

SIDELINES



Volume 74, No. 47

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

Student withholds evidence in sexual harassment case

Brian Forrester Staff Reporter

A student reporter is prepared to choose jail rather than obey a judge's ruling to relinquish a taped interview which could be used as evidence in a libel suit against

Chris Andrews, a reporter for student-operated channel 10, has been ordered by a Murfreesboro city judge to hand over a taped interview with Donna Dukes. He produced the tape while working on a story involving sexual harassment allegations made by Dukes against criminal justice administration professor Dennis

In the taped interview, Dukes allegedly said CJA professor Deborah Newman lied to a grand jury about witnessing Powell sexually harassing her. Steve

Waldron, Newman's lawyer, said she never testified on Feb. 11. before a grand jury.

Newman wants the copy of the videotape to use as possible evidence in a libel suit against Dukes. The court

has not responded yet to Andrews's appeal. Dean of Mass Communication Deryl Learning said Andrews produced the taped interview without using university property, which alleviates MTSU from

According to Learning and others, Andrews' story was one-sided and not balanced enough to broadcast on channel 10. He was advised to get a more complete story with more balance of both sides of the issue.

"I have concerns about who he interviewed and who he didn't interview," said Learning. "I am more concerned with him leaking the story."

Andrews released dubbed, unedited videotapes and documents to WSMV-Channel 4 and WTVF-Channel 5

The news stations broadcast clips from the interview of Dukes without contacting her beforehand.

When asked if Dukes was given prior notice to releasing the taped interview to the local media, Andrews said, "No comment."

Only channel 5 referred to Dukes's comments that another professor witnessed the alleged harassment and did not tell the truth when questioned by a grand jury.

According to Newman's complaint filed with the Chancery court for Rutherford County, she has "suffered irreparable harm" by the publication of the tape which contained "false and inaccurate statements about her that were made by Ms. Dukes."

Newman wants a temporary restraining order brought against Andrews to ensure he does not alter,

See ANDREWS, page 4

Abernathy/Ezell residents adjust to new homes

Shawn Whitsell Staff Reporter

Former residents of Abernathy and Ezell Halls have spent the last two weeks in their new homes after finding out on March 8 — known to some residents as "Black Monday" that they had to vacate their former apartments.

Students were forced to move out because concrete chunks were falling from ceilings due to imperfection in the concrete mix when the buildings were built in 1972.

At a March 8 meeting with residents and university administration, residents expressed how inconvenient it was for them to move during the middle of the semester. Some said they should have never been allowed to move in the apartments, while others felt they should at least be allowed to stay until the end of the semester. But either way, the students were not happy about the situation.

Many of them were extremely incredulous about the motives of the housing department.

Residents claimed the department of Housing knew of the problems for at least a month before the students were notified.

"Housing is trying to act surprised about this, but that's not what's going on," Ezell resident Lee Dobbins told "Sidelines."

Tom Burke, dean of Student Life, said MTSU was aware of some of the problems in the apartments, but it wasn't until they found out that these problems were a safety hazard that they decided to close the buildings.

Students had six days to move out, and Burke said they have all been moved and settled into various areas on campus. Most of the students were moved into Family Housing, while others were put into dorm rooms throughout campus that were only occupied by one person.

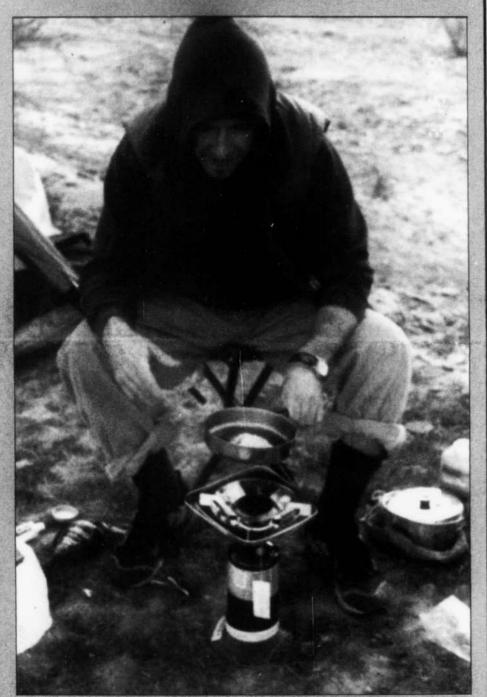
Burke also said about 100 students moved off campus.

As for the future of the apartments, it remains unknown. Burke said it will be about another month before MTSU officials find out what, if anything, can be done to the apartments. He also said that if anything can be done, he doesn't think the apartments will be ready for the fall.

Not only has the closing of the buildings been a set back for the university this semester, but it will also affect housing next semester. With the opening of the new campus apartments,

See HOUSING, page 2

Waffle House in the wild



Dain Copelan, an experienced canoer and camper, makes hearty pancakes in preparation for a long day on the river. For more on the Campus Recreation trip to the Rio Grande, please see pages 8 and 9.

Chris Crockett

Staff Reporter

Students will get a second chance to pick next semester's student leaders.

Runoff elections became necessary because no candidate succeeded in capturing fifty percent or more of the total votes. Andrea Crimson and Bobby Toy are competing in the runoff election for the position of SGA president. In the original election, Crimson received 358 votes and Toy 327.

For the position of SGA speaker of the Senate, Aaron Talent, who received 353 votes, will be competing with Megan Smith, who received 452 votes.

Voter turnout for the original SGA election was quite low this year with only a little under 1100 students voting student participation. in the elections.

expressed frustration with the lack of



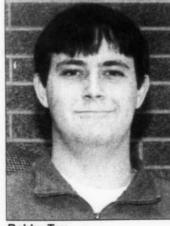
Andrea Crimson

SGA candidates face off in runoff elections Thursday

Current SGA President Jason Several SGA members have Lawson expressed great dissatisfaction with the low voter turnout, and candidates for president Bobby Toy and Andrea Crismon also felt disappointed with low student interest.

According to Toy, "I used to think low voter turnout was due to lack of issues that concerned students, but this year with the issue of the student activity fee, I'm baffled as to why voter turnout was low."

Crismon said he also thought turnout was low but says that he remains hopeful that more students will participate in the upcoming runoff election.



Bobby Toy

U.S. leads NATO assault on Serbia as 'moral imperative'

Robert Burns Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton committed America to a risky and full-throttled military attack on Yugoslavia Wednesday, asserting "a moral imperative" to save thousands of defenseless people from Serb aggression. He backed his words with a nightlong bomb and missile assault.

Clinton spoke six hours after U.S. and allied forces began pounding President Slobodan Milosevic's air defenses in attacks that gave the bat-winged B-2 stealth bomber its first taste of battle and engaged Yugoslav pilots in dogfights that knocked at least two Soviet-made MiGs out of the sky.

The American-led NATO attack came after months of diplomacy failed to end fighting that has killed more than 2,000 people in the Yugoslav province of Kosovo and left hundreds of thousands more homeless.

'We've seen innocent people taken from their homes, forced to kneel in the dirt and sprayed by bullets," Clinton said. "By acting now, we are upholding our values, protecting our interests and advancing the cause of peace."

Using a full-color map with arrows pointing throughout central Europe, Clinton also made the case that the attack was in America's national security interest. "Let a fire burn in this area and the flame will spread," he said.

"We act to prevent a wider war," Clinton said.

Earlier, Defense Secretary William Cohen announced that all allied planes returned safely from the initial strikes. He said NATO forces would continue hitting the Yugoslav military until Milosevic relents in a campaign of repression and violence against the majority ethnic Albanian people of Kosovo.

A U.S. defense official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said at least two Yugoslav MiG fighters were shot down by NATO warplanes defending the aircraft carrying out the strikes. He said the Yugoslavs chose to use fighters for air defense instead of surface-toair missiles. The Yugoslav air force is small, however, and no match for U.S. and allied fighters.

Nearly 100 air- and sea-launched cruise missiles were sent against the Serbs, defense officials said.

Clinton warned that U.S. forces faced grave risks but indicated the assault would include no ground troops. "I do not intend to put our troops in Kosovo to fight a war," he said.

He said the Yugoslav leader could end the assaults, but "if President Milosevic will not make peace, we will limit his ability to

Republican and Democratic lawmakers alike expressed support for the mission, even if some harbored reservations about what NATO would do if air power failed to persuade Milosevic to back down. Hours after the attack was launched, the House, in a 424-1 vote, voiced its support for U.S. troops without expressly embracing Clinton's decision to send them there.

A potential casualty of the NATO attacks is the alliance's already shaky relationship with Russia. President Boris Yeltsin pulled Russia out of its partnership with NATO and warned Moscow may take further steps to protest the strikes against Yugoslavia, including military ones "to ensure its own and general European security."

Clinton telephoned Yeltsin and spent 35 minutes explaining the NATO mission.

The State Department issued a travel warning Wednesday night,

saying "there is the possibility for acts of retaliation against Americans and American interests worldwide." In addition to hitting Yugoslavia's extensive air defense, including

communications and command sites, NATO airstrikes targeted at least one factory that makes parts for air defense systems, a U.S. offi-Four missiles struck a military aircraft plant at Pancevo, six miles

north of Belgrade, destroying several small aircraft, according to local reports from the scene. And the central Serbian town of Kragujevac, a major military-industrial center, was plunged into darkness early Thursday morning after one heavy explosion was heard, the private news agency Beta reported.

The president's national security adviser, Sandy Berger, told The Associated Press that NATO would not let up.

"It's not a one-night operation," Berger said.

Clinton reminded Americans that Europe has been slow to respond to ethnic slaughters, from the Holocaust to Bosnia. "This was genocide in the heart of Europe," he said of Bosnia, "not in 1945,

"Ending this tragedy is a moral imperative," he said.

Explosions rocked Pristina, Kosovo's capital, and air raid sirens filled the air in the Yugoslav capital of Belgrade. U.S. defense officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the NATO raids would continue unabated for hours, perhaps days, to disable what U.S. officials call a strong Serb air defense network.

Army Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said detailed information on targets and outcome of NATO airstrikes would be withheld because "we are reluctant to provide any tactical or operational information that may enhance the effectiveness of our adversaries" or put NATO pilots at risk.■

INSIDE

Campus Capsule.....page 2 Features..... page 8 Sports.....page 10

SPORTS

The UAB Blazers scorched the Blue Raider baseball team 10-7 Tuesday. See page 8.

EEATURE

Campus Rec took students canoeing on the Rio Grande during Spring Break. See page 6.

THURSDAY HIGH 58, **LOW 30**

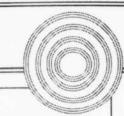


WEATHER FORECAST

HIGH 54,



SUNNY, HIGH 67, **LOW 44**



LOOKING AHEAD

MARCH 27

Delta Tau Alpha, MTSU Agriculture Honor Society will host an all-you-can-eat bean supper and auction in the Campus School cafeteria (across from campus at Tennessee Blvd. and Lytle Street). The dinner is at 5:30 p.m., and the auction is at 7 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$2.50. For more information, call Tony Johnston at 898-2121.

MARCH 30 - 31
The Business Ed, Marketing Ed and Office Management will host a lecture on Interpersonal Communication and Conflict Resolution by Raholanda Moore on March 30 at 2 p.m. till 4 p.m. in BAS 334. The lecture will be on March 31 at 3 p.m. till 5 p.m. in BAS 343.

MARCH 31
The Up Til' Dawn Committee is accepting applications for sub-committee members. Students wishing to be a part of this event benefitting the St. Jude's Hospital should pick up an application in KUC 306. Applications are due by March 30. For more information, call Maggie Prugh at 904-8418.

There will be tax assistance available from 4:30 p.m. till 6 p.m. in BAS Suntrust room and on April 11 from 4 p.m. till 5:30 p.m. in BAS 270. The assistance is sponsored by Beta Alpha Psi.

ONGOING
Presbyterian Student Fellowship will host dinner and discussion on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. located at the Fellowship House on 615 N.
Tennessee Blvd. Following the study, there will be wallyball at 9 p.m. at the Rec Center. For more information, call Rich Zeigler at 893-1787 or Andrew Lee at 867-7370.

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

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

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

shadowh@bellsouth.net

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

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

The MTSU women's rugby team will have practices1s on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 till 7:30 p.m. The practices will be held at the Rec Center or the intramula fields if the weather is permitting. Contact Shannon Bustillos at 867-3592 or by e-mail at sib2a@mtsu.edu.

Raider Victory Fellowship will hold Sunday services at 10 a.m. in the Murphy Center. Contact Ricky Walters at 907-4079 for more information.

Lambda Organization meetings will be on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in room S316

of the Business Aerospace building For more information, go to www.mtsu.edu/~mtLambda.

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

The Tennis Club will have meetings every Saturday at noon at the MTSU tennis courts. Players of all skill levels are welcome. Contact Carrie Hupp at 896-7164 for more information.

The Ultimate Freesbie Club will meet in the fields located accross the street from the rec center. They will meet every Thursday at 8 p.m. For more information, contact Eric Taylor at 898-3217

The June Anderson Women's Center is holding a support group for sexual abuse meeting on March 11, 25 and April 1, 8, 15. The meetings will be from 3 p.m. till 3:50 p.m in the CKNB room 109. For more information, call Mary Glantz at 898-5725.

The June Anderson Women's Center is having a support group for women to talk about problems with body and eating. The meetings are on Tuesdays March 30 and April 6, 13. The meetings will be in CKNB room 109 at 3 p.m. till 3:50 p.m. For more information, call Mary Glantz at 898-5725.

Applications are now being accepted for 1999-2000 MTSU Student Ambassadors. Students can get an application beginning March 8 at the Alumni Center. Application deadline is March 26 at 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 898-2922.

The Women's Studies is wanting any interested in visual and or literary work having to do with women's issues for a new magazine. Contact Christi U. at

musi0012@frank.mtsu.edu from more information and/or pick up entry forms in PH 109B. Deadline is April 8.

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

HOUSING continued from page 1

As for the future of the apartments, it remains unknown. Burke said it will be about another month before MTSU officials find out what, if anything, can be done to the apartments. He also said that if anything can be done, he doesn't think the apartments will be ready for the fall.

Not only has the closing of the buildings been a set back for the university this semester, but it will also affect housing next semester. With the opening of the new campus apartments, Scarlett Commons, the university was looking forward to having more space than usual. But now that the buildings have closed, the university will be losing space.

"We anticipated having 416 extra beds. Now we're going to be 400 beds short," Burke said.

If anything can be done to save the buildings, cost will be another major factor the university will have to consider.

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NATIONAL NEWS

Train carrying munitions derails

Wartrace, TN (AP)— A train carrying Marine Corps munitions derailed early Wednesday, spilling artillery shells and bullets along tracks that run through a farm. Several nearby homes were evacuated but no one was hurt.

Six containers carrying the munitions split open when eight of the 77 cars from the CSX Transportation Inc. train jumped the tracks around 12:30 a.m., company spokesman Gary Wollenhaupt said. The train was headed from Jacksonville, Fla., to Louisville, Ky., he said.

Authorities do not know what caused the accident, which occurred in the community of Haley, about 50 miles southeast of Nashville.

Sgt. George Marsh of the Bedford County Sheriff's Department was one of the first people on the scene.

"There were rail cars piled on top of each other and some looked like they were split in half," he said.

Munitions are shipped separately from their fuses, so there was no danger of explosion without a fire.

Bedford County Sheriff Clay Parker said deputies knocked

on the doors of six to eight nearby homes and asked people to leave as a precaution.

"If you have to have a derailment, it's a good place to have

one," Parker said of the sparsely populated area.

The munitions that spilled were 155 mm artillery shells,
81 mm mortar shells and :50-caliber machine gun
ammunition, said Capt. Sara Brown, an operations officer for
Military Traffic Management Command in Falls Church, Va.■

Appeals court upholds \$349 million settlement

Miami (AP)— A state appeals court on Wednesday upheld a \$349 million class action settlement to nonsmoking flight attendants who sued cigarette makers claiming that working on smoky airplanes made them sick.

The settlement was first proposed in October 1997 as defense lawyers for the tobacco companies were presenting their case. Circuit Judge Robert P. Kaye approved it in February 1998, but some of the flight attendants objected.

February 1998, but some of the flight attendants objected.

"All of the class representatives approved, and strongly endorsed, the settlement," Judge Robert Shevin wrote in the ruling filed Wednesday at the 3rd District Court of Appeal.

The appeal judges said the settlement was "fair, adequate, and reasonable."

"The objectors' complaint that they must now bring

individual lawsuits does not render the settlement inadequate," Shevin wrote.

The deal calls for \$300 million to fund a foundation to

sponsor research on diseases suffered by the attendants. The rest of the money goes for attorney fees and costs.

Suspect's lifestyle at issue as trial in Wyoming gay attack opens

Laramie, WY. (AP)— One of two men arrested in the beating death of gay college student Matthew Shepard went on trial Wednesday with the defense attorney asking prospective jurors not to punish his client to redeem this small town's image in the eyes of the nation.

The killing "has literally injected into our community a feeling of guilt. The press wants us to think that we are somehow responsible for what went on Oct. 6," said Wyatt Skaggs, the lawyer for Russell Henderson, 21.

"Are any of you here going to judge this case because you feel guilty and want to make a statement to the nation?" he asked the prospective jurors. They replied, "No."

Prospective jurors told the prospective jurors that

Prosecutor Cal Rerucha told the prospective jurors that Shepard was "not the same as you and I" but that every individual should be treated equally under the Constitution.

Authorities said Henderson and Aaron McKinney, 21, posed as homosexuals and lured the 5-foot-2, 105-pound Shepard out of a bar Oct. 6, kidnapped and pistol-whipped him and left him tied to a fence in the cold.



WORLD NEWS

Firefighter dies in Mont Blanc tunnel fire; nine people trapped

Annecy, France (AP)— One firefighter died and at least nine people were trapped in the tunnel under Mont Blanc today after a truck carrying flour caught fire, blocking the route with thick smoke.

The firefighter who died was one of four evacuated from the tunnel and hospitalized for smoke inhalation.

Firefighters were unable to reach the truck because of the smoke and soaring temperatures, officials said, adding that nine people remained trapped late this afternoon.

Officials said those trapped sought refuge in an emergency area in the 7-mile-long tunnel, which runs under Western Europe's highest peak and connects France and Italy.

The truck caucht fire this morning about four miles in the connection of the

The truck caught fire this morning about four miles into the tunnel, officials said. The tunnel was closed to traffic afer the fire broke out.

Ceramic burial boxes dating back 6,500 years displayed in Israel

Jerusalem (AP)— Ceramic faces of death sculpted 6,500 years ago to adorn burial boxes were displayed Wednesday by archaeologists who found them in northern legal

Carved on melon-sized heads, each face is different — some have open round mouths and long noses, others sport with beards and black and red eyelashes.

One figure with a round, bald head and protruding nose is affectionately referred to as "Homer Simpson" by the pottery restoration team.

The figures were found in the form of shards scattered inside a cave discovered by a bulldozer constructing a new road in northern Israel in 1995.

About 300 figures have been restored, several of which were exhibited by the Israel Antiquities Authority for the first time on Wednesday.

time on Wednesday.

The heads represent the largest and most varied find in Israel from the Chalcolithic period, around 4,500 B.C.

The faces may or may not have resembled the deceased whose remains were inside the boxes, said Zvi Gal, chief archeologist for northern Israel.

Pinochet denied immunity on human rights charges

London (AP)—Britain's highest court today upheld Gen. Augusto Pinochet's arrest on charges of human rights violations, dashing the former Chilean dictator's hopes of immediately returning home. But the tribunal negated most of the charges lodged by Spain in seeking his extradition.

The general still could end up in the dock, but not for torture offenses committed before 1988, when Britain signed an international law banning the practice. Pinochet surrendered the presidency in 1990 after 17 years of hard-line rule, and remained in charge of the army for eight more years.

The ruling appeared to mark the first time a national court had denied a foreign head of state immunity from prosecution, Lord Chief Justice Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson said. Many experts have suggested successful prosecution of Pinochet would render all world leaders vulnerable to charges filed by other governments.

In a 6-1 decision, a House of Lords tribunal ruled that Pinochet is not entitled to immunity from arrest, despite his status as a former head of state. But it also threw out all but three of the 30 charges in a Spanish warrant seeking his extradition.

The judges said the 83-year-old general can be prosecuted for three counts alleging numerous cases of conspiracy to torture and one case each of torture and murder conspiracy.



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Student snags statue for TV commercial

Nick Mullins Staff Reporter

It may not be an Oscar, but it's close enough. An MTSU student received an Emmy for the first

student-produced promotional in the school's history. Senior Bobby Grubic received the honor on Feb. 6 at the Student Emmys in Nashville.

The end result of Grubic's digital animation project is a visually stimulating, fast-paced advertisement that commands the viewer's attention while highlighting some of the exceptional programs at MTSU.

Some of the featured items in the advertisement are MTSU's award-winning Recording Industry program, the newly crowned IA football team and the Bohemian-style campus environment.

"I wanted to present this school in the best possible light," said Grubic. "Good things take time."

This project took quite a bit of time. Grubic started work on the promo in January 1998 and did not finish until late August.

Marc Barr, a digital animation professor in the College of Mass Communication, praised Grubic for his efforts.

"Bobby is a highly -motivated individual," Barr said. "I felt very confident in his endeavor."

Grubic would like to acknowledge the following people for their support: Radio/Television chairperson Mary Nichols for

submitting the promo for nomination; Barr for believing in him;

The Radio/Television Department for their help and

Friend Michael Hardison for his assistance;

Director of News and Public Affairs Doug Williams who bought the space to air the spot on Channel 4.

McDermont gives lecture on erosion of moral sensibilities

Chris Crockett Staff Reporter

Have Monica Lewinsky, Tinky Winky and Jerry Springer made our society immoral?

Philosophy and Humanities Professor John J. McDermont will be giving a lecture, "The Erosion of Moral Sensibilities," at 3:30 p.m. Friday, in James Union Building room 303.

The program, sponsored by the MTSU philosophy department, will concern the decline of moral sensibilities in our society

It will also address the dangers of obsoleting past experiences, whether they're personal or collective.

These points will be addressed in an informal nontechnical manner with McDermott sharing personal stories to punctuate his ideas.

The lecture is free and open to the public. The program will last from an hour to an hour and a half with question and discussion from the audience welcome afterward.

According to McDermott, those who are concerned about the lecture being beyond their understanding need not worry as it will be well within the grasp of a general audience. McDermott is a professor at Texas A&M

He received his bachelor's degree cum laude from St. Francis College in philosophy and mathematics, his M.A. and Ph.D. from Fordham University. He has traveled extensively and is the author of many books concerning classical American philosophy.

His philosophical perspective has found expression in more than articles and in "The Culture of Experience: Philosophical Essays in the American Grain" and "Streams of Experience: Reflections on the History and Philosophy of American Culture."

Project HELP gets helping hand

Chris Crockett Staff Reporter

An East Tennessee group wants to help MTSU "Help Educate Little People

Trustees of the Benwood Foundation, a Chattanoogabased organization, approved a grant in the amount of \$25,000 to the MTSU Foundation for Project HELP on the condition that MTSU raise an additional \$50,000.

Project HELP, which stands for Help Educate Little People, is a program that provides a classroom environment for developmentally challenged preschool

The program provides assistance to children who are developmentally delayed because of a specific disability or

Once admitted into the program, a child is educationally assessed, an individual program plan and related activities are developed.

In its nearly 16-year history, Project HELP has assisted more than 250 children.

"What makes giving to Project HELP so attractive is that it's a program that is already working well with a solid and proven track record, plus the fact that there are children on the waiting list," said Jim Barco, MTSU's director of development.

If MTSU can raise \$50,000 twice as many children could move from Project HELP's waiting list into

The total of \$75,000 raised by MTSU and the Benwood foundation would provide for another teacher, classroom assistant, and van, effectively making the program able to double its current enrollment to the capacity of 50

Anyone interested in supporting or receiving more information about Project HELP may call the MTSU development office at 615-898-2502.■

Lifting the load



Staff photo by Derrick Wilson

Kasimu Harris carries a box of clothing collected for tornado victims in Clarksville. The clothing drive was sponsored by Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.



the same as the high temperature of the day

890-1378

1315 E. Castle St. Murfreesboro, TN 37130



1303C West College St. 895-6114

30th Anniversary Celebrating 30 Years of Public Broadcasting Service to Middle Tennessee

On Friday, March 26, the following lots will be closed at the times stated in order to prepare for maintenance:

Parking Lot

Loop Drive

Time Lot will be Closed Jones Field

Parking Spaces located directly in front of Boutwel Dramatic Arts Davis Science Building Parking Lot

Faulkinberry Drive (beginning east of the Stadium, by Saunders Fine Arts,

Wright Music Building and Boutwell Dramatic Arts)

Parking Spaces located in front of Health Services Cope Administration Building East Parking Lot

Cope Administration Building West Parking Lot

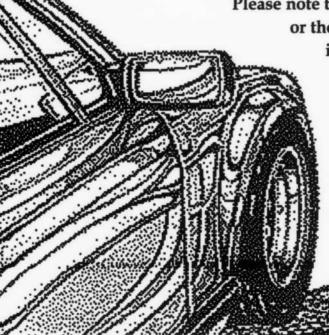
We ask your cooperation in making plans to have your vehicle removed from these parking areas at the stated lot closing time on March 26.

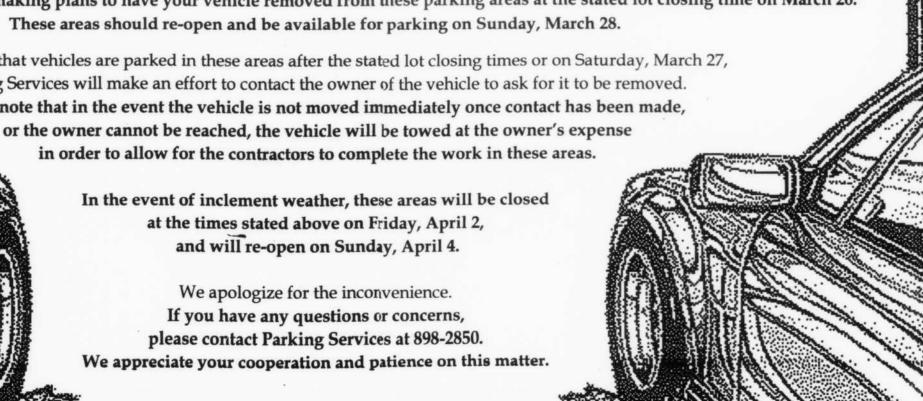
In the event that vehicles are parked in these areas after the stated lot closing times or on Saturday, March 27, Parking Services will make an effort to contact the owner of the vehicle to ask for it to be removed. Please note that in the event the vehicle is not moved immediately once contact has been made,

in order to allow for the contractors to complete the work in these areas.

In the event of inclement weather, these areas will be closed at the times stated above on Friday, April 2, and will re-open on Sunday, April 4.

We apologize for the inconvenience. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Parking Services at 898-2850. We appreciate your cooperation and patience on this matter.





12:00 noon

3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

4:30 p.m.

4:30 p.m.

4:30 p.m.

Infrastructure project will block some walks

Several buildings are scheduled to get new steam lines this spring, resulting in temporary disruptions in pedestrian traffic. Jones Hall, Todd Library, Wiser-Patten Science, Davis Science, Peck Hall, Forrest Hall, ROTC Annex and Keathley University Center will get new steam lines to replace existing lines which are 30 - 40 years old. Construction of equipment vaults will beging immediately at the east side of Peck Hall and south end of Davis Science Building.

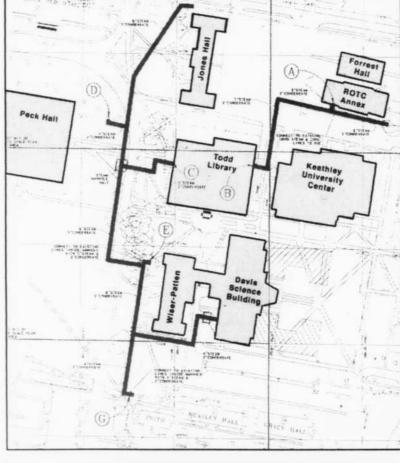
Bill Smotherman, director of Construction Administration, says this is the first of a possible three-phase project to replace older underground steam

lines.

"Installing the lines will be disruptive, but it is essential to maintaining a vital part of the campus infra structure," he adds. "the ditches are usually the deepest of the underground utilities. They're also the widest because two pipes are installed — one for steam, the other to return steam condensate back to the Central Plant for recycling. Underground equipment vaults along the route are also large, requiring a 15-foot square area for construction."

According to Smotherman, students and staff can expect fencing which will be erected to isolate the work area. Some frequently traveled routes will be blocked, making it necessary to seek alternate routes.

Questions regarding the project may be directed to the Construction Administration office at 898-2967.





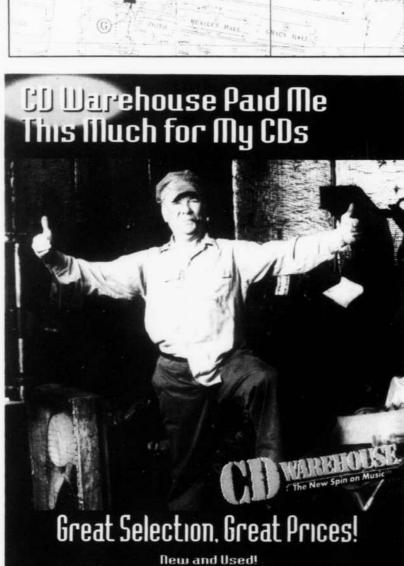
You are cordially invited to join Pinnacle.

Pinnacle is a national honor society recognizing adult and non-traditional students — for juniors or seniors

who are 25 years of age or older
with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00.
Graduate students are also eligible
to join Pinnacle, if they have a 3.4 GPA.
Pinnacle serves other students at MTSU
through a series of student success workshops
called Reach for the Pinnacle.

To apply, please call the Adult Services Center at 898-5989 or come by KUC 320. The application form is due by April 1.

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Join MT Dining Services' FOOD COMMITTEE

Bring your Thoughts and Comments with you and discuss MT Dining Services with the Food Director.

We are looking for Students and Faculty Members. Refreshments will be provided.

Those interested should come by KUC 204 to sign up.
Sign-up Deadline: Friday, April 2, 1999

Come voice your opinion.
We look forward to seeing you there!

MT Dining Services'

FOOD COMMITTEE

Meeting

Thursday, April 15, 1999 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Hazelwood Room James Union Building

Student broadcasts rainforest to world

Staff Reports

It was an around-the-world adventure with world-renowned experts that millions of students worldwide will learn from.

Student Nic Dugger is back at MTSU, after capturing an exciting overseas expedition on camera.

Dugger, known around campus for his experience with the student-operated television station, worked closely with a television production team on the Jason X Project. The Jason X Project was founded by Dr. Robert Ballard, wellknown for his Titanic expedition.

Shortly after the discovery of the Titanic wreckage, Ballard received thousands of letters from students around the world wanting to go with him on his next expedition. In reaction to these letters, Ballard founded the project, which is a comparative study of tropical and fossil rainforests.

It was designed to excite and engage students in science and technology and to motivate and provide professional development for teachers.

"We are making history in the field of remote television production and I am humbled to be a part of it," Dugger said while on the assignment, according to his web site. Dugger and his crew, including Radio/TV chairperson Mary Nichols, shot various reports on different aspects of the Peruvian rainforest so they could be broadcast over the web to millions of others.

These live webcasts gave students the impression that they are really there. Students had an opportunity to climb

more than 100 feet and explore the layers of the forest and its inhabitants along a mile-long capony walk way.

along a mile-long canopy walkway.

They were also able to peer inside an ant colony for an up-close and personal look at life beneath the forest floor. Finally, students got the chance to marvel at the majestic Amazon River

comparing the largest body of water in

"We have built a working television studio over 100 miles from the closest town," Dugger said. "It's absolutely astounding what we are doing with this technology."

Dugger reported from his website that he and his crew worked 14- to 16hour days trying to make sure everything is operating smoothly, setting up camp and assembling production equipment.

"This trip has already been longer and more challenging than I could have ever imagined," Dugger explained before heading home, "but it is truly an honor to call myself a crew member when working with one of the most powerful production crews ever assembled." If you would like more information on the Jason X Project, check out http://www.jasonproject.

org.

ANDREWS continued from page 1

has "suffered irreparable harm" by the publication of the tape which contained "false and inaccurate statements about her that were made by Ms. Dukes."

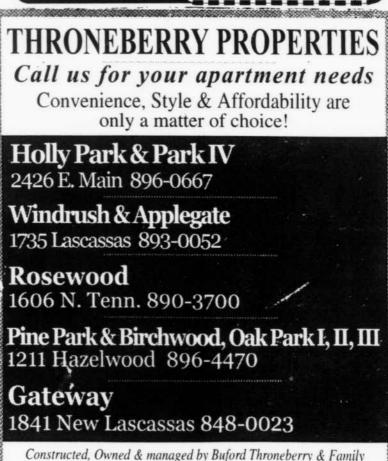
Newman wants a temporary restraining order brought against Andrews to ensure he does not alter, destroy or continue publishing the videotape.

The court granted Newman's request on Feb. 26 for a temporary restraining order prohibiting Andrews from "destroying, selling, conveying or taking any action that would in any way modify or effect the tape recorded statement of Donna Dukes," according to official court documents.

A judge ordered Andrews on March 12 to give the tape over to the court. Andrews decided to appeal the judge's order, claiming he is protected by the Tennessee Shield Law. A shield law protects a reporter in a court proceeding from releasing information gathered for publication. According to Andrews' defense, the Shield Law prohibits Newman from obtaining a copy of the videotape

"The Shield Law applies to sources and information, and it applies to confidential and non-confidential sources and information," said Douglas Pierce, Andrews's lawyer, in a written statement submitted to the court. "Therefore, the fact that a portion of the videotape has already been broadcast, and therefore is not confidential, does not 'waive' the protection of the law."





www.throneberry.com

E Honors lecture series gets playful, analyzes favorite American pastime

Elizabeth Sharpe Staff Reporter

You may never watch the game the

All-American baseball made quite a name for itself during the 19th and 20th centuries, but next week's Honors Lecture Series takes a look at a slightly different aspect of the sport.

Ron Bombardi, speaker and MTSU

"Logic and Mysticism in the Philosophy of American Baseball," will attempt to analyze the game itself and explore the complex relationship between logic and

The terms "logie" and "mysticism" do not naturally go together, and he aims to resolve the conflict.

"I want to distinguish between finite and infinite games," said Bombardi.

Bombardi intends for the lecture to be a fun and playful look at the wildly philosophy professor, said the lecture, popular game. He is currently putting

the finishing touches on his lecture.

"It's a sandlot game," said Bombardi. "I'm still choosing my

The lecture is on Monday, in Peck Hall 109A from 3:40-4:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public.



Construction workers get ready to renovate the old Woodmore Cafeteria into a modern dining facility complete with Burger King and Starbucks Coffee. The new, improved Woodmore is scheduled to open

Sidelines wins three first-place awards in Southeast Journalism Conference

Staff Reports

The staff of "Sidelines" was honored recently by the Southeast Journalism Conference for reporting, writing and designing skills.

"Sidelines" earned three first-place awards, one third-place and an honorable mention.

Fall Editor Jennie Treadway, a junior exercise science major, was honored with a first place and honorable mention for layout and design of the features section. The pages were designed by Phonethip Liu, a senior graphic communication

Treadway also was honored individually with a third-place award for editorial writing.

Susan McMahan and Bryan Brooks, both senior news-

editorial journalism majors, were honored with a first-place award for investigative or in-depth reporting.

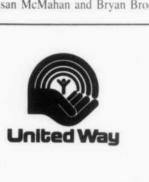
McMahan, the current editor of "Sidelines," was also honored for first-place editorial writing.

The SEJC awards honored student journalism work completed between Dec. 1, 1997, and Nov. 30, 1998.

The awards were presented by SEJC at the 13th annual convention, held at Southwestern Louisiana University in Lafayette, La. SEJC is a group of almost 50 colleges and universities in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

MTSU is represented in SEJC by faculty delegate Glenn

Himebaugh.



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The Stults Memorial Scholarship Committee is now taking application Douglas E. Stults

Memorial Scholarship

Application Deadline: 4 p.m., March 26, 1999

To Qualify A Candidate Must:

• have a minimum 2.7 cumulative grade point average (must be exact or better)

• be at least a second-year undergraduate student with a minimum of 24 credit hours

 have some media experience (on or off campus work) applies, in any print or broadcast medium)

To Apply:

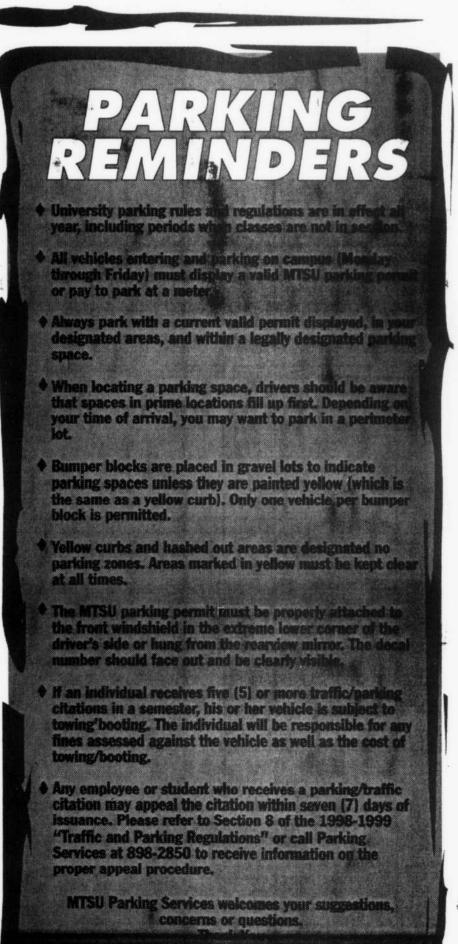
· submit an application

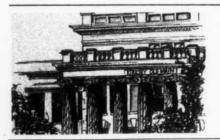
• a 1,000-2,000 word essay on "The Future of Privacy in Contemporary Society"

submit a copy of your transcript

· submit three to five samples of your work, six copies of ea (short tapes of broadcasts are accepted. Clips must be professionally presented.)

For more information, contact Jenny Crouch at 898-2815 or co James Union Building, Room 308. Three finalists will be sele the field of applicants and will be interviewed at a date to l announced. You will be notified if you are to be interviewed.





"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or

newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the

—Thomas Jefferson

Murfreesboro, TN

Editorial

Summer vacation – what a punishment

ITSU has developed a great new ting tool that should attract more

Its name is the "Reach Out and Touch neone" program, and it's built on the nciple that a little bit of sexual

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They see it as a welcome change to vering the incidents and sweating when words "sexual harassment" are uttered. The idea behind MTSU's new program at professors will be rewarded with a long break for pinching, touching crwise sexually harassing their

ead of facing punishment, you can be summer at home, on the beach or

only drawback is that you might be write a letter saying you're sorry -you are or not. However, compare

thes writing an insincere "sorry" note unimer on the beach.

the big plus to the program is that a sammer break every time you

on could get fired in other working

We will reward you here.

And most of the time nobody will even why you get your worry-free it your past, so they won't run ining from your classes.
ingo! More chances for a summer

on in the future. s the perfect situation – you can be a who gets a summer break while o-workers spend their days in class.

It too bad for the other professors in
epartment (you know, the ones who k up your slack) - they're the ones ecided to keep their hands to

he only potential problem the ersity administration sees is that especially females - will be n always wear pants, long sleeves ultiple layers to avoid feeling the its and smacks. This is seen as a nvenience because the faculty

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor.

All letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. E-mail letters to stupubs@frank.mtsu.edu, mail them to MTSU box 42 or fax them to 904-8487. Letters will be printed on a first received, first printed basis. Sidelines reserves the right to edit for style and grammar.

Deadline for letters is Monday at 5:30 p.m. for the Thursday paper and Thursday at 5:30 p.m. for the Monday paper.

SIDELINES

P.O. BOX 42 Murfreesboro, TN 37132 EDITORIAL: 898-2337 ADVERTISING: 898-2533 FAX: 904-8487

Susan McMahan

Shawn Whitsell

Brian Forrester

Jennie Treadway

Amanda Virgillito

Michael Edwards

Derrick Wilson

Angela White

Phonethip Liu

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Barry Gilley

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OPINIONS

Putting perspective back into Y2K debate

Ed Zander Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Talk about hype. Few stories this year have garnered more ink in the press than reports of the terrible plight expected to engulf the world and its computers when the clock strikes 12:01 a.m. Jan.

The "Y2K" problem, it has been reported almost daily, spells a kind of doomsday scenario for our technologically oriented world. Air-traffic control systems will crash, taxpayer records will be lost in cyberspace, prisoners could be loosed on

That may well happen, but I doubt it. More

kind of computing systems we have been relying on for decades are outmoded. We need to move past the melodrama and see the Y2K problem for what it is ... an opportunity.

I don't say this out of some aversion to colorful language. The fact is, the Y2K problem underscores that we are wedded to an outdated model of computing that we are holding onto for precious few reasons besides the deft marketing of the companies making a living off it. The computing model we use, and on which much of our economy depends, is the same one we've been using since the advent of the personal computer ... and that is a big part of the Y2K problem.

The trillion-dollar price tag attached to fixing

HARD TO SAY

AFTER DECEMBER 31
ALL I'M GETTING
ARE PREDICTIONS FOR
THE EARLY 1900'S...

than anything, the Y2K problem indicates that the the millennium "bug" is a lingering result of our is still in its infancy and already its ability to aged mainframe computing model and the COBOL computer language many of us remember hearing about when we were first introduced to computers many years ago. The reality now is before every company slogs through their Year 2000 problem, 1 trillion lines of computer code written in more than 500 computer languages will have to be examined and, in most cases, modified.

With something as big as the millennium spurring the discussion, it is important to ask why this is so complicated, so expensive? Technology is supposed to make our lives better and simpler, but the Y2K problem is doing anything but.

That is why some see the Y2K problem as a moneymaker. Look, for instance, at the piles of cash being made by companies offering Y2K solutions ... and it's no coincidence that many of them had something to do with creating the

But innovation, in its root sense, means looking beyond Band-Aid solutions and addressing fundamental issues. It means moving away from bulky desktop units tied to a single operating system and embracing an environment in which the network is the computer - where anyone will be able to access the network, anytime, anywhere, on any network-ready device. The Internet offers us a glimpse of this future. It's about mobility. It's about global connections. It's about using smart cards instead of currency and computers that work as simply as telephones.

Browser technology will be at the center of the next great development push. The impetus will be to develop faster, cheaper, better graphical representations and faster, more secure information transfer over the Internet. That is why our highly mobile, interconnected societies are antithetical to a box on a desk that does not allow for easy transfer between different types of

What is exciting to think about is that the Web

deliver new software, software patches and other programs that before had to be manually installed at much higher cost, is changing the computer industry, and even the world. The real benefit of the Web is that it puts choice at the fingertips of each person tapping in. That is true power. I'm persuaded that the direction my industry is

headed makes the laptop look like a dinosaur.

Picture a world in which students study on the school bus or at a movie intermission with a device smaller and easier to hold than a lunch bag: a place where a loading-dock manager can connect to worldwide inventory database with a handheld computer so inventory schedules are done on the fly, from the dock.

These are just two examples of a world that has been much too slow in coming. Some of these devices are already here. But if we can break the bond to the bulky, immobile desktop unit, not only will we be seeing these and other personalized computers becoming more commonplace, but a problem like Y2K will be a momentary diversion, not a costly debacle.

Y2K, from this perspective, is more a positive challenge than doom and gloom. It's the opportunity we've been waiting for to adapt our computing systems to our highly mobile world ... not the other way around.



Athletes have more options

To the editor: I just wanted to take a moment to point out an

incident which occurred at the KUC dining facilities on March 12. At 5 p.m., I decided to go and eat at the KUC, due to the fact that Corlew was closed.

To my dismay, when I arrived at the KUC. the grill and Pizza Hut were closed. When I inquired about the matter, I was told that the Grill was being closed for the night, and that I sandwiches and salads.) I took a salad and some chips to eat, and went on my way.

At around 5:30, a large group of MTSU athletes came to eat at the KUC. They inquired as well as to why full dining service was not being offered. To my astonishment, the manager on duty at the time immediately put staff behind the grill and at Pizza Hut.

I expressed my dismay to the manager. And she apologized profusely, and even offered me a whole meal for free.

She said that her entire staff was new and was misinformed about the KUC's closing.

Unbelievable! I was already done eating at that point. But, it is hard for me to stomach the fact that MTSU athletics got preferential treatment.

Sincerely, **Brad Baisley** freshman

Everyone should be more

tolerant of differences

I am a Christian, and as a Christian, I am constantly reminded of how tolerant I am supposed to be. I recently read Jessica Scarbrough's letter to the editor (March 8). She basically argued that Christian parents do not have a right to decide what their children will be taught and to do so would "promote ignorance and intolerance."

I do not write this letter in anger, but in confusion. I am confused because of the hypocrisy I often see in the groups that so often claim tolerance. For example, I was once talking to a member of the Student Pagan Organization and asked him why the SPO was selling crosses if the group did not allow

He claimed it was because the SPO is tolerant. However, later in the same discussion, I was describing to him how in China a 9-yearold Christian girl was shot through the head because she wiped spit from the Bible.

His response: "It's good to see the Communists know what they're doing!"

Also, earlier this semester I could not help but notice Lambda's sidewalk chalk across campus. I began reading how everyone was welcome and all voices should be heard. I moved on to see the Christian fish with "HATE" written in the middle and suggestions that Christians were ignorant and had no heart.

To be sure I knew what I was jumping into, I searched dictionaries for the word "tolerate." discovered that if I am to tolerate something I must recognize and respect the validity and authority behind it. Based on the definitions I saw, I know that I am not tolerant, and I never have been

As a Christian, I believe that Jesus IS the way, the truth and the life. I also believe that the only way to heaven is through belief in His sacrifice and resurrection. My question to those

who constantly claim Christians are intolerant is this: Can you recognize the validity and authority behind the previous two statements?

You may say that there are many roads to heaven, but that would make God a liar. If He is just, He can not tell me that the only way to heaven is through faith in Christ and then offer

You see, those parents Ms. Scarbrough was referring to can NOT BE tolerant as Christians. They are commanded in the Bible to raise their children to love and respect the Lord Jesus. So, if they truly believe that, they must only show their children the only way. Also, for Ms. Scarbrough to say that this "promotes ignorance and intolerance" means that she does not respect the validity or authority of the Christian

No one is truly tolerant, and my message here is to Christians. Should you attack and hate those different from you? No. Love them and show them the compassion that Christ showed us, but do not be ashamed or afraid of what you believe. Live it. Jonathan Billingham senior history major

Make points with strong words, not profanities

In regard to the editorial of March 4, I wonder why the writer felt the need to use the words "bitch," "ass" and "bullshit" in quick

I doubt that this strategy was recommended by either your journalism professors or your English 111 and 112 teachers, because they all know that using scatological language is a cheap, immature, illegitimate way to get a reader's attention.

Better to entice and engage readers the oldfashioned way: make your point with striking, intelligent, forceful diction.

Your words are striking, all right, but they are "striking" for the wrong reason. Get a dictionary, read Swift, Orwell, Paine and other writers mentioned on Christopher Hitchens's course list - and learn how they made their justly renowned and respected points with finesse, not trash. Sincerely,

Stephanie Moran

Lambda does not have an abortion position

To the editor:

In the March 8 edition of "From the mailbox," Right to Life group president Kevin Fisher accused Lambda of "hiding the truth." He said, "They don't want you to learn this because FMLA, pro-choicers and Lambda do not want you deciding your own opinions based on all the facts."

Lambda would like to say, "We have never

taken a position on the issue of abortion." Our purpose, Mr. Fisher, is to support and promote the tolerance of diversity. This diversity includes the differences all people have, such as pro-life and pro-choice. We do not turn anyone away.

Lambda is not a political organization, meaning we are here as a social/ support group for people who have nowhere else to go. Though our members may have views on major topics such as abortion, the group as a whole does not take a stance.

We suggest the next time you wish to use us

See LETTERS, page 7

COLLEGE PRESS



FROM THE HEART

by Kevin Neal Fisher Tennessee Right to Life President

Hi!This is my first installment in this column, so for my first subject, I had originally intended to do something light (maybe introduce myself,talk about my beliefs and society and all its variances). Well,I changed my mind.

A couple of weeks ago, I stopped at a local convenience store only yards from MTSU. As I hung out, eating doughnuts and conversating with a store employee who is also a good friend, we encountered a woman maybe 18 years old who had been beaten up by her boyfriend. (Remember, this is a few hundred yards from MTSU, not some large metropolitan area like New York, Chicago or even Nashville.)

We sat and talked with her for about an hour, pleading with her to talk to the police and make a report. (I worked as a counselor at a domestic violence shelter in Nashville for 3 years, but this seemed over my head. I figured from her bruises, the scars, that she probably would need medical treatment.) After gaining her confidence, we called 911. Know what? They wouldn't help us, other than referring her to a domestic violence hotline. The dispatcher, with an accent reminiscent of Gomer Pyle, said it would be a while, that he couldn't "spare anyone"at that moment and that it wasn't an emergency, since she was not at the scene and therefore theoretically out of harm's way (actually ,the man didn't say "theoretically." His exact words were to "relax" and "call the shelter in the morning."

Does anyone still wonder why so many women end up killed from domestic abuse? Why is it society places such a low premium on the victimization of women? (Here's some trivia for you: here in Rutherford County, there are three humane/SPCA type programs for every battered women's shelter. In fact, Smyrna on Sunday reported approval for a brand new, 10,000 sq.foot facility, at the cost of \$ 1.25 million, to be built for dogs and cats. And, it's almost completely funded by the state, as compared with domestic violence shelters, which must rely heavily on private donations. What does this say about us as a society? Where are our priorities?

And what about the effects of this violence on children, who often get ringside seats? I'll never forget watching my mother and her boyfriends brawling all over the house -- on every major holiday, from New Year's to Christmas Day. You know, it's hard getting excited about a new toy when you have to watch someone get beat with it. Easter just isn't quite the same when you can't share your

chocolate Easter bunny with your mom, because her jaw is swollen. And forget Halloween, there's nothing more eerie than riding in an ambulance on christmas eve late at night, while all the other kids are supposed to be snuggled "in their bed." I wish I could sit here and tell you I'm the only person in America this ever happened to. I'm not. In fact, statistics say its gonna happen again, probably before you finish reading this column. Why? No one cares.

Thats right, America. You don't care. Unless it happens to you, or you witness it, you could care less. Why do I make this statement? Think about it. Social programs are always the first item on the chopping block at budget time.

Democrats, Republicans, liberals, conservatives it doesn't matter who's in power. And even though these shelters are woefully, almost criminally underfunded, money isn't the only issue. The shelter here is closed on Sundays, due not only to lack of funding but lack of volunteers as well. Yes, there's a hotline, but it's a pager service. Thats not acceptable! How can YOU help? Many of you have an hour or so during the week you spend to help out someone who has been victimized. (Hey ,I love going to the Boro as much as anyone, but a couple of hours in a month would help out tremendously.)

How about toys? Many of you adults on campus have children with toys you'd love to donate (and I don't just mean Teletubbies, either). Many times, kids are snatched up in an emergency and there isn't enough time to gather their favorite toy. Believe me, a shelter can be a lonely, frightening place to a child. Furniture? Clothes? Many of us will simply not be able to take home all the junk we've accumulated this year at MTSU.

Finally, a word to my bretheren. Guys, you and I know there's no good reason to be beating on your girlfriends/wives. (I don't care how mad you get.) Now,we all know not all men are abusive (some of us are okay), there are some women who are equally abusive. Violence is simply not an acceptable solution to your problems, no matter what the

problem is. What can we do? Keep your eyes open. If you have a friend or know of a friend who is victimizing or being victimized, intervene. Do this each and every single time. Don't ever let it go as "It only happened once. It'll never happen again." If this is your friend,

See HEART, page 7

"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have a

government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the

Thomas Jefferson

Murfreesboro, TN

Editorial

Summer vacation what a punishment

MTSU has developed a great new recruiting tool that should attract more "hands-on" professors.

Its name is the "Reach Out and Touch Someone" program, and it's built on the principle that a little bit of sexual harassment goes a long, long way.

Public relations departments everywhere are praising the new idea. Since sexual harassment is now rewarded and not stigmatized, they will be happy to bear about the numbers of sexual harassment incidents at their organizations.

They see it as a welcome change to covering the incidents and sweating when the words "sexual harassment" are untered

The idea behind MTSU's new program is that professors will be rewarded with a summer-long break for pinching, touching and otherwise sexually harassing their

Instead of facing punishment, you can spend the summer at home, on the beach or

The only drawback is that you might be asked to write a letter saving you're sorry whether you are or not. However, compare 30 minutes writing an insincere "sorry" note with a summer on the beach.

But the big plus to the program is that you get a summer break every time you pinch one of your students.

You could get fired in other working environments for sexual harassment, but not at MTSU.

We will reward you here. And most of the time nobody will even

know why you get your werry-free vacation. Your future students won't know about your past, so they won't run screaming from your classes.

Bingo! More chances for a summer vacation in the future.

It's the perfect situation - you can be a scumbag who gets a summer break while your co-workers spend their days in class. It's just too bad for the other professors in your department (you know, the ones who get to pick up your slack) - they're the ones that decided to keep their hands to themselves

The only potential problem the university administration sees is that students - especially females - will be asked to always wear pants, long sleeves and multiple layers to avoid feeling the pinches, pats and smacks. This is seen as a minor inconvenience because the faculty will be happy and protected.

That's what matters.

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor.

All letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. E-mail letters to stupubs@frank.mtsu.edu. mail them to MTSU box 42 or fax them to 904-8487. Letters will be printed on a first received, first printed basis. Sidelines reserves the right to edit for style and grammar.

Deadline for letters is Monday at 5:30 p.m. for the Thursday paper and Thursday at 5:30 p.m. for the Monday paper.

SIDELINES

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OPINIONS

Putting perspective back into Y2K debate

Ed Zander

COBOL computer language many of us remember hearing about when we were first introduced to computers many years ago. The reality now is The Larra of the ACK problem 2000 problem. I trillion lines of computer code

> With something as big as the millennium spurring the discussion, it is important to ask why this is so complicated, so expensive? Technology to supposed to make our lives better and simpler. but the Y2K problem is doing anything but.

written in more than 500 computer languages will

That is why some see the Y2K problem as a sonoymaker. Look, for instance, at the piles of eash being made by companies offering Y2K olutions and it's no coincidence that many of them had something to do with creating the

But ranovation, in its root sense, means looking second Band And solutions and addressing fundamental issues. It means moving away from existent and embracing an environment in which the network is the computer - where anyone will or able to access the network, anytime, anywhere, a any network-ready device. The Internet offers a glampse of this future. It's about mobility. It's bout allobal connections. It's about using smart it is distead of currency and computers that work

the millennium "bug" is a lingering result of our as still in its infancy and already its ability to deliver new software, software patches and other programs that before had to be manually installed at much higher cost, is changing the computer industry, and even the world. The real benefit of the Web is that it puts choice at the fingertips of each person tapping in. That is true power.

I'm persuaded that the direction my industry is headed makes the laptop look like a dinosaur.

Picture a world in which students study on the school bus or at a movie intermission with a device smaller and easier to hold than a lunch bag: a place where a loading-dock manager can connect to worldwide inventory database with a handheld computer so inventory schedules are done on the fly, from the dock

These are just two examples of a world that has been much too slow in coming. Some of these devices are already here. But if we can break the bond to the bulky, immobile desktop unit, not only will we be seeing these and other personalized computers becoming more commonplace, but a problem like Y2K will be a momentary diversion, not a costly debacle.

Y2K, from this perspective, is more a positive challenge than doom and gloom. It's the opportunity we've been waiting for to adapt our computing systems to our highly mobile world ... not the other way around.



From the Mailbox

Athletes have more options

I just wanted to take a moment to point out an incident which occurred at

the KUC dining facilities on March 12. At 5. p.m., I decided to go and eat at the KUC, due to the fact that Corlew was closed. To my dismay, when I arrived at the KUC.

the grill and Pizza Hut were closed. When Iinquired about the matter, I was told that the Grill was being closed for the night, and that I sandwiches and salads.) I took a salad and some chips to eat, and went on my way. At around 5:30, a large group of MTSU

athletes came to eat at the KUC. They inquired as well as to why full dining service was not being offered. To my astonishment, the manager on duty at the time immediately put staff behind the grill and at Pizza Hut.

Lexpressed my dismay to the manager. And she apologized profusely, and even offered mea whole meal for free. She said that her entire staff was new and

was misinformed about the KUC's closing. Unbelievable! I was already done eating at

that point. But, it is hard for me to stomach the treatment. Sincerely.

Everyone should be more

tolerant of differences

I am a Christian, and as a Christian, I am

constantly reminded of how tolerant I am supposed to be. I recently read Jessica

Scarbrough's letter to the editor (March 8). She

basically argued that Christian parents do not

have a right to decide what their children will

be taught and to do so would "promote

confusion. I am confused because of the

hypocrisy I often see in the groups that so often

claim tolerance. For example, I was once

talking to a member of the Student Pagan

Organization and asked him why the SPO was

selling crosses if the group did not allow

tolerant. However, later in the same discussion.

I was describing to him how in China a 9-year-

old Christian girl was shot through the head

His response: "It's good to see the

Also, earlier this semester I could not help

but notice Lambda's sidewalk chalk across

campus. I began reading how everyone was

welcome and all voices should be heard. I

moved on to see the Christian fish with

"HATE" written in the middle and suggestions

To be sure I knew what I was jumping into,

that Christians were ignorant and had no heart.

I searched dictionaries for the word "tolerate." I

discovered that if I am to tolerate something I

must recognize and respect the validity and

authority behind it. Based on the definitions I

saw, I know that I am not tolerant, and I never

way, the truth and the life. I also believe that

the only way to heaven is through belief in His

sacrifice and resurrection. My question to those

As a Christian, I believe that Jesus IS the

because she wiped spit from the Bible.

Communists know what they're doing!"

He claimed it was because the SPO is

I do not write this letter in anger, but in

ignorance and intolerance."

Brad Baisley freshman

words, not profanities fact that MTSU athletics got preferential | Dear editor

Make points with strong

English III and III and III

course list - and learn how three much Sincerely,

Stephanie Moran

Lambda does not have an abortion position

In the March 8 edition of From the mailbox," Right to Life group president Kevin Fisher accused Lambda of "hiding the truth." He said. "They don't want you to learn this because FMLA, pro-choicers and Lambda do not want you deciding your own opinions based on all the facts."

Lambda would like to say, "We have never taken a position on the issue of abortion.

Our purpose, Mr. Fisher, is to support and promote the tolerance of diversity. This diversity includes the differences all people have, such as pro-life and pro-choice. We do not turn anyone away.

Lambda is not a political organization, meaning we are here as a social/ support group for people who have nowhere else to go. Though our members may have views on major topics such as abortion, the group as a whole does not take a stance.

We suggest the next time you wish to use us

See LETTERS, page 7



by Kevin Neal Fisher Lennessee Right to Life President

chocolate Easter bunny with your mom, because her I hat socially mended to Jo., raw is swollen. And forget Halloween, there's nothing more cerie than riding in an ambulance on I all an amount of Well I. Ahristmas eve late at night, while all the other kids are improved to be snuggled "in their bed." I wish I could sit here and tell you I'm the only person in superior this ever happened to. I'm not. In fact, and down as gonna happen again, probably before at third reading this column. Why? No one cares:

Thurs melti. America. You don't care. Unless it appears howord or you witness it, you could care Why do I make this statement! Think about it. social programs are always the first item on the

Democrats, Republicans, liberals, conservatives a description that the same of these shelters are woefully, almost criminally underfunded, money isn't the only issue. The shelter here is closed on Sundays, due not only to lack of funding but lack of volunteers as well. Yes, there's a buttime, but it's a pager service. Thats not acceptable! How can YOU help? Many of you have an hour or so diame the week you spend to help out someone dischas been victimized. Hey I love going to the

for Figst mean Telerabbies, either). Many times,

a also a victimizing or being at it goes It only happened once It this is your friend.

See III ARL page 7

LETTERS

continued from page 6

have, such as pro-life and pro-choice. We do not turn anyone away.

Lambda is not a political organization, meaning we are here as a social/ support group for people who have nowhere else to go. Though our members may have views on major topics such as abortion, the group as a whole does not take a stance.

We suggest the next time you wish to use us in an editorial, you come to a meeting, talk to the members and find out what we are all about before publicly condemning us. Our meetings are at 7 p.m. Tuesdays in BAS S316 and we would be delighted to see you, or anyone else who wonders what we do, there. Keisha Taylor and Talia Elwell

president and vice-president, Lambda

University should hire dorm lobbyist

To the editor:

The only thing amazing about Abernathy and Ezell Halls being condemned as unsafe is that it took so long to happen.

As a recent MTSU graduate, I have known how bad the dormitories are for some time. I worked two jobs for two years after enrolling in 1992 to afford off-campus housing because I couldn't find what I considered a safe dorm. If Abernathy and Ezell are bad enough to condemn now, others like

Gore and Clement can't be far

The university has known of these problems, but for years has used band-aids to temporarily put off problems rather than replacing the buildings. Why?

Because President Walker has known that academic construction projects (the library, the Business/ Aerospace building), which were also needed, stood a better chance of being recommended for legislative approval be the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) than

MTSU has received state money to band-aid all the dorms. Now the university is faced with replacing two of them immediately, and state law says the money has to come from the legislature. That won't happen anytime soon unless drastic measures are taken.

Dr. Walker needs to bypass THEC and hire a lobbyist to go directly to the legislature and work for emergency funding to replace both dormitories. Not repair them, replace

The president does not like to circumvent THEC, and allowing the commission's multi-year bidding process to work is normally best.

But this is not a normal situation, and the fact is THEC will not speed up their process to get this done now. Replacing these forms cannot be allowed to go through the rigors THEC requires to get a project

One of the legacies Dr. Walker will

leave at MTSU is his devout attention to the needs of the students. Here is a desperate need that will not get done unless the university hires its own lobbyist to get the money. As a recent graduate and current lobbyist, can say with confidence that exposing this problem directly to state legislators will result in the most immediate solution to the

what is necessary. C. Warren Wakeland

Candidate doesn't know how SGA Senate works

problem. I hope Dr. Walker will do

Over recent days it has come to my attention that Megan Smith, a candidate for SGA Speaker of the Senate has made statements that the Senate rarely meets and has done nothing to help students.

I suppose that Megan finds it easier to attack the Senate than to discuss her ideas for improving our

Her attacks on the Senate are false and unfounded and are personal insults to those Senators who have worked hard for the students of MTSU.

In fact, over the last year and a half, the SGA has passed more than 30 bills. These include the bill to extend the time between classes from 10 to 15 minutes, several bills to make the traffic court more student friendly, bills providing for additional lighting on campus, bills to

improve student housing and several bills to make the SGA more accountable to the students. I know these facts because I served as Speaker of the Senate until I

graduated in December. I do not believe that Ms. Smith meant any disrespect to the intelligence of MTSU students by making false statements, but it was just the fact that she has never been involved in the SGA until entering the race for Speaker of the Senate.

As a former Speaker, I would like to encourage Megan to familiarize herself with the SGA and the Senate before she criticizes those students that have worked hard to improve our campus.

Sincerely Tim Smith

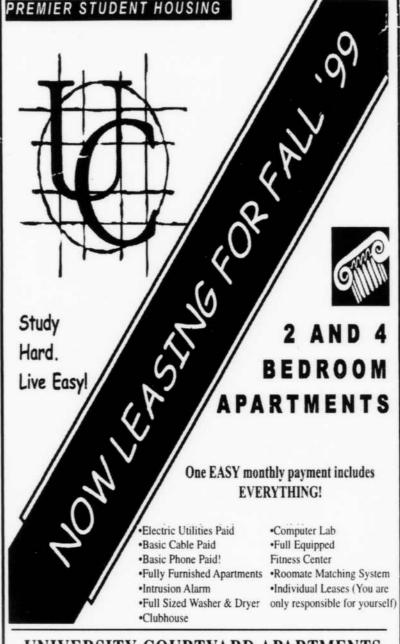
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HEART

continued from page 6

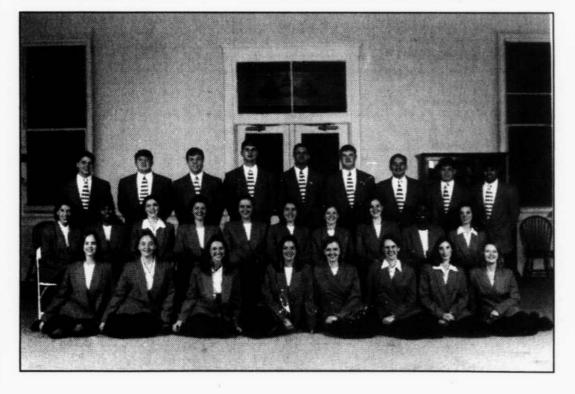
Keep your eyes open. If you have a friend or know of a friend who is victimizing or being victimized, intervene. Do this each and every single time. Don't ever let it go as "It only happened once. It'll never happen again." If this is your friend, he/she will respect your feelings, if no one else's. And if your friend won't stop abusing, drop him or her. Saving a life is much more important than holding onto a "fake buddy.

simply not an acceptable solution to

Real men stand beside and with our women, not on them.



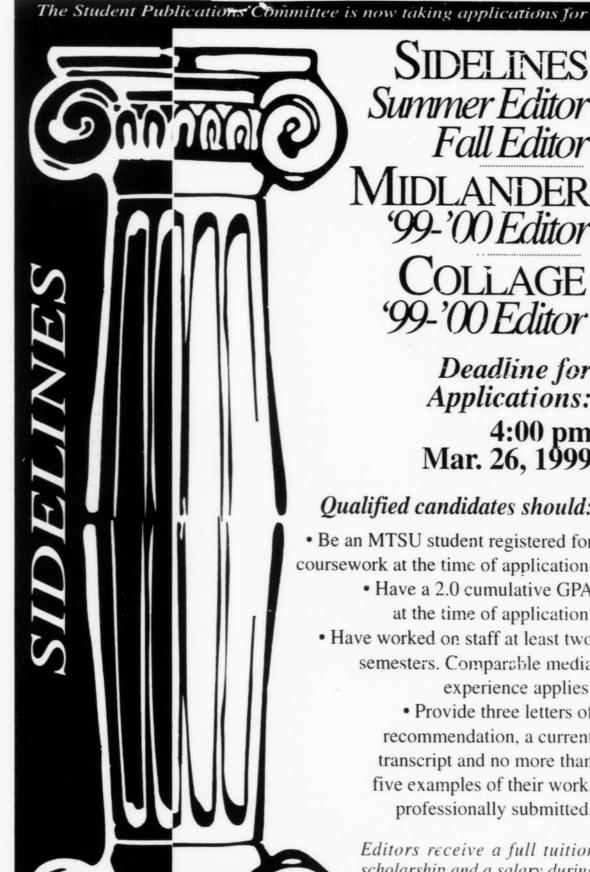
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DELINES Summer Editor Fall Editor MIDLANDER

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> Deadline for Applications: 4:00 pm Mar. 26, 1999

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- Be an MTSU student registered for coursework at the time of application.
 - Have a 2.0 cumulative GPA at the time of application.
 - Have worked on staff at least two semesters. Comparable media experience applies.
 - Provide three letters of recommendation, a current transcript and no more than five examples of their work, professionally submitted.

Editors receive a full tuition scholarship and a salary during their tenure. Applications may be picked up from the Student Publications Office, JUB 306, 8am-4:30pm, Mon-Fri.

Golfers spring back on track after break

Keith Ryan Cartwright Staff Reporter

Sometimes spring break is just what a college student needs to recharge his energy to get through the semester.

That may have been exactly what the Blue Raiders golf team needed after a dismal start to its spring schedule.

On the strength of Brett Alexander's best showing of the year, the Raiders finished the Alabama Spring Invitational tied for 12th place at 24 over par in the 18-team field, 30 strokes behind tournament champions University of Mississippi's 856stroke finish.

"This field has some of the best teams in the South," head coach Johnny Moore said.

However, the talk of the tournament was Alexander.

The junior from Richland, Mo., was the tournament leader after the first round with a 67. After finishing the fifth day under par, Alexander carded a 72 and 75 in the final two rounds to finish the tournament tied for seventh place, just four strokes off the

The University of Tennessee's Andrew Black won the individual tournament six under par at 210.

It's the second time Alexander has carded a 67-stroke round this spring. It was also the first tournament this year, the fall and spring combined, in which the Raiders came out strong as opposed to having the daunting task of rebounding from the bottom of the field in final two

o u n d s Steve Ressler, a senior from London, Ky., finished tied for 52nd with a 224 tournament total. Ressler had a consistent tournament, shooting a two over par in rounds one and three and carded a four over par in round

Junior Richard Spangler finished tied for 69th place at one over. The Hixson native was as consistent as Ressler, carding two 76-stroke rounds and a 75. Unfortunately, the Raiders underclassmen J.R. Wade and Stuart Pate finished near the bottom of the field at 19 and 25 over par respectively.

The Raiders hope to parlay their improved play even more beginning Friday when they take part in the Southern Junior/Senior Invitational in Dadeville, Al. The 54-hole, threeday event hosted by Central Alabama Community College will take place at the Still Waters Resort.

UAB blazes MTSU

Staff Reports

The MTSU baseball team dropped its 12th game of the year Tuesday against the Blazers of Alabama-Birmingham.

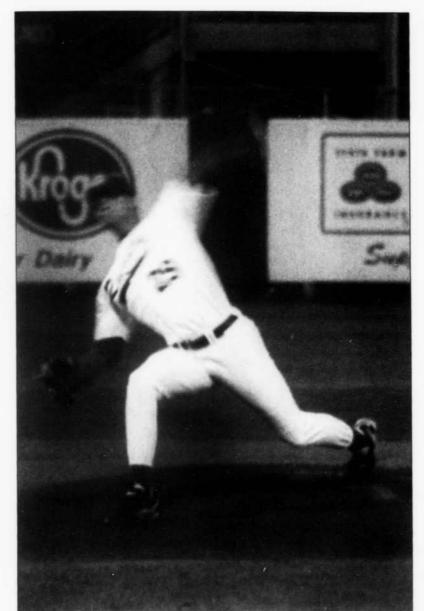
Kris Lammers started on the hill for the Raiders, unfortunately he was ripped for five runs in four and two-thirds innings. Against the Blazers, MTSU's problem was not in the hitting. MTSU scored seven runs off of nine hits, but only two of the runs were earned. UAB committed three errors in the

The Blazers third and fourth hitters lit the Raiders up for four hits on eight official at bats. Dan Dement and David Owen took two of those hits over the outfield wall. The two combined for five RBI's out of UAB's eight.

Wayne Chinapen was two for five with two RBI's. The Raiders were nine of 37. UAB went 10 of 41 from the plate.

Kyle Sparkman took the mound for MTSU in the fifth inning and surrendered two runs in two innings of work. He was then relieved by Steven Kines who pitched over two scoreless

MTSU's next game is March 27 against UT-Martin at Martin. MTSU will then take on the Tigers on the 30th at 7 at home.



Staff photo Maiko Takasu Southpaw Kris Lammers and the rest of the Blue Raiders dropped to 7-12 on the year after the 10-7 loss to UAB Tuesday.

Raiders invade Stratsville to start football season

Staff Reports

The Blue Raiders want you to catch the game and make it to church the next day.

Middle Tennessee's athletic director Lee Fowler has announced the game times for the football season. The Raiders' five home games will all have a 6 p.m. kickoff.

"We decided to stay with the six o'clock starts because of the great response we received from families, boosters and businesses," Fowler said. "We feel it gives everyone a better opportunity to get to our games, and it puts the fans home at a reasonable time so they can get up and go to church the next morning."

The Blue Raiders' first 1-A season will begin on Sept. 4 at 1998 SEC West Division Champion Mississippi State. The contest is slated for 6:00. MTSU's first home game of 1999 is scheduled for Sept. 10 against Wofford. ■

MTSU BLUE RAIDER 1999 1-A FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Nov. 20	East Tennessee	6pm
Nov. 13	Central Florida	6pm
Nov. 6	Tennessee-Martin	6pm
Oct. 30	@ Northeast Louisiana	2pm
Oct. 16	@ Louisiana Tech	3pm
Oct. 9	@ Arkansas	6pm
Oct. 2	Troy State (HC)	6pm
Sept. 25	@ Southwestern	7pm
Sept. 18	Wofford	6pm
Sept. 11	@ Arizona	9pm
Sept. 4	@ Mississippi State	6pm

James Pilcher Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) - The rims at Big Oak Park are thicker and 2 inches higher than normal, and jumpers from the corner are often blocked by a low-hanging pine tree that is always considered in play.

The aging concrete slab has no out-of-bounds lines, free throw lines or 3-point lines and it's full of cracks that make life difficult for ballhandlers. And if you can avoid all of those obstacles, you'll still have to contend with defenders who pound anyone who takes it to

UConn's Moore, Duke's Avery got start at same humble playground

This is where Ricky

Moore and William Avery learned the skills that propelled them to a state title at nearby Westside High and college stardom. Now, the one-time teammates and neighbors are on opposite sides of the Final Four, one game away from playing each other for the NCAA championship.

"Most of the time if you were just an ordinary player and you didn't know many people out there and if you lost, you'd probably go home, because there was no chance that you'd get back on the court," said Moore who will start at shooting guard for Connecticut Saturday against Ohio State. "You had guys coming from all over

Augusta to play at Big Oak." Avery, who lives down the street from Moore, runs the point for Duke, which plays Michigan State and is favored to win the tournament.

If Duke and UConn both record and the 1995 Class AAA advance to Monday's final, Avery and Moore would be facing each other in an organized game for the first

Avery said that even at Big Oak, he and Moore would rarely guard each other - although their one-on-one battles after practice are legendary at Westside.

'We're real good friends, but we've never competed against each other - not even on the playground have we been on opposite teams," Avery said. "It would be different. We know each other so well, each of us would probably be able to stop each other right away because we know what the other one is going to do.

Avery is generally thought to be the better outside shooter. As a sophomore, he patrolled the perimeter for Westside while Moore did most of the penetrating - the duo combined to lead the Patriots to a 33-1

state title.

Avery honed his stroke at Big Oak, not the most friendly shooter's court, with the low branches and the high, stiff rims - adjusted to discourage damaging dunks.

Things are even tougher inside during brutal games of "21." No one calls fouls, meaning you score or you lose the ball, no matter how hard you get hit.

This is where Moore learned his slashing style, and his trademark defense. Former coach Ken Wright said Moore probably developed his quickness trying to get out of the way of older brother Otis. who played tight end at Clemson.

"Ricky was probably the best all-around ballplayer I've ever coached, and William was probably the best offensive player I've ever seen," said Wright, who now coaches in Gatlinburg, Tenn. "There was no

way to stop them both. And they both worked so hard, that they pushed each other."

Wright remembers Moore getting up at 5 a.m. to hold his own individual workout before school, then "playing like it was a game in practice."

"Then, since he had a single mom, he would go out and work a part-time job after practice," Wright said.

Avery, who went to prep school for his senior year to prepare himself academically for Duke, worked just as hard.

"I remember catching him out at 11 one night, well past curfew," Wright said. "He was out on the court, working on his

Predators storm Lightning with 3-0 win their way to Murfreesboro

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) - The only spark the Tampa Bay Lightning had came after the game.

Tampa Bay coach Jacques Demers spent 45 minutes following Wednesday night's 3-0 loss to the Nashville Predators having his players watch the first two periods on videotape while in full gear.

What they saw wasn't pretty as Greg Johnson had a goal and two assists and Mike Dunham stopped 27 shots.

Demers, who could be heard velling in the locker room, was much calmer when he met with the media one hour after the game's conclusion.

"When we made the commitment to youth, you know

some nights you're going to have battles with kids," Demers said. "We're going to let them know when we're not happy and we're going to let them when we're happy. Maturity, growing, understanding what they have to do to win."

Johnson assisted on two firstperiod goals and scored a thirdperiod goal during a partial breakaway.

Dunham earned his first shutout this season and fourth of his career. The shutout was the second for the expansion Predators, who beat Phoenix 2-0 on Jan. 15 behind Tomas

"It was a tough game to get into," said Dunham about a very quiet announced crowd of 11,985. "It was very quiet. It was

like an exhibition game."

Sergei Krivokrasov and Patrick Cote scored 1:26 apart in the first period as the Predators took a 2-0 lead.

"We limited their chances and tried to shut them down ... and it worked," Dunham said. "We played one of our better games defensively."

Demers coached his 995th game to move into a fifth-place tie with Mike Keenan on the all-time games coached list. Only Scotty Bowman (1,884), Al Arbour (1,606), Dick Irvin (1,442) and Bill Reay (1,102) have coached in more NHL games.

Krivokrasov recorded his teambest 23rd goal after faking Lightning goalie Corey Schwab out of position and scoring on a backhander at 6:58. Cote scored

his first NHL goal - coming in his 67th game — on a backhand rebound at 8:24.

"We should be playing hard all the time," Lightning center Chris Gratton said. "For whatever reason, we didn't."

Johnson made it 3-0 at 2:07 of the third period on his 16th goal.

The Lightning are 0-26-1 when trailing after one period and 1-38-3 when behind after 40 minutes. Nashville has gone 5-5-1 in its last 11 road games.

Lightning defenseman Petr Svoboda sprained his left knee and was classified on the injury list as day to day.

Harlem Globetrotters dribble

Michael Edwards Staff Reporter

You first saw them on "Scooby Doo." Now you can see them in person.

At one time, they were a real basketball team that played in a real basketball league. Last year they played their 20,000th game on ESPN.

Who is this, you ask? They are the Clown Princes of Basketball - the Harlem Globetrotters.

The Globetrotters come to town April 5, the only time they will come to Murfreesboro this year. If it's been a while since you went to see the Trotters, you may be surprised by their

The perennial doormat for the

team has been the Washington Generals. However, they have retired from the loss column and passed the torch to the new team, the New York Nationals.

Almost everybody has seen or heard of the Globetrotters. However, if you have not seen these players, now is the best

Ticket prices range from \$12 to \$25. The \$25 seats are the VIP seats, but can be purchased by the general public. However, you can buy a discounted ticket if you are an MTSU student, senior citizen, under 12 or part of a group of 20 or more.

Tickets can be purchased at the Murphy Center box office, Kroger or Profitt's.



Left: Near Monohans, Texas, we spent our second night on the road enroute to the Rio Grande in sand dunes.

Bottom: WT, Huck and Jennifer look at the map, configuring how much farther we have to go.

RIO GRANDE

continued from page 8

riverbanks clean.

Cooking was actually a pleasure. I found out that you don't have to eat only trail mix and cold hot dogs. Since Chuck and I were paired up with professional campers (WT and Teri), we ate well. Pancakes, biscuits, eggs and bagels for breakfast, spaghetti, burritos, chili, rice and black beans for dinner... yes, we ate well. We needed the

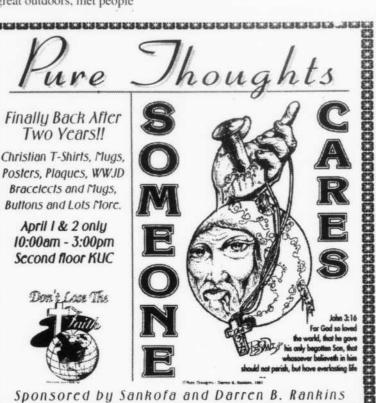
Panama City could not have compared to the adventure I had on the Texas-Mexico border. A lot happened in one week: I spent six days in the desert, saw animals I'd never seen before, canoed 90 miles for the first time, learned to cook in the great outdoors, met people

completely unlike me, washed my hair in a natural hot spring, watched the sun rise and set over 500 ft canyons, listened to coyotes howl at night, woke up to the sound of rushing water, and fell asleep to the

sound of the wind — plus I saw a side of myself I never knew existed. I've been camping many times, hiked many trails, but have never lived a week outside civilization. I may use computers, drive my truck everywhere, watch TV at night and use my microwave to cook, but I can live simply.

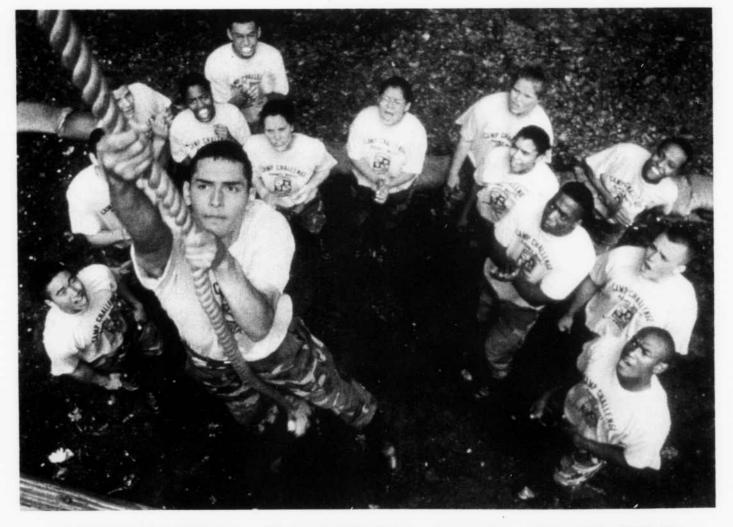
In fact, I enjoy it.







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FEATURES

SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

Diary of a river rat:

Campus Recreation canoes the Rio Grande



Jennie Treadway Staff Reporter

had never been so dirty in my life. My naturally curly hair went straight. My silken skin dried to a barren layer of filth. My lips went from moist to parched.

But it was worth it.

The Spring Break Rio Grande canoe trip, sponsored and chauffeured by Campus Recreation, was a lesson in canoe technique, water rescue, teamwork, frienship and living simply. It was a week of challenge, exploration and adventure. And, boy, are my arms exhausted.

Three vans pulled out of the Rec Center parking lot at 3 p.m. on Friday ready for 10 days of travel. Led by Intramurals Director Wayne "WT" Taylor, his wife Teri, and graduate assistants John Huck, Mitch Hoffman, and Sean Hager, the group of 30-some students were packed and eager to escape college, Murfreesboro and the comforts of home. We would soon be in the hands of nature.

There were two Big Bend trips to choose from, both on the Rio Grande. For those just starting a canoeing career or in the mood for a lighter vacation, you could go on the 40-mile ride in the Colorado Canyons. If you were more experienced or were looking for a longer river ride, you could choose the 90-mile trip down the Lower Canyons.

I, and 19 others, chose the longer.
The road trip down to the TexasMexico border was an adventure in
itself. We spent a rainy first night at
a campsite near Arkadelphia,
Arkansas, where a lot of the group,
including myself, slept in the vans.
As soon as the sun rose, we were on
the road — river bound.

After a full day on the road, we spent Saturday night in a park near Monohans, Texas. Surrounded by tall sand dunes and a clear starry night, we slept outside in our down sleeping bags blanketed by the Big Dipper, Orion and the North Star. (Tennessee must have its own night sky because it doesn't have half the stars Texas does.)

By sunrise, the 40- and 90-milers went separate ways en route to the desert.

By mid-afternoon on Sunday, I had a paddle in my hand and was making my way down the first of 90 miles on the Rio Grande. On the left side was Texas; on the right, Mexico. We'd already seen a road runner race by and our feet were muddy from loading our canoes. It soon became obvious who was a novice, who was an intermediate and who had run the river before. Most of us needed a lesson on how to hold a paddle and what to do if you tip

Life-jacketed and hydrated, the 85-degree weather was barely noticeable, since there is no humidity in the desert. Plus the coolness of the water instantly comforted our sunburning bodies. The sky was a deep blue -- bluer than a Crayola crayon, bluer than I'd ever seen before.

My lungs tingled as I breathed in, never having inhaled purer oxygen. We'd left civilization behind, along with our busy lives, and now we were at the mercy of the river and all the surprises it had in store.

The paddle felt awkward in my hand, having only canoed the Stones River. I'd been rafting before, as had



WT and Teri Taylor run Class III rapid "Rodeo" with much success. The front person always gets the big splash.

Photos by Jennie Treadway

others, but a canoe was different, especially one filled with the clothes, food and other essentials I needed for that week. My canoe partner, Chuck, also my fiance, had about as much experience as I. Yes, I was concerned.

It seemed to take an act of God to get our canoe to go straight. Put two stubborn people in canoe and that's what happens. Chuck was the "driver," i.e., in the rear. I was in the front, the "motor," and in charge of yelling, "ROCK ON RIGHT, GO LEFT!" I was also able to see the rapids first hand, able to jump bail and leave my driver motorless.

The rapids we ran were rated from a mere trickle to Class III, those named "Rodeo," "Panther," "San Fransisco," and "Sanderson." I'd heard stories of these rapids during the ride down, mainly told by Lisa King, a public relations major and veteran of a previous Rio Grande trip. "Rodeo," she said, was the best. She put the fear in me.

It took a few days of little rapids and lots of technique practice to get enough confidence to run anything above a Class I. I consider myself to be in shape, but my upper body was numb by the end of the first full day of canoeing.

WT taught us how to "draw,"
"pry," "cross-bow draw," and how
to sit on your knees (to lower your
center of gravity) when going down
a big rapid. It was all foreign
language to me.

language to me.
I'm sure other canoers (I wouldn't have called us that before this trip) felt as nervous as I did. The tension grew when WT and Huck taught the "how to avoid drowning" lesson. We all wore life jackets the

Before long, we ignored the pain in our shoulders and arms, lathered on the sunscreen and enjoyed the scenery. By day three, we were between some of the tallest canyons along the river. Somehow, we overlooked the knats and creepy crawlers and took pleasure in the site of wild mustangs, burros and cows grazing along the river side. Hawks and vultures hovered over the canyons while turtles sunbathed on the rocks along the bank. The sun was blazing everyday, which made for spectacular sunrises and sunsets.

Aside from the rapids and scenery, we had the opportunity to explore natural hot springs. The water pours out of the side of the



Left to right: John Huck, Billy Lee, W.T. Taylor, Lisa King, Russell Stephens, Vincent Dhalluin, Mike Davis, Chuck Miller, Kipp Cavalier, Luke Waack, Dain Copeland, John Erickson, Jennifer Phelps, Mark White, Leslie Ashby, Stacey Zbiegien, Christine Galle, Matthew "Bulldog" Lanphere, Jennie Treadway.



Luke Waack and Dain Copeland relax in a natural hot spring.

mountain and turns into puddles behind a flood of reeds next to the river. It was our chance to semiclean ourselves and restore our water supply (purified by iodine and pH tablets).

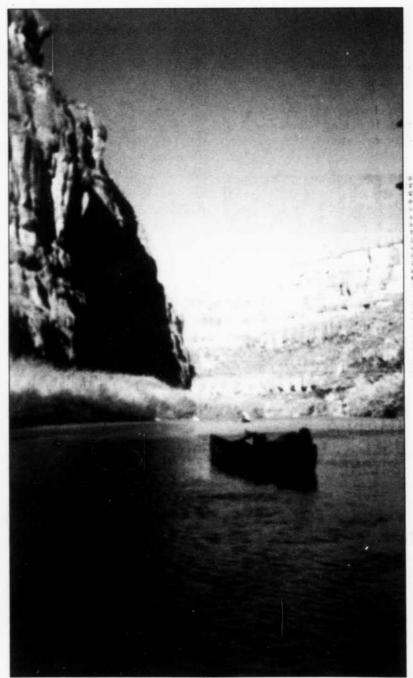
What was probably the most difficult mission of the whole adventure was perfecting the art of communication with my canoe partner, which seemed to be an issue with other canoers. For example, Stacey Zbegien, a computer information systems major and comic of the group, was paired up with french exchange student Vincent Dhalluin, otherwise known as "the Frenchman." The comic relief overflowed from the bows of their canoe -- "NO, Vincent, your

OTHER left!" -- we all knew there was a slight language barrier that might have made maneuvering rapids a bit tougher.

Then there was John Erickson, a criminal justice major, and biology major Luke Waack, who tipped their canoe three times, yet never quarreled about it.

Chuck and I, on the other hand, didn't exactly flip the boat When when we brushed up against a boulder at the bottom of the rapid and got stuck, I freaked out, jumped out and left Chuck to steer a canoe full of water. He wasn't thrilled with my graceful escape tactic, so I stayed in the boat the rest of the week.

Communicating with your paddle partner was essential if you wanted



Often the group got separated along the river. In order to stay together, the lead canoers would stop and rest, waiting for others to catch. Here, Mike Davis and Billy Lee snooze in the canyon shadows.

to get through a rapid with dry clothes. Because every Campus Rec trip errs on the side of safety, we would dock our boats before the bigger rapids and scout it as a group. We'd then discuss our plan of attack—who's on left, who's on right, how will the driver steer and will the front person draw or cross-bow draw...etc. We had to be completely clear on our runs in order to be successful. However, even with an ideal plan to run a Class III rapid, the water can be too overpowering and the canoe will tip.

Canoeing wasn't the only perk of

this trip. Camping every night led the group to learn survival skills, how to cook with limited supplies and the proper etiquette for waste disposal — and I don't mean trash. Yes, we had a toliet, if you want to call it that. The basics of wilderness skills include leaving nature in better shape than when you found it. We brought along a cooler contraption — a Gatorade cooler with a bag inside filled with lime sand and a toliet seat placed on top. (It wasn't as bad as it sounds.) Needless to say, we left the

See RIO GRANDE, page 9

King fixes things, too

Vila and Tim "the Toolman" Taylor have in common? Do you know? If you really think about it, you can figure it out. They all fix things.

By now the entire sports world knows about the occurrences that happened Saturday March 13. For those of you are not informed, Lennox Lewis and Evander Holyfield fought a 12 round bout that ended in a highly controversial draw. The fight would have unified the three heavyweight titles for the first time since Riddick Bowe did it in the early 90's. Holyfield owned two of the titles while Lewis owned just one.

Don King is the most highly recognizable figure in all of professional boxing. The man has promoted some of the biggest fights in the world, including the first Tyson-Holyfield fight. That was a fight Tyson lost due to a technical knockout. It was his first major fight since his release from jail. Tyson lost but the public, King and Tyson all wanted to see a rematch of this fight. King, thinking of his wallet, responded by letting the two fight again. The next fight, however, would be the first sign of how low Don King will stoop to make a buck. Tyson was getting beat in the early rounds and bit Holyfield on the ear, not once but twice. The second time he bit it off.

Although there have been no facts that confirm or deny the following accusation, it is very possible. Don King told Mike Tyson that if he felt like he would not win the fight to get disqualified, so that the two men. This time the two fighters

That do Don King, Bob fighters could fight once again. will receive a mere \$15 million Unfortunately for King, Tyson did not think of how he would be disqualified or the consequences of his actions. Tyson was banned from boxing for a year and then re-evaluated. That threw a monkey wrench into King's rematch.

> The second piece of evidence involves the Lewis-Holyfield fight. I don't think that either of the fighters had anything to do with the fixing, but I do believe that one of the judges did. I did not watch the fight live do to the \$54.95 price tag, but I did see it on HBO when I returned to MTSU. I am a boxing fan, and an Evander Holyfield fan, but I watched and scored the fight myself and I had Lennox Lewis winning 115-113. The South African judge scored it in favor of Lewis 117-111, the English judge scored it 115-115, and the American judge scored it 115-113 in favor of Holyfield.

This is a travesty to boxing. Lewis dominated the fight and should have one, but one of the judges did not see it that way. Everyone is hurt by this. Everyone except for Don King, that is. It is unknown how much he actually pocketed in for that fight, but rumors are close to \$50 million dollars. In my opinion, King fixed the fight. The female judge from New Jersey made excuses about why she ruled in favor of Holyfield. One of them was that Lewis had his back to her; however, after reviewing the fight it is obvious that he moved Evander all around the ring.

Don King has scheduled another fight between the two

apiece. King will again take his usual \$40-50 million.

heavyweight The championship of the world is one of the most recognizable and coveted titles in all of sports. People remember decades and times by who was the heavyweight champion.

Now because of people like Don King and Mike Tyson the sport has an ugly shiner. For one time I hope that King can keep his greedy motives out of the ring and let the fighters wear the black eyes and not the sport. Boxing was, at a time, one of the most legitimate sports, now you can put it in the same pile with professional wrestling and roller derby.

Many of todays fighters are legitimate. Some of them include Oscar "The Golden Boy" De La Hoya and Roy Jones, Jr, and, yes, Evander Holyfield and Lennox Lewis. Unfortunately, until people like Don King are barred from the sport, boxing will never reach its full potential.

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Defending champions looking to 1999 encore

Duncan Mansfield Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) -The Tennessee Volunteers have returned to Earth after their 1998 national championship season.

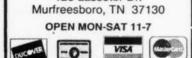
After a 13-0 run, a second straight Southeastern Conference crown and the school's first national football title since 1951, what do you do for an encore?

"The first answer is you beat wyoming, offensive coordinator Randy Sanders said without blinking Wednesday, pointing to the first opponent on the 1999 schedule some six months away.

On Thursday, the Vols open 15 days of spring drills with Wyoming and 10 other regular season opponents in mind.



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The celebration from their 23-16 victory over Florida State in the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 4 ended long "Coach (Phillip) Fulmer gave us

about a week or two off," quarterback Tee Martin said. "Then we came back in, having to lift weights and start all over again. So it kind of ended for us right there."

Not that the Vols, who defied expectations last season, aren't ready to move on.

"I still think we got a lot to prove," Martin said. "The fight is just beginning now. Because we won a national championship, our expectations are higher going into the spring and into the next season."

Fulmer likes his team's attitude. They are "pleased with what we have accomplished, but not satisfied," he said.

The Vols have some big holes to See ENCORE, page 12



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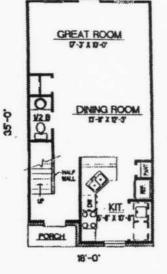
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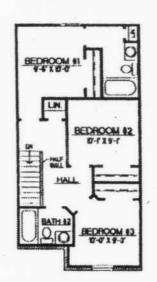
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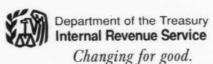
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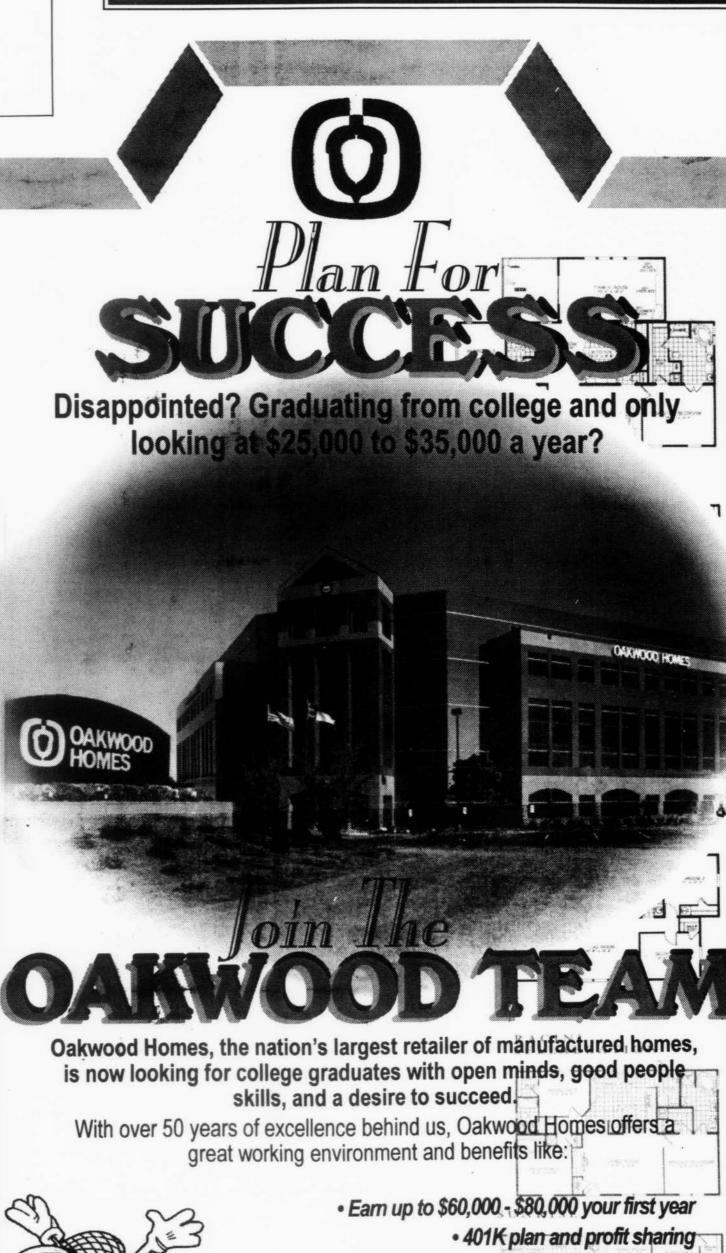
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