

## Student charged with felonies

Sophomore faces May 9 court date for setting multiple fires on campus


ocation of fires on campus March 14-23

## Truck explosion caught

 on video by student| Staff Witer <br> An electrical problem may have caused a fire in a truck parked at the Nicks Hall and Walker Library parking lot early Thursday morning, police said. <br> The truck, a 2005 Toyota Tacoma, caught fire about 2 a.m., and is owned by Nicks Hall resident Chad Huggins, a sophomore Criminal Justice Administration major. <br> Witnesses said the truck exploded before firefighters arrived on the scene. <br> Brian Harrison, a resident of Nicks Hall, recorded the fire on video while standing on the third floor balcony of his dormitory. <br> "We were in our room just watching TV when we heard a big boom, and we thought someone hit a car or something," said Harrison, a sophomore entrepreneur major. "We didn't think anything about it." <br> Another Nicks Hall resident, Chris Faulkner, a sophomore accounting major, also heard the explosion. |
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Africa Week to offer students multicultural experiences


Ezinma Emetu showcases African fashions during last year's Africa Week. Africa Week begins today

| LOCAL FORECAST |  | Thursday | NeWS | Features | SPORTS | MISUSIDEMIESCOM |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tuesday | Wednesday |  | Religious studies | Edward Kimbrell | Women's tennis | Online today |  |
|  |  |  | Interest in spiritual issues among college students is surging, accord ing to a recent study con- | Students often gener alize their professors as boring and uncompas-sionate-their classes | In a match fit for early birds, Middle Tennessee womens tennis was unable to catch the | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Watch out for } \\ & \text { the Sidelines } \\ & \text { Podcast. } \end{aligned}$ |  |
|  |  |  | ducted by the University of California, Los | too reliant on memorization. | worm. <br> The Blue Raiders fell | $\begin{aligned} & \text { LOG ON! } \\ & \text { Gota news tip band Isising, } \end{aligned}$ | Sidelines is the editorially independent student-produced news- |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { H11: } 64^{\circ} \\ \text { PRE: } 40^{\circ} \\ \text { PRECP: } 30 \% \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Hi: } 70^{\circ} \\ \text { PREECPIP: } \\ \text { PRo } \end{gathered}$ | of California, Los Angeles and MTSU is no exception. | They rarely consider the daily life of a professor. | 5-2 to No. 6 L Louisiville. | campus organization activity, column or story idea or a gripe? Check our Web site for contact information. |  |

## Tennessee twisters



## Students show renewed interest in religious studies

| Josh Orendorf | many students, a time of grat questing and ques |
| :---: | :---: |
| Contributring Writer | tioning." |
|  | Shapiro said the religious studics program is in the process of adding a world religions course for the fall |
| surging, according to a recent study conduted by |  |
| the University of California, L os Angstes and MI | "In time we plan to add more specialired dasses |
| is no cxception. | dealing with wornen and religion. |
| With incrased enrollment in religious | igions," Shapiro said. |
| ore participation in campus ministrics, especially | This rise in interest can also |
| Islamic and kewish groups, the demand for spiritual | rol |
| outcts among students is grow | panstol- but there are some obstades |
| Religious studics profeswor Rami. Shapin | The program is currently available only |
|  |  |
| (incge stud | 硣 |
| role spirituality plays in the develop | ad employs just two part time facult |
| undergraduate students. | "We need to grow the course offerings, but it must |
| Shapire, who is alke an ordained rabbi said: "The | be |
| main point of the survey thowed that undergradu- | t we teach," said Shapire. "I would |
| Sare every imtersted in mathere | quality than quantity:" |
| The study' most reent data. relased at the en | Financial suppeot for ad |
| 2005, summaries the findings of collcge stude | a difficult |
| pone to, archgious survey. The Higher Edua | "lis very difffeult to bring in new majors finan |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 236 different universitics, actoss | to be plenty of interst among students. It's just a |
|  | matter of whether or not it can make its way to the |

Consultants assess new science building's needs




Felony: "Charged with 3 counts"


Designers needed.


Spring Specials




## Student 'attacks' SGA bill of rights



SGA bill of rights in his lecture
University shall distribute funds
from student activity fees on a
April 15:


Applications are now heing accepted for

## Editorint-Chief

controversial matte
hostile environment." hostile environment."
"lt's saying that it's somehow violation of your rights if someone says something con-
troversial," he said "That's troversial, he said. "That's par-
ticularly dangerous because that's what they ought to be doing - saying something con-
troversial. troversial."
Wilson also said the profes-
sors are required to sors are required to keep a hos-
tile environment fom tile environme from happen-
ing. He said that while the stu dent bill of rights is attempting to create the idea of just holding a professor accountable, it is actually an attempt to restrict
speech speech.
He sees He sees these rights as silenc-
ing the political dissent lege campuses and silencing the views of the political left. "These kinds of rules are starting to have an impact," he
said. One such case is with Jay
Bennish, a high school teacher in Denver, Colo., who was recently placed on paid leave for commenting on President Bush's performance in his world
geography class. geography class. In the class, Bennish told stu-
dents Bush was dents Bush was starting to
sound like Adolf Hitler; howe the president with Hittler.
A student in the class recorded the discussion on his MP3 player and turned it into a con servative talk radio show. the lecture, and the school district said that, although he had the right to express his opinion based on the 1st Amendment, it must be balanced.
While at MTSU, Wilson commented that a school system
should say, "We oppose this per should say, We oppose this per academic freedom. "Instead of censoring these people, why don't you criticize
them?" he said. "The solution is them?" he said. "The solution is
not to ban any discussion. There has to be an actual positive movement."
Wilson was also concerned for the students' welfare in
regard to academic freedom regard to academic freedom.
Liberal or conservative Wilson and or conservative, action is to stand up to whoever is stripping you of your academic freedom.
"I always believe in fighting,"
he said "The he said. "The way to fight it is to speak out against it. Say Look

Study: "Religious study increases" Continued from 2
top of that greasy poll, so to
$\qquad$ ere are about 25 active camilenn.
This speaks for a strong interest in religion among our student bouy, Glenn said. "What I see on tries is a wide variety of mintents trving to seek answers" leanne Hoechst-Ronner. full time counselor and adjunct proTessor of religious studies at Christianity necessarily mainline Christanity, but spinituality as a
whole," said Hoechst-Ronner. "I think that human beings seek purpose in their life, and spirituality is the deepest place of understanding purpose and meaning." Despite the signs of growth
inside the religious studies minor inside the religious studies minor
philosophy department is also far from developing its own major. "We've been working in that direction," said Ron Bombardi chair of the philosophy department at MTSU. "But you don't there that will end after three or

## Hiring Editors for Summer

Sidelines is currently looking for section editors during the summer session. Call 898-2337 or come by Mass Comm Rm. 269 for more information.

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## OPINIONS

## Debate over patriotism useful

By Matthew Hurtt
Hurt Pride
When I think of patriotism, indubitably think of men like George Washington, Patrick
Henry, and Benjamin Franklin. Henry, and Benjamin Franklin
In fact, after compiling a list of In fact, after compling a list
25 American patriots, 1 noticed that only a couple of individuals
on the list come from the 20th on the list come from the 20th century (and none from the 21st century).
Why is that Why is that, you ask? Early
American patriots rose out of need - a need for who realized that A something bigger th person, than any

## These Americans had



According to Dictionary.com -
Patriot - $n$. one who loves his or her country and supports its authority and interests.
 the Beltw
front lines of local politics working with local politician for the betterment of this community. While it is lofty to think that I will one day be a patriot,
daily strive to question our current situation. Is there a better way? Is there a more efficient way? The answer is undoubted-
Uss." Using this weekly column as a
platform, I can get the attention platform, I can get the attention
of the students, faculty, and staff of MTSU, not for my own egotistical means (believe me, 50 pieces of hate mail is not egofriendly, , but for the advance-
ment of the whole society ment of the whole society.
Healthy debate sparks new exhibited.
If the campus liberals (and some conservatives) did not have the agitation that my columns provide, they would
most likely do little more than associate with people who share their beliefs. There is an outlet, now, for these people to argue of you point. I applaud those responses write coherent columns. $I$ stand with French patriot Voltaire when I say, "I may not agree with what you say, but 1 shall defend (to the death) your right to say it:"
Matthew Hurtt is a History/Political Science major
and can be reached best at mch2x@mtsu.edu.

Unbuckling


President Bush's ideal responses to the press: 1.) "Iraq was not a mistake. I talked to your parents last night, Helen, and they said you were.
differently. For starters, the idea that this administration differently. For starters, the idea that this administration can please liberals is one theory that has been com-
pletely de-bunked. Our pre-war strategy was designed pletely de-bunked around that idea.
3.) "When exactly is it the right war, at the right place, at the right time-when m having an affair with an intern and need a distraction in the media?"
4.) "I can't shut your newspapers down, and I don't want to try it. I read what happened when Lincoln tried
it. Apparently, he was shot, but not by his Viceit. Apparently, he was shot, but not by his Vice-
President. There are new risks today."

Opinions Editor's note: This section takes the news and exaggerates it, or makes it up completely. Outside
of this box, you're free to think for yourself.

Gender selection technology offers immoral choice

By DeAnn Currey
By DeAnn Currey
Staff Columnist
More and more couples are
choosing the sex of their
unborn baby through a proce-
dure called Pre-implantation
genetic diagnosis (PGD), but
is this the way life was sup-
posed to be created?
PGD uses in vitro fertiliza-
tion because the embryos have
to be screened for their gender
before being implanted in the
mother-to-be's womb. The
process was originally created
for couples that could pass on
a genetic disease to a healthy
baby and for women who are
likely to have a miscarriage.
According to Dr. Jeffery
Steinberg, almost 2,000 cou-
ples have chosen to use the
ples have chosen to use the

## Sidelines

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While on a trip to traly, first Lady Laura Bush aked the Pope wat Gods sovereign pla America was. Benedit replied, "The Bible, quite honestly, is silent on the issue." (This was America was. Bene

## FEATURES

## One man, one goal, many titles



Teaching fulfills my passion," he explained. "I've Kiways been scholarly, Kimbrell said he feels it is his job to "prepare stu-
dents for new culture." He describes the field being "very demanding of personal life-you have

He challenges knowledge and keeps up with the expansion of news reading eight newspapers a day.
"If |the new generation] read, they would have a more informed opinion, he said. "Without knowledge, it is just Kimbrell's love with art is wel matched with his love of literature and Thomas Jefferson, although he said he also holds Bill Moyers in high regard. "I love (Jefferson) because he is a philosopher and believed in freedom
of speech," Kimbrell said. "[Moyers] of speech," Kimbrell said. "[Moyers] has great ethics and passion. I feel he is
one of the greatest journalist of the Although filled bookshelves, he claims his home collection puts his office to shame. He reads a "t
fiction." Aside from reading, writing and atending classical symphonies, Kimbrell finds
five acre lawn.
"I look forward to spring." he said. "I
plant flowers and trees." plant flowers and trees
Kimbrell explained
Kimbrell explained that mowing his
awn in solitude allows him to detach from things and allows him an escape with walks with his wife and pets.
After 34 years of teaching, he said feels MTSU still offers him "an opportunity to do something
$\qquad$
Three decades of experience, memories

## E-journal recognizes student research




Former MT stars honored by SBC


Former MT track star Mardy
Belt Conference's 30th Anniv
By David Hunter
The Sun Belt Conference con-
tinued it's 30th Anniversary cele-
bration by naming the All - Time
Men's and Womenc
Men's and Women's Outdoor
Track and Field Team last week.
Five former Middle Tennessee
track stars made the list, and one
was named Most Valuable Player. "It's a honor for the athletes and their thanking them for all
the hard work that they have put in and the competitive nature
that each of them have." MT

Sunday, March 26
MT 8
UALR 7
Next Game vs. Samford,
March 28
$\frac{\text { By Russell Luna }}{\text { Staff Writer }}$
Staff Writer
The Blue
The Blue Raiders (8-11, 1-1) split their Sun Belt opener with Arkansas-Little
Rock $(18-10,1-1)$ this weekend after a Rock (18-10, 1-1) this weekend after
solid seven inning performance from solid seven inning performance from
Matt Scott and a three-run affair from Adam Warren helped lead the Blue Raiders to an 11-4 victory on Friday. UALR starter Trevor Clay pitched six innings, allowing one run on six hits
before a four-run bonanza in the eighth before a four-run bonanza in the eighth
inning that would helped the Trojans inning that would helped the Trojans
clinch $5-2$ victory on Saturday after
noon.
Scott pitched seven innings, allowing three runs on seven hits, while walking only three and fanning six others to help
lead the Blue Raiders to an $11-4$ victory lead the Blue Raiders to an 11-4 victory
on Friday. against Sun Belt opponents to $8-1$ for th past two seasons. Warren scored three runs and drove in two to help Middle Tennessee win their first back to back
in late February
UALR narrowed Middle Tennessee
lead in the fifth inning after a two-ru

## Women's tennis loses weekend match to Louisville

 By Casey BrownStaff Writer
In a match fit for early birds, Middle
Tennessee women's tennis was unable to
catch the worm.
The Blue Raiders fell $5-2$ to No. 69
Louisvill in Saturday morning action at
the Raccuet Club of Murfresboro.
Coach Alison Ojedd's squad contin-
ued to struggle, losing their fourth con-
secutite match to drop to -100.
Ojeda remained positive after the
match, describing this point in the sea-
son as a "transition period."
"Our goal is to be a Top 20 team in the
next few yearan and in order to do that, we
have to make changes,"

The Blue Raiders with three hits.
The Bluded their
$\qquad$
Rock on Sunday afternoon.
After falling behind carly, MT scored
two runs apiece in the seventh and
eighth innings to come away with the
leff Beachum led the MT offense from the leadoff
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { The Blue Rijasders could no. } 2 . & \text { long rallice, before Gorbea outlasted th } \\ \text { Blue Raider sophomore, winning by a }\end{array}$ comeback in singles, losing the first four $6(4), 6-2$ margin. Gracinin wasted litele time with a 6 . note, posting wins att the on a positi) -2 victory over Elvira Yusupova at No
$\qquad$ later with a $6-2,6-2$ win over Siliestro
at No. 4 to give UL. a $3-0$ advantage. The Cardinals clinched the match proved too much for Chemin, who fell With the outcome already decided the Blue Raiders atten
with some success
in a battle of wills at No. 5, as the frech
man, still hampered by back problems
"I feel like Kelly needs to be higher
the lincup, but as long as her back is
ing her trouble we can't put har
there." Ojeda said.
her winning strak to seven at No.

## Blue Raiders take two of three against UALR




## Yarbrough wins again

$\frac{\text { By Clarence Plank }}{\text { Staff Writer }}$
MT men finished one-two in the 110 -meter hurdles in the Clemson Relays in Clemson, S.C. Saturday. Linnie Yarbrough won with a
time of 13.97. This was his time of 13.97. This was his
eighth career victory of the outdoor season. Juan Walker finished in second place with a personal-best 14.13,
In the men's $4 \times 200-$ meter relay, the team of Jermaine
Barton, Daryl Terrell. Sean Barton, Dary Terrell, Se
Waller and VanTonio Fraly won their event with a time of
$1: 26.98$. Fraley also competed 1:26.98. Fraley also competed
in the 100 -meters and placed fourth while tea
finished eighth. finished eighth.
The men's $d$ team of Tony Carufe. Tavaris
Leak, Derek Dell and Jonathan Leak, Derek Dell and Jonathan
Guillou finished second and the men's $4 \times 1500$-meter relay team
of Carufe, Dell, Guillou and Matthew Young finished sixth.
In the long jump. . 1 Strum
placed third and Julius Defour finished for a tie in third in the
Willie Parker finished fifth, in the shot put, and eighth place
in the hammer throw, and lames Thomas placed fourth in
discus and sixth in the shot put. During the weekend, the MT
women's team finished the meet with three first place fin-
ishes, three seconds, two third ishes, three seconds, two third
places, and two fourth-place On
Friday,
Stephanie
Tamgho with a distance of 19-1.25. It injury that she suffered three
weeks ago at the NCAA Last weeks ago at the NCAA Last
Chance Meet The women's relay team of
Erika Erika Palmer, Candice
Robertson, Antranette Stringer Robertson, Antranette Stringer
and Tiffany Owens won the and Tiffany Owens won the
$4 \times 100$-meter relay in 46.43 , and the $4 \times 200$-meter team of TraMayne Gillyard, Stringer.
Shanna-Kay Campbell and Shanna-Kay Campbell
Owens won in $1: 39$.11 The women's distance med-
ley relay team of Mariorie ley relay team of Marjorie
Gombert. Kerry Barrow
Carlissa Shaw and Sara Lunning finished third. Palmet
and Owens both competed in the 100 -meters and finish
fourth and sixth, respectively
Ashleigh Thaler finished se ond in the 10000 -meters wit
time of $42: 14.08$ and Robert: finished second in the
meters hurdles with a top cen
giate time of 14.06 . Ver Patterson finished second
400 -meters hurdles elat time of 1:02.91.
Tamgho finished thirc


## Softball goes 1-3 in Louisville Tournament

## Sunday, March 26

 MT 9 Toledo 1Next Game at Mississippi State,
March 28

## By Erika Davis

The Middle Tennessee softball team traveled to Louisville
Tournament this past weekend and took on ranked teams in two out of their four games. In the first game on Friday
against the host No against the host No. 20 ranked
Louisville Cardinals, the Blue Raiders were shut out 4-0. UL's Courtney Moore crushed a home run in the bottom of the first to put the Cardinals up 1-0. They scored two more in the secto 3-0. Moore doubled and scored on a Lacy Wood double to end the scoring for UL.
That was Samantha Floyd's second loss of the season to fall to $0-2$.
On Saturday, the Blue Raiders lost twice 4-2 to Eastern Michigan and No. 9 -ranked Michigan.
In the third inning, the Eagles' Heather Giroux reached first base on an error she then
advanced to second and reached third base on a second error. EMU's Ashley Straus connected on a single, which brought
Giroux home, scoring the first Giroux home, scoring the first ued to pile on runs adding two before the third inning ended. In the fourth inning Middle Tennessee's Shelby Stiner's tworun homerun bringing
Raiders within one, $3-2$ Raiders within one, 3-2. Raiders failed to take advantage to take the lead with runners on first and second, Katie Mielke popped up. Floyd struck out

Eastern Michigan scored again Eastern Michigan scored again
in the sixth inning making it 4-2 and that would be the final scor In the second game, Middle Tennessee opened the scoring against the defending
Champions
Michiganal Wolverines.
Leftielder Muriel Ledbetter hit a two-run homerun that put the Blue Raiders in the lead 2-0 in the first inning. The Blue Raiders didn't enjoy the lead for long as the Wolverines quickly
capitalized in the bottom of the first with Samantha Findlay singling, and scoring Tiffany Haas, who was on third. Michigan tied the game with a single by
Leutele scoring Findlay Leutele scoring Findlay. Samantha Floyd pitched three
scoreless innings for the Blue scoreless innings for the Blue
Raiders. It wasn't long before the Wolverines broke the tie in the fifth inning with Becky Marx's double that scored Tiffany Haas and Giampaolo, putting Michigan in the lead 4-2.
In the top of the inning, the Blue Raiders were looking good enough to take the lead with Muriel Ledbetter hitting a leadoff double. Kristine Reed hit a single, advancing
Ledbetter to third. However, two Ledbetter to third. However, the
strikeouts in a row ended the chance for the Blue Raiders. Yesterday, the Blue Raiders ended the tournament with a 1 victory over Toledo. MT put three runs on the
board in the bottom of the third. Justine Cerda singled and moved to second on a wild pitch. She scored on a double by Katie Mielke. Mielke scored on a wild pitch from third. Murial
Ledbetter walked and came Ledbetter walked and came
home on a triple by Shelby Stiner. The Blue Raiders added four uns in the fifth, and two more in the sixth.
MT pitcher Trish White took the win to improve 2.7 on the year.
The next match up for the Blue Raiders is Tuesday at Mississippi State for a doubleheader. Game time is 2 p.m.

Men's tennis beats Louisville


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## Blue Raider football holds first spring scrimmage

| Staft Writer <br> On a cool, windy soturday aftemoen the MT Blue Raider footboll team Ineth! theif first intraspand xrimumage of the spring. <br> The scrimmage which lee bowh the offense and defense put in sume full speed worknots, was the first under the direction of first year head wach Rik Stockstill. Stockstill, who has rephaced former head coash Andy Mc Collunn. |
| :---: |
|  |  |


turned in by the defense. The Blue Raiders will hit the practice field Monday, with just two weeks left in their spring workouts. Despite the solic
performances of late, Stockstill said he realies that this team has to improve during these workouts
" like the attitude, cnthiks the attitude, work ethic and "nthusiasm, but we must continue mak
ing progress throughout this spring." "mp progress throughout this spring,
Stockstill told MT Media Relations

## Parker, Zolman lead Lady Vols to win, Elite Eight

By foe Milicia
AP Sports Wifter
in the sccond round game and was playing with a wrist she broke in February, Rutgers opened up a $23-14$ lead with 7:08 left in the first half behind a 15 run led by ^javon. The Lady Vols' offense went nearly six minutes without $a$ field gool.
But Parker and Hornbuckle respond cd with a $15-4$ run to cose the half up
29-27. The Scarlet Knights committed 10 first -half turnovers and went more than six minutes without a basket.
"Big Baby" leads LSU to Final Four Bruins headed to Indianapolis
$\qquad$

cirney was held to five points on 2 -for- 12 shooting in his tinal collcge pame. Afflalo swarmed Carney at every chance,
only two davs after defending national scoring leader Adam


## Classified




