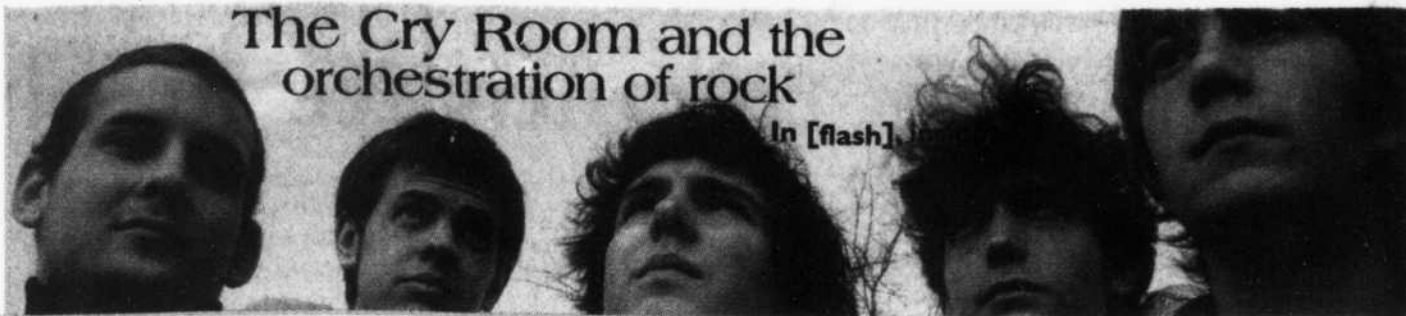




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# SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

MURFREESBORO,  
TENNESSEE

Volume 79 No. 72

## Poll finds discontent with country's direction

By Lindsey Turner  
News Editor

Nearly two-thirds of Tennesseans are dissatisfied with the direction the country is heading in, according to the spring Middle Tennessee Poll.

Political science professor John Vile said the disapproval numbers could be so high due to the primary season, and the prominent Democratic criticisms of President George W. Bush and other Republicans in power. There has been little competition in the Republican party, Vile said, and thus less of a focus on Republican issues.

"In a sense you've had six or however many candidates out there criticizing one and not a whole lot of reason

### MAJOR POLL FINDINGS

- Bush and John Kerry are almost tied among Tennessee voters.
- Economy is the nation's primary problem.
- Most people are dissatisfied with the nation's direction.
- Less than half of those polled approve of the war in Iraq.
- Bredesen's approval rating is the highest recorded in the poll's history.
- Health care is the state's biggest problem.
- Most people are reserved about the state's economic conditions.
- Lottery director Rebecca Paul's approval has risen since the fall 2003 poll.
- Support for same-sex marriage rights is lower, while support for civil rights for gay men and lesbians is still high.
- Tennesseans are divided about whether they think immigrants take desirable jobs from Americans.

for the president to respond," Vile said. He added that the lackluster economy

likely had an impact on the opinions of those who responded in the poll.

The poll results indicate a sharp divide between Tennesseans regarding the economy. Almost half (47 percent) believe the economy is getting better, while 44 percent believe it's getting worse. A full three-fourths of Republicans believe the economy is improving, while two-thirds of Democrats dispute that claim.

Vile said it's possible that the disapproval numbers would be lower in a non-election year, especially in Tennessee, which is generally more conservative.

"It does look a little odd," Vile said. He said a potential reason for the higher disapproval rating than normal could be the area's proximity to Ft. Campbell, Ky., and the frequency with

which Middle Tennesseans hear about or experience military call-ups for Iraq.

A large majority of Tennesseans approve of the job Gov. Phil Bredesen is doing. The approval rating – 72 percent – is the highest ever recorded by the poll in its five-year history. In fall 2003, Bredesen's approval stood at 56 percent.

Vile said Tennesseans probably approve of Bredesen because of the perception many have of him as an active leader, as opposed to former Gov. Don Sundquist.

"I think the feeling under Sundquist was, 'Well things are the way they are and there's not much that can be done

See Poll, 2

## Campus attitude toward same-sex marriage varies

Recent poll shows support for gay rights, not weddings

By Meagan Kirby  
Staff Writer

The recent MT Poll suggests that Tennesseans are split on President George W. Bush's proposal for a constitutional amendment defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

The poll conducted on campus by students asked respondents in Tennessee whether the U.S. Constitution should be amended showed that 49 percent agreed it should, while 41 percent disagreed.

"The amendment should fully protect marriage, while leaving the state legislatures free

to make their own choices in defining legal arrangements other than marriage," Bush said in his proposal of the Federal Marriage Amendment Feb. 24.

Already, 38 states have banned same-sex marriages. However, several courts across the country have issued same-sex licenses, including San Francisco, despite the Defense of Marriage Act of 1996, signed by then-President Bill Clinton.

However, the same poll showed that support for civil rights for gay men and lesbians, including job and housing rights, remains above 80 percent.

John Vile, professor of political science, said these apparently incongruent statistics actually point to a dichotomy of opinions of the American public.

"I don't think the two are necessarily inconsistent," Vile

See Amendment, 2

## Glenn clarifies election decision

By Austin Starchman  
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association's Election Commission will get another chance to define what "university" means in the SGA Constitution.

"After further deliberations, I have decided that this matter should be turned over to the Election Commission," said Bob Glenn, vice president for Student Affairs.

Glenn had originally decided Monday to allow a student with less than 45 MTSU credit hours to run for SGA president, pending further deliberation. The Constitution states that students running for executive office "have accumulated a minimum of forty-five (45) University accredited hours, or be a graduate student at the time of candidacy."

When a transfer student with less than 45 MTSU credit hours announced his wish to run for president, controversy rose over his eligibility. The student, Matt Chapman, argued that the constitution doesn't specify what university potential candidates must acquire their credit hours from.

The student judicial board met Friday and decided that the Constitution clearly means MTSU when it says "university." Glenn, however, said Monday that Chapman should

be allowed to run because those who drafted the Constitution would not have wanted to exclude potential candidates who come from other universities. He noted that he would deliberate further, however, to try to clarify the issue.

"I feel that, while the student judiciary board and the Election Commission were erroneous in their initial interpretation of the constitution, as well as erroneous in their decision not to hear arguments from both parties, they should be given another chance to do things right," Glenn said yesterday.

While the Election Commission revisits the issue, Chapman will be allowed to campaign. Glenn said that if the commission reaches a decision any candidate wants to appeal, he or she can appeal to the student judiciary board, and finally to the student Supreme Court, which consists of both faculty and students.

But Chapman's campaign adviser, Dennis Clark, who is also a senator for undeclared students, expressed reservations about potentially putting the decision back in the hands of the judiciary board.

"From what I've seen in the past," Clark said, "I don't feel that some of the people in the SGA and the student judicial board are exactly impartial. I think there's a definite bias on their part in this decision." ♦

### Parking changes



Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

The annual Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletic Association basketball tournament will be on campus this weekend and next weekend. Tournament parking always raises controversy, because students wanting to park in the Greenland Drive lot are required to pay a \$5 fee, just like tournament spectators.

## High school basketball tourney returns to campus for 29th year

By Amanda Maynard  
Managing Editor

The Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletic Association basketball tournament returns to MTSU for its 29th year this weekend.

Parking lots near Murphy Center will see increased congestion due to the tournament, and the Greenland Drive lot will be reserved for spectators.

Ron Malone, director of campus events and transportation services, said student notification could lessen the burden of parking congestion this year.

Malone increased the number of signs on campus and the surrounding parking lots to notify students ahead of time of parking delays they could face. He also distributed information through

campus Webmail.

"We're putting signs everywhere," Malone said. "The best thing we can do is try to do it with signage."

The Class A 2004 TSSAA Girls Basketball State Championships have already begun. Games will continue through Saturday, when the last game will be played at 7 p.m. The boys' championships run March 17-20.

The Greenland Drive lot on the corner of Tennessee Boulevard and Greenland Drive has been reserved for TSSAA ticket holders, who pay a \$5 fee. Students who want to park in the lot must also pay the fee. The lot will remain reserved throughout the weekend.

Senior Mass Communication major Lucas Leverett, who operates the Web site [www.mtsuparkingsucks.com](http://www.mtsuparkingsucks.com), said

he's not surprised that students are also being charged to park in the lot.

"It's no more morally sound than not charging and not allowing students to park," Leverett said.

"Either way you cut it, we've already bought those spaces with our parking tickets and our access fees.

"It would be a lot more ethical if they were just letting people park there that were only for the tournament and not charging them," Leverett said.

The remaining parking areas on campus are operating as usual but the entrance to Faulkinberry Drive off Tennessee Boulevard will be closed on tournament days, Malone said.

According to Malone, there is a guard

See TSSAA, 2

## Three candidates vie for top SGA position

By Austin Starchman  
Staff Writer

Two incumbents and a newcomer to MTSU's Student Government Association will be facing off in the race for president of SGA.

Chapman is a former SGA president at Volunteer State Community College. Chapman said his campaign revolves around three issues: Raider Rewards, a program that would provide discounts for MTSU students at local businesses; a program for wireless local area network cards at the library; and improving campus safety.

Chapman has been a controversial figure so far in the election process, as he has attempted to challenge decisions restricting



Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

Matt Chapman, left, Ashley Elizabeth Graham and Jon Stewart debate university issues during last night's Student Government Association presidential debate, taped for MTTV.

He is a member of the Sigma Nu Honor Fraternity and the Association of Recording Management Students.

Stewart's campaign, he says, focuses primarily on serving the students.

"I feel that we're here to be the best voice possible for the students of this campus," Stewart said.

See Candidates, 2



# Project aims to cultivate involved civic leaders

By Andrea Hinch  
Staff Writer

MTSU will join 145 other public colleges and universities across the country in the non-partisan American Democracy Project.

The goal of the project, through speakers, programs and activities, is to increase the number of students who participate in civic actions.

MTSU has been involved in the project a little less than a year and is in the process of trying to figure out what the full

## FIND OUT MORE

Visit the project online  
at [www.mtsu.edu/~amerdem](http://www.mtsu.edu/~amerdem)

realm of the project will entail.

"Just this semester we sent the editor of the MTSU newspaper to New York City for a seminar that involved editors from other colleges and universities across the country," said Mark Byrnes, a political science professor and faculty coordinator of the project. "The New York

Times worked with us in conjunction to that project since they are a partner in our effort to encourage such activities."

Byrnes said the project was begun out of a concern over the declining participation of Americans in important areas of public life, such as voting, activism, volunteering in local organizations and other forms of civic engagement that he said are important to democracy.

"The phase of the project we are going through right now is mainly to get ideas," Byrnes said. "We need to add some

classes that relate to public issues. Over the next year or so we will be adding a citizenship course. We would like an increase in student engagement in society — particularly politics."

In participating in the project, interested faculty, administrators and student leaders have volunteered their time to organize civic programs and activities.

Resources such as MTSU's Instructional Technology Support Center have provided video-conferencing for two lec-

tures in 2003 that featured former Vice President Al Gore speaking on media and race in democracy.

Other projects featured democracy themes in television programs that have reached out to schools in 12 counties and have provided support for a session of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

A program about Tennessee's judicial system is planned for this spring as well as a program featuring state lobbyists outlining the process by which a bill moves through the state legisla-

ture to its eventual enactment. A voter registration drive will be held early in the fall semester.

"We are glad to hear from students on what we could do to get them more involved," Byrnes said. "We want to encourage people. We know students often don't keep up with the news and are interested in ways to get students to follow political events."

If any student or faculty would like to be involved in the project, information can be found on the Web site, [www.mtsu.edu/~amerdem](http://www.mtsu.edu/~amerdem). ◆

## Poll: Results now online

Continued from 1

about it," Vile said.

Vile said Bredesen seems to be the type of leader who, for better or worse, goes in and tackles problems.

"He seems to be a little more energetic," Vile said.

Vile also said some Tennesseans may be happy about the lottery, and gave Bredesen credit for his part in that. Vile added that the economy has picked up a bit since Bredesen was first elected.

"Bredesen is a more active, positive type of governor," Vile said. "When you see energy in that office, it makes people feel better."

Despite confidence in Bredesen, only 45 percent of Tennesseans report that they approve of the job the Democratic leadership in the legislature is doing.

Almost two-thirds (64 percent) of Tennesseans say they are satisfied with the state's direction.

Vile said this could be related to the state's confidence in Bredesen, and the perception that the state's budget troubles have been lessened.

"I'm not altogether happy with the way we did it," Vile said, "but a year or two ago, we partly bit the bullet in at least raising taxes. It's not quite the bleak picture of looking at the budget and wondering, 'Oh my gosh, where are we going to come up with another \$400 million?'"

The poll also found that if the presidential election was held today, Tennesseans would choose Bush over Sen. John Kerry, by a slim margin.

Forty-eight percent said they would pick Bush over Kerry, but 44 percent said they would choose Kerry over Bush. Though Bush is slightly ahead of Kerry, the final outcome will come down to choices made by the 8 percent of Tennesseans who said they were undecided.

The MT Poll is conducted by telephone each fall and spring semester by students in the College of Mass Communication.

Between Feb. 16 and 28, students interviewed 701 people ages 18 or older.

For more information on the poll's findings, visit [www.mtsusurveygroup.org](http://www.mtsusurveygroup.org). ◆

## Candidate: Election begins March 16

Continued from 1

He supports a program called Raider Rides, which would allow students drinking at local clubs and bars to catch a free ride, provided by MTSU, back to campus. He said this would cut back on drunken driving. Stewart is currently a junior recording industry management major.

Graham, a senator for the College of Liberal Arts, said that she feels the SGA should speak for the students.

"The students should be heard," she said.

Graham said she will lend her full support to the E-Book Exchange, a program introduced by current President Michele Butler, and would focus primarily on attending to the

student's needs.

Elections will take place this year March 16-18. For further information, contact the SGA Office at 898-2464. ◆

## InQuizitive



Photo by Sean Jordan | Staff Photographer

(From left) Colby Sledge, Wendy Caldwell, Patrick Chinnery and Jason Cox ponder a question during the Scotty M. Tucker Memorial Quiz Bowl Tuesday night. The team, composed of *Sidelines* editors, went on to win the tournament. Second and third place went to Gamma Iota Sigma and WMTS, respectively.

## TSSAA: Officer reports few problems

Continued from 1

at Faulkinberry Drive and Blue Raider Drive by Tucker Theatre who will only let individuals with MTSU car decals through.

"We are preserving the interior of campus for students, faculty and staff," Malone said.

The exterior of campus is seeing the signs of increased congestion, specifically one lane of Tennessee Boulevard.

Team buses are parked along the east side from the president's driveway north to Division Street. This has created a single-traffic lane.

Lt. Darrel Collins of the MTSU Police Department said only one minor car accident had occurred while he was manning Tennessee Boulevard in front of Murphy Center yesterday.

"We do this so that they [teams] can get in and out safely without having any problems," Collins said.

Before buses were parked on Tennessee Boulevard, tournament coordinators used the Murphy Center parking lot for the event.

Collins said they began parking on Tennessee Boulevard for

the safety of team members.

"We did that for quite a few years and it got to the point where this is better situation," Collins said. "We don't have the actual ball teams intermingling with the spectators. There might be a situation where a spectator group decides they didn't like the way a team played and they cause a skirmish. This way they get in there and get what they need to do done and then they're gone."

For the complete TSSAA Basketball State Championship schedule, visit [www.tssaa.org/2003Champions](http://www.tssaa.org/2003Champions). ◆

## Amendment: College Democrats, Lambda oppose federal amendment

Continued from 1

said. "To say you shouldn't ride somebody out on a rail isn't to say you think that relationship is of the same value for society as relationships that have traditional produced and raised children."

Two-thirds of both houses will have to accept this proposal and three-fourths of the state legislatures will have to approve it before it can become an amendment.

Some organizations on campus have strong views about the proposal.

"I believe it is wrong to

amend the Constitution to make a form of segregation legal," said Jacob Holt, president of MTSU's College Democrats.

Holt said most of the College Democrats oppose the amendment as well. They feel this is the wrong way to go about this issue, he said.

"This is a step backwards," Lambda President Andrew Cline said. "I'm for any steps forward, as in making civil unions legal, anything just as long as we don't regress."

Lambda is a campus organization that strives to increase awareness of issues related to gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans-

gendered students.

The views of individual students on campus vary on the amendment.

Beth Meyer, a junior recording industry major, disagrees with Bush's push for an amendment.

"This country was founded on differences, whether they are religious or otherwise," Meyer said. "This amendment would oppose what our nation was built upon. I believe that Bush

places his interests where they do the least amount of good."

Civil unions, which carry similar rights as marriage, are supported by 31 percent of Tennesseans, according to the poll.

"I support the amendment," said sophomore Alex Chernikow, a concrete industry major. "I think marriage is between two people of the opposite sexes. If they want to invent something other than

marriage, fine, but that's not the same thing to me."

Freshman recording industry major Josh Fogleman said he thinks the same-sex marriage issue is similar to abortion rights and is an individual choice — not something that should be regulated by the government.

"It's their lives," Fogleman said. "Let them live it how they want." ◆

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# STATE AND LOCAL

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Thursday, March 11, 2004

SIDELINES ♦ 3

## 'Ronald Reagan Highway' bill dead for now

By James Nix  
Staff Writer

State Rep. Glen Casada's (R - College Grove) push to rename state Route 840 "Ronald Reagan Parkway" is effectively dead, for now.

Sen. Bill Ketron (R - Murfreesboro) killed his Senate bill, which aimed to rename all of Route 840. Ketron was asked

to sponsor the bill in the Senate on behalf of Casada but had to scrap it due to lack of support.

"The votes are not there," Ketron said.

Casada had been sponsoring two bills in the Tennessee House of Representatives. One would have renamed Route 840 in Williamson County only, and the other would have renamed the entire stretch of the high-

way, which spans Dickson, Hickman, Williamson, Rutherford and Wilson counties.

The name change was supported in the Senate by



Casada

Ketron and Sen. Jim Bryson (R - Franklin). Bryson's bill aimed to rename only the Williamson County stretch of Route 840.

The death of Ketron's bill effectively grinds the movement to a halt. Even Bryson and Casada's bills to rename Route 840 in Williamson County will be scrapped.

"Once something even similar to this is tried (naming the

whole thing), a smaller section would face the same fate so ... it's dead," Casada said.

But Casada is not done yet. Before Ketron dropped his bill, Casada stated that this process would probably take two or three years.

"I do intend to bring it up next year," Casada said.

Ultimately, fears that the bills would be hard to pass proved

true.

"It became a partisan issue," Ketron said.

"I think there are some Democrats who would rather not name a road after a Republican regardless of what he has accomplished," Bryson said prior to the death of Ketron's bill. ♦

## Jump for joy



Wesley and Lexie Aldred play at "Murphee Springs," part of the Children's Discovery House on Broad Street yesterday.

Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

## Meth busted in 'Boro

By David Paulson  
Staff Writer

Two individuals were arrested Monday night after police found a large quantity of methamphetamine, tools to make the drug and numerous other drugs and drug paraphernalia in their vehicle at a traffic stop on Rutherford Boulevard.

Robert Porterfield, 36, and Brandy Turnbow, 27, both of Murfreesboro, were charged with possession for resale and conspiracy to manufacture contraband.

Officer Matt Baldwin pulled the vehicle over after observing that it had no tag light and its windows were illegally tinted. After discovering that Porter, the driver, had a revoked license, Baldwin arrested Porter and searched the vehicle.

"I found a hidden compartment beside the gear shift which was holding a large amount of contraband," Baldwin reported.

Inside the compartment was an orange bottle containing 3.8 grams of a "white powdery substance" believed to be methamphetamine. Behind the glove compartment were five more bags containing the substance with a combined weight of 3.7 grams.

Baldwin also found evidence suggesting the suspects produced the drug themselves.

"Numerous cans of brake fluid, butane, coffee filters, butane torches, documents on 'How to Produce Meth' and other items used to process methamphetamine were found throughout the trunk of the vehicle and back seat area," the report states.

A pair of digital scales were found under the passenger seat.

Police also found small amounts of morphine, Mepergan, Loritab, cyclobenzazine and marijuana. A .45 caliber pistol with five bullets was found along with five shotgun bullets.

Turnbow, the owner of the car, told police that Porterfield made regular use of her car and drove her around frequently.

Porterfield and Turnbow were transferred to Rutherford County Jail.

They are set to appear in court April 5. ♦

## Investigation of student's death upsets his parents

By Amber McDowell  
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - A couple upset with the way East Tennessee State University investigated their son's death lobbied legislators Wednesday for a bill that would require immediate notification of local police of any death or rape on campus.

Jim and Mary Nottingham's appearance before the House Judiciary Committee, which approved the bill, was the latest of almost half-a-dozen trips the couple has made from their Kingsport home in support of the measure.

Called the "Robert 'Robbie' Nottingham Campus Crime Scene Investigation Act of 2004," the bill is named in honor of the couple's 22-year-old son, who was found dead a year ago on the sidewalk in front of his on-campus apartment.

Campus police determined Robbie Nottingham committed suicide by jumping from a second-story balcony. His parents believe foul play was involved and say the authorities botched their investigation into his death.

"It's bad enough to lose a

child, but to lose him and basically have him scraped up like road kill, and be told 'We know what happened and you're just going to have to go on and live with it,' is wrong," Nottingham's father said after Wednesday's vote.

Nottingham has said the university didn't even call him and his wife to tell them about the death; they heard from friends of their son. Campus police had removed the body and were washing the blood away when the parents reached the scene from their home about 20 miles away.

Also, according to the family's investigator, the crime scene was not roped off until Johnson City police arrived on the scene, and campus police sent the city officers away.

The scene, the student's car and room were not processed for evidence until days later, and a security tape showing vehicles coming to the building was recorded over the day after his death, the investigator said.

Rep. Nathan Vaughn, sponsor of the bill in the House, said the couple's presence as the measure progresses through the legislative process has been key to its success so far. The bill was unanimously last

week by the full Senate.

"When you're able to personalize legislation it brings it back to home. Then people begin to see, 'This could have been my family,'" said Vaughn, D-Kingsport. "... They believe in what they're doing, they believe in the issues - not just in terms of what happened to their son - but why it is important to make a difference for the young people on college campuses all across this nation."

ETSU President Paul Stanton, in a phone interview Wednesday with The Associated Press, said he believes college campuses across Tennessee have "very good public safety offices."

"However, in any major case with any suspicion of foul play, particularly murder, the old expression 'Two heads are better than one' definitely applies," he said.

Stanton pointed out both the university's safety office and the local medical examiner found no evidence of foul play.

"Our hearts and thoughts go out to the family, it has to be a horrible time," he said. "... I can't imagine anything worse. So in the future, anything more or better that can be done, we want it done." ♦

## Bills advancing in General Assembly

By Patrick Chinnery  
Editor in Chief

STATE CAPITOL BUREAU - As the assembled members of General Assembly rev up the legislative motor and hit cruising speed, several bills have latched on for the ride and appear to be advancing. These are their stories.

Digital Telecommunications theft (HB 3391/SB 3101) - Tennessee's version of infamous Super Digital Millennium Copyright Act legislation would give cable companies the tools they need to stop pirating or potentially could destroy Internet service access as we know it, depending on whom you believe ("Joint committee passes revamped telecommunications theft bill," *Sidelines*, Jan. 28).

The Senate Judiciary Committee passed this bill out with an 8-1 vote the last week of February. It's currently waiting to be put on notice to be heard in the Senate Finance, Ways and Means Committee.

After several weeks of

deferring action in a House subcommittee, it appears that Rep. Rob Briley (D-Nashville) has enough votes for a favorable passage to the House Judiciary Committee.

"I think it'll probably be a unanimous vote out of sub," one committee member said, "but I'm not sure it has the same support in the full committee."

Unauthorized substances tax (HB 2796/SB 2419) - Beginning to be known as the "pot tax," this bill would place an excise tax on all illegal substances, including marijuana, methamphetamines and moonshine (see "House subcommittee passes drug tax bill," *Sidelines*, March 3). The bill has stalled in the House Judiciary Committee, which is waiting until the joint House/Senate ad hoc committee on methamphetamine legislation issues a recommendation on how to proceed with the bill.

The senate version was referred to the finance, ways and means committee in January, but has not yet been

See Legislature, 4

## Cannon County Arts Center 'Ain't Misbehavin'

By Melissa Coker  
Staff Writer

Beginning this weekend, the Arts Center of Cannon County presents *Ain't Misbehavin'*, and sure enough, it's not a bad production.

The atmosphere of the 1920s, '30s and '40s is evoked, not recreated, in this comedic musical that brings to life the world of the legendary Thomas "Fats" Waller. It shares a complete circle of jazz worlds—uptown and downtown, off-color and ornate, funny and breathtakingly beautiful.

It celebrates the heart and soul of '20s

and '30s Harlem, when the arrival of swing joined ragtime rhythms and zealous jazz. Though not quite a biography, the spirit of "Fats" remains a constant presence with the satiric, sultry and sometimes suggestive songs he made so famous.

*Ain't Misbehavin'* is a rhapsodic treatment of 30 songs and piano solos (newly equipped with words) composed, collaborated on or else simply recorded by the great "Fats Waller," said Douglas Watt of the *New York Daily News*.

Coined the greatest musical revue of them all, the rollicking revue won a Tony Award in 1978 for Best Musical, marking

the first time a revue had done so.

The majority of performances are pulled off by some of MTSU's finest: students Andrew Black McKnight, Amber Curry, C.J. Jordan and Ravin Lawrence all play parts in the production. Non-MTSU student Michael McGee also stars. Students Neal Figueroa and Nick Phillips accompany on piano and drums.

"It's a very funny, entertaining show," said Phillips, a senior Music Industry major. "The plot unfolds in the music itself so it doesn't drag along with sudden stops for dialogue."

Musical numbers featured include "Lookin' Good But Feelin' Bad," "The

Joint is Jumpin'," "Honeysuckle Rose" and "Cash for Your Trash." The original 1978 cast included Nell Carter, Andre De Shields, Armelia McQueen, Ken Page and Charlene Woodard. It served to jump-start Nell Carter's career and it ran for 1,604 performances.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to work with this group of performers," Assistant Director Mary Wilson said. "I'm jealous," she added with a smile.

The Arts Center is located in Woodbury, Tenn. As annual attendance has grown (from 2,000 in 1991 to over

See Arts, 4

## Call Bart Gordon

Staff Reports

Community members living in the 6th Congressional District can get in touch with their U.S. House representative next week.

Rep. Bart Gordon (D - Tenn.) will be available Monday and Tuesday between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. to discuss current issues, the nation's priorities and any problems a person may be having with a federal agency.

Gordon can be reached during these times by calling 1-877-790-5269. This number will only be activated for the above dates. ♦





Photo by David McCombs | Staff Photographer

The Oakland boys' loss to Rhea County Monday taking them out of the running for the state tournament.

## Oakland boys' streak ends

By David Hunter  
Senior Staff Writer

The Oakland High boys' basketball team came up one quarter short of making the state tournament.

Rhea County finished off the Patriots, 71-59 Monday night in the Class AAA sectional game.

Early on, Oakland looked like they were on their way to making the state tournament for the first time in eight years.

However, entering the last quarter, the Patriots were still up 45-44. With 5:40 remaining in the game, the score was 49-49. Rhea County then went on a 10-0 run to take control of the game.

Oakland did not score again until 1:55 left. Devin Boyd shot a lay-up to make the score 59-51.

The Patriots were able to slice the lead to four, 61-57, with 1:20 to go. However, Rhea County hit seven free throws to seal the victory. The Golden Eagles earned a trip to the state tournament. It is Rhea County's first appearance in the tournament since 1985.

The Golden Eagles dominated in the final quarter, 27-14. Oakland turned the ball over seven times in the last eight minutes of the game.

The lead changed 12 times and was tied five other times.

Tim Cooper scored a career high, 35 points, for the Golden Eagles. Eleven of those points came from the foul line in the last quarter.

Devin Boyd scored 17 points, tops for the Patriots. Oakland's season ends at 23-8. The Golden Eagles improve to 28-11.

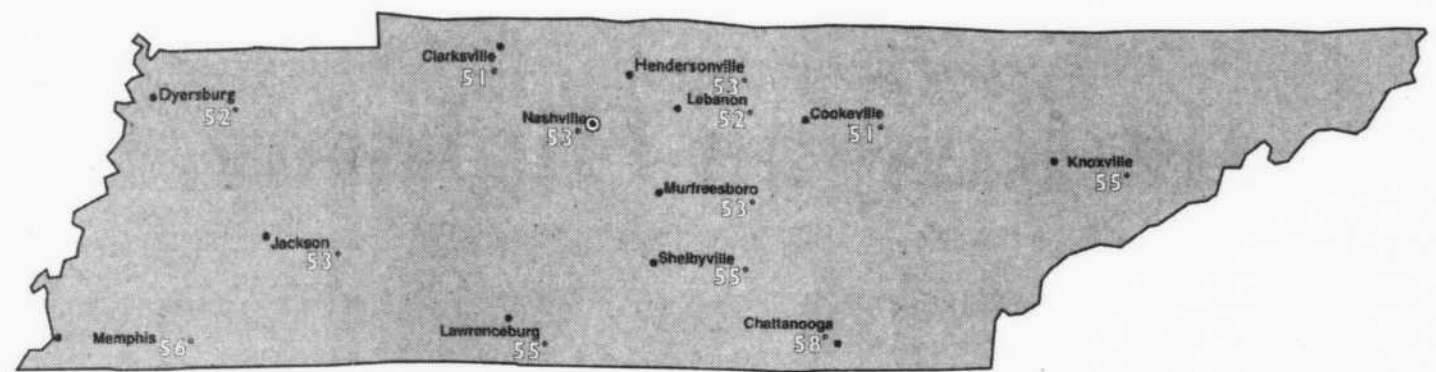
Rhea County will play Wilson Central in the first round of the TSSAA State Tournament on March 18th at the Murphy Center.

The other match ups in the Class AAA division, include Dobyns-Bennett vs. White Station, Bradley Central vs. Clinton, and Glencliff vs. Jackson North Side.

All state tournament games will take place at the Murphy Center starting next Wednesday. ♦

## Tennessee Weather – Thursday's Highs

From the Associated Press



Friday



Saturday



Sunday



Monday



Tuesday



## Legislature: House will vote on noise ordinance bill

Continued from 3

put on notice.

State noise ordinance (HB 2326/SB 2453) – The bill would make it a class C misdemeanor, punishable by a \$50 fine, if music emitting from a vehicle

can be heard more than 50 feet away while on public property ("Rolling rumpshakers could face fines," *Sidelines*, March 4).

The House is almost ready to silence the music; the bill is waiting for action in the calendar and rules committee, which

should send it to the house floor for a final vote.

The companion bill was scheduled to be heard yesterday in the Senate Transportation Committee, but was rolled until next week's meeting. ♦

## Arts:

Continued from 3

37,000 in 2000), it has become a model for what communities can accomplish when they pull together toward a common goal.

Shows are this Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and they run through March 27. There's also a Sunday matinee show at 2:00 p.m. Doors open 30 minutes before show time. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for adults and \$8 for groups or seniors.

Ain't Misbehavin' is based on an idea by Murray Horwitz and Richard Maltby, Jr. For tickets or more information, call 563-ARTS or visit [artscenterofcc.com](http://artscenterofcc.com). ♦

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Sidelines is now accepting application for...

# Editor in chief

[1855-60, Amer.] *ed'itor* *n.* the policy-making executive or principal editor of a publishing house, publication, or group of publications. [1870-75] *ed-i-tor-ship* (*ed'itor ship*) *n.* 1. the office or function of an editor. 2.

Summer/Fall 2004  
May-December appointment

Qualified candidates must:

- Be a student at MTSU, registered for classes at the time of application.
- Have a 2.3 cumulative GPA at the time of application.
- Have worked on staff at least two semesters or have comparable media experience.
- Provide three letters of recommendation, a current transcript and no more than five examples of their work, professionally submitted.

Deadline for  
Applications:

Friday  
April 2, 2004  
at 12:00 p.m.

Editors receive a full tuition scholarship and a salary tenure. Applications may be picked up from the MTSU Sidelines office, JUB 310, 9 am - 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Return the applications to Jeri Lamb, Sidelines Business Manager, in the Sidelines office, JUB 308B



## From the Editorial Board

### Forget the petty stuff, give us reason to vote

If the Student Government Association is not, in fact, merely a self-perpetuating organization that only caters to a very select group of people and ignores the rest of the campus, some of its members surely are acting like it is.

First came the effort to limit running for SGA executive office only to those who have served a semester on either the senate or an SGA committee.

The problem the SGA has had with lack of attendance and attention has been primarily attributed to senators and committee members themselves, not executive officers, so the need for this bill has yet to be adequately explained.

And we've never seen the top dogs at SGA work so hard as they have to keep Matt "Where Did He Get All That Money?" Chapman from running for office.

Maybe if the senators quit worrying about protecting their jobs (and executive officers are compensated for their work, as they should) and actually focused on student wants and needs, they could have renamed Tennessee Boulevard or whatever it is the senate actually does.

We are by no means endorsing the blitzkrieg candidacy of Matt Chapman; in fact, we think his case merits the open disclosure of campaign finances in the future.

The amount of money he's spending is unprecedented in recent SGA campaign history, and we think students deserve to know where a college student finds the money for a bus, expensive flyers and the campaign signs posted all over this side of town.

The SGA does have potential when the goals are reasonable, well-defined and directly benefit the students (i.e. free printing in the library – a very cool accomplishment).

Instead of trying to forbid a candidate from running on technical reasons, maybe those running for president and other executive positions should give us reasons we should vote for them instead. ♦

## America's division justified

We've all heard our fair share of news reports calling America a "divided nation."

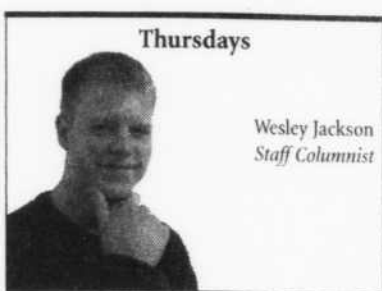
There's been enough of Howard Dean, John Kerry and John Edwards lamenting that we live in "two Americas," split by Bush's "wedge issues." Why can't we all just get past the labels and understand each other?

Why can't we all just vote for Kerry or Edwards?

America is divided. We're in a culture war. But so were we during the Clinton administration. And the Reagan administration. And in Nixon's and Carter's administrations.

In fact, there have been few times throughout our country's history when we haven't been divided in some fashion or another. And the divisions have occurred because of opposing values, convictions and world views.

I doubt the conflict and the division ultimately exist because we can't get past the labels. It's not as if conservatives, "we few, we happy few, we band of brothers," just can't understand the liberal



Thursdays

Wesley Jackson  
Staff Columnist

perspective or the liberals understand ours.

We do understand each other. Really well. That's why we're on opposite sides.

But Dean, Kerry, Edwards, even Clinton and Gore have all acted as if this division were a bad thing, as if they expected everyone to just lay down their beliefs and unite for the sake of being united – preferably behind Kerry or Edwards, or anyone else besides George W. Bush.

If they were that concerned about unity, they could just as well join in with the support for the president. They could put aside differences and support Bush for no other reason than to hold the nation together as we go through a

war on terror and the war with Iraq.

But we find that values and beliefs are far more important to all of us than unity.

Dean, Clinton and Michael Dukakis have all consistently pointed back to the past, to a golden age of unity in America as the ideal we should strive for – the 1960s.

Why the 1960s? Why not be all nostalgic about some other decade, the 1950s or 1920s for example, as ideals of a unified country?

Because the 1960s was a period of liberal ascendancy.

A democratic president was in power. Lyndon Johnson was creating his "Great Society," introducing Medicare and Head Start in his efforts to reform the nation.

But this was not a time of all-out national unity. President Johnson's own reforms demonstrated this. The Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act were all hot, divisive issues at the time. So was Vietnam.

The reason Dean, Clinton and

others can point back to the '60s with nostalgia is because it's a highlight for the liberals' résumé.

These liberals aren't concerned with unity. They're concerned about themselves and their party. The only "wedge" issues that really worry them are those that hurt the democratic ballot. Unity is seen only as a means to achieve their purposes.

Why can't we all just get along and vote for Kerry or Edwards? Because our values are worth being divided over, and we live in a country with the freedom to debate and wrestle with these opposing views.

We have the freedom to be divided and disagree – it's called democracy. Liberals like Dean, Kerry and Edwards aren't pining for unity. They're pining for a monarchy where they can be king. ♦

Wesley Jackson is a junior English major and can be reached via e-mail wtj2b@mtsu.edu.

## Generalizations hinder some new experiences

Making generalizations is an ugly but natural part of each individual's experience.

It starts early.

Junior high is probably the worst time for this, especially for those girls who are taller than the boys. And high school is when stereotyping seems to be honed into a fine art.

Athletes are suddenly "dumb jocks," beautiful girls are instantly "snobs" and offbeat, underdressed students are deemed "the dorks."

God help you if you're actually smart in high school, or talented, or beautiful, or unique. Someone will find a name for you.

As college students, we consider ourselves adults. We cringe when we encounter anyone who isn't at least somewhat self-sufficient, ambitious or knowledgeable about something.

Suddenly it's cool to be offbeat, and most bona fide college students are underdressed. On a campus as big as this one, tennis shoes are simply faster than high heels.

But even though we're older and more aware of who we want to become, we still revert back to a high school level when we make assumptions about people based on one or two characteristics.

One of the worst generalizations made on a college campus is, "Well, she's one of those sorority girls."

I've heard it countless times – if you are in a sorority, you are often labeled preppy, unimaginative and unintelligent.



Think About It

Lindsay Palmer  
Staff Columnist

Never mind the slew of 4.0 GPAs that are listed outside chapter room doors. Never mind the constant effort sororities make to be innovative with their charity work.

Never mind that, even though sorority girls wear the same type of representative label, each is an individual with her own taste in art, fashion and music.

Never mind all that. They wear Greek letters. They must be bulimic, right? They must be snobby. They're just like Barbie, made of plastic.

It's one of the most limiting assumptions, because it keeps Greek and non-Greek groups from ever really knowing each other.

Maybe it's even worse for athletes on campus. Most people genuinely believe that if someone is a good athlete, he or she must be all brawn and no brains. They must guzzle beer and steroids.

They must resemble those Neanderthals of old.

I've always been thrown by that one, because almost every athlete I've known has been intelligent. My boyfriend was a college athlete at a state school level, and now he's an engineer.

There are many others who are stereotyped. People who are just a little bit louder than normal, or just a little more artistic. People who prefer to dress

in black on a daily basis.

Or people who prefer to get stoned and stare at snails floating in an aquarium while spouting facts on microbiology to anyone who will listen.

Are these people nerds or punks or gothies? Or are they just people with their own passions and their own struggles?

Contrary to popular belief, each of us is unique. None of us fit under one simple label completely. Human beings are far too multi-faceted to be put in a certain box and left there.

The danger in generalizing usually only goes so far as limitation – of ourselves. By doing it, we keep ourselves from experiencing other people and learning from them.

But there have been countless examples through history of how making assumptions based on a few characteristics, such as race or culture, has been fatal for whole groups of people. Hitler comes to mind.

On a large or small scale, generalization weakens us. It makes us into our own stereotype. We become flat stock characters, only seeing the world in two dimensions.

We need to open our eyes to all the intricate details of each human being and learn to recognize what we all have in common – blatant humanity – despite race, preference, looks or the inevitable label. ♦

Lindsay Palmer is a senior mass communication major and can be reached via e-mail at lnp2f@mtsu.edu.



McPhee's 'South Park' audition

## Organizations unorganized

When I came to MTSU, I really wanted to join some clubs and student organizations. I thought a major university would be rife with exciting opportunities to make new friends and share common interests. I was wrong.

Excluding fraternities and sororities, MTSU has more than 150 student organizations listed on its Web site. That title is completely misleading; very few seem to actually be organized. Whenever I talk to people about clubs, they furrow their brows in confusion.

Unless a club represents a major concern (i.e. clearly-defined political groups and some activist groups), there's very little love for it here.

Others, though, subsist on next to no membership; five or six people sit around a table playing board games or making small talk just so they can say they had a regular meeting. It's very discouraging. Perhaps the only thing more worrisome are the groups with decent membership but no drive: no real activities, no real interest and slipshod Web sites with a bare minimum of information.

Why even bother? If we took all these splintered bits of interest and manpower, we could do something truly incredible. We could start a university garden. We could form community outreach programs. Heck, we could even build a really huge sand sculpture in the middle of campus, and when we get tired of it, we could all stomp it out together.

None of those things are going to happen, though. Instead, we'll continue to have numerous understaffed, badly promoted, hardly understood student organizations. We'll have political debates billed as social clubs and social clubs billed as political debates. This would all be funny if it weren't so sad.

How do these groups start? Osmosis? Psychic possession? Sheer boredom? I'm not sure, but it seems like there ought to be stricter rules about starting your own student organization.

Once a group forms a club, they should remember there was a minimum required number of members for a reason. Ditto for the club charter.

If you're the founder, make sure you know, and make sure potential new recruits know, too. I'd rather go to something called the "Ultra Terrific Capitalism Wacky Fun Hour" than the "Campus Capitalists" any day, because it tells me what to expect. Something more serious like "Political Discourse with Divorced Singles" also tells what to expect, as opposed to a snappy and confusing name like "The MTSU Vote Splits."

I don't care how official and on-topic it sounds, if you take a name like that at face value, you'll end up in a back room playing (and losing at) Twister with your two clubmates. And guess what? They'll be happy to have their first new buddy since 1995.

All this is very facetious, I know, and I don't mean to discourage anyone who's making a real and concerted effort with his or her own club. Just let it be known that you're in the minority, and if you keep at it and get the word out, you'll probably soon have a room bustling with people.

If for some reason it doesn't work, give me a buzz. I'm great at Scrabble. ♦

Sarah Crotzer is a junior English major and can be reached via e-mail at saroz@aol.com

## From the Opinions Editor

### Save 37 cents; buy counterfeit stamps

A terrible epidemic is sweeping the country, and it's definitely not your run-of-the-mill crisis: Officials have noticed an increase in counterfeit stamps.

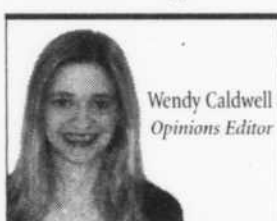
The masters of counterfeiting have gotten away with passing off false \$100 bills, fooling the cashiers until inevitably the bank calls and says, "Hey. This is fake. You owe us \$100." Then the business has to take the loss.

Though the false production of currency is certainly nothing to be condoned, I can at least understand the thought process behind it.

I make a false \$100 bill, then I take it somewhere that will value a bill of that value (one that doesn't have one of those detecting pens). I purchase something small, say a pack of gum, claiming all I have is the \$100 because I just cashed a paycheck. Naturally, I get my change, probably \$99 and some change. I have successfully made a considerable profit.

Obviously, this is illegal and wrong, but at least the potential profit serves as some sort of motive for the actions.

Stamps, on the other



Wendy Caldwell  
Opinions Editor

hand, are a completely different matter.

Sure, stamp prices are on the rise, but a mere 37 cents is hardly worth the ramifications for being caught with knowingly trying to pass off counterfeit material.

According to Postal Inspector Tony Robinson, people sell counterfeit stamps a variety of ways, including online and door-to-door.

I'd be a little suspicious if a stamp-seller came knocking on my door offering "the latest in stamp design." In fact, the only thing I'll buy from a door-to-door salesman is Girl Scout cookies, because those I know are genuine.

For those trying to save a buck, at least counterfeit something that will save a full buck, not just 37 cents.

It's hardly worth your time and effort, not to mention the risk of getting caught, just to mail your mom a letter, free of charge. ♦

**Congratulations to our Sidelines team for placing first in the Scotty M. Tucker Memorial Quiz Bowl.**

slopinio@mtsu.edu

## SIDELINES

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

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



# SPORTS

6 ♦ SIDELINES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

## Blue Raiders skin Bisons on road stretch



File Photo

**MT junior Jeff Beachum fouls the ball against Indiana Purdue-Fort Wayne Feb. 21. The Blue Raiders outscored the Mastodons 30-2 in three games.**

**By Jon Leffew**  
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee baseball team continued play Tuesday, making the short trip to Nashville to defeat the Lipscomb University Bisons.

The Blue Raiders jumped to an early lead before the Bisons cut the lead to one run in the seventh. However, a three-run eighth and timely defense gave the Blue Raiders another win on their eight-game road trip.

The 10-7 victory moves the Blue Raiders to 8-2 on the season and avenged last year's loss to the Bisons. This marks the best start the Blue Raiders have had since 2001, when the team went 14-1 to begin the season.

Redshirt freshman pitcher Tyler Copeland picked up his first career win after relieving starter Shay Horseman in the fifth.

Copeland gave up just one earned run in two innings of work, while Horseman struck out six in his four innings.

Offensively, the Blue Raiders scored first when Chris LeGueneec got his first hit of the season, a two-run, two-out double into right field.

In the bottom half of the first, the Bisons got three hits from their first four batters off Horseman.

Horseman then picked up a strikeout to end the first, after which both pitchers settled down for the second.

Bison pitcher Zach Duncan retired the side in the sec-

ond, but MT picked up three hits on the way to a huge third inning, eventually chasing Duncan.

Eric McNamee walked to begin the inning, and then Beachum reached after being hit by a pitch. After a Kemp single to left field loaded the bases, Brett Carroll ripped a sacrifice fly to center field, scoring McNamee.

After a single from LeGueneec, Archer blasted one over the center field fence for the grand slam and a 7-1 Blue Raider lead.

The Bisons cut into the lead in the fifth as two hits were followed by a fielder's choice that scored a run and an MT error. When the dust settled in the fifth, the Blue Raiders led 7-5.

Lipscomb scored another run in the seventh after three straight singles and a sacrifice fly.

However, MT added to the lead in the following inning with a fielder's choice from Beachum, after which Kemp doubled off the center field wall giving the Blue Raiders the 10-6 lead.

The Bisons scored again in the eighth and got two hits in the ninth, but MT pitcher Travis Horschel induced a ground ball to end the game with the Blue Raiders on top 10-7.

The Blue Raiders finished their road trip yesterday against another in-state rival, Belmont University. The team will return home this weekend to face 2003 College World Series participant Southwest Missouri State University for a three-game series. ♦

## Tigers trump MT in doubleheader

### In-state rival gives two losses

**By Matthew Adair**  
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee softball team dropped the ball against Tennessee State University (7-8), losing the doubleheader against the Tigers Tuesday.

MT fell in a 1-0 shutout in the first game, with the Tigers maintaining a strong defense throughout. TSU sophomore Justine Jontz pitched from the mound into the sixth inning, allowing six hits during that time. Junior Tara Evanisko replaced Jontz in the sixth, allowing only one hit for the remainder of the game.

The Tigers' defense managed to strand 10 Lady Raider base runners, which proved to be enough to hold MT scoreless and allow TSU's Amanda Buhler to score the game's only point in the fifth on a throwing error by the Lady Raiders.

TSU came on strong in the second match, scoring six runs to MT's one by the end of the second inning. The Lady Raiders mounted a rally in the third, however, and narrowed the Tigers' lead to within one point with a three-run homer by Angie Huebner. Leah Grothaus also scored in that inning, reaching home after Dani DeCamino grounded out at second.

Ashley Frizzell managed to



Photo by Julie Madewell | Staff Photographer

**MT junior Crystal Bobo pitched a no-hitter against Lipscomb Mar. 4. MT won 9-0.**

hold the Tigers to only one hit in the bottom of the third, but the rally was not enough. MT scored only three more runs in the rest of the game, with two in the fifth by Grothaus and Michelle Wilkes, both coming home on doubles. Kristina Hieb scored MT's final point in the top of the seventh on a double by Muriel Ledbetter.

TSU rebuilt its lead in the final half of the game with a

homer from Hollie Sanders in the fourth and a two-out, two-run double by Shannon Hicks in the fifth. Hicks also pitched 2 1/3 innings for TSU and earned the save, while the win for the match went to Evanisko after she took the mound in the third.

MT junior pitcher Crystal Bobo took a loss in both matches, falling to 4-3 after recording a no-hitter against Lipscomb on

March 4, her first no-hitter and the Lady Raiders' fourth.

The Lady Raiders continue road play March 13-14 in the Evansville Invitational, facing Ball State University and the University of Evansville before playing against Georgia Tech, Troy State University, BSU and the University of North Carolina in the Buzz Classic at Georgia Tech March 19-21. ♦

## Track team chosen for Indoor tourney

**By Brad Jameson**  
Staff Writer

Three Blue Raiders have been selected to compete in the NCAA Indoor Championships in Fayetteville, Ark., Saturday.

Senior

sprinters Mardy Scales and Garland Martin, along with junior Rosemary Okafor, have been chosen by the NCAA as top performers in their events.

Scales will run in the men's 60-meters and 200-meters; Martin will compete in the men's 60-meter hurdles; and Okafor will run in the women's 400-meters.

For the third straight year, Scales will earn All-America honors in the 60-meter dash. His performance in the 200-meters at the Sun Belt Conference Indoor Championships two weeks ago set both school and conference

records. Scales is ranked No. 6 in the 60-meters and No. 5 in the 200-meters.

Scales' fastest time of 6.63 seconds in the 60-meters was set earlier this season in January. The fastest time in the

event this season was 6.54 by Johnnie Drake of Central Michigan University. Scales' record time of 20.84 in the 200-meters was set two weeks ago, barely meeting the automatic qualifying

time of 20.85. Tyson Gay of the University of Arkansas has run the 200-meters the fastest this season, finishing in 20.40 seconds.

Martin, a newcomer to the championships, is seeded No. 10 in the men's 60-meter hurdles.

Like Scales, his fastest time of 7.78 was set at the SBC Championships two weeks ago.

See NCAA, 8



**NCAA Indoor Championships**

Fayetteville, Ark.  
Mar. 13-14, 2004



Scales



Okafor



Mitchell



Huebner

## Softball squad travels to Evansville for Spring Classic

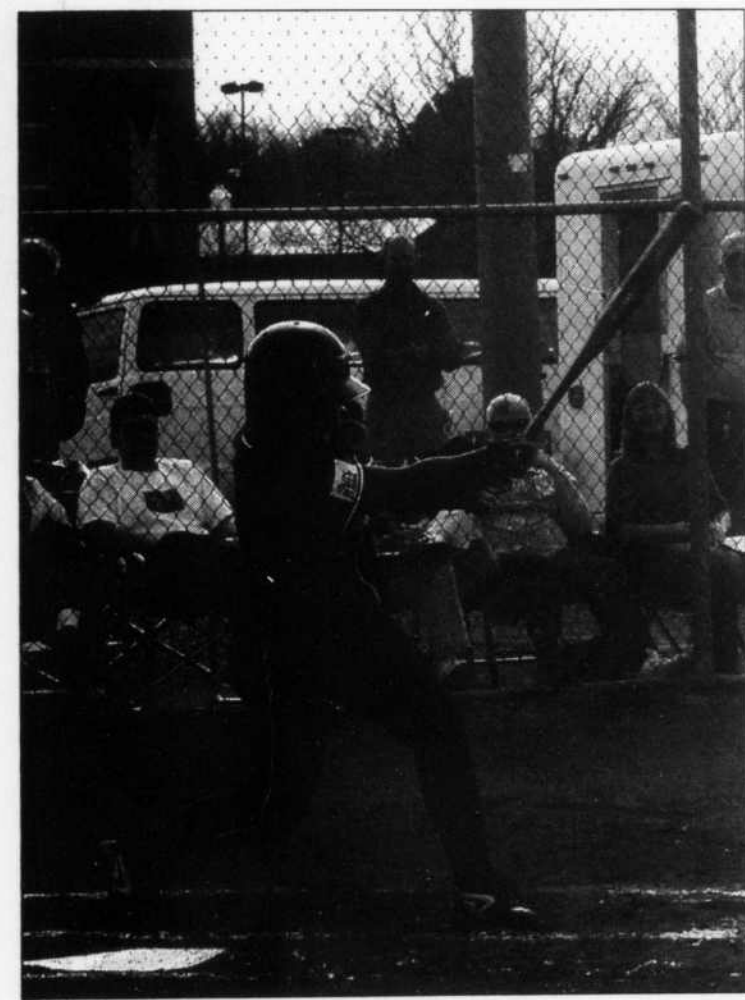


Photo by Julie Madewell | Staff Photographer

**MT sophomore Muriel Ledbetter swings and misses against Lipscomb Mar. 4. Ledbetter was 0-2 in the win.**

**By Michael Bailey and Colby Sledge**  
Staff Writer and Assistant Sports Editor

The Middle Tennessee Lady Raiders travel to Evansville, Ind., this weekend for four games in the University of Evansville Spring Classic.

The Lady Raiders (7-5) will square off against Ball State University and host University of Evansville twice each on consecutive days.

MT has dropped their last three games by a combined four runs, including being swept in a doubleheader at Tennessee State University Tuesday.

Evansville (16-4) is off to its best start since 1999.

The Purple Aces have won three tournaments already this year, including the Spring Fling Tournament in St. Augustine, Fla., Tuesday.

Evansville has won 10 of their last 11 games behind pitchers Casey Clutch and Katie Markle, who each have seven wins.

The tournament will be the Aces' first opportunity to play in front of their home fans this season.

BSU has lost seven of their eight games this season, with their only victory coming over Youngstown State University 3-0 Feb. 29.

The Lady Cardinals lost their most recent game 5-4 to the University of North Carolina-Wilmington in the Georgia Softball Classic March 6.

Jodi Willis leads BSU offensively with a .294 batting average.

The Lady Cardinals' roster features only five players hitting more than .200.

Amy Brownfield picked up the only win for the Lady Cardinals.

For MT, currently five Lady Raiders are batting better than .300. Senior Courtney Mitchell and freshman Brittany Herald are averaging better than .500 so far this season.

Mitchell and Herald have accounted for 40 percent of the teams' runs batted in and doubles on the year as well.

Former TSU Tiger and current MT catcher Angie Huebner tied Mitchell for the team lead in home runs with her three-run blast in the second game of Tuesday's doubleheader against TSU.

Junior MT pitcher Crystal Bobo pitched a no-hitter earlier this season against Lipscomb University but took both of the

losses in the twinbill at TSU.

The Lady Raiders open invitational play when they take on BSU at 1 p.m. Saturday. MT then takes on Evansville at 3 p.m. MT will play both teams again at the same times Sunday. ♦



### Upcoming Games

♦ Evansville Invitational	Mar. 13-14
♦ Buzz Classic	Mar. 19-21
♦ UAB	Mar. 22
♦ Samford	Mar. 23
♦ Lipscomb	Mar. 31
♦ Birmingham Southern	Apr. 6
♦ Western Kentucky	Apr. 10-11
♦ Austin Peay	Apr. 13

### Important Softball Notice

Middle Tennessee's softball doubleheader with Austin Peay State University scheduled for today has been postponed until April 13. Pat Travis, the mother of junior Lady Gov Jennifer Travis, passed away Sunday after battling a lengthy illness. Pat Travis was a teacher and coach at Montgomery Central High School, and both of her daughters, Amanda and Jennifer, have played softball for APSU. Her funeral is scheduled for today. The game times April 13 will be 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. ♦



## Smith invites fans to selection party

Courtesy MT Media Relations

Dear Middle Tennessee fans,

What a great end to the Sun Belt Tournament. We are so glad you were a part of our amazing season and appreciate all you have done for Lady Raider Basketball. We are very excited about our Sun Belt Conference Championship and are looking forward to being a part of the NCAA Tournament and March Madness.

As you may know, the NCAA Selection Show will be televised on ESPN this Sunday at 4 p.m. As a team we are planning to watch this live broadcast at Corky's Barbeque, home of the Lady Raider Basketball Network radio show, and would love for you to be there for the excitement. During this broadcast we will find out not only who we will face in the first round, but who else is in our bracket and where we will travel for the game.

Again, we appreciate all you have done for Lady Raider Basketball program and hope to see you this Sunday at Corky's on Old Fort Parkway.

Sincerely,  
Stephany Smith  
Head Coach



Smith

## Blue Raiders face stiff competition

By Mark Emery  
Staff Writer

After a 7-0 win against Indiana State University Monday, the Middle Tennessee men's tennis team will travel to Montgomery, Ala., to participate in the National Blue-Gray Classic.

Their first-round opponent is Harvard University, who is currently No. 14 in the nation. Harvard is the No. 2 seed and one of only four teams seeded in the tournament.

Last year, MT played Harvard in the first round of this same tournament. The Blue Raiders won a close match with a 4-3 victory.

Things will be a little tougher for MT this year. Harvard is currently 6-2 on the season, with their only losses coming to No. 9 Florida and No. 26 University of Washington.

"Last year, beating them [Harvard] was our biggest win of the year. We have a team that is capable of beating them," MT head coach Dale Short said.

"This is one of the best college tournaments by far. We are excited to be re-invited back to participate in the tournament this year."

Harvard is led by senior David Lingman,

who is currently No. 35 in the nation in singles play. He and junior partner Jonathan Chu are No. 26 in doubles play. The team has four seniors to go along with one junior and one freshman playing in the singles matches.

MT, on the other hand, has only two seniors out of nine players on the team. Short believes this will be a chance for his players to get some needed experience.

"This tournament will really help the guys get ready for the Sun Belt Tournament and, if we qualify, the NCAA tournament," Short said. "It gives our players an opportunity to beat some higher ranked teams."

The tournament will definitely be loaded with plenty of good teams. Out of the 16 teams that are participating, only two are unranked. The lowest ranked team in the tournament is Old Dominion University at No. 67.

The No. 1 seed in the tournament is No. 11 Virginia Commonwealth University. The No. 3 seed is No. 21 University of North Carolina, and the No. 4 seed is No. 27 Mississippi State University.

If MT wins against Harvard, the Blue Raiders will go on to play the winner of Boise State University and Old Dominion. If MT loses, the Blue Raiders will play at least one more match. The tournament is a round-robin format, with each team playing at least two matches. ♦



Short

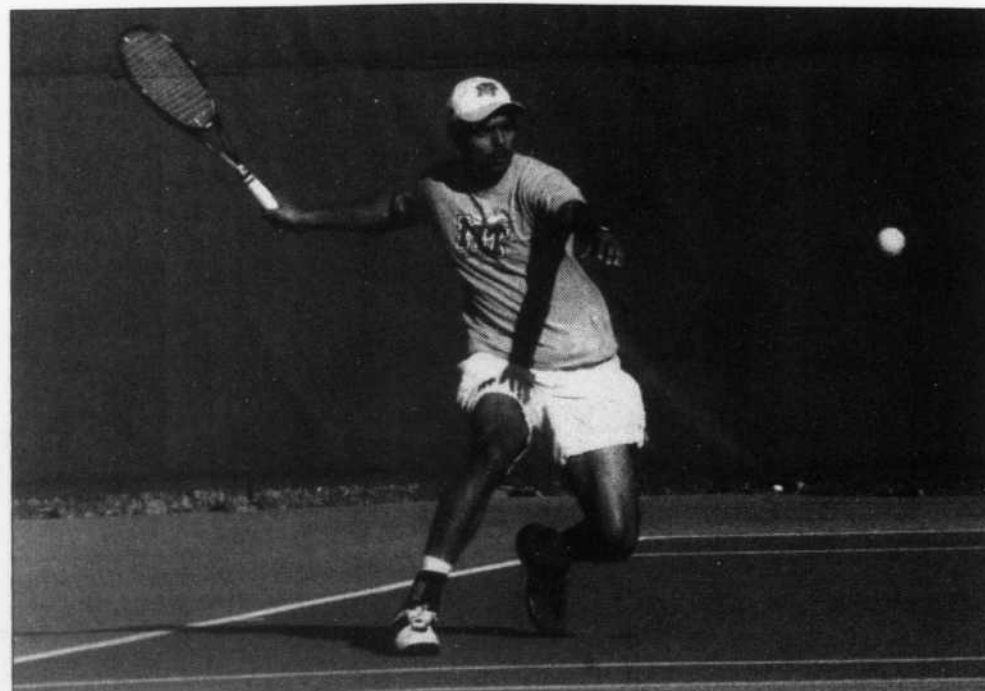


Photo by David Maxwell | Staff Photographer  
MT junior Anant Sitaram returns a volley against Indiana State March 8.

## Sidelines sports

sports@mtsu.edu

### Employment

Rewarding summer internship. Handful of openings with world famous Southwest Company. Challenge yourself. Build your resume. Earn staggering income (Student Avg. \$2312/month). Call 888-478-5330.

Full-time Nanny Position. We are searching for a fun, energetic, caring person who loves children to be a nanny for our 11 month old daughter, Alexandria. The position requires approximately 45 hours per week, Mon.-Fri., in our home. We would be open to job sharing between 2 persons to allow for class schedules. Salary is negotiable. We are located in Primm springs sub-division off of Thompson lane. Please call John or Nikki @ 615-867-2450 after 4 pm to inquire and set up an interview. Or email anytime: kelly-jandn@comcast.net.

Servers/Cooks needed. Maggio's Italian Restaurant is looking for experienced servers and cooks. Please apply between 2-4pm Mon.-Sun. 2910 S. Church St.

Local Accounting firm is in need of a marketing rep to set up appointments and make presentations to prospective clients. You will be the first point of contact with the potential client. 15-20 hrs/week. 75% appointment setting, 25% presentations. Required skills: Excellent communication & presentation skills. Self-starter who works on own initiative. Fast learner, previous sales/marketing experience preferred. Training provided. Base pay and generous commission structure. Fax resumes with salary expectations to 217-3043 or jobs@integral-solutions.com

**Bartender Trainees Needed!**  
#250 a day potential. Local positions. 1800-293-3985 ext. 305.

### Help Wanted

**N.C. MOUNTAIN DUDE RANCH JOBS SUMMER 2004.** Beautiful Resort (Dude Ranch) Looking for summer help- Food Service/ Housekeeping/ Counselors. 828-675-4510.

Wanted Student to help register the local chapter of a national honor society. 3.0 Minimum GPA required, sophomores preferred. Contact us at vicepresident@phisgmth-eta.org.

### Internships

**Do you need to prepare for graduate school?** To qualify, student has to be a low-income/ first generation or under-represented student with a desire to achieve earning a PhD. Have a 2.8 GPA and 60 earned credit hours by May 2004. For more information, contact the **MTSU McNair Scholars Program** located in Midgett 103 or call 904-8462 for more information.

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### Opportunities

**Are you interested in earning a PhD?** Would you like to have your own personal research mentor? Would you like to receive funding while conducting research? Are you interested in preparation for graduate studies? If you answered yes to the above questions, please contact the **MTSU McNair Scholars Program**. The McNair Program is located in Midgett 103. Our staff would like to tell you more about our distinguished program. Information may also be found at: <http://www.mtsu.edu/~mcnair/>

### Services

Ever wanted your pet's image in a beautiful photograph? Saturday March 20th from 8AM to Noon @ Warren Animal Hospital there will be a photographer to capture you and your pet in a family portrait. Small sit-in fee per subject. Call 895-8126 for an appointment today!

Dtgr/U Write It - Freelance Typing and Word processing Iris McGee, Creator Send to: 211 Old Flat Ck Rd. Shelbyville, TN 37160. Fax: 931-695-5544 Specialty: Resumes.

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## CLASSIFIEDS

New online classifieds for MTSU students! Post your Ads free of charge with optional photo upload. [www.campus-fair.org](http://www.campus-fair.org)

**ATTORNEY**  
Christine Barrett  
890-1300  
320 West Main Street, Suite 121, Murfreesboro, TN 37130  
**Visa/MasterCard Accepted.**

### Sales

'94 Isuzu pick-up. 175k. Great car for students, even better price! \$1,200 obo. Call 901-355-6260.

Box spring and mattress sets. Various sizes. Very good shape. \$50 or \$75 delivered. Call Adam anytime @ 615-554-4061.

Wedding Dress sizes 4-8, pure white, never altered, worn one time, strapless, heart-shaped neckline, long train, lots of beads and lace must sell, \$150 obo. Call 931-607-9077 lv. msg.

Canon Eos (Rebel) for Sale. Canon Ultrasonic 75-300mm Lens, Canon (Tiffen) 28-80 mm Lens -EF 28-80mm f/3.5-5.6, SunPak Auto 433 AF Thyristor -Flash CanEos. This camera is in immaculate shape. It has only been used for 3-4 rolls of film. For more information contact: Nic Stone 424-7561. \$450 obo.

'97 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo for sale. Black, leather interior, CD player, CC, PW, PL, tinted windows, 80k, non-smoker, regular oil changes and maintenance. \$10,000 obo. Contact 631-4275.

'97 Chevy S10 truck, 119K miles, 5 star 16" rims, low profile tires, V6 Vortec Engine, K&N Air filter, Roll pan, 5 speed manual transmission, hunter green. \$3,850. Call 417-0844.

Name brand sofa, chair and ottoman. Excellent condition. \$700. Cherry cocktail and end table. Excellent condition \$70. Call 896-4073.

Photo paper for sale 4x6 9ml 20 per box \$5, 8x11 7.5 ml 15 per box \$7. Contact or Curt 893-0469, Wesley Foundation.

1983 BMW 320i: automatic, sunroof, leather, air. \$750 or best offer 217-8057 or 397-2365.

Brand new white hot point refrigerator with ice-maker. Retail at HD/Lowes for \$598. Sale w/ free local delivery, \$375 firm. Call 615-578-3377 for more info.

Large Coca-Cola. Glass Front merchant style reach-in Cooler/refrigerator. Free local Delivery sale for \$375. Call 615-578-3377 for Details.

New Never installed Kohler 6 Jet Hydromassage Luxury Bath Tub. Complete with motor assembly. Measures almost 6 ft by 4 ft. Retail for over \$1,000. Sale with free local delivery, \$575. Please call 615-578-3377 for more info.

Female black lab, AKC registered, 9 months old, spayed and current shots. Friendly, loving and smart. Must sell. \$90. Call 890-8791 before 6 p.m.

For Sale: Car Stereo equipment. 2 Cerwin Vega subs in custom box, 3 Amps, all high end wiring. \$500 obo. Large sleeper sofa. \$60 obo. Large entertainment center. Accommodates 32" TV with room for components behind glass doors, \$75 obo. 300 MHz computer with 256 megs or ram. Great Internet/Word processor machine. Comes with 14" monitor. \$170 obo. Wooden side table 3" x 18" \$40 obo. Contact 2473 @ 867-4826 or 473-2473.

7.2 inch Pyle remote controlled flip down cart TV New with dome lights \$200 obo. New Custom built Sun visor with 7.2 inch Casio TV with remote control \$200 obo. Call 901-351-7480.

1993 Toyota Camry XLE, green, auto, CD, sunroof, power, leather, 147K miles. \$3300. Contact Adam or Kim, 366-5105 or 668-9015.

Twin Mattress and box springs set for sale. Almost new. \$90 obo. Bedding available for extra. Call 668-2014

Scuba gear!! Fins, booties, mask. \$200. Call Amanda 653-3046.

### Wanted to Buy

Cash loans on valuables. Buy Gold Jewelry, Weapons, Musical, Coins. 896-7167 Come in, 1803 N.W. Broad St. M'boro Gold-n-Pawn.

### Roommate

Roommate wanted- Female. Rent is \$375 w/ All utilities included. About 10 min. from campus. No Deposit required. Call 931-580-2715 or 615-222-4251.

Roommate or Couple Wanted To share 2 BD/2BA apt. Move in

May 1st. \$410/mo. includes rent, utilities, internet, phone, and cable. Contact JD at 615-596-7515.

**Roommate Wanted:** Homeowner in town wants tenant to live in 3-bedroom house. No long term lease required. Rent is \$375/mo. includes electricity, cable, water, and local phone. Call # 330-3937. Ask for John.

### For Rent

2 BD Historic house. Close to MTSU-all modern conveniences. Central Heat & Air. Water furnished. \$600. 895-0075.

Raiders Crossing 1 BD in 3 BD apt. Room has free tanning, pool/hot tub view, balcony overlooks pool, \$425/mo., furnished. Only one Roommate lives there now. Call for details 498-4713.

Room for rent @ Sterling University Gables. \$350/month includes water and electric, shuttle bus, ethernet, game room, basketball and volleyball courts. Handicap accessible. Call Jesse ASAP 653-7946.

Raiders Crossing Apt. for rent- 425, 3 BD, 3 BA and fully furnished. #1 apt. in awards. Call me Saleh at 615-456-6711.

### Subleasing

Female sublesser needed for a 4BD/4BA apt. @ The Woods @ Greenland. Great roommates, free tanning and workout facility, year around hot tub. Rent is \$399, includes water, electric, premium cable, and T3 internet connection. Fully furnished w/ washer & dryer. Available in May. Call 423-432-2312, leave msg.

Do you want to get off Campus for the summer? Spacious BD with personal full bath, clean carpet, furnished (w/washer/dryer) with ALL utilities included!!! Share with one respectable female roommate. Downstairs unit in University Courtyard for \$485/month!!! Call for negotiations: 904-8861 and ask for Jamie L. Looking to sublease as early as May 2004.

Male sublesser wanted for the summer at Sterling Gables. It is a 4 BD, 2 BA apartment with access to gym, hot tub, pool, and tanning bed. Move in at beginning of May. Rent is \$330/ month. For more information, Call Clay at 865-

660-2041.

Sterling Gables reach from new Wal-Mart. Furnished 4 BD 2BA, all MTSU male students. Take over till August receive \$100. Take over new August '04 lease get \$400 from me! Pool, fitness center and game room included at clubhouse. Call Brian at 615-545-2478.

Female Sublesser wanted @ University Courtyard Apt. in a 4 BD, 4BA. All utilities paid including cable and phone. Rent \$350/month, but get 1st month free. Move in ASAP. Call Keiana @ 931-629-1694.

### Pets

Cute black palmarinen, 12 wks. old all shots, proof of authenticity. Call Courtney 931-409-0911 or 217-0694.

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**#1 Spring Break Vacations!** Cancun, Jamaica, Acapulco, Bahamas, & Florida! Best parties, best hotels, best prices! Space is limited! Book now & save! 1-800-234-007 [www.endless-summertours.com](http://www.endless-summertours.com)

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Book early and save \$! world's longest Keg Party- Free beer all week!! Live band & DJ, Wet T-shirt, Hard Body & Venus Swimwear contest. Suites up to 12 people, 3 pools, huge beachfront hot tub, lazy river ride, water slide, jet skis, parasail. Sandpiper-Beacon Beach Resort.  
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# 2004 TSSAA Girls State Tournament

## TSSAA Girls High School State Tournament

All games will be played in Murphy Center

Class A	
Wednesday 11 a.m.	Clay County 62 Perry County 58
Wednesday 12:30 p.m.	Cosby 68 Peabody 43
Wednesday 2 p.m.	Unaka 34 Clarkrange 62
Wednesday 5:30 p.m.	Huntingdon 56 Summertown 40

Class AA	
Wednesday 7 p.m.	Loretto Seymour
Wednesday 8:30 p.m.	Crockett County McMinn Central
Thursday 11 a.m.	Oliver Springs Cheatham County
Thursday 12:30 p.m.	Gibson County Livingston Academy

Class AAA	
Thursday 2 p.m.	Greeneville Wilson Central
Thursday 5:30 p.m.	Shelbyville Jackson North Side
Thursday 7 p.m.	Columbia Craigmont
Thursday 8:30 p.m.	Brentwood Powell

## BOX SCORES

**PEABODY (68)**  
Studivant 1-7 4-4 6, Anderson 1-4 0-0 3, Barnett 4-9 3-6 14, Bobbitt 3-10, 2-3 9, Ford 3-10, 0-0 7, Hooker 0-1 0-0 0, Orgain 0-1 0-0 0, Meece 0-0 0-0 0, Yancey 0-0 0-0 0, Peterson 1-1 0-0 2, Simpson 5-13 6-8 16, Long 5-7 0-0 11, Cook 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 23-64 15-21 68.

**COSBY (43)**  
Webb 1-3 0-0 2, Hannah 5-10 0-0 10, Coggins 2-11 2-2 6, Chandler 0-1 2-2 2, Jenkins 7-14 1-2 15, Cabe 0-0 0-0 0, Shelton 0-0 0-0 0, Little 0-0 0-0 0, Baxter 0-0 0-0 0, Snow 0-0 0-0 0, Thornton 0-0 0-0 0, Ashell 0-0 0-0 0, Hunt 4-11 0-0 8. Totals 19-50 5-6 43.

Halftime—Peabody 35, Cosby 16. Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Peabody 33 (Bobbitt 8), Cosby 42 (Jenkins 9). Assists—Peabody 11 (Studivant 7), Cosby 11 (Coggins 5). Total fouls—Peabody 9, Cosby 14.

**CLARKRANGE (62)**  
Snow 8-13 3-6 19, Jones 5-8 0-0 15, Ramsey 4-6 0-0 10, Upchurch 5-5 2-2 15, Cravens 1-10 1-2 3, Beaty 0-1 0-0 0, Jones 0-0 0-0 0, Green 0-0 0-0 0, Cottle 0-0 0-0 0, Miller 0-0 0-0 0, Pinson 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 23-43 6-11 62.

**UNAKA (34)**  
Ensor R. 2-7 0-0 5, Osborne 4-11 6-6 16, Ensor D. 0-5 2-2 2, Townsend 0-8 0-0 0, Roberson 2-5 0-0 4, Wagenseller 0-0 0-0 0, Johnson 0-0 0-0 0, Wilson 0-1 0-0 0, Babb 2-2 0-0 4, Taylor 1-1 1-1 3, Allen 0-0 0-0 0, Lunsford 0-0 0-0 0, Gouge 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 11-45 9-9 34.

Halftime—Clarkrange 28, Unaka 18. Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Clarkrange 25 (Cravens, Jones 6), Unaka 33 (Osborne 5). Assists—Clarkrange 18 (Ramsey 11), Unaka 7 (Ensor 3). Total fouls—Clarkrange 10, Unaka 13.

**SUMMERTOWN (40)**  
Corbin 3-8 0-0 6, Lovett 3-10 0-0 6, Scott 7-10 1-1 15, Long 0-4 0-0 0, Franks 2-7 0-2 4, Tucker T. 1-1 0-0 2, Tucker J. 0-2 0-0, Lovett 1-2 0-0 3, Clark 1-1 0-0 2, Peterson 0-0 2-2 2, Durham 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 18-45 3-5 40.

**HUNTINGDON (56)**  
Lockhart 2-3 0-0 6, Melton W. 5-11 3-6 13, Fuller 10-14 6-8 26, Smith 1-4 0-0 2, Pritchard 1-4 -2 5, Hilliard 1-4 0-0 2, Henson Ca. 0-0 2-2 2, Henson Co. 0-0 0-0 0, Porter 0-0 0-0 0, Butler 0-0 0-0 0, Strayhorn 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 20-40 13-18 56.

Halftime—Summertown 19, Huntingdon 17. Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Summertown 20 (Franks 5), Huntingdon 30 (Melton 8). Assists—Summertown 10 (Lovett 4), Huntingdon 12 (Lockhart 6). Total Fouls—Summertown 18, Huntingdon 11.

**PERRY COUNTY (62)**  
Rhodes 0-2 2-4 2, Edney 8-20 7-9 26, Gladden 6-13 5-9 17, Weatherly 6-19, 5-8 17, Dabbs 0-0 0-0 0, Elkins 0-0 0-0 0, Robbins 0-1, 0-1 0. Totals 20-55 19-31 62.

**CLAY COUNTY (58)**  
Strong 2-7, 2-3 7, Smith 4-12, 1-2 13, Watson 4-9 1-3 9, Rich 6-7 0-0 12, Herrmann 6-12 4-5 16, Turner 0-0, 1-2 1, Williams 0-0 0-0 0, Killmon 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 22-47 8-12 58.

Halftime—Perry County 34, Clay County 33. Fouled out—Watson, Rich. Rebounds—Perry County 37 (Weatherly 9), Clay County 33 (Rich 8). Assists—Perry County 10 (Edney 4), Clay County 9 (Watson 4). Total fouls—Perry County 14, Clay County 21.

Sports phone  
898-2816

## NCAA: First trip for Okafor

Continued from 6

The fastest finish this season is 7.66, accomplished by Ole Miss junior Antwon Hicks. Though Martin failed to qualify for finals at last week's Last Chance Invitational, his fastest time was still good enough to win him a spot in the championships.

Okafor is also competing in the NCAA Championships for her first time. Her fastest time of 52.93 in the 400-meters is good enough for seed No. 13. Her time of 52.93 from last week broke Kishara George's school record of 54.26, set two weeks ago at the SBC Championships.

The NCAA Indoor Championships, held at the University of Arkansas' indoor facilities, will begin Saturday and continue Sunday. Results may be found at [ncaasports.com](http://ncaasports.com). ♦

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## STUDENT BALLOT Nomination for Outstanding Teacher Award 2003-2004

I Nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print Full Name of Instructor)

from \_\_\_\_\_  
(Department of Nominee)

for a

2003 -2004 Outstanding Teacher Award

(Nominees must be full-time faculty members to be eligible)

(Please type or print clearly)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this ballot to:

Office of Executive Vice President and Provost,  
111 Cope Administration Building  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Deadline

**MONDAY, March 15, 2004**