

Campus Briefs

Town meeting to be held on Forrest Hall

A town hall meeting with be held on the issue of Forrest Hall Wednesday from 6 to 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Patterson Park Community Center, which is located at 5211 Mercury Blvd.

For more information contact Colette Taylor at 898-5812.

Performance to be given by the MTSU percussion

The MTSU Percussion Ensemble will perform on Thursday at 8 p.m. in the T. Earl Hinton Hall of the Wright Music Building.

The groups will various perform pieces including material composed for quartet, steel drum, Caribbean, Brazilian and African pop ensembles.

"This diverse program will be entertaining for all ages," said Lalo Davila, assistant professor of percussion.

The concert is free and open to the public. For more information on this and other events in the McLean School of Music, call 898-2493 or visit www.mtsu-music.com.

Genocide lecture given by forensic psychiatrist

Acclaimed forensic psychiatrist Emanuel Tanay will deliver a lecture entitled "The Psychology of Genocide" on Thursday at 7 p.m. in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building.

This lecture is free and open to the public. The lecture is sponsored by the MTSU's Holocaust Studies Commission and is co-sponsored by the departments of history, political science, sociology and anthropology, philosophy, psychology, English, art, and the Global Studies program.

SGA attorney general application available

Applications are now avail-

able for the Student Government Association attorney general position.

The SGA attorney general is responsible for overseeing the process of student parking citation appeals, assisting with the certification of candidates for SGA elections, representing the SGA matters before the Student Judicial Board and/or Election Commission, and appointing members to serve on the Court of Traffic Appeals.

Application may be obtained from room 208 of the Keathley University Center, and must be returned by April 11.

For more information contact the SGA at 898-2464.

Lecture addresses Islam in the West

John Esposito will deliver a lecture entitled "Islam and the West" on April 18 at 7 p.m. in the State Farm Lecture Hall of the Business and Aerospace Building. The lecture is free and open to the public, and is sponsored by the MTSU Distinguished Lecture Fund.

For more information contact Nancy Rupprecht at 898-2645.

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Campus Briefs
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THE UT COLLEGE OF PHARMACY IS COMING TO MTSU

When? Tuesday, April 10, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Where? Davis Science Building

Even if you're not a science major, come get the details about this dynamic and fulfilling career and our PharmD program. We'll have lots of information and time to answer your questions!

P.S. Have you heard? We now have two campuses: one in Memphis and one in Knoxville!

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA in the provision of its education and employment programs and services.

Continued from 1

Bart Gordon, the U.S. House Representative for the sixth congressional district of Tennessee, was responsible for bringing the Vision for Space Exploration Experience to Murfreesboro. He defended the pursuit of space exploration by pointing out that technology developed for space exploration and research done in space have led to advances in engineering and medical technology, such as improvements

in screening for breast cancer and hip replacements.

"Space exploration is important for our security," Gordon stated in a press release. "Other nations will – and are – embarking on space programs of their own. It is important for the United States to remain preeminent among the space faring nations."

Not all the children who experience this exhibit will become astronauts, but if they

come away with an interest in math and science, it may be the first step toward the development of math and science skills that will be important to their future careers and in continuing the nation's competitiveness in the global economy.

Gordon said he wanted to bring NASA to Murfreesboro because it is important that "Middle Tennessee's kids be part of that work force of the future." ♦

Continued from 1

A basic RAD defense course is scheduled to begin in June and will last six days, covering all the basic self-defense moves recommended through the RAD program.

"The goal is that women will come out of class not being shy to say 'no' loudly," Smith said. "We actually teach women how to say 'no' assertively and it can get pretty noisy in the room with everyone screaming so loudly."

A certificate will be given upon completion of the basic course,

which can be used to move into the intermediate course, free of charge, at any RAD training location, including those outside of Murfreesboro. Certification does not expire.

The aerosol options course will begin April 12 and run for three consecutive Thursdays, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the MTSU Police training room located at 1412 East Main St.

Enrollment in the program is limited. For more information or to enroll, contact RAD instructor David Smith at Campus Police. ♦

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To Apply:

Candidates must provide a complete resume and cover letter, a selection of clips, and a completed *Sidelines* application. Please submit applications to *Sidelines* advisor Steven Chappell, ext. 2337, schappell@mtsu.edu.

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An Empty Tomb? So What!

The resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth is one of the best attested historical events of antiquity. Here on campus, there are many who share the joy of knowing that Jesus Christ provides intellectually and spiritually satisfying answers to life's most important questions. If you have questions about this incredible event or about its implications for your life, please ask one of us.

Karen Austin Career and Employment Center	Meichelle Gibson Career and Employment Center	Mariene Lawson Basic and Applied Sciences	Angie Ray College of Business
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As a part of the MTSU Christian Faculty and Staff Fellowship, we believe that personally knowing Jesus Christ and following His teachings provide intellectually and spiritually satisfying answers to life's most important questions. We are available to interested students, staff, and faculty who might like to discuss such questions and the claims of Jesus Christ. If you have any questions regarding the Christian Faculty and Staff Fellowship, please contact Kim Sokoya at 898-2352 or email ksokoya@mtsu.edu.

OPINIONS

From the Editorial Board: Office fails to solve MT's poor diversity

Now that MTSU has begun developing the Office of Institutional Diversity, we can be rest assured that the numbers of minorities will increase on campus and true understanding and harmony will occur among students and employees of all races and backgrounds.

Except the administration forgot to consider one thing: This is not a perfect world.

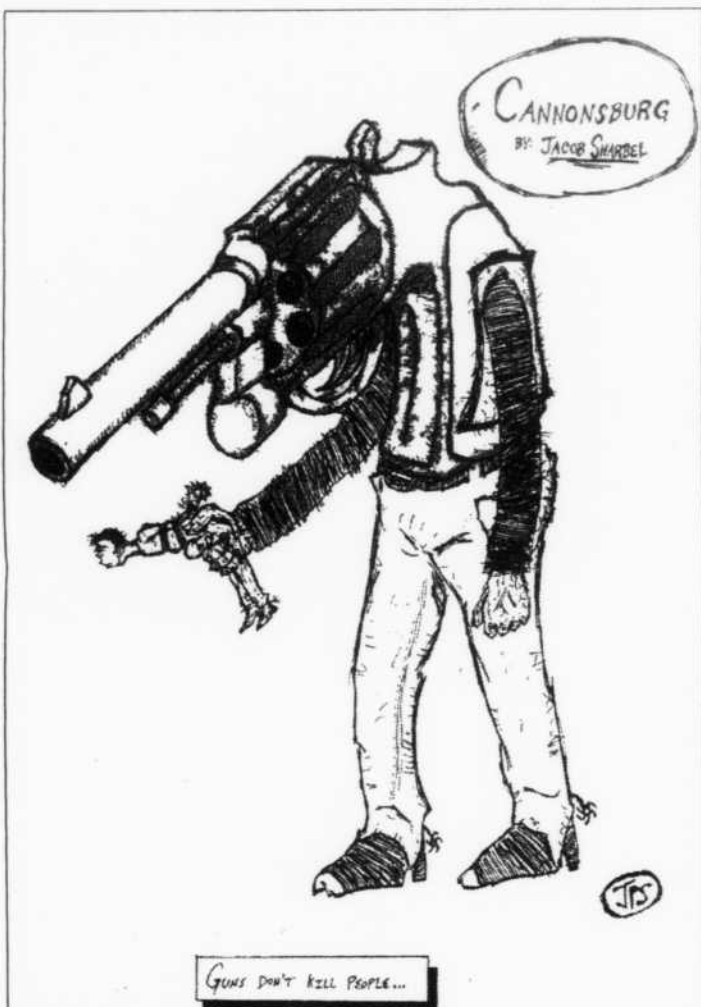
With a vague definition of duties, it seems that this new chunk of bureaucracy will act more like a quick fix than a solution to a major problem facing not just universities, but all levels of education.

Statistically, minorities – or by MTSU's apparent definition, blacks and Hispanics – tend to also be unable to attend universities due to financial or cultural challenges. This problem is not going to be fixed by tailored scholarships or diversity offices. Rather, it should be approached on a more fundamental level.

One of the largest problems most universities have is retention of students after their freshman year. If students prone to dropping out – or not attending at all for that matter – were given a tangible incentive to go to school, it would be to their immediate disadvantage to discontinue their education.

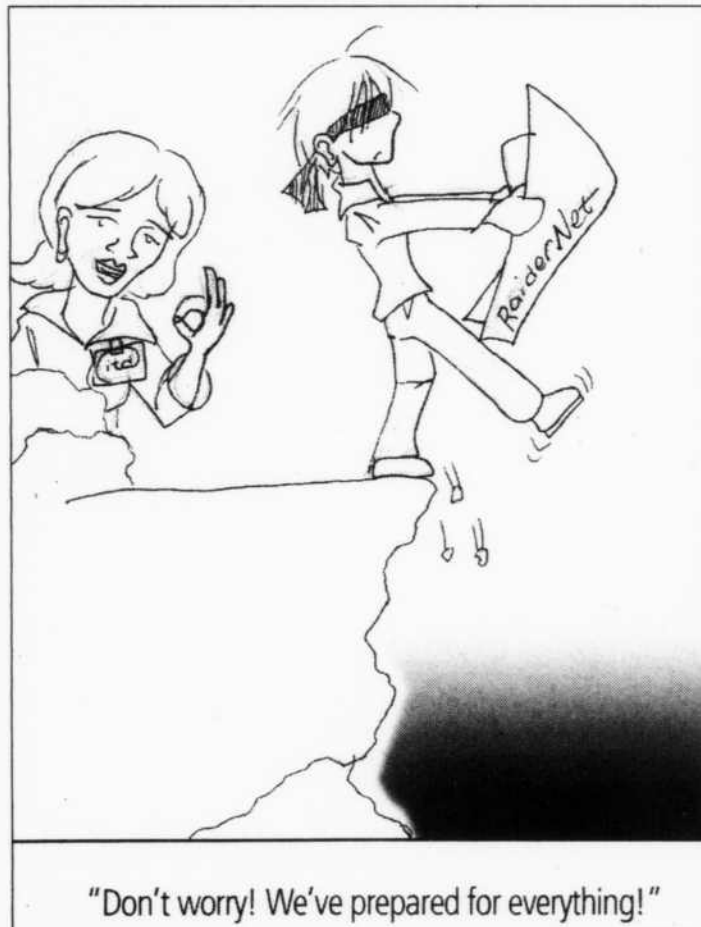
If MTSU is genuinely interested in increasing diversity, they should offer support to students who may have received a minority scholarship, but are not quite up to the college level. Such assistance would include better, more abundant remedial courses and efficient academic counseling. The writing center, math labs and University 1010 are simply not enough to help a student who has been left behind other, more advantaged students at college level.

Another enticement to disadvantaged students would be to offer some basic form of health care. Many students of all ages and backgrounds simply do without this vital necessity. The Geier money MTSU receives could be used to not only help students improve their minds, but also their health. Perhaps this would make that grossly expensive Rec Center addition worthwhile to students.



"Cannonsburg"

Jacob Sharbel



"In Other News..."

Matthew Adair



"And Friends"

Frank Hasenmueller

Equality for both sexes key

Now that National Women's History Month has drawn to a close, I am forced to contemplate the current state of the feminist movement – a movement that suffers a relative lack of popular support, which is surprising given its reasonable demands.

Clearly the historical drive for equal rights shared by the sexes has not fully succeeded, not yet. A substantial disparity still exists between the pay of men and women. There are only roughly a dozen women in top positions in the entire Fortune 500, according to a recent *Chicago Tribune* article.

Furthermore, women comprise only a small fraction of this country's Congressional representation, with 13 in the Senate and 61 in the House. These paltry sums are a record, though it's been nearly a century since Jeanette Rankin made history as the first woman in Congress.

For these reasons, it is evident there remains an abundant need for feminism in this country. Yet even the word "feminism" is a turn-off for many people. Why?

No self-respecting woman I know would voluntarily choose to make a quarter less on every dollar a man earns. I would hope no male would try to argue his Y-chromosome entitles his sex to the massive advantage men hold in American industry and government, at least to his mother or wife.

So why does feminism carry such negative connotations?



iscaRIOT

Daniel Potter
Staff Columnist

Regrettably, as in the case of many other well-intentioned movements lacking broad support, generally political radicals receive the preponderance of attention. As a result, many women rightly interested in issues such as pay equity must contend with the fear of being lumped in with the overplayed stereotype of feminists as rampaging man-haters.

By portraying the feminist struggle as one of women versus men, that same stereotype carries the potential to alienate many would-be supporters among men. That some proponents of the feminist cause philosophically reject the support of men further frustrates the matter.

On this subject, it is worth noting that struggles for equality are not necessarily carried out exclusively by members of the oppressed groups in question. Examples to the contrary abound, from white abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison to MTSU honoree and noted journalist John Siegenthaler.

Thus it seems evident a movement aiming

to eliminate discrimination based on sex can hardly afford to confine itself to the support of only one sex.

Further, because the feminist struggle seeks to abolish our society's binary construct of gender and the prescribed roles that come with one's sex, feminism can open doors for men just as it does for women.

As activist Amy Richards writes, "Feminism liberates men from masculinity as much as it liberates women from femininity – therefore, men's involvement is for themselves." In this regard, feminism enables me to openly proclaim I like baking and sewing, just as it enables my girlfriend to work on cars for a living.

Clearly, despite the stereotype, feminism is a cause most anyone can get behind.

On this subject, I am reminded of a story related to me by a lesbian friend. Some years ago she shaved her head and sported a T-shirt that read "This is what a feminist looks like!" into a country gas station where the male cashier asked her what a feminist was.

Though she hardly expected to win any political sympathy, she replied it can be anyone who doesn't believe anatomy or sexual preference should be allowed to limit a person's freedom.

The cashier answered boldly: "Then I'm a feminist!"

Daniel Potter is a senior journalism major and can be reached at dgp2h@mtsu.edu.

Letters to the Editor

Bouchillon disrespects veterans, troops

To the Editor:

I would just like to say thank you and show my appreciation to Brandon Bouchillon's column on Iraq last week. [Iraqi war justified with hypocrisy," March 29] He has shown me the light. I will promptly remove my "Support Our Troops" ribbon and my USMC sticker from my truck. How have I been such a war monger and a moronic conservative all of these years? As for my friend and fellow Marine who was shot and killed last week, I believe I'll skip his funeral due to the fact that he was a hypocrite and a murderer seeking fame through his service in Iraq. We should also put a hold on the insurance money that is going to his son.

Bouchillon has disrespected every veteran in this school and every person who has a friend or a loved one serving overseas. He is well on his way to a position at Air America. If he would ever like to pretend he's a reporter and sit down and interview someone who actually has two relevant thoughts on Iraq, or our troops, then he should contact myself or any of the other veterans on campus. Until then, maybe he should stick to reporting the traffic around the Rec center.

Braden Griffy
Senior, college of business

Hurtt troubled by facts, truth, accuracy

To the Editor:

Could someone tell me what is wrong with Matthew Hurtt? ["Include conservatives in quest for tolerance," April 2.] Seriously, son, if you do not like Italian cooking, do not go to Trattoria Fiorentina to dine. If you do dine there, do not demand they prepare a Big Mac because pasta is not pleasing to you. Each semester the department of history offers about 50 sections of History 2020, some taught by conservatives. Hurtt was lucky; had I taught his section, I would have presented him with a Hobson's choice: volunteer for a leftist group or else. Not because I am a demagogue, but because I am a pedagogue. The point of this class was to learn about these groups. Playing around with some mainstream Republican organization certainly did not fulfill that dictate, and did not further his education. All he learned is what he already knew.

That is the problem with the students he describes. They do not come to learn; and keep their blinders on. As a professor, my mindset is that, at any moment, I might catch a piece of evidence that will cause me to alter my viewpoints. This concept is antithetical and anathema to these students. Moreover, these students commit many errors in their approach to class and learning. They confuse historical fact and truth for some sort of cant. Sorry, no. They think their own propaganda is wisdom. Sorry, no. They never come prepared to argue rhetorically with evidence to detail their position; they just blaviate. When caught with their rhetorical pants down, they just whine. They do not want to engage critically at all. Recently, Hurtt responded this way to a critical letter of mine to him regarding an earlier column. Rather than address my criticisms, he just offered the pleasant platitude that it is nice to live in a country where we can disagree. Fine, but what about your errors, dude?

This has been a serious problem with Hurtt's columns, his ignorance of basic historical facts. No, financiers did not create the 16th Amendment. Morgan opposed it. No, there were not 10 post-Civil War Southern Presidents, and Lincoln was not a Southerner. No, secession ordinances were not resolutions. No, reconstruction governments did

not cause the South's economic doldrums after 1877; the costs of the Civil War, the loss of an enslaved labor supply, the over dependence on cotton and the failure to industrialize well did so. The first three paragraphs, as well as paragraphs 6 and 9 of his recent column were all unsubstantiated generalizations. Perhaps Hurtt argues poorly rather than thinks differently.

Lastly, Hurtt misunderstands academic diversity. While we are supposed to have an open mind, we are professors and academics, experts and intellectuals, and as such we do not address dumbass ideas. Some ideas, like creationism, the Dunning school of reconstruction, arguing that slavery was not the real cause of the Civil War, are just that. These we can discard. Sorry, but science and history have demonstrated conclusively years ago that these are bunk and false.

As professors, we seek the truth. This may be inconvenient for some, but then so be it. Truth hurts.

Louie Haas
Professor, history department

Estes mistaken about 'almighty' vagina

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in regards to Liz Estes' article "Sisters doing it for themselves." [April 2] While I respect her right to state her opinion, I find the way in which she does so laughable. There are many mistakes in this argument which detract from it; as an English major, I'd imagine Estes would know how to actually write a sentence which makes sense and is grammatically correct, but apparently that is not so. Her argument itself is illogical, biased and simply idiotic.

I am female and not once have I been "intentionally misinformed" that my vagina is only to be used for procreation. Rather, I have been informed that it is mine to control and to use for procreation or pleasure, as I see fit. Also, before Estes throws around the word "vagina," it would be prudent for her to know that the vagina is only a small part of the female reproductive system, and it is – amazingly enough – the clitoris which is the pleasure point for women, not, as she seems to believe, the almighty vagina. Nor does everyone "morally regulate" a woman's reproductive organs. I see nothing wrong with birth control pills, morning after pills, and abortions being regulated by government or medical powers – each of these are potentially dangerous to a woman's health and affect not only women but others such as husbands, boyfriends or family.

As a feminist, Estes seems to think she is fighting for equality for all people. Yet she seems to do nothing but bash the male sex repeatedly. While men might be controlled to a greater degree by hormones, they can think for themselves, are quite capable of pleasing women, and – believe or not – might not necessarily always enjoy sex. Men are not dumb creatures controlled by their libido, and Estes needs to realize that before going on about her supposed equality. Not only is Estes' argument illogical and biased towards the female sex, it completely avoids the fact that sex is not only about fun. It is frequently an emotional act and is used to express one's feelings towards a loved partner. Yet, according to Estes, sex is only about having fun and declaring our independence as sexually independent women. If she is going to argue about this subject, she needs to consider all the facts and viewpoints and not just use whatever she thinks will make her argument stronger.

Katy Tuter
Junior, English major

SIDELINES

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Letters Policy

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Please e-mail letters to slopinio@mtsu.edu, and include your name and a phone number for verification. Sidelines will not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and content.

Sidelines is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. Sidelines publishes Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily Sidelines or MTSU.

FEATURES

Disclaimer: *Sidelines* does not support any one student participating in the MTSU Film Festival.

Special effects highlight festival entry

Student produces greenscreen, makes his film high-tech

By Katy Coil
Staff Writer

Jonathan Parris went through great measures to create his most recent film.

He had to struggle with special effects on a college students budget, rework the film's dialogue and even create a makeshift green screen.

From April 9 to 13, the 2007 MTSU Film Festival will display the talents of student actors and filmmakers, such as Parris, a senior video production major.

Parris originally shot the film "You Are NOT Special" as part of a project for his honors thesis, but the film's cinematographer and assistant editor, Jacob Smithson, decided to enter the film in the festival as well.

"[Jacob] went to the festival last year and thought, 'We can do better than this,'" Parris says. "It was kind of a challenge. I was already doing it and thought we might as well turn it in."

The film follows a writer trying to write a screenplay and focuses on how his emotions can interfere, making the process difficult.

Finding the right screenplay for the film was no easy task, either.

"It was a pretty long process of actually choosing a script," Parris says. "I worked with one of the teachers on writing a script and finding a script. I wanted to do a film with special effects, but we didn't agree on anything. I was in an electronic film class and I came across this script, and I like it. The writer happened to go to MTSU, which was great."

Even though they had found the script, there were some alterations that needed to be made.

"The original script was written for a theatrical setting and written with the name of the emotion on the person's shirt," Parris said. "We had to figure out costumes for each emotion."

Other preparations had to be made as well. "We had to buy a few things, do some Wal-Mart trips," he says.

Because of the theatrical nature of the script, the crew was able to be creative in the way they presented the story on film.

"We tried to do something different with the characters," Parris says. "There are five characters but only one actor. The one actor played every single character. It's been done before, but we tried some new techniques to pull it off."

A total of four people worked on the actual shooting of the film: Parris, Smithson, Niles Thomas Maddox who wrote the screenplay and Tyler Sheldon who did the costuming.

"There were technically four [people involved], not including the actor," Parris says. "There are a lot of people involved behind the scenes, but four people worked on the film itself. There were four people there the day of the shoot."

When it came to shooting, there were some difficult aspects the four had to face.

"The special effects were taped in front of a green curtain," Parris says, "sort of a makeshift green screen, and we had to add him in front of the live actor."

We didn't do much preproduction, and it didn't happen a lot when it came to planning. We didn't do much. When I was editing, I found we missed a



Senior video production major Jonathan Parris sits behind his camera while shooting his short film, "You Are NOT Special." The film will be shown Monday in the KUC Theater as part of MTSU's Student Film Festival.

whole page of dialogue."

Part of that dialogue involved the green screen techniques and had to be changed around.

Some other special effects did not work out as planned.

"There were a lot of effects that I wanted but we had to cut them out because they didn't work out," he says.

When it came down to it, seeing the final product was well worth the work.

"It's kind of rewarding seeing how the film worked out," Parris says. "It's the most professional thing I've ever done, and even

though there are things I would still like to change, it's probably going to be the first film that goes on my reel."

Parris has been making films since he was in high school, but this is only his second short film. He plans to do film making as a career.

"I want to go into special effects, which is why there is such a focus on it in the film," Parris says.

"You Are NOT Special" is being shown tonight at the KUC Theater. ♦

MTSU Student Film Festival

April 9 to 13
KUC Theatre 308

—The awards ceremony will be on April 13. Trophies will be presented to the top three participants.

—The Winner of the MTSU Student Film Festival will be automatically entered in the SCENE FIRST Student Film Festival in Wilmington, N.C.

—The festival includes over 30 submissions. As of press time, no schedule of films has been made available.

Student brings love of art to film

Filmmaker explores obsession, boredom, perception in films to be shown at festival

By Sarah Lavery
Features Editor

Sean Conley is thinking in reverse. With his camera in hand, he's filming his friend Taylor Rust walk down the street backwards. A neighbor, mowing his lawn, stops in his tracks at the sight.

Conley is careful to make sure his actor's path will translate during editing – left to right, right to left, Rust's movements must be carefully calculated, because the finished product will show him walking forward while the rest of the world moves in the opposite direction.

In his short film "Une Lettré," premiering Tuesday during MTSU's Student Film Festival, Conley has tried to capture sudden changes in perception.

"This film made me think outside the box," Conley says. "You assume people always walk from point A to B; you assume that when you open a door, you close the door. I like films that stretch the imagination."

Conley's dabbled in the strange behavior of people who believe they are animals, he's mocked the fervor of Jehovah's Witnesses and pointed out the monotony of life in his short films, but "Une Lettré" is his favorite.

Unlike other projects, where Conley acted as the director of photography, guiding mostly the visual aspects of the films, "Une Lettré" is a feat of accomplishment.

From beginning to end, conception to execution, this one was purely his creation.

Similar to one – among many – of his favorite films, "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," "Une Lettré" ends where it begins, all the while inciting inevitable furrowed brows and wild attempts at guessing its meaning from the audience. However, that's pretty much Conley's objective.

"That's the beauty of film," Conley says. "You get what you get from it. I hope ['Une Lettré'] makes you think days after you've seen it. It opened my mind and changed my

perspective, so even if I can have that effect on one person, [the film has] accomplished its goal."

A junior electronic media production major, Conley has been in love with cinematography for years.

"My mom watches movies constantly; it's how she unwinds," he says. "So I grew up with an abundance of films. Going into filmmaking was a no-brainer."

True to his roots, Conley is an avid film watcher. His favorite directors span across the globe, with Japanese filmmakers and Woody Allen topping the list.

Photography is Conley's true passion, though. Watching his films, it's clear his love for photography – unique lighting, blurred backgrounds, color contrasts – plays a major role.

"Photography is my passion, but filmmaking is what I want to be my career," Conley says. "That kind of hurts me, though. My films have little or no dialogue; they're more focused on the movement and the visuals."

Conley can hardly sit still while he watches his own films. He fidgets, trying to focus on anything else in the room.

After he's satisfied with the product, he tucks it away to spare it from further scrutiny. "I like waiting to see it when everyone else sees it," Conley says. "Otherwise, I'd edit it so much you could hardly recognize it, because an editor's job is never done."

With a full courseload and a 20-hour-a-week job to pay the rent, Conley has to squeeze filming into his busy schedule.

"Being in school and not having much money kind of holds me back," he says. "But I just try to not worry about things like budget. Instead, I get friends to act, I bor-

row equipment, I ask to film in public places for free, and they usually say yes."

His first short film, "Time Past," showcases the boredom young adults experience during their free time after school, before they have a solidified job or routine.

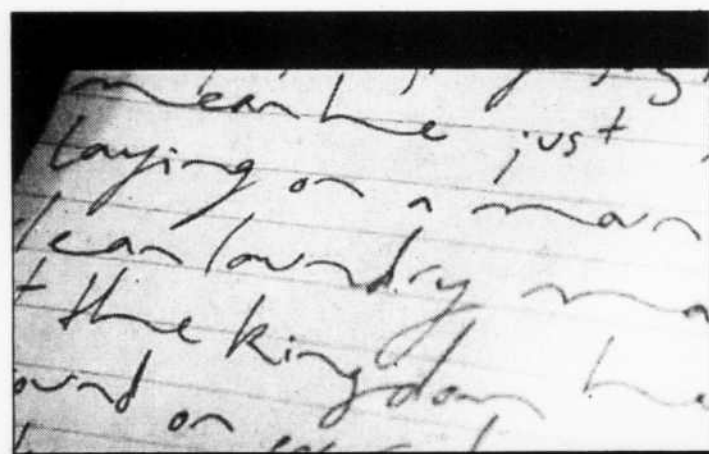
Conley's main – and only – character brushes his teeth for a good chunk of the five-minute film, and somehow, this seemingly bland shot successfully captures the incredible monotony of life. The loudest moment of the film comes when the character's phone rings, the most climactic moment when he chomps down on a chocolate glazed donut.

Conley's graceful cinematography makes it seem like so much more than that, though.

During this year's student film festival, Conley will be exhibiting "Une Lettré," appearing Tuesday at 7 p.m., "Furries," a documentary about the subculture of people who believe they are animals appearing Wednesday at 7 p.m., and "Can I Get a Witness?," a documentary of a day in the life of Jehovah's Witnesses, appearing Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Earlier this semester, "Can I Get a Witness?" won the Audience Award at MTSU's 48 Hour Film Festival. Though this year's student film festival will honor three submissions, Conley doesn't care much about the prospect of winning.

"It's so political," he says. "The same people usually win, the same people usually judge. I just want to exhibit my films, so I never walk in there like, 'Man, I want to win!' They look for a certain type; they think it should be A, B, C and D. It shouldn't be. I'd rather experiment." ♦



Photos courtesy of Sean Conley
In "Une Lettré," (top two), one letter changes perceptions; in "Furries" (below), the subculture of people who think they are animals is examined.

SPORTS

Raiders take series from Little Rock

Sunday, April 8
MTSU 8
UALR 7

Next Game at Asutin Peay,
April 10

By Cody Gibson

Staff Writer

Another weekend series, another two game split for the Blue Raiders. Middle Tennessee faced Arkansas-Little Rock Friday night and lost a thriller to the Trojans, 5-4.

The Blue Raiders got out to a quick 2-0 lead on a Justin Humphrey RBI single.

UALR answered back tying the game at 2-2. The Trojans then jumped out to 4-2 lead, when MT tied the score at four in the top of the eighth.

However, the Trojans were able to win the contest with a homerun from Osvaldo Torres. The Blue Raiders could not get anything going in the top of the ninth and Rawley Bishop

ended his 21-game hitting streak going 0-4 on the night.

The second game of the weekend featured Brad Robinson taking the hill for a team desperate for a win. Robinson did not disappoint allowing only one run over the course of seven innings as MT rolled 6-1.

As for the Middle Tennessee offense, the bats were on display as Rawley Bishop, Matt Ray, Wayne Kendrick and Adam Warren all collected two hits and contributed to the strong offensive effort.

Middle Tennessee has shown on offense this season where five Blue Raiders have collected an RBI each.

Middle Tennessee scored three runs in the first inning. Neither team added any more points until the fifth inning with Middle Tennessee scoring two runs in the top half. UALR did not score until the eighth inning when the game was already out of reach for the Trojans.

The final game of the series with UALR Sunday finished with MT pulling out a close one in the ninth inning 8-7.

The Blue Raiders will play a game against Austin Peay before facing Sun Belt Conference foe, New Orleans over the weekend.

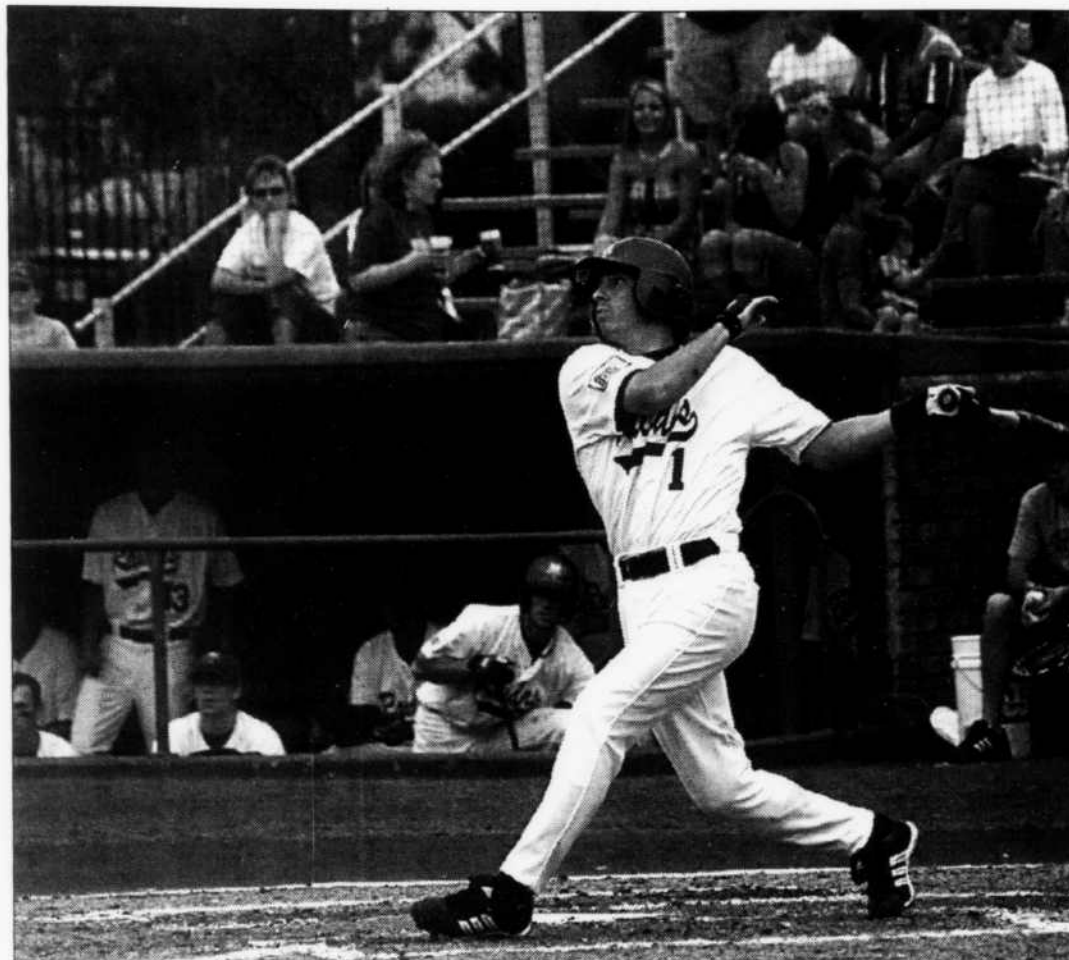
Middle Tennessee will travel to Austin Peay on Tuesday to face a Governors' team that has collected a 17-13 record along with a 4-5 record in the Ohio Valley Conference.

Austin Peay, has been successful on pitching mound this season. The team ERA of 4.03 is more than a run lower than that of the Blue Raiders so the pitching match up will be key in this Tuesday's match up.

Shawn Kelley has been the ace of the Governors and Middle Tennessee might see the right hander. Kelley has pitched three complete games already this season on his way to a 2.97 ERA with five victories on the lead.

Will Hogue continues to lead the team in hitting and has improved on his average which now sits at .356. The Blue Raiders must stop a pretty solid Governor offense.

MT defeated Austin Peay earlier this season 9-8. ♦



Senior Matt Ray went 2-for-4, with one RBI against UALR this past weekend in Little Rock, Ark.

Women's tennis squad squeaks by ASU

MT Media Relations

Middle Tennessee dropped the doubles point, but won the four of the first five completed singles matches, all in straight sets, in a 4-3 Blue Raider victory Saturday over Arkansas State at the Racquet Club of Murfreesboro.

The Blue Raiders (5-11) ended a six-match losing streak with the victory in a match pushed indoors because of the cold and windy weather on Saturday.

"We didn't look that good in doubles for the first time in long time. We were nervous and tight," MT head coach Alison Ojeda MT Media Relations. "But we looked much more relaxed and played smart in singles and it paid off."

Arkansas State won the first two completed doubles matches to take the first point of the match.

ASU's Roné van Wyk defeated Marlene Chemin and Elvira Yusupova, 8-4. ASU's Reneé Branker and Maria Oprea won 8-1 over Ann-Kristin Siljestrom and Stephanie Parkison. Middle Tennessee's Hala Sufi and Claudia Szabo won 8-2, over My-Hand Nguyen and Paula Chelminska.

The Blue Raiders bounced back with two quick singles vic-

MT 4, ASU 3	
SINGLES	
1. Hala Sufi (MT) def. Maria Oprea (ASU), 6-3, 6-1	
2. Ann-Kristin Siljestrom (MT) def. Zeljka Minic (ASU), 6-2, 6-1	
3. Roné van Wyk (ASU) def. Marlene Chemin (MT), 7-6 (4), 6-1	
4. Claudia Szabo (MT) def. Paula Chelminska (ASU), 6-2, 6-3	
5. Reneé Branker (ASU) def. Elvira Yusupova (MT), 7-5, 3-6, 10-3	
6. Stephanie Parkison (MT) def. Ashlesha Lokhande (ASU), 6-3, 6-2	
Order of Finish: 2,1,3,4,6*,5	
DOUBLES	
1. Sufi-Szabo def. My-Hand Nguyen-Chelminska, 8-2	
2. Branker-Oprea def. Siljestrom-Parkison (MT), 8-1	
3. van Wyk-Lokhande def. Chemin-Yusupova (MT), 8-4	
Order of Finish: 3,2*,1	

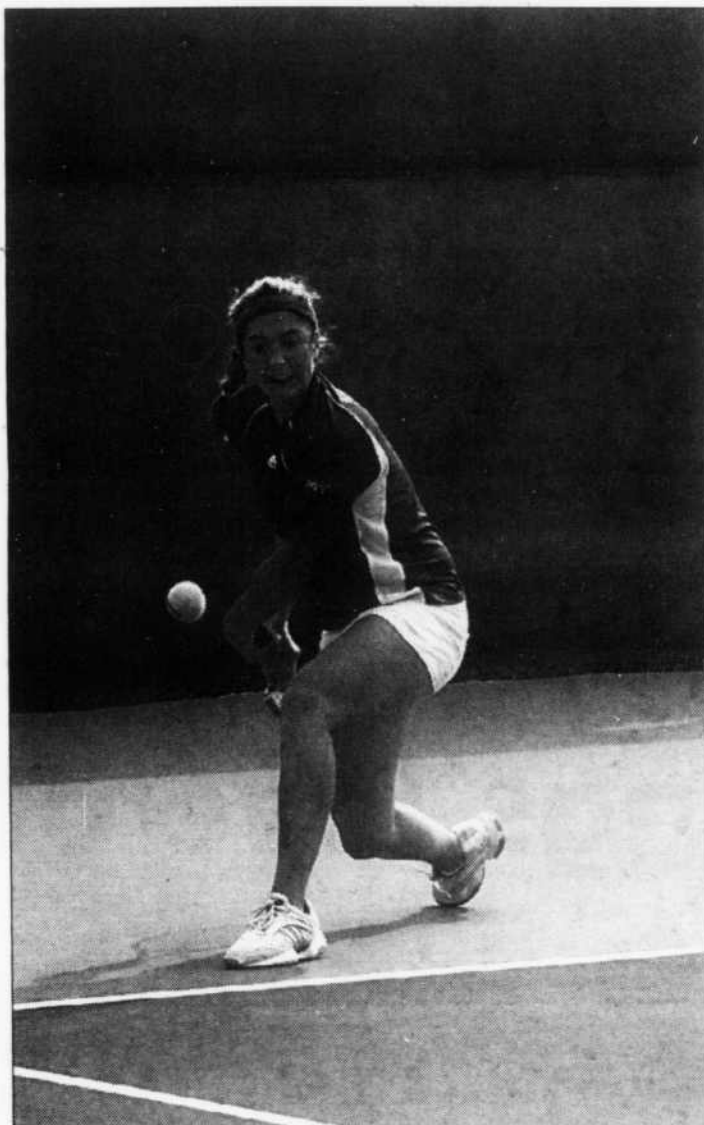
tories at the top of the lineup.

Siljestrom defeated Zeljka Minic, 6-2, 6-1. Sufi won 6-3, 6-1, over Oprea.

But van Wyk tied the match at two with a 7-6 (4), 6-1, triumph over Chemin. Middle Tennessee retook the lead, as Szabo defeated Chelminska, 6-2, 6-3. Parkison's 6-3, 6-2, win clinched the victory for the Blue Raiders.

ASU won the final match on the court, as Branker defeated Yusupova, 7-5, 3-6, 10-3.

Middle Tennessee hosts Troy Sunday at 1 p.m. ♦



Junior Claudia Szabo beat Chelminska, 6-2, 6-3 to win a singles point for the team.



I am Sportacus

J. Owen Shipley
Staff Columnist

Easter kills opportunity for Stockstill interview

When I met with my editor this week to discuss my final five columns of the school year, the first thing on our agenda was an interview with head football coach Rick Stockstill. He made it to the first bowl appearance in MT's I-A history coaching someone else's team.

This season, we will get a much better idea of what football in the Stockstill-era should look like. He has an entire off-season to prepare his first full class of recruits, and won't have to waste as much time familiarizing players with a new system. We decided that this was the perfect time to find out just how much progress has been made so far.

I was officially excited to talk football again, and my editor was probably just as ready for me to write a good column again.

Unfortunately, I am either the worst Catholic ever or this has just been the busiest semester in years because I completely forgot what week this was - including my own mother's birthday. Sorry, Mom. Unbeknownst to us, we were thinking about interviewing Stockstill on Good Friday, but we forgot that this was Easter weekend.

It was no surprise that Stockstill didn't think to answer his cell on a holiday devoted to family time. Luckily, the transcript of a very in-depth interview with Stockstill is available online and I have that to pull from and give you an idea where the Raiders are. Therefore, without further ado: MT's spring in Stockstill's words from MT Media Relations Q&A from March 15, 2007.

First off, it's important to note that spring practice, though it encompasses a few scrimmages and the blue and white slugfest. Still, a lot can be accomplished and Stockstill has several goals for his team during the spring session.

"I think one [goal] is to develop our leaders to take us through the summer and into fall," Stockstill told MT Media Relations. "We have several positions that are wide open with a returning starter so we need to find out who can fill those spots, but some are a little

safer than others."

One of the main things I wanted to ask Stockstill about was the way strength and toughness seemed to play a key role in MT's losses last year.

Reports that new strength coach Russell Patterson is making a lot of progress are encouraging, but I wondered if it was a major priority. Luckily, it was and Stockstill just happened to mention it on his own.

"We have to create a little more toughness and make all our players realize you don't just show up and play," Stockstill told MT Relations. "Some attitudes still need to be changed and we need to make sure none of us live in the past."

Stockstill also elaborated on what last season meant to him and how it will be every bit the challenge to continue the success of '06 as it was to create it.

"From a football standpoint we have to continue to play hard and play smart," Stockstill told MT Media Relations. "We have to understand that last year was the first time this team has had any success and we need for them to understand what it takes to win year-in and year-out."

"The biggest thing right now is to not get complacent because last year was a one-time thing. We need to do it two times, three times and so on. We will not let up as a coaching staff and we are not going to forget what it took to be champions. Our kids have worked harder this off-season than last off-season, which is a good sign. We are all hungry for more success," Stockstill said to MT Relations.

I like the sound of that. We'll have a better idea just how much of an appetite the Blue Raiders have this weekend when they play the annual Blue and White game.

I'm assuming that the weather should be warmer by then. For all of us football fans suffering from F.A.D. [football affective disorder], Saturday will be our only chance to get a quick fix before the long, cold summer that precludes the NFL and NCAA seasons. See you there.

♦ J. Owen Shipley is a junior English major and can be reached at myspace.com/lamsportacus.

MT softball unable to sweep North Texas

Sunday, April 8
North Texas 3
MTSU 2

Next Game at Southern Illinois,
April 11

MT Media Relations

Samantha Floyd had another strong outing but the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders 20-22, 9-6 could not overcome an early deficit as they dropped the final game of the series against the North Texas Mean Green 16-26, 8-7 at Blue Raider Field on Sunday, 3-2.

The Blue Raiders came into the day with the series already decided after they took both games versus the Mean Green on Saturday.

Blue Raider Starter Amy Candiotto 1-2 picked up the loss, giving up three earned runs on four hits in while striking out one and walking none in 1.2 innings.

Floyd pitched most of the game for Middle Tennessee, giving up no runs and no hits while striking out three and walking one in 5.1 innings. She continued

her string of stupendous performances, including wins against North Texas on Saturday and Louisiana-Monroe last Sunday.

Ashley Lail 10-9 got the start and win for the Mean Green, giving up two runs on four hits while striking out four and walking three in the complete game.

After a scoreless first inning, North Texas opened the game up in their favor when Katie Platt doubled down the left, driving in Kristina Fowler and leaving the Mean Green with an early 1-0 lead.

The very next batter, Danielle Rupp, ripped a two-run home run over the wall in centerfield to increase their lead to 3-0.

The Blue Raiders responded in the bottom of the third inning when Caitlin McClure singled up the middle, driving in Corrie Abel. Later in the inning, Whitney Darlington hit her team-leading 27 RBI of the season to cut the North Texas lead to a single run.

Despite holding the Mean Green scoreless over the final five innings, MT was unable to capitalize.

McClure was 2-for-3 with one run scored and one RBI to lead the Blue Raider offense. Ashley Cline stole her team-leading 25th

base of the season.

Floyd threw a masterful complete game to pick up her fifth win of the season defeated North Texas in the second game of a doubleheader at Blue Raider Field, 2-0.

Floyd, who has shown great pitch control as of late, picked up her second straight conference win of the season, giving up no runs and four hits while striking out seven and walking none.

Lail picked up the start and the loss for the Mean Green, giving up one earned run on seven hits, while striking out one and walking none.

The Blue Raiders took the lead in the bottom of the 4th inning when Martha Davis picked up her 20th RBI of the season with a single to left field, driving in Whitney Darlington.

Darlington finished the day 2-for-3 with two runs scored and one RBI.

Middle Tennessee added two more runs in the 6th inning, one on what has to be one of their craziest plays of the season. On a single play, the Blue Raiders had three steals, one hit and one run to move ahead 2-0.

On very next at-bat, Davis singled to right field, playing Darlington and giving MT their third and final run of the game as

they picked up their 20th win of the season and moved them within one game of achieving double-digit conference wins on the season.

Davis was 2-for-3 with two RBI to increase her average to .336.

Lindsey Vander Lugt gave up just one earned run on six hits and Ashley Cline stole her 23rd base of the season over the North Texas at Blue Raider Field on Saturday, 3-1.

The Blue Raiders returned to conference action in the first game of a doubleheader after dropping both games of a mid-week doubleheader against in-state rivals Memphis on Wednesday.

Vander Lugt 14-14 got the start for the Blue Raiders and picked up the complete game win, giving up just one earned run on six hits while striking out five and walking one. During the series with Memphis she became the first freshman pitcher since Stayc Preator in the year 2000 to achieve 100 strikeouts in a season.

Mean Green reliever Kristina Fowler 4-12 picked up the loss, giving up three runs on seven hits while striking out one and

See Softball, 7

Softball: North Texas Series
Continued from 6

walking two over six innings. Although not the official starter, she threw the entire game for North Texas as she relieved starter Lail before the first pitch was thrown.

The Blue Raiders got on board first in the bottom of the 2nd inning when Katie Mielke singled to the shortstop, driving in Cline for her 23 RBI on the season. Earlier in the inning, Cline stole her team-leading 22 base on the year.

On the very next at-bat, Justine Cerda singled up the middle, driving in Katie Mielke and doubling the Blue Raider advantage. MT added another run in the bottom of the 3rd inning to take a 3-0 lead.

North Texas cut into the lead in their half of the 4th inning when Kristina Fowler

drove in Susan Waters and leaving the game at 3-1.

Middle Tennessee had a chance to increase their advantage later in the inning but could not capitalize with the bases loaded as pinch-hitter Melissa Weiland ended the inning by grounding into a double play.

The Blue Raiders held on despite the Mean Greens leading the bases in the top of the 7th inning en route to picking up their conference eighth win of the season. They topped their conference win total from last season when they defeated UL-Monroe last Sunday to give them seven on the year.

Middle Tennessee returns to action at Blue Raider Field on Wednesday in a single game against Southern Illinois. Game time is set for 4 p.m. ♦

We're looking of sports writers for the summer. Drop by the office Mass Comm 269 anytime and fill out an application.

Intramural and club sports wanting to be spotlighted this summer should also contact us.

TUESDAY NIGHT SCORES SOFTBALL			
IFC B LEAGUE 8 p.m.			
SAE 11	BETA (B)	14	
PIKE 10	Sigma Pi	10	
IFC A LEAGUE 9, 10 p.m.			
AGR 7	ATO Win		
Sigma Chi 3	Angry Apes Default		
SAE (A) 18			
Pi Kappa Phi 0			
10 o'clock games cancelled due to inclement weather			
TUESDAY NIGHT SCORES ARENA FOOTBALL			
IFC B LEAGUE 6-7 p.m.			
Sig Ep	Win	SAE (B)	57
PIKE (B)	Default	BETA (B)	40
MEN'S B LEAGUE 8, 10 p.m.			
Body Head Bangerz 84	Free Agents 77		
The Show	75 RawDogz	60	
Free Agents 90			
The Show 54			

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCORES SOFTBALL			
MEN'S A LEAGUE 9, 10 p.m.			
Rawdogz 16	Hard Hitters 18		
Lions 1	University Gables 8		
Fire 1804 17	Tigers 29		
No Doubt 8	Army ROTC 8		
Blue Ballaz 12	Tightie Whitties 21		
Great Bambinos 5	Ninja Turtles 2		
Great Bambinos 24	Uni'ty Gables 13		
Ninja Turtle 18	Lions 1		
Fire 1804 15			
Blue Ballaz 5			
WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCORES ARENA FOOTBALL			
IFC A LEAGUE 7, 10 p.m.			
BETA 61	Kappa Alpha 85		
ATO 53	Sigma Chi 11		
PIKE	Winner	Sig Ep 74	
SAE (A)	Forfeit	Pi Kappa Phi 34	

THURSDAY NIGHTS SCORES SOFTBALL			
MEN'S B LEAGUE 8 p.m.			
The Twelve 9	Sons of Thunder III 17		
Air Force ROTC 5	Primetime 5		
Outlaws	Winner		
Alpha Eta Rho	Forfeit		
CO-REC LEAGUE 9, 10 p.m.			
Bailers	Win	M'boroBiscuits 8	
Shortness	Forfeit	The RFCer's 6	
Team Soul Train 12			
Sandlot Wannabe's 4			
The Grovers Win			
The Ringers			
Gamma Beta Phi 8			
SpiderMonkeys 12			
Big Blue Wrecking Crew 3			
WeFo 11			
THURSDAY NIGHTS SCORES ARENA FOOTBALL			
MEN'S A LEAGUE 8, 10 p.m.			
Primetime 69	Primetime 56		
BTS 35	Walrus Avengers 51		
OSC 68			
Walrus Avengers 66			

SOFTBALL RECORDS SPRING 2007			
MONDAY NIGHT (3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9)			
WOMEN'S / SORORITY			
WINS		LOSSES	
A D Pi	1	2	
X O	0	3	
A X O	0	3	
K D	3	0	
A O Pi	2	1	
Free Agents	3	0	
The Parrotheads	2	1	
The Breakneck	1	2	
CO-REC			
WINS		LOSSES	
Granny Panties	3	0	
Softballs	0	3	
Tent Pitchers	2	1	
Oversized Balls	1	2	
BTS	3	0	
The Astronauts	0	3	
G Blare	1	2	
Killa B	2	1	
Masterbatters	3	0	
Show Stoppers	2	1	
MTSU All-Stars	2	1	
IM Embarrassed	0	3	
Billirubin	0	3	
Weedwackers	2	1	
TUESDAY NIGHT (3/20, 3/27, 4/3, 4/10)			
IFC B		LOSSES	
WINS		LOSSES	
Sigma Pi	0	3	
BETA	1	2	
PIKE	2	1	
SAE	3	0	
IFC A			
WINS		LOSSES	
PIKE	3	0	
BETA	2	1	
K A	2	1	
AGR	2	1	
Angry Apes	0	3	
Sig Ep	2	1	
Sigma Pi	3	0	
Pi Kappa Ph	11	2	
SAE	3	0	
ATO	1	2	
Sigma Chi	2	1	
TKE	1	2	
MEN'S B			
WINS		LOSSES	
RUF / Warrior Face 2	0		
BTS	1	2	
Rebels	3	0	
The Nads	2	1	
Kappa Sig	2	1	
Porn Stars	1	1	
WEDNESDAY NIGHT (3/21, 3/28, 4/2, 4/9)			
MEN'S A			
WINS		LOSSES	
University Gables 2	1		
Rawdogz	1	1	
Tightie Whitties	2	0	
Blue Ballaz	2	1	
Fire 1804	3	0	
Army ROTC	0	2	
Lions	1	2	
Tigers	1	2	
Ninja Turtles	0	3	
Hard Hitters	1	1	
No Doubt	0	2	
The Great Bambinos	1	2	
THURSDAY NIGHT (3/21, 3/28, 4/2, 4/9)			
MEN'S B			
WINS		LOSSES	
Alpha Eta Rho	1	2	
Primetime	1	1	
Sons of Thunder III	3	0	
Air Force ROTC	1	2	
The Twelve	1	2	
Outlaws	2	1	
CO-REC			
WINS		LOSSES	
M'boro Biscuits	2	1	
The RFCer's	1	1	
Gamma Beta Phi	1	1	
Sandlot Wannabe's	2	1	
Shortness	0	2	
WeFo	1	2	
The Ringers	0	3	
Big Blue Wreckin Crew	1	2	
The Grovers	3	0	
Spider Monkeys	1	2	
Soul Train	3	0	
Bailers	1	2	

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Continued from last column

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Continued from last column

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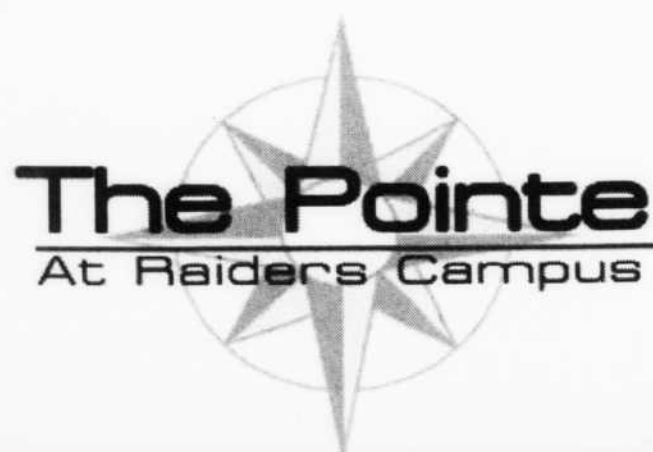
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