




LOCAL FORECAST

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		
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Baseball season  
brings MT wins  
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**Exposure**  
inside

Vol. 82 No. 56  
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# MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

Thursday, April 5, 2007  
Editorially independent

## Club owner charged with assault

Staff Report

The owner of Murfreesboro nightspot Sweetwater Saloon was arrested on March 24.

Jarrett Qualls, 26, of Beech Grove, was charged with aggravated assault and public intoxication.

Detective Edward Gorham responded to Sweetwater Saloon at 527 W. Main St. around 3 a.m. in reply to an assault, according to the Murfreesboro Police Report.

"Upon my arrival I made contact

with the victim," Gorham stated. "He had several cuts to his head and neck."

Gorham reported the victim stated Qualls had struck him.

After going inside and speaking with Qualls, Gorham reported, "He stated that he got into a fight with the victim and had struck him over the head with a vodka bottle."

Gorham stated Qualls, "who had an obvious odor of alcohol about his person began yelling at the victim's daughter and officers."

Qualls was then arrested for public intoxication and after further investigation he was also charged with aggravated assault.

Some MTSU Greek organizations have used Sweetwater Saloon for events.

Gentry McCreary, director of Greek Life, said the last organization he recalled using Sweetwater as a venue was the National Pan-Hellenic Council and that was for an event last year.

Erik Stevenson, senior music

business major and president of the NPHC said the last time they used the facility was around November or December of last year.

"Personally, I don't use the facility anymore," said Stevenson. "They have been very disrespectful to our wishes."

Stevenson said if he still went to the venue it would depend on the situation as to if he would continue to frequent the establishment after the arrest. ♦



Photo by Chris Barstad | Photography Editor

The intersection at Northfield Boulevard and Memorial Boulevard is one of six possible places to implement red light enforcement if proposal passes.

## Council considers installing traffic cameras at lights

By Ashley Brase

Staff Writer

The city of Murfreesboro has proposed legislation allowing for an automated red light enforcement system at several intersections throughout the city.

The proposition came after reviewing the success other areas of the nation have had in red light ticketing enforcement.

"A lot of good has come of [the system] where it has been enforced," said McCall, a representative of the Murfreesboro Police Department. "Pictures don't lie."

The proposition was first introduced at the Murfreesboro City Council meeting on March 1.

The proposition has not been approved due to opposition from members of the city, as well as the politics of the bid itself, according to the Murfreesboro Police Department.

The red light enforcement is proposed for six intersections around the city including Broad Street and Church Street, Memorial Boulevard and Northfield Boulevard, Northwest Broad Street at Northfield Boulevard, Old Fort Parkway and Thompson Lane, Rutherford Boulevard at Mercury Boulevard and South Church Street at Middle Tennessee Boulevard.

These intersections have been chosen due to the high number of traffic signal related automobile accidents each year.

The intersection at Old Fort Parkway and Thompson Lane experienced 77 intersection crashes in 2005. Memorial Boulevard at Northfield Boulevard experienced the second highest number of crashes with 63 incidents that year. Other intersections scheduled to be regulated ranges from

36 to 29 incidents in 2005.

Using the red light monitoring system, video cameras will automatically record vehicles when they run a red light. The video system is attached to the traffic light as well as to a sensor at either a crosswalk or stop line. The video will record when a vehicle enters the intersection above a set minimum speed and following a specific time after the light has turned red.

Vehicles stopped in the intersection waiting to make a left-hand turn after the light has turned red will not be photographed or ticketed.

Students at MTSU who have come in contact with the system have experienced mixed opinions on the values of the system.

"I think it's a faulty system," said Daniel Sharp, a junior recording industry management major. "You can't guarantee the person getting the ticket is the person driving the car. It's an interesting idea, but if I were a parent and got mailed a ticket for my kid running a red light I would be upset."

Some red light monitoring systems do include a dual camera. In these systems a first camera will take a photograph of the car from behind while a second photographs a close up of the person driving the car.

Cameras also record the date, time, speed of the automobile and time elapsed since the light changed from yellow to red.

The license plate is captured by the video, screened through the state vehicle registration and the vehicle owner is identified. Violations are reviewed by trained officers and are approved before a ticket is mailed to the recipient.

The violation will be received

See Cameras, 2



Photo by Chris Comstock | Contributing Photographer

From left, Levi Collins, Brit Pettigrew, Lady Shelia and Renata Alexandre attend Tuesday's discussion about homosexuality and religion. The four listen as one commentator compares homosexual practices to murder.

## Spring Out raises awareness

By Clarence Plank

Sports Editor

MT Lambda, MTSU's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender student organization, is working to raise awareness of gay issues this week with a series of events.

Spring Out, sponsored by MT Lambda, is being held April 1 through April 6 with a movie playing on Friday.

"Spring Out is designed to raise awareness for everyone not with GLBT community, but for everyone," said Chris Rhoton, public relations of Lambda. "They are basically events that help educate people about GLBT issues and for GLBT to have fun and to be visible on campus. That's the reason why we are here."

Monday was the Info Fair, which brought groups from Nashville to help raise awareness about GLBT issues. People handed out information from Out and About, the online newspaper that covers gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered issues.

"[The] main focus of this is not only to edu-

cate people to what's going on around them," Rhoton said. "We're here to advertise ourselves to make sure people come out and are interested in joining us."

Kevin Lawson of Nashville Cares was on campus Wednesday for the "Let's Talk About Sex" workshop, which dealt with practicing safe sex for both men and women.

"In the past we've had organizations from campus and businesses from Nashville that are GLBT-oriented that come down and hand out information like Kevin Lawson," Rhoton said. "He hands out information about safe sex ... Everyone comes down, so that way people [who] don't know that the GLBT is on campus, especially freshmen who are new to the area, [learn about the organization]."

Most of the events of Spring Out have come and gone, but those scheduled for the remainder of the week are meant for education and entertainment.

Thursday, comedian Ant will perform in the State Farm Room at the Business and Aerospace Building at 7:30 p.m.

Friday night, MT Lambda will wrap things up with the movie "Imagine Me & You" in the Keathley University Center Theater at 8 p.m.

"It's about a woman that gets married to a guy and falls in love with a woman who shows up at her wedding," Rhoton said.

Last Sunday, Nashville in Harmony performed on the steps of the John Bragg Mass Communications Building.

"We had Nashville in Harmony, which is the GLBT and Friends choir," Rhoton said. "It was informative and educational because all the songs they sung were about building unity and togetherness."

According to Rhoton, Spring Out is different every year.

"We had a religion panel [because] that's one of those issues where everyone thinks it's not possible for religion and gay people to come to grips with each other," Rhoton said. "We are asking a lot of major religions that question and trying to get their opinion, to see if there are religions out there that embrace gay people instead of saying, 'We don't want you.'"

## Honorary professor title given to famed producer

By Michelle McCrary

Assistance News Editor

Acclaimed recording industry executive and producer Tony Brown addressed MTSU students on the future of the recording industry, his job as a producer and interesting moments in his career, such as working with Elvis.

"Tony Brown is living proof that nice guys can finish first," said recording industry professor Beverly Keel Tuesday night. "This humble man has produced albums that have sold over 100 million copies and produced 104 number one singles working with artists such as Billy Joel and George Strait."

Brown is the reigning Country Music Association producer for "Believe," the 2006 Single of the Year by Brooks & Dunn, and is up for four Academy of Country Music awards in May. His latest project finds him in the studio working with Reba McEntire on her duets album.

A native of North Carolina, Brown has a musical background including playing piano in his family's gospel group as a teenager,

touring with Elvis Presley during his final United States tour, and playing piano for band mate Rodney Crowell's Cherry Bombs when Crowell went solo.

Brown spoke to students on his role as a producer.

"The producer actually makes the record. We have to pick musicians that fit [the artists] style of music," Brown said, adding that the producer casts the rhythm section, engineer, studio, "and then hopes for the best."

Brown called his style as a producer as being that of "an spiritual advisor."

"If it's a new artist you're smart, diplomatic and politically correct. Let [the artist] lead the session," Brown said. "If you disagree with them, you realize its their record, so you make the noose bigger and let them hang themselves."

Brown also told students "everyone just wants to be respected. Artists that write and have triple platinum records would die to have the kind of respect that artists like John Hiatt have, even though [he] doesn't sell a lot of records."

Brown said that as a producer, he is the most confident about his

"guts," and that he is the most insecure when it comes to the technical aspect of his job.

"I haven't even learned how to MP3 something," Brown joked. "I don't know how to run a sound board, but I do know what compressors and things are; I just don't know how to work them," Brown said. "I align myself with great engineers who aren't afraid to try new things."

Brown was 30 years old when he first started playing piano personally for Elvis in a group called Voice. The group was at Elvis's beck and call to travel and play in his home whenever he felt like hearing southern gospel music.

"My job was to fly out to his home and play for him," Brown said. "He would sing 'Peace in the Valley' 50 times. First he would sing lead, then [sing] bass and then baritone."

Brown reminisced about the first time he was onstage with Elvis during the tour.

"The first show we [played] was in Kemper arena in Kansas City in front of 20,000 people," Brown said. "I must admit the first time Elvis looked at me and pointed to give



Photo by Michelle McCrary | Assistant News Editor

Anantha Babbili (left) and Kaylene Gebert (right) award Tony Brown (middle) with the title of honorary professor in the department of recording industry management at Tuesday night's RIM lecture.

me the cue to start playing was a scary moment, but I made it through to the very end."

Brown also discussed the changing technology and the effect it is having on the recording industry.

"I remember the days when you had to make musicians play 30 times because someone would screw up a take," Brown said. "With Pro Tools and the click track you can save performances and steal them from different tracks and put them together."

Brown also discussed how music piracy and programs such as Napster have affected the industry.

"If I could download an Armani suit for free I would," Brown said. "People forget music is intellectual

property, and [they] forget the food chain of people whom they are affecting when they steal that music. We have to figure out how to fix it."

Brown said that the record industry has been taken back by iTunes because it has made singles more prevalent.

"Record companies are scared of iTunes and iPods because they lose [the] revenue of a full album and fear losing more artists," Brown said. "[We] have to have singles to promote an album and tell the world that it exists."

Brown called students who are studying in the recording industry management program "the future of how music will be recorded,

and God bless you because I would hate to be getting into the industry right now."

The night concluded with Kaylene Gebert, Executive Vice President and Provost presenting Brown with the title of honorary professor in the department of recording industry management.

Brown, with tears in his eyes, pumped his fist excitedly in the air to the sound of thunderous applause by those in attendance.

"[Being] a producer is the greatest gig in the world. It gets to a point where you can work with 'A' [quality] musicians, artists and engineers," Brown said. "It's like driving a Ferrari, you just hang on." ♦



## CRIME BRIEFS

**March 29 – 1:19 a.m.**

**MTSU Blvd.  
Drug Abuse**

Jessica Winfree of Murfreesboro was charged with simple possession of marijuana, speeding and no proof of financial responsibility.

**March 29 – 11:57 a.m.**

**Greenhouse Lot  
Traffic**

Subject discovered that her vehicle was involved in a hit and run accident while she was in class. A note was left on the suspects vehicle.

**March 29 – 3:35 p.m.**

**Jim Cummings Hall  
Assault**

A victim reported that he had been jumped by his roommate and three other males. The victim was taken to the Sheriff's Office and warrants were obtained for the roommate and one of the assailants. The two other assailants have yet to be identified.

**March 29 – 3:41 p.m.**

**Keathley University Center Grill  
Theft under \$500**

An individual who was involved in theft called requesting an officer. The suspect was currently being detained with stolen property on him. The suspect paid for the merchandise and no charges were going to be pressed. The suspect was taken up to the dean who issued a citation.

**March 30 – 2:45 a.m.**

**Alumni Dr.  
Alcohol**

Jennifer Nutkis of Nashville, Melody Wing of Murfreesboro and Stephen Everett of Brentwood were issued citations for underage consumption.

**April 2 – 9:34 a.m.**

**Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building  
Harassment**

Subject called and requested an officer to come and take a report of a harassing e-mail she received.

**April 2 – 1:13 p.m.**

**Corlew Hall  
Theft**

Subject called and advised that her tag was stolen Saturday night.

**April 3 – 10:19 a.m.**

**Greek Row  
Vandalism**

A subject called and requested an officer to meet with him behind Greek Row between building one and two for a vandalism report.

**April 4 – 10:58 a.m.**

**Greek Row  
Vandalism**

Subject called and requested an officer in reference to vandalism done to one of their windows last night.

**CRIME STOPPERS: 893-7867**

A cash reward of up to \$1,000 is being offered for information leading to the arrest of the person or persons who have been unlawfully entering rooms in Peck Hall and burglarizing. Friday, Mar. 2 between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. and 8:40 a.m. on Tuesday, Mar. 13 in room 100D was unlawfully entered and a white Sunbeam microwave and a dust buster vacuum cleaner were stolen. Also on Feb. 22 between 1 p.m., and Feb. 26 at 7:30 a.m. room 100G was unlawfully entered and a table lamp with a red fabric shade, two purple silk scarves and a piece of red fabric were stolen.

A cash reward of up to \$300 is being offered for information leading to the arrest of the person or persons who have been taking wallets and credit cards from unlocked lockers in the men's locker room of the Campus Recreation Center. The theft was committed between 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Mar. 13.

A cash reward of up to \$300 is being offered for information leading to the arrest of the person or persons who took a Sony Erickson cell phone from the storage area of this Business and Aerospace Building snack bar. The crime was committed between 3:30 p.m. on Friday, Mar. 2, and 7:45 a.m. on Monday, Mar. 12.

A cash reward of up to \$300 if being offered for information leading to the arrest of the person who took a woman's large handbag from the hallway outside of room 114 in the Fairview Building. The bag is dark brown with a square type pattern. It was stolen between 8:00 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Monday, Mar. 12.

## Cameras: Local police may use technology to ticket

Continued from 1

through the mail and the recipient may review the camera footage of their violation online prior to making the payment.

A survey performed by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety found that of the fatal crashes at traffic lights across the state of Virginia, an estimated 20 percent were the result of a failure to obey a traffic signal.

The IIHS states in Fairfax, Va. and Oxford, Calif., the use of red light monitoring systems have reduced the number of red light running 40 percent and the number of injury crashes dropped 29 percent.

The goal of the automated red light enforcement system is to reduce the number of these incidents in the Murfreesboro area.

"I would think it would reduce the number of accidents at the intersections because if people are more conscious, they will be less likely to gun it and run it," said Jake Bauer, a senior biology major.

In Tennessee, Germantown, Red Bank, Knoxville and Gallatin are currently utilizing the automated red light enforcement systems.

The Germantown system has been in use for four years, making it the longest running automated red light system in the state.

Approximately 1,000 red light running violations are issued monthly by use of the automates system. In the four years of using the program, only three violations have been contested, none of which have been dismissed.

The Knoxville program, which

has issued approximately 22,000 violations since its initiation in April 2006, has had fewer than 30 violations contested, two of which have been dismissed.

Payment of ticket in areas currently utilize the ticketing system are made by mail or made directly to the City Court Clerk's office. If implemented, the system in Murfreesboro is expected to be regulated the same way.

Nineteen traffic cameras are currently in use around Murfreesboro but do not include red light ticketing. The cameras are intended to monitor traffic, and one minute streams of current traffic conditions can be viewed at the Murfreesboro Traffic Department Web site. ♦



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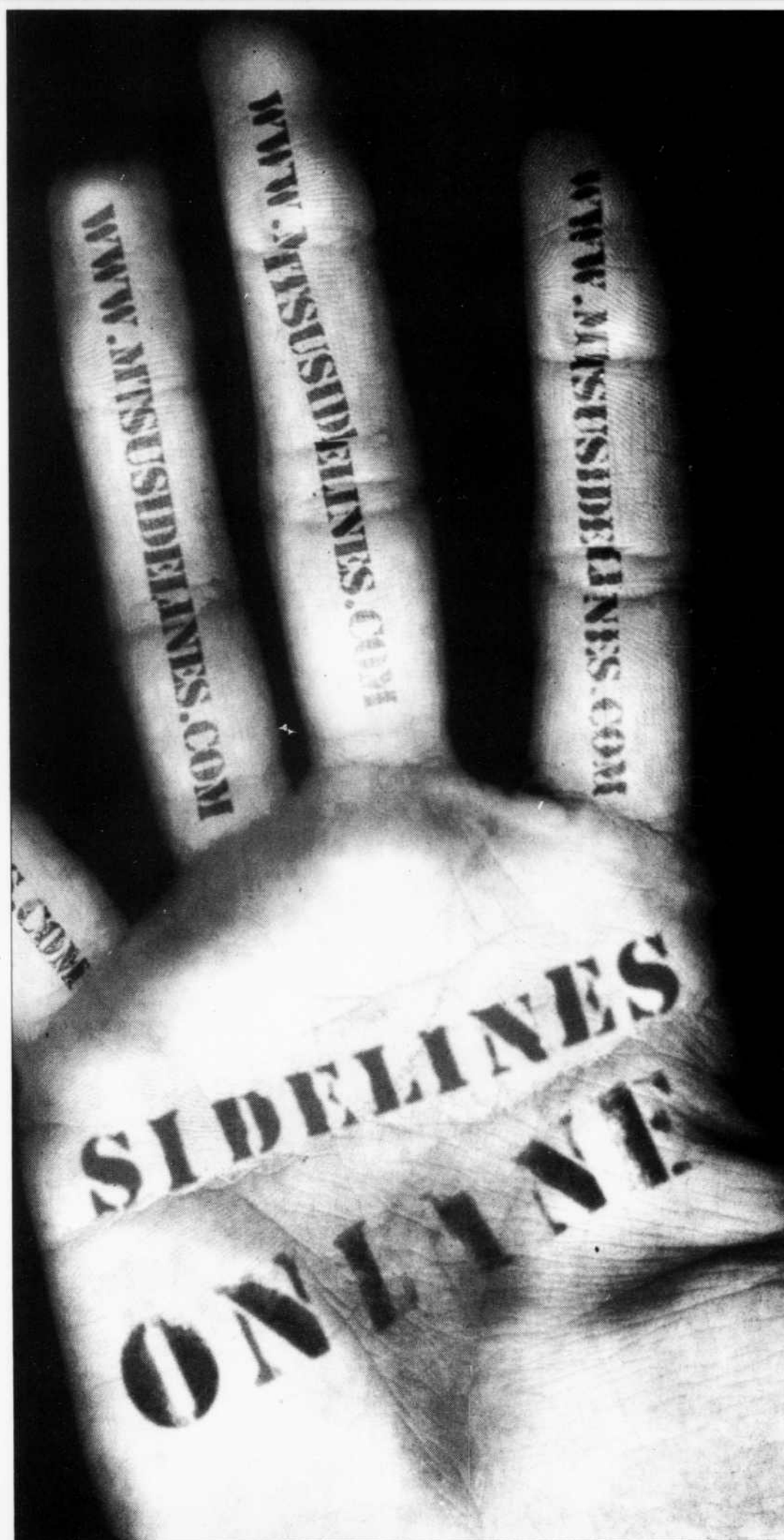
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# OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board

## Cameras watching, look out for bears

While some Murfreesboro residents may be upset at the city's proposal to use red light ticket enforcement at a half dozen intersections, it could cut down on accidents.

The proposal hasn't been voted on, but if passed, it would only involve the intersections with the most accidents. This may just keep overly-aggressive speeders from pressing the accelerator a hundred feet before the yellow light.

If a person speeding in the first place, the individual is breaking the law, and can't complain out this possible legislation forcing him to slam on his brakes.

This proposal is obviously meant to make crappy drivers watch their bumpers. Drivers beware – it's more effective than a police officer. One patrolman can theoretically pull over and ticket only one lawbreaker at a time. However, these cameras work at a much faster pace and don't miss anything.

This type of enforcement increases public service capabilities because police officers can spend less time searching for violators and more time patrolling high crime areas and responding to calls. Hopefully, people will stop complaining about officers not serving and protecting citizens. Now they have plenty of time to.

Though it may not seem fair that an individual could unknowingly get a ticket, it is fair and it does work. It catches all the bad people of the world and makes them pay for their evil.

Of course, extenuating circumstances are considered before the ticket is issued. Believe it or not, the information from the equipment is reviewed before the ticket is mailed out.

This means that someone actually goes through it and makes sure the ticket is deserved. That means if a thousand pound grizzly bear is behind you, barreling toward you at an incredible speed, it's probably worth it to risk that yellow light.

## State has no excuse for pollution trouble

A non-native of Tennessee, I was amazed at the natural beauty that this state has to offer. Beautiful forests, fields and rivers are abundant, and springtime is truly breathtaking. Naturally, I was amazed when I saw the lack of respect that Tennesseans have for our beautiful land. This state is a mess.

Litter in Tennessee is the worst I've seen in any state, hands-down. People seem to simply not care what their world looks like. It reflects extremely poorly on the character of people in this state, to say nothing of our collective intelligence. Even the dumbest of dogs is smart enough not to mess up its bed or pen. The irony is that humans pollute the very habitat that we live in, from the air that we breathe, to the water that we drink, to the ground we walk on. It's simply disgusting.

Smokers are some of the worst offenders. A poll conducted by the Tennessee Stop Litter campaign revealed that only 50 percent of smokers claim to properly dispose of their butts. 20 percent said they "frequently throw their butts out of their car windows." Cigarette butts are especially harmful litter. Even smoked, cigarettes still contain a cocktail of toxic chemicals. The filters aren't cotton, as they appear, but are made of cellulose acetate, a plastic very slow to biodegrade.

Since they are so small, many discarded butts end up being washed into the waterways, where they take one to 10 years to biodegrade. While they are there, they release a brew of chemicals into the water, harmful to aquatic life, to say nothing of the humans that drink the water.

If you throw a cigarette on the street in Murfreesboro, it could wash into the Stones River, and into Percy Priest Lake. On the way to the Cumberland River, it will be polluting LaVergne's water source. When it reaches the Cumberland, it will pollute the water that Nashvillians drink.

Smokers aren't the only ones making a mess. The common thread seems to be the 18-34 age group; the MTSU crowd. Look at a busy intersection in Murfreesboro, and you'll likely see piles of garbage built up along the curbs and in the grass. It's telling of us as a society that we care so little for our own



The Pen is Mightier

Evan Barker  
Staff Columnist

habitat, that we throw potentially hazardous trash out the windows of our cars. According to stoplitter.org, only 37 percent of the men in the 18-34 age group claim that they never litter. Eight percent claim to litter "daily."

Littering is irresponsible, and downright filthy. If you litter, you are doing as a pig does to its pen.

Another problem that plagues Tennessee is poor water management in general. Since Tennessee is blessed with a healthy economy, development has been brisk in recent years. In the rush to build factories and the houses that follow, many builders do not take precautions against dirt washing from their construction sites into waterways. This causes silt buildup in lakes and rivers, which is harmful to aquatic life. As we hold the sport of fishing very dear, it makes no sense whatsoever that anyone is allowed to pollute the waterways. The Tennessee chapter of the Sierra Club is a voluntary watchdog group of bad water management practices. They post pictures on their Web site, [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org), and write letters to the authorities responsible for prosecuting polluters. You can read about their mission and how to help there.

Regardless of how busy you are, there is no excuse for pollution. Littering makes you look stupid and lazy, because it's not difficult to hold onto your trash and throw it in a bin. You'd have to be a moron to mess up the process.

Visitors to our state envy the bounty of natural beauty that we have. Nobody has the right to muck it up with Styrofoam cups and cigarette butts because they're too lazy to take three steps to the nearest trash container. For the sake of our collective dignity, and our drinking water, don't tolerate litterbugs and polluters.

Evan Barker is a senior music performance major and can be reached at [ehb2d@mtsu.edu](mailto:ehb2d@mtsu.edu).



"And Friends"

Frank Hasenmueller

## Challenge historical oppression

Lesbians often take slams for feminism. Conservatives use lesbianism as an epithet for disagreeing with the promotion of feminism. Lesbianism and feminism are not synonymous and do not explain each other explicitly.

I wonder how many conservatives have enjoyed, bought and downloaded lesbian porn all while calling feminists lesbians, meaning it as an insult. I wonder how many view lesbian porn in private, then go public and speak with indignation about gays being immoral.

When Ann Coulter called John Edwards a 'fag-got,' she provided a perfect example of a conservative using homosexuality as an epithet for discrediting a political opponent. One would think an educated propaganda machine like Coulter wouldn't have to rely on such immature means to get her point across. What is disgusting about her name calling is not just using it, but that she carelessly choose not to take responsibility for it.

When Michael Richards had his idiotic, name-calling fit, he stood up to the public and apologized. Though we might question the authenticity, he was a grown man and claimed responsibility for his actions. Coulter still sits on her prime time intolerance without remorse thus trivializing her own political perspectives.

Intolerance of homosexuals and degrading remarks in political public forums parallel times when politically racist comments were socially acceptable. When it comes to civil rights activism race, gender and sexual orientation are not fundamentally different. The challenge is to transform the status quo's systematic historical oppression. Conservatives want to conserve the status quo at the expense of individual liberty.

According to a recent Time magazine article, "How the Right Went Wrong," all but one of the current Republican nominees have had multiple marriages, three admitted to adultery, but four out the five nominees oppose gay marriage. The



One Vagina For Lady Liberty

Liz Estes  
Staff Columnist

self-declared pillars of our religiously-based, moral consciousness seem to have left their own actions out of the equation for protecting the sanctity of marriage.

Most arguments against gay rights are rooted in the fallacy of claiming to know what God thinks and based on fears of homosexuals destroying the family structure. Heterosexual couples are working hard and fast to do that on their own.

The fact is, whether your neighbors are married or not in no way interferes with your personal liberties or your marriage; unless you are sleeping with your neighbor.

Lesbians are involved, important contributors to the efforts of feminist activism. Lesbians have an additional set of political barriers to challenge that are not central to the basic feminist concerns affecting all women, regardless of their sexual orientation. Concerns like equal pay and political representation get lost in the media's preoccupation with lesbian activism. Lesbianism sells air time and newsworthy by being taboo. Straight feminism are not as controversial. Even Oprah has been accused of being gay by the media.

MTSU's Women's Studies department is pre-occupied with lesbian studies that almost overrun the need for simple women's history classes.

Queer theory is the latest academic trend for gender studies and is being promoted at an enthusiastic rate that basic feminist theory and

history is rushed through to get to the latest and greatest queer theories. What is difficult about queer theory is that it is in infancy with its foundations and relevant to a few individuals.

Two questions remain in queer theory that serves as problematic foundations for an activist for gay rights. Are homosexuals born gay, or is orientation a choice? If people are born gay, this would naturalize sexual orientation and therefore enable the argument that just like race and sex, sexual orientation is an undeniable right.

If homosexuals are choosing a lifestyle, that leaves the door wide open for conservatives and heterosexuals to challenge all personal claims to legal recognition. The idea of choosing to be gay fosters all the fears of conversion to homosexuality and creates room for moral judgment because it is a choice.

It is my belief that homosexuals are born gay and deserve the same liberties and legal protection that plenty of other Americans take for granted. As our conservatives continue to confuse the ideology of separation of state from the church, the civil rights activists will always have plenty of work to do. We, as Americans, should challenge and question our intolerant, conservative moralists while they are talking out of one side of their mouth and tuning their face away from their own actions. Whatever happened to practicing what you preach?

Homosexuals in the United States are citizens like all individuals with creeds and color. Achieving rights for homosexuals is not just about individual liberty but respect.

Everyone should learn love their neighbor, even if that neighbor is a homosexual American.

Liz Estes is a senior English major and has a B.A. in philosophy. She can be reached at [eae2b@mtsu.edu](mailto:eae2b@mtsu.edu).

## Letters to the Editor

### Feminist complaint misinformed, ignorant

To the Editor:

Considering the gist of Matthew Hurtt's column on feminism, ["Feminists fail equality promotion," March 29], published in the last few days of Women's History Month, I am surprised he didn't write an article for Black History Month, "Black people are poor because they are lazy."

The thesis of his – as usual – poorly written column is that men are equal to men, but men and women are not equal, "and they never will be." When our forefathers said that all men were created equal, they didn't mean all men were created the same. They meant that all [white, property-owning] men should be treated equally under the law. Fast forward 225 years or so, and we now live in a country where the phrase "all men are created equal" includes [gasp!] blacks, [say it ain't so!] poor whites, and [no freakin way!] women. Men and women are not the same, biologically speaking, but this does not mean that they are not equal. Since Hurtt's diatribe against feminism hinges on confusing the two, I suggest that he go back to his drawing board before trying to dismantle 100 years worth of sweat and blood provided by American feminism.

At one point, Hurtt suggests that the reason women earn less than men is that they choose careers that pay less. How insulting. I would like to ask him to recheck his "facts." Female surgeons earn less, by 37 percent, than their male counterparts, according to the Census Bureau. Another study shows that in 65 job categories, in which men and women have the same job, women consistently and across the board earn less than men.

I was particularly vexed when he insisted that feminists should fight for equalized consumer pricing by complaining that women were being unfairly advantaged by "Ladies' Nights" at bars. Aside from being – willfully or not – completely obtuse about the meaning of the evening – to attract male customers by promising a bar full of liquored up women, he ignores the fact that women are consistently asked to pay more money than men for clothes made with the same amount or less fabric than clothing made for men. Then, he complains about higher car insurance premiums for men. Whereas teenage boys have been shown to be statistically more likely to get into accidents, or get ticketed for speeding or driving under the influence, there aren't any statistics that prove that women are more likely to ruin their clothes, and should therefore pay more for them.

There is a part of me that realizes that Hurtt has no future beyond writing inflammatory pieces for a college newspaper. My greatest fear is that others will read his silly columns and believe him.

Laura Grant  
Liberal Arts Major

### Construction, noise least of Womack's woes

To the Editor:

Okay, I just had to write this letter and give my two cents about this Womack Lane situation [Josh Daughtry's "Disturbances caused by Rec construction," April 2].

Being a single mother of two, I lived in Womack Lane Apartments when I first came to MTSU. I saw and experienced many things there that made me uneasy and want to leave. I wish that the only thing I had to worry about was some construction going on beside me. If those residents really want to raise some valid issues, why not start with the fact that Campus Housing puts their athletes in the same building with families with small children? Even overlooking the noise factor, of which there was plenty, I felt like I had to put permanent earplugs in my toddler's ears when we were outside or had our windows open. I was constantly picking up beer bottles out of the parking lots and breezeways so that children wouldn't get a hold of them first. Heck, you want to complain about noise? When I was there, I had two basketball players living above me, one of which who chose to dribble a basketball up and down their apartment all night long.

Residents could also raise complaints about the rampant drug usage that occurs in those apartments, much of it around innocent children. I called campus police several times due to drug deals occurring in the building next to mine out in the breezeway. Did anything happen? Nope. The apartment buildings themselves should be condemned. They are drafty, infested with termites and other insects, ill maintained and teeming with mold. My children and I were constantly at the doctor's office because the mold was so bad it was making us sick. I was never happier to move out of a place than I was to leave there.

I even paid to have an independent inspector come out to my apartment and do a test on the mold that was coming up the walls and floors and growing on my things. He took photos and samples of the mold and it came back to me that it was a dangerous type of mold that people die from. When I made the Housing Department aware of this, they sent someone out with bleach water and sprayed my house. That does nothing but take the color out of the mold. It does not stop it from coming back. If people in Womack Lane really want something to complain about and to raise awareness of, they have everything they need right there.

Making half-assed petitions about something that is not as important in the grand scheme of things is not going to get them anywhere, nor is it going to facilitate changes in the living conditions in the apartments.

Christy Hughes  
Northfield Blvd, Murfreesboro

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Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday 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 Sidelines or MTSU.

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# FEATURES

## Student art exhibit opens minds

By Laura Roberts  
Staff Writer

Chances are if you live in Murfreesboro, even if you have for only a short period of time, you've heard of or taken the quick drive down I-24 to the home of the late, great Civil War hero. This time of year, however, MTSU students have even more of a reason to visit the historic grounds. The Sam Davis museum currently houses an award-winning exhibit called "Recovering Their Story: African Americans on the Davis Plantation," assembled entirely by MTSU students.

During the summer of 2004, MTSU sociology and anthropology professor Kevin Smith's Archaeological Field School was invited to dig on the grounds of the Sam Davis Home. And dig, they did. Amidst the dog days of summer, the students unearthed some 20,000 artifacts from the grounds which were once treaded on by 50 slaves who lived there between the years of 1850 and 1865. The finds were then properly cleaned and cared for, analyzed and labeled, then carefully put into storage.

During 2005, MTSU history professor Brenden Martin talked with John Lodl, then director of the Sam Davis Home. They decided MTSU should team up with the Sam Davis Home to work on a display for the museum. The idea of using the findings of Smith's class for a temporary exhibit was brought up and agreed upon. Martin's spring 2006 Development of the local history museum class worked on a temporary display entitled "The Search for Homes" and showcased it during the summer of 2006.

The exhibit was such a success, Martin and Lodl met again, this time to discuss the idea of developing a permanent exhibit for the home.

"We needed help in funding the project," Martin says. "So we applied for grants at Nissan North America, Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area and the MTSU Public Service Committee. After acquiring over \$5000 to aid in the project, we decided to make the idea happen."



Photo courtesy of Brenden Martin  
Dr. Brenden Smith's development of the local history museum class worked on a temporary display entitled "The Search for Homes" and showcased it during the summer of 2006 at the Sam Davis Home. It was such a success, it was made a permanent exhibit

In the fall of 2006, Martin gave the task of constructing the permanent exhibit to the graduate students of his "Museum Management Seminar" class. Martin made the experience as realistic as possible, even having the students apply for positions to work on the project. MTSU graduate student Julie Lenger nabbed the role of design coordinator. "My responsibility as design coordinator was the layout and look of the exhibit. The goal was to make it fit in with the existing exhibits, yet show-

case what we had at the same time," Lenger says all the students spent countless hours outside of class working on the project. "One guy spent over 200 hours researching the slaves that lived at the Sam Davis Home," she says.

The artifacts in the exhibit range from clay marbles and ceramic plate pieces to hammers and glass bottle bits. Numerous parts of the display are made to be interactive, including one demonstration that displays artifacts but hides their names.

The viewer is given written hints of what the objects are before flipping wooden pieces to reveal the answers. Throughout the room, there are displays on what life was like for the slaves concerning subjects such as religion, work, education, and recreation. In the end, the students' hard labor paid off.

"It was so rewarding to step back and see how the students used their creative talents to cultivate such a wonderful exhibit. I had no doubt it would be an award winning project," Martin

says.

The display opened, was unveiled in December of 2006 and was named the state's best new exhibit by the Tennessee Museum Association during the 2007 TMA Annual Conference held last week at the Murfreesboro DoubleTree Hotel.

"Winning the TMA award was icing on the cake," Lenger says. "I'm happy we won it, and hopefully, it will bring more people to see the exhibit and the rest of the museum." ♦

The Sam Davis Home is open Monday through Saturday between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m.

**Museum & Historic House and Grounds Tour**  
Adults: \$8.50  
Seniors: \$6.50  
Children: \$3.00

**Museum Only:**  
Adults: \$5.00  
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## Students walk runway for fashion exhibition



Photo by Langston Gatewood | Contributing Photographer  
Juniors Kathryn Edwards and Laura Jones make sure everything is perfect on one of the student designs that will appear in the upcoming student show. Their fashion promotion class will be putting on a show April 12 at the Stones River Country Club

### Fashion promotion class organizes show to display student creations, historical fashions

By Sara Lunning  
Contributing Writer

With only \$200 and eight weeks, fashion merchandising and design students are working together to produce a fashion show. It may sound like a pitch for the newest Project Runway spin-off, but it's actually the final project for MTSU's fashion promotion class.

Students in previous classes have typically devoted a portion of the show to display current fashions and trends and devoted the rest of the show to student designs.

The students producing this year's show decided to switch things up a bit. Though it is similar in format to shows of the past, viewers can expect to see a portion of the show designated for student designs and also some segments with new fashions and trends.

One difference that can be seen is the addition of a segment devoted exclusively to accessories. Another new concept is a glance at the past, with a section consisting of garments from the school's historic clothing collection, containing garments dating as far back as the late 1800s.

Another new feature is the student design competition. In an effort to add more excitement to the show, the student designs will be judged as part of a contest. Everyone attending the show will receive a ballot at the door and use it to vote for their favorite piece that comes down the runway.

All of the segments will tie together to support the main theme of the show which is "Old, New and Accessories, too."

For the most part, the show is put together entirely by students. The class divides into different committees such as stylists, models, choreographers, segment producers, announcers and set designers, just to name a few. They all report to the two students

who are brave enough to take on the task of coordinating the entire show. From there, they must secure a venue, decide on the clothes to be used, establish a theme, construct the set and finalize the details along the way.

Students involved in the planning and production of the show hope to get more out of it than just a good grade. Most of the students are fashion merchandising and design majors who will more than likely have a career dealing with fashion in some way or another.

For most, the skills used to produce an event like this will be important to future employers. Junior fashion merchandising major Misty Howell plans on listing the event on her resume since it showcases the use of good visual, communication and design skills, along with concepts from various classes within the department.

Coordinators Laura Jones and Kathryn Edwards, both senior fashion design majors, agree the organizing and planning of the show is time-consuming but fun. They say they also feel that one of the biggest challenges is calculating the exact timing of the show.

Everything has to be timed and coordinated perfectly. The music has to be right on cue and the models have to come out at just the right moment. The timing can't be exact until the number of garments in the show is known. Consequently, there is a lot of work that can't be done until the last minute, which can be stressful.

Students in the class started planning at the beginning of the semester and continue to devote hard work and energy to their task. The result of their work can be seen on April 12 at 7 p.m. in the Stones River Country Club. The show is expected to last somewhere between thirty and forty minutes with refreshments afterwards. Donations will be accepted at the door for funds for next year's show. ♦

**MTSU Student Fashion Show**  
7 p.m. April 12  
Stones River Country Club



# SPORTS

## Blue Raiders slip by Tennessee Tech

**Tuesday, April 3**  
**Tenn. Tech 5**  
**MTSU 6**

Next Game at Arkansas-Little Rock,  
 April 6

By Cody Gibson  
 Staff Writer

After taking care of business this past weekend against Louisiana Monroe, the Blue Raiders delighted the home crowd in capturing narrow 6-5 victory over Tennessee Tech.

Middle Tennessee got out to an early 2-1 lead in the second inning and was able to continue to add on runs when needed, and then close out the game against the Golden Eagles.

The Blue Raiders big inning came in the fourth where the team scored three runs with two of, which came from Matt Ray's homerun.

Josh Goodwin from Tennessee Tech hurt the Blue Raiders

collecting three hits and setting the tone for the Golden Eagles to take the lead.

A Jake New solo homerun in the ninth brought the game within one run, but Middle Tennessee closed it out.

Ray finished with only one hit, but the rest of the team was very strong offensively.

Rawley Bishop continued his impressive 22 game hitting streak collecting a homerun of his own.

Matt Campbell got four hits and scored two runs on the evening with four different Blue Raiders players collecting one RBI a piece.

Travis Matthews pitched a strong game for Middle Tennessee as he gave up only two runs over the first five innings. Chad Coley and Brett Reilly closed out the game combining to allow only three runs through the end of the game.

The Raiders traveled to Cookeville Wednesday night to face Tennessee Tech at home.

This weekend the Blue Raiders will square off against Arkansas-Little Rock. Currently, Middle Tennessee sits third in the confer-

ence before the series against the Indians. Arkansas Little Rock has been struggling sitting at the eighth position in the conference.

Middle Tennessee currently has a record of 16-16 with a 8-4 mark in the conference. The team is hitting .302 for the season and has had a strong offensive output over the season.

However, the team is giving up 5.50 runs per game with more conference games coming up.

Arkansas Little Rock is last in the conference with only one win in the conference season.

The Trojans have been struggling in conference play with a team ERA of 5.81. Only one pitcher has logged an ERA under 3.00. The offense has not fared well either with an average of .265, with only three of their starters hitting over .300. This could be a big weekend for the Blue Raiders hitting and pitching.

The baseball team will begin their series with Arkansas Little Rock Friday at 6 p.m. Saturday the game begins at 2 p.m. and on Easter Sunday there is a 1 p.m. first pitch. ♦



Photo by Greg Johnson | Staff Photographer  
 Sophomore Grant Box applies the tag to the base-runner as he slides into home plate.

## Chrissy Givens drafted by Phoenix Mercury

By Cody Gibson  
 Staff Writer

Chrissy Givens of the Blue Raiders, learned where she would begin her professional career as a women's basketball player. Givens was the fifth to be selected in the third round by the Phoenix Mercury.

Givens was one of only 22 players invited to attend the draft, and also attended the pre-draft camp with the nation's elite. In her time in Dayton, Fla., Givens also attended the final four.

Givens stated she really thought it was a unique experience and she actually got to catch up with some of her opponents from this past season.

"I saw a lot of players we faced this season," she explained. "Rudy Sims of Arkansas State, Adrienne Davie of Arkansas State, Yolanda Jones of Louisiana Lafayette, and Megan Vogel of South Dakota State, all were there."

Givens believes that the fact all of these players are here cements Middle Tennessee's place in the upper echelon of women's programs.

"I think it says a lot about our team that we played such quality players and quality programs," Givens said. "The fact we played last year's national champion and this year's national champion really says a lot about the program. The competition helps a lot and has helped me to become the player I am today. It allows you to test yourself against the



Photo by Jay Richardson | Staff Photographer  
 Senior Chrissy Givens was selected in the WNBA draft yesterday. She was the fifth pick in the third round.

best in the country."

The WNBA draft process is a unique one, as teams do not throw out the promises that others do in the NFL and NBA drafts. Givens still remains calm and confident and knows, wherever she goes, she will contribute to her new team. Givens stated

the draft is all about patience.

"It's definitely a waiting game," she said. "I really haven't been told anything. A lot of teams have been interested in me."

A number of women's basketball experts, including Kara Lawson and Doris Burke, have spoken highly of Givens.

In fact, Lawson ranks Givens as one of the top 12 players in the country. Burke ranks Givens as the third best small forward prospect in the draft. People all around the WNBA already know who Chrissy Givens is.

See Givens, 7



**I am Sportacus**

J. Owen Shipley  
 Staff Columnist

## Summitt's drought ends, Vols win seventh title

Pat Summitt has been dehydrated for nearly a decade. The most successful coach of any sport at any time has been up dry creek without a thermos ever since her team barely celebrated their third straight national championship in 1998.

I grew up watching those teams win so many championships in the 90s that they could have inspired the Chicago Bulls to play harder.

But since their last championship season, I have graduated high school, dropped out of college three times, learned to drive, drove through four cars, and traveled to hundreds of cities in four countries and two continents.

In fact, over the last six years my disillusionment with UT football led me to forget I was a UT fan of any kind.

All season I followed MT as if I had never been a women's basketball fan before, but when I saw the Orange and White take the court against Rutgers, I remembered just how much I

loved watching the Vols play.

Before the championship game, all the pundits weighed in on how Rutgers defense could stifle UT's offense and force them to play outside of their game. In the first 12 minutes of the title game it appeared that they were half right.

After the Lady Vols jumped to an early lead, they ran into stiff defensive coverage and went on a seven-minute drought in which they missed shot after shot.

Unfortunately for Rutgers, the Knights failed to fare any better against UT's defense. They only completed eight field goals in the first half. It seems that a lot of people had forgotten that UT did more than score a lot. They can play defense too.

Frantic defensive play by both teams caused a multitude of turnovers and general confusion on the court, but UT's 2:1 rebounding advantage for

See Sportacus, 7

## Softball team faces North Texas this weekend

By Wesley Mize  
 Staff Writer

The Blue Raiders Softball team will be hosting North Texas this weekend for a three-game series.

Head Coach Leigh Podlesny's team picked up a series win last weekend over conference rival Louisiana-Monroe and played host to Memphis on Wednesday, still in action at press time. Podlesny said she'll enjoy the victory over Monroe because her team had to earn it.

"We experienced a little bit of everything last week," Podlesny said. "We led the first game early, then Monroe came back on us, then we hit a home run and came back and won the game. The second game we had great pitching and hitting to win that one. Our girls were determined to leave there with a series win."

The series win over Monroe pushed MT back over the .500 mark in conference play, and brought the team to within one game of .500 overall.

North Texas is led by third

baseman Susan Waters. Waters is the reigning Sun Belt Conference Player of the Week after batting .353 with four home runs in the last five games. She leads the Sun Belt in home runs, runs, and total bases.

"North Texas is a tough team," Podlesny said. "They are very aggressive at the plate. Our goal is to match their aggressiveness by attacking in the first inning on both offense and defense."

Whitney Darlington is batting .333 with five home runs for the Blue Raiders. Darlington is listed as a utility player, meaning she plays anywhere Coach Podlesny needs her.

"Whitney has played really well lately," Podlesny stated. "She played at third [base] last Sunday and did a great job. She was on fire."

Part of Middle's strategy is to emphasize coming out strong early in the game. Podlesny believes a good start will lead to a good result.

"We will be successful by setting the tone for the series early



Photo by Megan Allender | Staff Photographer  
 Junior Amy Candioto goes into her wind up against Belmont.

in game one," said Podlesny. "We have a great chance to pick up a series win at home if we can just start well. A good start in the first game will give us confidence for the whole series."

The Blue Raiders hope to jump out to a quick start on Saturday. The first game is at 1 p.m. with another game at 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday game is at 11 a.m. ♦

**Softball Schedule**  
 for the remainder of the season

**April 11, Southern Illinois 5 p.m.**

**April 14-15, Florida International**  
 Miami, Fla.

**April 18, Louisville**  
 Louisville, Ky.

**April 18-19, Austin Peay**  
 Clarksville

**April 25, Tennessee State**  
 Nashville

**April 26, Lipscomb**  
 Nashville

**Games in bold are home games**



## Kevin Green: undefeated in doubles tennis

By Clarence Plank  
Sports Editor

With the score tied at 8-8 and the game heading into the seven-point tiebreaker. Kevin Green and Michael Paul came back after being down 6-0 in the national title game.

Arizona makes a costly mistake and the team of Green-Paul delivers another crushing defeat to win their second wheelchair doubles championship.

Green, the other half of the wheelchair tandem, celebrates his sweet victory for his fourth overall doubles championship since joining the team four years ago.

Green came to MTSU in 2002 still improving on his game. Born in St. Louis. Green picked up tennis in the sixth grade.

"When I was back in sixth grade, I was playing basketball and all my friends were playing tennis," Green said. "I started

going out and trying and pretty much never stopped since I started. I did not like tennis at first. Basketball was always my favorite."

Since coming to MTSU, Green has never lost a doubles match in his collegiate career. Green credits the team's coach Ben Allen, who joined the team last year, as the final piece of the puzzle.

"He is has helped me to improve my game," Green said. "Before I finished in second place the last three years." Allen helped Green to finally win a singles championship.

Green won the singles title after beating his teammate Paul in the finals. Paul knocked the No. 1 seeded player out of the tournament in order to face Green. He took the match against Paul 6-3, 6-2 to seal the victory.

Green said he is going to focus more on the professional circuit

with a tournament in Baton Rouge, La., and once he graduates from MTSU, Green is hoping to return to Oakville High School in St. Louis.

"I want to be a physical education teacher and teach at my high school," Green said.

Green enjoys playing in the tournaments and meeting new people along the way. He is sponsored by the Tennessee Wheelchair Athlete Association and is working on a possible sponsorship from Wilson Sporting Goods Company.

"I enjoy competing, traveling, knowing that I have made a ton of friends over the last 11 years. I get to see a lot of people when I am at the tournaments," Green said. "It has been great exercise for me. It turned out to be one of the most important things to me. I would rather play tennis than do anything." ♦

## Sportacus: Vols end drought

Continued from 6

the first 34 minutes advantage made them a lock.

If you're getting out rebounded you have to shoot very well to win, but both teams shot well under forty percent for most of the game.

In the second half, it became apparent that UT was beating Rutgers at their own game. Defense may be important but offense pretty integral when the point of the game is to outscore the other team.

To quote John Madden, "If they keep scoring more points than the other team, they might win this sucker."

When on defense, the Lady Vols appeared to be all arms, and when on offense all legs. As a storm blew into Murfreesboro (and almost blew the roof off the Boro Bar and Grill) with ten

minutes left, I considered heading home to avoid the rain.

I was that sure of the outcome. A 16-point advantage against a team that had only scored 30 points in 30 minutes was all the evidence as I needed that UT would win their seventh national championship under Pat Summit.

And win it they did. After nine years of championship potential, the Lady Vols finally delivered another trophy to the hall of fame that Pat Summit built and if Parker stays, they may have to build a new wing for this team. ♦

J. Owen Shipley is a junior English major and can be reached at [myspace.com/lamsportacus](http://myspace.com/lamsportacus)

## Givens: WNBA draft

Continued from 6

Even with all of her accolades, Givens still remains as humble as ever. She credits coach Stephany Smith for bringing her to Middle Tennessee.

"Coach Smith somehow found me," she said. "The area I'm from isn't exactly a hotspot for women's basketball. I was lucky, and she got me here to Middle Tennessee."

As for MT head coach Rick Insell, she said he really helped her to develop her game.

"Coach Insell taught me how to play basketball offensively," Givens said. "He told me I needed to learn to shoot the ball, and he helped me to become a well-rounded player."

Givens will begin camp shortly, and the WNBA season begins Saturday May, 19. ♦

Intramural and Club sports: This summer we will be doing our best over here at the Sidelines to bring your stories to print, but we need your help. Please contact us about fundraisers, functions, or profiles stories about your club or intramural sports. Please contact us at [sports@mtsu.edu](mailto:sports@mtsu.edu) or drop by.

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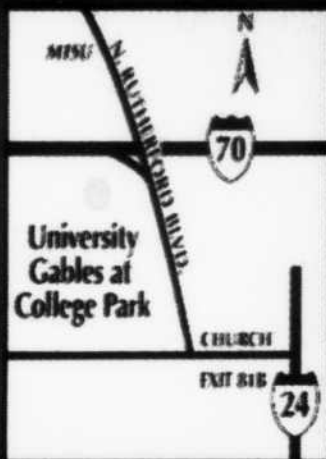
Sidelines will be responsible only for the first incorrect insertion of any classified advertisement. No refunds will be made for partial cancellations. Sidelines reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems objectionable for any reason. Classifieds will only be accepted on a prepaid basis. Ads may be placed in the Sidelines office in Mass

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