

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

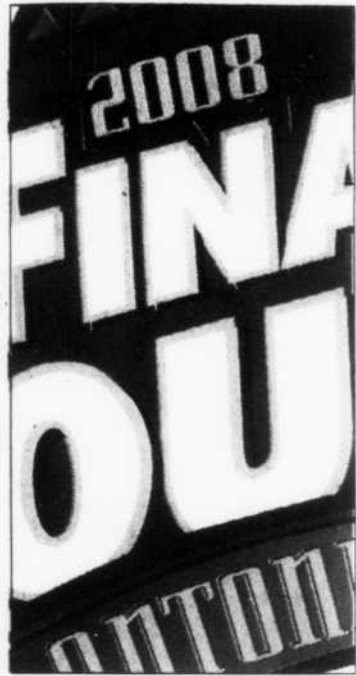
EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008

VOL. 84 NO. 20

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sure to please



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MTSU Blvd. is closed
from Rutherford Blvd. to
Blue Raider Drive due to
construction. Drivers will
be able to enter the cam-
pus off Rutherford Blvd.
at Alumni Drive (newly
opened road by Greek
Row). The 4-way stop at
MTSU Blvd. will also be
closed during construc-
tion. Please follow detour
signs.

The gravel lot at the
corner of MTSU Blvd.
and Rutherford Blvd.
will also be closed dur-
ing this time. Students
are advised to park in
the Rutherford Blvd. lot
across from Greek Row
and ride the shuttle.

Suspect caught after carjacking

By MARK BELL
Staff Writer

A Murfreesboro police officer shot an armed fugitive who escaped from the Nashville Correctional Development Center Saturday afternoon following a high-speed chase and alleged carjacking.

The fugitive, identified by police as 31-year-old Joseph Bennett, was airlifted to Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Police shot Bennett an unknown number of times after Bennett aimed a rifle at motorists while attempting to carjack a second vehicle on Middle Tennessee Boulevard, said Kyle Evans, Murfreesboro Police spokesman.

According to *News Channel 5*, Vanderbilt said Bennett is surviving his gunshot wounds.

"The officer had no choice but to open fire due to the violence he had shown such as the first carjacking, ramming officers with his vehicle, escaping from jail [and] driving inbound on an out-bound lane of the highway," Evans said.

Michael Massey Sr., a witness interviewed by police at



Photo Courtesy Kaila Anne Tower, Contributing Photographer

An investigator documents evidence surrounding the vehicle in which the suspect was shot Saturday afternoon.

the scene, said he saw everything happen.

"The suspect hit another car head on," Massey said, referring to an allegedly hijacked blue Honda at the scene.

"I saw him jump out with a rifle and aim it at a man and his little boy in [a blue Mitsubishi] and force them out of the passenger side. He raised his gun up towards

the officer and then the officer fired while he was jumping into the car."

Massey said things could have been a lot worse.

"His foot was stuck on the accelerator [after he was shot]," Massey said. "If he would have got that car in gear after being shot it would have been bad."

After Murfreesboro police were tipped off about Ben-

nett being in the area, he was approached at the Circle K gas station on East Main Street, less than a mile from the MTSU campus.

Upon spotting officers, Bennett fled towards the Rutherford-Cannon County line in the vehicle, side-swiping a police cruiser in the process, Evans said.

The Rutherford County Sheriff's Department then

engaged the suspect near the county line, according to Sheriff's Deputy spokesman Sgt. Dan Goodwin. Then the suspect's car began to malfunction.

"During this pursuit he aimed the rifle at sheriff's deputies," Goodwin said. "At some point [after the car malfunctioned] he came to a

CARJACK, PAGE 3



Photo by Alex Moorman, Staff Photographer

Students browse the U-Sale Wednesday outside the Keathley University Center.

U-Sale fights rain to raise funds

By ALEX MOORMAN
Staff Writer

MTSU held its second annual U-Sale this past week on April 2 and 3.

Jessie Ensminger, a senior social work major and the creator of the U-Sale, hosted the event, along with Sarah Branscom, junior organizational communication major, Megan Dipillo, senior liberal arts major, and Megan Imboden, senior biology major.

Organizers collected items such as books, clothes and furniture from students and then sold them in a campus-wide yard sale; all of the proceeds went to charity.

This year the organizers contributed to a non-profit organization called Heifer International, whose goal is to help end world hunger by giving families a source of food rather than short-term relief.

"I'm under the impression that the charity is more for helping people long term and not just doing a quick fix and I think that's great. I'm glad to help support this cause," said Jacob Hayden, sophomore theater major.

"This is an awesome way to support a good cause and find a lot of cool stuff in the process," said Matt Renolds, sophomore engineering technology major.

On Wednesday students outside the Keathley University Center rummaged through bags of clothing and boxes of sunglasses, haggling with the organizers to find the best deals.

"It's great to see people coming out and helping us support this cause. It's also fun to watch how excited they get to find great deals," Dipillo said.

Along with the flurry of students at the U-Sale on Wednesday, the organizers

also recruited some of MTSU's local talent to perform, livening the mood and drawing people in. Among the artists were Josh Orendorf, Caroline Sanderson, Steven Gordon, Blake Herron, Trey Walker, Lesly Dudley and Jeffrey Joslin.

"I heard the music and needed to find out what was going on. It was a really good way to draw attention – I mean, it got mine," said William Harper, sophomore environmental engineering major.

The organizers lucked out on Wednesday, but rain threatened the operation on Thursday. Instead of letting the weather stop their cause from happening, however, the girls moved the U-Sale into the bottom floor of the KUC.

"We're not going to let a little rain get in our way; we

Jaz's Jammies collects PJs for children

By FAITH FRANKLIN
Copy Editor

A MTSU student created service project, called "Jaz's Jammies," is collecting pajamas for hospitals and homeless shelters this week.

As the month long pajama drive comes to a close, all of the garments will be donated to help children within the Nashville and Murfreesboro area.

Jaz's Jammies was founded by Jasmine "Jaz" Gray, sophomore mass communication major. Gray began the annual month long drive in 2006 as her community service project in an effort to achieve the Girl Scout Gold Award.

"They wanted us to choose something that was important and in an area that we felt that we could make a difference," Gray said.

Having been in the hospital several times Gray, felt she could make a difference in patients' lives.

"I have had 21 surgeries," Gray said. "I knew I wanted to do something with the hospitals."

Gray has a birth defect called arteriovenous malformation or more commonly known as AVM. The capillary veins that connect blood vessels and arteries are missing from the right side of Gray's face, which causes the blood to rush through the arteries to the veins, causing her the right side of her face to grow larger.

Jaz's Jammies is collecting pajamas for Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center in

Memphis, Vanderbilt Children's Hospital and homeless shelters in the Nashville and Murfreesboro area.

Having firsthand experience with extended hospital stays, Gray knows about the uncomfortable hospital wear. This is where her idea for Jaz's Jammies came from.

"When you are in the hospital the gowns are gray and white and not comfortable at all," Gray said.

The motto for Jaz's Jammies is "It is in giving we receive," Gray said. "[It means] that you get so much when you give to other people."

This year Jaz's Jammies and MTSU are adding a competitive aspect to drive.

Members of the National Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Council have joined together to see who will collect the most pajamas.

The winning team will receive a \$200 service award at a finale ice cream social on April 17. The social is being sponsored by Junior Panhellenic. The service award is being sponsored by the Care and Wellbeing Committee within the Tennessee Center for Child Welfare.

"Anything dealing with children's issues is very close to our heart," said Lillian Phillips, executive assistant for TCCW.

"Our organization is made up of mainly social workers and people who care very deeply about the children and families of Tennessee,"

PAJAMAS, PAGE 2

U-SALE, PAGE 2

Fashion students design garments for runway show

By TALIA CUNETTO
Contributing Writer

MTSU fashion promotion class raised funds for Habitat for Humanity at the semi-annual fashion show this past Wednesday.

The theme for the show was "Hard Candy" and featured the use of unconventional materials.

"Hard Candy was inspired by youth and pop and graffiti. We gave fashion a fun, edgy spirit and that was our goal," said Matthew Davis, junior fashion merchandising major.

Along with providing experience for textile merchandising students, all profits from the fashion show are presented to a different charity each semester, turning the \$5 admission fee into a donation.

Davis said that his fashion promotion class had hoped to donate at least \$1,000 to the local branch of Habitat for Humanity this semester, and although the exact amount has not yet been calculated, he is certain that they have

exceeded their original goal.

"We wanted to set the standard and really get people to pay attention to our department," Davis said. "We wanted to do something that no one else was doing and we wanted to have fun doing it."

Although the majority of the clothing presented in past shows was borrowed from local businesses, this year's show displayed more garments designed by MTSU students.

Davis was also one of three student coordinators for this semester's event and credited the increase in the amount of student designs to Gina Pisut and her design students.

"Pisut had her class design a garment made from unconventional materials and one of the requirements for the assignment was to have the creation submitted to the wardrobe committee for consideration," Davis said.

A wide variety of items were used in the student designs that appeared on the MTSU runway, such as a dress made of film slides, designed by Caitlin Wyatt, sophomore

education and behavioral science major, and a dress made of shower curtains and CDs, designed by Haley Bower, junior education and behavioral science major.

Other pieces presented include a dress fashioned out of wrapping paper, a cape made out of magazines and electrical tape, and a skirt created with neon duct tape. The originality of the garments did not go unnoticed.

Wendy Greer, a junior fashion design major, attended the event this semester and was impressed with the student designs.

Also having headed the music committee for last semester's show, Greer said that the experience students get from the event is necessary and appreciated.

"Most of the semester is dedicated to this event. You, as a class, throw a fashion show and in return, you get the experience that is so important when pursuing a career in fashion after college," Greer said.

Having watched the show



Photo by Alex Blackwelder, Staff Photographer

A runway model shows off the designs of fashion students.

put on by last fall's promotion class, Davis went into the experience with ideas as to what he wanted to see this semester

and found that his classmates shared the same ideas.

Miriam Scarlett, a junior fashion design major and head of the show's staging committee, was impressed with Davis's leadership and feels that he is one of the reasons the event ran so smoothly.

"Matt was an amazing leader for the show. He really put it all together," Scarlett said.

Davis wanted less of a school show feel and more of a haute couture feel, and believes that he and his team succeeded in bringing professionalism to the event.

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U-SALE FROM PAGE 1

hope just as many people come out as did yesterday and everyone seems to be passing the word around that we've moved because of rain, so I think it will be fine," Ensminger said as she passed boxes out of the back of a soaked U-Haul truck.

"I'm just trying to find the things that we think will sell, and we're going to take the rest of the stuff to Goodwill or The Salvation Army. We hate

that we can't display it all but there's just not enough room inside," Ensminger said.

"The great thing about the U-Sale this year is that we almost made as much as we did last year even with the rain. I'm really happy about the turnout and I hope that the U-Sale continues on even after I graduate," said Ensminger.

The organizers made almost \$1,600 this year for Heifer International, in addition to the clothes and items that went to Goodwill and The Salvation Army.

PAJAMAS FROM PAGE 1

and families of Tennessee," Phillips said. "Helping children is what we concentrate on everyday."

Not only did Gray decide to add a competitive aspect to the drive, she also extended the recipients of the donations to include homeless shelters.

"I decided to extend it to homeless shelters because they have a definite need for pajamas," Gray said.

After speaking with local homeless shelters, Gray found that they do not re-

ceive donations of pajamas, due to the fact that people mainly donate other necessities.

When making donations, "people think about food, clothes and toys. These kids don't come in with pajamas and that is not something that people are donating, so that is something that they just don't have," Gray said. "It was just a need that I felt that we should fill."

"[Jaz's Jammies] is a great way for students to make a difference in people's lives," Gray said. "A lot of times we might not have time to go to a homeless shelter or a hospital every single week, but [we] can take out a couple of minutes to pick out a pair of pajamas."

"The main objective is to spread love through pajamas," Gray said.

Those wishing to donate may bring any size children's pajamas to the second floor of the Keathley University Center. For further information Gray may be reached at jazsjammies@yahoo.com.

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Continued from last column enced servers for weekend shifts. Must be a dependable team player. Contact Ali at 893-1878. Directions at www.millersgrocery.com

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ROOMMATES

OPPORTUNITIES

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Continued from last column Band looking for bassist. Please call 615-294-3006 ask for Kyle.

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Continued from last column accepted over the phone. Ads are free for students and faculty for the first two weeks.

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Muslim students offer information on Islam

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

Muslim Students Association hosts Islamic Awareness Week April 7 through April 10 to inform students and the community of Islamic religion and spiritual practices.

"This is an important week to those not Muslim because it gives them another view of the religion of Islam, [which is] different from what is portrayed in the media and separate from what is happening in the Middle East," said Nida Shirazi, MSA president and junior biology major. "It is important because it will serve to offer information about the religion, as well as deal with major misconceptions and stereotypes cast upon it."

On Monday, members of MSA will hold a bake sale on the Keathley University Center Knoll from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. All proceeds from this event will go to the MTSU Art Department Scholarship Fund in honor of art professor, Lon Nuell, who served as an advisor to the Jewish Student Organization, Hillel.

"I was working with him to bring both groups together," said Saleh Sbenaty, friend and colleague of Nuell. "This is a tribute to his legacy and

to show that Muslims like to lend their hands to other communities."

Sbenaty said Nuell was very kind in providing MSA with a meal for their Islamic holiday of Ramadan, which took place in Sept. 27, 2007.

Shirazi said Hillel members will donate baked goods for the fundraiser, as well as attend other events taking place throughout the week.

In addition to raising money for Nuell's scholarship fund, informational pamphlets will be distributed at the table for those seeking more insight on the Islamic religion.

"I encourage everyone to stop by the information table or to buy a cookie to donate to the scholarship fund," Sbenaty said.

In conjunction with Islamic Awareness Week, Tasneem Ahmed, mother of an MTSU Muslim student, will hold a lecture titled "Role of Women in Islam" to discuss Muslim women presented as oppressed in the media, when really they are cherished in Islam. The lecture will take place on Tuesday at 6 p.m. in room S316 in the Business and Aerospace Building.

"If we look at the prophet Muhammad and his teachings, they came from his

mother," Sbenaty said. "From day one, this raised the status of women."

On Wednesday at 5:30 p.m., an episode of Morgan Spurlock's show "30 Days" will be shown in room 221 of the Learning Resources Center. The episode will portray a man named David Stacy who is sent to Dearborn, Mich., one of the largest Muslim communities. Stacy is sent by Spurlock, director of "Super Size Me," to live as a Muslim for 30 days. A question and answer session will follow.

Islamic Awareness Week will conclude with a potluck dinner and MSA elections for the 2008-2009 school year on Thursday at 6 p.m. in room 322 of the KUC. Students will bring different dishes from their culture such as rice, vegetables and kosher meat, known as Halal, which is slaughtered according to Muslim guidelines of draining the animal humanely.

"There are a great number of Muslims and students curious about Islam who do not know that MSA even exists," Shirazi said. "Hopefully after this week, they will know that MTSU has an MSA and those who have questions will know where to direct them."

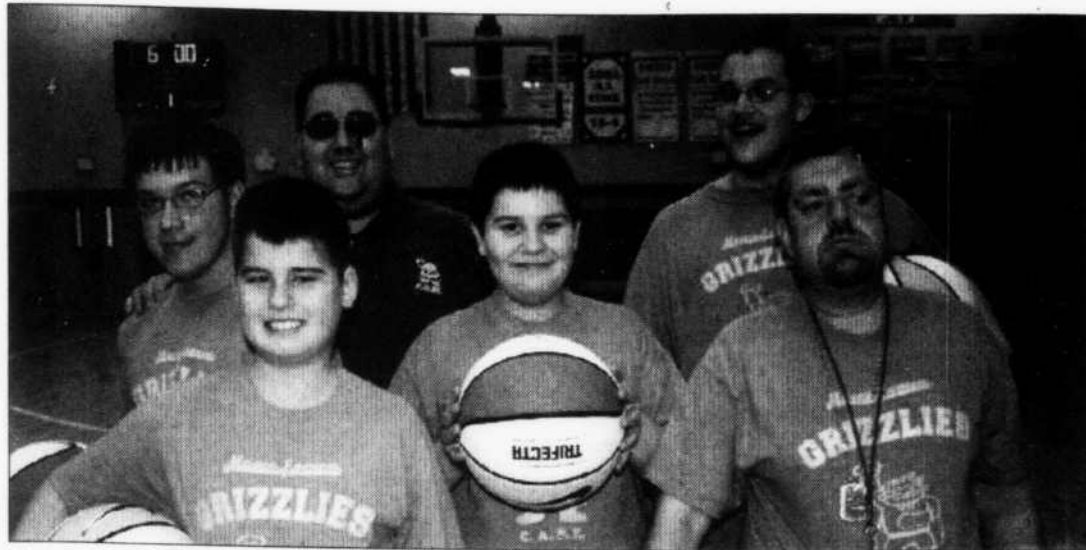


Photo courtesy of CAPE

CAPE athletes participate in basketball tournament.

Alpha Jam benefits CAPE

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

Alpha Delta Pi and Alpha Tau Omega teamed up to raise money for Challenged Athletes Playing Equally during a three on three basketball tournament for Alpha Jam 2008.

This year's Alpha Jam took place on April 5 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. in the Recreation Center.

The ultimate amount raised was \$350 for 12 teams who entered the competition with a fee of \$10 per player. Teams were submitted by various other organizations in order to raise money for CAPE.

"We were looking for a lo-

cal philanthropy and something to relate to," said Andrew Steckel, head of Alpha Jam and sophomore business major. "We went to a hockey game of theirs [CAPE] and thought it would be a perfect match for our frat."

CAPE is organization that allows mentally and physically disabled individuals to play sports in a non-threatening environment.

Steckel said that the competition was broken up into two leagues, one for women and one for men.

"Anyone can come out and participate," Steckel said. "It's a great cause and the kids enjoy it."

Steckel, along with other members of Alpha Tau

Omega and Alpha Delta Pi, refereed the games and encouraged players to do their best.

Before finding a local philanthropy in CAPE, Alpha Tau Omega used to donate its profits from Alpha Jam to St. Jude's Children Hospital. With an estimated amount of \$1,300 raised within the last two years, Alpha Jam proves to be a successful charity event.

As the competition concluded, the winning teams in both leagues were rewarded t-shirts, gift cards and trophies donated by sponsor Winners Trophies. Toots restaurant also sponsored the event along with Alpha Tau Omega and Alpha Delta Pi.

CARJACK FROM PAGE 1

stop and carjacked the blue Honda."

Bennett fled from Sheriff's deputies at speeds in excess of 100 mph, according to Evans, while driving inbound on the outbound lane of John Bragg Highway.

Evans said the carjacked vehicle was then spike-stripped at the intersection of John Bragg Highway and South Rutherford Boulevard.

After hitting the spikes, the suspect continued to drive until he reached the intersection of Mercury Boulevard and Evans Tennessee Boulevard, where he attempted to carjack a blue Mitsubishi, occupied by a father and his child. Police said this is when a MPD officer opened fire, striking the suspect.

At least 10 shell casings littered the scene along with the suspect's hat, shirt and lighter.

Nikki Peters, the driver of the car who was reportedly struck by Bennett, said the suspect approached her car with a gun, but moved on to another car after noticing her boyfriend, mother and two children, a 10-month-old and 12-year-old, in the vehicle.

"I guess he figured he wouldn't have time to get us all out of the car," Peters said. "The police were right behind him."

An MTSU student and



Photo Courtesy Kaitla Anne Tower, Contributing Photographer

Police examine a rifle recovered at the scene Saturday afternoon.

his father were the original occupants of the carjacked Honda.

The vehicle was taken into evidence by police. The student's mother said he was not able to recover school items, including a backpack containing notes and a thumb-drive containing a paper he had been working on for more than three weeks.

TBI agents, who took over the investigation, continued to probe the scene of the shooting late Saturday.

TBI Bureau spokeswoman Kristin Helm denied comment on the shooting until Monday.

Evans would not release the name of the officer who shot the suspect, but said the officer would receive stress

counseling concerning the incident.

Bennett had escaped from jail Tuesday where he had been serving a sentence for theft, evading arrest, drug paraphernalia and a long list of other charges, police said.

A spokesman for Vanderbilt University Medical Center News and Public Affairs would not comment on Bennett's condition as of late Sunday, citing a federal law restricting him from doing so.

Witnesses at the scene commented that Bennett never moved on his own after being shot. Witnesses said the officer's bullet appeared to strike Bennett in the head.

The shooting occurred on Middle Tennessee Boulevard, less than a mile from campus, during a busy part of the day for area businesses.

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ENTERTAINMENT

'21' deals a bad hand

By CHRIS MARTIN
Assistant Sports Editor

If there is one verb that sounds uncomfortably strange coming from a Harvard professor's mouth, it has to be "dazzle."

21 opens with the main character, Ben Campbell (Jim Sturgess), sitting in a chair across from a Harvard dean—attempting to convince the professor that he deserves a full scholarship.

The dean implores, "What can you tell me, Ben, that is going to dazzle me?" He goes further to say that in order for Ben to receive the free tuition, his accomplishments should "jump off the page." One would assume he must not be the dean of the English department.

21, directed by Robert Luketic (*Legally Blonde*), neither dazzles nor does it jump off the screen. The screenplay was written by Peter Steinfield (*Analyze That*) and Allan Loeb (*Things We Lost in the Fire*). It's amazing that this film required two screenwriters since I'm pretty sure they now have machines that dispense at least 10 scripts a day that are as formulaic as 21.

The movie follows an all-too-familiar and predictable series of events. An unpopular, socially-awkward young man wants to do something more with his life. The boy discovers a new activity in which he has a previously unknown skill. He falls for the sexy girl from class who happens to also have a penchant for the guy's newfound ability. Boy pursues girl, girl rejects boy, boy finally gets girl in a strip club. From here, the youngster's arrogance causes him to hit rock-bottom as he has alienated his old, geeky friends as well as his new, cool friends. Then he recovers and rides off into the sun-

set, hand-in-hand with the beautiful maiden.

In this case, the awkward one is Ben, the skill is card counting, the girl is Jill Taylor (Kate Bosworth) and the strip club is a fancy high-brow joint (only in Vegas would such a place exist) called Foxx's.

Ben, in a last-ditch effort to get the money to pay for medical school, joins his professor, Micky Rosa (Kevin Spacey) and his band of twenty-something MIT students in their attempts to bring down the house at blackjack tables in Las Vegas. As Ben and his cohorts continually score big at the high rollers' tables, they draw the attention of Cole Williams (Laurence Fishburne), and in the world of card counting, Cole Williams is the last person you want to take notice.

Cole's job consists mainly of two things: staring at surveillance monitors, seeking out players that win too much and tying those people to a chair and beating them to a pulp. "If I see you in here again, I will break your cheekbone with a small hammer. And then I will kill you," Cole says to Ben after the former becomes wise to the latter's game.

This sends Ben on a determined path of regret, revenge and redemption.

Sturgess (*Across the Universe*) looks out of place playing the socially-inept Ben. His character is like his two best friends, Miles (Josh Gad) and Cam (Sam Golzari), except much more attractive, in much better shape and much less bespectacled. Whenever Sturgess had to act uneasy around girls or otherwise flustered, he looked unnatural, almost as if he doesn't know what it's like to be uncomfortable around an attractive woman.

Gad (*Watching the Detect-*



Photo Courtesy Sony Pictures Entertainment

Kate Bosworth as Jill Taylor and Jim Sturgess as Ben Campbell work the blackjack table in Sony's latest movie, 21.

tives) looks, speaks and acts like another Jonah Hill; the only question is there enough room on this planet for two Hills, let alone one? I'm not sure if I have the answer.

As far as Luketic is concerned, his direction is as vanilla as the plot. He does throw in some nice shots and camera tricks, such as how the scene fast-forwards around Ben during his first night at the tables when he is starting to rake in the dough.

But other than a select number of scenes, the directing is largely unremarkable.

Whether the film's editor, Elliot Graham (*Superman Returns*), or Luketic is responsible for the plethora of slow motion in the movie is hard to say. However, whoever it was had a heavy hand on the slow button. The slow-mo works well during Ben's first blackjack game since it captures the nervousness he experiences as every card is

placed on the table, but it is overused. At times, the pacing of the film suffers due to all the slowed-down shots of dealers turning over cards, Ben walking out of a casino, Ben and his crew walking through a casino, etc.

This film had potential. The story is based on real, interesting events, the cast has some fine actors and the soundtrack is actually decent.

The problem is that in an effort to jazz up the story,

the screenwriters actually watered it down, while Fishburne and Spacey are stuck with flat characters who seem to be resistant to emotion. Spacey's best work is when he disguises his character as a high-rolling hick near the end of the film, a part he only plays for about five minutes.

By the end of the movie, Ben is able to dazzle the dean at Harvard. Unfortunately, this film is unlikely to do the same for the audience.

GRAPHIC NOVEL REVIEW

'The Last Musketeer' more than fun, driven by deeper themes

By JAMIE LOVETT
Staff Writer

The Last Musketeer is the latest graphic novel from Norwegian cartoonist Jason, whose English language releases include *Hey Wait... You Can't Get There From Here* and *I Killed Adolf Hitler*.

The premise of the 48-page comic is that Athos, one of the title-characters from Alexandre Dumas' novel *The Three Musketeers*, is still alive today, though his life is not what it used to be.

Athos' glory days have long past him by, though he still longs to defend France. Instead, he finds himself spending his time drinking and unsuccessfully trying to strike up a conversation with anything that will listen. When Earth comes under Martian invasion, however, Athos draws his sword and heads to Mars for one more adventure.

Jason's story is full of old pulp adventure clichés and characters, but they all feel like they're supposed to be there. Jason manages to put together a fun and light-hearted adventure story while simultaneously making fun of the tools he's using to do it.

The Martian king serves as the archetypal villain, but spends most of his time sitting on his throne doing nothing or asking his guards awkward questions about their lives. The king's daughter, who would traditionally be the typical damsel in distress, is physically abusive towards her boyfriend and protector, General Amir, and on more than one occasion proves herself more heroic than he is.

Athos serves both as hero and humorously-verbose narrator of his own adventure, which particularly stands out from Jason's otherwise sparse use of words in his work.

Jason's drawing style is simple and clear and quite capable of carrying the story in lieu of heavy narration. The characters are all designed in Jason's trademark anthropomorphic animal style, and the panels are colored brightly and vibrantly, adding a fitting "pop" to the artwork. Jason uses nine panel pages almost exclusively, giving the story a very precise rhythm and pacing while at the same time emphasizing the mundaneness of the world surrounding Athos.

While the story can be read simply for the adventure and

fun, there also seem to be other themes Jason is trying to touch on. The combination of a classic character like Athos and a modern science fiction plot and setting seems to suggest a connection between classic adventure stories and modern pulp. Those stories are then contrasted against the dullness of the modern world that Athos currently inhabits.

The key to this theme is Aramis, Athos' former comrade-in-arms-turned-family-man. Once a Musketeer, Aramis has put all of his wild adventures behind him and settled down into a nice, comfortable, average place in society. Just as so many children who were once inspired by adventure stories turn away from them as they get older, Aramis has put his hero's life away in his closet and is living a more practical existence. But by the end of the comic, Jason shows that old heroes are not so easy to forget.

The Last Musketeer combines Jason's fine craftsmanship with a fun story that has more depth to it than first meets the eye. It's a comic that serves as both a great adventure story and a reminder of why we read them.

The
LAST
Musketeer

by JASON

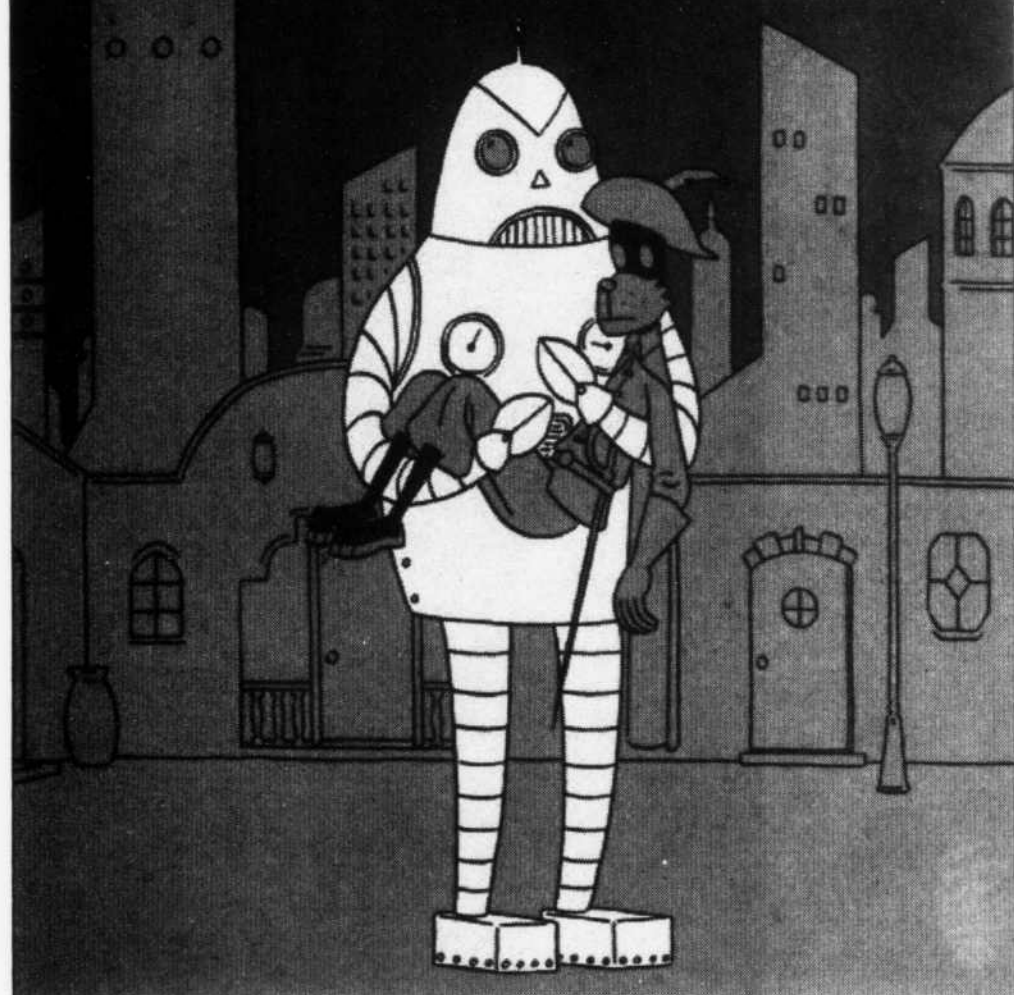


Photo Courtesy of Jamie Lovett

The latest from Norwegian cartoonist Jason has "more depth than meets the eye."

OPINIONS

Activism involves more than 'dance-offs'

By BURCH GLOVER
Guest Columnist

Well, I suppose that it is that time of year again. The weather is warm, the Bradford Pears and the Cherry trees are in blossom, and a bunch of disillusioned students feel like they need to form some coalition for student activism.

Let me start out by saying that I have no grievance with people who have a legitimate argument against such current events as the war in Iraq. I personally feel that the war is justified and important, but I will not argue with those who have lost loved ones amidst the struggle. However, this brings us to the emergence of a chapter of the Students for a Democratic Society on our campus.

Let me begin by saying that I felt that it was odd that the entire article concerning the SDS's protest

against the war in Iraq featured in Sidelines ["Fighting for a true democracy" March 31] had absolutely nothing to say about the war in Iraq, but was completely devoted to the reverent feeling that most student newspapers feel when a bunch of C-average students form some sort of activism group.

The entire article solely concerned the SDS, itself and the ringleaders of said organization.

Is it just me, or does this not paint the perfect picture of who these students actually are?

"Look at us! Look at what we are doing! We want change!"

That is the extent of the thought that I have seen so far from the current SDS members. In my humble opinion, these are children who have grown up in homes where their parents played a significant role in protesting the war in Vietnam. Now that these

"scholarly" minds have made their way to MTSU, they have quickly realized that they have no clear idea of what they believe and so far they have contributed next to nothing to society as a whole.

What disappointments these children must be around the family Thanksgiving table. Disappointments they will remain until they realize, "Hey, we are at college, we should protest something like our parents did!"

Let me be the first to tell those of you who have known nothing but privilege something important: This is not 1969.

Does anyone remember what happened during the first year of George W. Bush's presidency? We were attacked. People from another country and another ideology flew passenger planes into two buildings in New York City with the express purpose of killing as many Americans as

possible. Does anyone else remember that little news blurb?

It is evident that this piece of information escapes the minds of the lemmings who show up for the SDS meetings. If these students were truly against the war in Iraq, they would not allow Sidelines to write a piece about their organization without mentioning their grievances with the current policy concerning Iraq.

Instead, they signed on to a story that was all about them. Oh, and by the way, what is this about telling men in uniform, "We want you to stay home where it is nice and safe?"

The people of New York did not feel that their home was nice and safe back in 2001. What is it that keeps your homeland nice and safe? Is it a dance-off in front of the KUC? Or is it our military around the world fighting for your right to be as ignorant as

you choose?

Newsflash, there is no draft system in the United States. These brave men and women signed up because they believe in protecting our freedom.

Once again, I have no problem with legitimate activism, but maybe the current crop of SDS members would find more satisfaction with forming something else within their intellectual capacity like a checkers club or a "No Littering Society."

Burch Glover is a senior liberal arts major.

Letters Policy

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

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

FACES IN THE CROWD

With Islamic Awareness Week this week, how knowledgeable are you on practices and traditions of the Islamic faith?



Tucker

"My high school was half Muslim. I know they fasted during a certain part of the year."

Erica Tucker, sophomore undeclared



Jones

"In Iraq, women are below the men and treated like servants. They have to do what they are told. It's kind of sad."

Melanie Jones, sophomore pre-law



Lee

"I don't know much, but I always would like to learn more."

Jenna Lee, assistant manager of Cyber Cafe

COMICS



FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Get involved on campus and in the community

This week we made a choice. We could have written about the shoot-out that occurred between a hijacker and Murfreesboro Police, but decided instead to take a different tone with this week's editorial board, and focus on more positive happenings.

Jaz Gray started her own philanthropic project, entitled Jaz's Jammies. What was originally a Girl Scout project gained the atten-

tion of MTSU, and is now an annual effort to collect pajamas for hospitalized and homeless children.

The second annual U-Sale recently raised over \$1,000 for hunger charities and donated lots of items to The Salvation Army and Goodwill.

On a larger scale, there is the "Up 'Til Dawn" event, which raises money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. This semester's

event raised over \$70,000.

Big or small, social and philanthropic projects and events are happening all over campus, and there is a way for every student to get involved.

Whether doing it for a class, for a resume boost, or just because you feel like it, every student should evaluate their abilities and talents to find a volunteer opportunity to suit them.

In other words, find

something to get involved in. It will make you feel good and it will make a difference for someone else.

As luck would have it, "Make a Difference" week is coming up. From April 14 to 19, there are events available to all students going on all over campus. The annual "Take Back the Night" rally will take place on April 14, and promotes the end of sexual violence.

A volunteer fair is scheduled for April 15, giving you plenty of ways to find a great way to donate your time. There will also be various activities throughout the week that raise money for Habitat for Humanity.

The culmination of "Make a Difference" week will be on Saturday, April 19, starting with a campus clean-up and ending with Kappa Delta's an-

nual Wing Fling event. Last year, Kappa Delta's efforts raised over \$16,000 for Prevent Child Abuse America.

There are plenty of ways to get involved and make a difference, as illustrated above.

As Gandhi said, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." Maybe, if we all do just a little bit, we'll have less bad things to write about.

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SPORTS

NCAA Championship set: Memphis vs. Kansas

MEMPHIS TIGERS

Rose, Douglas-Roberts show UCLA no Love

By BEN WALKER
AP National Writer

As hard as it is to imagine, Memphis keeps getting better just when it matters the most.

The Tigers claimed their piece of history Saturday, beating UCLA 78-63 in the NCAA men's semifinals to become at 38-1 the winningest team ever in a single season. Now they have a chance to do what the other 37-win teams, Duke, Illinois and UNLV, couldn't do: cap it off with a national championship.

With Derrick Rose and Chris Douglas-Roberts taking turns at basketball acrobatics, it's certainly imaginable. And the Bruins certainly wouldn't doubt it.

"Going into the game, we knew that we was going to win. Ain't too much to say," Rose said. "We're just a great team. With the team that we have, it's hard beating us."

Coach John Calipari claimed his Tigers weren't aware they had set a record for most wins in major college basketball.

"My team's like, 'Is it? That's the most wins?'" Calipari said. "And then I told them, 'No, no. You've got to get to 39 to have the most wins.' Hopefully we'll have one more in us."

The Tigers will get their chance Monday night against Kansas, which beat North Carolina 84-66.

All season, this Memphis team from lightly regarded Conference USA played along with Calipari's us-against-the-world theme. Now the Tigers need only one more victory for their first championship.

UCLA star Kevin Love put on his own show at practice Friday, hitting a full-court shot. He managed just 12 points, and missed both open 3-pointers, as the Bruins (35-4) again fell short in their third straight Final Four appearance.

"As disappointing as this loss is, it's hard to be here three years in a row and not come away with a championship," coach Ben Howland said.

"You have to give credit to Memphis State," he said. "There's a reason why they've only lost one game and they've won 38. They're a very, very good team."

Rose and Douglas-Roberts, especially.

A star freshman, Rose wasn't content to merely make shots, he wanted to stamp this Final Four as his own with a series of show-stoppers that became an NBA audition.

Rose put up lefty floaters and righty scoops, often changing hands in mid-air, and threw one try over his shoulder. He was in perpetual motion, once, he caught a pass in traffic, stutter-stepped just long enough to look his defender in the eye, and then sped past him for an easy but showy layup.

"Every once in a while, I go, 'Oh my' and I kind of sit down," Calipari said. "And then they usually come at inop-

portunite times for the other team."

Rose finished with 25 points and nine rebounds and a bunch of eye-opening moves that won't show up in the final box.

Rose also hit 11 of 12 free throws. For a team supposedly vulnerable from the foul line, the Tigers did great in making 20 of 23.

He fittingly wound up with the ball in the final seconds and heaved it high. Only then did he crack the slightest of smiles.

Douglas-Roberts played like an All-American, scoring 28 points and Joey Dorsey had the most peculiar line of all, zero points, but 15 big rebounds in keeping Love out of the middle.

"It's great, it's great," Douglas-Roberts said. "We all believe in each other and we expect great things to happen, so this isn't new to us."

Four other teams had won 37 times in a season. At Illinois in 2005, UNLV in 1987 and Duke in 1999 and 1986, but all lost in the end.

Memphis has won its five games in this NCAA tournament by an average of nearly 16 points. The Tigers got off to a slower start this time, falling behind 5-0, before their suddenly chic "dribble drive motion" offense took over.

Memphis led 50-45 with 13 minutes left before pulling away. Rose made a couple of nifty passes, Dorsey came up with a monster block and later playfully popped Douglas-Roberts on the shoulder after a slam.

This was certainly no repeat of 1973, when the Tigers, then known as Memphis State, got routed 87-66 by UCLA in the title game. Bill Walton hit 21 of 22 shots and scored a record 44 points that night. But the big man has hip and back problems and wasn't able to make it to the Alamodome. Fact is, the taller Bruins were in trouble the entire way.

Russell Westbrook led UCLA with 22 points.

The Tigers spent the whole season aiming at getting back to San Antonio. They lost to Ohio State on this same court last March in the regional final and adopted "Remember the Alamodome" as their motto this season.

In the first Final Four to feature four No. 1 seeds, Rose and Memphis cruised while Love could do little to stop them.

"At this stage, I feel like Memphis is definitely the best team we've played," Love said.

The star freshmen needed no introduction. Rose and Love have played with and against each other since seventh grade, and the UCLA center reintroduced himself late in the first half, giving his old pal a hard shoulder on a solid screen.

The first half featured a series of bursts and ended with Memphis leading 38-35.

Josh Shipp ended his shooting slump with a pair of early 3s that put UCLA ahead. Memphis, which nev-

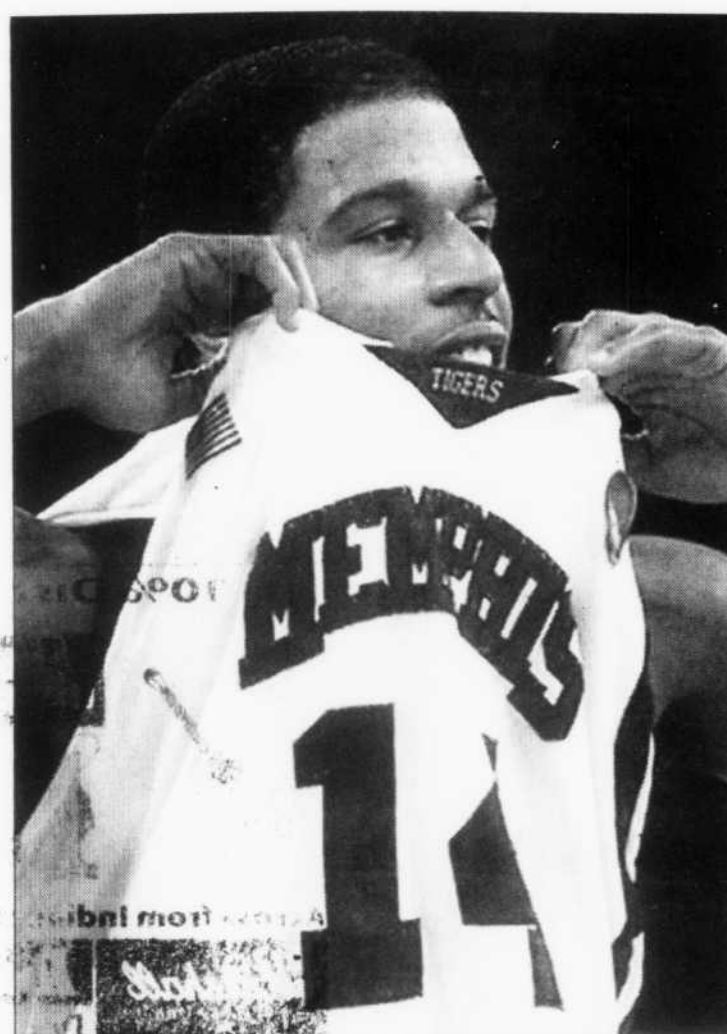


Photo by David J. Phillip, Associated Press
Chris Douglas-Roberts scored 28 points in the win versus UCLA.



Photo by Michael Conroy, Associated Press
After a scare against Davidson, Kansas had an easy time with UNC.

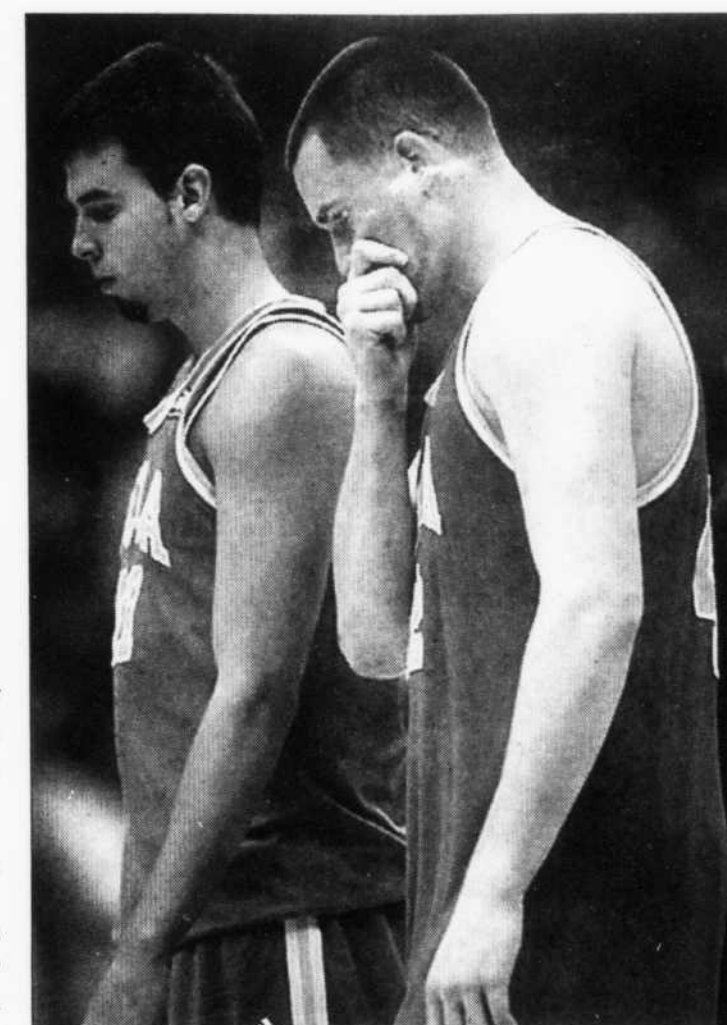


Photo by Earl Gray, Associated Press
Pac-10 Player of the Year Kevin Love (left) was held to 12 points.

KANSAS JAYHAWKS

Kansas beats No. 1 overall North Carolina

By EDDIE PELLIS
AP National Writer

Roy Williams taught Kansas all about how to handle cruel, crushing disappointments.

This time, the Jayhawks got their chance to make Williams feel the pain.

Kansas left its old coach in the dust Saturday night, getting 25 points and seven rebounds from Brandon Rush to stave off a ferocious comeback by North Carolina for an 84-66 victory in the national semifinals.

Trailing 40-12 late in the first half, Tyler Hansbrough, Wayne Ellington and the Tar Heels made a valiant rally, getting to within five points with nine minutes left.

But they ran out of steam in their effort to pull off the biggest Final Four comeback ever.

"We sort of came out a little more casual than we would've liked and they hit us right between the eyes," Williams said.

Now, the Jayhawks will play Memphis, an earlier 78-63 winner over UCLA, in Monday's title game.

Kansas moved within a win of its first national championship since 1988, the year before Williams began his storied 15-year tenure in Lawrence, one that ended when he jilted Kansas for his alma mater.

"I hope it's set aside and goes away forever," Williams said of the animosity that has lingered since he left in 2003. "I'm too thin-skinned, probably. ... Let's don't focus on that. Focus on the great job done by Kansas."

Hansbrough had 17 points and nine rebounds for North Carolina (36-3), a typically gutsy effort, but his next move will be to decide whether to come back for his senior season.

Kansas has more pressing things to deal with, stopping fast-breaking Memphis and its sensational freshman Derrick Rose.

"We know we've got another step to take Monday night," Sherron Collins said. "It's going to be a great matchup. They play fast, we play fast."

Collins had two assists, a 3-pointer and a pair of free throws during the decisive stretch that saw the Jayhawks (36-3) pad that five-point lead back to 15 and send the Tar Heels into true desperation mode.

Williams stood stoically as the clock ticked down, arms folded, nothing much left to do. Tears usually come pretty quickly after the final buzzer of the season ended one game short of where many thought it might.

"We've had a good year, but I don't think anybody's goal here was to be one of the top four teams in the country," Hansbrough said. "It's to be the top team. I'm frustrated with that."

Williams got outcoached in this one, especially at the beginning, finding no solution for Kansas' strategy of dumping the ball inside to Darrell

Arthur, Darnell Jackson and Cole Aldrich.

The Jayhawks also smothered Hansbrough, even flooring him once on a hard foul by Mario Chalmers.

"To start the game, I felt instead of having 10 hands out there it felt like we had 14 or 16," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "Guys were making a move, a reverse pivot, and there were two hands there waiting for them."

Despite North Carolina's impressive comeback, the final stats painted a picture of Kansas domination. The Jayhawks shot 53 percent from the floor and held the nation's second-leading offense to 35 percent. They had nine more rebounds, 10 more assists, six more blocks.

It was Self who replaced Williams after the coach famously bolted for North Carolina, and this was the first chance to see them go against each other with their new teams, and on the game's biggest stage.

Self coached Kansas to the lead. Williams coaxed his team back in it.

But for all North Carolina's effort, this game was lost early.

"I've never been so embarrassed in my life," Tar Heel guard Marcus Ginyard said.

The basket looked as big as the Alamo for the Jayhawks, who made 12 of their first 16 shots and went on an 18-0 run for a 33-10 lead with 9:31 left.

Meanwhile, the Tar Heels went a stunning 9:03 without a basket. No team has overcome a deficit bigger than 22 at the Final Four, and it was around the time the lead was 40-12 that none other than Billy Packer, the CBS analyst, said the game was over.

Not so fast.

Carolina turned this into controlled chaos over the first 10 minutes of the second half, altering Kansas shots and making pretty much everything they threw up, including a 3-pointer by Ellington (18 points) with 9:20 left that made it 58-53 and had the Tar Heel fans in a frenzy.

Throughout the rally, Self called time-out after time-out, KU fans often criticized Williams for not doing the same under similar circumstances, and eventually, North Carolina cooled and Kansas ran away.

Picking a Jayhawks star was as easy as closing your eyes and pointing to a name on the stat sheet.

Aldrich stood out, swatting three shots in the first half and altering more after coming off the bench en route to his eight-point, seven-rebound night. His highlight came after KU missed just its fifth shot of the game, more than 10 minutes into the first half, and he outgrappled Hansbrough for a rebound that resulted in two free throws. That made it 33-10.

Arthur had three buckets and an assist in the first five minutes to start the run-away. Russell Robinson had five points, four assists, three steals and three turnovers

Holt earns third All-America selection



Photo by Ryan DeBooy, Photography Editor
Amber Holt finished the season with a 27.1 scoring average.

By JO JO FREEMAN
MT Media Relations

Middle Tennessee senior Amber Holt picked up her third All-America honor this season when she was named to the 10-player team by the United States Basketball Writers Association on Thursday. Holt was a First Team All-America selection by CBSSports.com last month and a Third Team honoree by the *Associated Press* earlier this week.

Holt finished the year with 930 points, the fifth most all-time in one season in NCAA history, and set Middle Tennessee single-season school records for points, field goals, field goal attempts, free throws, free throw attempts and 30-point games. She averaged a school-best 27.4 points per game and led the nation in scoring for the final 11 weeks of the season.

She posted 14 contests this season with 30-plus points and collected eight double-doubles. Holt is one of only two players in the nation this season to record two 40-point outings, including 41 points in an upset of No. 8 LSU in December. She also broke a 21-year-old school record for points in a game with 44 at Louisiana-Monroe in January.

Holt led the Sun Belt Conference in scoring and finished

first in steals and offensive rebounds, ranked second in FG percentage, third in rebounding, free throw percentage and assist-to-turnover ratio, and seventh in assists.

She won an unprecedented five Sun Belt Player of the Week awards and is a member of all three National Player of the Year award watch lists - the Wade Trophy, the Naismith Award and the Wooden Award. Holt is also a finalist for the State Farm All-America team set to be announced next week.

She also does it on the defensive end, drawing 61 charges in 2007-08, almost twice the number the rest of the team has combined. The Meadowcreek High School product was named to the Sun Belt All-Tournament team after the Blue Raiders played in their sixth straight tourney championship game. She broke four individual tournament records, including most points (88), field goals (32), field goal attempts (63) and free throws made (24).

Holt is scheduled to be selected in Wednesday's WNBA Draft. If selected, she will be the second Blue Raider to be drafted in the last two years. Chrissy Givens was the first.

School records broken

By JO JO FREEMAN
MT Media Relations

Sophomore Zamzam Sangau and junior Maité Cortin both broke school records on Saturday, leading Middle Tennessee's track teams at the Tiger Track Classic in Auburn, Ala.

Sangau set her fourth school record this academic year, breaking the 3000-meter mark held for almost 20 years by Sharon Smith (1989, 10:21.74). Sangau finished third in the event in 10:07.40, with senior Marjorie Gombert fourth in the event in 10:31.26.

Cortin broke teammate Brittany Cox's school record

in the hammer throw by two inches. Cortin placed seventh in the event with a mark of 162-7.

Elsewhere for the Blue Raiders, freshman Marla Bailey finished third in the 3000-meter steeplechase in 11:47.50, while freshman Festus Chemaoui was also third in the same event on the men's side in 9:28.82.

In the field events, sophomore Sarah Nambawa placed third in the long jump with a mark of 19-0, and freshman Kortney Thurman was fourth with a mark of 17-4.75. Nambawa finished third and was the top collegian in the triple

TRACK, PAGE 8

KANSAS FROM PAGE 6

what coach wouldn't love that?

All that might have helped prove Williams' theory, as he tried to deflect all the talk of himself this week: That the game would be decided by the players.

The Jayhawks were simply better.

Die-hard KU fans might have deemed it their team's best moment since the 2003 Final Four, when Nick Collison helped dismantle Marquette 94-61 in the semifinals.

Two nights later, the Jayhawks lost to Syracuse in the finals. With talk swirling that Williams would be headed to Tobacco Road, he said on live TV that he "could give a (bleep) about North Carolina

right now."

Two weeks later, he was wearing Carolina blue and Kansas fans were seeing red.

Maybe now, they'll be more willing to let bygones be bygones.

"I told my team that I hoped that distraction didn't bother them, because that would be about as bad as anything you could ever have as a coach," Williams said.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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Editor selection will be held the week of April 28 and will be conducted through an interview with the University Newspaper Publications Board.

Sidelines is also accepting applications for the following staff positions in the Summer and/or Fall semesters:

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Defense shines in scrimmage

By MARK OWENS
MT Media Relations

The Middle Tennessee's defense felt it should do well in the final tune-up scrimmage before next Saturday's spring game.

The blue-clad unit did not disappoint head coach Rick Stockstill or defensive coordinator Manny Diaz as it dominated Saturday's scrimmage, forcing three turnovers and limiting the offense to just three scores in 19 possessions.

"I would say the defense was the clear-cut standout today," said Stockstill. "If you are looking for a winner from today's scrimmage I thought the defense had the upper hand. I think they handed it to the offense pretty much the whole day. I thought the defense did some nice things today in a lot of areas."

Diaz was much more pleased with the unit this week than he was last Saturday and part of the reason for that was more tackles for loss and sacks. The third-year coordinator said the time was right for the defense to make such a statement.

"Today is the real spring game for our defense because it is a day we can get (all of our blitz packages in)," said Diaz. "We should look like that and if we didn't then it would be scary because we are coming from everywhere. We have more of our blitz package in now which is causing some

confusion for the offensive line and that is normal for spring."

The defensive group tallied nine tackles for loss, three sacks, and went eight straight possessions without allowing a point.

Linebacker Danny Carmichael led the way with eight stops, while safety Kevin Brown added six tackles and tackle Trevor Jenkins chipped in five tackles to go along with a tackle for loss and a fumble recovery.

Offensively, the Blue Raiders got on the board early with a 33-yard field goal by David DeFatta. The impressive first drive engineered by Dwight Dasher stalled inside the 15-yard line following a key 37-yard pass to Michael Cannon.

After eight scoreless possessions, quarterback Joe Craddock directed a nine-play, 55-yard drive that culminated in a 13-yard touchdown pass to walk-on Shane Blissard. A 12-yard run by Phillip Tanner was the key play of the drive.

The final score of the scrimmage came five possessions later when Dwight Dasher found Michael Cannon in the back of the endzone for an 11-yard scoring play. The drive was six plays and covered 30 yards.

Craddock led the way through the air by completing 13 of 25 passes for 110 yards, while Dasher made good on nine of 21 attempts for 97 yards.

Ragin' Cajuns take down MT 8-4

By JESSICA STAUFFACHER
MT Media Relations

Middle Tennessee lost its final game with UL-Lafayette 8-4 on Sunday as the Ragin' Cajuns took the series 2-1.

The Ragin' Cajuns (14-15, 7-8) hit two multi-run home runs in the game on their way to posting 10 hits while the Blue Raiders (13-14-1, 6-8) had eight hits with just one solo home run.

Sophomore Blake McDade led MT at the plate as he went three for four with one RBI and scored two runs.

Junior Taylor Dennis was the only other Blue Raider to post multiple hits as he went two for four.

"We don't have enough guys who are trying to do different things and get something going. When you get behind in the count like we did it does make it difficult," head coach Steve Peterson said.

On the mound, sophomore Chad Edwards took the loss as he allowed five runs on three hits in two and a third innings of work. Junior Jordan Alvis pitched four and two thirds innings in relief allowing three runs on four hits.

ULL took an early 2-0 lead in the top of the second on a two-run home run to left field by Matt Hicks.

In the third inning, Nolan Gisclair doubled to centerfield with the bases loaded to bring in two more runs for the Ragin' Cajuns. ULL ended the inning with three runs on two hits to take a 5-0 lead in the game.

McDade led off the fourth inning with a home run to centerfield to cut the Ragin' Cajun lead to four. MT would have two more hits in the inning with runners in scoring position but could not score any more runs.

ULL extended its lead to



Photo Courtesy: GoblueRaiders.com

Blake McDade went three for four and scored two runs for MT.

seven after a two-run home run. The Ragin' Cajuns ended the top of the seventh with three runs on three hits taking an 8-1 lead.

Sophomore Zach Hudson received a base on balls with the bases loaded which allowed junior Rawley Bishop to score from third. Then junior Zach Dean scored on a single to left by sophomore

Grant Box which kept the bases loaded and put the Blue Raiders within five as the Ragin' Cajuns led 8-3. Freshman Bryce Brentz added another run with his sacrifice fly to centerfield which scored McDade from third base.

Middle Tennessee will be back in action on Tuesday, April 8 when it plays host to Lipscomb at 6 p.m.

Blue Raiders take win, series from Mean Green

By DAVID POWELL
MT Media Relations

Ashley Cline was 2-for-4 with the game-tying RBI as the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders (14-18, 7-7) saved their best for last to win 4-3 in the deciding game of a conference series against the North Texas Mean Green (20-23, 8-7) at Lovelace Stadium on Sunday afternoon.

Lindsey Vander Lugt (10-10) picked up the start and the win for the Blue Raiders. The sophomore gave up three runs on nine hits, while striking out one and walking one in the complete game.

Mean Green starter Jennifer Smith (7-10) picked up the defeat, giving up four runs on eight hits, while striking out five and walking one, in 6.2 innings.

Kayla Lawson also pitched for North Texas, working the final batter for an out in the relief appearance.

UNT took an early 1-0 lead in the 1st inning. Katya Muller started things off for the home team with a single that was too deep for shortstop Brittney Banania to fire to first base. Mallory Cantler and Sarah Jones hit back-to-backs singles, the former for a RBI to score Muller.

The Mean Green added two more runs in the 2nd inning when Lauren Bergstrom and Mariza Martinez hit RBI doubles to left field, making it 3-0 in favor of North Texas.

MT pulled a run back in the 3rd inning. Caitlin McLure walked to put a runner on before Banania smacked an RBI double to the gap in left field, scoring a hustling McLure all the way from first base.

As the game entered the final inning, the Blue Raiders looked to have dropped their ninth conference game of the season. However, as has been the case for much of the season, when their backs have been against the wall they have performed their best.

Ashley Cline stepped to the plate with two outs and Banania on first base looking to rally the Blue Raiders from a 3-1 deficit. The senior crushed a 2-and-1 pitch to deep centerfield and rounded first with as the ball ricocheted off the wall for a RBI double.

Katie Mielke followed Cline's clutch hit with one of her own as she slammed a second RBI double, scoring Cline and tying the game at three runs apiece. With the momentum firmly in MT's favor, Corrie Abel nailed her second game-winning hit of the weekend, plating Mielke.

Vander Lugt did not allow any runs in the final inning as MT picked up their seventh conference win of the season with the 4-3 victory.

The Blue Raiders return to action on Wednesday for a non-conference doubleheader against Southeast Missouri in Cape Girardeau, Mo. Game time is set for 4 p.m.

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jump with a mark of 42-0.

Cox placed sixth in the shot put with a mark of 46-6 and was also eighth in the discus with a mark of 131-9.

On the men's side, junior Carl Morgan finished second in the long jump with a mark of 24-0.75 and senior Carlos

Morgan placed third with a mark of 23-11.

"Zamzam and Maité both had good days and we also had some good performances in the jumps by Sarah and the Morgans," head coach Dean Hayes said. "We have to continue to find out who can do what in certain events as we move through the month and closer to the Sun Belt [Championships]."