

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

EDITORIALLY INDEPENDENT

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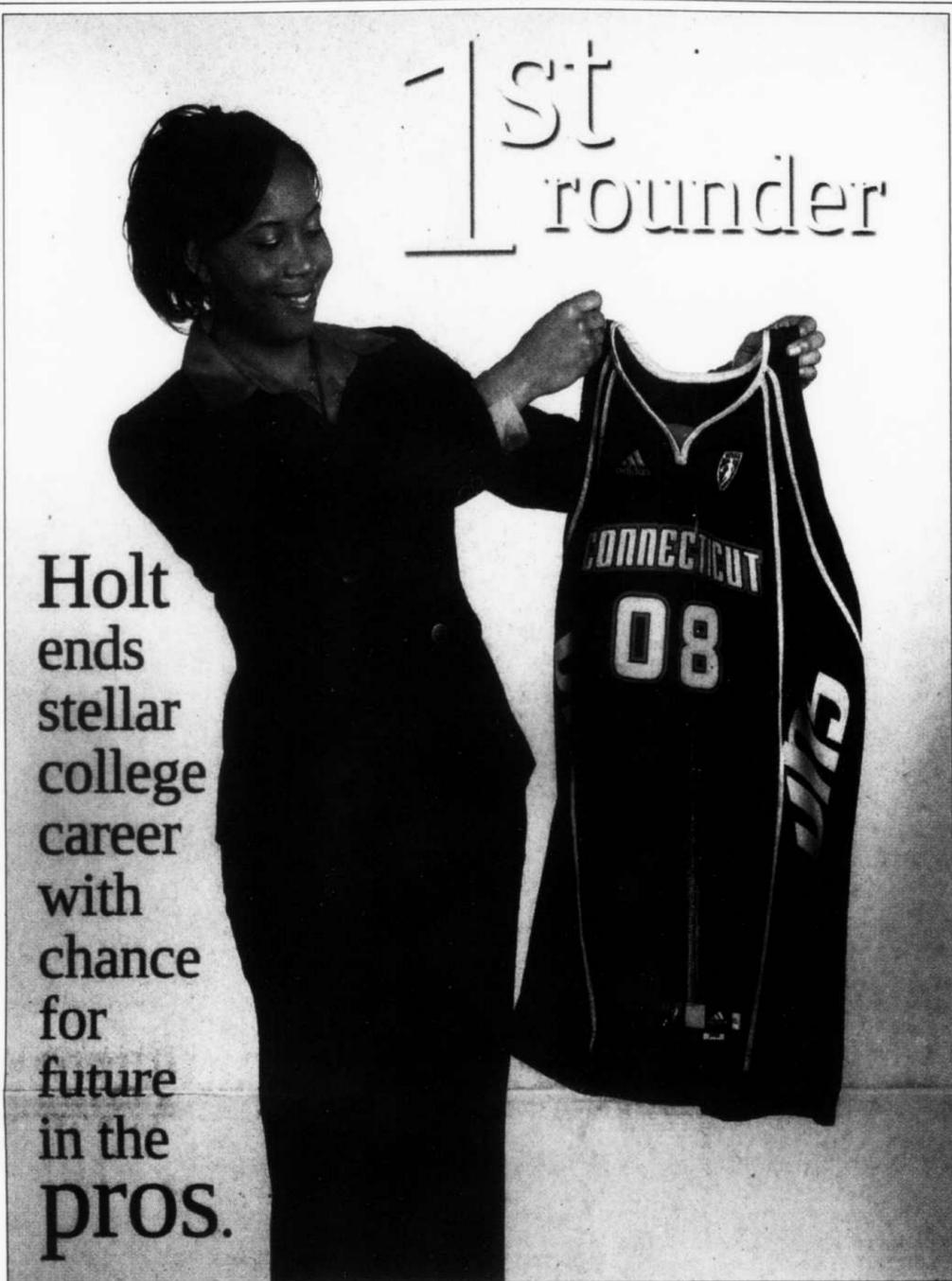
COMMUTE

FROM MARCH 7 - AUGUST 2008

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

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

Holt ends stellar college career with chance for future in the pros.



David Sherman, Getty Images
Amber Holt from Middle Tennessee State University, the number 9 overall pick by the Connecticut Sun poses for a portrait during the 2008 WNBA Draft on April 9, 2008

Holt drafted 9th in WNBA draft

By RICHARD LOWE
Sports Editor

The sun may have set on Amber Holt's career at MT, but it is starting to shine in the WNBA.

Holt was selected Wednesday with the No. 9 pick by the Connecticut Sun in their 11th annual WNBA Draft. The Sun had two first round selections and chose Holt with the first one. "He saw something in me that can help in their system," Holt said. "Me being the player that a WNBA coach wants you that bad. I just can't

explain how happy I am that he would be like that."

Only two players in Sun Belt Conference history have been drafted higher, both from Louisiana Tech in 2000. Betty Lennox was taken sixth overall by the Minnesota Lynx and Tamicha Jackson was selected eighth overall by the Detroit Shock.

This tops off an already rewarding off-season in which Holt receives accolades from Sun Belt Conference coaches and national media.

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ALSO INSIDE:

PAGE 5: The bar has been raised at MTSU.

PAGE 8: Holt could be first prominent athlete from MTSU.

PAGE 8: Holt will face old friends in WNBA.

Student charged in death of infant

By MARK BELL
Staff Writer

An MTSU student has been arrested for her alleged role in the death of her newborn baby delivered at her family's Oak Ridge home over the 2007-08 winter break.

Jenna Lynn McConkey, a 22-year-old junior education major, remained in the Anderson County Detention Center Wednesday, indicted on charges of reckless homicide and aggravated child abuse.

McConkey, who was studying to be a teacher, was apprehended by Oak Ridge detectives on April 4 at the Murfreesboro Ruby Tuesday on Memorial Boulevard where she worked as a waitress.

According to an Oak Ridge Police Department press release, McConkey delivered the baby at her parents' 113 Clarion Road home in the early morning hours of Dec. 20.

Police claim that McConkey and her mother then transported the deceased baby to a West Knoxville gynecologist's office soon after the birth.

What happened between the birth and the delivery of the deceased's baby is the gynecologist's office isn't clear. The indictment by an Anderson County grand jury does not list the cause of death.

However, police said they had waited for the results of an autopsy before presenting evidence to the grand jury that indicted McConkey.

"We do have the autopsy results but haven't made them public," said Oak Ridge Police Chief David Beams. "This is all I can say at this time."

Police said McConkey carried the deceased full-term body of her newborn son into the gynecologist's office wrapped in a towel with the placenta in a plastic shopping bag.

NEWBORN, PAGE 2

Safety a major concern on campus

By DANIEL POTTER
Community News Editor

Safety from violence is a perpetual concern in America's post-Sept. 11 era, but perhaps never more so for MTSU than this month.

In the last three weeks, the university has endured a bomb threat, a gun scare and multiple armed robberies. Meanwhile, Kevin Sisco, a former student charged with the attempted murder of a fellow freshman in Cummings Hall last September, awaits psychiatric evaluation as his case advances through the legal system.

Further, April marks the anniversary of school massacres at Columbine High School and Virginia Tech,

and earlier this semester a shooting at Northern Illinois University marred any semblance of a return to peace on college campuses.

"I don't think that there is an easy, one-stop solution that's going to solve this problem, because it is a rather complex issue," said Buddy Peaster, chief of police at MTSU.

Rather, a variety of different mechanisms and contingencies exist to safeguard against threats to safety on campus, as well as answer such issues where they arise. Indeed, some security measures aim to prevent incidents before they occur, Peaster said, while others take place during such events, or in their aftermath.

One instrument to "filter out" potential risks in terms of people or situations on campus is the Student Assistance Committee, which "goes along with one of the recommendations [that followed] Virginia Tech," Peaster said.

The committee consists of representatives from campus police, judicial affairs, health services and residential life, as well as other MTSU entities, who gather to discuss, within legal limits, "different issues - different behaviors that have popped up on the radar screen of anyone involved in student life."

In this manner the university hopes to identify potential threats to safety on campus and intervene ap-

propriately before anyone is harmed. Although there were warning signs in the case of Virginia Tech, "Shooter Seung-Hui] Cho kind of slipped through the cracks," an error MTSU hopes to learn from and thus avoid.

Accordingly, the committee "normally would meet about once a month. Because of the March and April timetable we're meeting about every two weeks," Peaster said, citing research indicating that spring can be particularly dangerous, as was the case at Columbine and Virginia Tech, because often depressed or disturbed individuals lose some degree of functionality during winter and subsequently withdraw,

only to emerge violently as warm weather returns and they begin to recover functionality.

"That's when they're able to plan, and that's when they're able to act," Peaster said.

The university also has contingencies in the event violence is already underway.

"We've gone through an active shooter drill with the city," Peaster said, highlighting the mutually supportive relationship between MTSU and Murfreesboro police.

In such a scenario, "our initial goal is containment," Peaster said. To this end, many K-12 schools employ

SAFETY, PAGE 2

'Earthlings' against animal cruelty

By DANIEL POTTER
Community News Editor

Earthlings, a documentary about the treatment of animals, will screen for free in the Keathley University Center Theater on Monday, April 14, at 7 p.m., courtesy the MTSU Films Committee and Students for Environmental Action.

"It's about the way animals are treated in society today," said Kenny Torrella, a sophomore recording industry major and SEA member who lead the push to show the film on campus. "When I first saw it, I knew that I just wanted other people to see it."

"The whole point is to get people to think of animals not just as commodities," said Torrella, a self-proclaimed vegan, eschewing all animal products from his diet.

Torrella aims to encourage critical thinking about animal cruelty, and to that end a question-and-answer panel will follow the film, along with free vegan snacks.

The producers of the film gave permission to show it without any charge, and "this shows the absolute selflessness of the makers of Earthlings," Torrella said.

The film, which is narrated by Joaquin Phoenix, is "tasteful,

informative and empowering," Torrella said, though some aspects of it may discomfort viewers. To deplore violence against animals, one must first acknowledge it.

"It's not shock value whatsoever," Torrella said.

Danny McClain, a sophomore graphic design major who made fliers for Monday's showing, said parts of the film may indeed be shocking, but it is geared to "empower [its audience] to do something."

"It's not just an animal issue. It's an everyone issue," McClain said. "It's about everything, all in one."

Reggie Miller, a senior recording industry major and co-chair of SEA, said the showing of Earthlings leads neatly into the organization's Earth Week activities; Earth Day is April 22, and SEA will mark it with a substantial presence on the KUC Knoll, including demonstrations of alternative transportation, as well as vegetarian dining.

Consuming meat has a considerable environmental impact, including water usage and deforestation, Miller said.

"We're not saying everyone has to go vegan, but if you can cut down the meat in your diet, it makes a big impact," Miller said.

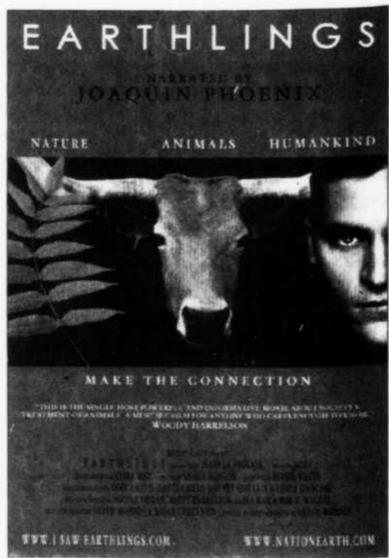


Photo Courtesy: Kooroshi Russek
Earthlings will screen Monday at 7 p.m. in the KUC theater.

SAFETY FROM PAGE 1

the "lockdown" tactic, locking doors and minimizing movement on campus, but that method is impractical given MTSU's size, with more than 100 buildings in daily use here. Illustrating this point, the Charles M. Murphy Center alone takes two hours for an officer to perform a single round, checking nearly 100 doors, Peaster said.

That said, to a limited extent, taking "shelter in place" is a sound tactic in a shooting scenario, Peaster said.

Another tool of particular note during perilous events here is a relatively new system by which students are sent text messages to alert them to danger on campus.

"Text messaging is an important component of alerting people," Peaster said.

This approach demonstrated its worth two weeks ago due to a bomb threat in the Business and Aerospace Building, as students were notified via cell phone to evacuate the building.

"We were in the middle of a test when students began getting text messages from the alert system. It was great how

quick the warning was," John Labonte, junior management major, said to Sidelines that day.

That clear line of communication seemed to break down last week, when a gun scare triggered the impromptu evacuation of Peck Hall around 9:20 a.m. Roughly a hundred students milled around, circulating rumors just outside the building — in easy range for the supposed gunman, some noted.

Campus police were on the scene, though unclear themselves as to the situation. Tom Tozer, director of news and public affairs, indicated no gunman had actually been sighted; rather, an e-mail rumor had simply spread faster than administrators could coordinate a response.

'No guarantee'

Indeed, Peaster stressed that none of the above approaches are foolproof.

"Regardless of what you do, there's no guarantee that you're going to have 100 percent effectiveness," Peaster said. Not even a fence surrounding campus and security checkpoints at every entrance could guarantee complete security, nor would they be worth the cost, he

said. "We live in a society where we very much value our freedom and our ability to come and go, and I think it's important not to infringe so tremendously on that that we take away from what campus life is supposed to be, and the educational opportunities ... that people want to be able to experience," Peaster said.

While to date MTSU has not suffered violence on a scale as massive as the aforementioned school shootings, the campus is hardly free from all danger.

At about 3 a.m. on March 17, a woman was robbed at gunpoint here. Although she was not harmed, she reported her purse and cell phone stolen. Chief Peaster regards such crimes with a degree of inevitability.

"Inevitably, there are going to be crimes. We want to reduce them as much as possible," Peaster said. He added that to some extent, such things are inescapable, despite the efforts of campus police and student patrols, which escort individuals across campus to ensure their safety, regardless of the hour.

Peaster said that it's important for students to feel comfortable contacting authori-

ties whenever they feel wary. "These incidents only take a handful of seconds, if that long, to occur," he said.

Another violent incident that has left its mark on campus this year is the attack on Ashley Manis, a freshman living in Cummings Hall, who was beaten and badly injured in September, allegedly at the hands of Kevin Sisco, at the time a fellow student and resident of the same dorm, now charged with attempted murder.

Sisco had been previously cited by campus police for possessing a knife and brass knuckles in the dorm, raising questions as to whether authorities should have viewed him more seriously after that initial encounter. However, Peaster said that many students are found to have weapons on campus, and while that's not acceptable, this is the first case that he recalls in which such a student was ultimately prosecuted for acting violently.

Indeed, it's impossible to look back and prescribe anything with certainty, Peaster said — a lesson that applies not just to Sisco's case but to that of Virginia Tech as well. Had students there been notified of the situation the morning

of the shooting, after authorities had found Cho's first victims but before the massacre began, Peaster said, "what happened in that classroom probably would not have happened ... Would it have happened in the residence hall or somewhere else [instead]? There's no telling."

That sentiment was echoed by Laura Sosh-Lightsy, assistant dean of Judicial Affairs and Mediation Services.

"Unfortunately it comes down to, if a person has the kind of intent to do what [Cho] did, they're going to find a way to do it," Sosh-Lightsy said. Studies and research indicate that "removing him from school, he could've still shown up and done the exact same thing."

'As safe as any other'

Judicial Affairs is the main filter for safety issues in dealing with student behavior," Sosh-Lightsy said. "MTSU does not have an involuntary withdrawal policy, so the only way a student can be removed from the institution is either to go willfully or to be removed by [Judicial Affairs]."

As a result, much of the onus of second-guessing falls on Judicial Affairs when it

comes to preventing violence at MTSU, a goal that is further hampered because there is nothing to stop students who are suspended or expelled from returning to campus.

The hope of enhancing security here comes with a trade-off, Sosh-Lightsy said. "Do we want to become an entity where we have to gate our schools and infringe on some of the freedoms that we all take for granted?"

The balancing act that results is "really hard in light of all of the school shootings and things that keep happening now," Sosh-Lightsy said. "You just do your job and pray that your campus will be spared."

"MTSU is as safe as any other institution, as any other public arena," she said.

Clay Francis, a senior political-science and Spanish major, believes there is some degree of danger present, but said, "Generally speaking, I do feel safe on campus."

While Francis supports the university's efforts to mitigate risk, "people's rights are at stake here," he said. "It's all about trade-offs."

"If you take a sample population anywhere, those things are going to occur," Francis said. "Not to be a fatalist — I think that's just realistic."

NEWBORN FROM PAGE 1

Patients waiting to be seen by the gynecologists, called an ambulance. From there the baby's body was transferred to the University of Tennessee Medical Center where an autopsy was performed.

Oak Ridge police were notified of the baby's death at approximately 1 p.m.

McConkey's only statement to police was that she was unaware of her pregnancy and was surprised when she went into labor.

According to an article entitled "Characteristics of Women Who Deny or Conceal Pregnancy" by Dr. Susan Hatters-Freidman, published in the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine, it is possible for a woman, especially a heavier woman, to not know she is pregnant until she goes into labor.

It is possible for a pregnant woman to have regular menstrual periods. There are also a number of other contributing factors which may

cause a woman to not realize she is pregnant. The Hatters-Freidman article says that in most cases, some degree of denial is involved.

McConkey's arrest followed an indictment by an Anderson County grand jury on April 2, the result of a criminal investigation spanning more than three months.

The grand jury indictment states McConkey "knowingly treated the newborn in a way that resulted in serious bodily injury" and that she "recklessly" killed the child.

The indictment also lists 15 potential witnesses, including two Knoxville gynecologists from whom McConkey sought treatment from following the birth.

So far police and prosecutors haven't commented much on the indictments returned on April 1 by the Anderson County grand jury.

Knoxville-based attorney Steven Johnson, part of the law firm Ritchie, Dillard and Davies, was retained by McConkey for representation.

Johnson refused to comment.

According to Dean of Student Life Laura Sosh-Lightsy, MTSU Judicial Affairs was aware of the ORPD's investigation.

"There were investigators that contacted us back in December ... they also contacted us immediately after her arrest," Sosh-Lightsy said. "At this point [investigators] haven't released any further information about McConkey to us."

Sosh-Lightsy said McConkey's future at MTSU could depend on the case's outcome.

"Typically, we would meet with her to assess more about what happened before we would decide if she is a threat to our community," Sosh-Lightsy said. "Because she is in jail right now, it's hard for us to say anything definitively."

McConkey's arraignment is set for April 25 in an Anderson County Criminal Court. She is currently being held on \$100,000 bond.

Beams said no one else has been charged in the case. Murfreesboro police provided assistance during the arrest.

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Continued to next column

Fraternity wins awards at National Convention

By TIFFANY GIBSON
Campus News Editor

Marketing, sales and management Fraternity Pi Sigma Epsilon won five awards at the 52nd annual National Convention last week in Dallas, Texas.

Katie Kemp, Pi Sigma Epsilon faculty advisor, won \$1,000 in the Top Faculty Advisor Award competition out of 40 universities while several students received cash prizes and awards in separate competitions.

"This convention is important to Pi Sigma Epsilon because this is where all the chapters across the nation have the opportunity to come together and share ideas, network, and have fun together," said Constance Lewis, senior marketing major and vice president of public relations. "It is important to MTSU as a whole because through this convention we are able to add value to our university. Whenever we received an award not only was our name and chapter recognized, but MTSU was as well."

The convention consisted of several competitions such as The Kodak Challenge, Pro-Am Sell-A-Thon, Case Study, Top Chapter and Top Sales Project.

During the Pro-Am Sell-a-Thon, students were required to display their selling skills and techniques within 12 minutes to a future buyer.

Lewis participated and placed fifth out of 60 students in the Pro-Am Sell-a-Thon and won a \$250 cash prize along with a trophy.

"This competition [Pro-Am Sell-a-Thon] is the largest and most respected individual event," said Ryan Siddons, senior marketing

major and vice president of human resources. "In this event individuals role a sales call with a buyer on a business. We are graded on the use of SPIN in our presentation and how we move the buyer through the selling process."

In addition to awards and cash prizes, Meghan Sheehan, senior marketing major, received \$1,500 scholarship from corporate sponsor, Enterprise Rent-A-Car.

Siddons said that awards and scholarships have encouraged the members that attended the event this year to win more awards next year.

"We plan to take home the Top Chapter Award next year," Siddons said.

Even though Pi Sigma Epsilon did not win the Top Chapter Award, they received first place in the Top Sales Project for their Heavenly Ham Box Lunch Sale, which took place on campus last semester.

Sheehan served as the project manager for the Heavenly Ham Box Lunch Sale, while members were divided into sale teams consisting of two old members and four new members. The Alumni members held the position on sale manager in order to teach their teammates and new members how to approach a customer. This event ultimately received an award for both teaching and experiencing sales.

"Meghan Sheehan, Alise Johnston [and I] presented the ins and out of our Heavenly Ham Sales Project to the panel of three judges," Siddons said. "They absolutely were fascinated by our sale skills and our understanding of how a business works."

A team of five students



Photo Courtesy Ryan Siddons
Members of Pi Sigma Epsilon display their awards received at the National Convention held in Dallas, Texas.

also placed second in the Case Study Competition by presenting a marketing case in front of a group of judges after only being given 24 hours to do so.

The students that participated in the Case Study Competition were Katie Clark, Trey Suggs, Ashley Riddle, Steven Klein and Cody Taylor, senior business

administration and secretary of Pi Sigma Epsilon.

"From my personal experience being a new member and going to the National Convention I learned a whole lot about PSE [Pi Sigma Epsilon] and what it stands for," Taylor said. "I would advise any new members of existing members to attend Nationals or Regionals if they can."

Members paid for their own travel plans after being denied funding from the College of Business and Student Government Association.

"We applied for funding either late fall or early spring semester, but the amount was not covered [so] we had to personally pay for it," Siddons said.

Overall, the members that

participated in the convention were pleased with their awards and thankful for future experience.

"With the various competitions we are given outstanding opportunities to polish our skills in 'real world' situations and earn recognition for ourselves, our chapters, and our universities," Lewis said.

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Students receive awards for service

Seven students recognized by health, human performance

By TALIA CUNETTO
Contributing Writer

Seven MTSU students received awards for their outstanding achievement at an annual ceremony presented by the health and human performance department March 20.

Mariam Pedro, sophomore education and behavioral science major, was the recipient of this year's Tommie Reynold's Scholarship. After Pedro completes her undergraduate degree she plans to attend graduate school to study health education and public health.

Pedro credits her achievement to her motivation, mentors and parents.

She said the award means a lot to her.

"This honor shows my academic success is recognized by the university and makes it worth all of the hard work," Pedro said.

Another outstanding student recognized at the banquet was Matthew Renfrow, a doctoral candidate in the education and behavioral science program.

Renfrow said he feels blessed to be part of such a wonderful program and appreciates his amazing colleagues. He said he was impressed by all of the eligible assistants, whom he would have chosen before himself, to be considered for the Outstanding Doctoral Graduate Assistant Award.

"It's very flattering to be given this recognition," Renfrow said. "I have a passion for my field and God's blessed me with the opportunity to do something I love."

Renfrow said he believes the most important thing a graduate assistant can do is to be available to help students and professors.

Graduate assistants, professors and students must be willing to work together to get the most out of career and studies.

Renfrow said he found that kind of partnership at MTSU and has witnessed firsthand how important it is in an educational environment.

"Students appreciate fairness and I think that's come across in my evaluation," Renfrow said. "I always try to do what's right."

The Health and Human Performance Department also honored five other students at the ceremony last month.

Sadie Coffey, senior education and behavioral science major, walked away with the Nancy Hill Robertson Scholarship.

Jennifer Jones, senior education and behavioral science major, received both the Buleah Davis Scholarship and the Glen Reeder Scholarship.

Andrew Braden, senior education and behavioral science major, was the recipient of the Athletic Training Outstanding Award.

John McClendon, a junior education and behavioral science major, was recognized with the Recreation and Leisure Outstanding Award.

Carrie Pearson, sophomore education and behavioral science major, was presented with the Leona Drake Scholarship.

All of these scholarships are awarded once a year and are available to students in the department.

Pedro encourages students to strive for success in the Health and Human Performance Department.

"Never settle for less than the best," Pedro said.

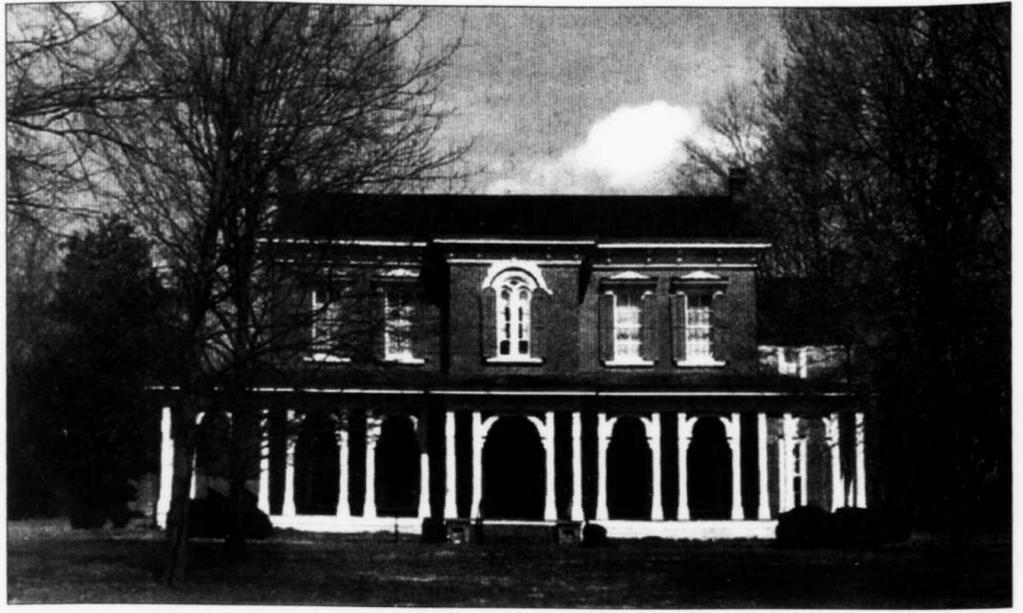


Photo Courtesy John George, Department of History MTSU
The Oakland Historic House Museum will debut a new exhibit on slavery next month with the help of MTSU graduate students.

Oaklands to showcase new exhibit

By NATASHA SMITH
Contributing Writer

The Oakland Historic House Museum will showcase "Beyond the Plantation," a new exhibit about the history of slavery in Murfreesboro beginning May 1.

The museum received a community enhancement grant from the Tennessee State Department and since fall 2007 has partnered with the MTSU history department to develop the exhibit. The project is for students in Brenden Martin's museum management course who plan to pursue graduate degrees in art or philosophy.

The focus of the project this semester is on the collection of materials, as well as the design and installation of the exhibit. The students have researched and discovered numerous documents, including census records, bills of sale, and slave narratives to account for the lives of some of Oakland's slaves.

"This project is special because a lot of plantation museums tend to brush over slavery because it is a difficult subject," said John George,

a Ph.D candidate in public history and project manager for the exhibit.

Most museums tend to go with the "Gone with the Wind" version of slavery that caters to wide audiences, but Oakland has done an excellent job of attempting to accurately interpret slavery during the 1800s, George said.

It is hoped that this exhibit will allow people to come away with the realization that these were real human beings that were bought and sold, and that slavery had a huge impact on their lives, George said.

The Oakland plantation was built in 1813 with land that Sallie Murfree Maney had inherited from her father, Col. Hardee Murfree. It is thought that before the Civil War the Maney's owned at least 250 slaves between the Oakland plantation and their plantation in Mississippi.

The exhibit will feature four aspects of slavery: Plantation Culture, Civil War, Emancipation, and Legacies. The Legacies theme in particular will illustrate the lives of some of the slaves that lived and worked on the 274 acre-plantation the Maney

family owned.

One such story is that of Elma McKnight, a current resident of Murfreesboro and a direct descendant of David and Lucy Maney. After emancipation, David Maney became one of the founding members of the First Baptist Church that still exists today. McKnight has been providing photos and information of her ancestry to the museum for display with the exhibit.

She is a part of just one of the seven or eight generations of Maney descendants that still lives in Rutherford county.

Instead of being offended by the subject of slavery, she is proud of where she came from and what her family has done. McKnight said she doesn't begrudge the past and that slavery "was what it was."

She often tells her children that they are not "descendants of slaves, but descendants of an enslaved people."

McKnight also said she always remembered her grandmother saying, "We are the Maney girls," something that meant little to her until now.

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OPINIONS

Food crisis product of a flawed system

Paul Krugman is a smart man. A professor of economics at Princeton and bi-weekly columnist for *The New York Times*, Krugman wields considerable credibility and influences many, this writer included.

So it was frustrating to read his column Monday, in which he made several trenchant points about world hunger, but stopped short of indicting the system that guarantees thousands will continue to starve to death daily.

Let's start with what Krugman got right.

"The effects of bad policy are clearest ... in the rise of demon ethanol and other biofuels.

"The subsidized conversion of crops into fuel was supposed to promote energy independence and help limit global warming. But this promise was, as *Time* magazine bluntly put it, a 'scam.'"

Krugman elucidates the way biofuels not only fail to offset our dependence on fossil fuels or their environmental effects, but simultaneously drive up prices for food, particularly in conjunction

with the increasing cost of oil, which is key to modern agriculture.

He also notes the effects of countries like China growing economically strong enough to imitate the American way of life, diet included. "Since it takes about 700 calories' worth of animal feed to produce a 100-calorie piece of beef, this change in diet increases the overall demand for grains," he writes.

Admirably, Krugman doesn't flinch in recognizing that politics as usual are failing on world hunger. "People are starving in Africa so that American politicians can court votes in farm states.

"Oh, and in case you're wondering: all the remaining presidential contenders are terrible on this issue," he writes.

Sadly, Krugman fails to identify the real solution – a full-on paradigm shift – perhaps because, like many, he is unwilling to yet confront the reality that our linear system can't persist much longer on this finite planet.

Let me paraphrase another influential writer, Daniel



Puttin' up Results
Daniel Potter

Quinn:

A fundamental law in any food chain is that an increase in a species' food supply will result in an increase in that species' population. Eventually that population grows to an unsustainable level, and is thus checked when its food supply dwindles as a result. With fewer consumers remaining, the food supply is again able to increase, and this cycle naturally repeats in periodic waves.

Civilization as we know it bucks this rule because we control our own food supply. We've been steadily increasing it for centuries, and our skyrocketing population reflects that.

However, because of capital-ism, to raise profits we

simulate scarcity anyway. Indeed, we keep huge amounts of surplus food under lock and key, and ultimately let it rot rather than give it away for free. This is why literally thousands of people die of hunger each day, even as our overall food supply and population both continue to increase.

In other words, there is more than enough food on the planet to feed everyone, but capitalism ensures its allocation remains unequal in order to maximize profits.

This is a systemic process, the consequences of which will persist as long as capitalism distorts our priorities, holding short-term gains above long-term consequences.

Perhaps it is foolish to expect Krugman to acknowledge that – what would it say about him as an intellectual if he postulated his very field essentially heralds the death of billions?

Even so, Krugman's article fell short on answers.

He proposed we push back against biofuel while the U.N. increases aid to countries

ravaged by famine. Good ideas, but hardly complete. For instance, the above quoted passage on how inefficient a diet of meat is in terms of resources neatly illustrates one of the many benefits of a vegetarian diet, which can arguably reduce one's impact more than one could by stopping driving altogether.

Further, even as the United States becomes aware of how devastating our way of life is to our planet, other countries are still striving to emulate us. Indeed, we must lead by example and demonstrate to the world that "more" does not always equal "better."

With Earth Day coming later this month, it's a good time to start considering how drastically our way of life is going to have to change if we're to survive the next thirty years.

As for Krugman, well, that change will have to be precipitated by my generation, not his.

Daniel Potter is a senior journalism and Spanish major and can be reached at slstate@mtsu.edu.

FACES IN THE CROWD

Earth Day is April 22; do you plan on celebrating the earth's environment?



Frost

"I just don't really see why it's a noteworthy thing to celebrate."

Jared Frost, senior journalism



Cavopol

"Yes, I definitely do! I think with gas prices and all, everyone needs to be more environmentally active."

Michael Cavopol, sophomore computer science



Houston

"No, probably not. I would like to, but my car is important."

Samuel Houston, junior theater



Martinez

"No. I never celebrate Earth Day. I did not even know Earth Day existed."

Elizabeth Martinez, junior accounting

COMICS



FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Holt's success means good things for MTSU

Despite an unwarranted negative reputation associated with MTSU athletics, the department and coaches have done an excellent job recruiting talent and running successful programs.

Yesterday, former Lady Raider selected ninth by the Connecticut Sun during the first round of the Women's National Basketball Association Draft. Holt is the first Lady Raider to ever be drafted in the first round and in the top 10 throughout the WNBA's 10-year existence.

By outranking players such

as LaToya Pringle and Erlana Larkins from the No. 2 seed in the tournament, North Carolina, and Laura Harper from the 2005 championship team, Maryland, MTSU has made a statement that its athletic program delivers the best athletes.

It should be taken into consideration that earlier this season the Lady Raiders were forced into a compromised position and were stranded with only eight players.

Despite having only three players left on the bench, Holt and her teammates conquered the opponent after oppo-

nent, displaying the heart and emotion Rick Insell's coaching instilled in his team.

Since Holt has become a success and inspiration to MTSU, it only makes sense that other athletes will want to come and learn from Insell's program.

The thought that the next Candace Wiggins, Candace Parker or even Matee Ajavon could step on MTSU's court next year proudly wearing a blue jersey is proof that we have raised our standards athletically.

Not only does our women's basketball program put up

results, other sports are stepping up to the plate as well.

MTSU seniors Damon Nickson and Franklin Dunbar are preparing for the NFL draft on April 26 and 27, Desmond "Boogie" Yates will be a front-runner for Sun Belt Conference player of the year in men's basketball next season and Alysha Clark, a two-time Atlantic Sun Conference player of the year at Belmont University, will take Holt's place on the Lady Raiders for the upcoming season.

Also, the men's basketball team will return with ev-

ery significant player from a team that finished third in the SBC this past season.

If you've never been to a game, you're missing out. If you're a seasoned fan, you understand the excitement that goes along with cheering for our Sun Raider team.

It is an exciting time for MTSU athletics. Student and community fans alike should take notice because there are some good sports being played in Murfreesboro.

And, if recent events are any indication, you will likely get to witness more professional athletes in the making.

As finals approach, you're probably getting stressed out. Studies have shown that writing is a great way to relieve stress. Coincidentally, Sidelines is hiring writers. You can get paid and feel better about life. Easy as pie. Come to Mass Comm 269 to get started.

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**WITH TWO MT PLAYERS
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FEATURES



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A rose by any other name

Students manipulate plant-life, create a two-inch tall rose

By MALARIE WOODS
Contributing Writer

"Part of the malleability of life is that you can manipulate living things," observes Bruce Cahoon, assistant professor of the biology department. Cahoon successfully taught his students how to do just that last fall.

Graduate students enrolled in Cahoon's plant biotechnology course gained hands-on experience in manipulating plant life, and in particular, roses. MTSU students Bill Smith and Bhawana Bhawana teamed up for a project that took miniature roses and made the flowers micro, meaning about the diameter of a pencil eraser and only two inches tall.

The pair says they were excited when they heard about the project. And although many students in the course made similar adjustments on different plants—such as vegetables and the roots of flowers—Bhawana and Smith said they were able to work with the actual buds of the rose plants.

The way the project was carried out, however, was different than one might expect of an assignment given by a plant researcher and geneticist such as Cahoon.

"We didn't do anything with the genetics of the roses," Bhawana explains. "We simply did physical experiments with the physical conditions."

"I think it was important to Dr. Cahoon for us to understand that changing the conditions you grow the plants in will change the way they grow," Smith says.

The students said they followed a typical protocol to grow the roses. First, they cut pieces of the stems of miniature roses. Next, they sterilized the pieces before putting them in a premixed medium, which is a soil mixture found in plant stores with the cor-



Photo by Seth Alder/MTSU News & Public Affairs

The "micro-rose team" discusses their new creations. From left, Bhawana Bhawana, professional science master's candidate; Dr. Bruce Cahoon, assistant biology professor; Nadlar Yakob, first-year grad student; Brad Wright, junior plant and soil science major; and professional science master's candidate Bill Smith.

rect ingredients in which to grow the roses. They added hormones, sugar, vitamins and an agent called agar, the latter of which was used to solidify the mixture.

The students say they had to be very careful when moving the plants, since any kind of germ could threaten the life of the rose. They scrubbed themselves, wore gloves and

sterilized everything that could come in contact with the flowers.

"We tried to take great care to not let them get contaminated. It was like going into surgery," Smith says.

"We felt like they were our kids!" Bhawana exclaims.

Unfortunately, Bhawana and Smith say they did experience a couple of dis-

appointments when several of their roses died.

And after planting them in the test tubes, there wasn't much they could do for the miniature buds but wait.

"We just had to sit back and watch," Smith says, who concedes the wait was somewhat frustrating at times.

However, Bhawana and Smith's waiting paid off, and

they were ecstatic when the tiny buds finally bloomed.

"I couldn't wait to show Dr. Cahoon!" says Bhawana, regarding the 2-inch high roses that were so tiny that a dozen of them would fit in one's palm.

Nevertheless, Cahoon and his students said they were surprised when the miniature roses got the attention

they did.

"We didn't expect newspapers to start calling," Smith adds.

Bhawana explained that the attention started when other students and faculty in the building watched her and Smith carry the plants to the lab every day. The onlookers

MICRO-ROSE, PAGE 5

Baby Teeth Thieves have an intricate, rich sound



Photo courtesy of Baby Teeth Thieves

Trey Bishop (lead guitar), Devin Lamp (12-string guitar), Danny Greene (drums), Jeremi Morris (upright bass) and Casey Kauffman (cello) form the popular Murfreesboro band Baby Teeth Thieves.

By STACY WILLIAMS
Contributing Writer

Murfreesboro's local music scene is teeming with talent these days. And though it is easy to assume there are only electric guitars and booming bass onstage, the uniqueness of the acoustic and soulful Baby Teeth Thieves should not be overlooked. Their recent performance at Tomato Tomato was simply delightful.

Although I am not a fan of the small-restaurant-trying-to-be-a-music-venue trend in Murfreesboro, Tomato Tomato (the gourmet pizza restaurant that replaced Casa Burrito on West Main Street) should be credited for providing an appropriate atmosphere for live music. Baby Teeth Thieves were a suitable fit in the fresh and comfortable environment of the new restaurant.

Trey Bishop (lead guitar) and Casey Kauffman (cello) have been friends for years, but only began playing music together in the fall of 2006. With the recent addition of Devin Lamp (12-string guitar), Jeremi Morris (upright bass) and Danny Greene

(drums), their sound became more intricate and acoustics even richer.

The texture of four wood-string instruments and no percussion (Greene was not present at this show) felt natural in the small space by the front window. There was no stage, so the performers and audience were eye level with each other, which created a personal feel, as if we were all in someone's living room. (Baby Teeth Thieves have played their share of house shows in Murfreesboro; in fact, they prefer them.)

Two things immediately stand out at a Baby Teeth Thieves live performance. Namely, Bishop plays left-handed guitar with a twist. His left arm is gone below the elbow, so he forms chords with his right hand, which is uncommon for most right-handed guitar players. Strumming and picking, Bishop is solid and inspiring to watch. His voice has an indescribable originality that is gentle and wise beyond its years.

Next, how many local bands do you know with an upright bass and a female cellist?

BABY TEETH THIEVES, PAGE 5

EYES
FROM PAGE 4

is and Kauffman are a h of fresh air compared e typical electric outfit. fman's diverse range as musician suggests a classi- background and a keen e of composition. Her eathery voice is similar e English "godmother of t folk," Vashti Bunyan, o she sings falsetto. hen all the members together, the union of harmonies was pleasing y jaded ears. On "Piney ey County," the wailing l refrain lingered in my even after the march- song changed gears. As he musicians balanced oth-er's melodies back forth, it married fine of d married couple finish- each other's sentences. e band opened with tchy song titled, "We l the Legs of Crickets," h led off with a cheerful hmic guitar melody. The alludes to the changing easons and the life that ys in place of what dies. y Baby Teeth Thieves s seem to be about na- animals and the funda- tals of life. Kauffman's was capable of differ- segments of the song, xample, by playing long es on low minor notes, ridge became imme- ely more consequential e toe-tapping intro- ion. Lamp's guitar riffs e like an echo piece to p's lead chords. ew new pieces were d on the Tomato Tom- audience. (which ond of approximately 20 nds and acquaintances e band, plus minors w locals). Although the osphere was mellow, even a bit hushed, there favorable response to

"Ludless" and "Spar- rows." These tracks will not be on Baby Teeth Thieves first full-length LP. "To a Green Shade," due for release this summer, so it was a privilege to be part of the sneak pre- view.

The set list included several tracks from the "Manatee Blood" demo, including "I Growl in the Morning and Meow in the Evening" and "Build Me a Boat, Sailor Jerry." Yes, the latter is likely named after that tasty brand of rum, but the desperate tone of the song contrasts the happy-go-lucky belligerence of rum drinking.

The haunting ballad about a love lost at sea featured a lovely cello arrange- ment, and Bishop sang the somber but hopeful lyrics: "Steady your oars and row/ Open your heart and let go/ In my arms/ Through the tide."

Between the lines of "I Growl in the Morning and Meow in the Evening" there was a sense of criticism and personal voyeurism. Bishop and Kauffman's vo- cals overlapped each other as they sang, "We're losing ourselves lose ourselves / And I'm watch- ing myself waste myself/ I'm loving myself love myself/ And I'm hating myself hate myself." The way their voices layered each other's was peaceful and innocent, like a lullaby.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BABY TEETH THIEVES

The only minor distractions were the customers captivated with the "make-your-own" tablecloth of the restaurant that allows it to serve alcohol and gourmet food while keeping a youth- ful edge. The blank broad-

sheets begged for graffiti, and the worn-down Crayons hiding between the salt and pepper shakers were signing names and playing tic-tac-toe all night.

It was refreshing to watch such talented artists sincerely other. Many songs in the commercial music industry today are so processed and plasticized for radio or TV, that it's nearly im- possible to understand the

meanings behind the art- ist's music. The sound and mood Baby Teeth Thieves bring to a room is, so genu- inely organic that, even if it's not your style, it's hard not to appreciate that the mem- bers love and believe in what they're doing.

As my friends and I walked out into the rain, my soul was brimming with peaceful melodies, and I felt an aston- ishing strong urge to buy a cello.

MICRO-ROSE
FROM PAGE 4

began calling it "The March of the Flowers."

Cahoon even had some of- fers from people to buy the roses from him.

"I was in Wal-Mart around Valentine's Day and saw miniature roses displayed around the entrance," Cahoon said. "It made me think that perhaps people would be interested in buying a novelty plant like this."

But since it took two to three months to create the handful of roses that sur- vived, he SAID that it would make only a good fundrais- er.

Although the class is over, Bhawana has taken the re- maining roses home to go further with the project.

The manipulation of the roses made them unable to grow roots, but Bhawana said she hopes to make them root in pots so that they may grow regularly.

Cahoon said he is not sure yet whether these rooted plants will have the same mi- cro flowers in his students created that he expects them to eventually grow regular minia- ture flowers instead of micro ones. Also, he noted that it would be neat to have an en- tire garden of micro roses.

Bhawana, meanwhile, said she has no idea what's in store for the roses in the fu- ture, but both she and Smith are anxious to discover the outcome of the exciting pro- ject they began last fall.

"We did our very best, but we are not experts," Bhawana admitted regarding their mi- cro-rose project.

Yet when asked if the ex- periments were fun, Bha- wana exclaimed, "Yes, too much!"



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SPORTS

Holt was top choice from the start for WNBA's Sun

Games against former teammate Chrissy Givens and conference rival Crystal Kelly on schedule for Holt's first season in league

HOLT
FROM PAGE 1

She was a member of the Sun Belt All-Conference first team and a First Team All-American by CBSSports.com in March after leading the nation in scoring for more than half the season. She is the only first team All-American in the women's basketball program's history.

She was also voted third team All-American by the Associated Press, Honorable Mention All-American by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association and also voted to the 10-member US Basketball Writers Association All-America team. It was the second straight season the Blue Raiders had an All-American on the AP and USBWA teams.

Holt finished the season with 930 points, the fifth most ever scored by any player in one season in NCAA history. She broke the single-season scoring record at Middle Tennessee, smashing the previous mark of 768 set last season by Chrissy Givens. Holt set single-season marks for

scoring average (27.4), field goals (352), field goal attempts (680), free throws (206), free throw attempts (261) and 30-point scoring games (14).

The Duluth, Ga., native also tied for first in double-figure scoring games (34), ranked sixth in rebounding (274) and tied for ninth in steals (80). Her 8.1 rebounds per game tied for 19th on the single-season charts as well.

She recorded 14 games with 30 or more points, a new single-season record, 20 contests with eight or more rebounds, and 14 outings with four or more assists.

Holt finished her two-year career as a Blue Raider with 1,497 points, good for ninth on the all-time list. Her 22.0 points per game also tops the career charts. She ranked 12th on the career rebounding average list (7.2), sixth in free throws (346), ninth in free throw attempts (443) and sixth in free throw percentage (.781).

MT women's basketball coach Rick Insell was seated with Holt when her name was called by the WNBA president, Donna Orender.

"I think there were some people that were surprised at her selection, but then there were others who were excited about it because they knew Amber Holt," Insell said. "The people from LSU, Tennessee, and Maryland weren't surprised because they have seen her play."

Holt was the second MT player to be drafted by a WNBA franchise. The first, Chrissy Givens, was the drafted last year by the Phoenix Mercury with the 31st pick. Givens is currently playing overseas but will be returning to the United States to play for the WNBA's Detroit Shock. If neither player gets traded, they will face each other in three regular season games with the first match up taking place June 24.

Crystal Kelly, the Sun Belt Conference's only other player selected in the draft, was picked up by the Houston Comets with the 31st pick. Holt will face off against the Kelly and the Comets in two regular season games, the first one taking place July 1.

Training camps for the WNBA begin April 20 with



Photo by Ryan DeBrow, Photography Editor
Holt (1) led the nation in scoring with 27.1 points and was the SBC Defensive Player of the Year.

the Sun's first preseason game scheduled to take place May 1 against the Minnesota Lynx. The team

opens the season at home against the newest team in the WNBA, the Atlanta Dream.

MT Media Relations contributed information to this article.

Softball team defeat SEMO in second game of doubleheader

By DAVID POWELL
MT Media Relations

Jessica Ives smashed a three-run homerun and Kellie Head pitched stronger as the game went on as the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders (15-19, 7-7) won 5-3 over the Southeast Missouri Redhaws (18-19, 7-7) in the second game of a doubleheader at Southeast Softball Complex on Wednesday evening.

Kellie Head (5-7) picked up the start and win for the Blue Raiders. The Freshman gave up three runs on seven hits and walked two in the complete game. The righty threw 7.0 innings in the strong outing.

Starter Whitney Dupuis (4-7) got the loss for the Redhaws. The righty gave up four runs and nine hits, while striking out two and walking one, in 3.2 innings.

Elaine Fisher also pitched for Southeast Missouri. The winner from the first game gave up one run on three hits,

while striking out three and walking one, in 3.0 innings of relief action.

The home team staked out to an early 1-0 lead when Megan McDonald hit a solo homerun to left field.

The Redhaws doubled their lead in the next inning off another long ball, this time a Lauren Bradley solo shot to right field.

The Blue Raiders cut the lead to 2-1 in the top of the 3rd inning. Caitlin McLure led off with a double to deep left field and Ashley Cline brought her home with a hard RBI single up the middle to pull MT within a single run.

Middle Tennessee used the long ball to their advantage in the 4th inning. Whitney Darlington singled to center field and Martha Davis knocked a single through the left side to begin the inning, bringing up Jessica Ives.

The Sophomore responded with a towering drive down the left field line that banked off the top of the foul pole



Photo Courtesy MT Media Relations
Jessica Ives hit a three-run homerun against the Redhaws.

for a three-run homerun, moving the Blue Raiders ahead 4-2.

After the Redhaws cut the lead to 4-3 in the bottom of the 5th inning, Middle Tennessee responded in the next frame with a score of their own. Caitlin McLure reached after her hard liner to second base was bobbled by Allie Borowiak and Ashley Cline nailed a bending triple to center field, driving in McLure to make the game 5-3 in favor of the Blue Raiders.

Middle Tennessee began

the game ranked 13th in the nation in triples per game, the highest-ever ranking for that category in school history.

Kellie Head allowed just one hit over the final two innings as the Blue Raiders rebounded from their loss in the first game of the doubleheader improve to 15 wins on the season.

Middle Tennessee returns to action against the Chattanooga Lady Mocs in a doubleheader on Thursday at 4 p.m.

Preds-Wings get set for NHL's first round

By TERESA M. WALKER
AP Sports Writer

Detroit is the team Predators' fans love to hate. They don't call them the Chicken Wings for nothing. Ask the Predators themselves about their division rival, and all anyone will admit is respect.

Nashville forward Scott Nichol even broke out a Winnipeg calling the Red Wings a great team.

"When you play good teams, it brings the best out of you. We always get excited to play Detroit. It's a good measuring stick for us, and we always come with a lot of energy and a lot of excitement. When we do that, it's fun to play. Those games are fun to play. The fans and the crowd are going to be wild," Nichol said.

Added forward Martin Erat: "If you're playing the first game of the season against them or in the playoffs against them, it's a natural respect."

But respect doesn't mean these teams like each other. They play each other far too much for that.

The Red Wings are NHL royalty, the home of Hockeytown. They have Stanley Cups, playoff appearances and President's Trophies.

The Predators?

Well, their home

Music City USA, where fans still aren't sure if this team deserves their support after 10 seasons. They measure success with four playoff appearances, even though they have only four combined wins in the first three trips.

It's Detroit vs. their Central Division rival that the Predators measure themselves against season to season since their start as an expansion franchise. It's a combination the Predators insist breeds respect, not bad blood as these teams prepare for their Western Conference quarterfinal series starting Thursday in Detroit.

"There's a little bit of a divisional rivalry that has fostered over the years," Nashville coach Barry Trotz said. "The competitive level and the competitive juices will be high on both sides. That's a good thing."

Captain Jason Arnott calls it a strong rivalry.

"We know them really well as they know us really well," he said.

Detroit has played, and dominated, Nashville since the Predators broke into the NHL in 1998. It was Detroit that Nashville first played in the postseason in 2004.

PLAYOFFS, PAGE 10

Holt could be first MT athlete to make a splash in the pros



Outside the Pocket
Chris Martin

With her recent top-10 se-

lection in the WNBA draft, Amber Holt has a chance to do something a MT athlete hasn't done in a long while—be relevant.

Holt would not be the first highly touted MT athlete to have a career in professional athletics. Jonathan Quinn, Kelly Holcomb, Tyrone Calico, Rashard Lee, Dwone Hicks, Dewon Brazelton and

Chrissy Givens have all spent time on pro teams.

Holcomb made it into the NFL as an undrafted free agent and has enjoyed a moderately successful career as a backup quarterback and occasional starter, but he really hasn't made any splashes in the league.

Quinn and Calico were third and second-round

picks, respectively, but both had unspectacular careers, while Lee and Hicks both left the league after only a handful of seasons.

Brazelton probably had the most hype of any MT athlete, ever. He was the third-overall pick in the 2001 MLB draft, but his career has been mired by poor performance. He was the opening-day starter for

the Tampa Bay Rays in 2005, but he never lived up to his draft position, posting a 6.38 career ERA.

Givens was selected in the third round of last year's WNBA draft, but was out of the league before the season began.

Holt is just as likely to turn out as a first-round bust as any other player, but she has a

chance to live up to the hype, unlike Calico and Brazelton.

The skills certainly appear to be there. She led the nation in scoring and was named the Sun Belt Conference Defensive Player of the Year (How someone can be the best defender and scorer in a conference without win-

PRO, PAGE 9

Pat Summit, Lady Vols capture eighth national title

By DOUG FEINBERG
AP Sports Writer

With the game in hand and a minute left, Candace Parker went to the Tennessee bench for the final time, holding up four fingers on each hand to signify the eight titles the Lady Vols have won.

Parker came to Tennessee four years ago with one goal in mind: Restore the Lady Vols back to the Rocky Top.

A bruised and braced Parker scored 17 points and grabbed nine rebounds to help Tennessee capture its eighth NCAA women's basketball title with a 64-48 victory over Stanford on Tuesday night. The Lady Vols also became the first repeat champs since Connecticut won three straight from 2002-04.

"One is disputable, but two, you can't stumble onto two national championships, so two's pretty good.

"We got two championships together, Parker said. "It's a remarkable feeling to walk off the court for the last time and hug your coach. I'm completely different than I was when I came in."

The Lady Vols will lose the starting five to graduation, but they have left a remarkable legacy. Before the back-to-back championships, Tennessee had gone nine years without a title.

"I'm just proud, and obviously it's a happy but sad time with the seniors leaving," Tennessee coach Pat Summitt said. "I will always have tremendous respect for the mark they left on our program."

Parker will leave the Lady Vols (36-2) with a year of eligibility remaining, but has accomplished one of her goals by winning multiple national titles.

"You know, it's funny be-



Photo by Amy Sancetta, AP photographer

The Lady Vols celebrate following their 64-48 win over Stanford on Sunday. Junior Candace Parker put up 17 points for UT.

cause some players don't get one, and I'm fortunate enough to have two," The Associated Press player of the year said.

Parker also became the fourth player to win back-to-back Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four honors. She joined Connecticut's Diana Taurasi (2003-04), Tennessee's Chamique Holdsworth (1997-98), and Southern Cal's Cheryl Miller (1983-84).

"I look back at my growth not only as a player, but also just as a person and I feel like it's been the best four years of my life," Parker said. "I wouldn't change anything about it. I love my teammates and I'm just very fortunate to have won two national championships."

While her left shoulder still clearly was not 100 percent healthy, the expected No. 1 pick in Wednesday's WNBA draft didn't shoot nearly as many jumpers as Sunday

night, instead taking the ball to the basket on an array of moves. She converted one steal in the second half into a pretty layup that gave the Lady Vols a 10-point advantage. She then followed it with a three point play on a driving layup. The Cardinal, who had a season low for points, would get no closer than eight feet of the basket.

Stanford's loss ended Candace Wiggins' remarkable run through the NCAA tournament. She scored 14 points and six games, the fourth-best total in tournament history. Sheryl Swoopes holds the record with 177 points, when she led Texas Tech to the championship in 1993. Wiggins is the first player to have two 40 point games in the tournament.

"We did a nice job on Candace Wiggins," said Summitt, whose team held the nation's 10th-best offense to 38.8

percent shooting. "We went to our shooting defense. Switched out on her a lot. Our scouting report was very effective."

Wiggins ended her stellar career by taking the Cardinal (35-4) further than they'd been since 1992, when the program won it all. Stanford hadn't reached the Final Four since 1997 or advanced to the championship game since the '92 team.

"I'm sad that it's over because of how much I love this program, this coaching, teammates," Wiggins said, breaking into tears. "It's that amazing. This season, I could not ever have dreamed of this, so it's more than I could ever ask for."

She came in averaging 27.4 points in the tournament and opened the game with a 3-pointer, but couldn't find an open look after that. The All-American finished

6-for-16 from the field and just over a standing ovation with left to a minute left in her college career.

Parker struggled with her shooting in the semifinals when she went 6-for-27 from the field, but gutted out the championship game, not letting her injured shoulder bother her. For the second straight game, the All-American wore a long-sleeve shirt under her uniform to try, as she said, to not focus on the injury. Underneath Parker's shirt was a Sully brace.

"It goes across the shoulder and across the body with a strap system that limits her motion," trainer Jenny Moshak said.

Unlike earlier games in the tournament when Parker had to carry the Lady Vols, her supporting cast came through against Stanford. Shannon Bobbitt scored 13 points and Nicky Anosike added 12 points, eight rebounds and

six steals for the Lady Vols.

"They came out with a great mentality to play hard, especially on the defense end," Summitt said. "On offense, we got more people involved, but it was our defense that got it done. I'm so proud of our seniors, I'm going to miss them."

Bobbitt scored all of her points in the first half as the Lady Vols jumped out to a 37-29 advantage. Trailing by one early, Tennessee used a 13-4 run to take a 17-9 lead midway through the half. Bobbitt hit two 3-pointers and made a nifty layup to cap the sport. The teams traded baskets before two free throws by Bobbitt gave the Lady Vols a 35-25 lead, their biggest of the half.

She also harassed Stanford into 14 turnovers by the break. The Cardinal looked tight on offense, committing more turnovers in the first half than they did in the semifinal win over UConn. They finished with 25 for the game.

"We did not play well. We did not handle the pressure well," Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. "The turnovers absolutely killed us."

Jayne Appel finished with 16 points to lead the Cardinal, whose 23-game winning streak, the longest in the nation, ended. The Pac-10 champs hadn't lost since dropping consecutive road games to UCLA and USC in the first week of January.

The victory redeemed the Lady Vols' 73-69 overtime loss to the Cardinal when the teams met Dec. 22 at Stanford.

Tennessee is 8-5 in championship games after barely making it to No. 13. The Vols won their other titles in 1987, '89, '91, '96, '97, and '98.

MT's Cochran earns Sun Belt Golfer of the Month accolades Blue Raiders' junior collects the second conference Golfer of the Month award of his career

By TONY STINNETT
MT Media Relations

Rick Cochran's maturity as a golfer has meant as much to his development as one of the Sun Belt's top players as has his all-round game.

Regarded as a great striker with a better than average short game, Cochran's mentality has enabled him to put his entire game together at the end of his junior season. For his effort, Cochran was named the Sun Belt's Golfer of the Month for March after another sterling month on the links.

"I think being in the pro-

gram at Middle Tennessee for three years now and understanding how to go about it, how to practice, how to take each tournament differently and not try to win it on the first day has helped me tremendously," said Cochran, who picked up the second SBC Golfer of the Month honor in his career. "Putting three consistent rounds together is more important than one great round."

Cochran has been putting together strong round after strong round down the stretch and his play has helped key Middle Tennessee's string of four consecutive tournament wins. The

junior from Paducah, Ky., had his best back-to-back tournaments of the year in the team's two March events.

He enjoyed a 71.6 stroke average for the two events played (the Carter Plantation and the Middle Tennessee/Aldila Intercollegiate), including a career-best 67 in the final round of the Aldila. Cochran led the Blue Raiders to wins in both tournaments, notching his first career win in capturing the Carter Plantation Intercollegiate (March 24-25) with a 1-under 215 to outdistance the other 78 competitors in the field.

Cochran followed that performance with another 1-under 215 to lead the Blue Raiders to the win in the Aldila Intercollegiate. He finished tied for third overall (out of 62 golfers) and posted a career-low 67 in the final round.

"The biggest thing with Rick is his maturity," Middle Tennessee head coach Whit Turnbow said. "He is three years in now and his golf game is growing. He is maturing as a person and that helps tremendously. Rick has learned to take the bad with the good and not let things that happen get him down. He used to be so hard on himself.

"He is making better decisions. There was a point in his career when he would have gone for broke on any par-5 he saw but now he has figured out when to take chances and when he should not. The experience he has gained the last few years is starting to pay off."

Cochran, who has nine career Top 10 finishes, leads Middle Tennessee with a 72.67 stroke average and is tied for sixth overall in the Sun Belt. The Blue Raiders will next be in action when they play in the Sun Belt Conference Championships in Muscle Shoals, Ala., April 21-23.

PRO FROM PAGE 8

ning the Player of the Year award is beyond me). She also has WNBA-caliber size with her six-foot frame.

Not only the WNBA is one of the nation's most prestigious sports leagues, but people are definitely aware of its existence. If Holt fulfills her potential and enjoys a solid career in the WNBA, it should help raise MT's athletic profile.

In fact, since the Lady Raiders have produced a WNBA draft pick for the past two years, it should help draw women's basketball prospects to Murfreesboro. If the Lady Raiders can start drawing large crowds to the Murphy Center it could have a residual effect for the men's team.

If people start getting excited about MT women's basketball, and the men's team puts together a solid season next year (which they should), there could be a larger crowd at home basketball games. This is not unprecedented, just look at the situation in Knoxville.

The Lady Vols consistently filled up Thompson-Boling Arena long before Bruce Pearl arrived with his painted chest and orange blazer. However, once Pearl worked his magic, UT saw something it hadn't seen in a long time—consistent sellouts for men's basketball. One thing that MT definitely needs is to be successful in the money sports: men's and women's basketball and football. The best way to get noticed on the national level is to excel in one of those three sports, just ask Memphis.

All of this is completely speculation and who knows, maybe Holt flops in the WNBA, but MT fans should be excited one of their own might buck the trend of MT busts.

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Chalmers, Arthur propel Kansas to Championship

Jayhawks win third title; Tigers finish season with most wins in NCAA history

By EDDIE PELLIS
AP National Writer

Mario Chalmers, meet Lorenzo Charles and Keith Smart.

The Kansas guard made one of the biggest shots in NCAA history Monday night, a 3-pointer with 2.1 seconds left to force overtime and lead the Jayhawks to the national championship with a 75-68 victory over Memphis.

Chalmers' shot was the most tremendous moment of a tremendous game that saw Memphis squander a nine-point lead over the final 2:12.

Derrick Rose and Chris Douglas-Roberts missed four of five free throws over the final 72 seconds to set the table for Chalmers, a junior from Anchorage, who is suddenly a household name.

"Probably the biggest shot ever made in Kansas history," Kansas coach Bill Self said.

"That has to be one of the biggest shots in basketball history," teammate Rodrick Stewart said.

The win gave Kansas its first title since 1988, when "Ditty (Manning) and the Miracles" pulled an upset over Oklahoma.

Chalmers' shot came almost 25 years to the date after with his stick-back of Dereck Whittenburg's air ball to give North Carolina State a title, the one that sent Jim Valvano scurrying around the court looking for someone to hug.

Smart's baseline jumper with a second left gave Indi-

ana a one-point victory over Syracuse in 1987.

Chalmers was every bit as clutch, while Memphis was the exact opposite.

The ending made a mockery of Memphis coach John Calipari's theory that his players, among the country's worst with 59 percent free-throw shooting, didn't have to be good because they would always come through when the stakes were highest.

"Ten seconds to go, we're thinking we're national champs, all of a sudden a kid makes a shot, and we're not," Calipari said.

Hustling the ball down the court with 10.8 seconds left, no timeouts and trailing by three, Sherron Collins handed off to Chalmers at the top of the 3-point line, and Chalmers took the shot. It hit nothing but net and tied the score at 63.

Robert Dozier missed a desperation heave at the buzzer, and Rose went limping to the bench, favoring his right leg. Brandon Rush, Darrell Arthur and Darnell Jackson scored the first six points of overtime to put Kansas ahead 69-63.

Memphis, clearly exhausted, didn't pull any closer than three the rest of the way, what played all 45 minutes in what could very well be his last college game.

"Overtime, they kind of beat us down," Calipari said. "I didn't sub a whole lot, because I was trying to win the game at the end."

Although Chalmers will go

down in history, Rose was setting himself up to be the star of the game, the next 'King' in Memphis. He completely took over in the second half, scoring 14 of his second 16 points during one stretch to lift the Tigers (38-2) to a 60-51 lead with 2:12 left.

But Kansas (37-3) used the strategy any smart opponent of Memphis' would employ, fouling the heck out of one of the country's worst free-throw-shooting teams, and when Rose and Douglas-Roberts started putting up bricks, KU had its opening.

"Being a leader of this team, I feel I let them down by missing them," Douglas-Roberts said. "I told them that I take the blame."

Everyone on Kansas deserves some credit.

Arthur was dominant inside, finishing with 20 points and 10 rebounds, lots on dunks and easy lay-ups off job passes. Chalmers had 12 and Collins had 11 points, six assists and did a wonderful job handling Rose for the first 28 minutes.

Rose wound up with 18 points in a game that showed how ready he is for the NBA. He was 3-for-4 from the line, however, and that one miss with 10.8 seconds left is what almost certainly would have sealed the game and given the Tigers their first title.

"It wasn't terrible," Rose said. "If we'd done things before the free throws, we would've been in good shape."



Photo by Eric Gay, Associated Press
Darrell Arthur (00) scored 20 points and pulled down 10 boards in Kansas win over Memphis.

Instead, the title goes back to Lawrence for the third time in the fabled program's history.

The inventor of the game, James Naismith, was the first Jayhawks coach. It's the school that made household names of Wilt Chamberlain, Manning, and yes, even North Carolina's Roy Williams, the coach who famously left the Jayhawks, lost to them in the semifinals, but was, indeed, in the Kansas cheering section Monday wearing a Jayhawks sticker on his shirt.

This game was not about coaches or sidestories, though. It was about the game, and what a dandy it was. It was

a well-needed reprieve from a more-or-less tournament in which many games were blowouts and far fewer, Kansas' two-point win over Davidson in the regional finals was one exception, were memorable.

This was the first overtime in the title game since 1997, when Arizona beat Kentucky 84-79.

"Being up seven, being down nine, being up two, down five, going to overtime," Kansas center Cole Aldrich said. "We fought it out, and it's surreal. It's nuts."

Rose went crazy during Memphis' second-half run. A 3-pointer here, a scoop-

ing layup for a three-point play. Then, the capper, an off-balance, 18-foot shot off glass with the shot-clock buzzer sounding. Officials at first credited Rose with a 3, but went to the replay monitor and saw he was clearly inside the line.

Even with the point deducted, Memphis had a 56-49 lead and all the momentum. Most teams would have been demoralized.

Clearly, Kansas is not most teams.

"I just thought, 'you know, we can do this, we can do this, and we just need to catch a break,'" Self said. "And we caught a break."

PLAYOFFS FROM PAGE 8

Adam Hall scored 16 seconds into Game 1 for the quickest goal ever surrendered by the Red Wings in their playoff before Detroit pulled out the series

in six games.

The rivalry couldn't have been much tighter this season.

Nashville went 3-3-2 against Detroit, including a stretch of 22 days in March where the teams played four times. The Red Wings won three of those with three decided by one goal. The final game on

March 30 was a 1-0 overtime win in Detroit, and the Red Wings outscored Nashville 20-19 overall this season.

"Every single game, it was like a playoff game every time we played them. It really was," Arnott said. "Hopefully, it carries on, and I'm sure it'll be even more emotional and

more exciting."

The fans also add a unique twist to a rivalry that needed only a hockey team in Nashville to get started.

Lots, really, lots, of Red Wings fans call Tennessee home, including many workers who relocated for GM's auto plant south of Nashville.

They wear their Detroit red and white colors proudly and probably will help the Predators sell out Games 3 and 4 when they had trouble selling out playoff games the past two years.

Arnott isn't worried. "Our fans are going to be here for us in Nashville. I'm

sure there are going to be Detroit fans in the stands, and no question, our fans are a lot louder than theirs and they're behind us all year long. I'm sure they'll be even louder once they get back home," he said.

If the Predators can give them something to cheer.

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