

THURSDAY, FEB. 11, 1999

# SIDELINES



Volume 74, No. 38

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

## Negotiations with Intermedia continue

**Brian Forrester**  
Staff Reporter

Intermedia and MTSU are in the midst of negotiations to settle on a contract for extended cable before Feb. 17.

Students could once again find themselves without extended cable, leaving them with only the basics. The difference this time, though, is that it will be for longer than a couple of hours. Efforts are being made by both MTSU and Intermedia to prevent this from happening. They are working diligently towards coming to an agreement somewhere in the middle before Feb. 17.

Intermedia has an annual contract with MTSU that has the

option for renewal with four one year terms. Joe Hugh, director of Procurement Services, said that the original contract, signed in January 1998. Intermedia included in its basic cable package in the original contract Channels 2 through 22, according to an Intermedia representative. Hugh added that the university has been receiving extended cable without charge for the past six months.

The university has chosen to provide a bulk package of basic cable. Jordan Fisher, representative for Intermedia in Murfreesboro, said, "The University wants students to pay for expanded service themselves."

Fisher has been trying to articulate a "bulk billing arrangement"

**Intermedia and MTSU have described several different aspects that need resolutions before there can be a contractual agreement reached:**

- ◆ Is the university going to be able to come up with the funds necessary to compensate an increase in rates from the previous contract?
- ◆ Is Intermedia capable of filtering the Housing department from receiving the extended cable without affecting other areas of campus?
- ◆ Once filtering the cable; is it possible for individual residents to receive extended channels if they accept to being billed accordingly by Intermedia?

for the contract with campus. He said that Intermedia and MTSU

officials were aware extended cable was being provided at no

charge for a long period of time.

Intermedia representatives said the reason why extended cable was knowingly provided at no charge was because, "We were hopeful that the university was able to find the funding."

Fisher said the issue is, "which service is the university willing to pay for."

But MTSU representatives say it is not that simple.

Intermedia feeds campus cable from one central location. Because Intermedia provides extended cable for no charge to educational programs, the negotiations focus on what the technological capabilities of Intermedia are.

Hugh said the reason Intermedia was providing extended cable to housing was

because they did not have the technology to filter the channels remotely. Once that capability was available, Intermedia pursued the aspect of charging the university for the extended cable access.

Buildings across campus that receive cable could be affected by Intermedia filtering the channels for the housing department. Buildings like the McWherter Learning Research Center, Bragg Mass Communication building and programs like the media services could possibly be affected by the negotiating process.

Hugh said that he originally believed the cable access was a housing concern but "it was much larger than housing. It became a

See CABLE, page 4

## Complaints lead to appointment of new homecoming director

**Courtney Ashford**  
Staff Reporter

A new homecoming director will be chosen as a result of complaints about the organization of past homecoming events, said Maggie Prugh, coordinator of student organizations and community service.

"This new director will choose a committee for change," said Prugh.

In years' past, many students have complained that homecoming should be more about football and giving individuals a chance to participate.

However, most feel that only those involved in a student organization have the opportunity to join in the festivities.

A new opportunity is here for those who wish to play a part in MTSU's annual event.

The new director will choose a committee to find ways to improve upon the traditional homecoming.

"This year should be a pivotal year for homecoming anyway," Prugh said.

MTSU's participation in division 1-A football should generate more support and publicity for the team, making this year an even bigger homecoming than before.

Because there is a new homecoming director, most complaints about homecoming should be stopped.

This position will give individuals more power to run and participate in homecoming.

"The individual will have opportunity to run it and opportunity to participate," said Prugh.

If anyone is interested in being considered for homecoming director, applications are available in the SGA office in KUC 208.

These applications are due back Monday, Feb. 22 at 4 p.m.■

## Feel the beat



Staff photo by Maiko Takasu

A member of the Village Drum and Dance Ensemble from Nashville performs at Tucker Theatre last Wednesday. The event was part of MTSU's celebration of African-American History Month.

## Financial Aid moves to Todd temporarily

**Becky Curris**  
Staff Reporter

Renovations with an estimated cost of \$90,000 are to begin in the financial aid space of the Cope Administration Building, so the department has packed its bags and temporarily moved. The renovations are expected to take eight weeks.

Staff members spent Monday and Tuesday of this week moving to a space in the Todd Library building. The entrance faces the Keathley University Center and has a financial aid sign posted on a rail.

According to David Hutton, the acting director of financial aid, the process of acquiring funds for the project has taken almost a year.

"The renovations are to make a large, more accessible space for the students," Hutton said. "We're trying to make it a little easier."

Two main walls will be knocked down to create one large space. The remodeling will enlarge the waiting area to almost two-and-a-half times its previous size.

Chairs with desktops will be available and the new waiting counter will have a drop down section that is accessible to disabled students. A banker/teller area where students can turn in verification forms and conduct other business in a private setting is a new feature to make the space more efficient. Four computer will be in the waiting room so students can conduct online searches for scholarships and other financial aid.

Hutton said the move had few interruptions, but he encourages students to be patient since the staff is still in the processing of unpacking. Hutton would also like to remind students that March 15 is the scholarship deadline for federal student aid.

Improvements for the fall will include making the financial aid department accessible through TRAM and the through the World Wide Web.■

## SGA considers dismissing parking meter tickets upon student appeals

**Brian Forrester**  
Staff Reporter

After receiving support from Parking Services, the Student Government Association will consider dismissing all parking meter tickets issued between Nov. 13 and Feb. 5, if a student chooses to appeal.

President Jason Lawson said that Parking Services will "stand by our decision" to dismiss the tickets issued at the meters on an individual basis.

In order for a ticket to be voided, it must be brought to the Student Government Association's office and have been issued between Nov. 13 and Feb. 5.

These tickets will be re-evaluated for dismissal due to unclear markings caused by the green curb in front of the parking meters.

"Parking Services has issued a statement making this an exception, and we fully intend to act upon it," said Lawson. "Based on this statement from Parking Services, I will ask the traffic court to re-hear the original seven tickets that were denied because the court thought that their hands were tied on the issue."

In addition to asking for the tickets to be voided if appealed, the SGA asked Parking Services to issue a blanket void of the 113 tickets in case any student does not come to the traffic court to appeal.

Lawson said, "I think that a blanket

void would be the proper course of action."

Deborah Roberts, director of financial administration, said that the traffic court "felt that this wasn't an issue that needed to result in a blanket void."

Manager of Parking Services Connie Hagberg said she discussed the blanket void with Roberts and they agreed to support the decision of the traffic court's voiding of tickets if they were appealed.

Roberts said, "We will work with the traffic court for the best solution to this issue."

Hagberg said students who want to appeal a ticket should take the appropriate action. The appropriate action,

See TICKETS, page 4

## New turf to be placed on Horace Jones Field

**Staff Reports**

This summer, MTSU will begin to put in a new artificial turf and the new Blue Raider Lightning logos on the Horace Jones Field, if the project, estimated at \$1.15 million approved by the state's Building Commission Thursday.

According to Athletic Director Lee Fowler the new turf will be installed in time for the fall football games. Although the cost estimated for the new turf is \$1.15 million, MTSU expects the cost to be lower.

According to Duane Stucky, vice president for finance and administration, the turf should have been replaced years ago.

On an average, turf lasts from

eight to 10 years and has a warranty of up to eight years, but the turf on Horace Jones Field has been used for 11 seasons.

Turf was chosen over grass, because natural grass could not stand up to the extensive use of the field by the Blue Raiders, Oakland and Riverdale High Schools and Central Middle School.

Stucky will be submitting a new contract for an annual payments by the county school board. In the past, these payments have paid for half the cost of the turf.

There is talk about new stadiums for the county high schools, so the annual cost may change, but as of now, the school system will be asked to pay five percent of the overall cost of the turf per year.■

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### SPORTS

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### FEATURES

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## ON CAMPUS

## LOOKING AHEAD

**FEB. 11**  
The Middle Tennessee Students of Objectivism is debating what "Romantic Love" is. All are invited to learn what novelist/philosopher Ayn Rand's ideas are on "Romantic Love." The meeting is at 7 p.m. in KUC 313. Those who might be interested may contact Luc Travers at 895-2312.

ARMS will have a meeting in the Mass Com bldg. at 5 p.m. in room 104. There will be a speaker from the placement center to discuss how to write a resume. For more information, contact Brandy Moore at 898-2068.

Phi Beta Lambda is going ice skating at the Nashville Centennial Sportsplex at 7:45 p.m. Call for meeting location and time to confirm that you will attend. For more information call Amy at 849-1313 or Melanie at 907-8996.

**FEB. 12**  
MTSU SMPTE chapter will present Mixin in 5.1 Multi-channel Surround Mike Sokol from EQ magazine will give the presentation at 4 p.m. in the Recording Industry Studio lab A, Mass Comm room 174. For more information, call Chris Nelson at 849-3649.

**FEB. 18**  
Student Publications Committee meeting will be held at 3:15 p.m. in the KUC 210. For more information call John DiVincenzo at 904-8251 (campus).

Hoot Gibson, past commander of several shuttle missions, will speak to students about "Applied Physics, Orbital Dynamics and Rocketry." The lecture will be held in BAS S128 at 4:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information call Janet McGee at 904-8495.

**ON GOING**  
Presbyterian Student Fellowship will host dinner and discussion on Wed at 6:30 p.m. located at the Fellowship House on 615 N Tennessee Blvd following the study there will be wallyball at 9 p.m. at

the Rec Center. For more information call Rich Zeigler at 893-1787 or Andrew Lee at 867-7370.

Raider Victory Fellowship will have weekly meetings and Bible sessions on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Corlew Hall room 719. They will meet on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Cummings Hall lobby and at 8 p.m. at Felder Hall room 208. Contact Ricky Walters at 317-4541.

Dragon's Guard School of Sword Fighting and Reenactment teaches swordfighting techniques and swordplay. The school meets for practice at 7 p.m. at Middle Tennessee Christian School gymnasium on Tuesdays and Fridays. For more information contact Hunter Jones at 896-4596 or e-mail at shadowh@bellsouth.net.

MTSU Fencing Club will have practices every Monday at 8:30 p.m. till 10:30 p.m. in the Aerobics Room located in the Rec Center. The practices are geared to students of all skill levels. Contact Michael "Hunter" Jones at 896-4596 or e-mail at shadowh@bellsouth.net.

The Kingwood Heights Church of Christ College Class will host monthly devotions every second Thursday at 6:30. Kingwood Heights Church is located at 115 East MTCS Road. Contact Chuck Mullins at 898-1086 or Alan Welken at 890-0940 for more information.

The Student Pagan Organization will have meetings Monday at 8 p.m. The meetings will take place on the 2nd floor of the KUC in the lounge area. For more information contact John Bryan at 898-3734.

The MTSU women's rugby team will have practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 till 7:30 p.m. The practices will be held at the Rec Center or the intramural fields if the weather is permitting. Contact Shannon Bustillos at 867-3592 or e-mail at sib2a@mtsu.edu.

Raider Victory Fellowship will hold Sunday services at 10 a.m. in the Murphy Center. Contact Ricky

Walters at 907-4079 for more information.

Lambda Organization meetings will be on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in room S816 of the Business Aerospace building. For more information go to [www.mtsu.edu/~mtLambda](http://www.mtsu.edu/~mtLambda).

**Attention May Graduates!**  
Graduating seniors will need to complete a 10 minute survey at the Graduation Fair that will be held Feb 15-19 in the Alumni Center. The times are as follows: Feb 15, 10-6 p.m./ Feb 16, 10-6 p.m./ Feb 17, 10-6 p.m./ Feb 18, 10-3 p.m./ Feb 19, 10-3 p.m. Surveys need to be completed at the Institutional Research table. For more information call Ruth Watson at 898-2854.

Campus Crusade for Christ will meet on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in KUC room 322. Those interested may contact Courtney Rushlow at 849-7899 for more information.

The "Right to Life" group of Tennessee will hold an outdoor revival concert in the KUC courtyard on March 5, 6. They are looking for music groups, religious organizations, gospel singers, etc. Contact Kevin Fisher at [faco0019@frank.mtsu.edu](mailto:faco0019@frank.mtsu.edu) or mail him at Box 6003.

Homecoming Director applications are now available in the SGA office located in the KUC room 208. The applications are due on Monday, Feb 22. Contact Maggie Prugh at 904-8418 for more information.

Alternative Spring Break applications are available in the KUC 306. The application deadline is Feb 12. The trip is going to Franklin, NC on March 14-18. The cost is \$100. For more information call Maggie Prugh at 904-8418.

"Up Till Dawn" is a fundraising event benefiting St. Jude's Hospital. Committee applications are due on Feb 9. They may be turned in at the KUC 306. Contact Office of Student Organizations and Community Service for more information at 904-8418.



## NATIONAL NEWS

## Unabomber hires new lawyer to seek second trial

**Montpelier, VT (AP)**—Unabomber Theodore J. Kaczynski believes he was unfairly coerced into pleading guilty and has hired a new lawyer to help him win a second trial, a Vermont law professor said Wednesday.

A new trial could lead to the death penalty for the anti-technology terrorist, who has been in a federal prison in Florence, Colo., since he was sentenced to life without parole.

"It was very important to me that Ted have a choice, the meaningful choice of going back to court," said Vermont Law School Professor Michael Mello, who has exchanged about 130 letters with Kaczynski since July.

Mello said he is trying to talk Kaczynski out of filing a motion for a new trial because of the risk of the death penalty. Kaczynski's guilty plea cut short his trial in Sacramento, Calif. He capitulated after his lawyers attempted against his wishes to portray him as mentally ill and the judge refused to let him represent himself.

## Pluto once again the farthest planet

**Washington (AP)**— Mere days after surviving attacks on its status as a planet, diminutive Pluto is resuming its traditional spot farthest from the sun.

Pluto was on course to cross the orbit of Neptune at 5:08 a.m. EST Thursday, NASA reported.

Normally the most distant planet from the sun, Pluto has a highly elliptical orbit that occasionally brings it inside the orbit of Neptune.

That last took place on Feb. 7, 1979, and since then Neptune had been the most distant planet.

Now Pluto once again becomes the farthest planet from the sun, where it will remain for 228 years. It takes Pluto 248 years to circle the sun.

Only last week the Paris-based International Astronomical Union, the world's leading astronomical organization, reaffirmed Pluto's standing as the smallest planet.

News reports had said Pluto might be demoted to a minor planet, or — worse — a trans-Neptunian Object.

"No proposal to change the status of Pluto as the ninth planet in the solar system has been made by any division, commission or working group of the IAU responsible for solar system science," said the 80-year-old organization, the final authority on astronomical matters.

## Judge orders American Airlines pilots to halt sickout

**Dallas (AP)**— A federal judge Wednesday ordered American Airlines pilots to end a sickout that grounded 2,500 flights, stranded 200,000 travelers and left businesses scrambling for cargo carriers.

U.S. District Judge Joe Kendall chided the pilots union and the airline in issuing a temporary restraining order, and told them to resume negotiating.

Kendall warned pilots they could be held in contempt of court if they do not return to work. He also placed some blame for the dispute on the airline.

The job action started Saturday after talks stalled over the issue of when pilots from Reno Air would be upgraded to the pay scale received by American's pilots.

American pilots are barred by federal law from striking over the issue, but are not obligated to accept overtime shifts, which are not uncommon in day-to-day airline operations.



## WORLD NEWS

## Amazon clearing on the rise, scientists say

**Sao Jose Dos Campos, Brazil (AP)**— The destruction of the Amazon rainforest is on the rise again after falling to a six-year low in 1997, Brazilian scientists said Wednesday.

Preliminary figures from the National Space Research Institute showed that 6,500 square miles of forest — an area larger than Connecticut — were destroyed last year, up from 5,100 square miles in 1997.

But the total devastation is certainly higher. The institute didn't count areas destroyed by forest fires, including a massive prairie fire in the northern state of Roraima last year that ravaged more than 4,200 square miles.

Thelma Krug, who heads the institute's earth observation department, said the data measures only the actual clearing of land by loggers, farmers and cattle ranchers.

Since 1978, Brazil's Amazon has shrunk by 205,439 square miles — more than 10 percent of its original size. Some scientists believe the destruction of the world's largest wilderness could accelerate global warming.

## Avalanches claim 10 lives in France

**Chamonix, France (AP)**— Rescue workers used dogs and sensors today in the search for survivors of avalanches that swallowed mountain chalets and killed at least 10 people near this popular ski resort.

A 12-year-old boy who spent hours trapped under the snow before being rescued early today lost both his parents in one avalanche, police said. The boy, whose identity was not made public, was being treated for hypothermia in a hospital.

At least two people were still missing a day after the avalanches roared down a mountainside between the Alpine villages of Le Tour and Montroc-le-Planet. The dead included four children, one a 4-year-old girl.

Twenty people were pulled from the snow alive, including two from the United States.

## In first days of new reign, cracks emerge in royal family unity

**Amman, Jordan (AP)**— The man who spent his life preparing to sit on the Hashemite throne was absent when the new monarch began greeting his subjects.

The death of King Hussein did more than shake up his nation. It rattled the royal family to the core.

At the center of the storm is Hussein's brother, 51-year-old Prince Hassan, who had been groomed as the royal heir for more than three decades. Then a quarrel over succession left Hassan out in the cold last month when the ailing Hussein picked his eldest son, Abdullah, to take the throne after his death.

After Hussein died Sunday and King Abdullah took power, the family publicly united for the funeral.

But Hassan's decision to stay away from the greeting ceremony Tuesday could point to cracks emerging. This has some people nervous after 46 years of steadfast rule under Hussein, although Hassan attended similar condolence ceremonies today.

"There is no room for any family rift because that will imperil national security and disturb the personal interests of the royal family," said former Cabinet minister Jamal Shaer.

To submit an announcement for On Campus, submit information in person at James Union Building Room 310, mail information to campus box 42 or fax information to 904-8487. Due to space constraints, priority will be given to submissions with earlier deadlines.

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- Feb. 17, 1999 between 9 and 11 AM at Tennessee State University. (Contact Career Development Office for details)
- Feb. 17, 1999 between 1 and 4 PM in the lobby of the Keathley University Center at Middle Tenn. State Univ.

Applications and info will be available at those times. AA/EOE. See us on-line at [www.grpolice.grand-rapids.mi.us](http://www.grpolice.grand-rapids.mi.us)

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# Three GOP senators reject impeachment as vote nears

David Espo  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Three Republican senators declared Wednesday they would vote to acquit President Clinton of both articles of impeachment, the clearest sign yet as the trial neared an end that the charges would fall far short of conviction and possibly even shy of a bare majority.

Sens. James Jeffords of Vermont, Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania and John Chafee of Rhode Island — moderate lawmakers from the Northeast — were the first Republicans to announce opposition to both articles, perjury and obstruction of justice in the Monica Lewinsky affair.

At the same time, a Democratic drive to censure Clinton sputtered under Republican opposition.

As a second day of closed-door deliberations ended, Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut said that if GOP leaders thwart efforts to force a censure vote, supporters might simply draft a declaration condemning the president's behavior and circulate it for senators to sign.

Jeffords said enough Republicans may

vote against the articles of impeachment to keep the final roll calls on Thursday or Friday short of even 51 votes, although he subsequently softened his prediction. "The pressure is coming on to get a majority," he said.

A spokesman for Majority Leader Trent Lott said there had been no attempt by the leadership to line up votes for conviction. Lott, R-Miss., issued a statement at mid-afternoon declaring that the evidence "shows that the president has committed perjury and obstructed justice. The only question left is, will the Senate vote to find him guilty of committing these high crimes."

Only a constitutional two-thirds — 67 votes in the 100-member Senate — could convict and oust Clinton, the second president in history to be put on trial.

Sen. Slade Gorton, R-Wash., has disclosed that he will vote to convict Clinton for obstruction but to acquit for perjury.

As the Senate plodded through a second day of closed-door deliberations, Jeffords said Clinton "gave misleading statements ... did obstruct justice, but his actions in this case do not reach the high standard of impeachment."

A short while later, Specter said the

charges "have not been proved" at the historic month-long trial now drawing to a close.

He said he wished Clinton, who refused to be questioned in writing or in person,

**"The facts and circumstances of this case are low and tawdry, but these same circumstances do not cause his offenses to rise to the level of impeachable acts."**

- Sen. James Jeffords

had submitted to a "firm examination" by lawyers in the case.

Chafee stepped to the microphones in late afternoon to say that when it came to obstruction of justice, "circumstantial

evidence in each of the cases is rebutted by direct evidence or by confusion."

With solid support among the Senate's 45 Democrats, the president has long been out of danger of conviction. Failure to deliver a simple majority for either article in the Senate, controlled by 55 Republicans, would be a stinging repudiation of the case that the GOP House voted to take to trial and its 13 prosecutor-congressmen argued to the senators.

Gorton said Tuesday night he will vote for Clinton's conviction on the charge of obstruction of justice but not on perjury. "I cannot will to my children and grandchildren the proposition that a president stands above the law and can systematically obstruct justice because both his polls and the Dow Jones index are high."

With Clinton's acquittal assured, Democrats continued their campaign for a formal vote to censure the president after the trial.

But Republican opposition seemed to be stiffening, and Specter said censure would violate the constitutional doctrine of separation of powers.

"There's been very little mention of censure in the closed-door deliberations,

said Sen. Bill Frist, R-Tenn. "To me, the push for censure is losing steam."

Democratic leader Tom Daschle is hoping for at least a procedural vote before lawmakers adjourn for a week-long vacation, a roll call that would allow Democrats to go on record condemning the president's behavior while acquitting him at his trial.

With Chief Justice William Rehnquist presiding, the Senate spent a second day behind closed doors, senators taking turns delivering their final statements. By day's end, an estimated 55 senators had spoken, and prospects for a final vote on Thursday were dimming.

Inside the shuttered Senate chamber, Republicans and Democrats took turns laying out their reasoning on the case. "I think people were reaching for history, given the occasion," said Democratic Sen. Charles Schumer.

Other senators said there was very little give and take, mostly individual senators speaking from a lectern in the well of the Senate.

"The drama is going to be whether obstruction gets 50 votes or not. It's going to be neck and neck," Schumer predicted.

See IMPEACHMENT, page 5

## Police Beat

All information is based on official reports received from the MTSU Public Safety department. All charges are preliminary pending on the review by proper authorities. No statement of guilt should be inferred or implied until incidences have gone through proper legal procedure.

Jan 20

A student reported that their car had been stolen, but later found that it had been borrowed by a friend.

A female reported that she had a possible back injury at the KUC Grill loading dock. She was transported by RCAS.

A child fell at the Pittard Campus School and was transported by RCAS.

A student resident from Jones Hall reported receiving obscene phone calls.

A resident student from Lyon Hall reported receiving harassing phone calls.

Jan 21

A female was assaulted in the Greenhouse Lot by an individual and taken to Health Services.

A female fell and felt faint at the Boutwell Dramatic Arts building. She was transported by RCAS.

Ron Howard, resident of Schardt Hall, was arrested for a warrant.

A student tried to steal a magazine from the University Library. Public Safety responded and seized a substance from Lyon Hall. Housing will handle the situation.

Jan 22

A student reported that his wallet and pager had been stolen from the Mens Locker room in the Recreational Center.

Jan 24

Several callers notified Public Safety of a person who had broken out a window and threatened suicide.

Public Safety responded to two females at East Main and Tennessee Blvd. The two females reported that they had been followed by another motorist.

Jan 25

Robert Lee Wildon was arrested for driving with a revoked drivers license at Tennessee Blvd. and JUB street.

Jan 26

Public Safety responded to a call from Abernathy Loop saying that tires had been slashed on a vehicle.

A cell phone was reported to have been stolen last week from Schardt Hall parking lot.

An elderly female fell and cut her chin at the entrance to the track at the student recreational center. The female was transported to MTMC.

A wallet was reported to have been stolen from the Rec Center.

Jan 27

A person reported that their vehicle was hit and run on Womack street.

A shreader was reported missing from Jones hall room 267. There was no evidence of a forceful entry into the room.

## Medical examiner says there is no need to exhume Tammy Wynette's body

NASHVILLE (AP)— Country singer Tammy Wynette died from natural causes and there is no reason to exhume her body for an autopsy, Nashville Medical Examiner Bruce Levy said Wednesday.

Three of Wynette's daughters — Jackie Daly, Tina Jones and Georgette Jones — asked Levy to review the case. They say an autopsy would remove any doubts they have about the cause of her death on April 6.

Levy said he spoke with Wynette's personal physician, Dr. Wallis Marsh, and reviewed her medical records and has no doubt the cause of death was blood clots in her lungs.

"Based upon my review of Miss

Wynette's medical history, she was terminally ill and her death was due to natural causes," Levy said at a news conference.

"She was suffering from multiple medical problems, primary of which were problems with blood clots. So I believe that Doctor Marsh's opinion that her death was due to blood clots is true."

Wynette's body was found by her husband-manager George Richey in their Nashville home. Marsh flew in from Pittsburgh that evening and pronounced her dead. No autopsy was performed.

Wynette's daughters met with Levy on Monday and asked him to press the district attorney to go to court and seek an exhumation and

autopsy.

Deputy District Attorney Tom Thurman said that is unlikely now.

"We would have to be confident there was proof that death was by felonious cause," he said.

Dan Warlick, the daughters' lawyer, said they are disappointed but would continue pushing for an autopsy. Levy has agreed to meet with the women in two or three weeks and listen to any new evidence they might have, he said.

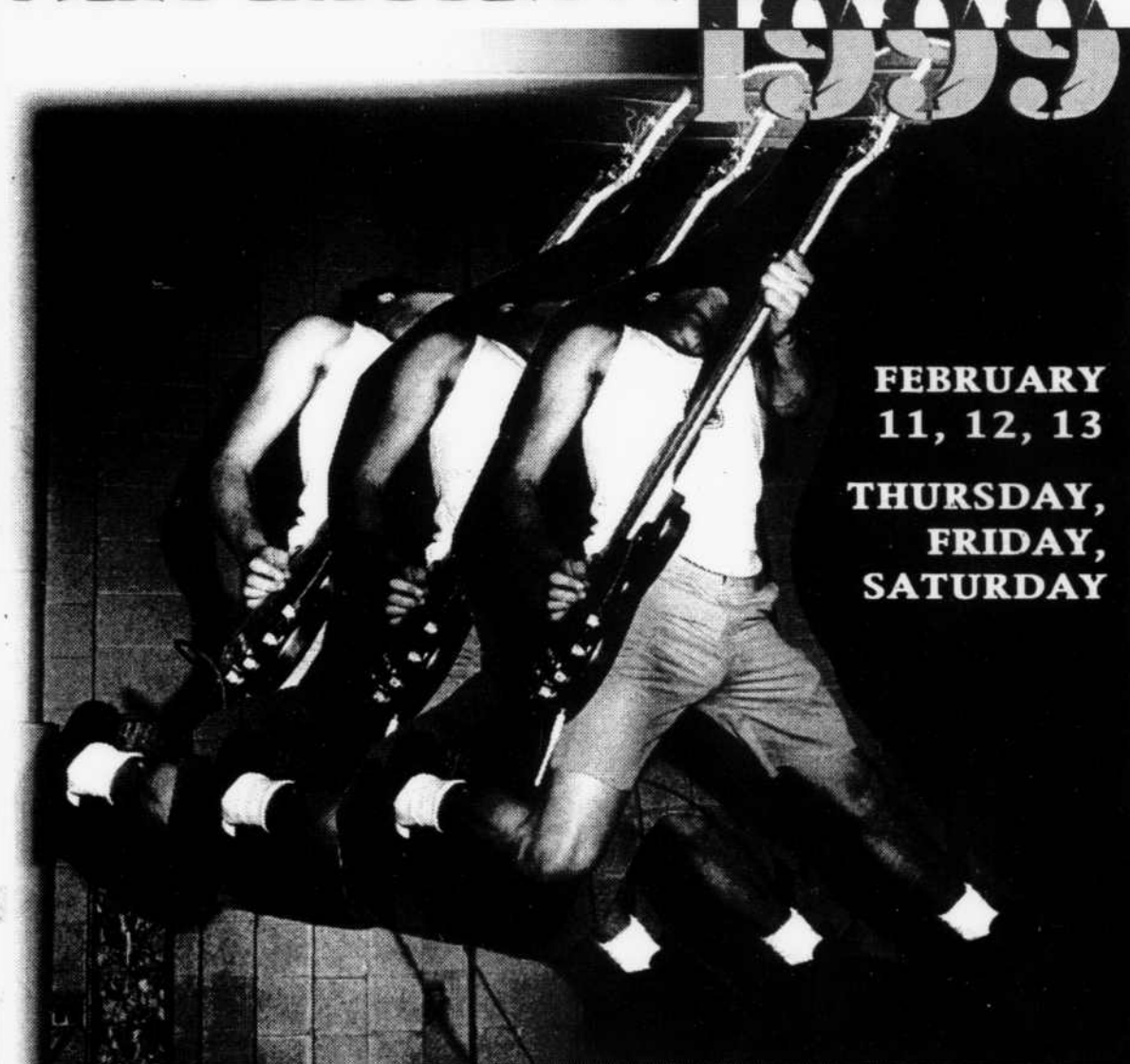
"I want to make it clear that Doctor Levy hasn't cut this off completely," he said.

Warlick also said the daughters might file a wrongful death lawsuit, but declined to say who

See WYNETTE, page 5

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## Officers say Altimeter had been fixed twice before accident

Estes Thompson  
Associated Press

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — A Marine jet that sliced through an Italian ski gondola cable, killing 20 people, violated the mission's speed limit during almost all of the flight, a witness testified Wednesday.

Chief Warrant Officer Jeffrey Poncelet said his analysis of tapes from the EA-6B Prowler flown by Capt. Richard Ashby showed that 89 percent of the flight was faster than the speed limit of 517 mph. The jet was going more than 575 mph for 58 percent of the flight, he said.

Prosecutors have said the radar-jamming jet struck the ski gondola cable at 621 mph. Poncelet's testimony supported their claim that Ashby should have known he was flying too fast and violating an altitude restriction of 1,000 feet. The cable was hit at about 360 feet.

Ashby, 31, of Mission Viejo, Calif., is being court-martialed on 20 counts of involuntary manslaughter, and other offenses. He could get more than 200 years in prison.

Also Wednesday, two witnesses testified that the radar altimeter on the jet malfunctioned on

two earlier flights but was fixed.

Maintenance officer Lt. Col. Gary Eugene Slyman said that when Ashby pilot signed out the EA-6B Prowler on Feb. 3, 1998, the jet had a missing screw and an erratic air-conditioner, but nothing serious enough to ground it.

"This airplane was a solid player for us," Slyman said. "This plane had flown the most sorties and most hours of any airplane we had."

Slyman said that when he flew the plane on an earlier mission, the altimeter alarm — which is supposed to go off when the plane dips below a preset altitude — sounded at 25,000 feet instead of at the lower elevation it was set for. He said he reset the alarm and it corrected itself.

Capt. Scott Roys testified the radar altimeter stuck when he was in the same jet another time, but he and the pilot fixed it.

After the jet hit the cable, Ashby filed a complaint about the radar altimeter, Slyman said. Slyman didn't elaborate on the nature of the problem Ashby cited.

Defense attorneys also contend the ski area in the Alps was not on Ashby's map.

The Prowler's navigator, Capt. Joseph Schweitzer, 31, of Westbury, N.Y., is awaiting trial next month.

## Despite mediator's optimism, little progress at Kosovo talks

Dusan Stojanovic  
Associated Press

RAMBOUILLET, France — Ethnic Albanian rebels and rival Serbians today demanded several important changes today to a U.S.-sponsored plan to bring peace to Kosovo.

The delegations remained far from any agreement after three days of talks at the 14th century French chateau where they are meeting.

Serb-led Yugoslavia demands a formal pledge to keep the country's borders intact, and Albanian negotiators seek a referendum on independence, an immediate cease-fire and NATO guarantees for the eventual interim settlement.

In Belgrade, the Yugoslav capital, Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic said today all those taking part in the peace talks — international mediators

as well as the delegations — must pledge that Kosovo will remain part of Yugoslavia. It is the only way, he said, to ensure a "successful solution" to the conflict in the southern Serbian province.

For its part, the Kosovo Liberation Army said it would not give up its battle for independence for the province, where more than 2,000 people have died in a year of fighting.

In a statement distributed to the ethnic Albanian media in Kosovo, the KLA also demanded a formal cease-fire be signed with the Serb side and guaranteed by a third party.

The Serbian government considers the KLA terrorists and has refused to sign a cease-fire because that would amount to a de facto recognition of the group.

Also today, Serb authorities released the bodies of 40 ethnic Albanians slain in January in Racak, a village in southern Kosovo. The killings brought new

threats of NATO airstrikes and intensified diplomacy and led to the current peace talks.

The bodies have remained unburied because of a struggle between Serbs trying to avoid the spectacle of a mass funeral and ethnic Albanian politicians seeking to draw attention to what they say was a Serb atrocity.

In a sign that the Kosovo talks may be reaching a crucial stage, French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine and his British counterpart Robin Cook were expected back in Rambouillet on Thursday, as is Serbian President Milan Milutinovic.

Despite claims of progress Tuesday by chief U.S. mediator Christopher Hill, sources close to the delegations said the two sides have not agreed on a single word of the peace plan. Progress, in the view of the mediators, appears to mean the delegations are actively studying the text of the proposal.

### TICKETS

continued from page 1

Parking Services believes, is up to the student to appeal with the SGA traffic court.

Roberts said that she will discuss further with the traffic court about the blanket void as an option. The blanket void is still a possibility for handling the situation.

However, the only thing agreed on from both parties is that if a student appeals the ticket and meets the criteria, then the ticket

will be dismissed on an individual basis. This agreement is based on the belief of both parties that this is an exception to the present criteria set in place to dismiss a ticket.

Lawson believes that another problem appears to be that some students wanted a metered spot for unloading, quick stops by their rooms or picking someone up. Other students would rather have that space become a permanent open spot for students.

"Unfortunately, since the installation of the meters, there have been several complaints,"

Lawson said.

The SGA plans to visit residential students at a hall meeting and talk with the United Residence Hall Association to determine if students wish the meters to stay or be removed. Lawson said that he is planning an effort to assess whether students want the meters.

He said that the idea for the meters came from students at a hall meeting last semester.

It appears that there is an outcry against the meters now said Lawson.

### CABLE

continued from page 1

campus issue."

There are several issues which must be addressed before an agreement can be reached.

"We are going to have to try and find the best approach," Fitch said.

He added that it seems very probable that Intermedia would be capable of individual access for students. If individual access was available to students, it would cost approximately \$20.

Cable cost housing \$4.50 for every access point available for residence halls. Intermedia has added new channels to its service, which MTSU housing has received for free.

With a new contract these channels would add another \$4.50 to the current cost. This would make the new total \$9 for every access point. This increase is too much for the housing department to handle at one time.

Tom Burke, dean of Student Life, said that the housing department is in the middle of a multi-

million dollar renovation project that ultimately comes out of the students' pockets. There is tentatively set a 4 percent increase in the cost of campus residency next fall because of the cost of renovations according to Burke.

If the housing department chose to accept Intermedia's increase in rate and sign a contract before Feb. 17, the students' expenses to live in a dorm next fall would be potentially five to six percent greater than this spring.

At this stage of negotiations there are two main points of concern: Intermedia must evaluate what it is capable of providing to the university, including options of service; and the university must negotiate between departments and Intermedia on an agreed package service and price.

Both negotiating parties are aware of the Feb. 17 deadline, but they agree that it is flexible.

Students may find extended cable on Feb. 18, but if that is the case, then a new deadline will have been issued to allow more time for negotiations. Intermedia said that they are "trying diligently to resolve the situation."

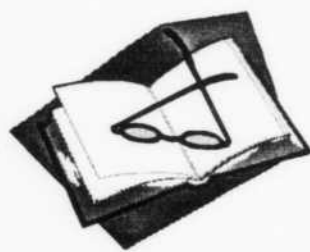
## Reach for the Pinnacle Student Success Workshops Five-Day Study Plan

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### \*\*\* SCHOLARSHIP \*\*\*

The Amy Spain Memorial Scholarship, in the amount of \$500, will be awarded this spring for the first time to a graduating senior planning on attending law school this fall. Amy Spain was an alumni of Middle Tennessee State University and an active Alpha Delta Pi from 1982-1986. Upon completion of her undergraduate degree she went on to graduate with honors from the University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. Amy obtained a position as an Assistant United States Attorney in Memphis. She held this position until a tragic automobile accident ended her exceptional life.

To continue Amy's legacy, some of her friends and family have established this scholarship. The Memorial Fund will be used to further the education of an MTSU Greek female who plans to attend Law School. Candidates must demonstrate the leadership, dedication, commitment, and integrity which characterized and described Amy.

If you are interested in applying for this scholarship, please obtain an application from Ouida Plaisance, Vice President for Student Affairs Office, Keathley University Center Room 212. Deadline for applications is March 12, 1999.

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# Smoker awarded \$50 million in damages from cigarette maker

Kim Curtis  
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A jury awarded a former three-pack-a-day smoker \$50 million in punitive damages Wednesday in her lawsuit against a tobacco company, bringing the total award to \$51.5 million.

A day earlier, the jury ordered Philip Morris Cos. to pay \$15 million in compensatory damages to Patricia Henley to cover medical expenses, pain and suffering.

"I feel wonderful," said Henley, who pledged to donate any money she receives to educate youngsters about the dangers of smoking. "This is a great day for the children."

Henley, 53, of Los Angeles, was diagnosed last year with inoperable lung cancer.

She alleged the tobacco

company hooked her on cigarettes when she was 15 and misled her about the dangers.

Her cancer is in remission after chemotherapy and radiation treatment.

Before jurors deliberated for four hours Wednesday, Henley's attorney told them that punitive damages were the only way to get the attention of a \$3.5 billion company.

Madelyn Chaber asked the jury to award her client \$15 million in punitive damages.

William Ohlemeyer, who represents the tobacco company, told the jury that the tobacco company has been punished enough.

"There is nothing you can do now in this lawsuit that sends a clearer message," he said.

Two of the 12 jurors, including jury foreman George Loudis, voted against awarding the \$50 million

in punitive damages.

"Our decision was based on a lot of evidence, the suppression of known facts by Philip Morris," Loudis said. "They had a lot of information they just didn't give out."

The case is California's first since the repeal of a 1987 state law that banned such lawsuits under the notion that the risks of smoking were well known. Dozens of cases pending at the time were dismissed.

In 1997, then-state Attorney General Dan Lungren ended justice officials in other states in suing the tobacco industry, and the Legislature responded to criticism of the ban by repealing it.

The tobacco industry came to a \$206 billion legal settlement with states in November, but cigarette makers still face class action suits and individual suits by smokers.

However, jury awards in such

cases are rare.

A Florida appeals court earlier this year overturned a Jacksonville jury's \$1 million judgment for the family of a dead smoker against Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp.

In 1996, another Jacksonville jury awarded \$750,000 to a man who blamed his lung cancer on smoking.

Last June, an appeals court threw out the verdict, saying the plaintiff waited too long after he fell ill to sue and that a 1969 federal law bars lawsuits from claiming the wording of cigarette warning labels is inadequate.

The first award against a tobacco company in a liability case was won in 1988 by the family of Rose Cipollone of New Jersey.

But that \$400,000 verdict was overturned on appeal, and the nine-year lawsuit was dropped when the family could no longer afford to continue. ■

WYNETTE  
continued from page 3

they would name.

The daughters insist their request is not motivated by money. Wynette left the bulk of her estate to Richey, her fifth husband, but her will stipulates it be divided among her four children and his two children when he dies. Anyone who challenges the terms gets nothing.

The daughters say they are suspicious because the police report said the only drugs Wynette was taking at the time of her death were antibiotics. They say they knew she was on various prescribed pain medications, including Stadol, Valium, and Demerol.

Warlick said he has sent a letter to the Drug Enforcement Administration asking the agency to investigate what Wynette was prescribed, how much she took and where it came from.

Marsh has said leaving the list of narcotics off the police report was an oversight; he thought

Wynette's personal nurse already had informed authorities.

The daughters also questioned why Marsh had to be flown in to pronounce their mother dead.

Levy said waiting for Marsh to arrive from Pittsburgh to pronounce Wynette dead was "unusual" but understandable when Wynette's celebrity and desire for privacy are taken into account.

"I think Miss Wynette preferred to keep a lot of information about her specific medical condition private," he said.

"At the time of Miss Wynette's death, she was and had been treated for quite a while with narcotic medication for pain relief and comfort."

Wynette, who was 55 when she died, had 20 No. 1 hits including "Stand By Your Man." She endured myriad health problems for much of her life, including painful intestinal scarring from several surgeries.

Telephone messages for Richey and his attorney Edwin Pyle were not returned Wednesday. ■

IMPEACHMENT  
continued from page 3

A member of the GOP leaders, Sen. Connie Mack of Florida, said "I wouldn't be surprised" if other Republicans join the ranks of those voting for acquittal on both counts.

He declined to speculate, but Maine's Sen. Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins, both of whom are among the more moderate Republicans, have yet to declare their intentions.

Chafee, Jeffords and Specter are among the most moderate Republicans in the Senate, and had

long been viewed as possible votes for acquittal.

"The facts and circumstances of this case are low and tawdry, but these same circumstances do not, in my opinion, cause his offenses to rise to the level of impeachable acts," Jeffords said.

Specter said that under Scottish law, three verdicts are possible: guilty, not guilty or not proved. He opted for the third.

Specter was critical of the trial itself, saying only "partial justice" had been served since House prosecutors were hampered by the Senate's unwillingness to call

witnesses.

In an interview with CNN, Jeffords said six to seven Republicans might well vote to acquit on both counts, and possibly as many as 12. He offered no elaboration. But a short while later, he told The Associated Press his earlier estimates may have been too high.

"It is diminishing," he said. "The pressure is coming on to get a majority," he added, although he did not identify the source of the pressure. Senators were well aware of the precedent-setting nature of the moment.

Jeffords said he was concerned that conviction of this president "may establish a low threshold that would make every president subject to removal for the slightest indiscretion or that a vote to convict may imperil every president who faces a Congress controlled by an opposing party."

Clinton said that by acquitting Clinton, "the republic and its institutions will be weakened."

One exception or excuse will lead to another, the critics will say — or in violation of the law — will be established. ■

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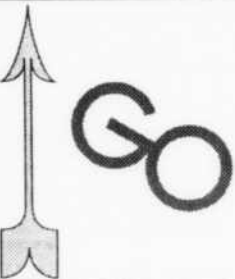
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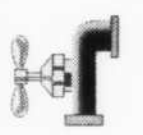


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# OPINIONS

"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

6 ■ SIDELINES

## Editorial

### Dorm residents lose in cable negotiations

Campus residents again can worry about turning on their televisions and finding out a majority of their cable channels are gone.

A deal has yet to be completed between the university and Intermedia to keep the cable intact for the future — or for the rest of the semester.

The two powerful entities should just stop bickering over the contract and make a definite decision. The negotiations should be handled swiftly with changes coming in the summer — when the least amount of students would be affected.

Cutting cable without much notice in the middle of the semester accomplishes nothing but angering students.

When the university and Intermedia fight they have nothing to lose. Intermedia still has a monopoly in Murfreesboro, and dropping MTSU will barely shift the bottom line — if it does at all.

The university won't lose much either. They still will have more people than needed begging for a dorm room every semester.

It's the students who get the raw end of the deal. They paid for cable, and they should get cable.

When students sign a contract to remain in housing for a year, they have to live up to their end of the bargain by staying put for both semesters.

The housing office should be held to the same standards. If students are told expanded basic cable television is offered all year, then it must be available all year.

If Intermedia and university officials decide that expanded basic cable channels should be removed from dorms, they should at least offer students the opportunity to buy their own cable.

Dorm residents also should be given the chance to vote for expanded basic cable in the Spring Student Government Association elections. Students will already be paying more money next year, in part because of dorm renovation fees. One more percent won't matter much.

The sad fact is that most dorm residents will care more about the possible removal of cable than they will care about the extensive planned dorm renovations. ■

## Black History Month misleading by 'his story'

Joel Randall  
Rutgers University

Ah, February. Cold winter days, but it's Black History Month so it's all good, right? Sure. Depending on whom you ask.

Most Black people will say the time-honored tradition of February's observance of Black accomplishments in America is right on. Some, however, may scoff at the month-long holiday, saying it is inadequate.

This month reminds me of a familiar joke comedian Chris Rock delivered in his HBO special, "Bring the Pain." Rock told of his high school days during Black History Month when he was bombarded with lessons about Martin Luther King Jr. so often that it was the answer he gave for every question the teacher asked.

"What's the capital of Zaire?"

"Martin Luther King!"

"Can you tell me the name of the woman who would not leave her seat on the bus?"

"Oooh, that's hard Are you sure it was a woman? Oh, I know - MARTINA Luther King!"

As funny as Rock's Emmy-winning dialogue was, it rang all-too-true of the distorted knowledge we as Blacks have of ourselves.

King is the undisputed champion of our Black History Month lessons. Every Black person in this country since King's assassination in 1968 has been taught to know of his life. Television specials, school history chapters, corporate endorsements and a national holiday have helped to impress King's legacy on the American psyche forever.

Ever wonder why King has been pumped up so thoroughly and not Malcolm X or Marcus Garvey or Huey P. Newton or Nat Turner? There is a very particular reason why. King, with his Christian principles and non-violence-in-the-face-of-violence movement, is the role model this establishment wants us to embrace — and has made us embrace by validating him nationally. Our leaders like Malcolm X and Nat Turner are demonized or left out of our history because they taught us to resist and fight injustice.

See the control?

If not, let me break it down further because it goes much deeper. Do the

knowledge to Black History Month. The observance began in 1926 as Negro History Week. It was the brainchild of a noted Black scholar and historian named Carter G. Woodson, who chose February for the initial observance because it included the birthdays of Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln. (Abraham Lincoln?) The

Negroes, then niggers, then, in mockery of our hairstyles, Afro-Americans. Later, it was African Americans. Now it's Blacks. And each time, Black people have adopted the labels given us by this establishment.

Our current Black History Month lessons don't teach us about our true history. They only teach us that we are the descendants of slaves.

Our true history lies east across the Atlantic Ocean, long before the United States was even thought of. Hannibal was one of the world's most ingenious war generals, marching thousands of his troops on elephants through the Alps to invade and defeat Rome. Mansa Musa was the sultan of Mali, one of the richest empires in history. Timbuktu was a fabulous learning center that had colleges and universities in which scholars from all over the Eastern Hemisphere went to study.

Those are just samples of the richness of our African history.

So this Black History Month, while you are reminiscing on the great accomplishments of King, Charles Drew, Frederick Douglas, Benjamin Banneker and the like, remember Africa. Our true history. Otherwise, it's not Black history - it's his story. ■



observance became known as Black History Week during the early 1970s and was finally established as Black History Month in 1976.

When this establishment dubbed us Negroes, the final stage of our severance from Africa was completed. The process of severing us from our original religion, language and culture had been completed long before through our enslavement, and our memory of Africa was completely washed away. By calling us Negroes, we would no longer be able to even relate to Africa. The word, when used to describe a people, does not transcend American shores. First they called us Coloreds, then

### COLLEGE PRESS



## Principle vs. People: the first daughter should be off limits

Myriam Marquez  
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

In this era of public obsession over others' private failings, of media hype about politicians going Hollywood, it was inevitable to find the first daughter gracing People magazine's cover.

Headlined "Grace under Fire," the story uncovers nothing new, simply exposing the love of a mother and daughter who happen to be caught in the painful maelstrom of unsolicited victimhood caused by a husband, a father, a president who told us once, "I feel your pain."

Hillary Clinton married the man, chose to stay with him countless times after he strayed, chose to campaign against the right-wing conspirators she blames for the president's own irresponsible behavior. The first lady, having taken a public-policy role in Bill Clinton's administration long ago, is a public figure - no question.

But Chelsea? Mother, journalist. Mother, journalist.

It's as if there's an angel on one shoulder and a devil on the other sending conflicting messages.

"Leave her alone," the mother angel says. "She has enough grief to handle, what with Her Father's Scandal. She didn't ask for any of this. She's a bright kid who never created one whiff of scandal that's newsworthy. Let her be!"

The journalist devil hisses: "She's fair game. Who walked out to Air Force One holding Mommy's and Daddy's hands and sporting a big smile for the cameras the day after her father finally admitted he hadn't come clean to the American people about his fling with that Monica woman? She did! She did! Get her. Get her."

Mother, journalist, rock, paper, scissors. Mother beats out journalist on this one.

It makes me ill to see People psychoanalyzing "the deep bond of love that sustains the Clinton women through their painful family ordeal."

It's a gratuitous puff piece that adds nothing to the core issue facing the nation: Is the president's lying to the American people about his fling with a former White House intern worthy of eviction from the White House?

The issue isn't about the president lying to a grand jury or in a deposition in the defunct Paula Jones sexual-harassment case. Clinton used legalisms to wiggle out of those.

Besides, there has been plenty of "news" about hypocritical Republican members of Congress having affairs, lying in divorce proceedings, lying in civil court about their financial circumstances and so on to put The Scandal into perspective.

All those righteous hypocrites deserved to be outed by pornographer Larry Flynt. An eye for an eye for those who thump their Bibles on their way to visit their mistresses.

But Chelsea — what has she done to solicit publicity — even for a "positive" story about her personal saga?

"Chelsea is nearly 19 years old and a poised, young adult," People managing editor Carol Wallace stated. "We feel that because she is an eyewitness to the family drama and historical events unfolding around her, she is a valid journalistic subject."

Gag me. It would be one thing if Chelsea had granted interviews or written a book about her parents, as Ronald Reagan's daughter, Patti Davis, did. But Chelsea's pain, grace or anything else really isn't anybody else's business.

If she were a Kennedy kid who had been caught drugging it up or accused of raping a date or, to be petty, had mouthed off to somebody in a public place, that's one thing. But Chelsea hasn't proved to be that way.

The personal may be the political, but to this mom, Chelsea's privacy outweighs the public's right to gawk. In today's cult of celebrity, though, political vendettas have turned to the personal, and poised young women have become easy prey for the devils among us. ■

## Beware: robots robbing humans of creativity

W. David Keith  
The University of Kansas

Imagine a planet ruled by robots. Imagine the Earth controlled by steel giants with steel iron fists. In this world, humans have become obsolete, and we must return to the caves we evolved from.

You snicker at this tale, and you quickly dismiss it as silly precognitions of a crazed man.

My fellow humans, do not be so quick to judge for you have welcomed the robots into the fold, and it is up to you to defeat their evil presence. You see, we unknowingly have accepted them into our world, needing their warmth, wanting their assistance and the time has come to denounce the electronic demons or all will end, and our blue world will become a ball of iron, spitting steam and pain upon our saggy, pale skin.

The robots started out simple. They transferred their artificial intelligence synapses into mundane devices such as radios, Norelco shavers and coffee machines. They were created by man and have weeded their way into our society since the turn of the century, and only now have they reached the culmination of their great scheme.

The robots are everywhere. They're watching, waiting and wanting. Perhaps even at this moment a robot is hanging from your key chain and assisting you in locking your Jeep doors. You have not used your hands to lock your Jeep for a long while. You have depended upon your robot to do the work for you, and that is just what they want. The robots are rendering the human obsolete.

Do you wear a pager upon your waist? If so, you have a small techprobe that pulsates and beeps and controls every aspect of your life.

Almost like a cattle prod, zapping you when you least expect it, telling you where to go, what to do. This is only one of the ways the robots will corner us into extinction.

Have you ever seen the tall, blinking towers standing out in country fields? They stand like silent giants supposedly transferring television signals from satellites, but that is just what the robots want you to think.

They are the robot's tools for sending out mind-controlling brain waves across the land, turning the beings that created them into zombies and rap

music listeners draining their love for living and erasing their love for freedom.

Where have the great American heroes gone, you ask?

They are surfers of a naughty land called the Internet.

We have let the robots into our homes, in our television. We let them entertain our children with such fine programming as "Family Ties" and "The Commish."

The robots watched as we made ourselves into slaves to the "TV Guide." We became brainwashed by "Seinfeld" and "Friends." Truly the work of a devil made of wires and buttons.

We all smiled when we got nice, gentle family computers. Oh, a glorious device that lets us type stories about butterflies and play games called "Oregon Trail." What did I do before you came along?

Instead of spending time running in the back yard with the pet hamster, little Billy stares into the black screen, pointing and clicking and clicking and pointing.

The intricate circuits send electrode vibrations through his young hands, slowly melting away the core of his brain. A life of running through fields of wheat is supplanted with Web sites with explicit erotic western landscapes and horses wearing lingerie.

Couldn't we see the truth? Couldn't we see what we were letting the robots do?

Smash the robotic dream that we have let sweep our planet.

Destroy the synthead creations of man that wish to watch us wither and shrivel into the void. If we do not act now, our smallest children will be converted into silicon form at the cold hands of a computerized cable.

The robots will infiltrate our factories, office spaces and learning institutions, taking the place of men and women, boys and girls.

We have been lied to. The threat will not come from above; we have created the threat. Do not let the cries of humanity be drowned out by the laughter of laptops or the screaming pulsation of a blinking red light.

Stop aiding them in their quest for domination. The robots are no fools. They have tricked our soft, fleshy race into being pawns in their sick game of chess.

We are doomed. ■

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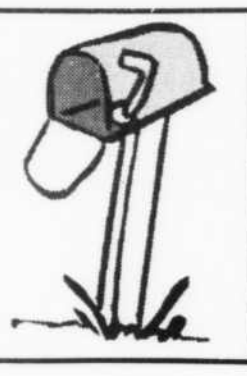
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## BURNT TOAST

BY CURT MANN



## Internet sites not ready for heavy traffic

David Ignatius  
The Washington Post

Two computer snafus last week documented one of the dirty little secrets of the Internet age: The technology that investors are showering with billions of dollars sometimes doesn't work, especially when the traffic gets heavy.

The first glitch hit the online broker E-Trade, which watched helplessly as its trading software crashed for three straight days, leaving thousands of customers in the lurch; the second affected Victoria's Secret, which lost some of the bounce from its ballyhooed online fashion show when millions of visitors couldn't get onto its site or found that the video peep show of lingerie didn't work as expected.

As these examples suggest, the Web is still a frontier technology. It's growing so fast that vendors don't have time to debug software, that hardware ordered a few months ago can't handle today's traffic, that Web sites haven't yet agreed on a way to measure how many people are seeing advertisers' messages. Interestingly, investors seem to accept such setbacks as a normal part of the learning curve for this infant technology. That's a sign of how the risk-taking culture of Silicon Valley is spreading to Wall Street. One of the best things about that culture, as venture capitalist John Doerr likes to say, is that failure is accepted — as a necessary part of eventual success.

But for the people who must keep the giant Web sites running, the technical limitations are all too obvious — and painful. These are the people who struggle daily to patch system flaws with what one calls "the three B's: Band-Aids, bubble gum and baling wire."

"We're sick of staying up all night," complains another. "We don't want to die here."

These techies are part of what amounts to a secret society in the Internet world — the people who run the largest Web sites and meet several times a year to discuss technical problems. They don't want the group's name or other details disclosed, so let's call them the "Net Prophets." These are the people in the cyber-trenches, the ones who actually see how the sausage is made. And it's not always an appetizing sight.

The technical term for the problem vexing the Web engineers is "scalability." That refers to a system's ability to handle large volumes of traffic, and one of the nicest things you can say about a piece of technology these days is that it's "scalable."

But some key Internet products aren't yet scalable. A good example is the operating systems for the big computers, known as "servers," that drive Web sites. Microsoft's Windows NT, for example, is said to encounter problems as traffic levels increase. For that reason, most of the top 30 Web sites use a 20-year-old operating system known as UNIX.

Because the old workhorse UNIX has been in development so long, and has been debugged for

so many different applications, it provides a stable platform for the biggest Web sites. It's "robust," to use another favorite buzz word.

Another problem area is the "publishing systems" needed by news sites, which must constantly update their content. "There's no canned solution out there that works," says Charles Beadnall, who helps run CNN's Web sites. Instead, CNN has cobbled together its own publishing software.

Beadnall needs a system that can handle what he calls a "flash crowd" — the sudden surge of people racing to CNN's Web site when major news breaks. Traffic spiked to 35 million page views, for example, on the day last September when the Starr report was released on the Internet.

Beadnall has a big test this week, as Sports Illustrated posts its annual swimsuit issue on the CNN/SI Web site. He's ready to handle 30,000 page views per minute, or roughly 1.8 million an hour. Who knew there were so many swimsuit buyers out there?

Even the most careful planning sometimes doesn't work in the turbulence of cyberspace. When Playboy Online initially launched a pay site in 1996, the traffic was so heavy the site crashed within days.

In the end, it's the crazy, ad hoc nature of Web technology that makes the Internet explosion so lovable. If the Web masters slowed down long enough to make sure everything worked, they'd lose momentum. ■

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## STARTING FEB. 22... LET'S PLAY IT SAFER

With the reopening of Faulkinberry Drive— and to ensure the safety of all campus pedestrians— the MTSU departments of Public Safety and Parking Services agree that the section of Loop Drive that runs along the east side of the Cope Administration Building to Peck Hall should once again be closed to vehicular traffic.

Therefore, the traffic "arm" east of Cope will again be activated Monday, Feb. 22, closing East Loop to all vehicles except safety vehicles and campus shuttles.

When Faulkinberry Drive was closed for the stadium construction, it was necessary to provide another access route into campus— and east Loop Drive was opened in order to reduce traffic congestion.

With Faulkinberry Drive now accessible, the large tree-lined, grassy area that is the original part of campus will once again be a safer environment for campus pedestrians.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding. If you have any questions, please contact Public Safety at 898-2424 or Parking Services at 898-2850. Thank you.

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# FEATURES

## The History of Valentine's Day

Amanda Virgillito/ Staff Reporter

Valentine's Day is nothing like it used to be. Present day customs include exchanging cards, flowers, candy and gifts. Having a sweetie used to have almost nothing to do with the original Roman celebration.

The origin of Valentine's Day traces back to an ancient Roman feast of Lupercalia, a pagan holiday celebrating the coming of spring and young men's rite of passage to the god Lupercus. The feast took place February 15, but because the calendar was different then, February fell in early spring.

Part of the festivities included a name drawing. All the young ladies would place their names in a box for the young men to draw. The boy and girl pair were sweethearts for the following year. Usually, the two ended up marrying.

Eventually Rome wanted to do away with the pagan aspect of the holiday, so Pope Gelasius changed the lottery. The young men and women would both choose a name from the box, which contained names of patron saints. The young adult was to emulate the practices of the saint they drew for the following year.

The holiday's name was later changed to Valentine's Day after the Saint Valentine, a Catholic

bishop in 5th Century Rome.

The Emperor Claudius decided that married men made poor soldiers because they didn't want to leave their families. He forbid any soldier to get married. Valentine disagreed and secretly married the young men to their loves. Claudius discovered this and ordered Valentine to be killed.

Valentine spent some time in prison prior to his beheading, and became close friends with the guard's daughter, who was blind. Legend is that his love and faith in her miraculously cured her blindness. On the day of his death he left her a note thanking her for her friendship. The note was signed, "Love from your Valentine." This started the tradition of exchanging Valentine's cards.

The lottery method of pairing men with women was banished, but the holiday gave men reason to seek the affection of women. They sent handwritten notes of affection, containing the Saint's name.

Another Valentine's Day symbol is Cupid. His association originated because he was the son of Venus, Roman god of love and beauty.

Whatever the origin, Valentine's Day is a wonderful day in which people can celebrate their love for each other. This is the way Saint Valentine would have wanted it. ■

## Don't get singled-out on Valentine's,

share it  
with  
friends



Amanda Virgillito  
Staff Reporter

Has Cupid's arrow bypassed your heart? Are pink and red your least favorite colors? Does the sight of a Hallmark store make you run for dear life? In your opinion, does Cupid equal stupid? Well, you're not alone. Many spend Valentine's Day single every year, and survive just fine.

So what if you're not going to be sharing a candlelit dinner for two, chocolate kisses, or a dozen roses? You could save yourself plenty of time, money, effort, and the inevitable broken heart that comes when the romance is no longer. Have fun this Valentine's Day. After all, no one said the day is restricted for those lovebirds who make most single people want to vomit.

If staying in and watching happy couples solve life's problems in thirty minutes or less does not sound like your ideal way to spend this Sunday, get out and do something. Surviving the mush and gush is very possible.

Surround yourself with other single friends and have a ball. Friends are usually there for you more than a significant other anyway, so hang out with the gang. Rent your favorite comedy movies and pig out on junk food, cook a huge dinner together, host a cheesy karaoke night, or just enjoy each other's company. Friends are always the best remedy.

Sometimes spending time alone can be just as satisfying. Listing reasons why you and your ex broke up is an effective way to make you glad you're single. You could even go all out and organize a bonfire, burning all your mementos from past relationships. Who knows? Maybe the ex is all alone, too.

Some are bitter when it comes to V-Day. A friend says she plans to spend this Sunday, "dressed in all black with a chip on my shoulder." Well, she is definitely not the greatest fan of Cupid and his silly little arrows,

now is she? But she made the comment jokingly, and will probably spend the holiday with friends, thankful she doesn't have a man to burden her. Try not to sulk the day away, after all, it's not just for lovers. Valentine's Day is a day of love, but not just romantic love. Spend time with someone you care about, such as friends or family members.

Some people choose to be single. More power to them. It sometimes gets old hearing the gripes of people who feel as if life will come to a grinding halt without the presence of a significant other. The world won't end, and things will be okay. Just because you're not in "love" doesn't mean you can't be happy.

Just because you're spending this year's Valentine's Day solo, doesn't necessarily mean you have to be bitter. Yeah, those goody lovebirds do make you want to cringe on occasion, but eventually we all get the Valentine we always wanted. Until then, don't waste time depressing yourself. Valentine's Day is meant to be enjoyed, so do something you love. ■

## Collective Soul's 'Dosage' is a diverse return to form

Aaron Tallent  
Staff Reporter

Collective Soul can always be characterized by their own distinct sound. This Ed Roland fronted band from Georgia made a big splash in the music industry with their first hit single "Shine" from 1993's *Hints, Allegations, and Things Left Unsaid*.

The band's self-titled follow-up was one of the biggest selling albums of 1995 and yielded such hits as "December" and "Gel." Their third album, *Disciplined Breakdown*, released in 1997, was not as successful as their earlier release. The album, however, did have its own style and flavor, just like their previous two.

*Dosage*, the band's fourth album, is no different. It has

its own flavor and experiments in sound without straying away from the elements that make up Collective Soul. The spiritualism, emotion, and energy of the band's earlier work is present on the album. The band is an improvement over *Breakdown* and the band's second best album trailing behind its self titled 1995 release.

The album has six memorable tracks out of its twelve song catalog. The other six tracks are not bad. They just run together instead of sticking out in the listener's head.

The best song on the album is "Heavy," an emotionally fueled, punchy song about carrying other people's problems. It has a resemblance to *Disciplined*



Latest CD give fans another "Dosage" of Collective Soul.

*Breakdown*'s "Precious Declaration" even though "Heavy" is a much better song.

"Slow" is a fast-paced, fun song that should crack the Top 40. "Generate" is also one of the album's better songs. It is 80's inspired, fast-paced fun. "Run" is another great song heard earlier this year on the *Varsity Blues Soundtrack*.

"Compliment" is one of the slower tracks that stands out on the album. It is simple but spiritual. As a bonus track, there is an interesting, orchestrated version of "She Said" from the *Scream 2 Soundtrack*.

The other six tracks are not tracks to be skipped, but they are not tracks to be played over and over again. "Trouble for My Beloved," the

album's opening track, has a Middle-Eastern sound and seems inspired by U2's *Achtung Baby*. "Needs," a low-key, spiritual ballad, also has a Middle-Eastern sound.

"No More, No Less" is an unmemorable love song as is "Not the One." "Dandy Life" has the distinction of being sung by Ross Childress, the band's lead guitarist. "Crown," the album's final track also runs together with the other songs.

If you own Collective Soul's first three albums, chances are you have already bought *Dosage* and are enjoying it thoroughly. If you are looking for a new, entertaining CD, check out *Dosage*. You will not be disappointed. ■

STARS:★★★★ (out of five)

## Thought provoking South African play portrays personal account

Vickie Gibson  
Staff Reporter

Apartheid and South Africa come to MTSU this week in the form of a powerful and emotional play presented by MTSU Theatre. It is a production worthy of African-American History Month.

"Master Harold ... and the Boys," by Athol Fugard, is a personal account by the South African playwright about a particular incident that provokes emotions and questions about the issue of race relations. Fugard dedicated his writing abilities toward fighting apartheid during most of the last four decades.

"Master Harold" is perhaps Fugard's most personal play because of its autobiographical content. In it, he relates a boyhood incident which haunted him for years. The writing of

the play was perhaps an atonement for his involvement in the incident.

The story is set in the 1950s and centers on the shifting relationship between a 17 year-old white, South African boy named Hally and Sam, a black waiter in his mother's tearoom who serves as a father figure to the boy. The play opens during a rainy afternoon at the tearoom when all is well and moves through news of the boy's father's return from the hospital which disrupts temperaments. The bond between the boy and his lifelong friend is destroyed in the ensuing turmoil.

It is an emotional experience that raises the question: When we are at our weakest, do we fight back with rage, or do we let ourselves be weak?

Directed by speech and theatre professor Deborah Anderson, the play was a hit on Broadway in 1982. Cast

members include senior Rodgers Clay, junior Brandon Reece and junior Jon Royal.

Technical director is Steve Jones, associate professor in the speech and theatre department. Stephanie Graves and Amy Morel are part of the technical crew for the production.

The show opened Wednesday night after two dress rehearsals earlier in the week. Performances will continue tonight through Saturday, Feb. 13 at 8 p.m., Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. and Tuesday, Feb. 16 through Saturday, Feb. 20 at 8 p.m. The show is in the MTSU Studio Theatre in the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building.

Admission is free for MTSU students with valid ID. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for other students, \$2.50 for faculty and staff and free for children under school age. For ticket information, call 898-2103. ■



## Piano man

Staff photo by  
Claudia Lombardo

Keyboardist Dow Jones wows Wednesday night's crowd at the Urban Music Society's Showcase.



# "Payback" not quite sweet revenge

Stacie Odeneal  
Staff Reporter

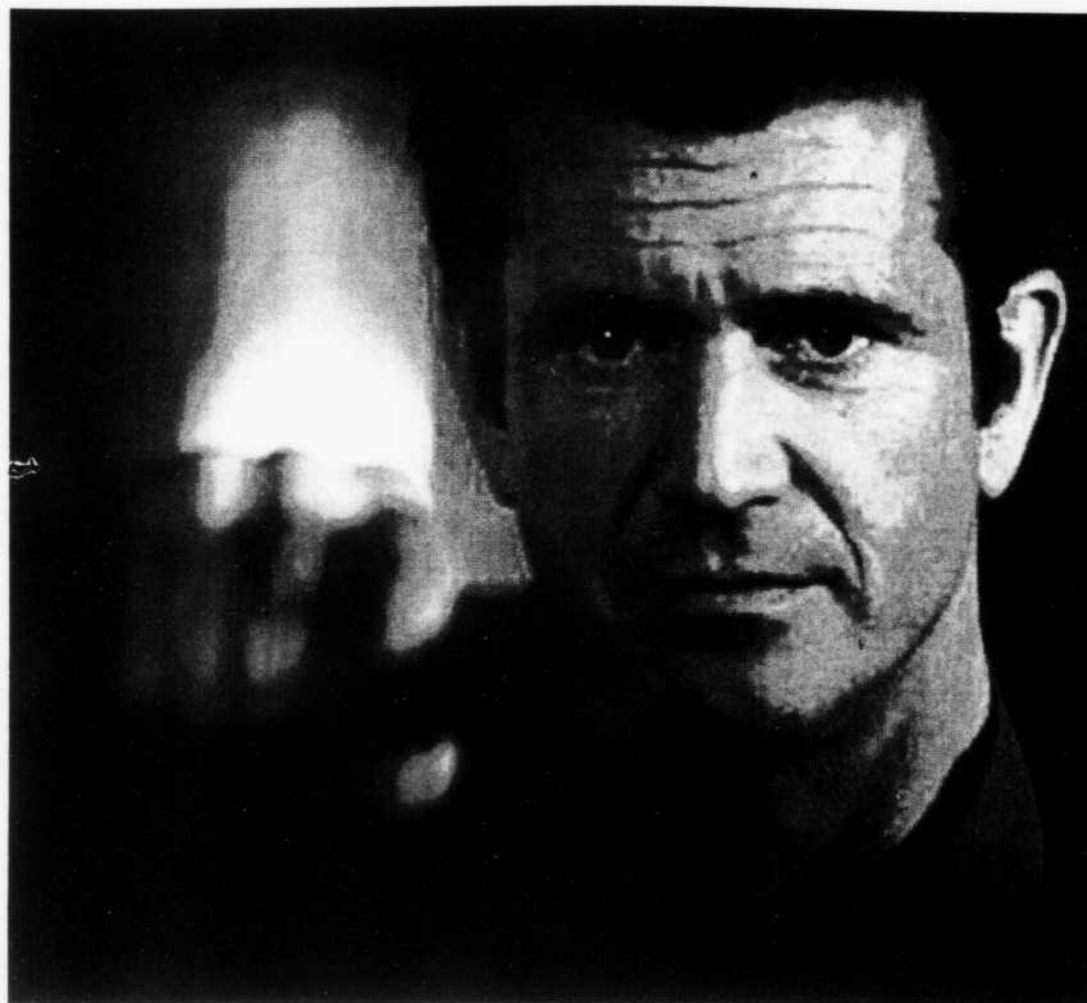
The wonder from down under that we all know and most women love as Mel Gibson is back on the big screen with his latest movie, "Payback." The plot revolves around Porter, a man with a vague yet varied criminal background who is cheated out of \$70,000 by his wife and a business partner.

The movie follows Porter in a quest for his money that leads him to take on crooked cops, a Chinese gang and a huge crime organization known as The Outfit, with the help of a hooker with whom he had once had an affair (Maria Bello, who plays Dr. DelAmico on ER).

The movie gets confusing and hypocritical at times. In the first half of the movie, there are some before-then-after scenes that are a little awkward until you realize what is happening. Also, there are a few odd people that fit in with the plot, but apparently came from no where.

Porter's past is terribly vague. He is obviously a killer/thief, but feels that drugs are beyond horrible and locks his heroin-addict wife in a room to keep her from her drugs to prove his point. Another what-is-that-about incident comes when he blows up a building, killing people, but tells his hooker friend that he left after their affair because he didn't approve of her prostitution.

On a more positive note, Gibson, Kris Kristofferson, William Devane and Bello did fabulous jobs. Kristofferson is the leader of The Outfit. Devane is one of the



Porter (Mel Gibson) takes no prisoners in getting what is his.

two power guys working for Kris. Bello plays the hooker.

The movie has lots of action and a gorgeous leading guy, even if he is older than Brad Pitt. All in all, it is a unisex

film. This is an awesome matinee movie and a definite must-rent, but if it means eating ramen noodles for three days or working an extra two hours to go, see "Varsity Blues" first. ■

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## SPORTS

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## MTSU basketball bids good-bye to seniors

Michael Edwards  
Staff Reporter

The men and women that have sacrificed their college lives for the last four years will lace up their basketball shoes and put on their uniforms for the final time as Middle Tennessee State University basketball players.

The game will take a back seat to the careers that these few men and women put together with the blue and white. The men are going to finish the regular season with a disappointing record, but they will not forget some of the high points this season. Take, for instance, the time the Blue Raider faithful filled the Murphy Athletic Center for the game against the North Carolina Tarheels. Over 11,000 entered the turnstiles that night, and the Raiders put forth a valiant effort.

The Lady Raiders will never forget this season. For the first time since the 95-96 season, the Raiders will win a share of the OVC Championships. The Raiders have not won the championship outright since the 88-89 season, when they went 21-6.

For the Lady Raiders, appearing in her last regular-season game is Cyndi Ainsworth. Ainsworth has played two seasons in Murfreesboro after transferring from Hiwassee Junior College, where she was a

two-time Juco All American. She transferred to MTSU for the '97-'98 season when she stepped in and played in 25 of 30 games. Ainsworth was never known as being a scorer for the Raiders. She is known more for her hustle and intensity on the floor than anything. She could be one of the toughest players to play for the Raiders. Last season, she fractured her elbow against Southeast Missouri and then returned two weeks later against Morehead State.



Jonelda Buck

Another senior for the Raiders is Jonelda Buck. Buck is from Jamestown, Tenn., where she became the second all-time leading scorer at the York Institute. While with the Blue Raiders, Buck managed to average 11.7 points per game for her career, while shooting 53 percent for her career. Jonelda is the all-time single season field goal percentage record when she shot an amazing 61 percent from the field in her freshman year. It was that performance that earned freshman of the year honors for the OVC. Buck will wrap up a career that has spanned all four of her collegiate years at Middle Tennessee State.

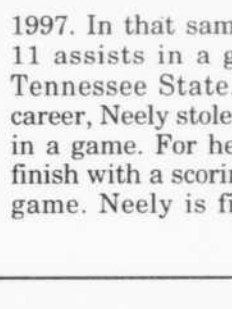
Carlita Elder came to MTSU in 1995. She has been a very consistent performer for MTSU. She improved every year from her freshman year



Carlita Elder

prove to be her career high. Last season, the Raiders took on the Rebels of UNLV. Elder recorded her first double-double when she scored 21 points and 10 rebounds. Nine of those 10 rebounds were offensive. The Murfreesboro native will finish up her career for the Raiders on Saturday.

Courtney Neely came to MTSU from Obion, Tenn. In high school, Neely scored an outstanding 50 points in a single game. Neely was selected to the All-OVC team three times while with the Raiders. She has a career high of 22 points against TSU in 1997. In that same year, Neely made 11 assists in a game against East Tennessee State. Two times in her career, Neely stole the ball seven times in a game. For her career, Neely will finish with a scoring average of 8.6 per game. Neely is finishing her career



Courtney Neely

with a blaze. This season she is blistering the nets from the outside, while having a career year in the scoring department.



Bama Burrell

The final Blue Raider is Bama Burrell. She transferred from Kilgore Community College before the '97-'98 season. Burrell is arguably the most complete player on the Raider team. She combines a sweet jump shot with the ability to rebound and shoot from the outside. Burrell averaged six rebounds and 11.8 points in her only season with the Raiders, and she is staying pretty close to those marks this year. Her career high came against Xavier when she scored 26. Last year she was the OVC tournament Most Valuable Player. Burrell plans on being involved in law enforcement following graduation.



Richard Duncan

The men's team has some seniors that are wrapping up some stellar careers at MTSU.

Richard Duncan came to MTSU from Northeast Community College. He has played three seasons for the Blue Raiders. While in the blue and white, Duncan has

managed to be one of MTSU's best thieves. Going into the '98-'99 season he had stolen the ball 103 times. Duncan's career highs include 22 points against UT-Martin, 11 assists against Eastern Kentucky, and 6 steals against Murray State. Entering the final year, Duncan was averaging 9.5 points, 4.5 assists, and 1.8 steals per game. He is currently MTSU's career steals leader.



Kent Ayer

Kent Ayer is the Murphy Center favorite. Every time he enters the game, he gets an ovation no matter what has happened in the game. Ayer has played all 4 years with the Raiders under two coaches. Ayer scored his career high of 14 points against Tennessee Tech last January. For his career, Ayer is a 39 percent three-point shooter, and 78 percent from the free throw line. Following graduation Kent plans on having a career in finance. In his '97-'98 campaign, Ayer managed to dish out 54 assists, while only turning

Ali McGhee

See SENIORS, page 11



The Raider baseball team condition on the field last week. The team opens their season Feb. 9 against Southeastern Conference Champion Auburn University.

## Raiders begin season Feb. 9

Michael Barrett  
Staff Reporter

Yes, MTSU fans, it is time for the baseball season to start, and the Blue Raiders are ready to take the field.

MTSU will be led by Coach Steve Peterson, who is beginning his 12th season as manager of the Blue Raiders. The team will be made up of 17 returnees from last year's squad and 16 newcomers to the roster. The team will be led by senior Ty Curley, who led the Blue Raiders in almost every offensive category last season.

If MTSU hopes to return to the top of the OVC standings,

they will have to improve on a pitching staff that was next to last in the OVC.

Last year's staff was depleted due to injury, which forced Coach Peterson to mix up his rotation. This year's group looks to be healthy and will be led by Junior right-hander Jeff Parsons who expects to be the team's starting pitcher. Jeff was the team leader in wins and strikeouts last year.

The Blue Raiders will begin their season Feb. 19th on the road against the defending Southeastern Conference Champion Auburn University. MTSU will also play two other SEC opponents in the

University Of Tennessee and Vanderbilt. This should be a good test for the Blue Raiders, considering the fact that the SEC is one of the best baseball conferences in the country. MTSU will return home for its first series at Reese Smith Field on March 2nd against Jacksonville State University. The Raiders will also have games against OVC opponents Tennessee Tech, Austin Peay, and OVC tournament winner Southeast Missouri once conference play begins.

Coach Peterson is looking forward to the upcoming 1999 season and returning the Blue Raiders to their rightful place, on top of the OVC standings.■

## Lady Moose top Western, 29-0

Ayne Cantrell  
Special to Sidelines

Playing at home on Feb. 6 in their first conference game of the season, the MTSU women's rugby team soundly defeated their arch rival Western Kentucky 29-0.

Leading scorer Shelley Christian racked up 10 points while Lady Moose Captain Shannon Bustillos followed with nine points, including two conversion kicks.

Trisha Turner and new scrum half Lisa King

ran the ball for five points each. Playing a superb offensive game, the Lady Moose kept the ball predominately in Western's territory.

The forwards controlled all scrums, consistently disrupting the offensive drive of Western's team.

Coached by Douglas Wolfe, the Lady Moose are determined to go undefeated in their fourth season.

"We can't lose," says club president Stacey Venanzio, "with the best forwards in our division coupled with strong backline players like Nicole Wallace and Tinisha Buttrey."■

## Lady Raiders hope to avenge last two losses

Josh Ezzell  
Staff Reporter

The Lady Raiders will embark on a two game home stand against Tennessee State and Austin Peay on the heels of two straight road losses.

In their last game, the Lady Raiders blew a 37-30 halftime lead to Eastern Illinois and lost 81-77. In the first half EIU shot only thirty-five percent from the field, but they were able to heat things up in the second half, shooting a blistering

sixty-one percent from the field. Leah Aldrich led EIU with twenty-three points. Freshman Jamie Thomatis led the Lady Raiders with twenty-six points.

Today, the Lady Raiders will face the TSU Lady Tigers. In their previous meeting, the Lady Raiders spanked the Lady Tigers 89-50. Jamie Thomatis led the way with nineteen points, while Jessica McClure chipped in eleven. The Lady Raiders shot a scorching sixty-two percent from the field, while holding TSU to twenty-three percent from

the field.

On Saturday, the Lady Raiders will face the APSU Lady Gobs. When the two teams last met the Lady Raiders prevailed 70-59. Jessica McClure led the attack with fourteen points, while Bama Burrell contributed thirteen. The Lady Gobs turned the ball over twenty-seven times, while shooting only forty-one percent from the field.

The TSU game is today at 5:45 p.m. at the Murphy Center. The APSU game is on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. at the Murphy Center.■

## Golfers' mistakes costly, finish 15th in tournament

Keith Ryan Cartwright  
Staff Reporter

It's one tournament the Blue Raiders hope to put behind them.

The Raiders finished the disappointing Bridges All-American in 15th place on Tuesday with a three-round 919 stroke total. Louisiana State won the event by one stroke over South Alabama, with an 875 total.

"No one played good at all," head coach Johnny Moore said. "We just didn't play very smart. We really played as though we left our brains in Murfreesboro."

Unfortunately, the Bridges Golf Club is unlike any the Raiders have previously played.

Their fall team average by round was 293. However, in this week's tourney they slipped to a 306.3 stroke average.

"It's a placement course," Moore said. "We didn't take advantage of what we were given. We just never were able to do what we were supposed to do."

According to Moore, if the hole should have been played by coming in on the right side of the fairway, the Raiders would wind up on the left or vice versa.

"We made some awful mistakes, some of the worst mistakes on a golf course that I've

ever seen."

To the Raiders credit, the course wasn't kind to any of the teams, including LSU. The Tigers finished the event 11 over par. However, individual winner Francois Nicolas was near perfect. The Southeast Louisiana golfer finished the tournament with a six-under 210.

As for the Raiders, Brett Alexander and Richard Spangler both tied for 39th with a 12 over 228. Steve Ressler tied for 59 with a 232 while J.R. Wade was tied for 62nd at 233.

The only bright spot for the Raiders was that Alexander finished the all the par-three holes at one-under, the seventh best individual finish in the tournament out of 96 individuals.

"This was Brett's worst outing," Moore said. "The one thing that hurt us that we had 36 holes on Monday and then we came back Tuesday morning and had another round."

"We just didn't hit enough greens in regulation. If you can't get to the greens, you don't have a chance to do anything."

The Raiders first chance for redemption will be Feb. 19 at the Ron Smith Intercollegiate in Tampa, Fla.

The 54-hole event, hosted by Florida Southern at the Claw, will be spread out over three days.■



## The Hook Up

Commentary by Josh Ezzell/ Staff Reporter

## Goldberg saves the day

What's up, wrestling fans? Yes, it's that time of the week again.

Time for Josh 3:16 to hook you up with a review of Monday Nitro and Raw is War. Unfortunately, I won't be able to give you the hook-up on Raw this week.

A dog show was aired in Raw's time slot on Monday. Don't despair wrestling fans; Raw will be aired on Saturday night.

To make up for the lack of WWF coverage I will hook you up with a triple shot of Raw next week. That's right, I said triple shot.

You see, Raw is War will be filmed in Chattanooga on Tuesday, and yours truly will be in attendance.

And now, for the thousands reading around campus, ladies and gentlemen, let's get ready to rumble!!!

"Big Sexy" Kevin Nash and Scott Hall started Nitro off by jumping Arn Anderson and leaving him disco Inferno. This set up an interesting main event, in which The Outsiders would fight "The Nature Boy" Ric Flair and Steve "Mongo" McMichael.

I'll talk about that later, but now let's move on to other action.

In the first bout Blitzkrieg made his debut against Rey Mysterio Jr. Blitzkrieg made a

valiant effort, but fell short. The second bout featured two men who are very familiar with each other in Booker T and Fit Finlay.

Finlay fought hard, but in the end, he took a trip to Harlem via "The Harlem Sidekick."

Speaking of Harlem, one-half of the former tag team Harlem Heat made two brief cameos. Of course, I'm talking about Stevie Ray.

It seems that Hollywood Hogan told Stevie Ray that he was the new leader of the NWO and White faction of the NWO. What Stevie Ray does not know is that Hollywood also told Brian Adams, Horace and Vincent that he wanted them to lead the junior varsity team.

Later, Stevie Ray and Vincent cost Brian Adams and Horace their match against Curt Hennig and Barry Windham with their bickering over that stupid slap jack.

Right now, it is pretty obvious that The Black and White might not be "For Life."

Are you ready to feel the bang?

Well, Kimberly felt a "bang" as "Big Poppa Pump" Scott Steiner kidnapped her and threw her out of a limo. This sets up a very big Super Brawl match between "Big Poppa Pump" and DDP. Expect DDP to bang Steiner and become the

T.V. Title.

Is Bret "The Hitman" Hart "The Best there was, the best there is, and the best there ever will be?" I think not!!! Well, he wasn't on Monday. With the help of MADD TV's Will Sasser Rowdy Roddy Piper was able to roll "The Hitman" for a three count, stripping Bret Hart of the U.S. Belt.

Personally, I think that Piper's regaining a belt is long overdue. Congratulations, Hot Rod! And now, for the main event.

In the main event The Outsiders battled "The Nature Boy" Ric Flair and Steve "Mongo" McMichael. It was a back and forth battle with neither team able to gain an advantage, until Hollywood Hogan decided to make his presence felt.

He threw a bucket of an unidentified substance in Mongo's face; leaving "The Nature Boy" alone in the ring with Hollywood and The Outsiders.

Just when things were looking really bad for WCW, Goldberg entered. He cleared the ring of The Wolfpack and Bam Bam Bigelow. Once again, Goldberg proved to be "The Man."

Wanna know what happens next week?

I've got two words for you: Read Sidelines.■

## SENIORS

continued from page 10

the ball over 13 times. He is a very smart player.

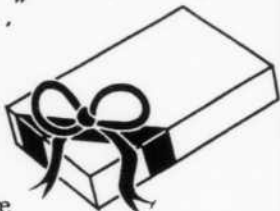
The final senior for the Blue Raiders is Ali McGhee. He is last but certainly not least. McGhee finally got his chance to shine this season. McGhee is shooting a phenomenal 46 percent from three-point range this season. He poured in 25 points against Austin Peay this

season that is a career high. Against UNC he scored eight points and had two steals. One of his steals culminated in an appearance on ESPN's Sportscenter.

These Raiders will be gone from the MTSU hardwood, but they most certainly will not be forgotten.

Senior night is Saturday night following the women's game against Austin Peay and prior to the men's game.■

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