

# MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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P.O. Box 42 Murfreesboro, TN, 37132

## Special election sparks frustration

### Election date makes voting difficult for some students

AIMEE TRIGGS  
News Editor

Students who attend classes at night or on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays exclusively will have difficulty voting in a special election to be held this Thursday.

"I think we should have two voting days," said Frances Adams, an Adult Services Center student worker. Adult Services does not have a current director.

"All students should be given an opportunity to vote," she added.

This special election will be voting on the controversial issue of raising GPA standards for SGA officers from 2.0 to 2.5.

Election Commissioner Don Gandy, who approved the referendum, says he does not think students will have any difficulty voting in the one-day election.

"I'm looking for about 2,000 [students] to vote for this referendum," Gandy said.

"Last year's turnout was between 1,200 and 1,300 votes," he added.

Questions concerning the integrity of the special election have been raised by Ray Lentz, Speaker of the House.

"The reason why they [SGA] are pushing the referendum on Feb. 25 is because they want to change the qualifications of the candidates who are seeking office before March 1. The reason is very simple, if the election happens during the month of March, those candidates who are seeking office would be under the old constitution guidelines of 2.0 [GPA] rather than the new one of 2.5," Lentz said.

"If the students want to have a special election, then I'm all for it. I just want to make sure it is done the right way," he added.

Gandy says he feels that no wrongdoing will occur in the upcoming referendum vote and said the cost of the special election was a contributing

See VOTING, Second Front

### SGA officers shift blame

AIMEE TRIGGS  
News Editor

All campus elections this year are being organized by a single student appointee, due to an oversight which has student leaders pointing fingers at one another.

The Student Government Association is responsible for appointing a six-member Election Commission each year

'If I had to guess, Toby [Gilley, SGA president] knew about it, but chose not to mention it to me.'

—Ray Lentz  
SGA Speaker of the House

to establish dates and polling places for campus elections. No commission was appointed this year, leaving all election decisions to Election Commissioner Don Gandy.

Although the SGA constitution does not require a commission to be appointed, it is recommended.

"This is a rule that was

overlooked last semester, not only by me, but by all members of the SGA, including the SGA president," said Ray Lentz, Speaker of the House.

"If I had to guess, Toby [Gilley, SGA president] knew about it, but chose not to mention it to me," he added.

Gilley said the responsibility for appointing the Election Commission rests solely with Lentz, as Speaker of

Gandy.

Larry Beatty, speaker of the Senate, said he did not know why a Commission had not been appointed by the House.

"I don't know if they might have purposely not told Ray, as far as if there were ulterior motives, I couldn't tell you," Beatty said.

Election Commission appointments did not occur during any later meetings, according to SGA meeting minutes.

"The Comprehensive Electoral Act [of SGA] calls for an Election Commission made up of six people to be chosen by the House of Representatives during the second meeting of the semester," said Paul Cantrell, Dean of Students and SGA advisor.

"I am not able to say that it was done at this point," he added.

The Election Commissioner was appointed by SGA President, Toby Gilley.

"I appointed him [Gandy] See SHIFT, Second Front



Carl Lambert / Photographer

**WRECK, BIG WRECK:** MTSU students Rachel Singer and Buck Springer stand aside as Murfreesboro Police Officer Charlie Goodloe checks to see if Ray Duffy is OK after a wreck which occurred last night at the intersection of Bell and Tennessee Streets.

## Mass Comm offers to help radio station

AMY SUTTON  
Special to Sidelines  
and  
KAY KINGSLEY  
News Editor

MTSU's first student-operated radio station, received less than four percent of funds requested from the Student Government Association, so WMOT and the Radio-TV/Photography Department are helping the station with operations.

"We only got \$530 from the SGA," said Mary Nichols, WNAR advisor and Radio/TV instructor. "A lot of organizations got a lot more than we did, and we offer continuous student activity

over the weekend."

WNAR has requested a radio frequency from the Federal Communications Commission. They are currently broadcasting on the on-campus channel 38.

"We don't think that we have student government support," Nichols said. "But the only way we're going to get it is with student support."

Paul Sicard, WNAR program director, transferred to MTSU from a state college in Massachusetts where he worked in college radio for two years. He said he was surprised that a university the size of MTSU does not already have a student-

See RADIO, Second Front



# NEWS BRIEFS

## New stamp honors black scientist

A new 29-cent postage stamp honoring black scientist Percy Julian was introduced at a ceremony at Roosevelt University in Chicago. The stamp, the 16th in the U.S. Postal Service's Black Heritage Series, was released in honor of February's Black History Month.

Julian, who was the grandson of a slave, rose to become a foremost American scientist who held over 100 patents and

published more than 200 scientific articles.

He received his master's degree from Harvard University, a doctorate from the University of Vienna, and was a trustee for six colleges and universities.

According to the U.S. Postal Service, "Percy Lavon Julian (1899-1975) was a distinguished scientist and chemical researcher. His synthesis of cortisone for arthritis, a drug for glaucoma and synthesis

of progesterone won acclaim. In 1990, Julian was inducted into the prestigious National Inventors Hall of Fame."

"Elvis Presley is fine for a stamp, but I feel scientists and educators also should be considered," said fellow chemist David Paitak, a Northern Illinois University chemistry professor who lobbied the postal service to make the stamp in honor of Julian.

## Instructor dismissed over complaint

A business law instructor at Northern Michigan University was asked not to teach the winter semester after a student complained that he let his class out early.

Willard Martin, who taught a class scheduled from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., usually finished presenting his

material by 8 p.m. and dismissed the students. A student filed a complaint to the Management and Marketing Department, The North Wind reported.

"There are many times when the class time is longer than the material needs to be taught," Martin told the

campus newspaper.

A petition to support Martin was signed by 90 percent of his class and given to the administration, but the firing was upheld. Officials wouldn't comment, the paper reported.

NEWS BRIEFS ARE FROM THE COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

# CAMPUS CAPSULE

## TODAY

**Honors Lecture Series** will have Jacquelyn Jackson, English, to discuss "A Search for Freedom: Feminist Resistance of Patriarchal Authority" from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in PH 107.

**Students for Environmental Action** will meet at 8 p.m. in KUC 305. For more information call Andy, 895-5384.

**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority** will have a display in the bottom of the KUC. Tonight is the night for Jones Award and Comedy Night starting at 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. then the Graffiti Party will be from 10 p.m. until 1 a.m.

## TUESDAY

Captain Craig Williams from the Navy Blue Angels will be coming to Smyrna Airport from noon to 2 p.m. for a display of the C 130 aircraft (Fat Albert). Free and open to the public.

**SGA House Session** will have a special meeting to form an election commission from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. in KUC 324. This is a mandatory meeting for all House members. For more information, call Ray Lentz at 898-2870.

## WEDNESDAY

**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority** will be sponsoring a Sickle Cell testing from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the KUC. The male review will be from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m. at the Days Inn and the party will be from 10 p.m. until 3 a.m.

**Student Publications Committee** will meet at 3 p.m. in KUC 212. For more information call Cheryl Lewis ext. 2654.

## THURSDAY

**SGA House Session** will meet at 6:30 p.m. in KUC 322. Attendance is mandatory for all house and representative members.

**Tennessee Association of Political Science Students** will

meet at 6:30 p.m. at O'Charley's Lounge. For more information call Scott Mitchell, 848-0769.

MTSU Music Department and the Honors Program present **Nancy Boone and the Women's Chorale in Concert: A Celebration of the Human Voice in Search of Love and Freedom** from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. in PH 109A.

## FRIDAY

**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority** will have bowling night at Murfreesboro Bowling Lanes starting at 10 p.m.

## ONGOING

Weekly College Worship sponsored by **Presbyterian Student Fellowship** every Wednesday, 9-10 p.m. at PSF house across from Alumni Gym.

**Fellowship of Christian Athletes** meets every Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. in the Blue Raider Room, underneath the home side of the football stadium. Everyone is welcome. For more information call ext. 1470 or 3234.

**InterVarsity Christian Fellowship** will consist of Bible Study on Thursdays at 6 p.m. in KUC 314. Prayer on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. in Rutledge and in the Mass Comm on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. For more information call Michael Moore, 898-4722 or Paul Hood, 849-9663.

**Student Catholic Center** will have Mass every Sunday at 7 p.m. located across from the Villager Apt. on W.Tenn. Blvd. Check the sign in front yard for weekly events. For more information call Brett Beauregard, 896-5752 or Mike Pablo, 896-5074.

Students from Europe hope to spend one month in Tennessee. NACEL needs host families from mid-July to mid-August. NACEL provides medical coverage and the students have their own pocket money. For more information contact NACEL local representative: Rita Maisonneuve, Box 482, ext. 2284.

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# Authentic Astrology

with Andromeda

## PISCES

(Feb 20 - Mar 20)

New interests may arise this week. You can expect some minor changes and quickly passing conditions in your life soon. You should either buy or receive an item of a very attractive nature which pleases you. Tension, irritation or disputes concerning romantic matters are possible this week if you are not careful.



**Aries** (Mar 21 - Apr 20) You can expect to hear from someone who is sick or in the hospital this week. You may receive a gift or an invitation from someone you love. There will be a lot of things going on in your home. Be careful not to hurt yourself while working around the house.

**Taurus** (Apr 21 - May 21) You can expect to meet a few strange people this week. Some of these people will become worthwhile friends, yet some will be unreliable. It is likely you will not hear from them again. You are likely to feel less inclined than usual to go out. You are probably looking for excitement this week.

**Gemini** (May 22 - Jun 21) Someone is going to enter your business sphere for a short while. This person may be a substitute, an advisor, or a temporary staff member. This is a good time to enjoy social activities, especially if women or artistic people are involved. Beware of financial losses which could be caused by a certain male associate.

**Cancer** (Jun 22 - Jul 22) This is a good time to expand your mind. You may begin to make plans to travel. You can expect to make new friends in the business world. You should be feeling more energetic than usual lately.

**Leo** (Jul 23 - Aug 23) You can expect to receive correspondence concerning financial matters. You can expect this information to be favorable. If you have a secret, you should be very careful to protect it this week. Someone may be trying to find out what's up.

**Virgo** (Aug 24 - Oct 23) You will be confused about what to do about certain business matters. If differences of opinion are causing problems in relationships, you should try very hard to work them out. Use your initiative to conquer any large obstacles you may face.

**Scorpio** (Oct 24 - Nov 22) You will be drawn to things which bring you pleasure. This is a good time to embark upon a creative venture, if you are careful to manage your time wisely. You can expect a balance to be established if you have been experiencing nervous problems. Be looking for business opportunities.

**Sagittarius** (Nov 23 - Dec 21) There will be many interesting distractions in your home this week. Luck will come to you through women, music, art and people you love. Your patience will be thin in regard to finishing projects.

**Capricorn** (Dec 22 - Jan 20) Be careful not to do too many things at one time. You will have trouble concentrating this week. This is a good time to indulge in social communication with your friends. Beware of cruel individuals who may try to influence you in a negative manner.

**Aquarius** (Jan 21 - Feb 19) You can expect correspondence concerning money matters. Certain events or circumstances could bring you mental pleasure. Work and employment matters will be rougher than usual. Tact and tolerance will be needed to avoid friction with another person.

For added accuracy, read the horoscope for your Rising Sign as well as your Sun Sign. For information concerning your Rising Sign, contact Catherine at 898-3409.





**TELL IT LIKE IT IS:** Dr. Bertice Berry discusses racial differences and similarities.

Kelley Hood/Photographer

## Perceived threat from radical fringe groups basis of hate crimes

### COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

Hate crimes generally are committed by members of radical fringe groups who are spurred more by a sense of loss of control over their own lives than any perceived threat posed by "outsiders," a Yale University study said.

Researchers from the university's Political Science and Psychology Departments are

The data gathered so far indicates that there is no correlation between economic hardship and an increase in hate crimes, results that conflict with conventional wisdom on the subject, said Donald Green, assistant professor of political science.

"In Germany, for example, many have made a link between the incidents of violence and the influx of foreigners into the country and the supposed eco-

though they involve no physical violence.

"These types of crimes are often not reported, and seldom prosecuted — they are usually deemed 'just a prank,'" Green said.

Gays and lesbians are frequent victims of assault, accounting for nearly half the violent bias incidents in North Carolina, one of the key research areas, the study said.

Certain regions tend to specialize in victims and crimes, but there is no correlation between these regions' economic standards and those of their neighbors.

"You get specialized, idiosyncratic hate in small groups," Green said. "One fringe group will have their list of outsiders who they especially despise, and also will have a criminal mode of operation which they prefer — such as graffiti or cross-burning."

Green said documentation on hate crimes in the United States has been difficult to obtain because no government agency maintained these kinds of figures. The Hate Crimes Statistics Act of 1990 called for all bias crimes to be documented with the federal government, but the information is filed on a voluntary basis. Only 13 states complied in 1991.

studying the causes of bias-motivated crimes, including factors such as economic hardship, types of crimes, the groups that are being victimized and the role of the Ku Klux Klan and other right-wing groups in these activities.

The study focused on 480 incidents against African Americans, Jews, gays and Asian Americans that took place between 1987 and 1991 in North Carolina, New Jersey, Arkansas and several states in the Northwest, as well as some municipalities.

economic hardship they bring," he said. "Yet there is nothing in our research that supports this theory. Times don't have to be hard for the violence to come to the surface. I think a far more important motivator is fear of outgroups, fear of loss of control, and the presence of easy targets to lash out against."

The most widespread form of hate crime is verbal abuse, although physical assaults are common. Events such as "Dress Like a Nigger Day" at a New Jersey college also can be classified as bias crimes, even

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## SIDELINES' CONSENSUS

### Disorganization a disservice

Once again infighting and disorganization among the Student Government Association "leaders" have caused problems for the student body they are supposed to be governing.

This Thursday's referendum is just another in a series of missteps by the SGA.

The problem with this one-day election is that it makes voting extremely difficult for students who attend classes at night or on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays.

This election is an important issue: a referendum on whether to require higher Grade Point Average's of our Student Government Association President and speakers of the House and Senate. Petitioners have said they feel the current 2.0 GPA is too low and should be raised to 2.5.

This is just one example of ongoing problems within student government. Recently, *Sidelines* learned that the government this year never appointed an Election Commission, a standard annual responsibility.

Without an Election Commission, all decisions concerning elections have been left to one student: Election Commissioner Don Gandy. Gandy was appointed to the job by SGA President Toby Gilley. When asked about the nonexistent commission, Gilley charged that Speaker of the House Ray Lentz was responsible for making sure the commission was appointed by the House of Representatives.

Lentz, when asked, said he knew nothing about the rule requiring an Election Commission. He also said he felt See **DISSERVICE**, Page Six

## SIDELINES

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### God didn't make homosexuals

To the Editor:

Once in a great while someone makes assumptions that are so far off-base that I feel compelled to point out the mistake. Such is the case with Donald J. Baer's letter in the February 15 issue of *Sidelines*.

Mr. Baer's belief that we are all created in God's image is well-founded, but that's where he breaks with logic. To say that "because He (God) created all life on the planet, therefore He must approve of homosexuals" is a grossly warped conclusion. Yes, God created us all in His image, but the concept of free will does enter the picture at some point.

According to Mr. Baer's conclusion, God would approve of murderers, rapists, and all other beings originally created in His image. Does that sound correct? I think not. These people all have one thing in common: They exercised their free will and became something other than the image of God. I think what Mr. Baer is confused about is the concept that God loves us all, even though he may not approve of our actions.

As for the assumption that God must be both heterosexual and homosexual, this is not only a demented conclusion but obviously an unresearched one at that. I believe that God is to be revered as the ever-present, ever-powerful being that He is, not some god

from Greek mythology who comes to earth and sleeps with whomever he finds appealing.

My suggestion to Mr. Baer is to find a church to attend and listen carefully to what is said. Also, read the Bible and do some study on homosexuality during biblical times. This will not make him a theologian, but I think that after doing that, Mr. Baer will find out what many people already know and believe. That is that homosexuality is not something smiled upon by God, but an abomination of something beautiful to be shared between a man and a woman. Some things can be interpreted only one way.

Deana M. Crawford  
P. O. Box D-476

### God not homosexual

To the Editor:

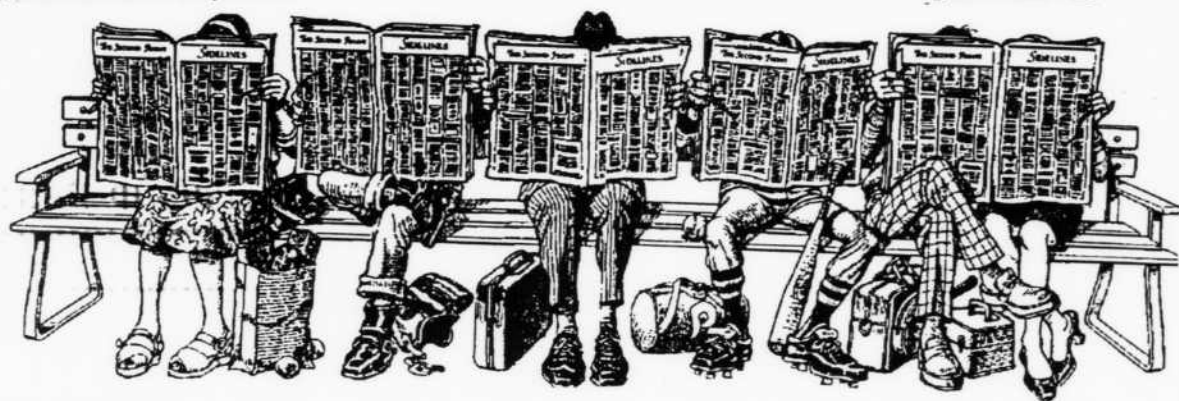
In response to Mr. Baer's letter concerning homosexuality, I would like to point out a flaw in his argument concerning the statement "We are all made in God's image." This statement I cannot argue as being incorrect. However, the context in which Mr. Baer uses this famous statement is where he stumbles into his less than flawless argument. You see, if we use this argument of "Being created in the image of God" we must pursue the idea a tad further. Of course we all are created in the image of God (from a Christian perspective). However, one must realize that being created in the

image of God gives us as mankind the opportunity to decide what we will and will not do. Mankind takes that choice and uses it to either glorify God or the flesh. Therefore, just because we are created in the image of God, and one **CHOOSES** to be homosexual, does not conclude that God himself is a homosexual.

Now, in response to all who are debating such a frivolous argument as homosexuality, let me make this point. I chose to be a Christian (very conservative, I might add) because I have that choice as an American. The same holds true for a homosexual. I am not condoning homosexuality in any way shape or form. However, I am concerned that when we start infringing on the rights of others to do as they please, we soon will begin to take away those rights that I hold dear. A homosexual, heterosexual, Catholic, Protestant, Jew black, Hispanic, etc. all have the same right as anyone else in this country. The issue is not moral, but constitutional. It is illegal for an employer to ask an applicant any question concerning his race, creed, sexual preference, origin, or similar questions. Therefore, it is only fitting that the U.S. Military (a government employer) not be allowed to ask such questions.

And finally, to those people calling themselves Christians who are being so hateful towards See **LETTERS**, Page Five





## Letters

Continued From Page Four

homosexuals: It is embarrassing that such people would carry the name of Christ along with hatred. Sure homosexuality is wrong in the sight of God, but so is adultery. Christ did not reject or hate the "Woman at the Well." He instead chose to love that person regardless of her sins. The same holds true for the "Prodigal Son." In my belief as a Christian, homosexuals will not inherit the "Kingdom of God."

However, I can only point the way to the sinner, pray for them and hope they chose the way of Christ. Christ wants no one to serve him because they have to. He only wants those who chose to serve him because they want to. Everyone has the same chance. So instead of cramming the Bible down someone's throat, try living an example that would maybe give the sinner a glimpse of hope about Christ and all that he has to offer.

Mark J. Gonyea  
Campus Box #3952

## Baer blasphemous

To the Editor:

Frankly, I hate seeing God publicly drug [sic] through the dirt by people who have perhaps only a passing interest in Him. I would just as soon abstain from contributing to the conversation, but I was particularly alarmed, as Mr. Baer so aptly foretold, by a statement he made in the Feb. 15 "Letters" section.

Attributing sexuality to God borders on (or more likely, strolls fully into) blasphemy. I will give Mr. Baer the benefit of the doubt and assume he said what he said out of ignorance - but the statement remains, and I think it is important to set the record straight. He is correct on one point: we humans are created in God's image. The proper, biblical context for this doctrine refers to our SPIRITUAL composition - and you don't have to be a Christian to believe in spirituality. God is spirit; therefore we possess a likeness of Him. However, Mr. Baer wanders into a theological nightmare with his conclusions based on this doctrine, and I don't have the space required to correct his horrendous sup-

positions, given the concise nature of an editorial letter.

Suffice it to say, we are all fallen, so our spiritual image of God is distorted at best. God singles out homosexuality on more than one occasion as a particularly disturbing manifestation of this fallen nature. And to respond to Mr. Baer: I certainly AM looking at all the parts of religion (Christian religion specifically, since I think that is what we are really talking about here), and one cannot condone homosexual activity on the basis of religion from ANY perspective. I certainly don't preach hate for homosexuals, and loving them as fellow human beings doesn't mean we have to condone their lifestyles. We should love alcoholics, AND work as hard as we can to prevent alcoholism, wouldn't you say?

Garrett A. Rockey  
P.O. Box 2824

## Celebrate Anglo-American heritage

To the Editor,

On Monday, Jan. 18, there was much joy among students (including myself) due to the fact that classes at M.T.S.U. did not meet. The occasion was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. I was not surprised to find out that that day was M.L.K. day because I had seen evidence that day was coming all over the announcement boards on campus. There were speeches, lectures, and services to honor this revolutionary man. Although Dr. King stood for justice for American blacks, his emotional speeches were provoking many people to commit violent acts. His was a policy of justice through peace, but it readied the public for a different sort of message, such as that of Malcolm X.

I think Dr. King was both a noble man and a great orator, but I do not think of him as one of the greatest men of American history. What he did for the black man was good, but is he really such a representative of the good in America that the wheels of commerce and education should stop spinning for an entire day in his honor, or is the white majority only compelled to honor

him for a day to avoid charges of racism?

On another Monday, Feb. 15 to be exact, I woke to a morning talk show and began to ready myself for classes. The radio show's host was talking about President's Day, and I was amazed when I looked at two of our country's greatest men. I had heard nothing at all about the day. Classes met as usual, and no one seemed the slightest bit interested in honoring the men who have led our great country and its proud fighting men through two of the largest wars this country has ever engaged in by following their hearts and doing what was best for America at the time, and for the future.

Is the late Dr. King of more importance to the students of M.T.S.U. and the general public than both George Washington, "the Father of our Country," and Abraham Lincoln, who gave the Emancipation Proclamation which freed American slaves in the first place? Or is it that we as white Americans generally take our white heritage for granted, whereas the black man respects and remembers his?

If we do not remember our white heritage as proudly as the black man remembers his, we will have no heritage to proudly pass on to our heirs. This will be a disgrace to all Anglo-Americans, as well as a disgrace to our ancestors who left their European homes in search of a better place, where they could scratch out a place for themselves in a land free from religious and political persecution.

I respect what Dr. King did for black Americans, but is he any more a representative of the honor, bravery, and boldness in Americans than these two white Presidents, Washington and Lincoln?

Thomas B. Andrews  
Campus Box #7267

## Conservatism, anti-American extreme

To the Editor:

The urge to respond to Daniel Shimasaki's conservative, partially on target, and at sometimes anal letter published in the February 11 edition of See LETTERS, Page Six

## VIEWPOINT

### Family Leave Bill too liberal, too conservative

JOHN CONKLIN  
Staff Columnist

According to Rush Limbaugh, my role model in producing this column, symbolism over substance will be a key phrase applicable to the Clinton administration. The Family Leave Act gives us our first example of this less than a month after Clinton's coronation.

This law specifically requires any company that has over 50 employees to give them 12 weeks of unpaid leave of absence to deal with family matters. It is most often associated with maternity leave situations, but does not exclude others. On the surface it sounds good, but when you look deeper, not as good as it seemed. It is kind of like the wanna-be hippies you see running around saying all they really want for Christmas is world peace. Sounds super, but... once again symbolism over substance.

First of all, this law does not affect as many companies as one might think. The article I saw stated that slightly over 10 percent of the businesses in America actually fall under the employee numbers category. Does this leave a loophole large enough to sail an aircraft carrier through or what? Smaller businesses, the other 90 percent, do not have to comply if they don't want to. Could it be that the smaller businesses cannot afford to lose your valuable work experience for 12 weeks? Isn't it fair to assume that you are as important to your company as the employee of the big company? Or that your experience working at IBM is not as important as that of the head waitress at Joe's Diner? You could argue for days on that one. Symbolism over substance.

Secondly, who in the heck can afford to take 12 weeks off without pay? I can ill afford to leave work a few hours early without having to pinch pennies till they cry. Twelve weeks without pay would put bankruptcy and I on a first-name basis. The average person is only two

paychecks away from bankruptcy. If the person on leave has a spouse who is continuing to work, great. The system works for them. But what if they don't?

What about a single mother wanting to take the time off for her maternity leave? It seems to me she would have four choices: A) seek help from her family, B) seek government assistance, C) hope she has enough saved to live on for 12 weeks, yeah, right, and D) forget the bulk of the leave and get back to work as soon as possible. Which do you think the average, prudent person would choose? I think I know.

If I am right, what good does the new law do her? And I thought this was the type of person the new administration was going to take pride in looking out for.

Symbolism over substance.

Finally, from a personal standpoint, I would hate to think my employer could get along without me for 12 weeks. Somebody might be able to do the job better than me. OK, OK. I know that last point is irrelevant, but it's my column and that's how I feel, so there.

Now go back to square one and you will see a new law full of more holes than a St. Valentine's Day massacre victim. We see another situation where the Democrats try to create the image that they are 'Doing it all' for the common man, when in reality, they ain't done diddley.

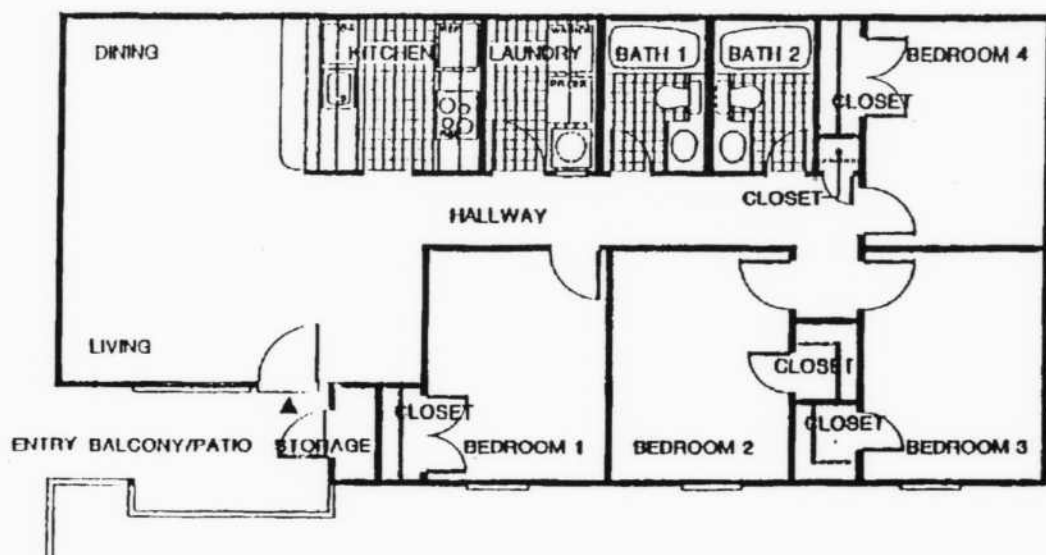
Do you remember the motorhead in high school? He had the 1972 dark green Chevy Nova with the big white stripes down the middle of the hood, and it had the big eight-cylinder engine and glass packed headers. That car sounded great and made a lot of noise, but you'd really have hated to pay the fuel bill for that mean machine because it really sucked the gas. Likewise, the new family leave act sounds great, makes a lot of noise and it sucks, too, but what it sucks ain't gas, baby.



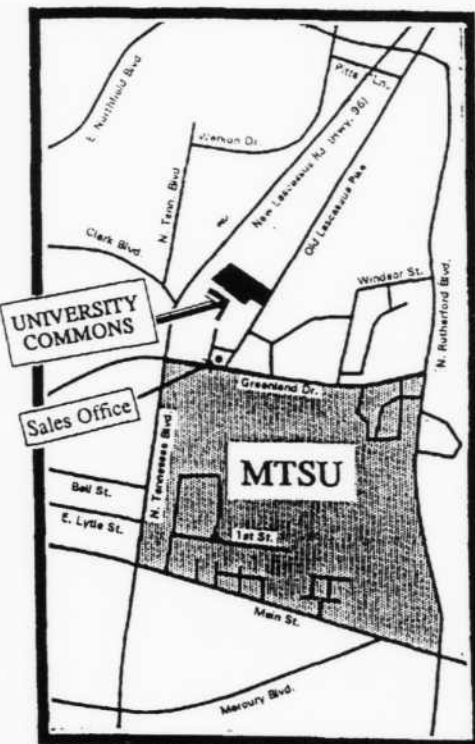
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## Letters

Continued From Page Five

*Sidelines* was just too tempting.

Ever since I began reading this editorial column, I have never seen so many people so extreme in their views of the world. I wonder if any given one of them gave a second thought to the idea that if their respective philosophies were brought into legal existence that the stability of this country would have the shelf life of the meat and fish at Food Lion. Not very long, but if you pretend everything is okay maybe no one will notice the pure stank.

Back to my point. To begin:

1) This is not a great country. The principles behind DEMOCRACY are great. This not a democracy. The rich keep the middle and lower class out of politics and even if they didn't, the average Billy Joe Jim Bob couldn't give a hoot 'n' a holler about government unless a beer, tobacco, or gas tax was asked of him. Ah yes, the truth is a medicine that stings the apathetic voter.

2) A socialized health care system would benefit this country's people. Now what the doctors and hospitals are doing to the American people is a lot more pornographic than a Mapplethorpe show. At least people in a Ron Jeremy picture have given permission for being exploited in the same manner.

3) Jesse Jackson's motives for political gain may be questionable but his political expression is not as idealistic as an American Dream which by the way does exist (in storybooks, fairylands, Tony Montana's, and Rush

Limbaugh). What we exist in is a Dream deferred.

4) Conservatism is an "Anti-America" extreme which does not allow free political thought. The seeds of conservatism and (corrupted capitalism's) destruction are sown in its white cloaks and cross burnings. Oops! Did I say that? For some reason I've been getting the Republicans and the KKK mixed lately. By golly, who can tell the difference anymore?

And as far as the tax money goes:

1) I don't like taxes going to pay for a police officer sitting on the side of the road giving speeding tickets.

2) Abortion is not a choice. The choice was made after a six-pack and some sweet nothings. Murder is not a viable option for carelessness but I'm not going to get into that "voting Clinton into office thing." Federal funding for abortion clinics is wrong. Condoms should be as easy to get as a copy of the *Sidelines*. But after reading some of these editorials, I strongly advocate birth control. I'd hate to see the offspring of some of these people.

"Rome fell;" America will fall eventually. History told you that much.

And as far as a Black Man supporting Ronald Reagan; I quote Chuck D: "I've got so much trouble on my mind... Sometimes a black is the devil grafted white too." No sell out.

I encourage responses.

Brian Miller  
P.O. Box B129

## Disservice

Continued From Page Four

Gilley knew about it and intentionally left him in the dark.

This is not the first instance of finger-pointing among SGA leaders. In recent weeks, disputes among our so-called "finest" have left the student body wondering how anything gets done. Or if it does.

Some amount of dislike and hostility can be expected within any organization, especially one where individuals do not choose their co-workers, such as an elected body.

However, learning to coexist

peacefully is one part of growing up, going to college, and preparing for professional life.

Who is responsible for these incidents is less important than who is willing to take responsibility and make sure they don't continue to happen.

There are still three months left in the semester, and many of the current political players are likely to be part of next year's student government.

Let's stop kicking sand on each other and learn to share our toys.

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**TACKLING THE WALL:** Freshman Chris Luttrell gets close to the wall, available to all students at the Alumni Memorial Gym. Workers are on hand to help novices scale the wall.

Photographs by Carl Lambert



## Extreme Close-up Man's encounter with THE WALL

RUSTY GERBMAN / STAFF WRITER

I'm not sure I can explain why. It could have been peer pressure, my fear of heights, my testosterone level or what have you. But whatever it was, I found myself in the gymnastics room of the Alumni Memorial Gym stepping into and strapping a harness around my waist, preparing for the climb of my life.

I was psyching myself to traverse MTSU's climbing wall for the first time after a brief introduction on "how to" by one of the student instructors.

Tim Reed is the man I'm entrusting my life with. Reed is the belayer and wears a harness as well. Connected to his harness is a belaying device, with which he controls the tension of the safety rope from the floor while I climb.

The rope runs to the ceiling through pulleys and back down to the floor to help secure a climber as he ascends. Reed controls the tension from one end of the rope while I'm connected to the other end. If I were to fall, Reed will be able to stop me within two to three feet from where I had been. At least that's what they told me. I just tried not to think about the "F" word.

"You just go straight up," Reed says.

"Just straight up?," I say.

"Yeah, just use your legs more than your arms," says Reed. "Have you ever climbed a tree?"

"Sure, I've climbed a tree," I respond.

Reed casually places a hand on one of the 4 x 4 blocks which are in a seemingly random pattern on the 26-foot wall, smiles and says, "Each block was once a tree."

About this time, I'm frantically trying to unfasten the harness and, in classic B movie style, run for the door. Again, I can't explain why, but I begin taking deep breaths to try and bring my heart rate back down to about 200 hundred beats per minute.

In an effort to reinforce my wavering courage, Reed is tying what he calls a "figure eight" knot. Watching him tie the knot, I begin feeling a little more comfortable knowing this would insure little chance of bodily harm if I were to,

God forbid, plummet downward, thanks to a misstep.

Then the thought occurs to me that I might even be lulled into a further sense of ease if I tie the knot myself. But what might have been, wasn't. Because when I pull my conglomeration of twisted rope taut, it turns into one long line of rope without even a hint of a knot.

"This is what is going to stop me when I fall?," I ask, holding the knotless rope up to Reed, who is trying to contain his laughter.

Any preconceived notion of comfort dies immediately.

Reed demonstrates tying this somewhat baffling mystery knot while he tells a story about a rabbit running around a tree and into his hole. But this only adds to my growing fear as I am now having second and third thoughts about this guy to whom I've entrusted my personal well-being. After all, his feet are going to be planted securely on the floor.

Reed gives a reassuring grin and checks the knot again, which is now threaded through the harness.

"You're ready to climb," Reed says with enthusiasm. "Do you know the commands for climbing?"

"No."

"You ask if the belay is on," Reed says. "Then I tell you if it is or not. Then you say 'Climbing,' and I say 'climb on,' easy."

"OK, I ask if the andale is on."

"The what is on?" Reed says with a laugh. "Man, just start climbing."

"I just go straight up, right?"

"That's all you have to do."

"Yeah, that and die."

I reach up and grasp one of the closest blocks and begin my trek up.

There is something very odd about climbing straight up a wall - the whole purpose is to go straight up and then come straight down - not to get over, under or around - just up. Usually a person climbs over a wall to get to the other side - not just to go up it. Odd as it seems, I reach for another block and

See **EXTREME CLOSE-UP**, Page Nine



# Prof writes book on Blues legend

DANIELA GOPPERT / STAFF WRITER



David McCrory/Photographer

DR. CHARLES WOLFE

One of MTSU's English professors recently co-wrote a book on Leadbelly, the blues singer and guitarist, which has met with rave reviews.

Dr. Charles Wolfe recently finished co-writing a book on the legendary blues man Leadbelly with Kip Lornell from the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of History.

"The Life and Legend of Leadbelly" is the first full-length biography of the singer Huddie Ledbetter, who is better known as Leadbelly to fans around the world.

The book traces Leadbelly's career from the brothels of Shreveport, La., to the coffeehouses of Greenwich Village. Wolfe says it provides a rich detail of the singer's life and offers insight into the cultural history of his times.

Leadbelly, a black folk singer from Louisiana, introduced white America to folk music during the 1930's and 40's, after spending two terms in prison.

While in Sugerland prison in Texas, he made up songs for the warden. The warden liked Leadbelly's music so much that he arranged a concert for Pat Neff, the Texas governor who eventually pardoned Leadbelly, said Wolfe.

During his time in Angola prison in Louisiana, Leadbelly was visited by John Lomax, a folk song collector for the Library of Congress. Later, after parole, Leadbelly would go to see Lomax in New York, looking for a job.

In New York, Leadbelly began performing and receiving rave reviews, which led to record deals. So, Leadbelly ended up being the first real folk singer who made a splash,

said Wolfe.

Leadbelly died in 1949 of Lou Gehrig's Disease. Six months after his death "Goodnight, Irene," one of his favorite songs, was number one on the hit parade, said Wolfe.

Leadbelly was among the first group to be introduced into the Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame, along with Elvis Presley.

"Kip and I worked for more than three years on the project, doing oral history interviews from New York to San Francisco and Texas to England," said Wolfe.

"We were able to turn up a lot of letters and documents that nobody knew existed."

"I spent a lot of time on the telephone to New York in order to find out who and where Leadbelly's heir is."

As it turned out, Leadbelly's heir is his niece, Tiny Robinson, who now lives in Brentwood, Tenn.

Robinson's two granddaughters, Leadbelly's grand-nieces, Tanya and Tereka Singh are students here at MTSU. Tereka was Homecoming Queen in the fall of 1992.

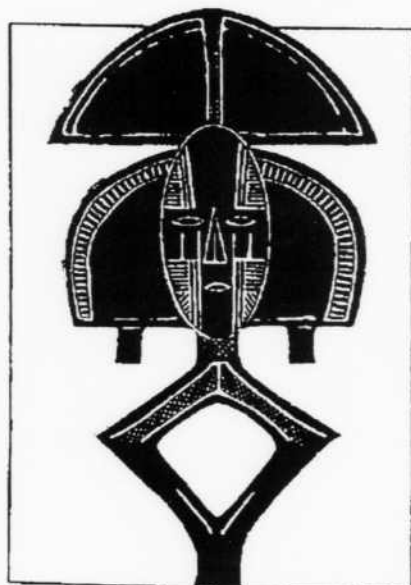
"Stella," Leadbelly's famous 12-string guitar, is in a Nashville bank vault.

"We did a lot of networking. We didn't have to advertise for materials. Once the word got out that we were doing a book on Leadbelly, people called up from all over. Seems like anybody who was in New York in the 1940's knew him and had a story to tell," said Wolfe.

Wolfe says people are still calling him with information about the singing legend.

"I'm gonna wish in six months that we could re-do it," said Wolfe.

Wolfe is currently working on two more books.



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## Extreme Close-up

Continued From Page Seven

realize that the blocks are rather large, easy to hold and stand on. Even though they're easy to handle, I still find myself exerting as much strength as possible on every block.

The climbing goes quickly, and I am already up past the middle of the wall. While stretching for a block that seems a mile away, I notice there are no handles, no rails, no nothing to grab onto to help one reach a small platform which is about 7 feet below the ceiling.

By the time I reach the platform, I see that there is no apparent way of getting onto it and that my forearms are now the size of balloons and getting extremely tired. This new sensation begins to cause me some worry. I look like Popeye, and my hands just don't seem to want to close.

"OK, it is just like getting out of a pool," Reed says from the floor. "All you have to do is pull yourself up like you're getting out of a pool and throw your leg on the platform and stand up. It is as easy as that."

"Right. It's just that easy," I say to myself and begin to take the position of one getting out of a pool. I pull myself up and stretch my right leg up on the platform. Instead of just standing up, I roll my body onto the platform like a sack of potatoes. I hear Reed below me laughing, saying something about being graceful. I didn't care if I made it — I was alive.

"You ready to come down," Reeds asks, still chuckling.

Come down? I hadn't really thought about that.

"No, I'm fine where I'm at. Thanks, anyway."

"The hard part's over now. All you have to do is stand up for one thing and get underneath the pulley that feeds you your rope," Reed says.

While trying to stand up, I gain a new affection for the

wall, since I am more or less kissing it. I take small, stilted steps and make my way to the end of the platform where the pulley is.

"Now what?" I ask, feeling my heartbeat edging dangerously close to fibulation.

"Straighten your legs and lean all the way back," Reed says.

"Lean back? You sure you know what you're doing?"

"Trust me," Reed says with a chuckle. "Lean back, and you walk down the wall."

I lean back and step off into nothing. Stepping off into nothing is really hard to do when your brain keeps screaming, "What are you doing?"

Your brain signals your leg and makes it extremely hard to pry off the platform — but it does. After a second or to of contemplating a new life on this platform, my other leg becomes unglued and I drop. I only drop a few feet before my feet make contact with the wall. I push off and start the descent again. The trip is somewhat jerky and much slower than I imagined, but after about three to four pushes off the wall, I find myself on the floor.

"See, you did it," Reed says with a wide grin.

A little shaky, I unfasten the rope and harness and walk back to look at the wall. Some other student was already starting to climb it, and I suddenly wanted to climb it again. Even though I was incredibly nervous and my forearms were beginning to feel like marshmallows, I wanted to climb again. Maybe it was my fear of heights, my testosterone level or maybe I found a new hobby. I can't explain it, but I'm hooked (or rather, roped).

*The climbing wall is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 7-9 p.m. The only thing you need to do is to sign a waiver and be ready to climb.*



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-T-Bone Burnett

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## Eagles dampen Raiders' OVC hopes

### Lady Raiders fall at MSU

TONY J. ARNOLD  
Sports Editor

The table was set and dinner was served. All MTSU's Lady Raiders had to do was partake of dessert.

However, it was Morehead's Lady Eagles who took the cake with a shocking 85-73 win Saturday night.

Just a week ago, MTSU defeated OVC-leading Tennessee Tech and kept its conference title hopes alive. But Saturday, its hopes were dashed.

"We got what we deserved," said a distressed Priscilla Robinson. "We played like we warmed up."

But the Lady Raiders never really warmed up.

After holding a 36-33 halftime lead, Middle Tennessee went into hiding. Morehead went on the hunt.

The Lady Eagles couldn't miss and went on a 15-4 run, giving themselves a 50-45 lead.

"They played harder than us and smarter than us," said MTSU coach Lewis Bivens. "That's the best way to say it."



Carl Lambert/Photographer

**TRY AND GET AROUND:** MTSU guard Cherrita Williams is ready for any move Tennessee Tech's Lisa Poe puts on her. The Lady Raiders play at Eastern Kentucky tonight.

"It was a mental letdown, and this is the last thing we needed going to Eastern Kentucky," he added.

The Lady Raiders play at ECU tonight.

MTSU had its chances late in

the Morehead game, but poor rebounding and shot selection sealed the coffin.

Michelle Jackson's layup with 3:12 remaining cut Morehead's margin to seven with a score of 75-68. But the Lady

Raiders wouldn't score again until the 1:31 mark. By then, it was too late.

"Our shot selection was very poor, very poor," Bivens said. "It was poor the whole night, especially in the last three

minutes.

"But Morehead played well. They hit some big shots, and they deserved to win."

"We scored enough but we didn't play defense. When you give up 85 points, you're not going to win many games."

Unfortunately, the Lady Raiders can expect the same results tonight at Eastern if things don't change.

"The only thing we've got to do is play as a team," Robinson said. "Not to bump anybody, but this is three OVC losses. We didn't play as a team. Middle Tennessee is going to have to play the full 40 minutes to win."

Robinson led Middle with 23 points. Jackson netted 14 while Cherrita Williams had 11.

MTSU shot a dismal 37.9 percent from the field compared to Morehead's 52.5. The Lady Raiders were also out rebounded 46-27.

Tip-off against the Lady Colonels is 8 p.m. Middle defeated ECU 76-62 at home earlier this year. Middle enters the contest with a 15-6 (9-3 in the OVC) mark.

"We're going to have to play a little harder and certainly a little smarter," Bivens said.

## Raider roundball woes continue

### Big Blue falls at Morehead, 81-59

SCOTT HASSLER  
Assistant Sports Editor

With four games left in this season, Middle Tennessee's Blue Raiders have peaked - the wrong way. The Raiders lost their fourth in a row against Morehead State, 81-59.

The first half of Saturday's game was a nightmare for MTSU. The Raiders shot 35 percent from the field and scored a season low 17 points. Meanwhile, Morehead shot 47 percent and jumped to a 39-17 halftime lead.

"It was probably the worst half we've had all year," said Raider coach David Farrar. "On the other hand, if we had made a couple of baskets, then maybe we could have salvaged it."

After the dismal first half, the

Raiders came out and turned up the intensity a notch or two. Warren Kidd, Chad Wampler and Milton Dean sparked Middle Tennessee in the half, slowly chipping into the Eagle lead.

Kidd finished the game with 11 points and 13 rebounds before fouling out late in the second half. Wampler contributed 11 points in 24 minutes and Dean poured in 18 points, all in the final session.

But the story still remained the ineptness of the first half. Despite playing Morehead to a 42-42 tie in the second half, the first half was too much to overcome.

"We'd cut in (the Eagle lead) enough to feel like if we had played a little better in the first

See WOES, Page 13

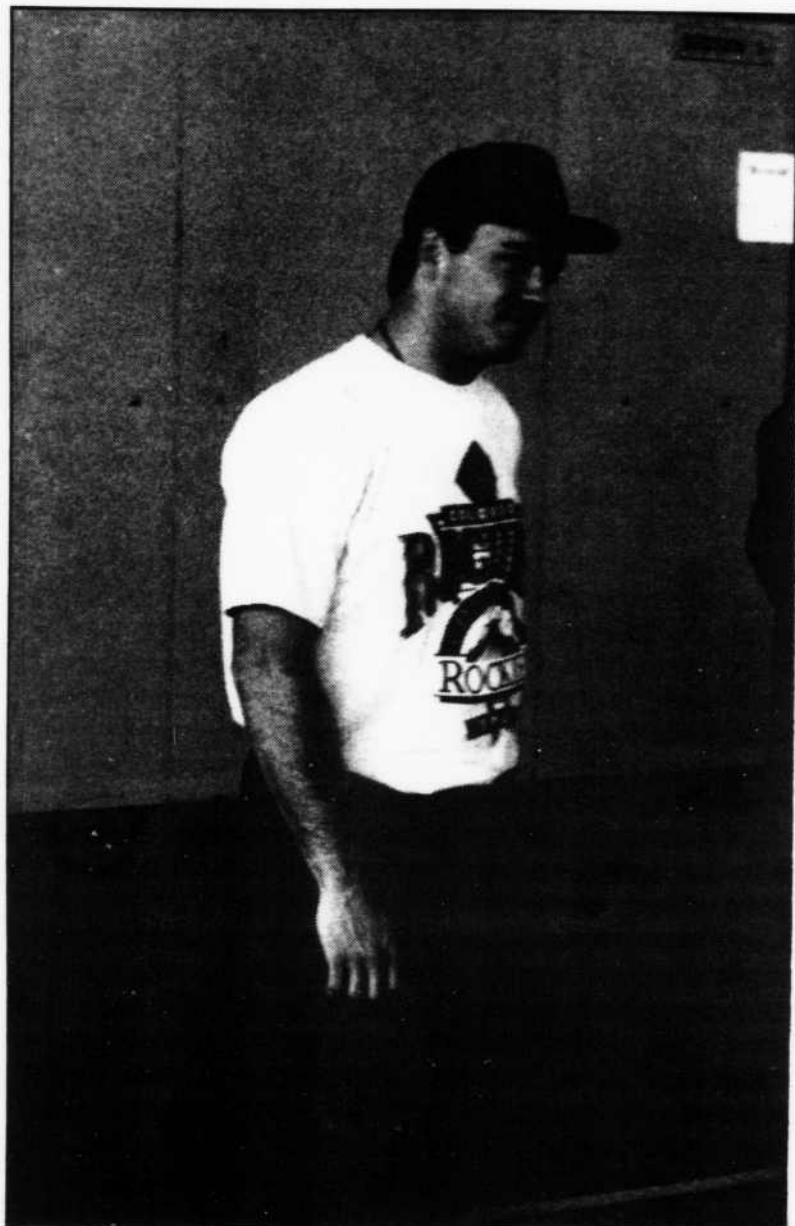


Charles Hogue/Photographer

**THE FINAL SWING:** MTSU women's softball head coach Karen Green hits some grounders to her team while Carrie Hedrick looks on. The softball team will participate in its first game ever on Tuesday against Kentucky Wesleyan at Samsonite Park in Murfreesboro.



# Raiders ready for title defense



Charles Hogue/Photographer

**OLD PROS:** Former Blue Raider standouts Jay Owens (above) and Eddie Pye (above right) take the time out of their schedules to help the Blue Raider baseball team prepare for its 1993 Ohio Valley Conference title run.

## Peterson's pack set to open baseball campaign

TRENT MILLER  
Sports Writer

It's back!

It's the time of year that signals us summer is near. In just a few weeks talk of expectations will begin. Some will be fulfilled, others deflated.

Hot dogs, apple pie, Chevy? Yes, baseball season is finally here.

MTSU's Blue Raider baseball team has just completed spring practice and now gears up for defense of its OVC title. According to coach Steve Peterson, the Raiders should be in the hunt again this year.

"We'll jump in the fire right away," Peterson said. The team started action this weekend and its first home game will be Feb. 27.

"As always, we have a great schedule," Peterson said. "A number of SEC clubs and Sun Belt clubs will be coming to Murfreesboro."

And Peterson is excited about his club.

"It's a ball club that has a mixture of veterans and young players. We have guys who know what to expect and what it's going to take to win a championship," he said.



The coach points out that the offense has the rare combination of speed and power which will enable the Raiders to score runs in many different ways.

"We have enough power to

'We have guys who know what to expect and what it's going to take to win a championship.'

—MTSU Coach  
Steve Peterson

hit the ball out of the park," Peterson said, "but we also have enough speed that we don't have to hit the ball out. We can score runs in many ways."

As always, pitching will be the key to success for the Raiders. Peterson is pleased with the four starting pitchers returning this season. This quartet includes right-handers Jamie Burkholder and Mike McClarty, and lefties Bob McDowell and Patrick Mays.

"Those returning starters will have to be the nucleus of our pitching staff," Peterson said. "A key will be getting something out of the bullpen."

Peterson is relying on several youngsters for relief.

"Two freshmen, Doug Barner and Joe Dalton, have looked pretty good. Barner will also compete for playing time at

See TITLE, Page 13

### Notice of Election

An election will be held on Monday, March 29, and on Tuesday, March 30, 1993. Polls will be set up and open as follows:

**Keathley University Center**

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

**Peck Hall**

8:30 AM - 6:15 PM

Appearing on this ballot will be:

- (1) candidates for **President of the Student Government Association;**
- (2) candidates for **SGA Speaker of the Senate;**
- (3) candidates for **SGA Speaker of the House;**
- (4) candidates for **Sophomore Class Senators (five);**
- (5) candidates for **Junior Class Senators (five);**
- (6) candidates for **Senior Class Senators (five);**
- (7) candidates for **Graduate Senators (two).**

All students with a valid MTSU identification card are eligible to vote in this election. Petitions for SGA President, Speaker of the Senate, Speaker of the House, and Class Senators may be picked up in Room 304, Keathley University Center, beginning Monday, March 8, 1993 at 4:00 p.m. A **MANDATORY** candidates' meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 322, Keathley University Center. Each candidate or a representative must attend this meeting.



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EOE



## Title

Continued From Page 12

third base," Peterson said. "Two sophomores, Craig Lewis, who also plays first base, and Chris Rickman, who also plays third, will probably get a lot of work out of the bullpen. Redshirt freshman Brian Early will get some work and freshman Jason Stanton has come around in spring practice."

Peterson is also pleased with his defense up the middle.

"The core of our infield defense is Jason Maxwell at shortstop. He's a two-year starter, and we count on him for his defense and leadership on the field," Peterson said.

"A big key to our defense is second base. Lance Lotis had the job, but Chris Goggin has really come on. We need one of those guys to step up and take charge of the position."

The Raiders are also blessed with several talented catchers, the coach said.

"Behind the plate Jamie Hicks and Mudcat Brewer

have both seen considerable time during spring practice. Hicks will start at catcher, while Brewer will start in right field," Peterson said. "We also have two other catchers, Dean Darnell and Mark Pickle, who saw playing time last year, I feel comfortable with any of those guys behind the plate."

The outfield should also be solid. Chris Price will start in left field. Ken Finley will play center field and Brewer will play right field when he is not catching. Brewer earned high acclaim from his coach for his outstanding hitting and ability to play both positions.

Following a very successful spring practice, Peterson said he is ready to start the season.

"Some very good weather has aided our preparation," the coach said. "Let's just hope it holds out."

Another plus at spring practice was the presence of several professional players.

Former MTSU standouts Jay Owens (of the Colorado

Rockies) and Eddie Pye (of the Los Angeles Dodgers), along with Detroit Tigers pitcher Tom Bolton all worked out with the Raiders during spring practice.

Peterson welcomes the pros.

"Just having them around has to inspire the players," he said. "More than being just good ball players, they're good people. They show our players the kind of dedication and work habits it takes to make it in professional baseball."

Peterson points out that part of a successful season is fan support. The coach said he would like to remind all students they will be admitted free to the baseball games when they present their ID cards.

For faculty and administration, season tickets are now on sale and new chair-back seats are available. Questions about tickets should be directed to the MTSU ticket office.

## Woes

Continued From Page 11

half, we could've done considerably better," Farrar added. "We're having trouble scoring and there's not much we can try to do to hide it."

"You can't shoot 34 percent and expect to win ballgames."

MTSU entered Saturday night's game against Morehead hobbled. Guard Robert Taylor is out for the year. In practice last week, Bobby Clark injured a hamstring and is out for a questionable amount of time. Without Clark and Taylor, others have had to step up their games considerably.

Milton Dean has answered the call thus far. Dean has played consistent ball the last couple of weeks, as evidenced by his 12-points-a game average during the last five games.

"I think we just have to play hard," Dean said. "Regardless of who's in or who's out, we've just got to play hard. I'm just taking my shots when they come up."

Shots haven't been coming up very easily for the Raiders lately. During this four-game slide, the Raiders have scored 67, 51, 63

and 59 points.

"I think the shot selection is coming too much off one-on-one situations and not through the flow of the offense," Farrar said. "We've never been a very good, cooperative offensive team where one person screens for another. Even when Robert (Taylor) was making baskets, it still wasn't one of our strengths."

The "death valley" trip ends tonight when Middle faces arch-rival Eastern Kentucky. ECU is playing tough ball right now and has already beaten MTSU earlier this year in Murfreesboro.

"Monday night is considerably tougher than this game," Farrar said. "I think that their guy (coach) does probably the best job in the league right now coaching, and they've got very good players. They beat us when we were at full strength, and we're certainly not at that right now."

After tonight's game against Eastern, Middle plays the last road game of the year against Austin Peay on Thursday night.

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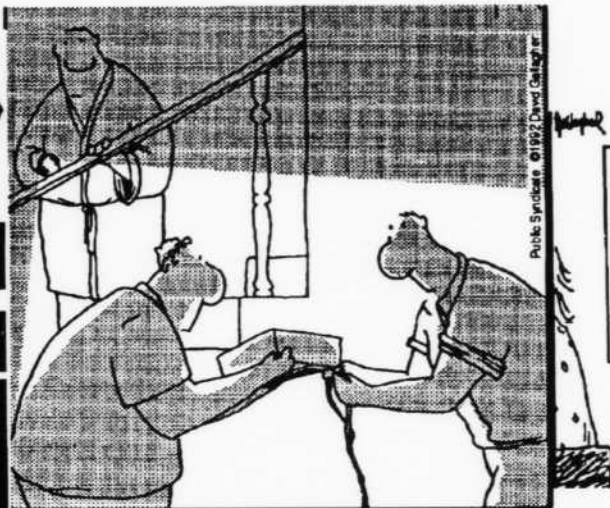
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To Spike, The sun warms my spirit. The flowers show me life. The wind shows me energy. The ocean shows me peace. But you show me love. Love-- freckles.

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Tanya, Happy Valentine's Day, Big Sis. Love Ya! Rika-Boo.

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# THE SECOND FRONT

## Protests, racial harmony important to freshman

COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

And you thought the 1960s were the heyday of protesting for college students.

But, in fact, more than 40 percent of college freshmen surveyed by a University of California, Los Angeles research group said they participated in an organized demonstration last year, as opposed to just 16.3 percent of freshmen polled by the same

major problem in the United States. That figure was a record high, up from 79.7 percent in 1991.

"The circumstances surrounding last spring's riots in Los Angeles seem to have been the catalyst for a re-examination of racial issues across the nation," said survey director Eric Dey. "By and large, students have responded by recommitting themselves to promoting racial equality."

The survey, sponsored by the American Council on Education, polled more than 200,000 entering

communities and to working for social and political change than were students who entered college just a few years ago," said Alexander Astin, a graduate professor at UCLA and founding director of the survey.

The heated political debates of the last year took their toll on the Class of '96, as well. The percentage who labeled their political views as either "liberal" or "far left" jumped to 26.7 percent, its highest point in 15 years. The "conservative" or "far right" held constant at 20.3 percent.

Nearly 25 percent said they frequently talk about politics, up from 18.5 percent in 1988. Last year's figure is an all-time low and almost half the average number reported between 1968 and 1971 (14.1 percent).

"These patterns show that increased interest is not automatically translated into increased participation," Astin said. "It may well be that despite their interest in political change, today's students remain somewhat cynical about traditional politics."

More than 17 percent said they had a major concern about their ability to pay for college and the number who said they went to college because they could not find a job reached an all-time high at 8.2 percent, up from 7.3 percent in 1991.

freshmen at 404 colleges and universities.

Community activism provided to be of all-around central significance to those polled last year. About one-third (30.7 percent) said that becoming a community leader was a "very important" or an "essential" goal. In 1972, that figure was only 14.9 percent.

"Taken as a whole, these findings suggest that students today are substantially more committed to serving their

'These patterns show that increased interest is not automatically translated into increased participation. It may well be that despite their interest in political change, today's students remain somewhat cynical about traditional politics.'

organization in 1967.

The Higher Education Research Institute at the UCLA, which has been conducting an annual survey of entering college freshmen for 27 years, also found that the percentage of students for whom "helping to promote racial understanding" is an "essential" or "very important" goal rose to an all-time high of 42 percent.

Along those lines, 85.1 percent of those surveyed disagreed with the assertion that racial discrimination is no longer a



Don Goins/Photography

**QUALITY TIME:** David Ghassan Putrus and his daughter Angela spend Sunday afternoon swimming at the MTSU pool. Ghassan is a graduate student in manufacturing engineering.

## Voting

Continued From Page One

factor for using paper ballots in this special election.

"The cost of this special election is running less than \$100, whereas a normal election [with voting machines] would cost between \$400-500," Gandy said.

SGA President Toby Gilley said he does not see any need in

using the voting machines for this special election.

"We stay on a very tight budget. I don't see the point in spending that money," Gilley said.

The special election is scheduled for Feb. 25, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., in the Keathley University Center.

## Radio

Continued From Page One

operated radio station.

"Our station in Massachusetts had a budget of \$45,000," Sicard said. "WRVU at Vanderbilt has a \$30,000 budget. We asked for \$15,000 from the SGA and got \$530."

Nichols said the station does have support from WMOT, MTSU's professionally managed jazz station, and the Radio/TV-Photography department.

"We are right next door to WMOT in the LRC and we use some of their equipment," Nichols said.

WMOT's General Manager, John High, said their station strongly supports having a student-operated radio station on campus.

"I think the two radio stations would compliment each other," High said.

"In my 16 years [at WMOT], it has never been student-run," he said. "WMOT is doing its best to help get WNAR on the air. I thought a student-run station was necessary back in 1977."

High said the jazz station gives students experience in working with professional disc jockeys and management, something that a student-operated radio station could not do.

"About 75 percent of WMOT's air time is covered by student workers," High said. "There is a big difference in WMOT and a college station in that it has about a million listeners versus only campus listeners. It brings pressure to the students to

do well and forces them to face the real world of broadcast."

High added that WNAR could give students experience in management positions, something that WMOT could not do.

Like other student organizations, the student-operated station has a constitution and officers. The only difference is that the officers are given titles for the station such as program director and station manager.

WMOT has aided WNAR financially by having their engineer, Gary Brown, fill out forms for an FCC license, said High.

"Just filling out the forms is saving WNAR around \$17,000," High said.

The Radio-TV/Photography department will help WNAR get on the air, according to Nichols.

"The Radio/TV Department has committed itself to helping us get equipment," Nichols said.

Cassettes, compact discs, office supplies and radio equipment are needed.

The format of WNAR is mostly alternative, metal and hip-hop music. Results from a student survey conducted last year helped create the format.

Local bands are already showing their support for WNAR with benefits to raise money.

"We have had four benefits," Sicard said. "We have had pretty good turnouts, but I don't know if that is because of the radio station or because the people just liked the bands."

## Election

Continued From Page One

about a month ago," Gilley said.

Gilley said the process of challenging the Election Commissioner's decisions is more difficult when there is no Election Commission.

"His [Gandy's] decisions can be challenged and brought before the SGA Supreme Court," he added.

Both Gilley and Beatty expressed their confidence in the Election Commissioner's decisions.

"As far as the Election Commissioner goes, he has power, but I don't see him using it to manipulate anything," Beatty said.

"With you guys [Sidelines] watching them [SGA], I don't see him [Gandy] doing anything unethical," he added.

The House will hold a mandatory meeting to form an Election Commission Tuesday, 7-8 p.m., in Keathley University Center, Room 324.