



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1999

SIDELINES



Volume 75, No. 28

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

Blue Raiders to move to Sun Belt

All teams but
football to leave
OVC in 2001

Josh Ezzell
Staff Reporter

MTSU's athletic teams will join the Sun Belt Conference beginning in 2001. James Walker, MTSU president, and Lee Fowler, athletic director, made the announcement Thursday.

The Blue Raiders will remain independent in football during the 2000-01 season, while all other sports will compete in the Ohio Valley Conference until 2001.

"After months of discussion and considerable thought, the decision has been made for Middle Tennessee to join the Sun Belt Conference," Walker said. "The decision to move from the Ohio Valley Conference, a conference Middle Tennessee has been involved with for more than 50 years, was not an easy one. We will certainly miss the rivalries that have evolved over the years as well as the many outstanding people associated with the Ohio Valley Conference."

"This is tremendous in terms of visibility for our athletic department. Our image will be enhanced in terms of academics as well as athletics."

New Mexico State and North Texas will also join the Sun Belt as full members in 2001; Louisiana-Monroe will join for football only.

Sun Belt Conference Breakdown

(all sports except football)

East Division

Arkansas-Little Rock
Arkansas State
Florida International
Middle Tennessee
South Alabama
Western Kentucky

West Division

Denver
Louisiana-Lafayette
New Mexico State
New Orleans
North Texas

(I-A football members)

Arkansas State Indians
Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns
Louisiana-Monroe Indians
Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders
New Mexico State Roadrunners
North Texas Mean Green

"I'm very excited about it. I think it's a great step for the university," said Andy McCollum, head football coach. "This will have a major impact on our recruiting, because now we can tell players that they will be competing for a league title and a possible shot at a

bowl game."

The league conducts championships in 15 sports, seven for men and eight for women. In 2000-01, the Sun Belt will sponsor women's soccer.

"It's nice to be in a conference that complements women's soccer,"



Photo provided
Athletic Director Lee Fowler, MTSU President James Walker and Athletic Department Media Relations Director Mark Owens announce to reporters Thursday that MTSU's sports teams will move to the Sun Belt Conference in 2001.

said Colette Gilligan, head soccer coach. "It will most definitely help recruiting."

The Sun Belt formed in 1976. It was the first league to sign a contract with ESPN in 1979. Next year, ESPN will cover the Sun Belt for the 21st consecutive year.

The Sun Belt Tournament championship game will be shown live on ESPN. The Sun Belt is the only conference to have its conference game televised on ESPN since its inception.

"This is a great opportunity for the women's basketball program,"

said Stephany Smith, head women's basketball coach. "The Sun Belt is seventh in the power ratings in terms of women's basketball, whereas the OVC is 32nd. This will be tremendous for recruiting, mostly because of the ratings difference."

"This is a move we feel would enhance our entire athletic department from top to bottom," Fowler said. "Joining the Sun Belt will help us recruit non-athletes as well as athletes. Students might come to MTSU because they recognize the name."

MTSU has been in the OVC since 1952.

It won 11 titles, made six NCAA playoffs and appeared in four bowl games. During 47 years of football competition, the Raiders compiled a 192-115-4 (.624) OVC record, while having 15 Players of the Year and 177 first-team all OVC selections.

The men's basketball team has won five OVC titles, while the women have won 11. Overall, the Blue Raiders have won 102 OVC championships and nine all-sports trophies.■

Staying in the lines



Photo by Robin Wallace
Steve Gipson draws a caricature of a student. Gipson, a professional artist, was in the KUC lounge Friday to provide free drawings for students, faculty and staff. "He comes almost every year," said Mimi Thomas, assistant director of Student Programming, "and by the time he leaves every year, we have all these people who still want to be drawn."

'Bare' women have exposure charges retired

Staff Reports

Indecent exposure charges were retired Thursday against two women accused of baring their breasts at a downtown club last month. John Price, assistant district attorney, said he agreed to retire the charges against Rachel Novak, 18, and Jamie Fisher, 19. The women were to appear in court Thursday.

A police detective issued indecent exposure misdemeanor citations to Novak and Fisher Oct. 9 after they participated in the "Dare to Bare" contest at Club Millennium.

Carey McCorkle, the club's manager and co-owner, was charged with criminal responsibility for the women's conduct.

Those charges were also retired Thursday after McCorkle paid court costs.

Novak and Fisher were cited after a female patron complained that the club was hosting a contest of women stripping.

The club's contest, which McCorkle said still occurs on Fridays even after the charges, is conducted much like a wet T-shirt contest. Patrons place bids to win the role of pouring water over the participant of their choice.

The top three winners, vying for cash prizes, are determined by the audience's response.

Novak and Fisher were cited after a female patron complained to Detective John Jones that the club was hosting a contest of women stripping.

The club also holds the contest for men.

Club Millennium management said the contest was changed after the citations.

In previous contests, managers and the contest's master of ceremonies allowed contest participants to dress as they wished and behave as they wanted.

The contestants are now supplied with a pair of white boxers and a white T-shirt, McCorkle said.

Warrants against Novak, Fisher and McCorkle will be held for a year. If the defendants commit another crime during that time, the charges may be renewed.■

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SPORTS

Football team wins
second game of season.
See page 8.

FEATURES

Find out what the
archaeology department
is digging up.
See page 6.

WEATHER FORECAST



MONDAY
SUNNY
HI 73/LO 50



TUESDAY
SUNNY
HI 74/LO 51



WEDNESDAY
PARTLY
CLOUDY
HI 75/LO 50

Library should be open longer: SGA

Kelley Dodd
Staff Reporter

The University Library may soon have extended hours of operation with 24-hour study rooms and computer rooms after a resolution passed unanimously by the Student Government Association Senate during the Nov. 3 meeting.

Introduced by Sen. Josh Pounders, the resolution states that the current library closing time shall be extended from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Sunday through Thursday.

Weekend closing time will change from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

In addition, the study rooms in the library will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week while the computer rooms will be open 24 hours a day, Sunday through Thursday, with weekend hours that coordinate with the library's operation.

This legislation addresses the issue of many students who don't have enough time to utilize the library when checking out books, studying or using the

computers, Pounders said.

"I think this will help us get our foot in the door with this situation," Pounders said.

Also during the meeting, Sen. Brian Gillespie introduced a possible resolution for the university's parking services to adopt evening parking passes.

"The pass will be designed for people taking night classes," Gillespie said. "Currently they have to buy either a green or black parking pass, and this pass would cost about 60 percent of what a green pass costs."

Gillespie added that because rules concerning parking have already been enstated for next fall, this resolution would not come to order until the fall semester of 2001.

In other business of the meeting:

* Speaker of the Senate Megan Smith urged senators to sign up several organizations on campus to participate in a toy drive for Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. The toys will be taken to the hospital Dec. 5.

* Senators voted 17-0 to pass the house's resolution to install a bus stop and shelter near the library. ■

Professor to lecture about past of American blackness

Shawn Whitsell
Staff Reporter

Sybril Bennett will ask students what they think it means to be black in a lecture this week.

Bennett, an associate professor of radio-television/photography, presents "Blackness in the Twenty-first Century" Tuesday. The lecture is part of the African American lecture series, "Family, Community and Ancestral Links." The African American lecture is held on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 in Peck Hall, Room 103A. The lectures are free and open to the public.

"Fundamentally, I will address 'What is blackness?'" Bennett said.

Bennett said it is not easy to answer that question.

"The definition is really in the mind of the individual," she said.

Bennett's lecture will begin with a brief overview of the history of race in America by using the conceptualizations of blackness by W.E.B. Dubois, Carter G. Woodson and bell hooks.

Bennett said she hopes to challenge those in attendance to examine how they

define the word, "blackness," a term Bennett calls "slippery."

Bennett will also discuss how race was created. She plans to explain that during the 17th and 18th centuries, Europeans labeled dark-skinned people "black" because they didn't want them to be called Europeans.

"It's always been externally ascribed," she said. "Black people didn't start calling themselves 'black' until others started calling them 'black.'"

Bennett will discuss how the labels that have been given to African American people by others has caused them to label themselves.

In short, Bennett is basically going to examine what it means to be black enough and what it means to accuse someone of not being black enough. She will also ask who is to determine what is being black enough or if there is any such thing.

Bennett will also speak about the importance of African American students determining their identity and being proud of who they are so that they can comfortably interact with each other, their white counterparts and the rest of the world.

"It's really to raise consciousness and

awareness," Bennett said of her upcoming lecture.

Bennett holds a bachelor of arts in broadcast and electronic communication from Marquette University, a master of education from Loyola University of Chicago and she recently earned her doctorate degree in higher education administration from Vanderbilt. Bennett is currently an assistant professor in the area of electronic media journalism. ■



Bennett

Crime Log

compiled by Shane Newsome

Animal Control

Where: Off campus
When: Monday, Oct. 18
What: A brown/tan dog was chained on a nearby porch. The dog was a possible suspect to an earlier call reporting that a student was bitten by a tan dog. Rabies control was notified.

Arrest

Where: Gracy Hall
When: Sunday, Oct. 3
What: A subject was arrested for public intoxication and underage consumption of alcohol

Where: MTSU Police Department
When: Tuesday, Oct. 5
What: A man was arrested for domestic violence.

Arson

Where: Off campus
When: Monday, Oct. 18
What: There was an attempted arson.

Assault

Where: Peck Hall
When: Monday, Oct. 4
What: Student reported being assaulted by his instructor.

Where: Reynolds Hall
When: Monday, Oct. 18
What: A resident reported receiving harassing calls containing verbal assault.

Assistance

Where: Wood/Felder parking lot
When: Monday, Oct. 4
What: The subject fainted and was transported by medical personnel.

Where: McCallie Dining Hall
When: Tuesday, Oct. 5
What: A disorderly person was escorted out of the building.

Where: Keathley University Center knoll
When: Tuesday, Oct. 5
What: There was a reported dispute between female and male friends.

Where: Cope Administration Building
When: Tuesday, Oct. 5
What: A student was in the building after hours.

Where: Intramural field
When: Thursday, Oct. 7
What: Subject had a possible broken arm but refused transport.

Where: Womack Lane Apartments, building A
When: Sunday, Oct. 10
What: Subject requested an ambulance and was transported.

Where: Deere Hall
When: Sunday, Oct. 10
What: A caller reported that her roommate was having severe breathing problems. She was transported by the Rutherford County Ambulance Service.

Bomb Threat

Where: MTSU campus
When: Wednesday, Oct. 13
What: All appropriate parties were notified, the building was secured and searched, and the threat was unfounded.

Burglary

Where: Clement Hall
When: Saturday, Oct. 16
What: A subject reported that someone tried to enter his room with a credit card. The caller hung up the phone when the dispatcher tried to dispatch officers. There was no answer on a return call. Upon the officers' arrival, several subjects were seen leaving in a black Dodge Avenger.

Disorderly Conduct

Where: Smith Hall lobby
When: Friday, Oct. 15
What: Two black males were engaged in an argument.

Drug Abuse/Possession

Where: Clement Hall
When: Wednesday, Oct. 6
What: Officers observed paraphernalia and a green leafy substance.

Harassment

Where: Lyon Hall
When: Saturday, Oct. 16
What: Subject reported receiving harassing phone calls.

Fire Alarm

Where: University Library
When: Sunday, Oct. 3
What: There was a false fire alarm.

Where: Cummings Hall
When: Wednesday, Oct. 6
What: There was no actual fire. Someone dispersed a fire extinguisher and pulled the fire alarm.

Where: Voorhies Industrial Studies, east wing
When: Thursday, Oct. 7
What: There was a false fire alarm because of a faulty smoke detector.

Miscellaneous

Where: Womack Lane Apartments, apartment H
When: Monday, Oct. 18
What: Caller advised that there was some kind of altercation in one of the second-floor apartments.

Rape Attempt

Where: Bell Street parking lot
When: Tuesday, Oct. 19
What: A student was attacked.

Theft

Where: Greenland Drive Parking Lot B
When: Monday, Oct. 4
What: A complainant reported that her car was broken into Saturday night.

Where: Bell Street parking lot
When: Monday, Oct. 4
What: Complainant reported CD's were removed from the vehicle.

Where: Scarlett Commons
When: Monday, Oct. 4
What: A bicycle was reported stolen.

Where: Ezell Hall
When: Wednesday, Oct. 6
What: Mattresses were removed from the premises.

Where: Business and Aerospace Building
When: Wednesday, Oct. 6
What: A micro-mini cassette recorder was reported missing from a desk.

Where: Second Street at D Street
When: Thursday, Oct. 7
What: A bicycle was missing.

Where: Parking and Transportation Office
When: Friday, Oct. 8
What: A vehicle boot was stolen.

Where: Boutwell Dramatic Arts
When: Monday, Oct. 11
What: The subject said that her bike had been stolen from outside her apartment.

Where: Police Department
When: Tuesday, Oct. 12
What: The subject reported a stolen bicycle and wanted to register a new bicycle.

Where: Judd Hall lobby
When: Saturday, Oct. 16
What: A bicycle was stolen from in front of University Library.

Traffic

Where: Tennessee Livestock Center parking lot
When: Friday, Oct. 8
What: A hit and run occurred.

Where: Cummings Hall annex lot
When: Saturday, Oct. 9
What: A caller said he left his vehicle parked on campus the previous night and found that it had been hit overnight.

Where: South parking lot of the Mass Communications building
When: Thursday, Oct. 14
What: A vehicle was reported damaged.

Where: Mass Communication Building parking lot
When: Friday, Oct. 15
What: A hit and run occurred.

Trespass Warning

Where: Gore Hall third floor
When: Monday, Oct. 18
What: A man was selling magazines door to door, wearing a red jacket, blue shorts and a red baseball cap.

Vandalism

Where: Cope Administration Building first floor restroom
When: Thursday, Oct. 14
What: The restroom was vandalized.

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South African doctor fighting for babies threatened by AIDS

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — A doctor has challenged the government's refusal to provide anti-AIDS drugs to pregnant HIV-positive women, saying the policy violates their babies' constitutional rights to life and proper medical care.

Dr. Costa Gazi said in an interview with The Associated Press that he has filed a complaint with the Human Rights Commission in an effort to pressure Health Minister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang into changing the policy.

Gazi's initiative is certain to create a stir in a nation with one of the world's worst AIDS problems. Eight percent of the population — 3.6 million people — is estimated to be HIV positive.

Last April, Gazi, a member of the opposition Pan Africanist Congress, publicly criticized the health minister's decision to withhold the anti-viral drug AZT from HIV-positive pregnant women, prompting the government to charge him with shaming the republic and the constitution. Hearings into the misconduct charges are expected to begin in December.

This latest controversy comes as South Africa is waging a losing war against an AIDS epidemic and bolsters critics who say the African National Congress-led government is eager to silence voices of dissent.

Just last week, the ANC suspended one of its officials in the black township of Soweto for two years after he publicly criticized the party's plan to privatize industries in Johannesburg.

"It's a sad day for our newfound democracy," suspended ANC councilman Trevor Ngwane said in a phone interview. "We're just enjoying our first taste of freedom of speech, which a lot of people died for. It's a bad sign for our future."

But while Ngwane's dispute centers on privatization in Johannesburg and possible job losses, Gazi's dispute is literally a matter of life and death.

Studies show that if AZT is given to pregnant women with AIDS or its precursor HIV, the chances the lethal virus will pass on to their babies are cut at least by half.

With an estimated 10 percent of children born each year in South Africa with the virus, at least half of them — 35,000 — would be saved by administration of AZT or other drugs, said Gazi, a doctor at a state hospital near the city of East London.

The cost per baby for screening their mothers for HIV, for administering AZT and for counseling sessions would be about \$390, Gazi said. If a cheaper antiviral drug like nevirapine were used, the cost would be halved, he said.

Calls to the ANC spokesman for comment were not answered on Sunday. The government has previously said it can't afford to provide AZT. On Oct. 28, President Thabo Mbeki baffled physicians and anti-AIDS advocates by telling parliament that AZT is dangerous. The drug has been approved by regulators in South Africa and around the world and is commonly used to control the virus. ■

Elephant hanging still haunts town

Angela K. Brown
Associated Press

ERWIN, Tenn. (AP) — The railroad crane squeaked and strained as it slowly hoisted the 5-ton elephant. The chain around the animal's neck tightened as the crane ascended, lifting first the front feet and then the back feet off the ground.

Moments later, with about 3,000 people watching, Mary the circus elephant was dead, her lifeless body hanging 6 feet in the air.

Mary was executed for trampling her handler, and tales about the bizarre hanging on a rainy afternoon in 1916 have endured for generations.

Many in this rural northeastern Tennessee town want the whole thing forgotten. They don't like how townspeople have been portrayed in published accounts.

"It made people from Erwin look like a bunch of bloodthirsty rednecks," said Hilda Padgett of the Unicoi Historical Society.

Mary was owned by Sparks World Famous Shows, a small traveling circus. She was featured prominently on advertisement posters: "Mary — the largest living land animal on Earth; 3 inches taller than Jumbo and weighing over 5 tons. A positive feature at each exhibition."

Before the performance in Kingsport on Sept. 12, 1916, Mary and the other elephants walked through town in the circus parade. Walter "Red" Eldridge, a drifter who had joined the circus the day before in Virginia, was handling Mary.

When the elephant stopped to nibble on a watermelon rind, Eldridge hit her head with a stick. Mary lifted him with her trunk and threw him into the side of a wooden stand. Then she walked over and stepped on his head, several witnesses told newspapers.

People ran screaming, but the elephant never escaped the crowd. In fact, Mary quickly calmed down and the show — with her in it — went on that night.

The next day, the circus traveled about 40 miles to Erwin, and rumors about Mary's attack began spreading.

Some residents heard the governor had ordered Mary killed. Others claimed Kingsport residents were headed to Erwin with a cannon to blow her up.

The mayors in nearby Johnson City and

Rogersville threatened to cancel circus shows in their towns if Mary kept performing.

Circus officials were reluctant to take action because Mary was such a valuable part of their show.

But they knew they had to do something and apparently decided to kill her in spectacular fashion.

Circus workers wrapped a chain around Mary's neck and attached it to a 100-ton derrick car, used for lifting and moving railroad cars.

The chain broke during the first attempt.

Witnesses said Mary broke her hip and did not squirm as much when she was hoisted the second and final time.

She was buried near the track.

Historians believe only one person took a picture, and it appears fuzzy because of the fog, rain and camera equipment.

Charles Edwin Price, who chronicled the events in his 1992 book "The Day They Hung the Elephant," said he had a hard time separating fact from folklore.

Price spent two years digging up circus records, poring over old newspapers and talking to the few witnesses still alive. He also listened to tapes of witnesses interviewed in the 1960s as part of an East Tennessee State University project.

Newspaper accounts differed widely and were influenced by emotion and rumors, Price said. In one colorful — but unsubstantiated — story, the sheriff arrested Mary and chained her to the jail in Kingsport before letting her travel with the circus to Erwin.

Another account that remains popular but is untrue had the townspeople of Erwin actually putting Mary on trial, convicting her of murder and sentencing her to death.

"When you have an event that happened so long ago, especially something this bizarre, folklore takes over in a lot of ways," said Price, who lives in Gate City, Va.

Erwin resident Ruth Pieper, who has researched the hanging, has tried for years to get approval for a memorial for Mary and to display an exhibit about the hanging. Both ideas have been rejected by city leaders.

"They want to keep it quiet, but it's part of our history," Pieper said. "And if it's told correctly, people will understand and won't blame Erwin anymore." ■

Ohio State upset over women's rugby team's topless photo

COLUMBUS, Ohio (TMS) — Ohio State University's rugby team in trouble after posing for photographs with their shirts off? What gives?

Well, university officials say, it was the women's team.

The athletes posed for pictures in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. on Saturday. Twelve of the 37 who had their pictures taken were topless — but they did manage to cover their breasts with their hands.

A Washington Post photographer

snapped the women as they were putting their shirts back on. The images ran in the D.C. newspaper and in The Columbus Dispatch.

School officials reacted by suspending the team from practice and two games. Further sanctions are under consideration because school officials say the women's actions tarnished OSU's image. The team has apologized and hopes school officials will punish only those women who posed topless.

"The students understand that they did something that caused

great harm to the university, that's definitely clear," team Coach Jon Moore told The Lantern. "They are very willing to make up for that and make amends."

Many students said they couldn't understand what the big fuss was about.

"They didn't do anything illegal," said student Rob Coridan, pointing out that Washington, D.C.'s laws do not prohibit women from appearing topless in public. "It was their right."

... If it was the men's rugby team, this wouldn't be an issue at all." ■

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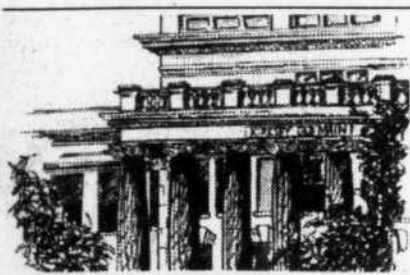
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5 ■ SIDELINES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1999

OPINIONS

"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

—Thomas Jefferson
Murfreesboro, TN

Editorial

Move to Sun Belt beneficial to athletic department

After 47 years of membership with the Ohio Valley Conference, MTSU is joining the Sun Belt Conference.

MTSU will be abandoning rivalries with schools such as Tennessee Tech and Austin Peay, while starting rivalries with schools such as Florida International and South Alabama.

What does the move mean for the athletic department?

It means tougher competition and more national exposure. The football team will be in a conference with five other I-A members. Being in a conference with other I-A members football programs will almost guarantee losses, but it will bring more national exposure for the athletic department as well as better recruits, especially for football.

The football team will be competing for a conference championship in a I-A conference, which will attract recruits.

The geography of the Sun Belt will also help MTSU. People in areas such as New Mexico and Denver will know of MTSU since MTSU is playing teams in these areas. Recognition, in turn, could attract recruits in these areas to MTSU.

The women's basketball team will benefit from the move as well. The OVC's power rating is 32nd, while the Sun Belt is seventh. In addition to helping recruiting, being in the Sun Belt could increase the chances of the women's basketball making the NCAA tournament.

Moving to the Sun Belt Conference is a great move for the athletic department and the university. Both will receive more notoriety, and as a result of the notoriety, will be able to get better athletes.

Leaving the OVC will be sad for the athletic department and the fans, as rivalries will end, but new rivalries will begin once MTSU joins the Sun Belt.

Josh Ezzell
Sports Editor

Left and out in the Semideep South

by Joshua Liner, Staff Columnist

Death penalty punishes victims and accused

Readers are by now familiar with the case of Robert Glen Coe, accused of raping and murdering an eight-year-old girl twenty years ago; having lost his final state appeal, he may become the first Tennessean executed by the state since 1960.

A case for reasonable doubt can easily be made for Coe; there is exactly zero physical evidence linking him to the crime, and his "confession" should have been dismissed on grounds of great mental psychosis. But that isn't my point. His case provides a good chance to rethink our reasons for supporting capital punishment.

I have little sympathy for the candle-holding vigilists who emerge at times like these. Like them, I do oppose capital punishment, but not over any fetish for the "sanctity" of human life.

I'm not particularly bothered by people dying per se. It seems that what is wrong with taking a human life—and I must warn that I am about to make a philosophical point—is not the fact that a subject himself is deprived of his own life; how could it be, since, after the act of killing is done, there is no victim to serve as subject of this deprivation?

In other words, as far as the murdered person goes, there is no victim; to him the murder matters not a whit, since there is no (longer a) "him" to whom it could matter.

This doesn't mean that murder is OK. Whatever my views on death, I am, in fact, particularly bothered by people living poorly, and this includes the people "left behind" after a murder. (You might say I'm more concerned with quality than quantity of human life.) The reasons I think killing is generally wrong have to do with how it affects the living—the only ones it could affect.

Some people will argue that I would not oppose capital punishment if it were one of my relatives who had been brutally murdered by the death-rower. But, of course, this point is irrelevant; whatever I might or might not think at a given point in time has nothing to do with what is really the right-and-wrong of the matter. And I don't see how somebody automatically becomes an expert on capital punishment when his or her relative is killed.

To the contrary, being in such a highly emotionally-charged state of mind (as the victim's family members must be) is probably the very poorest point of view from which to make pronouncements on the justness of killing the killer—indeed, to make a decision on virtually anything of importance.

Just as we encourage sexual partners to make decisions about using "protection" before, and not while, they are in the sweated heat of sexual passion, the optimal time to consider the death penalty issue is when we have sufficient critical distance from the topic—not when the blood of kneejerk vengeance is pumping hot and fast through our veins.

But the implication that how angry we feel toward a criminal could be a measure of whether we ought to kill him is very telling.

It is behind the popular argument that capital punishment is justifiable in that it provides a sense of psychological closure for the victims' family. (The mother of Coe's alleged victim has made a recent statement to just this effect.) This is also a bad argument. It would seem to follow that the state is obligated to scratch the vengeful itchings of virtually anyone who is wronged (or, if you like, who is wronged by a crime).

For instance, perhaps I am the sort of person who can be satisfied psychologically only by seeing the

"Surely the degree to which a victim wants a state killing cannot say anything about the rightness or wrongness of it."

person who cuts me off in traffic beaten to a bloody mess; should the state obligate itself to provide this service for me?

We all know that there are such people out there—for instance, the ones who pick fights with drivers who cut them off in traffic—but we chalk these violent impulses up to moral failings on their parts. We don't dignify and indulge them.

Surely the degree to which a victim wants a state killing cannot say anything about the rightness or wrongness of it.

Members of the "psychological closure" camp tend to justify their position by saying that the criminal gives up his right to life when he takes another's, and so our killing him isn't a problem.

The "vigilists" take the opposite side of the same issue, arguing that the killer does retain some inviolable right to life. The debate always centers on the killer himself, what is or isn't permissible to do to him.

Both arguments are illogical but also incomplete. Back to the "vengeance" point: Both sides overlook just what this eye-for-an-eye business does to the living persons themselves who want it.

People who "successfully" commit acts of revenge (meaning those who get away with it -- leaders of wartime POW camps, for instance) are typically not models of happiness and mental well-being; these acts are rarely satisfying in the long-term and actually tend to compound the problems of anger, frustration and such which motivated the revenge in the first place. The best science we have on the subject confirms this.

The bigger point, again, is that those persons who can find a mental satisfaction in seeing another human being killed or hurt (like the "road rager" above) have obvious problems for doing so! Granted, these problems can very often stem from the emotional upset of losing a loved one in such a way, but these feelings of bloodlust need to be met with therapy, not indulgence.

All of this might be irrelevant if we had some practical or immediate need for state killing.

If the only way to restrain a killer from his criminal conduct were to kill him, this might be justified, requiring us to set aside vengeance-issues as the lesser evil.

But this has little to do with calculated, state-sanctioned killing.

If we're even in a position to make a decision about killing a person in this way, we don't need to; we already have him restrained. (And the popular "argument from deterrence" has been falsified so many times that I am as impressed as offended by its persistence.)

In short, there isn't a good reason to preserve the tradition of capital punishment, and its more negative consequences have yet to get a popular hearing. ■

Views from the Crowd

by R. Colin Fly, Staff Columnist

Greedy Corporate America Coke considers seasonal price

The Coca-Cola Co. is researching the possibility of placing remote controls on their machines, allowing them to lower and raise prices at key times. Hot weather? Higher prices.

What kind of trash is America going to pull on us next? The company says they have no "immediate plans" to use the machines, but how believable is greedy corporate America?

As greedy as the CEO of the Coca-Cola Co., Douglas Ivester, who stated that it was perfectly legitimate that drinks be more expensive in the hot summer months.

No, what's perfectly legitimate is to boycott Coke products, if only I could kick that nasty caffeine habit.

Mr. Ivester, you swindle enough by simply charging students a dollar for each of your products that cost you literally nothing to produce. You even charge a buck a bottle for water. What can you get for under a dollar these days? (Long-distance "charlatans" cheer in approval.)

Now, you want to raise the price of your "drug" during the hot summer months. I'm now seriously contemplating if I can receive an IV of caffeine.

Yes, Coca-Cola is number one in sales in the cola product world. Yes, Coca-Cola also spends millions more in advertising to stay that way.

Their web site's opening page, obviously at www.coca-cola.com, rambles on and on with pointless, inane and mundane babble until it finally breaks through with the truly Thoreau-like notion, "Hey, it's the Coca-Cola site - let's show a coke. Cool."

Wow. That's the future of America. Bright minds come up with this?

I don't know which is worse, common companies that have web sites or the people who surf them. I got your www.velveeta.com right here. Sites for macaroni, cereal, potato chips, paper towels, soaps and toilet bowl cleaners litter the eight billion web pages that make up the Internet. How many of those pages are worth the price of one minute of time logged onto your Internet service provider? The whole idea is just plain stupid. What can one possibly learn about the history of this product or that product?

Go ahead Coke, raise the price of your drinks. See if I care; I'll just dehydrate and die. Then, Coca-Cola, you'll have to deal with the consequences. The next great American tradition will follow - the lawsuit.

Fed up from your view in the crowd? E-mail me with comments or suggestions at MTSUVIEWS@email.com or Sidelines at stupubs@mtsu.edu. ■

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor.



Drop them by
JUB 310 or email
them to
stupubs@mtsu.edu.

Letters may be edited for length or grammar.

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"Sidelines" is the non-profit, editorially independent student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published every Wednesday during June and July and on Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters. FLASH!, the entertainment magazine, is published every Wednesday during the Fall & Spring semester. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily "Sidelines" or the university.



Clarification

Robin Wallace wrote the article entitled "MTSU funding future depends on actions in legislative session," which ran in the Nov. 4 issue.

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From the Mailbox

Solicitors shouldn't be allowed on campus

I think everyone on campus will agree that we're tired of putting up with harassers and solicitors who want nothing but money we don't have.

The two encounters I experienced Wednesday should suffice enough information so that everyone will know what I'm talking about.

The first encounter was with the Mennonite Brethren, who so kindly suggested that God would be happy to look after our possessions for us in heaven so that when He destroys Earth in 2000 we can all come back as good Christians.

Who allows these people to parade around campus all day soliciting? Everyone has their right to their own religious beliefs, but I think that solicitation should be ruled against on campus. The last I heard, these Brethren people were brainwashing young college students, and no one ever saw the students again after they were seen talking to this particular religious group.

My second encounter was with a student supposedly from California who tried to sell me a magazine subscription so that he could earn points to go to Washington, D.C. He said it would take three minutes and spoke so fast about what his agenda was that I heard only bits and pieces. Before I knew it he was filling out an order form for a subscription for 46 dollars, and all I had to do was sign it and give him a check or cash.

Do these people really think that a campus full of college students are going to have fifty dollars in their pockets, much less that they're going to hand it over willingly? Haven't people realized by now that magazine subscriptions are no longer an effective way to raise money? People will buy food and entertainment at a reasonable price and for a good cause, but they won't buy magazines so someone else can go on a trip.

Still, these people are allowed to walk around campus harassing and soliciting. It's very annoying, and I'm not a rude person, but I'm thinking about taking some lessons on how to say, "No, thank you, now GO AWAY!"

Heather Brandon

FEATURES

Digging up Tennessee

Professor devotes life to archaeology

Jamie Evans
Staff Reporter

When Kevin Smith was a graduate student studying anthropology at Vanderbilt, his mentor told him that in order to get a job, he needed to get some teaching experience.

But the word experience, doesn't even begin to describe what Smith has done since completing his doctorate from Vanderbilt in 1992.

Taking his mentor's words to heart, Smith began his teaching career at MTSU in 1988 as an adjunct teaching night classes while he was working on his masters. In 1994, he was hired by the university as full-time associate professor in anthropology, at a time when MTSU didn't even offer a bachelor's degree in anthropology or archaeology.

"There had not really been an archaeology program in Middle Tennessee," Smith said, "except for Vanderbilt's which focused mainly on Latin America."

"There was a real need to develop a more long term program here."

So that's exactly what Smith did, and in 1996, MTSU began offering its first ever bachelor's program in anthropology. Since that time, Smith said they have graduated 30 students with a anthropology degree.

The shortage of qualified students in the area has made those graduates extremely attractive in the job market, Smith said.

"There's a strong need for [anthropology students] right now,"

he said. "I get calls weekly looking for graduated students."

Smith said that approximately half of the graduated students have gone on to graduate school, and a majority of the rest have found jobs in or related to the industry.

Smith's impact in the field and in the classroom is obvious to his students.

"He's basically a mentor to me," said Donna Haislip, a senior studying anthropology.

Haislip is a non-traditional student who originally graduated in 1977 with a degree in psychology. She ended up working as a Realtor in the Nashville area, but later decided she didn't care for the industry.

Wanting to pursue a profession in archaeology, she enrolled at MTSU in the fall of 1997 and began working on her second degree.

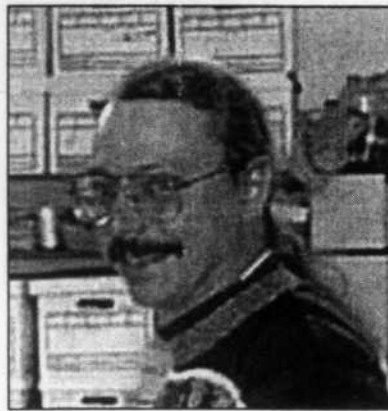
Haislip said she chose MTSU because she had been told to seek out Smith, who had developed a reputation for being one of the leading experts in the area.

"He's Mr. Archaeology in Tennessee," she said.

Haislip describes Smith's presence in the classroom as astounding because he uses a unique and thoughtful style of teaching. Instead of doing the work himself, she said, he pushes his students to use their minds to find the answers themselves.

"He's not going to spoon feed you," she said.

On the surface, Haislip's description of Smith may seem exaggerated, but his involvements in archaeology projects in Middle Tennessee show that her opinion is warranted.



Smith

Currently he is involved in five major on-going projects in the area including an analysis of and write-up of the 1999 Pinson Mounds Archaeological Field School, research on the Peabody Museum expeditions to Middle Tennessee during the late 1800s, and the study of Bledsoe's Station, an early frontier settlement in Middle Tennessee.

In addition, Smith serves as president of the Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology, editor of the Tennessee Anthropological Association, vice president and editor for the Middle Cumberland Archaeological Society and as MTSU representative on the Governor's Archaeological Advisory Council.

Smith has definitely succeeded in following his mentor's advice, but even though he's got some teaching experience under his belt, he said he's not planning on leaving the university.

"My interests are quite focused on looking at the human involvement over the Tennessee landscape," Smith said. ■



Photos Provided

(Top) Chris Henslee, Fran Henslee and Kevin Smith work on a project at Bledsoe's Station. (Bottom) Students continue the digging at Bledsoe's Station.

Auburn University newspaper editor wins national press award

Cindy Fisher
Birmingham Post-Herald

Lee Davidson said she doesn't get emotional easily.

The former Auburn University newspaper editor proved that Saturday.

While accepting a national freedom of the press award at a student journalists convention in Atlanta, Davidson remained composed while about 3,000 of her peers applauded her in a standing ovation.

"It made me happy to accept the award on behalf of the entire staff, but I was completely embarrassed," Davidson, 22, said from Bay Minette where she now works in the Baldwin bureau of the Mobile Register.

Davidson received the Scholastic Press Freedom Award, which is given by the Washington-based Student Press Law Center only when a deserving recipient is identified.

The award was given to Davidson for her series of articles in the "Auburn Plainsman" last year that criticized the role a powerful trustee played in the resignation of the football coach. She was also censured by the university's communication board.

"I think it's clear that I've maxed out at age 22," Davidson said. "I don't see how it could get better than this."

The Memphis native accepted the award at the fall College Advisors/Associated Collegiate Press convention. Also at the convention, The "Auburn Plainsman" received its 18th Pacemaker Award, the highest award for college newspapers.

Davidson found the timing of the national awards to be pointed.

The ceremony took place two days to the year of when the first critical article ran against Auburn trustee and Colonial Bank founder Bobby Lowder. Her articles claimed that Lowder used his influence to force head coach Terry Bowden to resign last October.

"We didn't know what we were going up against," Davidson said.

After the first article, Lowder did not return Davidson's phone calls for comment. In response, Davidson ran an almost entirely blank front page with exception of a headline stating, "Speak Lowder, we can't hear you."

It was that action that prompted the majority student-government run communications board to censure her.

In an earlier interview, Lowder said the students have a right to free speech, but he was going to limit his speaking to the student press. He had said that he would interview with Davidson with questions sent to him by fax, but the interview did not take place.

Journalists from across the state and nation came to Davidson's side, saying the censure went against her First Amendment rights.

Davidson stood her ground throughout the ordeal, said Ed Williams, faculty adviser for the "Plainsman."

"She was so tough to stand up to the communication board in honor of the First Amendment," Williams said. "She never lost her cool and never cried."

In his 14 years as faculty adviser of the 20,000 circulation paper, Williams said Davidson was the best editor he worked with, and that the 1998-99 school year was a milestone year.

Each year, Williams said he

keeps a file on the "Plainsman's" editor with clippings of memorable articles and awards. Usually, the items fit in one folder. The "Lee Davidson year" is two boxes full of state and national newspaper articles. The box includes a video from a public television show on Davidson and a T-shirt printed by the "Plainsman" staff with the First Amendment on the back.

"I'll never have another year as exciting," Williams said. "She should be an inspiration to this year's staff."

The Student Press Law Center chose Davidson for the award after tracking her case since it began last year, said Mike Hiestand, attorney for the center.

"She showed a lot of courage down there. It's not easy to stand up to the old-boy network," Hiestand said. "She taught everyone a lesson."

The Scholastic Press Freedom Award has been given since 1984, either to a high school or college student journalist who demonstrates support for the freedom of press through words or actions.

It is the first time an Alabama journalist has been selected.

The freedom award tends to bring a standing ovation at the national conventions because of the student journalists' respect for others fighting for the First Amendment, said Mark Witherspoon, outgoing president of the College Media Advisors and adviser of the Iowa State newspaper.

"Many students would've backed down from the pressure, but Lee didn't back down," Witherspoon said. "She knew she was right and didn't back down." ■

Lecture attacks life's pleasures

Staff Reports

Why do feminists and the Catholic Church agree that sex is evil? What are the underlying ideas causing the growing assault on pleasures such as chocolate, make-up, fashion, furs, jewelry, romance and sex?

In his lecture, Gary Hull explains the three ways, now prevalent on college campuses, by which the neo-Puritans destroy romance and sex: "sexual harassment" rules, an arbitrary and ever-expanding concept of "rape," and the imposition of "dating codes."

He will show that the philosophy motivating the neo-

Puritans is a fusion of Plato, Christianity and Kantian-inspired nihilism. He concludes with an explanation - based on Ayn Rand's philosophy of objectivism - of the proper view of pleasure and sex.

The lecture will be held Nov. 10th at 6:00 p.m. in the Business and Aerospace Building, Room 102.

Gary Hull currently teaches philosophy at Duke University. He formerly taught at Whittier College, the Claremont Graduate School and the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

For five years he taught a year-long undergraduate seminar on objectivism for the Ayn Rand Institute.

Hull has given lectures on Ayn Rand's philosophy at numerous

colleges, such as Harvard, Boston University, the University of Michigan and the University of Wisconsin. He has written articles for the Los Angeles Times, the Chicago Tribune, the Philadelphia Inquirer and The Intellectual Activist, among others.

Hull was for years the guest host for Leonard Peikoff's radio show "Philosophy: WhoNeeds It" and is coeditor of the recently published "The Ayn Rand Reader."

Hull's book, "The Ayn Rand Reader," will be for sale at the lecture.

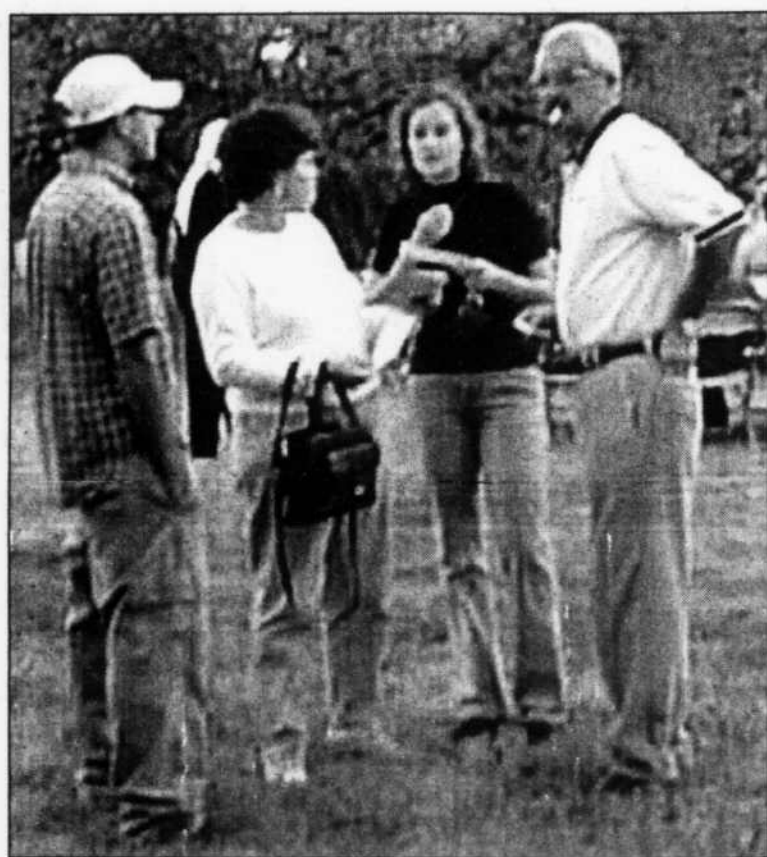
For more information on Ayn Rand and her philosophy, visit the Web site: www.aynrand.org ■

Creamed for a good cause



Photo by Derrick Wilson

Angie Perkey, a junior and member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority, gets nailed with pie.



Photos by
Angela White

(Top) Laura McGregor, a freshman pre-med major, visits with her family at the cookout on Saturday. (Bottom) Crystal Hamond and Daniel Brown, two MTSU students enjoy the cookout.



Ties that bind Prospective students, families visit campus

The annual MTSU Family Day and Fall Preview Day took place on campus Saturday. The Office of Student Development and Parents Association sponsored the day's activities, which included a Parents Association meeting, various tours, a cookout and a pep rally. The day concluded with the Blue Raiders football game against the University of Tennessee-Martin. Families were offered tours of the University Library, Phillips bookstore and the John Bragg Mass Communication building. ■

Graduation projects test students' independence

Michael Stoll
Knight Ridder Newspapers

These days, high-school seniors are writing books, baking wedding cakes, skydiving, and teaching themselves tae kwon do. They are doing volunteer work with disabled children and cutting hip-hop albums — anything that might be considered a stretch from their academic routine.

In a bid to encourage problem-solving skills and banish "senioritis" from the teen-age lexicon, most high schools in Pennsylvania this year are requiring students to complete a self-directed project before graduation.

"There's a growing trend of schools requiring projects," said John A. Lammel, director of high-school services for the National Association of Secondary School Principals. "They're looking for ways students can demonstrate their knowledge and skill, other than just in a test."

Maryland asks students to log 75 hours of volunteer time. Minnesota is requiring the Class of 2002 to fulfill independent-study projects in the 11th and 12th grades. Schools in New Jersey and

many other states require culminating projects.

The idea is to nurture creativity and independence, said Michael Kozup, director of curriculum and academic services for the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

"Hopefully," he said, "this will motivate unmotivated students."

Some Pennsylvania schools require students to spend a minimum number of hours on their independent efforts. The projects have included research papers, artistic or entrepreneurial endeavors and community service and have ranged from the esoteric to the practical.

One student became a certified Apple computer technician. Another cooked a multitiered wedding cake and explained how. A third student built a gun cabinet in wood shop. In Philadelphia, 90 students in a business and insurance technology program are writing papers relating to the sinking of the Titanic.

Tim Viola and Jesse Brown, seniors at Pennsylvania's Upper Darby High, have spent hundreds of hours apiece, and involved 15 students, in the making of a feature-length science-fiction film, "Shadows," set in the 24th century.

"I've been yelled at because I was up too late working on this," Viola said between digital-editing sessions in the school's television studio. "I don't know if we ever would have filmed it, but once we had the senior project, we gave ourselves a deadline and said, 'We've got to get this done.'"

Upper Darby's program has not been without its glitches in its first year. So many students volunteered to work at the county hospital next door that it had to turn some away. And three students will not get their diplomas in June because they failed to meet an October project deadline and must complete summer school to graduate.

While some students have welcomed the chance to take risks and do things they would not otherwise have done, others have a different view.

"I thought it was pointless," said Alena Palenichka, 18, who volunteered at the hospital. "We could be doing another class that would help us more with our future. I probably would have gotten a job, and been paid for what I did, or be at the beach, getting a tan and having a fun summer."

For many students, the projects mark the first time that they have

had to work independently. Some handle it better than others, said Jean Smith, an Upper Darby English teacher and graduation-project adviser.

"No teacher called them over the summer and said, 'How's it going?'" Smith said.

Jan Gallagher, president of the American School Counselors Association, said graduation projects can be found only in upper-echelon private schools in most states.

"What we've failed to do a lot of the time is help 1/8 students 3/8 with life skills," Gallagher said. "1/8 a culminating project 3/8 teaches them that they can do things outside the realm of just memorizing and academic studies."

Educators who were skeptical about the capacity of some students to plan activities by themselves say that the failure rate has been low and that some poorer students have shown verve when given the freedom to explore virtually any topic.

"They're high-school students," said Sam Karlin, principal of George Washington High in Philadelphia. "By now, they should be able to do a self-directed program, no matter what level they're operating on." ■

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1999

SPORTS

8 SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

Raiders win big, 70-14

Josh Ezzell
Staff Reporter

In a season where the MTSU football team has been the whipping boy for perennial powers Mississippi State, Arizona and Arkansas, MTSU finally got a chance to do some whipping of its own.

Saturday, MTSU romped Tennessee-Martin 70-14 at Floyd Stadium, snapping a five game losing streak.

"I really enjoyed seeing our offense and defense click," head coach Andy McCollum said. "I'm proud of all of them. The team could've folded anytime this year, but the kids keep fighting for this university. It says a lot about the character of the team."

The contest was never close. The Raiders blitzed the Skyhawks with 21 points in the first quarter.

"We came up here to play with Middle Tennessee, not to be a fatted cow," UTM head coach Jim Marshall said. "I wanted to give our team an opportunity to win."

Kendall Newson sparked the first drive with two catches for 24 yards. On his second catch of the drive, he became the school's single-season reception leader, breaking Sulecio Sanford's record set last season.

"We took a lot of frustrations out today," Newson said. "We felt that it was important to come out and make big plays. We accomplished what we wanted to accomplish."

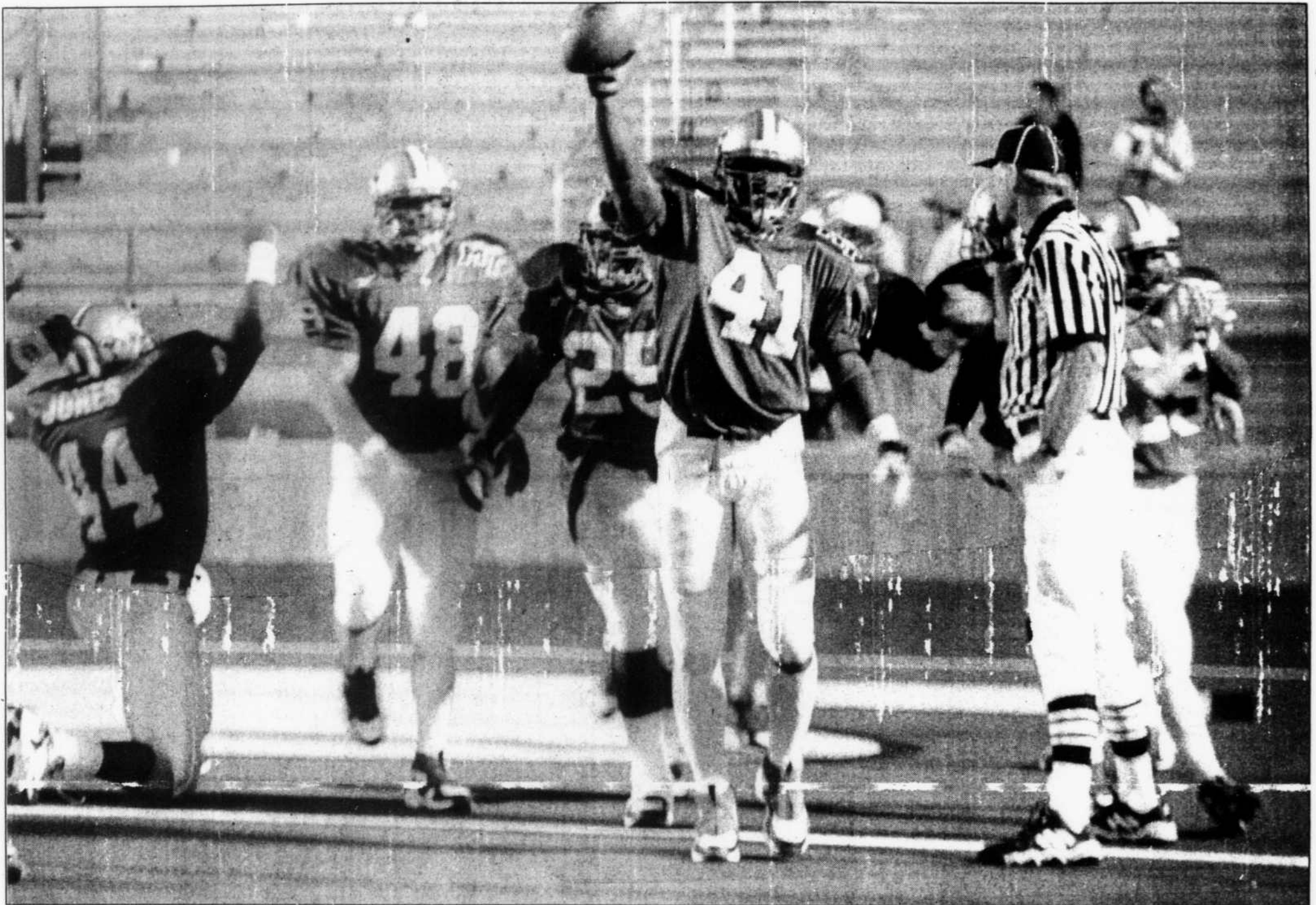
Dwone Hicks scored the first touchdown on a 2-yard plunge on the opening drive of the game. After UT-Martin failed to do anything on its opening drive, MTSU got the ball back and drove 91 yards in 2:01 for the second touchdown.

The key play of the drive was a 47 yard pass from Wes Counts to Jamison Palmer, which moved the Raiders from their 23 to the UTM 30. Two plays later, Counts scored on a 23-yard run, making the score 14-0.

Raider linebacker Charlie Walker stepped up on UTM's next possession, intercepting a pass and returning it 60 yards for a touchdown, making the score 21-0.

"Somebody tipped it, and I grabbed it," Walker said about the interception. "Our confidence level was up. We realized that we had to come together."

The Raiders poured it on thicker in the second quarter, scoring 28



Blue Raiders celebrate after a big play Saturday night against UT-Martin.

Photo by Robin Wallace

points en route to a 49-0 halftime lead.

The next drive took only nine plays and lasted only 2:40. Wes Counts completed two passes to Tyrone Calico for 30 yards and one pass to Xavier Hatnot for 14 yards. Kelverrick Green capped the drive off with an 11-yard touchdown run, making the score 28-0.

"The offense finally came together," Green said. "It really helps us as a team when the offense plays well."

The Raiders got the ball back after a UTM punt and drove the ball 53 yards in nine plays for the fifth touchdown of the game. Counts completed two passes to Newson for 22 yards; one went for

a 5-yard touchdown.

Once again, UTM failed to move the ball after a Raider score. Hansford Johnson returned the punt 51 yards to the UTM 9-yard line. On the very next play, Green scored on a touchdown run.

The Raiders had great field position on their next possession, as Johnson returned a punt 20 yards to the UTM 44.

Hicks and Palmer led the Raiders on the drive, which was capped off by an 18-yard Palmer touchdown run, which made the score 49-0 going into halftime.

The Raiders fumbled on their first possession of the second half, but UTM failed to take advantage of it. On UTM's ensuing

possession, Kareem Bland intercepted a Danny Simms pass and returned it 61-yards for a touchdown, which made the score 56-0.

"The coaching staff made a good call; I just happened to be at the right place at the right time," Bland said about the interception. "The whole season we've known that we've needed to get the job done. Today we came out and did it."

The Raiders held UTM on the Skyhawks next possession, but the Raiders gave the ball back to UTM as Johnson fumbled on the punt return. UTM scored three plays later on a 19-yard pass from second string quarterback Simms

to Rory Redmond, which made the score 56-7 with 3:51 remaining in the third quarter. Simms replaced an injured Edward Robertson.

"Coach told me to just go out there and play with some confidence," Simms said. "We had an emergency when Edward (Robertson) went down and I just wanted to go out and help the team put some points on the board."

Dwone Hicks was a workhorse on the Raiders next drive, rushing seven times for 50 yards and a touchdown. Hicks had 104 yards and two touchdowns on 18 carries for the game.

"I like the way the team came together," Hicks said. "The linemen blocked their butts off

Coach told us to take it one game at a time, and that's what we did."

Coach McCollum was very pleased with Hicks' play.

"If we get a bunch of players like him, we'll be successful at this level," McCollum said.

Kareem Bland scored his second touchdown of the game at the 6:37 mark on a 4-yard fumble return of a Brice Lovan fumble.

UTM added a touchdown on the last play of the game on a 3-yard pass from Simms to Deundre Greer, making the final score 70-14.

The Raiders face Central Florida Saturday at 6 p.m. at Floyd Stadium. ■

Men's basketball ready to make run at OVC title

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

It's go time for the MTSU men's basketball team. The regular season is just around the corner, and the Raiders hope to have a breakout year.

Coach Randy Wiel is back for his fourth season as head coach for the Raiders. Last season was an injury filled year that ended with a disappointing loss to Southeast Missouri. This season, however, the Raiders have all the major players returning and some great players coming in as transfers.

The depth of the Raider bench is going to be a tremendous asset for MTSU and their up tempo style of play. In the preseason, MTSU has shown a pressing defense much like the North Carolina and Arkansas styles. This allows them to capitalize on opponent mistakes.

"We want to force action with our press," Wiel said. "I think that's the way to play because you force the action."

The backcourt may currently be the deepest sector of the Raider lineup. At the point in the

preseason is Jonathan Whitworth. Whitworth brings big game experience from his days at Aquinas Junior College. The 5-foot-11 point guard is quick and good on defense. He is followed by Kenyata Chisholm. The freshman showed his inexperience against Belorussia, but Wiel expects him to grow behind Whitworth.

"[Whitworth] is a true point guard, and Chisholm is going to be good, too," Wiel said. "Whitworth is a good defender, and I think he can be better. He gives up a lot of size, but makes up for it with hustle."

On the wings, Freddie Martinez returns along with Cedrick Wallace. Martinez was injured for a lot of last season and never really hit his stride. Wallace was inconsistent without help in the backcourt.

This year, however, MTSU has two new players that will more than pull their own weight. First is newcomer newcomer Ron McKnight, from Fayetteville, N.C. He is 6 feet 5 inches tall and looks to be a great athlete, and could also play point guard later in the year.

The other wing player is none other than Fernando Ortiz. Anyone

that kept up with the international games this summer saw Ortiz playing for the Puerto Rican team. Not only did he play for them, but he scored 28 points against the United States' Dream Team. He was playing against the best players in the world and shined. Ortiz didn't disappoint against Belorussia, either. He scored 30 in the rout. The combination of Martinez and Ortiz is frightening for Raider opponents.

"He and Freddie are a little bit different. Freddie is a shooter and Fernando is a scorer," Wiel said. "Fernando can shoot, but he's not the shooter that Freddie is. They will give us some depth and scoring."

"They are going to be double trouble," Whitworth said.

The front court is basically the same for the next month. Lee Nasse will provide MTSU with size at 6 feet 10 inches, and Dale Thomas will provide bulk. Off the bench is a player from Finland, Jani Hiltunen. The 6 foot 7 inch forward is deadly as a shooter and will force other teams to guard him. His range is any where on one side of the half court



stripe. Due to NCAA rules, transfers cannot play their first game until

See BASKETBALL, page 9

A Legend of the Game

Golf Commentary

Stephen Heinan
Staff Reporter

Two weeks ago on a normal Monday I came home from class like I usually do and turned on the television to see what was going on in the world. What I saw shocked me.

PAYNE STEWART -1957-1999.

How could this happen? How could someone who was on top of the world and at complete peace with himself be taken away. I couldn't find the answer. I just stared at the tube in front of me trying to soak in what had occurred.

On that Monday, Stewart and five others boarded a Lear Jet in Orlando, Fla. with their destination being Houston, Texas. They never even came close to seeing the Lone Star state.

No one actually knows what went wrong on that jet. Cabin pressure was most likely lost, and all members on board probably froze to death before the plane found its final resting place in South Dakota, a catastrophe that shocked the sports world and the nation as a whole.

Payne Stewart was not afraid to die. His family and friends believed that in their hearts.

Stewart touched many around the world. He always had a quick wit and never thought twice about speaking his mind. He had friends everywhere, including many musicians and celebrities.

Payne Stewart was as flamboyant as he was determined. He had one of the smoothest and most effortless swings on the PGA Tour, and not once did it ever change.

Throughout a 19 year career on the Tour, Payne won 11 times, which included three major championships.

His trademark represented the type of guy he was. Payne Stewart always wore knickers. He transported himself back into the 1920s and 1930s one day and decided that he was not going to be like everyone else.

One could always recognize Payne on the golf course. Stewart was different. He added flavor to a sport that needed a twist.

The one tournament that will forever hold Payne Stewart as one of its

See GOLF, page 10

BASKETBALL

continued from page 8

one calnder year has passed since they entered school. This will keep perhaps the best post player on the bench until Dec. 20 against Tennessee Temple.

The man is Iiro Tenngren. The 6-foot-8 inch, 240 pound forward transferred from Vanderbilt last year and showed inspiring signs in the Blue-White game. Nosse should be much improved with help on his side. Ellious Swanigan is injured, but Luige Lopes and Johnny Cobb will fill in nicely until his return.

"We will have some bulk and depth inside," Wiel said. "Iiro is very athletic and will add some size."

The Raiders play two big non-conference games Dec. 5 and Dec. 10. The first will feature the Kansas Jayhawks coming to the Murphy Center, and the second will have the Raiders traveling to Knoxville to take on the Vols.

The first conference game is Dec. 2 against Eastern Illinois at the Murphy Center. To win the OVC, no team can lose more than one or two games, because of Murray State, who is perennially the conference king. This year, however, there could be a change in the power distribution. MTSU takes on Murray State on Jan. 27 and Feb. 24.

At the preseason conference meeting, the Raiders were picked to finish fourth in the conference behind Murray State, Austin Peay

1999-2000 Schedule Men's Basketball Schedule

Nov. 3	SPORTS TOURS (Exhibition)	7:00 PM
Nov. 17	SPORTS REACH (Exhibition)	7:00 PM
Nov. 22	TENNESSEE TEMPLE	7:00 PM
Nov. 27	MARIST	7:45 PM
Dec. 2	EASTERN ILLINOIS	7:45 PM
Dec. 5	KANSAS (Jayhawk Network)	1:00 PM
Dec. 10	at Tennessee	6:30 PM
Dec. 20	MARTIN METHODIST	7:00 PM
Dec. 23	at Central Florida	6:30 PM
Dec. 30	at Campbell	6:00 PM
Jan. 6	at Eastern Kentucky	7:45 PM
Jan. 8	at Morehead State	Noon
Jan. 10	SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	7:00 PM
Jan. 13	BELMONT	7:00 PM
Jan. 15	at Tennessee Tech	8:00 PM
Jan. 18	at Eastern Illinois	7:05 PM
Jan. 20	AUSTIN PEAY STATE	7:45 PM
Jan. 22	TENNESSEE STATE	7:45 PM
Jan. 27	at Murray State	7:30 PM
Jan. 29	at Tennessee-Martin	6:00 PM
Feb. 3	EASTERN KENTUCKY	7:45 PM
Feb. 5	MOREHEAD STATE (Fox Sports South)	7:45 PM
Feb. 8	at Southeast Missouri	7:30 PM
Feb. 12	TENNESSEE TECH	7:45 PM
Feb. 17	at Austin Peay State	7:45 PM
Feb. 19	at Tennessee State (Fox Sports South)	7:45 PM
Feb. 24	MURRAY STATE	7:45 PM
Feb. 26	TENNESSEE-MARTIN	7:45 PM
Feb. 29	OVC Tournament (first round)	TBA
Mar. 4-5	OVC Tournament (Semifinals & Finals)	TBA
	(Nashville, TN - Nashville Arena)	

*times listed are central

and Tennessee Tech.

"I think we are going to win a lot of games," Ortiz said. "We have

a great group of guys, and when we blend together, we are going to be tough to beat."

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Vols play like defending national champs against Fighting Irish

Tom Sharp
Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - Notre Dame's three previous comeback wins had Tennessee's full attention, so when the Fighting Irish made their move the Vols slammed the door. Hard.

Tennessee's 38-14 victory Saturday was Notre Dame's worst setback since a 35-10 loss to Texas A&M in the Cotton Bowl after the 1987 season.

Notre Dame (5-4), which came into the game at No. 24 in The Associated Press poll, saw its four-game winning streak snapped and dropped out of the rankings. Tennessee (7-1) moved up one spot to No. 3, behind Florida State and Virginia Tech, which moved up a notch after Penn State fell from No. 2 to No. 6 after losing to unranked Minnesota.

The Irish had pulled out all the stops, picking up a first down on a

fake field goal to set up one touchdown, recovering an onside kick and faking a punt. It just wasn't enough.

Notre Dame coach Bob Davie said the game "was played at a different speed by the team in orange."

The Vols led 31-7 late in the third quarter when Notre Dame's Joey Getherall scored from 11 yards out on an end-around to make it 31-14.

The Irish then recovered an onside kick at their own 46. They drove to a first down at the Tennessee 17, looking to repeat their dramatic comeback victories over Southern California, Oklahoma and Navy.

But on fourth-and-two at the 9, Tennessee defensive end Shaun Ellis disrupted the play and Eric Westmoreland stopped Tony Fisher for no gain.

"We were just mad that they scored," said Tennessee defensive end Will Overstreet. "They've got a

good offense and they got one on us. Right then we knew it was going to be a ballgame."

The Vols then put together a drive worthy of defending national champions. They drove 91 yards in 18 plays, taking nearly 10 minutes off the clock, to score on Tee Martin's 14-yard bootleg and dash any hopes Notre Dame had for a rally.

The drive included just two pass plays. The Vols converted two third downs and scored on a fourth-and-one.

"That last drive to go ahead and seal the game was an incredible effort," said Vols coach Phillip Fulmer.

During the game, Martin completed 18 of 32 passes for 196 yards and three touchdowns, plus the TD run. Travis Henry gained 132 yards on 16 carries and scored on a career-long 40-yarder in the third quarter.

Martin's touchdown passes covered 21 yards to Donte

Stallworth, 2 yards to Eric Parker and 43 yards to Leonard Scott.

The bomb to Scott came on Tennessee's second possession of the third quarter and covered more than 62 yards in the air. Scott, the NCAA 60-meter champion in track, caught the ball in the very back right corner of the end zone and toppled backwards out of it.

"We had three guys going deep. It puts them in a bad situation on who they're going to cover," Martin said. "They made a bad decision in covering everybody but the fastest guy in America. I almost threw my arm out trying to get him the ball."

Henry's 40-yard burst up the middle came two possessions later.

"Travis is great football player," Fulmer said. "He led us last year when it was toughest and when it was toughest tonight he was there again. It was a special effort on his part."

It was the Vols' most complete offensive game of the year. They had 413 yards of total offense and

Rugby

Staff Reports

MTSU came out ready to play and never looked back during the men's rugby team's 81-22 victory over Louisiana State University.

Adam Kibler opened up the scoring with a try that Jo Jo Deguira converted. Wes Barnes took a short pass from Lance Houia and scampered through the opposing back-line to put down a try under the posts.

LSU got on the board with a penalty kick later in the half, and scored a try and a conversion, but MTSU clearly dominated the game.

The defense was much better at shutting down opportunities, and tackling was much more aggressive. MTSU kept up the pressure on offense, which led to multiple scoring opportunities. Cayo Nicolay scored after some aggressive running; Evan Bone scored a try in the corner from a back-row movement.

Tomek Przeski scored near the end of the half as he broke several tackles to plunge over the line. Deguira converted two of the three tries and added one penalty kick. The score was 36-10 at halftime.

MTSU kept up the pressure in the second half. Nicolay scored a try; Chris Ryan scored a well-deserved try on a weak-side run off the back of a ruck. Captain Evan Bone scored two tries, giving him a hat trick on the day.

Deguira put down two tries of his own and made five conversions in the second half. Adam Anders put down the last try of the day after scampering around the LSU defense.

LSU scored a converted try from a mishandled pass midway through the half and scored a consolation try near the end of the game. Referee Jerry McLeomore ended the game a little early. ■

GOLF

continued from page 8

most beloved champions has to be none other than the U.S. Open.

Coming into 1999, Payne had won the Open once but had lost on the final day twice to Lee Janzen in 1993 at Baltasar and in 1998 at the Olympic Club.

In 1998, Stewart blew a four shot lead and finished with a final round of 74. He was determined to prove to his skeptics and his critics that he was not a choker and that the Open would once again be his.

Payne Stewart once again found himself in the final pairing on Sunday in the 1999 U.S. Open at Pinehurst No. 2 with Phil Mickelson. In one of the greatest battles in golfing history, Stewart and Mickelson went back and forth in a bout that made Rocky Balboa and Apollo Creed look like chumps.

With poise and nerves of steel, Stewart put on one of the finest

putting displays ever in an Open. He sank a crucial 25-foot par saving putt on the 16th hole. He then stuck his tee shot on the decisive par-3, 17th hole, within 5 feet of the hole.

However, the putt that defined his life came on the 18th hole when he ran up the hill and sank a 15-footer that gave him that second Open championship he so desperately wanted.

Payne Stewart became the last U.S. Open champion of the 20th century. His legacy in this tournament will live on for many more to come.

It's a shame that we'll never see that classic walk of Payne's coming up the 18th ever again. On the Friday after his death, friends, family, and golfers from around the world attended a memorial service in Orlando, Fla. to honor this blond haired, blue eyed one-of-a-kind champion.

Over the last year, many talked

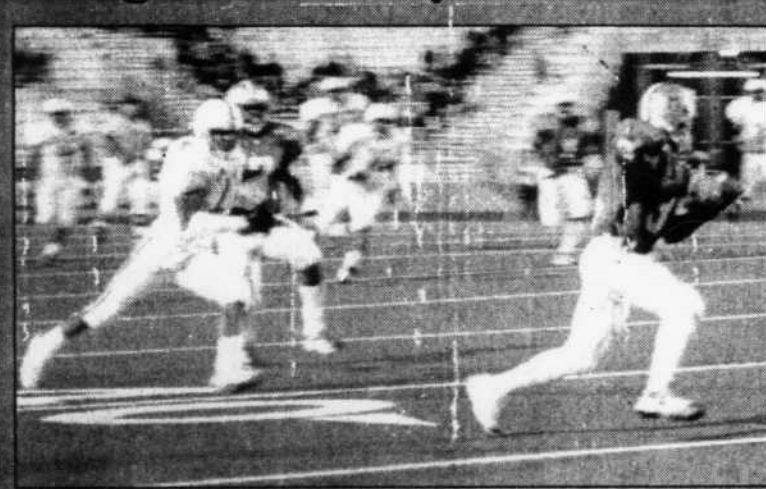
about how Stewart had found a new faith in himself and in God. He had become more mellow and completely at peace with his life. He was a devoted husband and a loving, caring father to his two children.

Vince Gill summed up how everyone was feeling when they played a song that he had written for Payne after he found out the tragic news of Stewart's death.

"Hey God, I Just Lost a Dear Old Friend" rang out the opening words as members of the congregation and the world remembered their friend Payne Stewart.

The game of golf lost one of its best players, and the world lost one of its most unique members. Payne Stewart will not be forgotten. Everytime a putt is made or a tournament is one, Payne Stewart will be looking down and smiling on the game that forever touched and changed his life. ■

Images of victory



Hansford Johnson evades UT-Martin defenders.

Photo by Robin Wallace

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