

INSIDE: Registering, ticketing bikes just another way of robbing students In Opinions, page 4

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Students question proposed bicycle parking regulations

By Mary Anna Brown
SGA Reporter

Legislation concerning bicycle regulations on campus is currently being proposed to the Public Safety Advisory Committee by Don Beard of the engineering technology and industrial studies department.

The proposal calls for a registration of all bicycles with Parking Services as are all vehicles on campus.

"I walk to my classes most of the time but I occasionally do ride my bike for the sake of convenience," sophomore Rob Evans said. "I just find this proposal to be ridiculous, and it makes me realize how much the university is trying to get an extra buck from the students."

Bikers will also be required to properly park their bikes in designated areas, lock bikes securely to parking areas and observe all other pedestrians on campus.

"Ideally, the proposal for parking in designated areas would work if there were enough bike racks to accommodate students who ride bikes to class," Evans said. "But there aren't any spaces and people just abandon their bikes on the racks. Some bikes look so rusted and brittle that I'm sure they have been there for ages."

The proposal also outlines regulations for rollerblades and skateboards. Penalties for not abiding by one or more of the regulations can incur fines of anywhere from \$10 to \$200.

"Right now, we are trying to figure out our stance on the issue as the SGA body," Speaker of the House Matt Walker said. "This is the first time that we have been introduced to the legisla-

"I just find this proposal to be ridiculous, and it makes me realize how much the university is trying to get an extra buck from the students."

Rob Evans - Sophomore

tion and we just want to be clear on what the administration is planning for our future."

There is also concern about enforcing the rules outlined in the proposal.

"I don't know if they have thought about how difficult it is going to be to enforce the rules," Walker said. "We just want to have our input and our vote counted toward the issue."

A Student Government Association

House committee is working to reform different aspects of MTSU financial aid by administering a survey to students around campus until the Christmas break.

The financial aid committee, headed up by House representative from Gamma Beta Phi Adrienne Trammell, is organizing an effort to change the quality of service of financial aid office workers toward students.

"We are trying to administer a blitz of surveys during the next week," Trammell said. "Our main goal is to try to make a difference before next semester."

SGA is also hosting an Angel Tree Toy Drive for the Salvation Army and organizations can sign up this week to adopt an angel.

"In the spirit of the Christmas holiday, this will be a perfect opportunity for student organizations to give back to Rutherford County and bring joy to some of the area's needy children," Speaker of the Senate Josh Pounders said.

Organizations can pick up their angels until Dec. 15 in the SGA office. For more information about the bike proposal, the House committee to reform financial aid or the Angel Tree, contact the SGA office at 898-2464. ♦



Photo by Wesley R. Bush | Staff

Many students opt to ride bikes to class to avoid parking hassles.

MT Poll shows local minorities still face racism

Staff Reports

Middle Tennessee minorities say they continue to face discrimination in a poll conducted by journalism students at MTSU.

According to the poll, blacks in Middle Tennessee earn \$15,000 per year less on average than whites. Seventy-seven percent of whites, however, do not think that is due to discrimination. Half of the blacks polled disagreed.

Both groups did agree though that this gap in salary is not a result of perceptions that blacks have innate intellectual abilities.

Racial profiling is a problem that 77 percent of polled blacks say they are concerned about, while 56 percent of whites said that it is not a problem.

Blacks and whites agreed in their attitudes toward Hispanics in the area. Close to one-third of the respondents said they feel that Hispanic immigrants are making life worse in Middle Tennessee. Only 17 percent feel that Asian immigrants are making life worse.

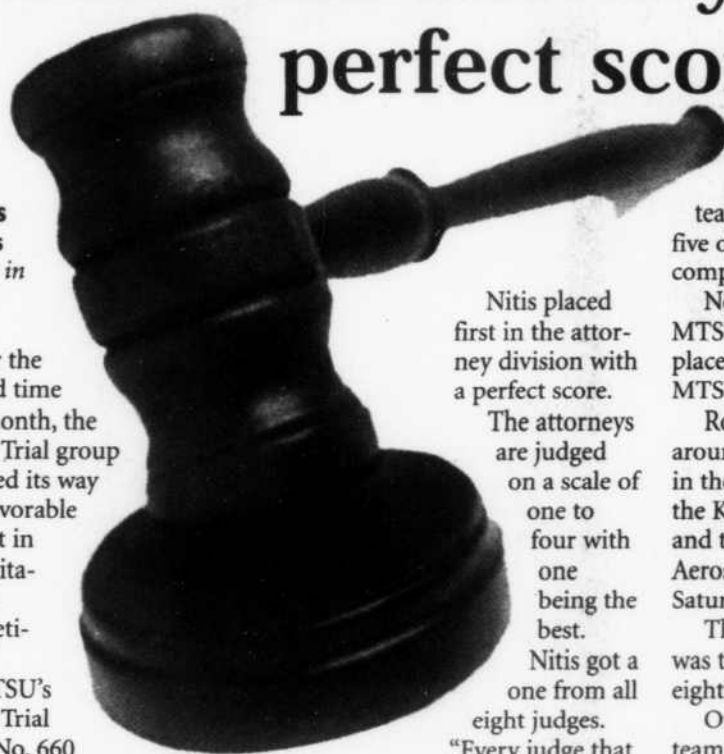
The poll, conducted by the Office of Communication Research, was conducted between Oct. 23 and Nov. 10. Trained journalism students interviewed 438 people over the age of 18 in the 39 counties making up Middle Tennessee through the telephone poll. The questions were prepared and results were interpreted by Communication Research faculty. ♦

Mock Trial attorney receives perfect score in invitational

By James Evans
Editor in Chief

For the second time this month, the Mock Trial group litigated its way to a favorable verdict in an invitational competition.

MTSU's Mock Trial team No. 660 took fourth in the invitational competition held Nov. 17 and 18 at Bellarmine College in Louisville, Ky. The team was made up of captain Maya Nitis, Brandon Booten, Erin Bumbalough, Jeremy Bussell, Lisa Collins, Shasta Fite, Scott Griswold and Kevin Latta.



saw her thought she was a one," said John Viles, chair for political science and advisor for the teams.

"It was a very physical tournament," Nitis said.

MTSU's Kyle Dodd also won a witness award, and Scott Griswold won an award for attorney.

The other MTSU team didn't place in the top five out of 18 teams at the competition.

November 10 and 11, two of MTSU's Mock Trial teams placed in the top 10 in the MTSU Mid-South Invitational.

Roughly 40 teams from around the nation participated in the event, which was held in the Keathley University Center and the Business and Aerospace Building Friday and Saturday.

The highest from MTSU was team 664, which ranked eighth.

Out of eight matches, the team won five, tied for one and lost two, giving it an average of 5.5.

This is the second highest a team from MTSU has placed in this competition.

Team 660 placed 10th with five wins and three losses.

Several MTSU students also won individual awards.

In the attorney competi-

tions, Virginia Vile placed third, Erin Bumbalough placed sixth and Kevin Latta placed 11th. In the witness category, Jodi Dudding placed 10th and Brian Wright placed 17th.

Furman University in Greensboro, S.C. won the tournament with an 8-0 record.

Three of their attorneys placed in the top 15, and four of their witnesses placed in the top 17.

The Mid-South Invitational tournament doesn't count toward regional tournaments.

The Mock Trial teams won't compete again until January at Rhodes College. However, two mediation teams from MTSU will be traveling to Des Moines, Iowa this weekend to compete in an alternative dispute resolution event. The event is basically a "mock mediation" tournament, Vile said.

It's the first national event of its kind, and MTSU's two teams will be competing against 22 other teams from around the country. ♦

Men use only half of brain when listening

By Lindsey Tanner
Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Score one for exasperated women: New research suggests men really do listen with just half their brains.

In a study of 10 men and 10 women, brain scans showed that men when listening mostly used the left sides of their brains, the region long associated with understanding language. Women in the study used both sides.

Other studies have suggested that women "can handle listening to two conversations at once," said Dr. Joseph T. Lurito, an assistant radiology professor at Indiana University School of Medicine. "One of the reasons may be that they have more brain devoted to it."

Lurito's findings, presented Tuesday at the Radiological Society of North America's annual meeting, don't necessarily mean women are better listeners.

It could be that "it's harder for

them," Lurito suggested, since they apparently need to use more of their brains than men to do the same task.

"I don't want a battle of the sexes," he said. "I just want people to realize that men and women" may process language differently.

In the study, functional magnetic resonance imaging — or fMRI — was used to measure brain activity by producing multidimensional images of blood flow to various parts of the brain.

Inside an MRI scanner, study par-

ticipants wore headphones and listened to taped excerpts from John Grisham's novel "The Partner" while researchers watched blood-flow images of their brains, displayed on a nearby video screen.

Listening resulted in increased blood flow in the left temporal lobes of the men's brains. In women, both temporal lobes showed activity.

The findings tend to support previous suggestions that women's brains are "either more bilaterally dominant" or more right-side dominant in doing

certain tasks than men's, said Dr. Edgar Kenton of the American Stroke Association.

Though preliminary, the study could help doctors treating stroke victims better understand how men's and women's brains differ, said Kenton, a neurologist at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia.

It suggests that in a stroke affecting the brain's left side, women might recover language ability more quickly than men, though that remains to be proven, Kenton said. ♦

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Compiled By Turner Hutchens - Associate News Editor

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Recycling pays off

The MTSU recycling program recently collected enough aluminum cans and raised enough money to fund a new scholarship honoring William Butler, assistant professor of biology. The scholarship will be awarded to a deserving biology student.

Butler came to MTSU in 1985 as a retired teacher and business owner. Working his way from adjunct professor to assistant professor, he was tenured in 1996. Throughout his teaching career, Butler taught a number of biology courses, from anatomy and physiology to zoology. ♦

Film takes another look at democracy

For the anniversary of protest surrounding the World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle Wash. one year ago, an independent documentary film entitled *This is What Democracy Looks Like* will be presented today at 4 p.m. in the KUC theater.

The film contains comments from celebrities such as Susan Sarandon and the band *Rage Against The Machine* as well as comments from demonstrators and footage of the protests. The film will also issues of global corporate dominance.

The showing, sponsored by Middle Tennessee Solidarity, is free and open to the public. ♦

MTSU Steel Band, Percussion Ensemble performs concert

On Sunday, Dec. 3, the MTSU School of Music will present Andy Narell featured with the MTSU Steel Band and Percussion Ensemble.

Andy Narell is a world-renowned steel pan performer and educator. He has released several of his own CDs, and has recorded countless other albums with the biggest names in jazz and world music. The MTSU Steel Band, in its inaugural semester, is an ensemble dedicated to the study and performance of steel pan music.

The ensemble consists of percussion majors from the freshman through senior levels.

The concert will also feature Island Wave, a professional steel band from the Nashville area. Opening the concert will be a performance by the MTSU Salsa Ensemble, "Nuevo Ritmo."

The concert will be held in the Tucker Theater, and admission is \$3 with a MTSU Student ID or \$5 general admission. ♦

Dance production focuses on bluegrass

The Department of Speech and Theater

will present its first dance production, *From Bach To Bluegrass*, a tribute to Bill Monroe, the father of bluegrass. The show will appear on the stage of Tucker Theatre beginning at 8 o'clock nightly Nov. 30 and Dec. 1-2.

The upcoming program of original dance pieces also will include a guest performance by Terpsichord, the modern-dance company of the Girls Preparatory School in Chattanooga. Terpsichord's selection, "Meandres," was set by Kathy Brenner Lasakow.

Other pieces in the *From Bach to Bluegrass* program will include "Redemption," choreographed by MTSU dance instructor Angela Armstrong; "Gatherings and Celebration," choreographed by Shea and the production's student dancers; and an untitled work based upon the music of classical composer J. S. Bach.

The fall 2000 season marks the first time that dance has been offered through the university's speech and theater department.

General admission tickets, \$5 each, may be purchased at the door. Advance tickets are available through the MTSU ticket office in Murphy Center or at Gate 1A of Floyd Stadium.

MTSU faculty and staff tickets are \$2.50 each; MTSU students with a valid student ID may receive free admission.

Tickets for all other students and children are \$2.50 each.

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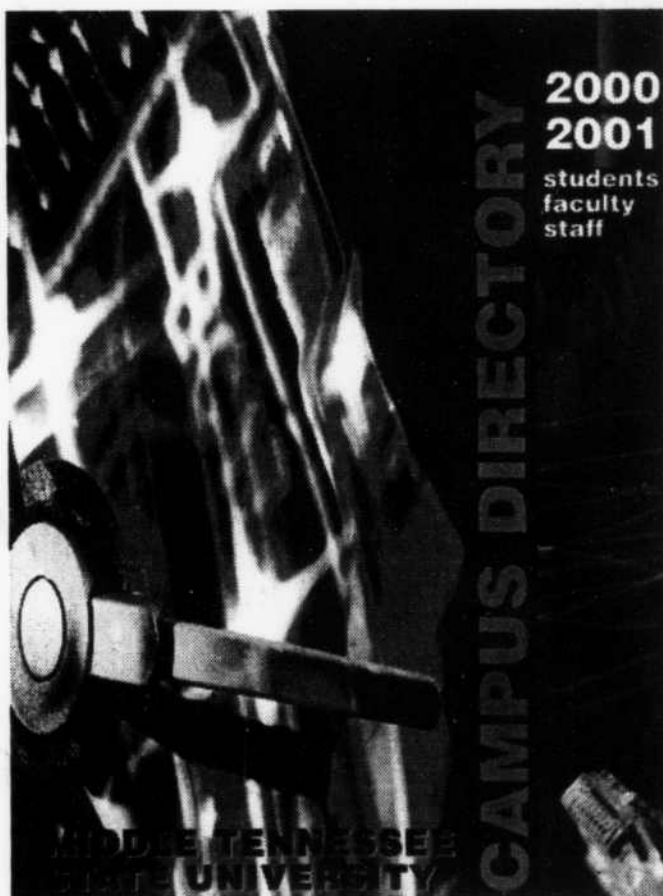
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State leaders certify Tennessee's election returns

By Amy Green
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — State leaders officially certified Tennessee's election returns Tuesday after a federal lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of popular elections delayed the procedure by one day.

Gov. Don Sundquist, Attorney General Paul Summers and Secretary of State Riley Darnell gathered in the Old Supreme Court Chamber in the state Capitol to sign three copies of the election returns.

State law requires only two copies of the returns — one for the secretary of state and the other for the state's library — but a third generally is made

because "I know how coffee spills," joked state Elections Coordinator Brook Thompson.

Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush won 1,061,949, or 51.1 percent of the vote, while his Democratic rival Al Gore earned 981,720, or 47.3 percent.

Vote certification usually is a routine procedure in Tennessee, but it attracted reporters and TV crews this year because of Florida's problems with counts and recounts.

Sundquist said he will encourage the General Assembly, with the attorney general, to review the state's elections procedures to ensure Tennessee is free from the glitches that have plagued Florida.

"If there are problems out there, we need to find those problems," he said.

Unlike Florida, Tennessee law does not mandate a recount if a vote comes within a certain degree of closeness.

Tennessee also does not have any of the so-called "butterfly ballots," which have caused so much confusion in South Florida. On those ballots, the punch holes run down the center of the ballot while the candidates' names appear on either side of the holes.

Each of Tennessee's 95 counties chooses what kind of voting machine it uses from a list of state-approved machines.

Thompson said six or seven different machines are used in Tennessee — from pencils on paper to electronic

tabulators.

Absentee ballots in Tennessee count only if they are in the elections office by Election Day, unlike in Florida, where they have 10 days to arrive and still count.

Certification of the returns was reset for Tuesday, after a federal judge late Monday afternoon denied a request by longtime political activist John Jay Hooker's for an injunction.

Hooker filed the lawsuit Friday, saying he wants the Legislature to certify who gets Tennessee's electoral votes instead of leaving it up to a majority of the state's popular vote.

He cited a section of the U.S. Constitution that provides that "each state shall appoint in such a manner as

the Legislature shall direct a number of electors."

Hooker argued his case before U.S. District Judge Robert Echols on Monday, but Echols said Hooker "failed to carry the burden of persuading the court." Echols said he would study the case further and reserved the right to issue additional rulings.

"The founding fathers never intended for the people to vote for the president in a popular vote," argued Hooker, who plans to appeal.

Echols denied the injunction based on several criteria, including the likelihood that Hooker would ultimately be successful.

"The court does believe this is a substantial question," Echols said. ♦

U. Pennsylvania protestors get down to 'bare' facts of sweatshop monitoring

By Catherine Lucey
Daily Pennsylvanian (U. Pennsylvania)

(U-WIRE) PHILADELPHIA - Brian Kelly got naked in front of the button Monday.

In the buff from head to toe, the Wharton junior was adorned only with the words "I'd rather go naked" printed in black marker on his chest.

His point? Nudity beats wearing clothes made in sweatshops.

Kelly was one of a handful of Penn Students Against Sweatshops members who performed a "reverse fashion show."

A handful of students peeled off clothing during the protest, but Kelly was the only one to go the full monty.

A small crowd of students gathered to watch the show — one of PSAS's first

big efforts this semester.

The strip show and a banner drop from Steinberg-Dietrich Hall Monday were both timed to coincide with Penn's upcoming decision on joining a sweatshop monitoring organization.

After PSAS sat-in last spring in College Hall, Penn pulled out of the Fair Labor Association, a monitoring group.

The FLA and the Worker Rights

Consortium are the two available sweatshop monitors. The FLA has the support of major corporations and the White House, while the WRC is backed by human rights organizations.

PSAS favors the WRC, saying it is less aligned with corporate interests.

The Committee on Manufacturer Responsibility — comprised of students and faculty, including two PSAS mem-

bers — recommended last week that Penn join both groups.

Rodin has yet to give the final word on what Penn will do — but PSAS said they would not protest her decision.

The Undergraduate Assembly discussed whether to make a statement about sweatshops at their meeting Sunday night, but ultimately voted to wait. ♦

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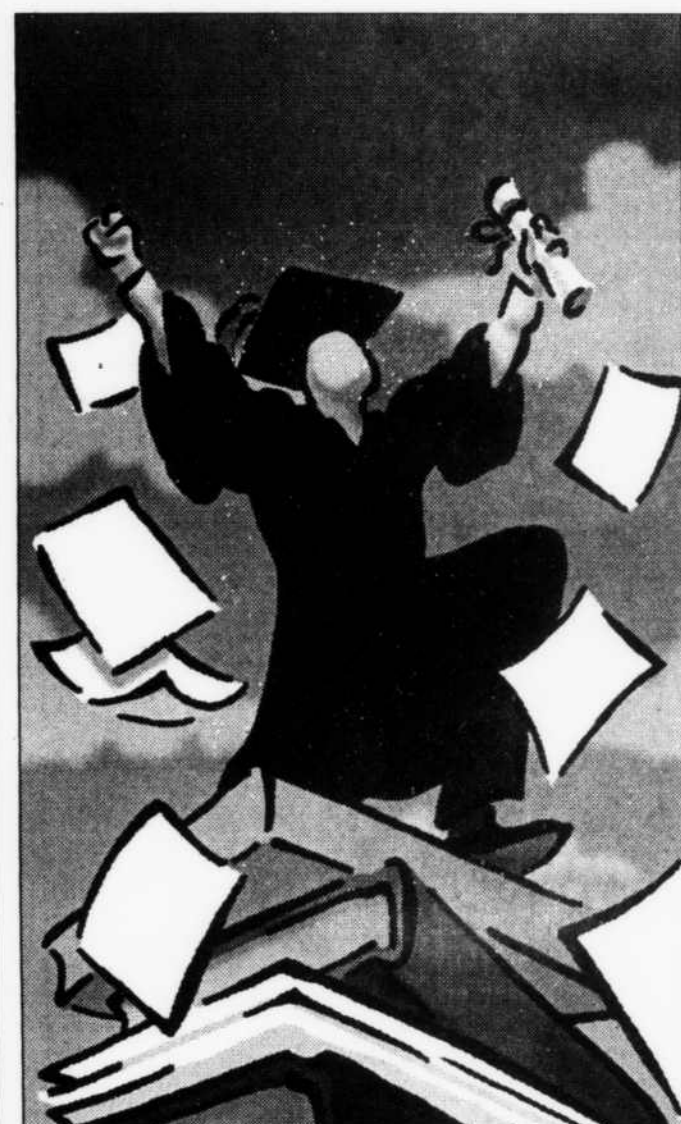
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From the staff

Ticketing bikes just another way of robbing students

More turn-coat, student ticket writers may soon be plaguing the MTSU campus. But they won't be ticketing cars — they'll be ticketing the bikes of students.

Let me say that again — in addition to cars, they'll be ticketing the bikes of students.

Don Beard — a member of the Public Safety Advisory Committee and with the engineering technology and industrial studies department — is proposing legislation calling for the possible registration of all bikes on campus.

What's next, toll booths on the sidewalks for the portion of the student body that walk to their classes?

One common complaint among students is parking and the ridiculous amount of frustration students have to go through just to find a parking space so they can make it to their classrooms.

Some students have avoided this hassle by biking to school. Now, that convenience is being threatened by the administration.

And while they may claim that the new bike regulations are simply for safety and organization, all this really is about is taking more money out of the pockets of students to satisfy the needs of some administrators.

The Student Government Association has learned of this campaign and are planning to act, according to SGA leaders, but it's uncertain what stance they will take.

The choice should be simple. Everyone — or at least the majority — knows that bikers don't cause enough problems to warrant a massive registration regulation. Big Brother isn't needed on this campus.

It would be different if there had been an onslaught of bike-related injuries on campus, but that's simply not the case.

So until those rebel bikers start causing problems — which will be never — the SGA should fight harshly against these new regulations.

Take time when choosing partner

Miss Mom

An advice column

Sue Doenim
Staff Columnist

A male co-worker and fellow MTSU student asked me if open relationships truly exist. Sam and Sue (not their real names) have been dating for over a year and had, at one point in time, lived together for six months. Sam claims that although both parties decided to "take a break" and date other people, Sue is experiencing jealousy even though he only sees other girls on a friendship basis. He likes the friendships he has developed with the opposite sex because they share his interests, but he feels uncomfortable about Sue's feelings. Sam wondered what I felt about the situation.

Approximately 25 years ago, I simultaneously kept the friendships of three men. Each man nurtured one prominent facet of my personality: Formal Michael accompanied me to plays, symphonies and ballets; outdoorsy Richard took me camping, canoeing and mountain climbing, while intellectual Ray engaged me in philosophical discussions and supported my poetic nature.

I didn't commit myself emotionally or sexually to any of these gentlemen, nor made them any promises, and they all knew about each other. Everything went well for about a year until each man wanted more in a relationship. To my chagrin, I had to dissolve each friendship.

I was a better person having known them at the same time because I enjoyed their company. Together they created the "perfect" man; however, a relationship with any one of them could not have endured since none possessed a desire to venture into another realm of interest — my interest to be exact, and each man could only satisfy a small part of "me." Perhaps I was being selfish. Who knows?

Now, Sam, you're probably wondering, "What the hell does this have to do with anything?" Hang in there, I'm going to make the connection.

You and Sue have already forged a strong bond through many common interests.

I am an acquaintance of Sue's, and I know that she has had a difficult time committing to you because of past experiences in bad relationships. She loves you, but she is keeping you at a safe arm's

length via her self-proclaimed "free-spirited" lifestyle which, personally, I feel is an excuse not to get involved and become hurt again. You, on the other hand, have acquiesced to her demands just to keep her in your life.

How do I know this? Both of you have expressed jealousy over the other one dating, and every time one of you disappears to "find yourself," you always seek each other out in the end.

So, instead of committing yourselves to one another, both of you are dating little pieces of Sam or Sue to make up for what you have already shared but are now denying each other. Do you see the connection now? Every date you make will be in vain because your present partner will never satisfy the "whole" you.

Yes, it is healthy to establish friendships with the opposite sex, those who share your interests, but to call them "dates" will only destroy the real relationship these "dates" have sprung from — especially since neither one of you is willing to admit that you love each other. GET A CLUE!

The purpose for answering your question in this column rather than in person is to re-emphasize to the readers the necessity to take their time when choosing a potential partner. Some people become excited too quickly when someone has something in common with him/her. These relationships do not last long because he/she needs to experience a variety of interests, and chasing variety is what leads many people to jump from one relationship to the next because they become easily bored when focusing on only one aspect of their personality. As a result of relationship hopping, there will be some broken and disgruntled hearts left in the wake.

You two are very lucky, Sam. Many people spend years looking and waiting for the "perfect" mate. At a very young age, you have found your soul mate. The problem is that both of you are having difficulty dealing with the intensity of your feelings and fear of spending the rest of your lives with just one person. What may seem to be an eternity to you is actually a nano-second in the scheme of things.

Do I believe there exists an open relationship? Yes, but only when one is committed to another who does not care if he/she swaps body fluids with another partner. I strongly feel that this is not your case. ♦

Need Advice? E-mail Miss Mom at slopinio@mtsu.edu

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Motherhood is not torture

This letter is in response to Jessica Reed's letter that appeared in the November 16 issue of Sidelines.

I am a mother of three, and I am currently expecting another, possibly twins. I am also a student at MTSU and hold down a job. I am extremely pro-life and always have been.

Despite my obviously busy life, it is not the horrible, tortuous existence that Ms. Reed portrays. I wanted to be a mother just as much as my husband wanted to be a father. Ms. Reed describes pregnancy and motherhood as torture and as something that men wish to dump on women against their will. Just how many times have you been pregnant, Ms. Reed? How many children have you had, and how many women have you met that hate motherhood or the idea of it? My guess is that you have never experienced pregnancy and know a LOT less than you think you do about what it is like. It is slightly uncomfortable at times, but "torture" is hardly the word that any mother would use to describe it.

The feeling of knowing that you are carrying another human being inside your body and the miracle of bringing a child into this world is incredible. Motherhood is the happiest and most beautiful experience any woman could ever experience, and no mother would disagree with me.

Women like you make me absolutely sick with

your feminist rants about "choice" and "independence" and make me embarrassed to be a woman. And as far as abortion and unwanted pregnancies are concerned, there is one fool-proof way to keep yourself out of such a situation — don't have sex unless you're willing to accept the consequences and responsibilities that accompany it!

I guess you would regard controlling your sexual hormones as too great of a sacrifice, and pregnancy as an unwanted effect that can simply be "fixed" by an abortion. That is simply a crock! Abortion is clearly used for birth control reasons, as only 0.4% of all abortions performed annually are because the woman was either raped or her life is in danger (this statistic coming from several pro-abortion, excuse me, 'pro-choice' sources).

Next time you decide to make an extremely selfish and sexist rant, make sure you know a little something about what you are ranting.

Roberta Hastings

Sacrificing life not necessary to have children

Everyone has their own opinion on the subject of abortion. I for one am very, very, very pro-life. In her letter, Miss Reed states, "As a woman, I am apparently expected to give up my career, my body and my life just because some guy, like Mr.

Anderson, apparently wants a kid."

There is no reason a woman can't have both a career and a pregnancy. How is having a child giving up your body? Let's face it: your body, no matter how good, isn't going to last you forever. Also, bringing life into the world isn't giving up yours. Who knows, it might even add to your meager existence in the great big universe.

Also, where is it stated that a woman must bear a child if a man, such as Mr. Anderson, wants one? I agree that it is your body — if you don't want a child, take precautions not to get pregnant. Just because someone is pro-life, don't jump down their throat about it.

Cristy Worley

On-campus living can't compare to off campus

I am writing in response to the column (Thursday, Nov. 16), in which the writer was referring to on-campus living vs. off-campus life. I feel on-campus living is not even comparable to off-campus living. Living off campus is a whole new experience of freedom.

The cons of off-campus living are not completely true. Living on and off campus for three years, I know. The number one listed con of off-campus living is rent. I only pay 24 dollars more a month than if I lived in the dorm (not to men-

tion buying groceries is much cheaper than a meal plan). Walking to class takes at least five minutes, living off campus takes 15 minutes by the time I leave my front door and walk into the classroom. What is ten minutes when considering the luxury of living off-campus?

I wouldn't go as far as to say that managing bills is a con. Shouldn't every college student be able to manage at least three bills a month? This prepares them for life after college in the real world.

Con number four is funny. I can use all the facilities on campus that I would need living off campus, so to say it is limited is a little far-stretched. What do I need that the campus can't give me because I live off-campus?

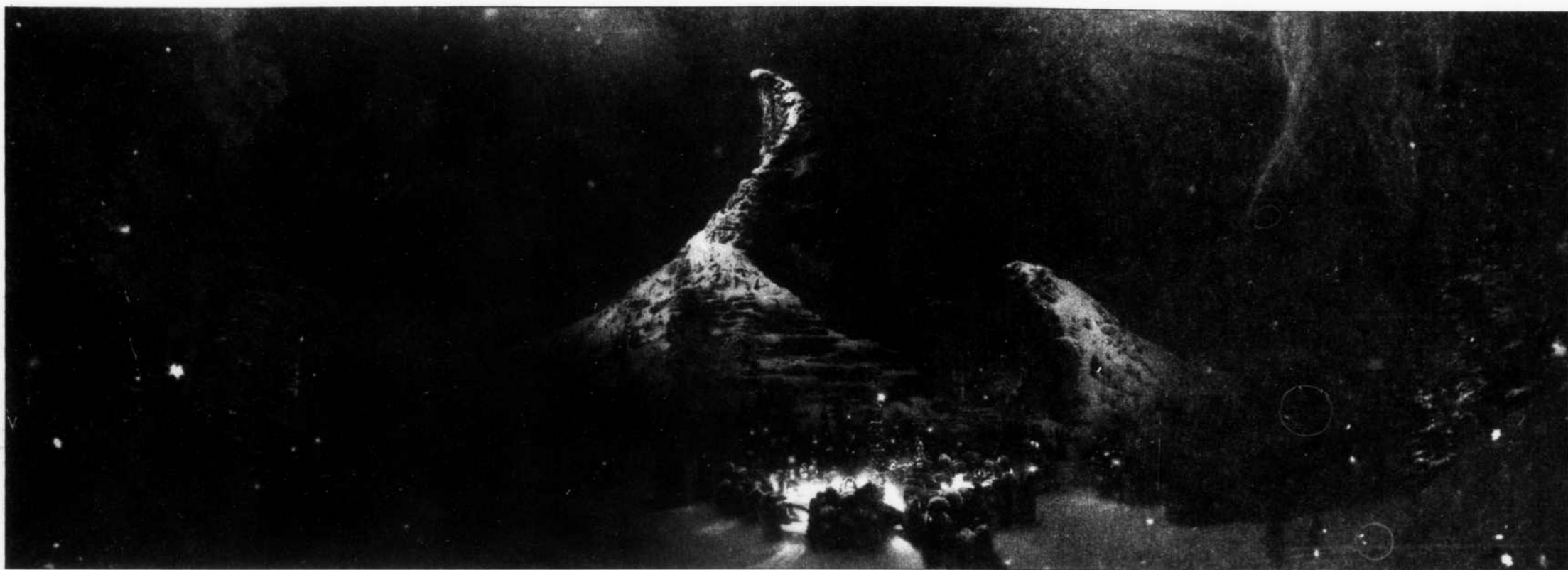
The fifth con was stress about off campus parking. All I can say is why don't we cry about it a little more. Parking isn't bad at all. Try going to the University of Tennessee and then complain about MTSU's parking. Parking at MTSU is not stressful!

Also, in almost every apartment complex there is a police officer that lives there and monitors the building to just keep a look out on what's going on. Not to mention you can actually park at your front door.

Last but not least, the odd lease agreements. I have a 10-month lease agreement, which is perfect for school. Apartment complexes are not limited to only giving 6 and 12-month agreements.

Mary Beth Cox

Rottenly wonderful Dirty slimEy smelly fun



By Rachel Robinson
Staff Writer

When a director has the idea to retell a classic story, he has to be exceptionally gifted to pull it off. This was the case with Rod Howard and his idea to retell and remake the classic Christmas story Dr. Seuss' *How The Grinch Stole Christmas*.

This remake was a huge challenge for any director since the original 1960s book was an instant classic, and the animated version a Christmas tradition. Lucky for us, Howard didn't shy away from the challenge, rather he took it head on and has created a remarkable new Christmas classic for the times.

Jim Carrey's portrayal as the Grinch is worth seeing even if the rest of the movie bores you. (Which I seriously doubt!) The face contortionist has done it again, (excluding *The Cable Guy*) and managed to improve the seemingly unalterable Grinch character. Carrey does an outstanding job at having a heart two sizes too small, yet toward the end of the film the softer side shines through.

One of the new twists to the story is the telling of the childhood of the Grinch and why he ran from Whoville. This is interesting because it sheds new light onto the story. The viewer actual-

ly feels sorry for the hairy young Grinch. The future Whoville Mayor, Jeffery Tambor, and his classmates torment him because of his hairiness, his height, and his secret crush.

The Grinch's love interest is played by Christine Baranski, the Who that every year wins the town's house lighting competition with her turbo charged light dispenser.

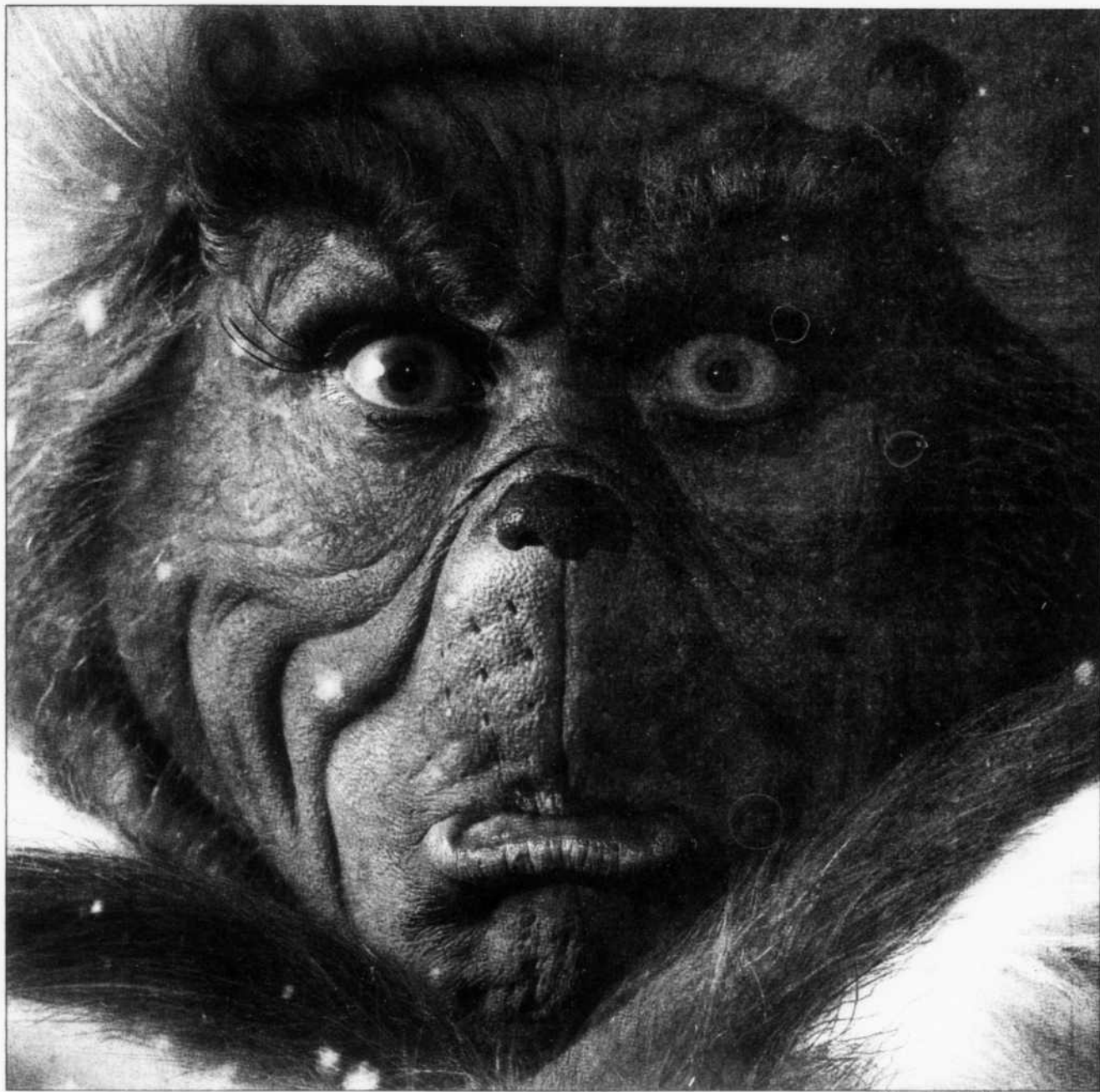
This becomes a problem for him though because his only view of Whoville is from high atop a mountain in his smelly lair; and the Grinch's foe, the mayor, has the hots for her also.

The littlest Who, Cindy Lou Who played by Taylor Momsen, is having trouble trying to understand the true meaning of Christmas as the village Whos scramble for gifts here and there. Her quest prompts the nomination of the Grinch for a reward in the town and eventually leads to his reemergence from the mountain.

Momsen, who is only six years old, plays Cindy with such realism that it takes many viewers back to when they were kids pondering the meaning of Christmas.

In one scene, Cindy confronts the Grinch, acting as Santa, and a heart-felt exchange ensues when she tells him not to forget about the Grinch because she thinks he's "kinda sweet."

See *Grinch*, 7



Photographs and illustrations provided

(Above) The sleepy town of Whoville. (Right) Jim Carrey stars as "The Grinch."

No one wastes a 'Nickel' on 'The Nields'

With youthful enthusiasm, two bands bound to charm Middle Tennessee audiences

By Robin Wallace
FLASH! Editor

So it's the middle of the week. So it's the most crazy and crucial point of the semester. So -- what are you doing tonight?

Instead of hitting the books at the library, hit the clubs in Nashville, more specifically the venues where The Nields and Nickel Creek will perform.

"So what? Two no-name bands are playing again in Nashville, what else is new," you might be thinking.

Well, realizing that these two

groups probably aren't well known here in Middle Tennessee, you should know that they have an extraordinary following around the nation, particularly in the northeast.

This is the point in the article where my third person narrative ends and my dialogue in the first person begins.

For the first time, I saw both the groups perform at the main stage evening concert this past August at the 39th Annual Philadelphia Folk Festival.

Again, the significance of this may not be known in this

area; yet, the fact remains that the Philadelphia Folk Festival is the most successful festival in the nation and consequently draws an international crowd of more than 20,000 during the three days of continuous music.

To perform at the "Philly Folk Fest," as we festival veterans call it, is indeed a prestigious honor but it is doubled when

performing with legends and headliners such as The Bacon Brothers, Entrain, Oscar Lopez, Natalie MacMaster, Bill Miller and John Hartford.

Nevertheless, The Nields and Nickel Creek did more than just hang on to the coattails of the greats, they went beyond just holding their own to capture the audience's ears and

hearts.

With youthful enthusiasm and vision, both groups take their musicianship to soaring heights by blending and developing genres of old and of their own styles.

The Nields, led by sisters Katryna and Nerissa Nields, is a quintet that mixes Roches-style folk with guitar-driven rock.

Their show is bound to be filled with the sisters' pleasantly goofy humor in both spontaneous, add-lib crowd interactions and lyrical jingles like, "Out here in the fields/I'm one

of the Nields."

Nickel Creek is a trio of childhood friends, who have been growing up and playing together in both the sandlots and the musical arenas.

Musical siblings Sara and Sean Watkins, (guitar, fiddle and vocals) and mandolin virtuoso Chris Thile are accompanied by ace session bassist Byron House, the fill-in for Chris' dad, Scott, who can't be on the road due to work obligations.

See *Bands*, 7



The Nields

next week in **FLASH!**

How to get rid of *finals week stress* and get into the *holiday spirit*

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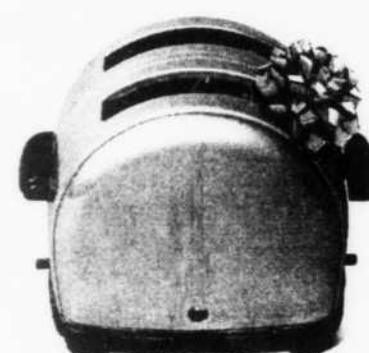


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Grinch: Seuss, Howard, Carrey make Grinch smashing success

Continued from 5

This, of course, makes the Grinch reevaluate his previous mission of stealing Christmas, or at least that's what the viewer likes to think.

Dr. Seuss' *How The Grinch Stole Christmas* is well worth the \$7 to see. The challenge to remake the classic was met with such admiration that lovers of the '60s book and the later '66 animation would enjoy this version. Don't let a biased attitude toward family movies make you miss this holiday treat. After feasting with the family this week, go to Whoville and try the Roast Beast.

My Grade: A+



Photo Provided

(Right) Cindy Lou Who confronts Dr. Seuss' Grinch.

Bands: Not just lucky

Continued from 5

The band's phenomenal skills and artistry, as well as their vibrant personalities are the key ingredients to an unrivaled bluegrass show.

So do you still think that two hum-drum, average, run of the mill bands were lucky enough to book a gig in the music city capitol?

But I guess the question now is which band will you go see? Well, The Nields are playing at The Bluebird Cafe, 9 p.m. and Nickel Creek is playing at 12th & Porter, 9 p.m.

Without a doubt this is a most perplexing situation and one that brings, at least for me, much deliberation and a great



The Nields

amount of indecisiveness.

Maybe the toss of a coin will be the deciding factor, so I hope to see you there, at whichever show. ♦

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SPORTS

Hicks: Dwone finishes with school record 19 TDs

Continued from 10

he went home?

"Last year," Hicks said as he twists one of the diamond earrings in his ear, "I'd tell them I don't know how many how many games we won."

"I'm pretty proud now,

though."

The phone rings, yet again and I wonder if the 19-year-old has always been this popular?

In high school, Dwone was on both the prom and homecoming court. During his two short years at Lee High School in Huntsville, Ala., he made All-

City twice and All-State his senior year. He was 6-A Player-of-the-Year, named to the All-Metro team and was team MVP twice.

So the notion to assume he's always been this popular is correct.

He nods bashfully. During his adolescent and high school years, Hicks got the opportunity to travel quite a bit because his dad, Tommy, is in the military.

"Well, I was born in Kansas," Hicks began as he took a breath, "but I've lived in Alabama, Texas, New York, and Germany."

Hicks says he spent his ninth and 10th grade years in New York, but it was Alabama that captured his heart.

"It's nice there," Hicks said of the Yellow Hammer State. "It's quiet and I like that a lot. There are a lot of teens there and even though there's not much to do, we always find places to hang out."

The assistant principal at Lee, Andrew Fuller, is full of praise for his former student.

"Dwone was good a student who always went to class. He was very mild-mannered," Fuller recalled. "He always went to his classes and he was down to earth, both are kind of hard to do when you're a star athlete and all."

"He was a great ballplayer and student in general. I admire him for that. Oh yeah, did I mention he attended class regularly?"

The discipline that he carries with him to class and football practice he credits to his father and up bringing.

"When I was growing up, my parents weren't that strict," Hicks said, "but we were definitely disciplined. For example, one of our jobs was to keep our yard tight. Every Saturday, it was our responsibility to get up and make sure it was done."

Hicks remembers when he made his decision to play football. He says he was 6-years-old and was playing a game with his older brother. "I would play in our side yard with him. I always,



Photo by Robin Wallace | Staff

Hicks is checked out by trainers in the season finale.

always wanted to be a running back and nothing else."

I guess you could say I was born to play," Hicks added matter-of-factly. "I like to run and I've tried to out run everybody everyday, even when I was younger. I always try to be the best. Period. I guess that's why my season worked out."

And work out it did. He helped lead the Blue Raiders to a winning season, broke two school records in the process, and still has two more explosive years as ahead of him.

This fantastic running back may be No. 10 in the nation, but No. 33 is definitely a No. 1 star at Middle Tennessee. ♦

I-A National Player Report

Rushing

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Rank	Player	Carries	Net	TDs	Avg	Ydspgm
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2	Damien Anderson, Northwestern	293	1914	22	6.53	174.00
3	Deonice Whitaker, San Jose St.	224	1577	15	7.04	157.70
4	Michael Bennett, Wisconsin	294	1598	10	5.44	145.27
5	Anthony Thomas, Michigan	287	1551	16	5.40	141.00
6	Rudi Johnson, Auburn	307	1520	13	4.95	138.18
7	Robert Sanford, Western Mich.	274	1504	18	5.49	136.73
8	Ken Simonton, Oregon St.	266	1474	18	5.54	134.00
9	Chester Taylor, Toledo	250	1470	18	5.88	133.64
10	Ennis Haywood, Iowa St.	230	1237	8	5.38	123.70
11	T.J. Duckett, Michigan St.	240	1353	7	5.64	123.00
12	Thomas Hammock, Northern Ill.	215	1083	16	5.04	120.33
13	Emmett White, Utah St.	242	1322	13	5.46	120.18
14	Travis Henry, Tennessee	253	1314	11	5.19	119.45
15	Dwone Hicks, Middle Tenn. St.	186	1277	19	6.87	116.09

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The Two Minute Drill

R. Colin Fly Sports Editor



Jump Shots

The Blue Raiders' games against TSU will be the only matchups against Ohio Valley Conference schools this season. The Raiders played in the OVC last season before moving into the Sun Belt Conference.

Junior guard D'Marius Wilkes earned double figures for the first time in his career against the Tigers, scoring 15. His point total is currently the highest of any Blue Raider this season.

The Blue Raiders outrebounded their second straight opponent this year by cleaning the glass and earning 41 rebounds. Senior Dale Thomas led the team with eight.

The Raiders played Kansas last night, and will continue their road swing against Indiana/Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) and Rice University before a home game with TSU on Dec. 9.

Senior Fernando Ortiz played 19 minutes against the Tigers, up seven from the 12 he played against St. Francis. Ortiz is recovering from off-season surgery and is expected to play at full strength this week.

Middle Tennessee has now hit at least one three-point basket in 132 straight games. Three teams have streaks that include a three point basket in every game since the introduction of the shot in 1985-'86. Those teams are UNLV, Princeton and Vanderbilt. UNLV is currently the leader with 421 consecutive games going into this season.

The Blue Raiders are 52-10 in games when leading at the half under head coach Randy Wiel.

The Lady Raiders earned a hard fought 74-62 win last Tuesday night against the Bruins from Belmont University at the Murphy Center. The win ran the Lady Raiders record to 2-0.

Two Lady Raider basketball players, two Blue Raider basketball players and one soccer player hail from Finland.

Senior guard Kelly Chastain's stress fracture is healing and her hard cast has been removed. She hoped to see her first action of the season against UAB last night.

Junior forward Jamie Thomatis had another big game against Belmont, going 12 of 16 from the field and 3 of 4 from three-point range. She finished with 30 points.

The Lady Raiders are 16-0 all-time against Belmont, including 11-0 in the Murphy Center.

Freshman Keisha McClinic earned double figures for the second time this season, her first two collegiate games of her career.

There is a connection between MT and UAB. The football team lost a tough game against the Blazers 14-9 earlier this season. However, head coach Stephany Smith of the Lady Raiders' basketball team was on Jennie Milling's staff at UAB along with current Lady Raider assistant Al Warmley before they came to Middle Tennessee.

Blue Raider hoops

(AP) - Jamie Roberts' 19 points led five Tennessee State players in double figures as the Tigers defeated Middle Tennessee 75-71 last Monday night.

Tennessee State (1-2) scored 10 unanswered points, including three layups by Roberts, at the beginning of the second half.

The Tigers overcome a 39-30 half-time deficit to take a 40-39 lead over the Blue Raiders (1-1) with 18:14 left to play. The lead changed hands several times before a pair of 3-pointers by Kevin Samuel at 11:29 put the Tigers up for good, 57-53.

Terrick Brown had 12 points for Tennessee St., John Gilmore added 11, while Samuel and Garrett Richardson each had 10. Gilmore had 10 rebounds.

Junior D'Marius Wilkes led the Blue Raiders with 15 points and Senior Lee Nosse had 13. Senior Dale Thomas had 8 rebounds. ♦



Photo by Jessica Norton | Photo Editor

Dwone Hicks breaks a tackle against the University of Louisiana-Monroe at Homecoming. He rushed for 105 yards and three touchdowns.

Dwone it right in record season

By Rachel Parrish
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: Sophomore Dwone Hicks was ranked 10th in the nation in rushing going into Saturday, Nov. 18. However, on that Saturday an ankle injury slowed Hicks after just his second carry of the afternoon. Unfortunately, those statistics count in the NCAA's compilations, therefore Hicks, going into this weekend, is and likely will remain 15th in the nation in rushing yards per game at the end of the college football season.

"Hot damn!" shouted an excited Blue Raider fan to his friends sitting in the stands of Floyd Stadium. "That guy can really move!"

Excited, he reaches across and gives one of his friend a high five as Dwone Hicks rushes for his fourth touchdown that day against the South Florida Bulls.

Kenneth "Dwone" Hicks is the Blue Raiders' first running back to rush for more than 1,000 yards since Kippy Bayless did it in 1994. The last person to do it before that was Gerald Anderson — and that was in '85.

But this is the year 2000. The Blue Raiders have a new attitude, a new head coach and a new starting tailback as well. Hicks not only led the team in rushing yards, but also the sophomore broke the single season scoring record of 104 points set by Bayless in '93. Hicks had 126 points for the 2000 season and 19 rushing touchdowns.

Not surprising for someone who is ranked 10th in rushing — in the nation.

Hicks, along with fellow Blue Raider senior offensive tackle Barry Hall, was named "Best Unknown Offensive Player" by the College Football News for 2000.

Hicks averaged 7.07 yards per carry and 128.78 yards per game.

When asked how he feels about being No. 10 in the nation, Hicks rubs his chin and smiles.

"Well, I do feel like I accomplished something and being No. 10 is nice," he pauses. "But I'd rather be No. 1. And oh yeah, It's nice to let the folks know who didn't wanna recruit me what they missed."

What? How could someone pass by the opportunity to recruit such a blatant workhorse?

At 5-feet-11 and 220 pounds, Hicks has fantastic foot speed and if he can't out run them, he just drags them along, yard after painstaking yard.

Hicks sits back in his chair and shakes his head at the praise.

"I didn't get recruited by that many teams," Hicks modestly said. "North Carolina State said I was too short."

He wipes a speck of imaginary dirt from his spotless Air Jordan tennis shoes and looks up defiantly.

"But I guess now I'm showing them what they missed," Hicks said.

And what was North Carolina State's loss proves to be a Blue Raider gain. Head football coach Andy McCollum is very proud of Hicks and his standout season.

"Dwone comes from a great family, he's a very humble person and he has great work ethic," McCollum said. "He takes the game very seriously and I'm not surprised at all at the impact he has had on the team."

He also says that Hicks isn't that vocal.

"He doesn't talk that much," McCollum said. "He leads by example and what he does on the field... he always puts in extra effort."

McCollum said he wasn't surprised at all that Hicks was 10th in the nation in rushing.

"One of the things we wanted to accomplish this season was to run the football up front a lot more and I feel he helped us to accomplish that goal," McCollum said.

The comrade feeling is mutual between coach and player.

"I like coach McCollum," Hicks said. "He's like another player almost,

#33 Dwone Hicks

Yards per game

No-Yds/TD	2-8/0
	20-110/2
	18-184/4
	13-116/1
	8-14/0
	22-105/3
	32-311/6
	16-117/1
	23-114/2
	15-64/0
	17-134/0

Graphic by Tim Stelmach | Sports Designer

he's down to earth and most of all, he knows how to take care of business."

Hicks is also ecstatic about his choice to play for the Blue Raiders because he says he was able to play his first two years here.

"They didn't pressure me or try to force me into signing here," Hicks recalled about his initial recruitment process. "When I first visited here, I felt like I was at home and I liked that feeling."

He pauses to answer the phone for the second time during the half-hour interview. The obviously popular Hicks quickly, but politely mumbles into the cordless handset that he's doing an interview.

Unflustered by the barrage of calls,

he continues smoothly talking about what his goals were for the season.

"I wanted to get 1,000 yards and I got that. Basically I'm satisfied," Hicks said, "except for those fumbles."

Not only is he popular, but also he's a perfectionist. Hicks only had two fumbles for the entire season and one of them was due to a slightly injured left ankle.

"I didn't really have any touchdown goals but I did want a winning season," Hicks said. "Personally I was aiming for 8 or 9, but 6-5 is nothing to be ashamed of. Now I'm proud to go home and say, 'hey we're 6-5.'"

Well what did he used to say when

See Hicks, 11

New women's golf team adds three players

Staff Reports

The Middle Tennessee's first ever women's golf team has signed three more players to National Letters of Intent.

Kimmerlee Pennington of Crossville, Becky Newell of Louisville, Ky., and Kandace Burnett, a junior college transfer. The women's golf team now has four members, including Kristin Lynch, following the end of the

early signing period.

Highlighting Kim St. John's latest signees is Pennington, who was recently named Tennessee's Class AAA Player of the Year. At Cumberland County High School, Pennington was a three-time district player of the year, the regional player of the year in 2000 and a four-time qualifier for the state tournament. Pennington, a regular at "The Vinny" each season and placed a career best sixth at the state tournament this

past season.

Newell, another prep signee, hails from Louisville's Ballard High School. Newell placed second at the Kentucky Women's State Amateur this past summer and has also won the Pepsi Junior Tournament in 1999 and the Jefferson County



Newell

Invitational in 1998.

During the summer, Newell was rated among the 10 Best Girl Junior Golfers on the Baker-Geary-Dunne Championship Tour.

Burnett, a transfer from McLennan Junior College, is from Monahans, Texas. Burnett, who will be counted on for immediate leadership, is rated 11th nationally in the junior college ranks.

The Lady Raiders will begin competition in 2001. ♦



7 Day
Sportscast

FRIDAY

■ TSSAA

Clinic Bowl Championships
1A - CPA vs. USJ
2A - Alcoa vs. Union City
Murfreesboro, Tenn.,
all day

SATURDAY

■ TSSAA

Clinic Bowl Championships
3A-Portland vs. Covington
4A-Maryville vs. Memphis East
5A-Red Bank vs. Riverdale
Murfreesboro, Tenn.,
all day

■ Men's Basketball

Blue Raiders @ IUPUI
Indianapolis, Ind.,
7:35 p.m.

SUNDAY

■ Women's Basketball

Lady Raiders vs. Austin
Peay
Murfreesboro, Tenn.,
3 p.m.

MONDAY

■ Men's Basketball

Blue Raiders @ Rice
Houston, Texas
7:35 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

■ Women's Basketball

Lady Raiders @ Ole Miss
Oxford, Miss.,
7 p.m.

