

Middle Tennessee State University

SIDELINES

Vol. 81 No. 09

MURFREESBORO, TN

SGA Senators asked
to resign from chairBy Valerie Nutt
Staff Writer

Eight SGA senators resigned from their chairs Jan. 26 after facing an ultimatum: resign or be impeached.

Most senators who resigned had violated SGA's attendance policy, an offense their executive branch takes seriously in a group that meets less than ten times a semester and is dedicated to representing MTSU's student body and addressing their concerns.

"If senators miss two consecutive meetings or three total they have to face a committee," said SGA president Paul Fulcher. "After the committee meeting they're turned over to the Senate to be impeached."

Fulcher's statement is consistent with the SGA constitution's attendance policy.

The senators who resigned include Myranda Howland, Kelly Wilder, Lindsey Grace, Kailia Packet and Marie Rodriguez.

Fulcher said all absent senators were encouraged to resign from their positions to avoid impeachment and to make room for more active legislators.

"Some people think of it as a résumé booster, and once it's on their résumé they don't really worry about meetings," Fulcher said.

The resigning senators came from larger campus organizations, Fulcher said, such as Alpha Omega and some Greek groups. He added that he has been impressed with the non-Greek participation in the 2005-2006 Senate, and thinks representation from all parts of the student body should be a top priority.

Recent absenteeism could account for the Senate's present legislative pace.

"The Senate this year has been lackluster," Fulcher said. "In the fall semester less than ten resolutions were passed."

This Senate's most memorable legislation, the recent move to ban smoking in residence halls and last semester's Clean Energy Bill, were externally suggested.

Fulcher put people thinking of smoking, and



Photo by Adam Casto | Photography Editor

Student Government Association cutline goes here

MTSU's Students for Environmental Action was mainly responsible for the clean energy initiative.

It is notable that last year's SGA Senate for 2004-2005 passed a record amount of legislation, and had a strong record of attendance.

Two more spots in the senate emptied this semester, one by a student accepting a more time-sensitive position for a different organization and another by a graduating student.

Eight of the 12 vacant seats in the senate were filled on Jan. 26. SGA's president appointed students, and his appointments are confirmed or denied by the Senate.

All new appointments have gone smoothly. Of the four empty seats remaining, two are seats for graduate students and two are for undeclared students.

For information on graduate seats please

contact Dr. Pamela Knox, Associate Dean of the College of Graduate Studies, at pknox@mtsu.edu.

Our new representatives are Lauren Simpson for the College of Mass Communication, Dustin McCormick and William Miller for the College of Education and Behavioral Science, Michael Rowland for Graduate Senate, Kristen Beadle for Senate At Large, Matt Raccuglia for the College of Basic and Applied Science, Erin Cothren for the Undeclared Senate, and Ashley DeSabetino for the College of Liberal Arts.

New appointments to the Senate only have a month to accomplish something before the 2006 elections occur between Feb. 28 and March 6.

At SGA's Feb. 9 meeting Executive Vice President and Speaker of the Senate

See SGA, 2



Photo by Adam Casto | Photography Editor

Chris Haseleu, chair of the Recording Industry Department, shows the empty. The equipment taken was worth about \$8,000 and was stolen from the tracking room in Studio B between 2:30 and 4 a.m. Sunday.

RIM mic's stolen

By Sarah B. Mullen
Editor

MTSU Campus Police are seeking four microphones worth \$8,000 from a studio in the Bragg Mass Communication Building early Sunday morning.

Someone took a Neumann TLM 103 microphone, two Neumann TLM 170 microphones and an Audioteknia AT4030 from the tracking room in Studio B between 2:30 and 4 a.m. Sunday, according to Chris Haseleu, chair of the Recording Industry Department.

"Neumann makes some of the most top of the line, industry standard condenser microphones," said Ben Koffman, a senior production technology recording industry major. "We use them on a daily basis where I work—615 Music in Nashville. It is really going to be something that will hinder projects."

Koffman was one of the last students to use the microphones before they were stolen.

"I was recording a band, Kyle Cruz, and I was using the mics for overheads above the drum sets because the sound quality of those microphones are far superior of what we have outside the studio," he said. "They have a very brilliant, dark, warm tone, characteristic of the [Neumann] mics."

Studios are accessed by RIM students only, and must be booked in advanced. Students

must have a key to open any cabinets with equipment. When students leave the rooms they must also fill out an inventory to make sure the equipment is properly returned, Haseleu said.

"The studios are used almost around the clock during a regular semester and those Neumann mics are among the most used in the cabinet," Haseleu said. "This is a significant loss for us."

He said the microphone cabinet, which was in the tracking room of Studio B, was broken into, not opened with a key, and when the theft occurred there were other RIM students using a studio across the hall.

Billy Hickey logged more than 20 hours in Studio B last semester.

"Studio B has been my favorite studio," said Hickey, a senior production technology recording industry major. "The mics they took were very versatile and very popular. They pretty much stole the best and most used mics in the studio."

"People tended to use [the microphones] more for vocals, but I used them for everything," Hickey said. "I wouldn't want to do a session in there now. They were the most used and the best microphones and they made great recordings."

The incident is still under investigation by MTSU Campus Police.

Anyone with any information can call the MTSU Campus Police at 898-2425.

I hope you dance fight



Photo © Greg Johnson | Contributing Photographer

Michael Thigpen and Kent Wilson demonstrate a new move recently learned in Capoeira. Capoeira is a form of martial arts that originated amongst Brazilian slaves. The slaves practiced Capoeira as a form of folk dance to avoid punishment from the slave boss.

LOCAL FORECAST

Friday



HI: 47°
LO: 33°
PRECIP: 40%

Saturday



HI: 40°
LO: 29°
PRECIP: 40%

Sunday



HI: 41°
LO: 32°
PRECIP: 30%

OPINIONS

Celebrities Speak Out

Everyone is entitled to their own opinion. Everyone is entitled to freedom of speech. What happens though when you overstep that boundary, or when the media believes that you have overstepped that boundary as a celebrity?

CAMPUS

Muslim Minister

Muslim minister Reginald Muhammad visited MTSU on Thursday to deliver a speech on the Nation of Islam in the black community, and he emphasized the contributions of Black Muslim leaders, including Marcus Garvey and Elijah Muhammad.

SPORTS

Men beat SDS

The Middle Tennessee men's basketball team defeated the South Dakota State Jackrabbits 89-82 in overtime Monday night at the Murphy Center.

Next game at Arkansas State on February 16.

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Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.

Sidelines is the editorially independent, student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday and Thursday during the Fall and Spring and Wednesday during June and July.

Durk to be honored with scholarship

By Dana Owens
Staff Writer

There will be a benefit concert and a Recording Industry Management scholarship in remembrance of a former MTSU student who died in a car accident.

Andrew Durk, who died in a car accident Feb. 1, was a RIM major who attended MTSU for over five years.

"His parents requested that a memorial be made to the Middle Tennessee State University Foundation in anticipation of establishing a scholarship for Andrew," said Kiplynn Todd, assistant director of the Development Office.

"I would like to see at least one student who really wants to go into that program again to get some money," said Fay Durk, Andrew's mother.

Several of Andrew's friends are also planning a benefit concert with all proceeds going to the scholarship fund.

"A bunch of us who were pretty close to Andy and knew that he was constantly trying to bring the music community together thought it would be a great idea if we could pull together and do a show in his honor," said Chris Lloyd, Andrew's friend and an aspiring promoter.

Lloyd said he and several others began planning the non-profit concert when Andrew's parents announced that they had created the scholarship.

Lloyd said he is currently trying to get a venue booked and bands signed on to the project, though it is still in the early planning stages. He said the concert will probably take place near the end of April and feature many local bands who have worked with Andrew.

"If we raise a hundred bucks we're happy, but ideally we always want to raise as much as possible," Lloyd said.

"We're not too worried about getting support from those who knew him, but we're also looking to branch out and find those people who didn't know him and getting them into this concert as a way of bringing the music community together, bit by bit, like Andy wanted to do," Lloyd said.

Both the scholarship and concert will recognize Andrew's passion and ability in working with music.

"He was more of a choreographer, if you will. In other words, he liked putting together a whole picture of something and then have different people work on the parts," Andrew's mother said.

Like the concert, the scholarship is also still in the planning stages. Though Fay Durk and her husband Gordon have not yet made a determination on what type of award they would like to form,

according to Todd there are two options.

An annual scholarship would allow donors to provide an annual donation and establish the criteria for how the

I don't think he really realized how much of an impact he made on Murfreesboro and Nashville.

Tim Christensen
Andrew Durk's friend and creator of Cultiv8.com

scholarship is awarded. There is also an endowed scholarship that begins with a \$10,000 donation. The interest that is then produced from the endowment is used for awards, Todd said.

The scholarship will go to someone who has the same love for the recording

industry as Andrew. His mother said he was passionate about music and Web design, in particular designing Web pages for musical groups. His last project was designing the local music information Web site, Cultiv8.com.

Tim Christensen, who was Andrew's friend and helped create the Web site, said Andrew was "totally into the music scene in Murfreesboro."

About a year ago the two began working on the Web site, though Christensen said Andrew had the idea for Cultiv8.com when he first moved to Murfreesboro eight years ago.

"I don't think [Andy] really realized how much of an impact he made on Murfreesboro and Nashville," he said.

Over 200 people, mainly young people from Murfreesboro, attended Andrew's memorial service last week, his mother said. Andrew's MySpace Web site has also been turned into a sort of memorial with a huge number of recent postings, she added.

Lloyd said Andrew "marched to a beat of his own drum."

"He always had a vision for everything he was doing ... He was a very independent person but at the same time he still loved all of us around him," Lloyd said. "He always wanted to help other people achieve their vision, achieve their dreams, while at the same time achieve his own because that was his own -

making the community a stronger place."

After attending another school for audio engineering, Andrew came to MTSU. Though he was enrolled in the Recording Industry Management program for five years, he was unable to complete his degree due to personal problems, his mother said.

"Andrew and I came down to MTSU, we looked around the campus, we talked to people, and he said, 'Yeah, this is the right place for me,' and it was," Andrew's mother said, adding that it was still too far from home.

Christensen said Andrew changed from day to day. Of himself, Andrew wrote that the only thing he was sure about was his constantly changing personality.

"I guess I'm pretty hard to figure out. I change a lot. Like every couple months or so there's something new going on in my life," Andrew wrote in the "about me" section of his MySpace Web site. "If I find something in my life that I want to change, I do. Usually, there is no graceful transformation ... it's more like letting go of a spring I've been squishing."

Andrew Durk was born in Massachusetts on Nov. 5, 1979, and died Feb. 1, 2006.

Muslim minister speaks at MTSU

By Mark Logan
Assistant News Editor

Muslim minister Reginald Muhammad visited MTSU on Thursday to deliver a speech on the Nation of Islam in the black community, and he emphasized the contributions of Black Muslim leaders, including Marcus Garvey and Elijah Muhammad.

"The honorable Elijah Muhammad is responsible for waking us up," said Reginald, who laid out the circumstances under which Elijah Muhammad became a leader in the black community.

"The condition of black people before that time was 100 percent destroyed," Reginald said. "It was an elaborate scheme of economy and stability for white plantation owners to have slaves and to keep black people in a perpetual state of servitude."

Reginald read from various

books, including How to Make a Slave, which is a literal guide to the psychology of bringing a whole people into submission.

"During this time we endured such brutality, that nowadays it would be called genocide, race cleansing, or just outright terrorism."

"We therefore concede that it was necessary that we be rebuilt as a people," Reginald said.

Reginald, who is a native of Illinois and has been a member of the Nation of Islam for 20 years, was invited to speak at MTSU by history professor Adonijah Bakari as part of Black History Month.

Reginald also spoke about importance of Marcus Garvey, who emphasized self-help and unity. The goal of Marcus Garvey, Reginald said, was to create a people with one aim, one purpose, and one destiny.

"He declared [this] for a people who had been completely

robbed of their names, their language, their culture, their traditions, folk ways, principles, values, and all components of their civilization, and their god," Reginald said.

The contribution that Eliajah Mohammad made, Reginald said, was that he "brought to us the truth and a clear message for the upliftment and salvation of civilizations throughout the world, and the black man in particular. He wrote and published several books to remind us to keep our duty to God, ourselves and our people."

"No, it's not the responsibility of white people to take care of us. Yes, I watch them on the news every day, complaining that, why can't you do something for yourselves. Well, that's exactly what the honorable Elijah Mohammad said. It's time for you to stand up and do something for yourself."

"We've got to stop thinking in a slave mentality," Reginald

said. "We have to realize that the only way for us to move forward is to wake up our minds, work together, so we can move forward."

One student asked Minister Muhammad the relation between the bible and the Koran, and whether the two can be reconciled for those Muslims who have Christian family members.

"The bible teaches us that when Jesus came for the people, he always greeted them in peace... We believe that The Bible is a holy book, but that it has been tampered with and needs clarity to be understood... The holy Koran verifies the truths of [The Bible] so the things one to another that could be debated would only be for God to say who is 100 percent correct. There is no profit more important in the holy Koran than Jesus.... If we are

See Muslim Minister, 3

SGA: "Missing members"

Continued from 1

Clay Kennedy gave senators old and new alike a call to arms.

"If you think it's a good idea, write up a bill and present it. Even if you want to bring legislation for a new speed bump," Kennedy said to the subdued laughter of the senate. "I expect next pieces of legislation for our next meeting."

Reappointed senator Lauren Simpson said she had several ideas for future legislation, from requesting more spots in integral but hard to get in Mass Communications classes to replacing or increasing the number of the microwaves in the KUC Grill.

Simpson was a member of the successful and record-beating SGA Senate of 2004-2005.

Senator at Large Kristin Beadle and College of Basic and Applied Science senator Matt Raccuglia seconded Simpson, saying they were

excited about their appointments and had ideas for the next meeting.

"It just seems different now," said Simpson. "There used to be really intense meetings and debates between senators. The meetings were really interesting. Now they just pass through stuff really quick."

Candidates for senate and executive offices will be announced Feb. 14. Fulcher hopes for a change for the better.

"Get out and vote," Fulcher said. "Look at people's qualifications, don't just vote for your friend because you recognize their name. We have the power and potential to do a lot."

There are multiple candidates for every executive position except for Vice President of Administration and Public Affairs. Debates between candidates for executive offices will take place Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. in the KUC Theater.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

From Suffrage to Sex Positivism

Dr. Elyce Helford, professor of English and director of Women's Studies, will be contributing to the honors lecture series with "From Suffrage to Sex Positivism," a lecture to increase awareness of women's struggles before National Women's History Month in March, at 3 p.m. in the Honors Building, room 106 on Feb. 20.

Faculty Brass Quintet

Stones River Chamber Players, who perform on campus four times every season and can be heard on their album, "Music for a Farce," will be performing at Hinton Music Hall at 7:30 p.m. on February 20.

Black Business Student Association Business Network Reception

In accordance with Black History Month, the Black Business Student Association will be holding a reception for local employers to supply any students with first-hand knowledge on careers. This event will be in the JUB Hazelwood Dining Room at 11 a.m. on Feb. 21.

Hip-Hop's Political Movement

As part of Black History Month, Bakari Kitwana, who helped organize the biannual National Hip-Hop Political convention and the author of The Hip-Hop Generation: Young Blacks and the Crisis in African American Culture, will give a lecture, "Hip-Hop's Political Movement," at 4 p.m. at BAS S260 on Feb. 21.

Studio Salute to African-American Composers

As part of Black History Month, there will be a studio salute to black composers at 8 p.m. in Hinton Music Hall in the Wright Music Building on Feb. 22.

Celebrate National TriO Day

An open house to celebrate National TriO Day, which is Feb. 26, will be at 10 a.m. at MGB 101 and 103 on Feb. 22. The open house contributes to TriO Awareness Week, which is Feb. 20-24. TriO programs help financially or otherwise disabled students attend and graduate college.

Free Legal Clinic

June Anderson Women's Center is supplying a free legal clinic at 7 p.m. on Feb. 23. The center is located at JUB 206 and appointments are required.

MTSU Jazz Combos

A jazz combos performance directed by jazz faculty and jazz teaching assistants will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Hinton Music Hall on Feb. 23.

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Used vinyl sale on campus

By Ashley Burk
Staff Writer

The used vinyl, sheet music and book collections of Paul Fischer and MTSU's Center for Popular Music are going on sale this Friday and Saturday at 8 a.m.

The sale is open to the public and is located in the former Lexis/Nexis lab in the John Bragg Mass Communication Building next to the center for popular music room.

Everything from 19th century hymnals to sheet music from Broadway musical such as Tin Pan Alley will be on sale for a low price so the Center for Popular Music can make space for new items.

Records such as dance mixes that were sent to disc jockeys in the '70s and '80s will also be on sale, as well as country/folk, pop/soul/blues, classical, and gospel albums. The sale will have more than 700 records and around 300 '45s that come from the personal collection of the local coordinator for the conference, Paul Fischer, as well as hundreds of pieces of sheet music.

"The CDs and records being sold are definitely not mainstream," said manager of

recorded media relations Martin Fisher whom is in charge of cataloging the items prior to the sale.

"There's a lot of good stuff here, and it's cheaper than what you'd find at the Nashville Flea Market," Fisher said.

The sale is part of the four-day event "Reconfiguring, Relocating, Rediscovering" hosted by MTSU's department of recording industry and the college of mass communication. The annual conference is for the U.S. branch of the IASPM, (International Association for the Study of Popular Music), on campus Feb. 16-19.

The conference itself is geared toward graduate students and scholars for the purpose of presenting insight and research in the field of Popular Music Studies, an emerging interdisciplinary field.

"Overall, I'd say a conference like this is about enhancing the intellectual life of the university," said Paul Fischer, who is also an associate professor of recording industry at MTSU.

More than 150 participants from 10 countries are expected to attend the conference, and a broad range of popular music topics

will be discussed.

"It doesn't hurt when people from Harvard, Princeton, Berkeley, UCLA, Wisconsin, and from other countries go home

saying good things about the conference and MTSU," Fischer said.

Scholars and graduate students will present their work in thematic panel sessions to get responses from others and gain attention of editors interested in publishing their work.

A highlight of the conference is the Saturday, Feb. 18 morning session held in the LRC building, room 221.

"Music and Activism: Anti-Censorship and Intellectual Property Rights Issues in Popular Music" is just one topic that will be discussed at the conference that features Jenny Toomey of the Future of Music Coalition.

Registration opens Feb. 16 from 4-8 p.m. in the Doubletree Hotel lobby in Murfreesboro. There is a \$60 registration fee for students, and a \$110 for non-students. Additional information regarding conference programs and events can be found at IASPM-US's Web site, www.iaspm-us.net.

Sweetwater Salon and Grill catches fire

By Emily Cavender
Staff Writer

Murfreesboro's Sweetwater Saloon and Grill caught fire on Feb. 9 at approximately 4:40 p.m.

According to Jarrett Qualls, an employee of Sweetwater, the fire was caused by problems with the club's electrically lit sign.

"There was no internal damage, just damage to the sign," Qualls said.

Assistant Fire Chief Gary Farley said that the fire was reported by a passer-by shortly after the fire started. The fire trucks arrived quickly and were able to contain the blaze before any major damage to the building was caused.

Traffic around Sweetwater, which is located at 527 West Main Street, was shut down for over an hour on West Main between Broad Street and Bridge Avenue while the fire department secured the area.

Sweetwater is still open for business. Tonight is Twisted Thursday, and doors open at 10 p.m. Students get half off the cover charge with a college ID and ladies get in free until 11 p.m.

Sweetwater Saloon is a venue where many local bands and artists play. They offer many styles of music, including acoustic night on Wednesdays.

This Friday night, 101.1 The Beat, a predominantly R&B radio station located in Nashville, will be at Sweetwater.

The building has been home to several venues before becoming Sweetwater Saloon and Grill. It was formerly the Inferno Bar, Bongo Johnny's and Main Street before becoming Sweetwater Saloon.

Muslim Minister: "Visits"

Continued from 2

all found following Jesus, his teachings and his Jesus, then we are all going to reach the same goal."

Reginald also talked about a friend in which Morgan Friedman said it was time to stop having black history month.

"I believe what he meant was that now it's time to know our history, so that there will no longer be a need for a black history month. But even though I understand where Morgan Friedman was coming from, I don't agree."

Business management major Rashaad Mills, 23, an orthodox Muslim for three years, said that he was pleased with the

speech, and it was good to hear from a fellow Muslim.

"Criminal justice major Torry Campbell, 23, said he liked the speech, and he thought it was an accurate representation of the Islam faith. He also spoke about the representation of Islam in the media.

"[What people see on TV] is just a few bad apples. Most cops are good, but some cops will tarnish the reputation of the whole bunch. Most Christians are good natured, but you could easily group them with the Klan and the Crusades. I think that what happened with 9/11 is you had a few bad Muslims. It tarnished the reputation of all Islam. And it's not even Islam that they practice."

Got a news tip?

Call 898-2337

CORRECTION

Photo correction

In the Feb. 13 edition of Sidelines, the photographs that accompanied the "Student Health Services upgrade women's health annex over winter" story and "MTSU post office employees" story were attributed to Adam Casto. The photographs were taken by Sidelines Staff Photographer Brian Risse.

Story correction

Last issue
Vagina Monologues
This years theme is about Korean women not Japanese women.

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OPINIONS

Chicks, West speak out about Bush

By DeAnn Currey
Staff Columnist

Everyone is entitled to their own opinion. Everyone is entitled to freedom of speech. What happens though when you overstep that boundary, or when the media believes that you have overstepped that boundary as a celebrity?

It's ok to be outspoken and stand up for what you believe is right. However, I don't understand how it is ok for one particular genre of musicians to say one thing and have their career put on the line, while a musician of another genre say something just as demeaning and have his career go through the roof.

In 2003, at a London concert, Dixie Chicks lead singer, Natalie Maines said, "We just want to say that we're ashamed our President is from Texas." This comment was said while the United States was on the brink of war, so the timing

may not have been the best.

However, Kanye West said in 2005, "George Bush doesn't like black people," and did not get nearly the media or fan criticism that the Chicks received. This comment was made on national TV during a Hurricane Katrina fundraiser. Are you kidding me? It's like West is blaming Bush for Katrina and its aftermath.

Is this because of the difference in the genre of music? Obviously country music and rap music are two totally different things but why is the comment made by West ok, but not the one made by Maines?

Both were expressing their freedom of speech rights, though the Dixie Chicks took heat from the media, fans and non-fans. Radio stations refused to play their records, while people burned and trashed their albums. Too bad the fans didn't think the Dixie Chicks made

money off the album anyway. You bought it, so you paid a part of their salary.

On the other hand, West's album sales and air-time on the radio skyrocketed. Interesting. Why is that though? Is it because the media expects for comments like that to come out of rap-stars mouths and not country stars? Is it because country music is supposed to be about supporting your country and rap music is more focused on sex, drugs and money? Or is it because that country music has a wider age range of listeners than rap music?

Some radio stations to this day refuse to play any music by the Dixie Chicks because of the statement that was made nearly three years ago. I am all about supporting my country and everything, but it's been three years. Enough is enough. In the large scheme of things, Maines' opinion and comment didn't

really hurt anyone. She was just speaking her mind.

Just last week, a local country station played a new song and did not give the name of the artist. People started calling in like crazy and complaining because they thought the disc jockey had just played a new Dixie Chicks song. To their surprise, the audience was just listening to the newest song by Gretchen Wilson, not the Dixie Chicks.

It's odd how the Dixie Chicks took all this heat, yet they still sold out concert after concert. It looks like the boycott of their music really hurt their careers (note my sarcasm). Let me just say: I went to the show in Nashville and they put on an amazing show live.

A week after Maines made her statement she was interviewed on ABC's "Primetime Thursday," where she gave a semi-apology.

"Am I sorry I said that? Yes. Am I

sorry I spoke out? No. Am I sorry that I ask questions and that I don't just follow? No."

I was unable to find an apology statement made by West, although I did find an interesting quote made by him in a magazine interview. He said, "If I was more complacent and I let things slide, my life would be easier. But you all wouldn't be entertained."

Both Maines and West have the right to say anything they want, but there's a problem with society and the media if they can hound one group of musicians and praise another for similar comments.

DeAnn Currey is a Junior Mass Communications major and can be reached at jdc3v@mtsu.edu

Opinions Editor thanks Cheney for birdshot

By Tim Hill
Opinions Editor

Thank you, Mr. Vice President, for making all of the dreams of journalists come true. Disney Pixar should award you with a trip to any of their resorts for all that you've done to help our industry this week. The accidental shooting of your Republican lawyer friend has pluses and minuses for liberal and conservative reporters alike. Nobody has been mentioning where the "American Idol" contestants stand so early in the season. Rather, the question of the town is, "Did you catch 'The Daily Show' the other night at all?"

I didn't, but I may check the 'motherload' when I get a chance.

As a conservative whose editorial position gives me ample opportunities to defend your record, Harry's chest pellets have me happy for the right reasons. The argument can be made that there is more to this hunting story than there ever was to the CIA leak case. President Bush owes you, Rove, Libby and even Judy Miller official pardons. The sooner, the better Mr. Whittington will heal.

My parents, who live outside of the nation's capitol, have said they think the Washington press corps is trying to take this non-event and turn it into an

event. That leads to a greater question—and a good reason why you need me on your White House communications team after I graduate. "How do we recover from this?" is what you are all asking. I know it, and Fox News hopes you know it.

The answers are simple, really. You don't realize the mine that has been opened up on public lands for you here. The RNC should be running ads deriding all of the Democratic presidents who have a history of gunfire in their past.

President Andrew Jackson or Johnson was the one who got into a duel over comments made about his inadvertent premarital relations with his wife.

There's some other great news for the administration here that can be translated to our troops overseas.

According to Wikipedia, "A code duello is a set of rules for a one-on-one combat, or duel. Code duels regulate fair fights and thus help prevent vendettas between families and social factions [Iraq insurgency; 'After all, this guy tried to kill my dad' line now makes sense]."

Further, "They assure that non-violent means of reaching agreement have been exhausted and that harm is limited by both limiting the terms of engagement [refusing to bomb hospitals, mosques,

or schools before the war] and providing medical care [not pulling the pin when you had the chance to]. Finally, they assure that the proceedings have a number of witnesses [The infamous deck of Saddam cards]."

Continuing, "The witnesses assure grieving members of factions [Sunnis] of the fairness of the fight [not a holy war], and help provide testimony if legal authorities get involved [Abu Ghirab]."

The President likes to refer to former President Clinton as "my predecessor." This shooting story lifts that burden. If the President wants to know what his public statement should be, it should be nothing less than the following:

"You are all acting like this is the first time a sitting Vice President has shot someone before. Aaron Burr is on the complete rewritten historical record for being the first Vice President to shoot someone while in office. We're all just so glad that the Democrats are applying the same standard in this lawyer shooting investigation as they did with former Clinton White House Counsel Vince Foster's alleged suicide. In closing, let me just say that Harry Whittington was a rare kind of lawyer—he didn't deserve to be shot."

Sixty Second Interview on the Grassy Knoll

This edition's question was: Do you feel that the Dick Cheney incident has been blown out of proportion?

Mark Bonlol, a freshman history major said, "Isn't everything? Yes, it has been blown out of proportion. Everyone has accidents. I personally don't like Dick Cheney, but he doesn't need to be beaten into the ground over this."



Cory Frank, a junior Information Systems major said, "Yes, I understand why people are upset because they weren't informed, but they were in a small town and they had the Secret Service with them and they're much better equipped of these situations. I just feel it has been blown out of proportion."



Ryan Bearden, a Music Industry freshman said, "I don't even know about it. They were talking about it in French class and I had no idea what they were talking about."



Bill Rice, a senior Computer Engineering Technology major said, "I don't know if it has been but I do feel sorry for the lawyer."



Photos by Greg Johnson | Photographer

A Narnian Gryphon said, "Aslan isn't worried about Cheney's poor shot."



Photo courtesy of Disney

Homosexuality does fit

To the Editor,

I'm writing in response to Matthew Hurtt's article "Homosexuality does not fit..." Mr. Hurtt states that homosexuality is a choice and affirms that "one could not make such a loaded statement without backing it up with fact."

However, in his article he does anything but that. Anecdotes from a retreat and scriptural quotes do not constitute factual support for such a misguided statement.

From his conversations with a gay man he refers to as John, Mr. Hurtt came to the conclusion that John's feelings for other men were purely lustful and thus, not meaningful. While I can agree that pure lust alone is usually not enough to sustain a relationship, the fact that John lusted for other men does not mean gay men never have meaningful relationships. Implying that it does is just as illogical as saying that a straight man who lusts after a woman at one time could never find a loving relationship with another at some point.

To quote Mr. Hurtt, "Marriage is about love, commonalities, and trust between two individuals." Somehow, we're supposed to believe that same-sex couples can't love each other, don't have anything in common, and don't trust each other? Mr. Hurtt hypothesizes that "cheating would most assuredly occur in a relationship built on lust." This may very well be true, but Mr. Hurtt is unbelievably wrong (and incidentally, displays his incredible ignorance)

in assuming that all same-sex relationships are based purely on lust.

After some obligatory scripture quoting and liberal bashing, Mr. Hurtt affirms that the United States was founded as a religious nation, which came as quite a shock to me. After all, the First Amendment grants freedom of religion to all Americans. When Mr. Hurtt tries to say that this does not mean "freedom from religion," he misses the point completely.

My freedom of religion means that I can practice a religion of my choosing (or not practice, as the case may be) and not be subjected to the dogmatic ideals of a religious belief to which I do not subscribe. Just because your religion may hate homosexuality does not mean that I have to hate it as well, or that I should have to suffer under laws based upon such religious hatred.

More than anything, I am deeply saddened by this display of ignorance and bigotry by Mr. Hurtt. In saying that, "Homosexuality just doesn't fit," Mr. Hurtt displays an attitude similar to the men in Laramie, Wyoming who found it perfectly fine to beat a college student to death simply because he "didn't fit."

Brent Newberry
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Photo courtesy of New Line Cinemas

In the special edition of "Wedding Crashers" on DVD, one of the deleted scenes shows Vice President Cheney accidentally shooting Jeremy in the butt during the quail hunting sequence. New Line executives insisted on the cut because Darrell Hammond played the Vice President's character, and they thought with Will Ferrell's cameo appearance, the film would be overloaded with "SNL" cast members. (This was satire)

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For more information come by Mass Comm Rm. 269 or call 898-2337.

FEATURES

Cartoon controversy challenges couple

By Tom Cheredar
Staff Writer

There is not a prominent number of Muslim students walking the crowded paths of MTSU during a typical weekday. In classrooms, women wearing shawls are in the minority, and their responses are often absent during lectures.

For most Muslim students, being different is one more factor to overcome in addition to the pop quizzes and exams found on a new syllabus. Throw in a clash of Eastern and Western culture from a political cartoon currently causing riots in the Middle East and Southeast Asia, and their lives at the university just got a little more complicated.

This is what awaits Roxanne Jenkins every school day as she makes her way to class, but she knew what she was getting into when she chose to convert from Southern Baptist to Muslim nearly two years ago.

"I knew it would be hard," she says, glancing at her husband Omar Dunlap for support. He nods in agreement.

Since converting, she has become the leader of the Muslim Student Association of MTSU, she is now growing accustomed to life according to Islamic law and the Koran.

"I can't eat pork anymore," she says. "I didn't want to, but I did because of my faith."

Other than pork, Roxanne cannot drink alcohol or see any

image of the Prophet Muhammad, which has become much more relevant now that mainstream media has started continuous coverage of the elevating tension in Europe.

Omar says it's important for people to understand why publishing a political cartoon would cause Muslims to become upset.

"It is blasphemous to draw a depiction of the prophet Muhammad," Omar explains. "Muslims want to avoid idolatry at all cost," meaning it's important the messenger does not get confused with the message.

The couple has been keeping up with news of the cartoons since last September when the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten began printing the first of a 12-part series depicting the Prophet Muhammad. Not only did the publication violate Islamic religious beliefs, but the content of the cartoons depicting him as wearing a bomb-shaped turban, as a terrorist and with a rather horn-like "halo" around his head ignited a controversy that has stretched to include much of Europe and, recently, the United States.

"It's strange, but I hadn't actually seen the cartoon," Roxanne says. "I avoided even Google searching it because I knew—I knew—I would see it."

She has seen it, though unintentionally; vividly recalling an experience with meetup.com, a Web site that helps people with similar interests and cultures

communicate with each other. One user joined several Muslim and Islamic groups and then chose the political cartoon as his display picture.

"I think it's hard for people over here to understand why it caused such destruction," Omar says. "In America, they have TV shows like South Park that use Jesus as a character."

"Muslims would never depict Jesus like that because we respect him just as much as we do any other prophet," Roxanne explains.

Omar is also a Muslim convert but said he means no disrespect to Jesus. "My family is very strict Southern Baptist. My father couldn't be more [of a Christian] or he'd be a preacher," he says with conviction in his voice.

Neither he nor his wife have ever regarded the Christian beliefs they were raised with as wrong. In fact they believe quite the contrary.

"The Muslim faith is actually very liberal," Omar says. "It's not that Christianity or Jewish beliefs are wrong, we just feel that the Koran is the only book left unaltered by time."

"The Muslim faith doesn't condone the violence going on in Denmark, but as an American who does not condone terrorism ...," he pauses.

The expression on his face tightens as he struggles to put into words how difficult it is for him to be proud of two conflicting cultures.

"These are crazy times, we live in," he says, finally finding the words. "It's difficult to know which side to take."

The question of which side to take continues to be asked by national media outlets, free speech advocates, the white house and in the classroom.

"Kanye West was on the cover of Rolling Stone with a crown of thorns on his head, and as a Southern Baptist, that offends me," says senior political science major Andrew Wood in the middle of a discussion of the event in his world politics course.

"I'm not against their religion, but it seems like they got all upset over a political cartoon, and that's no reason to condone bloodshed and violence," he says.

The class sits in silence for a moment before someone toward the back of the room asks Professor Andrei Korobkov a question:

"What's your opinion?" the speaker asks. Those paying attention waited as the reply came moments later.

"There is no easy answer here," Korobkov answers. "We do not really see from the point of view of others. This in turn causes more violence than the act itself."

His last sentence is muffled by the sound of desks shuffling loudly on the linoleum-tile floor. Class time has run up and students once engaged in the lecture are now absent from the discussion—the question is left unanswered.

Professors speak about free speech

Tuesday's issue of *The Daily Illini*, the student-run newspaper at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, reprinted six of the 12-part controversial cartoon series, resulting in the suspension of the paper's editor, Acton Gorton and his opinions editor, Chuck Prochaska.

MTSU faculty members comment:

"Does the press in the country have the freedom to publish the cartoons? Yes. I'm not disputing that. I'm not an advocate for censorship or any external interference with the internal working of journalism in this country, but I'm an advocate for an enlightened attitude in the newsroom, which should make us more sensitive to other people's religious beliefs." —Anantha Babbili, dean of the College of Mass Communication



"What we need here is a tolerance on both sides. We're starting to breed a religious war between this secular ideal of an inalienable right (freedom of speech)—which is pragmatic and totally alienable—against a religious principle." —Ron Bombardi, philosophy department chair

"I think dismissing [the paper's staff] was probably a mistake. I think the debate over whether or not to put the cartoons in the newspaper should be a very deep discussion whether that happens or doesn't happen. You have to look very carefully at the motives of why [the cartoons] are in there. There's a lot of issues there, but I don't think I would have dismissed them. ... I wouldn't have dismissed the staff, though it's definitely an issue that needs careful consideration." —Rabbi Rami Shapiro, professor of religious studies

"I hope universities don't feel as if they have to prove freedom of speech by printing the cartoon. It would really depend on if the editor in question was penalized for the printed content or if he followed procedure correctly. Because if he did not check with other editors, then it would not be a question of censorship." John Vile, political science department chair.

The joy of HELPing

By Stacy Williams
Staff Writer

Debbie Bauder's office at Project HELP (Helping Educate Little People) is in the corner of the building, giving her access to two hallways.

"I always keep my door open," Bauder says, as screams and giggles emerge from one hall. The noise could be distracting to some, but to Bauder, keeping an open door is essential in all aspects of her job.

"It's just wild! When you have 30 two-year-olds around, things are pretty unpredictable," she says.

Even so, the word unpredictable doesn't seem to phase her. She has 28 years of experience teaching and dealing with special-needs children.

Bauder graduated from the University of Tennessee with a bachelor's degree in special education. After teaching at different schools, including Tennessee's School for the Deaf in Knoxville, she went on to receive a master's degree in speech pathology from Tennessee State University.

Bauder has served as the director of Project HELP since 2000, and during her tenure she says she has worked hard to make this special preschool a valuable part of the Rutherford County community.

"We're set up as a therapeutic center," Bauder says. "Basically, when kids come to us, they receive 10 hours of integrated therapy. This includes speech, occupational and physical therapy."

Project HELP is geared toward improving the skills of developmentally delayed children between the ages of one and three.

"Two-and-a-half hours a day we are stacking the deck," she says. "We are giving opportunities to practice those skills that the therapist taught, but we implement them in a functional preschool setting."

Bauder says she is proud to be part of such rewarding and productive work. Parent workshops add to the typical day-care and therapy sessions, improving one child at a time. These services prove the school to be favored by parents; however,

there is a limited amount of space, so Bauder keeps a waiting list.

"Usually the young families will put their unborn babies on the list," Bauder says.

When Project HELP was founded in 1983 by Dr. Ann Campbell, there was one classroom session. Campbell still teaches in the Special Education Dept at MTSU. She says that since then, the program has served more than 500 children, and currently, there are six different classes and 45 children enrolled.

"There are two different criteria for coming into the program," Bauder explains. "One is a diagnosed disability. Another way is just through developmental delay."

In 2001, at the suggestion of student assistants, the school began admitting children without disabilities or delays to introduce the learning process in a mixed environment.

"50 percent of our children are children with learning differences and 50 percent are what we call our typically developing children," Bauder says. "And

so we want everyone to be successful in their activities." Joining the kids together gives them an opportunity to participate as equals and encourages the parents, she says.

Project HELP maximizes the child's progress. Bauder says one of the first signs of improvement is the individual's desire to learn. The teachers emphasize the importance of the children's interaction and communication with each other.

Communication is also important for Bauder, who is in frequent contact with MTSU administration and students. About 300 MTSU students per year are given the opportunity to get scholarship or credit hours at Project HELP.

Bauder says she gets workers from athletics and nursing as well as education and psychology. The facility serves as a training lab for the students who show interest in working with people with disabilities.

"I would hope that they gain a sensitivity and respect for all people, regardless of their learning methods," she says.

"I would hope that their mind would be broadened as to how to make modifications for anyone who cannot complete a task without assistance."

Whether or not students gained these valuable lessons is unknown, but it's evident they enjoyed themselves. According to a survey of student assistants last year, the least favored aspect of the program was "leaving at the end of the day."

Parent feedback has also been positive. All services provided by Project HELP are free, which would result in the school's popularity. The parent workshops are offered each month and are open to the public. February's event is "Reading Aloud to you Child: Promoting Early Literacy Skills." Bauder feels that supporting the parents is just as important as helping their children.

"To be able to get a parent to that point, where they see their child for the beautiful gift they are who learns differently; that's worth it," she says.

For more information on Project HELP, go to <http://www.mtsu.edu/~projhelp>

KUC Theater offers cheap entertainment

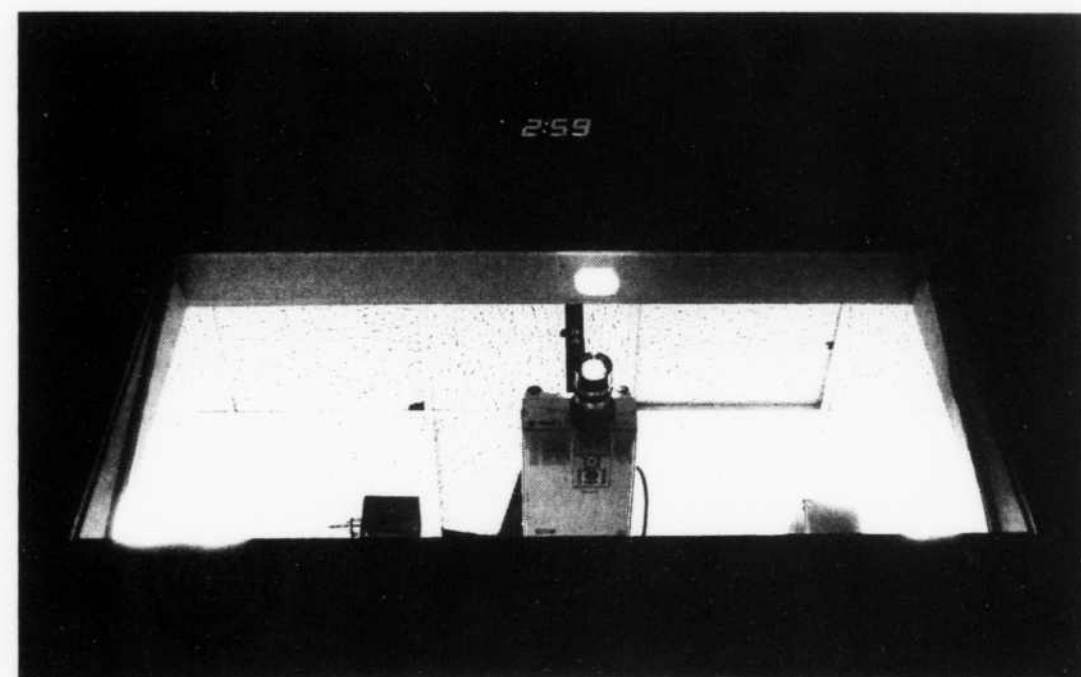


Photo by Adam Casto | Photography Editor

KUC theater offers a cheap alternative source of entertainment for students on a budget.

By Carmen Anderson
Staff Writer

Students tired of studying who want an entertaining distraction that won't leave them going hungry for two weeks, how about a movie?

For college students with less-than-impressive bank accounts, the KUC movie theater is an inexpensive way to receive entertainment.

True, that it is not the most comfortable of theaters, but it definitely takes less from your wallet than say ... a night at an IMAX movie.

The KUC Theater charges just two dollars to see

fairly new films. Recent selections included: "Saw II," "Jarhead," "Walk the Line" and "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."

Being given the opportunity to work at the theater is even better for those who are passionate about films.

John Higdon, a science education major, often operates the projector during a showing. Sometimes, he is treated with a movie he has never seen before, like Monday night's showing of "Walk the Line."

Thankfully, for the claustrophobic, the projector room isn't as small as might be expected.

An interest in movies and learning how to use the projector are the most helpful qualifications for operating the booth, but he said training isn't terribly hard, usually consisting of just one day observing someone.

"It doesn't take a lot of prep work," he says, eating his Burger King dinner. "It's just the desire to want to do it."

To Higdon, there have never been any stressful technical difficulties after switching from 16 mm to DVD. With 16 mm you could run the risk of the bulb not coming on, he says.

He alternates going into the projection room and into the theater to make sure everything is in working order.

When you ask what Higdon's favorite movies are, he answers without hesitation that he prefers cult classics like "Pulp Fiction" and "The Princess Bride." So the theater's annual Halloween showing of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" isn't just work for Higdon, but a chance for an unusual, enjoyable experience.

For those who don't know, "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" gained its popularity by not simply being a movie to watch but an event for audiences to participate in.

The Halloween showing is one of the few times when people can come dressed up as a character in the movie and feel absolutely free to scream lines of—sometimes alternate—dialogue at the screen. You can also throw almost whatever you want at the screen.

While this is a special occasion, you still get to have a good time at regular showings of horror movies, where people scream, though not always at the appropriate time. "That's just the fun of it," says Higdon.

The KUC Theater no longer has showings on

Fridays and Saturdays due to the fact that many students go home on these days. These days are usually reserved for special showings of documentaries or the recent showing of "Scarface."

For those wondering how the films are usually picked from week to week, that task is given to MTSU's film committee. Joining the committee is free and also gives members an opportunity to work in the theater, says Films Committee Chair Will Fancher.

The committee pays the rights of the film to two major distribution companies. "Swank" deals with studios such as Paramount, while the "Criterion" company is where MTSU gets its 20th Century Fox and Disney films.

There have been instances, though not often, when there was a problem getting a film at a specific time. Sometimes, movies can be available a month earlier than thought. Fancher says release times can be subject to change, but most of the time, acquiring films is a fairly easy process.

At the beginning of the semester, the Film's Committee takes a vote on which movies will be shown throughout the year. There are certain criteria taken under consideration when making final decisions.

For one thing, at the beginning of the year, award season is in full effect, so it is difficult to get certain Oscar-nominated films around the time the award shows are aired.

It is also important to keep in mind the length of certain movies and how long theater occupants will be willing to sit and watch a long movie like "Titanic," or the more recent "King Kong."

"No one would want to sit in those seats for three hours," says Higdon.

SPORTS



Photo by Adam Casto | Photography Editor
MT junior forward Kyle Young attempts a lay up against South Dakota State. Young finished the game with 12 points.

Men defeat SDSU

Monday, February 13
MT 89
South Dakota St. 82

Next Game at Arkansas State,
February 16

By Jori Rice

Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee men's basketball team defeated the South Dakota State Jackrabbits 89-82 in overtime Monday night at the Murphy Center.

The game marked the first time in school history that MT and South Dakota State have met.

"I'm really proud of our team for finding a way to win," MT head coach Kermit Davis said.

"On the other hand, I'm really disappointed in the step back we made defensively in the past couple of games," Davis

said. "We have lost our edge offensively, and we lost our toughness. We were very fortunate to win, but it was a good win mentally," Davis said.

MT (13-10) stayed close in the first half, playing South Dakota State (7-17) to two ties.

However, the Jackrabbits eventually outscored MT during the half by nine points.

"Halftime was rough and coach Davis got on us pretty good," junior Adam Vogelsberg said. "We had to come out and play like we are capable."

The Blue Raiders out-rebounded South Dakota State by 10, 46-36, but it still took the team five extra minutes to secure the seven point victory.

"We feel fortunate to win this game, but at the same time, we did find a way to win in the end and that's important," Vogelsberg said. "We have won five of six, and we are trying to build momentum, but we can't be talking steps back. We have to be moving forward."

"We have a lot of work, to do but it's good to be finding ways to improve out of a win," Vogelsberg said.

Three South Dakota players scored in

double-figures. Matt Cadwell was the leader of the bunch with 34 points.

"We saw Cadwell averaged 15 and was one of their best players," Vogelsberg said. "I didn't expect him to make some of the big plays like he did. He will have some good years ahead of him."

Following Cadwell in scoring was Ben Beran with 19 points and Michael Loney with 10 points.

On the offensive side for MT, five players were in double figures. Vogelsberg was the leader of the offense with 25 points. Tim Blue had 20 points, while Fats Cuyler, Kevin Kanaskie and Kyle Young each scored 12 points.

"I was proud of Kevin Kanaskie because he played with a lot of confidence," Davis said. "Vogelsberg made big plays at the end; he scored 21 of his 25 points in the final minutes of the game and in overtime."

"I thought Tim Blue was absolutely horrendous defensively, but we had to keep him on the floor because we thought he could score," Davis said.

MT will return to action tonight at Arkansas State.

Women play final home games of regular season

By Erika Davis

Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee women's basketball team is playing the final two home games of the regular season this week. First, Thursday night, the team will take on Arkansas State.

This will be the second time this season these two teams have squared off. In the first game, the Blue Raiders won 66-65 on January 12 at Arkansas State.

The Indians suffered a loss to Sun

Belt Conference opponent Florida International Monday night, 67-63.

The loss makes their SBC record 5-5 (11-12 overall). Not only did the Indians suffer the loss to FIU, they also lost a key player, sophomore forward Kelsey Locke, for the remainder of the season with a torn ACL in her right knee.

Locke had started every game for the Indians and was averaging over 28 minutes, 8.7 points per game and was second on the team with 6.3 rebounds per game.

Thursday night's contest is set to tip off at 7 pm.

MT's last home opponent this regular season will be the University of Arkansas Little-Rock (4-6, 12-11). The Trojans suffered a 60-55 loss to Florida-International Saturday.

The last time the Blue Raiders played the Trojans was on January 14. MT lost this game 58-53 at UALR.

"They've got a good player in freshman [Renee] Renz," Blue Raiders coach Rick Insell said.

In the game on January 14, the

UALR freshman guard led her team with 16 points and 11 rebounds.

The game, which is set to tip off at 7 pm Saturday night, will be senior night for forward Tia Stovall.

Coach Insell said he has been excited about the fans support.

"The fan support has been blowing our players minds," Insell said in response to the record-breaking crowd of 4,014 fans in attendance in the game against Denver on Saturday night.

Although the team has to go on the

road for the final two home games of the regular season (traveling to Western Kentucky and then to Florida-International) but Insell and the Blue Raiders have to get past both Arkansas teams first.

"It's the momentum that we want to keep, which is something that we started back in early June as we kept building on this all the way through this season," Insell said. "That's what we want to continue to do so we can take this program to the Elite Eight."

Versatility key for MTSU softball program

By Jill Davis

Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee's head softball coach Leigh Podlesney is only in her second year at MT. However, she has taken the softball program, turned it around and developed a team of young women into dedicated softball players with a love for the game.

Trying to recover from an 8-43 record last season, Podlesney has once again put together a team of hardworking, but rather young and inexperienced girls to try to make MT's softball program excel.

A key component among this year's team is versatility. Each player is capable of playing more than one position, an element that was missing last season. Along with the versatility, there is a new pitching staff and more pitchers available for the mound.

Although there are some new and returning faces to the program this season, experience is going to be the ultimate challenge for the team. Podlesney said she believes that with a balanced schedule, the team will learn in order to play its best at a Division I level.

"The only way to get experience is to go out and play," Podlesney said. "So we've got a

balanced schedule. We've got some tough opponents but we also have some opponents that I think we can compete with."

One goal set by the coaching staff and the team is to defeat teams within close proximity of the Middle Tennessee region in order to gain recognition in its own backyard.

With a small team of just 15 young women, Podlesney said she wants to see them learn from other opponents in order to prepare for Sun Belt Conference games.

This season, the team knows what to expect from the coaching staff and should be more confident and prepared. However, a softball program could not be successful without its fans. MT is helping in fan relations, not only by building a brand new softball complex, due sometime in March, but also by broadcasting games live on the internet.

As for the complex, Podlesney said she believes it to be a great recruiting tool for next year's season. With in-ground dugout, a press box, concession stands and public restrooms, the new softball complex will be more appealing to the fan base.

One familiar aspect of this year's team when compared with last season is youth. There are six

new players on the team, and Podlesney said she hopes to see each one in the line up early in the season in order to gain experience.

These new faces include Shelby Stiner, a junior transfer from Glendale Community College in Arizona, who plays shortstop and, according to Podlesney, has "great hands." Stiner finished last season with a .360 batting average, six homeruns, and 39 RBIs.

Another transfer is sophomore catcher Katie Mielke, who comes to MT from Illinois State University. Returning players who are expected to step up as leaders in the program include seniors Michelle Wilkes and Jennifer Dorais and junior Melissa Weiland.

Junior Muriel Ledbetter will be returning after a knee injury that resulted in her taking a redshirt last season. Returning pitcher Trish White, who had hip surgery at the end of last season, has also been released to play.

The softball season began yesterday at Evansville, where the Blue Raiders were on the losing end of a 9-1 decision.

The team will travel to Auburn Feb. 17-19 for the Auburn Tournament. First pitch is set for 10 a.m. Friday.



Photo courtesy of MT Media Relations

Pre-season SBC Pitcher of the Year Matt Scott is one of the six returning starters and is expected to help lead the Blue Raider baseball team to victory.

Expectations are high for experienced Blue Raiders

By Russell Luna

Staff Writer

The restlessness of more than eight months without America's pastime at Middle Tennessee will end Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m., when the Blue Raider baseball team takes the field for the first time in 2006 with a weekend series against IP-Fort Wayne.

Middle Tennessee finished 2005 with a loss to South Alabama in the Sun Belt Championship. The team's overall record of 32-23 was not enough to help the Raiders' clinch a berth to an NCAA Regional. Although there was no regional title birth, the Blue Raiders did earn their fourth bid to a Sun Belt Championship in five seasons. However, expectations at MT require the Blue Raiders to win Sun Belt titles.

"If you don't win a championship and go to a Regional, then we have not reached our expectations," coach Steve Peterson, who has led his team to 11 seasons of 30 or more wins in his 18 years as head coach said. "Doing that only puts you on par of what is expected in the baseball program at Middle Tennessee. From there, you have a chance to go do something special, like winning a Regional, which we have not been able to do."

This year the Blue Raiders' return six starters, including pre-season all-conference players' Matt

Scott (SP), Jeff Beachum (SS), Nathan Hines (OF) and Todd Martin (DH).

According to the conference coaches' poll, MT is slated to finish fifth in the conference.

"I think it motivates us and makes us look like an underdog," pre-season SBC Pitcher of the Year Matt Scott said. "If you are the underdog, it's going to make us work harder and try to prove everybody wrong."

Underdog or not, MT realizes that preparation is key to winning games. Perhaps the most crucial element of the Blue Raiders' game will be the pitching staff.

"We are going to be in the middle of the pack if we don't have outstanding pitching," Peterson said. "We have won a number of championships; the mark of our championship teams has been our bullpen. Accepting roles and knowing what you got to do and do what your coaches and teammates expect of you, will help you produce a good product on the field. If we live by the bat, we will die by the bat."

A demanding schedule this year will challenge the Blue Raiders' to play top notch competition, including teams such as Birmingham Southern, Vanderbilt and Memphis. Troy University will also

See Baseball, 5

Men's basketball to face ASU

By Jonathan Hutton

Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee will get back to league action tonight against Arkansas State with a chance to move up in the Sun Belt Conference standings with a win.

The Blue Raiders (12-10, 5-5 SBC) are currently tied for third in the East Division, but a win tonight would guarantee at least a tie for the second seed.

If the Blue Raiders could keep the seed for the remainder of the season it would constitute a first round bye in the SBC tournament in early March.

A win on Saturday night against Arkansas-Little Rock would be the icing on the cake for a successful road trip before returning home to finish the regular season schedule and host the tournament.

"We're going to a place on Thursday night that we've never lost in," MT head coach Kermit Davis told the Blue Raider Network. "Arkansas State is playing well, and Little Rock has always played us well [on their court]."

"We are going to correct some mistakes and try to win our game on Thursday," Davis told MT Media Relations.

MT defeated the ASS Indians 77-68 earlier in the season at the Murphy Center behind a complete game from Adam Vogelsberg, who led the Blue Raiders with 19 points, and Marcus Morrison's third double-double of the season. MT will need more of the same play this weekend to survive the tough Arkansas road trip.

MT shot 32 percent (21 of 64) during last Saturday's loss to

Denver and shot the same percentage in the first half against South Dakota State before winning in overtime.

"We have to make plays," Davis told MT Media Relations. "How many eight- or nine-footers did we miss? Calvin O'Neil and Bud Howard were just staring at the goal. Marcus Morrison had balls flying out of his hand four feet from the rim. We're a team that should be playing over the top of their team. When you give a team open looks, you are going to give them confidence to win."

Open looks are something MT cannot give the Trojans of Little Rock. UALR is coming off a game where they hit 56 percent of their shots and beat Savannah State 81-53.

UALR defeated the Blue

See Men's Basketball, 7

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Tennis: "Fall to Georgia Tech"

Continued from 7

Freshman Morgan Richard was unable to add to his winning streak, dropping a 7-6 (1), 6-3 decision to the Yellow Jackets' Scott Blackmon at No. 6.

With the overall score knotted at 3-3 and the deciding match left on the court, Kuruppu lost 7-5, 6-4 at No. 5 to Gvelesiani to give Georgia Tech the win.

"I thought we really competed

much better than at Virginia Tech last weekend when we lost," Short told MT Media Relations.

"One point here or there, and we win that match 5-2," he said.

With the loss, Middle Tennessee dropped to 3-2 on the season. The Blue Raiders will not play again until February 25-26, when the team plays host to Rice and Minnesota at the Racquet Club of Murfreesboro.

Track: Next Meet at SBC Champs

Continued from 7

Waller competed in the long jump and finished third; in fifth was JaKeith Hairston with Leak came in seventh. Hairston came in fourth in the triple jump, with Linnie Yarbrough in sixth and Brandon Jones in eighth. Julius Defour came in second in the long jump.

Tiffany Owens came in first in the women's 200-meters; Candice Robertson finished third and Veronia Patterson finished fourth. Owens came in third in the 55-meter dash, and teammate Robertson was fifth. Patterson came in second in the 400-meters, and Erika Palmer was sixth. Robertson won the 55-meter hurdles beating out Iceca Epps, who finished second. Sierra Douglas and Lamunika Eberhart

finished fifth and sixth respectively.

Marjorie Gombert finished third in the 800-meters. TraMayne Gillyard, Shanna-Kay Campbell, Antranette Stringer and Patterson won the women's miles relay.

Meaghan Byrd finished first in the weight throw, and Douglas came in third in both the long jump and triple jump.

"We were either pretty good or not so good today," Head Coach Dean Hayes told www.goblueraiders.com. "We got some really good efforts from Candice and JJ and Meaghan, and then some that weren't very good."

Both teams will be gearing up for the Sun Belt Championships February 25-26 at the Murphy Center.

Baseball: "Season Preview"

Continued from 6

enter the Sun Belt Conference this season in Atlantic after participating in the Atlantic Sun for several years. Coach Peterson realizes that the most important series of the year might be against South Alabama.

"Every game starts with South Alabama. If you're going to win a championship you must go through Mobile, AL," Peterson said. "Lafayette will be right there; Florida International, Little Rock will be much improved."

Regardless of what type of season MT will have in 2006, one

thing is certain: Expectations will always be high when players are under the tutelage of coach Steve Peterson.

The season series against IP-FW will present a challenge in itself. The Mastadons play an aggressive style of offense that includes taking a number of chances on stealing bases, which will pressure the Blue Raider defense.

"I'm excited we are finally able to put a product on the field," Peterson said. "After all the practices since September, we are now able to get the season going."

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Exposure

The Bad Plus

Acoustic jazz trio pushes the limits



INSIDE:

"The Pink Panther"
"Final Destination 3"

The taste of
Five Senses

+How I Became The Bomb
+ Juan Prophet Organization
+"The Sacred Music of Duke
Ellington"

the editor rambles...



Here we are again, Murfreesboro, at another crossroad between entertainment and news.

Last week saw the release of the Bonnaroo line-up, which I'm sure blew many minds.

With such an amazing group of musicians set to come to our great state I feel that our local entertainers will have to step it up if they want to be noticed in the wake of the almighty Bonnaroo.

But have no fear, because Exposure is here to reveal to you what this town has to offer.

While many around the globe will become sucked into the hype of these big name acts, you Murfreesboro dwellers will be able to sit back and smirk at the treasures that lie hidden in our town.

Anyway, keep up the good work, MTSU. Exposure will be watching you...

By Phillip C. Buck
Exposure Editor

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Bomb
"The Sacred Music of
Duke Ellington"

page six
The Pink Panther
Final Destination 3

Bad Plus

Exposure sits down with The Bad Plus to reveal the men behind the music

Mmm... beer

Three beers to fill your belly on an empty wallet. Plus Ryan Harris tastes the Five Senses experience.

...the staff, exposed

Phillip Buck
K.C. Hunter
Joseph Schmickrath
Lauren Tingle
David Benedict
Niles T. Maddox

Leigh Bernstein
Kristen Teffeteller
Juli Shipley
Ryan Harris
Austin Bennett
Meghanne Thompson

Jessy Yancey
Chris Nicotera
Cameron Chiles
John Daniel
Matt Orenstein
John Hreha

This week Exposure asks: **Who will you be seeing at Bonnaroo?**

Interviews by Lauren Tingle



Nicole Willbanks
"Cat Power, Shooter Jennings and Ricky Skaggs because I haven't seen him play before."



Megan Kellar
"Robert Randolph and the Family Band because they give the best live show ever!"



Brenton Harrison
"Radiohead, Union and Tom Petty because they're all going to be at the same place."

concert calender

thursday february 16

+Neat Pizza House - Watermeloncholy Flower, Dead Hippies
+Liquid Smoke - DJ/MCs & Jazz
+Bluesboro - Stereo Hype
+Bonhoeffer's - A Plea for Purging (CD Release), Said We Were Ghosts, Alert the Sky
+Campus Pub - An Unzipped Fly
+The Boro - Carryout Special, Gunter Wheeler, Hear Hear

friday february 17

+The Boro - Juan Profit Organization, Watermeloncholy Flower, The States
+Wallstreet - Ghostfinger, Stevie Binge & The Fork Hunts, The Bohannons
+Liquid Smoke - the GO show
+Bluesboro - Live Desire
+Grand Palace - Feable Weiner, Push to Talk

saturday february 18

+Grand Palace - Catfish Haven, Someone Still Loves You, Boris Yeltsin
+Bluesboro - Utopia, Boomerang
+Liquid Smoke - Uncle Don Clark
+Wallstreet - Corleone
+The Boro - Cutthroat Junction, Say Uncle

Juan Prophet Organization

By Kristen Teffetteller
Exposure Columnist

The Juan Prophet Organization will play cuts from their latest album, "The Carrot and The Stick," at The Boro Bar and Grill on Friday, Feb. 17, along with Watermeloncholy Flower and The States.

When it comes to classifying the Juan Prophet Organization's music, Kris White, guitarist and vocalist, admitted it could run from one end of the spectrum to the other while covering everything in between.

"A lot of people keep giving us this Captain Beefheart [and] Frank Zappa crap," Jeff Holt, bassist and vocalist, said. "How do you classify Frank Zappa? What kind of music does Frank Zappa play? Anything he wants!"

Juan Prophet Organization's avant-garde sound comes from the musical diversity of its six-member, self-

described family. According to Holt, the band changes its lineup throughout the album and shows, depending on what instrument each person plays on the song. Holt also plays accordion, guitar and glockenspiel for the band.

White utilizes multiple instruments as well, switching to bass, trumpet or percussion. White's sister, Grayson, plays violin, viola, and piano or sings while David Jellema adds Dixieland jazz clarinet and coronet to the mix. Matt Crisafi is the full-time drummer but he is sometimes on percussion or glockenspiel also! Clay Franklin, the long-distance member, provides bass and keyboards on the album and during Juan Prophet's tours.

The band originally met in North Louisiana in the late 1990s. Holt was playing in a Baton Rouge band, while White and Josh Foreman, one of the original members, attended college.

"We kinda bumped into each other over there," White said. "My sister and I came here to finish up school and Jeff and Josh came up because they

knew people in Tennessee." The Juan Prophet Organization began to form in late 1999, thanks to Holt's power of persuasion. Jellema and Crisafi were invited to play on the 2002 album and, "before they knew it," became full-time members of the band, according to Holt.

Over a meal of homemade Louisiana shrimp gumbo, Holt and White named artists who influence each member. While White's influences "cover the gamut," clarinet player Jellema listens to 1920-1950s jazz and cultural music. Grayson White grew up with U2; Holt named a former band mate as an influence on his bass playing.

"I played in a band with Jeff Brown for 5 or 6 years," Holt said. "He was originally a drummer, but he began playing bass and was just phenomenal. I always think, 'What would Jeff Brown do in this situation?'"

Classical music is another influence. Most of the band was involved in band classes or piano lessons during their childhood and teenage years. White also cited Douglas Adams,

(From left: Matt Crisafi, Kris White, Josh Foreman, David Jellema, Jeff Holt and Grayson White (bottom), collectively known as the Juan Prophet Organization, will be playing at The Boro on Friday, Feb. 17.



author of Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, and his "way of storytelling" as an influence.

Juan Prophet Organization has performed with many acts, including Sleepytime Gorilla Museum, The Whole Fantastic World and Polemic. In January, they traveled to Asheville, NC., to play at the Fringe Festival, where members of the Blue Moves modern dance troupe performed to the band's set.

White said their latest record, The Carrot and The Stick, was a "massive project" and their most high quality

and best sounding recordings to date. Shawn Haney from Performer magazine described it as "a feast to be devoured and savored for the ages." Holt said although good things have come their way, he believes the really big milestones for the Juan Prophet Organization are yet to come.

"We're looking for people who can eat fire," Holt said. "People who can juggle, ladies who can choreograph, circus, burlesque-type show people. We want to put on a more theatrical performance."

WMTS 88.3 SHOW SCHEDULE

We are proud to list the show schedule for MTSU's student run radio station, WMTS 88.3. Each week our staff will focus on a different show in hopes of enlightening our readers on what this station has to offer. STAY TUNED!



Jump, Jive, and Jazz

This week's featured DJs bring us the great sounds of Big Band and Jazz in their show "Jump, Jive, and Jazz." Join DJ Mysteria and Big T every Thursday from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. as they play only the best of the old and the greatest of the new. Bobby Darin, Miles Davis, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, and Benny Goodman are just a few of the great sounds "Jump, Jive, and Jazz" has to offer. Requests are welcome, so call in and request your favorite Big Band tune as Mysteria and Big T swing us into the afternoon at your very own 88.3 WMTS.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MID - 2AM	Ziggity Pow	Love, God, Murder	Organized Chaos	Droppin' Knowledge	Electronically Confused	Galaxy Cannibalism	The Ron Show
2AM - 4AM	Jammin on the One	Country Nights	Audio Mutiny	Leisure Room	Simply Beautiful	Spilled Milk Factory	Yanana's Meatmarket and Cafe Girlfriend
4AM - 6AM	AUTOMATION	AUTOMATION	AUTOMATION	AUTOMATION	AUTOMATION	AUTOMATION	AUTOMATION
6AM - 8AM	AUTOMATION	Wake Up Bitches!!!	The Best Medicine	Remember This Jankis	The Morning Rock Show	Guy's House	AUTOMATION
8AM - 10AM	AUTOMATION	Word for the Wise	RED is all the Rage Radio	Michael Gum's Personal Bubble	T.J. Quill's Morning Show	Raindrop Lounge	From the Right
10AM - NOON	AUTOMATION	Spread Tha Word	Slow Education	Couch Potatoes Radio	First Church of Crunk	Eclectic Cuts	Zombie Nation
NOON - 2PM	Old Time Radio	Tin Omen	Your Favorite Mix-Tape	The Badass Boro Variety	The subLeVel	Shut Up and Drive	Diff'rent Strokes
2PM - 4PM	Rebel Grrrls Radio	Synesthesia	The Bob Newhart Show	My So-Called Radio Show	Jump Jive & Jazz	The Binge	Two Dead Dames
4PM - 6PM	Captain Kirk's Smokehouse Review	Sorry 'Bout Your Roommate	Jive Talkin	Bum Ditty	Sunlight Lounge	Divinyl Intervention	The Drew Radio Show
6PM - 8PM	Gentle Ben	Danse Macabre	Lagniappe	Red Velvet Couch	Mermaid Cafe	The Flack Ours Hour	Necropolis
8PM - 10PM	Fascination Street	Maximum Overdrive	Doki Doki Panic	In the Hands of the Half Asian	Constructive Interference	Just Listen	Dabbadadoin' Around
10PM - MID	Joe Informs the World	The Heathen Forest	The Adventures of Team D.I.N.O.S.A.U.R.	Acid Living Room	Electric Revival	Flight 420	Willie Dynamite Presents

The Bad Plus:

By Cameron Chiles

Exposure Columnist

You may have heard "Let Our Garden Grow," a sweet piece with swimmy tempos, on MTSU's campus jazz station, 89.5 FM. The trio performing it is The Bad Plus, a jazz group tinged with innumerable styles. The Bad Plus has been together since 1990, when Reid Anderson (bass) and David King (drums), met the already-seasoned pianist, Ethan Iverson.

However, The Bad Plus didn't experience international success until the release of their first major-label recording, "These are the Vistas," in 2003. Since then, they have released two more albums, "Give" (2004), and their latest, "Suspicious Activity" (2005), that have been met with the praise of critics and avant-garde music fans alike.

The Bad Plus' style ranges from loungey covers ("Smells Like Teen Spirit"), groovy rock ("And Here We Test Our Powers of Observation"), to total freak-outs ("Do Your Sums-Die Like a Dog-Play for Home") where drum tantrums and flurries of notes break down tempos as soon as they are established. Amidst all this, one the few things you won't hear is anything you're liable to mix up with something else.

Last Saturday, the band played at Lexington, Kentucky's Memorial Hall.

Exposure: What kind of musical training have you guys had?

Iverson: I have a teacher, and we've all had interaction with private teachers, but I think we all learned jazz off of records and stuff. I took music in college for two years, but I dropped out, and I can't really say that was important.

Anderson: I have a degree in classical performance, which is still rolled up (laughs). I haven't even unrolled my diploma.



From left: Ethan Iverson, Reid Anderson, David King

Photo Credit: Cameron Chiles

Exposure: You've got to put that on the wall in the office.

Anderson: I know. I'm supposed to, right?

Exposure: Did you still have emphasis on stand-up bass?

Anderson: Yeah, acoustic bass and piano and some other things.

King: I have had no musical schooling. I've just studied privately.

Iverson: Well, Dave's played in Latin bands and rock bands. I've played in tango bands and musical theater. That's the real thing, anyway.

Exposure: The experience?

Iverson: Right. It's not taught in a college or something.

Exposure: Your songwriting credits seemed to be split up three ways most of the time. How do you determine who has written the song?

Anderson: We all write the songs on piano, and can play them, and they're brought to the band in a form that you would recognize the essence of the song.

Iverson: It's not a collaborative process for the songs, really. Each member does their own writing.

Exposure: Do you come in with a general idea of what you want for the bass and drums?

Anderson: Yes, but then it's fleshed out and made our own. There's no drum chart or anything. We just exchange ideas.

Exposure: So everybody has experience with all three of the instruments?

King: Reid and I use the piano as a writing tool, but we aren't performance level pianists or anything. We're both frustrated pianists.

Exposure: The Bad Plus seems to play a lot of foreign dates. How do you explain your international appeal?

Iverson: Usually, jazz musicians play more in Europe than they do in America. It's actually built into the structure of Japanese and European society more smoothly.

King: It's a part of American culture that I think the rest of the world appreciates. It's the only purely American art form. We're not traditional jazz musicians, but improvised music from America has a certain language to it.

Exposure: What is your improv technique like?

Anderson: It depends on the context.

King: We do some actual free improvisation, which is just listening to each other and following.

Anderson: That involves all kinds of connections, but it's mostly everyone having their own ideas and trusting each other enough to follow those ideas. But also, it just depends on what the song wants and what the requirements of the individual piece are. Whether we're improvising a form on that piece or...

King: There are some very strict rhythmic forms. So there are points in the music, there are certain bar lengths, and you're keeping that in mind while you play. But, you know, it's also a beautiful thing to just listen and not necessarily have to know how it works. I remember when I was really young listening to jazz, I didn't know there was any rhythmic form to it, I just thought it was really beautiful. But if you want to dig deeper into it, it's like the mechanics of a beautiful building or something. How it was built isn't necessarily important.

Exposure: Is there a track that best represents what the Bad Plus is capable of?

Anderson: We're about so many things that every track has its own terms. There are some things we do, for example, that are very minimal,

there are others that are very avant-garde, and some are very atonal. And all the things we do, we fully commit to.

King: Our expressions are best suited in records, not single songs. Our records are always this spectrum of our interests at the time.

Exposure: Do you feel like your last album does the best job of representing you?

King: Probably. It's got some very complex pieces and some very simple pieces.

Exposure: What sort of advice would you have for aspiring avant-garde musicians, or just anybody who wants to do something different?

Iverson: I think you should always be humble and willing to learn, but at the same time, there has to be a part of you that can't be told what to do. If you think you're doing something right, you've just got to smile and do that.

Anderson: I think you have to be dedicated to your craft, and you have to be a dedicated student of music in order to understand the medium and what you're doing with it, but not to be a slave to it. And it's okay to be the wrong musician in certain circumstances.



Explosive metamorphosis at the Boro

By Lauren Tingle
Exposure Columnist

How I Became The Bomb is a ridiculous and energetic punk band that mixes video game music, Buddy Holly's vocal style and Abba's disco beats to pump up everyone's cardio workout.

Murfreesboro's thriving indie rock scene brought members Denis Beck (guitar), Andy Spore (drums), Adam Richardson (piano), John Burr (vocals) and Jack Hughey (bass) together from places like Rome, Ga. and Oakridge, Tenn., to form the band.

After many "heinous processes" of picking a band name, they received How I Became The Bomb from Shane Spresser, lead singer of Velcro Stars, when they opened for them at the Temptation Club last June. How I Became The Bomb's show at the Boro last Thursday evening was a nonstop, entertaining performance that featured Richardson's amazing piano playing with Burr's and Beck's vocal harmonies.



From left: John Burr, Adam Richardson, Denis Beck, Jack Hughey, Andy Spore

The audience enthusiastically danced and sang along to every song without noticing Spore's slow drumming technique.

The energized audience sang along to How I Became the Bomb's original "Fat Girls Talkin' Bout Cardio" and Devo's "Gut Feelin'/Slap Your Mamma," while Hughey convinced everyone to clap along to the beat.

Their debut EP is coming out in April and will be available at all of their shows.

MTSU jazz studies revives Duke Ellington

By John Daniel
Exposure Columnist

Last Thursday, MTSU's jazz studies program heated up the Wright Music Building with an unforgettable night in jazz. Guest Conductor, Dr. John Wilson, impressively arranged "The Sacred Music of Duke Ellington," performed by the Middle Tennessee Jazz Orchestra as well as the MTSU Schola Cantorum.

The musical performance started nicely with Ellington's Selection "In the Beginning God." This tune progressed smoothly and featured the sweet low tones of Denis Solee's baritone saxophone, along with the lead tenor voice of Stephen Smith.

Next came the lovely soprano voice of Sandra Dudley to sing "Heaven." Also singing soprano, Abbey Burke was a crowd favorite. She received a well-deserved standing ovation as she soulfully sang "Tell Me It's the Truth."

Don Aliquo, Matt Davich and Robbie Shankle each demonstrated their solo talents from the woodwind section. Roy Agee, who Aliquo said was the "secret weapon" of the Jazz Orchestra, fired things up with a powerful trombone solo.

Even the crowd seemed to host some special guests on this jazzy night in Murfreesboro. Saxophonist Jeff Coffin and band mate Futureman from Bela Fleck and the Flecktones sat in the crowd.



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'The Pink Panther' takes a backseat to Inspector Clouseau

By Joseph Schmickrath
Exposure Columnist

Steve Martin is miscast! His antics are over-the-top, trying too hard to imitate Peter Sellers' take on the infamous Inspector Clouseau. For lack of a better analogy this is Steve Martin being Steve Martin, trying to make the audience laugh with his antics.

Unfortunately, in this movie it is a detriment to the character that Peter Sellers did such a great job of crafting.

The weak script by Len Blum and Steve Martin doesn't help matters, resorting to juvenile humor to get its points across. There is one scene in which Clouseau, while in a music recording session, asks if the soundproof room is indeed soundproof. He then goes in and farts profusely.

This story continues the trend of its predecessors by having Inspector Clouseau search for the rare Pink Panther diamond. It disappears after its owner, Yves Gluant (Jason Statham), is assassinated.

Chief Inspector Dreyfus assigns Clouseau to lead the investigation and divert the attention of the media with his clumsy antics. Dreyfus hopes that by setting up this diversion it will allow him to solve the case on his own and get the coveted Medal of Honor that has eluded his illustrious career.

One key suspect is Xania (Beyoncé Knowles), the lover of Gluant, who recently found out that he had been cheating on her. Beyoncé's character Xania is conveniently an international pop star. Something tells me that she's only in the film to tailor to her fans and that demo-

graphic audience.

However, with so many bad things going against the success of "The Pink Panther" there is one thing that almost redeems the movie entirely. It is the performance of Kevin Kline, playing Chief Inspector Dreyfus, giving glimpses of Peter Sellers' original take on Inspector Clouseau that made me wonder what could have been if he was indeed the lead.

Unfortunately, Steve Martin has had a lot of box office success as of late with such movies as: "Cheaper by the Dozen," "Shopgirl," and "Bringing Down the House." This makes him marketable.

Don't get me wrong- this movie has its moments, but they are few and far between. Save your money and rent one of the many other "Pink Panther" films.



Emily Mortimer and Steve Martin star in comedy *The Pink Panther*

Photo Credit: Andrew Schwartz

'Final Destination 3' buries itself alive

By Niles T. Maddox
Exposure Columnist

Seven kids cheat death only to find that the horrors have just begun because death is now out to finish what he started. Sound familiar? It should. If anyone out there has seen the original *Final Destination* or *Final Destination 2* then they have seen *Final Destination 3*.

With little to no plot twists, it sits amongst the large pile of horror genre films that rely solely on the original, often groundbreaking, premise of its donor plot. Sadly, the horror film genre has stooped to providing its audiences with more gore and less plot.

Final Destination 3's death sequences are original and

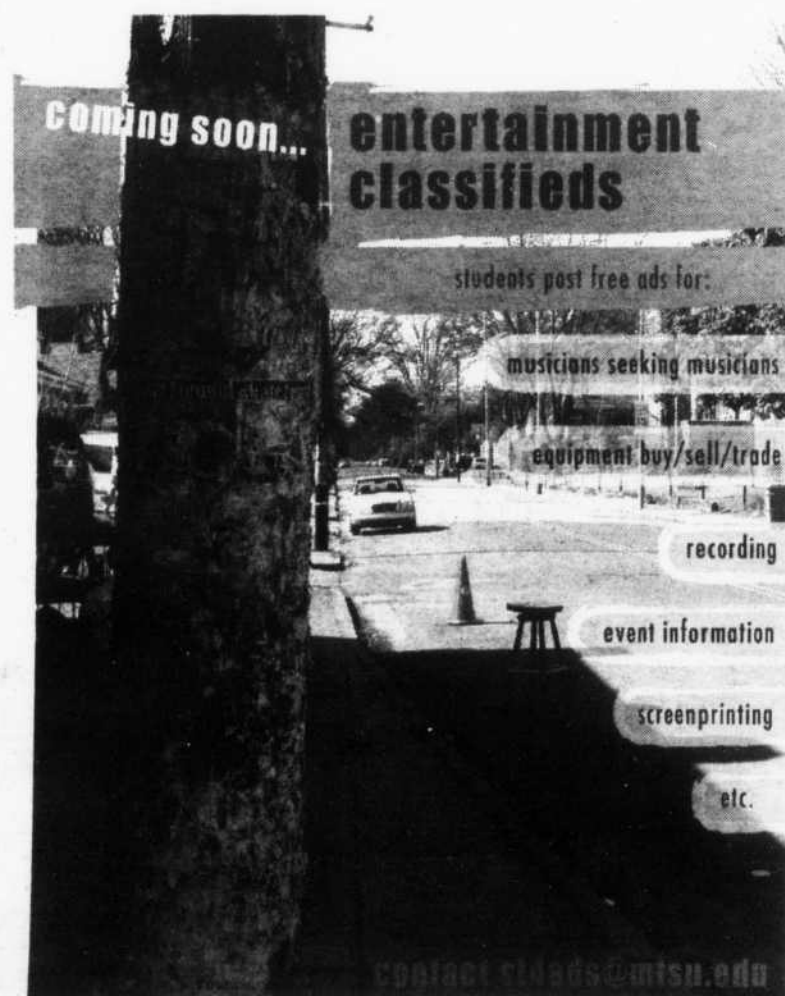
pulled off very well, and this is one good point the series has going for it. Like the classic board game "Mouse Trap" each death began with a simple, harmless action that would snowball into a violent and unique death. Each film gathers a bigger budget, which in turn allows for more complex, bloodier, and, in the end, more "entertaining" deaths.

The actors themselves were okay but nothing spectacular. Often, they would find themselves with a poorly written line and a premise wearing thin. The scenes of intense drama felt scripted, as if each line was thought out only to allow for the two main characters to somehow, coincidentally, appear at the scene of some gruesome

death just in time to experience it.

One interesting factor is that none of deaths would have occurred if Wendy and Kevin didn't interfere in the first place, which gives the viewer a sneak peek at the congruent theme of the series: fate.

Does fate exist? Can we escape our fate? Does everything we do, no matter how small, culminate in our death? *Final Destination 3* seeks to answer these "mysteries of the universe," but unfortunately buries itself alive. Don't let this discourage you from seeing the film. The deaths alone almost make it worth every penny.



...Invoking your senses

By Ryan Harris

Exposure Columnist

Five Senses, owned and operated by brother and sister Mitchell and Mollie Murphree, is an elegant mix of modern and classic décor, balanced with a variety of local and regional cuisine.

The menu is small but offers a decent variety of flavors and styles. I started with a server-recommended Fried Oyster Salad. The remoulade was fabulous but the lemon-vinegar dressing didn't suit the dish.

For the main course I decided on the Braised Lamb Shank with mushroom-barley risotto, feta cheese, sundried tomatoes and oregano. At \$18.00 I was looking forward to this Mediterranean dish. I enjoyed the risotto but was disappointed to see it

overshadow the lamb. The risotto was like nothing I'd ever had before, but it's abundance of flavor made the lamb appear bland. Still, the sundried tomatoes and feta cheese complimented the flavors of the risotto and the lamb very well. It was obvious that Chef Murphree has spent time studying the correlation of flavors.

The restaurant itself is very open. The kitchen, bar and dining area are all in the same room. This is both entertaining and unique. The open kitchen allows for chef-customer interaction which is something not commonly found. The deep colored walls are plastered with hand painted quotes about food—"There is no sincerer love than the love of food,"

read a quote by George Bernard Shaw.

I watched numerous dishes leave the kitchen area, all of which looked amazing. The presentation at Five Senses is far beyond any other Murfreesboro eatery. The stuffed chicken breast and tomato-poached Mahi-Mahi both looked quite appealing. The entrees ranged from \$13 to \$20.

The wine list was interesting, offering a few classics with a number of intriguingly original wines like the Australian Shiraz, You Bet. Many of these wines are rare to the middle Tennessee area making Five Senses a gold mine for unique wine.

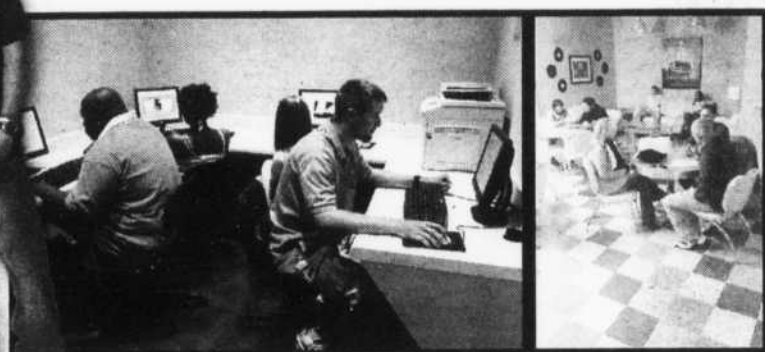
The service was attentive and quick

but on the verge of overbearing.

The desserts ranged from a Southern Peach and Pear Cobbler to Peppermint Crème Brûlée. I chose the Black Devil's Float, which was an interesting chocolate cream-filled chocolate cake served with a small scoop of vanilla ice cream. The dessert was worth the \$5 paid.

Overall it was a good experience. The people at Five Senses are there to please the customer. It was evident that regulars were there along with new customers. It is the best fine dining in Murfreesboro. I highly recommend Five Senses to anyone wanting a unique and gourmet meal without leaving the Murfreesboro city limits.

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Friday night on five bucks: A short guide to irresistibly cheap beers

By Philip C. Buck
Exposure Editor

No, this is not a list of the finest brews, but of a few beers that I would like to celebrate in a bit of extra space. When you have the greenbacks, spend it on something better, but when you're broke it can't get better than this.

Pabst Blue Ribbon – The underdog of beers, the one you never see on giant billboards or TV commercial. When the wallet is slim and the sun is blazing, a cold PBR is hard to resist.

Cerveza Caguama– The turtle beer and one of the cheapest imports from south of the border around. Tasty and light, Cerveza Caguama is slightly rare in the Boro, but when the funds are too low for the Corona and Tecate, turn to the turtle.

Amberbock – The way to go when you're looking for a darker yet cheaper beer to throw down the hatch. A favorite for those who love European imports but just don't have the funds for the weekend.

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