took the 5-0 loss. Hunter took a

no-hitter into the bottom of the sixth. Phillips broke it with a single, but Ledbetter hit into a double play to finish the inning. That was as close as the Lady Raiders came to score against FSU. The game marked their third straight loss to Florida State this season.

On Sunday, MT (15-8) finished the Buzz Classic in style by beating Nicholls State (11-17) 4-2. Cortney Mitchell contributed to the Lady Raider victory, including a home run and a double. Mitchell's

See Softball, 8



File Photo
Middle Tennessee pitcher Stacy Preator surveys the field during a softball game last week.

Baseball drops series to Aggies



File Photo

The Blue Raider baseball team dropped the last game of a three-game series against New Mexico State University, 6-4, on Sunday. Above, first baseman Jarrett England rounds the bases.

By Osby Martin
Staff Reporter

New Mexico State's Gavin Monjeras belted a three-run homer Sunday afternoon at Reese Smith Field, giving New Mexico State a 6-4 series-clinching win over Middle Tennessee.

New Mexico State (23-6, 2-1 SBC) took a 5-2 lead with a home run from Monjeras, but the Blue Raiders (9-11, 1-2 SBC) cut the lead to 5-4. However, they could not gain the lead before the Aggies put the game away in the eighth inning.

Third baseman Brett Carroll made a terrific diving stop, but his throw to first was low. Monjeras scored from second, and Ewen came all the way around to score from first, giving NMSU a 2-0 lead.

The Blue Raiders came back in their half of the frame as Troy Harp led off with a double down the left field line. Marcus Taylor and Carroll each drew one-out walks to load the bases. Josh Archer then drew a walk, forcing in a run, before Chris LeGuenece drove a ball to deep right center, plating Taylor with

the tying run on the sacrifice fly.

New Mexico State took the lead again in the fourth, when Billy Becher singled to right and Keith Jenkins walked before Monjeras kept a 1-0 fastball over the left field wall, giving NMSU a 5-2 advantage.

MT earned a solo home run from Taylor to the opposite field to start off the fifth, cutting the deficit to two. Carroll and LeGuenece both singled, and Jeff Beachum walked later in the inning, loading the bases with two outs. But Chuck Akers grounded out to end the inning and the threat.

The Blue Raiders cut into the lead again in the seventh as Carroll was hit to lead off and Archer singled to left. LeGuenece tried to bunt the runners over against Andrew Garretson, but third baseman Monjeras was the force out at second placing runners on the corners. Carroll scored when Garretson was called for a balk, making it 5-4 NMSU.

The Blue Raiders made the tying runs in the eighth as Cooper singled and Taylor walked with one. This brought Carroll to the plate, but the

sophomore bounced into a 6-4-3 inning-ending double play, spoiling the opportunity for Middle Tennessee.

The Blue Raiders got the tying runs on base again in the ninth, as Cliff Thomas drew a one-out walk; and Kemp doubled to left, putting runners on second and third with one out. Beachum lined out to center, but Thomas did not tag up on the play, leaving the Blue Raiders still two runs down. Akers walked to load the bases, but Harp nailed a fly ball out to right to end the contest.

Middle Tennessee stranded 14 runners in the game, including leaving the bases loaded in the third, fifth and ninth innings.

The Blue Raiders out-hit New Mexico State, 9-6, in the contest. Jerry Knox (1-1) allowed five runs, two earned, on four hits in four innings and took the loss. The senior pitcher struck out four and walked one.

The Blue Raiders begin a seven-game road swing with a pair of games at Nat Buring Stadium with the Memphis Tigers. ♦

Okafor sets record for 400-meter relay

By David Hunter
Senior Staff Reporter

The 2003 Middle Tennessee outdoor track season started with a strong performance last week at the Alabama Relays in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

The results included a new school record by Rosemary Okafor and wins from Rob Jordan and Andrew Owusu.

Okafor's record-setting performance in the 400-meter rewrites MT track member Nadia Graham's previous record of 53.30 seconds, dating back to 1996. Okafor won the event, posting a time of 52.77. MT's Nicolette Jarrett finished the event in eighth place with a time of 56.52.

Other Lady Raiders results included Kim Freeman's, who took home fifth place in the long jump with a distance of 18-11 3/4. Jennifer Howard finished seventh in the pole event with a jump of 10 1/2. Kerry Barrow competed in the 100-meter with a sixth place finish in a time of 12.03.

On the men's side, Rob

Jordan brought home the victory in the men's long jump with a distance of 24-1. Sean Waller and J.J. Sturm had a finish of sixth and seventh in the same event.

None of the Blue Raider runners were able to take the top position in the 400-meter. However, they did take the next four spots. Victor Okirie completed the run in a time of 47.27 to place second. Wesley Dupar-Scott placed third, Waller fourth and Tim Hicks fifth.

Another event that the Blue Raiders excelled in was the 100-meter hurdles. Linnie Yarbrough was second with a time of 14.25. Garland Martin finished fourth, and Jasper Demps rounded out the Top Five. Yarbrough also had a seventh-place finish in the 400-meter hurdles.

Levi Sybert finished sixth in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 9:30.85.

Picking up where they left off from the previous day, MT continued to outperform the opposition with a victory in the shuttle hurdle relay and a near win in the men's 4x400-meter relay.

The shuttle hurdle relay team won their event with a time of 57.34. The men's 4x400-meter relay team came in a close second with a time of 3:10.06.

See Record, 8

Tennis team outclassed by Memphis Tigers

By Osby Martin
Staff Reporter

The Memphis Tigers took a hard-fought 4-3 victory over the MT netters in Memphis on Sunday.

Middle Tennessee (5-11) took an early 1-0 lead on the strength of wins at No. 2 and No. 3 doubles. Daniel Klemetz/Brandon Allan defeated Joe Schmulian/Bucewicz, 8-3, while Trevor Short/Michael Staniak took care of Brendan Malarkey/Alex Jago, 8-5. Memphis won the No. 1 doubles match, 8-3, with Ben Stapp/Lee Taylor Walker stopping Kirk Jackson/Greg Pollack.

Memphis rallied back, starting with Malarkey's 6-2, 6-3 win over Anant Sitaram. Memphis' Stapp then defeated Risan Kuruppu 6-3, 6-2, and Schmulian made it a 3-1 Memphis advantage with his straight sets victory, 6-3, 6-1, over Pollack.

The Blue Raiders came back to knot the match at three as Brandon Allen won a thriller, 6-1, 4-6, 0-6, over Jago. No. 12 Klemetz set, 6-4, 6-4, leaving a pair of Melbourne natives on

the court to determine the match.

In a match that featured long-time opponents dating back to junior tennis days in Melbourne, Australia, and Memphis, sophomore Alex Bucewicz held off Middle Tennessee's Michael Staniak, giving Memphis the victory in the final match of the day.

Bucewicz was up 5-2 in the second set when Staniak pulled back to 5-5. Bucewicz moved ahead 6-5 but was unable to force out the match and was forced into a tiebreaker. The Tigers' No. 4 singles player took an early lead, 1-0, in the tiebreaker and broke serve to go up 2-1, but Staniak battled back to knot it at 4-4. A series of long rallies later, Bucewicz closed out the game and the match when a Staniak shot sailed long at the end of a baseline rally. Bucewicz won the thrilling contest, 7-6, 7-6, over Staniak.

Middle Tennessee remains on the road and will face No. 56 South Alabama tomorrow in Mobile following with a show-down in the Big Easy Saturday, with No. 20 Green Wave of Tulane. ♦

Golf team in 12th place at tourney

By Randall Thompson
Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee's men's golf team fired a 36-hole total of 604 in the opening two rounds of the Chenal Trojan Cup in Little Rock on Monday.

The Blue Raiders were in 12th place entering Tuesday's final round of competition.

The University of Arkansas-Little Rock, host school and Sun Belt Conference member, led

the event through the opening rounds with 575. The University of South Alabama, another Sun Belt member, was in second place at 580.

Charlie Gibson paced the Blue Raiders on Monday with rounds of 73 and 77 to total 150. He was in a tie for 35th position overall.

Blake Bivens scored 152, following rounds of 78 and 74, placing him in a tie for the 51st spot.

Patrick Williams and Carter Henderson were each tied for 56th at 153. Williams posted scores of 73 and 80, while Henderson shot rounds of 78 and 75.

Josh Nelms rounded out the MT scoring at 154 with opening scores of 79 and 75. He tied for 61st.

The Blue Raiders tee up in the final round on Tuesday, looking to climb into the top 10 of the 18-team field. ♦

Softball: Team heads on nine-game road trip

Continued from 7

performance earned her a spot on the Buzz Classic All-Tournament Team.

MT scored first in the opening inning when Mitchell parked her fourth home run of the season over the right field wall. However, Nicholls State scored their first run in the top of the fourth with an RBI single

by Kristina Swart that brought Sarah Eads home to even the score at one.

In the bottom of the inning, Mitchell added another double, her fourth of the tournament and 17th this season. She later scored on an RBI double by Megan Cherinka to pull ahead 2-1.

Cherinka increased the MT lead in the bottom of the sixth

with a towering two-run shot to center field, to score Mitchell and give the Lady Raiders a 4-1 lead.

Preator picked up her second win of the tournament to make her record 9-2. She had nine Ks in the complete game victory.

Today, MT is on the road with a doubleheader against UT-Chattanooga. The first pitch is at 2 p.m. ♦

Record: MT takes first in shuttle hurdle

Continued from 7

Only a margin of five-hundredths of a second separated MT and Alabama, who won with a time of 3:10.01.

The Blue Raiders competed without anchor Sean Waller, who suffered a hamstring injury in the 4x200-meter relay earlier

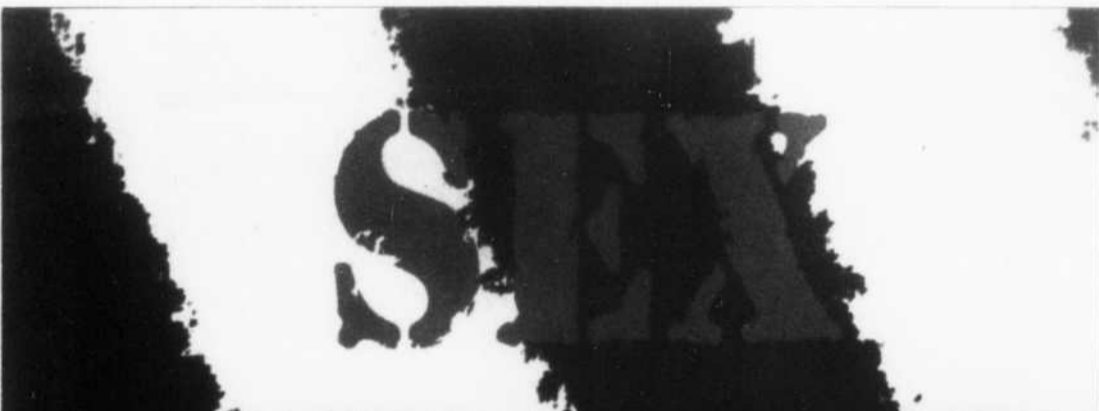
in the day.

In both the 4x400-meter relay and the 1,600-meter sprint relay, both teams came in fifth place. The Lady Raiders had fourth place in the 4x200-meter relay and fifth in the 4x100-meter relay.

Middle Tennessee's graduate assistant Andrew Owusu took a

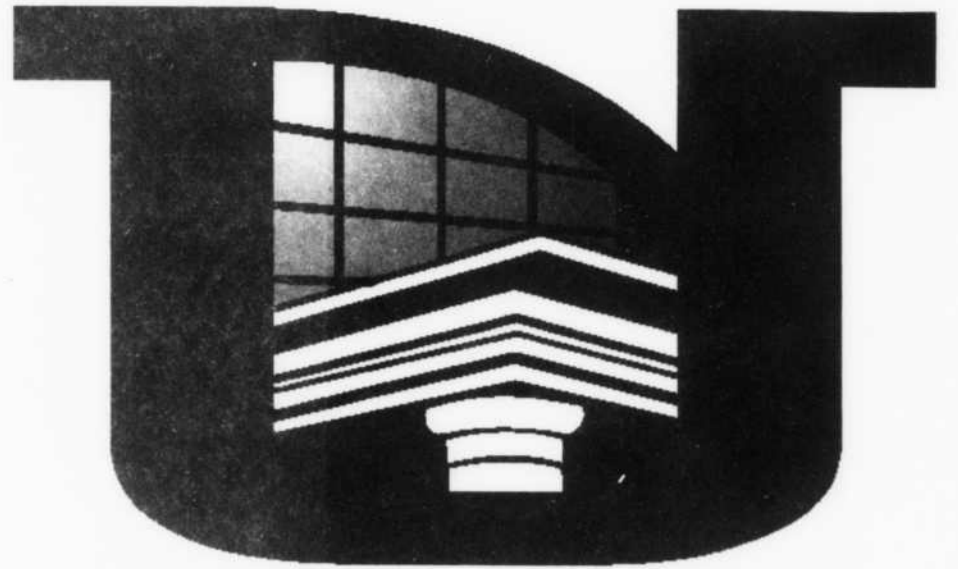
violation in the triple jump with a distance of 54-2 1/2, and Rob Jordan finished third in the same event with a jump of 51-1 3/4.

The next meet for the Blue Raiders is Saturday at the Mississippi State Invitational in Starkville, Miss. ♦



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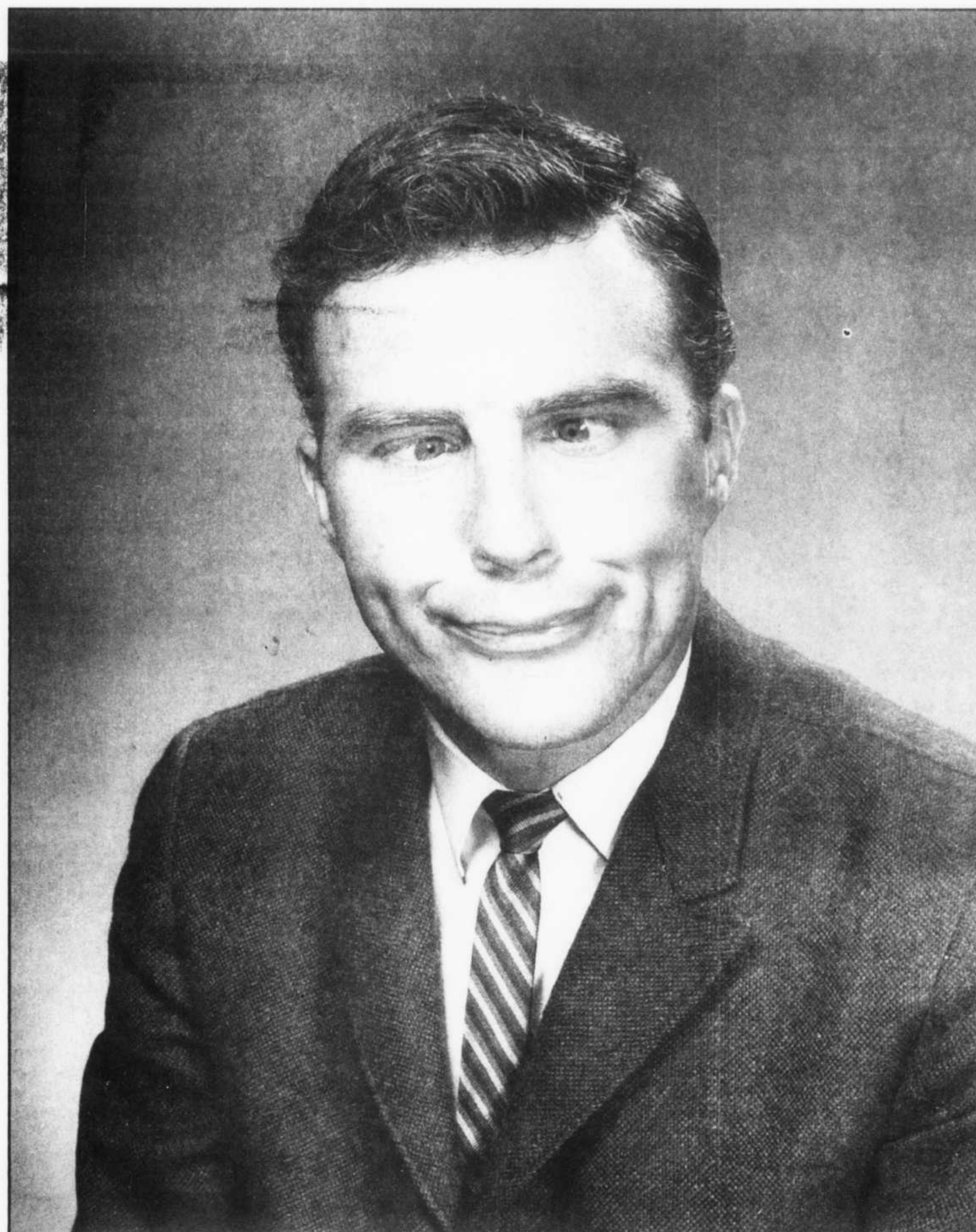
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