

WEDNESDAY

JULY 2, 2003

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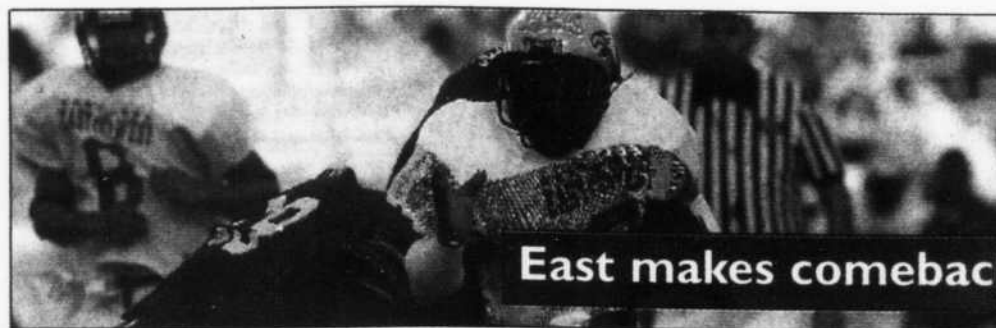
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Scattered Thunderstorms



This week's poll question at
www.mtsusidelines.com

What do you think is the cause
of declining album sales
in the record industry?



In Sports, page 6

East makes comeback in '03 Shrine Bowl

The university's
editorially independent
student newspaper

SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

Volume 79 No. 5

Campus Briefs

Fraternity, sorority recruitment forms due

Fall recruitment for the Interfraternity Council will begin Aug. 25 and Panhellenic Council recruitment will begin Aug. 15. Recruitment will give prospective members the opportunity to learn more about each fraternity and sorority and their different activities and programs.

Applications for the Panhellenic Council are due Aug. 1 and Interfraternity Council applications are due Aug. 21 in the Keathley University Center, Room 326S.

For more information about the Interfraternity Council, please contact Michael Ceccarelli at 631-2162. For more information about the Panhellenic Council, please contact Kim Godwin at 898-5812.

Water aerobics classes offered at Rec Center

MTSU's Recreation Center is offering water aerobics classes in the mornings and evenings.

The morning class is Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. The evening class is Monday through Thursday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Both classes are in the Rec Center's indoor pool and feature both deep and shallow water aerobics.

The classes are open to Rec Center members, students, faculty and staff. The cost is \$1 per class or \$20 for 26 classes.

For more information, contact Pam Footit at 898-2104.

June Anderson scholars featured on radio show

WMOT-FM 89.5 will air a prerecorded "On the Record" radio show on the topic of June Anderson scholars.

The show will feature guest speakers Rebecca Fraley, Jill Roberson and Linda Hendrickson, three MTSU students who received scholarships from the June Anderson Women's Center.

Five scholarships were awarded for a total of \$15,000 to non-traditional female students ages 23 or older in careers typically occupied by men.

For more information about the radio show, contact News and Public Affairs at 898-2919. For more information about the June Anderson Women's Center, visit the Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~jawc.

Freshman Customs resumes orientation

The first Customs of July begins Monday, July 7 and runs through July 8. Customs is MTSU's optional orientation program for new students, which allows freshmen to tour the residence halls and meet with academic advisers.

For more information about Customs, contact Gina Poff, director of student development, at 898-2454 or via e-mail at ghpoff@mtsu.edu.

Graduate in action



Photo provided by Mark Martin

MTSU graduate Mark Martin covered the war in Najaf, Iraq, for News Channel 5.

Alumnus videotapes war footage in desert

By Shana Hammaker
Staff Writer

Mark Martin, an MTSU graduate who now works for WTVF News Channel 5 in Nashville, has recently returned from his assignment embedded with the 101st Division in Iraq.

Martin and reporter Dana Kaye were in Iraq, working and living closely with the soldiers.

Kaye and Martin found that their experiences in the Middle East challenged their perceptions of journalism and shattered their previously held beliefs about who and what the U.S. military is.

"Now I see the Army as [composed of] individuals, not just an entity," Martin said.



Photo provided by Mark Martin

Martin, in a Bedouin camp south of Nasiri, Iraq, was on assignment with Fort Campbell's 101st Airborne.

Martin said there has been nothing in his professional experience that could have prepared him for his experiences as an embedded jour-

nalist in a war zone. Typically, he explained, journalists have to surmount

See Martin, 2

TBR approves another hike in tuition, fees

By Kristin Hall
News Editor

Without discussion, the Tennessee Board of Regents raised tuition 14 percent on Friday in addition to an increase in fees, a total 16.5 percent increase for MTSU students.

An extra \$385 will be added to tuition for in-state full-time students at MTSU, Austin Peay, East Tennessee State, Tennessee State and Tennessee Tech. In-state undergraduates at the University of Memphis will have to pay \$430 extra this fall.

The current fee total of \$1,374 per semester will be increased to \$1,556, a raise of \$192.

The increases, which were recommended unanimously by the board's Committee of Finance and Business Operations, will at least marginally compensate for the loss of state appropriations.

"Just in tuition alone, the Regents would have had to increase it by 19-20 percent to replace the money that was cut out," said MTSU President Sidney McPhee.

The tuition increase will yield about \$50.6 million for the TBR system, not quite enough to make up the loss of \$57.3 million from state budget cuts.

"Right now, Tennessee has not really supported higher education like it should," McPhee said.

"During the good times, when the economy was good, we weren't getting that kind of

support, and now that it is bad, it has exacerbated the problem."

MTSU had to cut \$8 million from the 2003-2004 budget due to the 9 percent reduction of state funds for higher education this fiscal year.

That resulted in the loss of 85 faculty positions, but McPhee said the tuition increase should provide the university enough revenue to restore some of those positions.

"If we had not gotten an increase of that magnitude, you would have seen a significant impact on classes [and] the level of difficulty of getting in classes," McPhee said.

The university will try to ease the increasing financial weight on students by exploring options for external revenue and finding ways to run the university more efficiently.

"We have to make sure our scholarships and grant programs increase to help offset some of the costs and burdens on our students," McPhee said.

Tennessee college students have seen a steady increase in tuition over the past years. Last school year, tuition at TBR institutions increased 7.5 percent. Two years ago, the increase was 15 percent.

Continual increases in tuition may force students to leave the school or take on more employment outside of school.

"If someone can get the same education for less money, they will go there," said Jennifer Wilcox, sophomore mass communications major.

"I know a lot of friends who work and go to school, and this is quite a substantial increase," Wilcox said.

Tennessee is one of 16 states in the Southern Regional

See Tuition, 2

Arts program continues tradition despite budget

Governor's School runs through July

By Matt Orenstein
Staff Writer

The Governor's School for the Arts returns to campus this year with the same low budget.

"People are doing it for the love of the program," said director Dale McGilliard.

The past 18 years the Governor's School for the Arts' budget has stayed the same; however, costs for housing and feeding students have risen each

year.

This has caused the number of accepted students to decrease from 300 participants to 229 this year. The 229 participants were from a prospectus of 250.

The Governor's School for the Arts covers all the costs of the four-week school, which is held from June 15 to July 12.

This includes dorms, tuition, meals, special trips, labs and lectures.

The money is pulled from the budget of the Department of Education through funds appropriated by the General Assembly.

The numbers of accepted students have been dropping steadily over the past few years so the number of activities wouldn't decline.

That, however, doesn't mean things haven't been changed activity-wise due to the budget.

Fourteen years ago, the finale for the Governor's School for the Arts participants was held at Tennessee Performing Arts Center.

Now it occurs at the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building.

See School, 2



Photo by Jenny Cordle | Chief Photographer

Governor's School students Cheryl Hurley, left, and Blaire Monroe, right, dance in Nancy Ammerman's class.

Academy comes to MTSU

By Mealand Ragland
Staff Writer

Next week, MTSU will host 45 teachers for the Academy for Teachers of the Gifted.

The academy, now in its fifth year, lasts 10 days. In that time, the teachers will learn new concepts to use in their K-12 gifted classroom setting.

"The academy prepares teachers to teach [gifted students] in a short time," Bella Higdon, the academy's director, said.

In addition, teachers can receive college credit for participating in the program. Also, those who are teaching on

waivers due to shortages will receive the proper certification they need to teach gifted students.

"They can earn three credit hours in Educational Procedures and three credit hours for Characteristics and Needs of Gifted Children," Higdon said.

This year's academy was funded by longtime Murfreesboro residents Jennings and Rebecca Jones and a grant from the Tennessee Higher Education Committee, which is given to improve teacher quality, according to a

See Gifted, 2

Disciplinary records open to victims

By Kristin Hall
News Editor

A new state law will require Tennessee's public colleges and universities to reveal disciplinary actions under certain circumstances, but some higher education officials question the law's purpose.

"The difficulty with this law is that there are a lot of people who labor under the impression that universities are trying to keep information hidden from students," said Robert Glenn, vice president for Student Affairs.

The law amended the rules on confidential records as previ-

ously set by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, which states that a student's records are confidential unless otherwise authorized by the student.

Sponsored by Rep. Harry Brooks and Sen. Tim Burchett, both from Knoxville, the amendment will allow victims of violent crimes or nonforcible sexual offenses to find out the final results of university disciplinary proceedings against the perpetrator.



Burchett

"Under the previous situation, before the exception was provided, we were prevented by FERPA from releasing to the victim of the assault what happened," Glenn said.

"This particular bill had been attempted some years ago," Brooks said.

"I think the media folks, video and print media, were very interested in it because

See Records, 2



Brooks

School: Mentors instruct students in visual arts, theater

Continued from 1

"I did up the counselor's pay a little bit, but they still aren't getting anything," McGilliard said.

There are 30 to 35 faculty and about 20 counselors this year.

A number of the counselors this year attended the school themselves when they were younger.

The school had the full support of Gov. Phil Bredeson, McGilliard said.

However, there was just not enough money in the budget and Tennessee has had some money issues.

The Governor's School for the Arts had to go to outside companies and other places to get funds.

Bandit Lites, a national lighting company, was the main corporate sponsor for this year's school.

Other sponsors included the Tennessee Department of Education, the Tennessee Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts.

To help deal with the budget issues of this year, the Governor's School for the Arts charged a \$50 activities fee to each participant.

This is the first time 18 years that the students have been charged any money to attend school.

The organizers used the activities fee to cover the rent-

ing of buses so that the students could go out at night.

They generally took trips to the mall, movies, plays and the skating rink.

The program's goal has been to give the students a chance to interact with well-trained mentors and give an exceptional learning experience to its students.

The program selected the students through auditions held over three weekends in February and March.

More than 1,100 students auditioned for the school.

"They [the auditions] are very competitive," Ellen Few said.

Few was a past competitor for entrance to the Governor's School for the Arts.

The criteria for entering the school were good academic standing in the 10th or 11th grade.

The student must not have attended any of the other Governor's Schools and his or her teacher from the area in which they are applying must recommend him or her.

The school was made up of four different categories with subcategories in each one.

The first is theater, which is made up of sound, lighting, set design and performance, and is held at the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building.

The second is dance, which includes ballet, jazz and modern dance, and is held at the

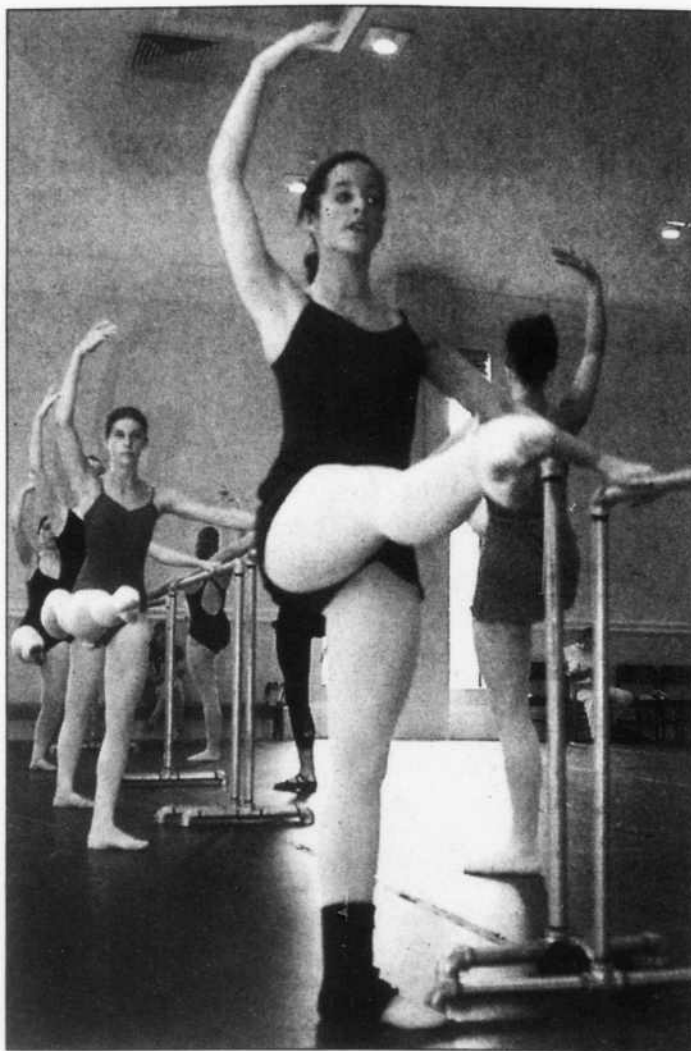


Photo by Jemmu Cordle | Chief Photographer

Cheryl Hurley performs at the Belle Aire dance hall.

Bell Aire Building.

The third is visual arts, which includes clay, charcoal and photography, and is held at the Wright Music Building and the Art Barn.

The fourth is music and is broken down into piano, chorale, orchestra and symphony, and is held at the Wright Music Building. ♦

Records: Law allows release of violator's name, outcome

Continued from 1

they saw colleges and universities moving things to a student administration hearing rather than putting it on a police record," Brooks said.

If a crime occurs on campus between students, the victim has the choice of allowing the university to discipline the offender if he or she is found guilty or taking legal action against the accused perpetrator in a court of law.

Assistant Dean for Judicial Affairs John Dickerson said that some cases have gone to both legal courts and university discipline hearings.

"For instance if a student gets caught drinking and driving on campus, they have the legal penalties [and] criminal penalties, as well as whatever the university decides," Dickerson said.

Glenn said that many students choose to let the university handle cases because of the differences in levels of responsibility.

"A criminal trial is, quite appropriately, very high standard and they [the victim] must prove beyond reasonable doubt," Glenn said.

"In a disciplinary hearing it is a preponderance of evidence. In other words you have to prove more likely than not."

Once a complaint has been

filed with the office of Judicial Affairs and mediation, Dickerson will conduct an investigation and meet with all the students involved.

"We handle 98 percent of our cases administratively, which means I make the decision," Dickerson explained.

If Dickerson recommends expulsion or suspension or there are disputed facts, the case goes to the University Discipline Committee, which is composed of members appointed by the university president.

"All we can release in of these situations is the violator's name, the outcome of the hearing and any sanction issued," Dickerson said.

Still Glenn said that supporters of this new amendment are under the impression that universities are pushing students to settle crimes internally rather than letting them go into public court.

"The claim is that colleges are keeping people from taking legal action and instead scurrying these offenses into Star Chamber sessions where they are handled quickly, quietly and swept under the rug," Glenn said.

"But we have never and will never, as long as I am sitting in this chair, ever discourage someone from taking legal action." ♦

Gifted: Publisher, NASA speaker to teach new methods

Continued from 1

press release.

The ITQ grant from THEC serves as the largest federal initiative for using professional development to improve teaching and learning, Higdon said.

While there are universities and school systems that offer course work and in-service training, only the ATG provides room, board and a \$500 stipend.

However, acceptance to the academy is limited, with priority going to those teaching in urban areas or in rural, isolated schools, said Higdon, who is also an associate professor of elementary and special education at MTSU.

During the first week of the academy, participants will focus on strategies that will help them better teach math and science as well as learn how to identify gifted students.

Speakers from all over the country will attend the academy.

Judy Galbraith, an independent publisher, will serve as the national speaker.

Galbraith's books include *The Gifted Kids' Survival Guide: A Teen Book and You Know Your Child is Gifted When...* and *A Beginner's Guide to Life on the Bright Side*.

There will also be a speaker from NASA who will help the teachers learn the methods of teaching science to their stu-

dents.

The following week, 200 of the 700 gifted children from the Rutherford County and Murfreesboro City school systems will come to campus to participate in labs created by the teachers.

The labs will cover subjects such as creative writing, technology and contemporary issues.

During the week, there will be various competitions for the students to take part in, such as a talent show.

Elementary school students will have their labs at the Homer Pittard Campus School, middle schoolers will meet in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building and high school stu-

dents will gather in the Business and Aerospace Building.

Funding programs for gifted students is also hard to do.

If parents of non-gifted students see a gifted student doing well without any extra help, they are reluctant to promote and develop new programs, according to Higdon.

"They seem to think that because these children already have an advantage that they don't need the extra help," Higdon said.

"That's not true. Give them something different, and you'll see how much further they can go." ♦

Continued from 1

Education Board, which compares educational trends among Tennessee's surrounding states.

Tuition rates have risen 41.2 percent in Tennessee from 1997 to 2002, the second-largest increase in the area, according to the SREB Fact Book on Higher Education 2003.

"If this trend continues over the next several years, I think it would have an impact on students' ability to attend college," McPhee said.

"My hope is that we can abate some of these significant increases in the years to come, but I don't think we are there yet." ♦

Martin: Graduate learns pressure of military life

Continued from 1

all kinds of obstacles in pursuit of a story.

In general, information gathering can be difficult and frustrating, Martin said.

In Iraq, however, he found the opposite to be true.

Martin recounted his initial shock at the amount of access he had to people, places and information.

Whereas the regular work of a journalist can be described as making do with too little information, Martin described the work of a journalist embedded with the military as learning how to handle a flood of information, not all of which can be reported.

Another clear difference cited by Martin between working as a journalist in Iraq versus Nashville was risk.

The business of shooting compelling video every day carried with it enormous risks that no journalist could ignore.

He recalled an incident at Camp New Jersey in Kuwait. The 101st Division was staging a ground assault convoy to go forward when they received an alert of a scud missile attack.

Martin laughed as he reflected on how the reality of the juggling act he had performed as a journalist in a war zone was brought home with jarring clarity that night.

"I sat there with video cameras in one hand and a gas mask in the other," Martin said.

"I wanted to get shots of the whole thing, but no one knew for sure if we had come under a gas attack."

Another tense memory Martin described was crossing the border between Kuwait and Iraq with the division under the cover of darkness, while the sound of Tomahawk missiles raining down on Baghdad serenaded their procession.

"There must have been 15 that I counted as we crossed the border," Martin said.

Martin spent more than a month living in very close quarters with the 101st Division.

He toiled, ate, slept, laughed and relaxed with the soldiers.

During that time, Martin developed feelings of camaraderie with the enlisted men and women.

In fact, he cited, that among the most significant experiences and lessons he took with him from the Middle East, was his newfound respect for and relationship with the men and women of the U.S. military.

Martin indicated that one of the things he was most proud of was a practice of his colleague, Kaye.

Every time she taped an interview with a soldier or officer that was intended to be aired on television, Kaye would contact the Channel 5 news room in Nashville with the names and telephone numbers of the soldier's family members so they could be contacted in time to watch the news.

For Martin, shooting video footage in Iraq was anything but another day on the job.

Amidst the excitement, fear, and homesickness, the thing that stands out most in his mind is his change of perspective on the military. ♦

Need to let the campus know about an event your group is sponsoring?

Sidelines' Campus Events calendar can help.

Clip the form below, fill it out and return it to the James Union Building, Room 310.

Campus Events

The following guidelines apply to all:

1. Forms must be submitted by deadline to be considered for publication. Campus Events run each Monday in the Living section, so forms should be submitted by Saturday night.
2. Every attempt will be made to run your announcement as often as possible, but priority will be given to events with the most immediacy.
3. We reserve the right to limit announcements to campus events only.
4. Sidelines does not guarantee placement of any submission.

Name of person placing this notice _____ Date _____

Organization _____ Event _____

Date of event _____ Time _____ Location _____

Contact name _____ Phone no. _____

Notes _____

Return this form to Sidelines, MTSU Box 8, or bring to James Union Building, Room 310

Got something to shout about?
Sound off!



SIDELINES ONLINE

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Visit the message boards at
www.mtsusidelines.com.

From the Editorial Board Young academics deserve more funding

Are you ready for this jelly?

One year after the sales tax was raised to one of the highest levels in the country and tuition was raised 7.5 percent, the Tennessee Board of Regents has approved an even larger tuition hike – and, with the added fees, it represents one of the largest increases in recent memory.

This is the umpteenth raise in as many years. Consequently, our staff's cries of "Stop raising our tuition," "Please, sir, we can't take any more" and "Are roads really more important than education?" are beginning to sound repetitive. We'll gladly stop whining – when the state stops cutting funding and tuition hikes stumble to an inflation-based crawl.

Furthermore, when Gov. Phil Bredesen announced his budget for next year, he decreed that K-12 education would not only be protected from cuts, but would receive an increase in funds. However, one of the best programs in the state for high schoolers, the Governor's Schools, had to charge its attendees an activity fee this year.

The Governor's Schools have long been a shining achievement of the Tennessee education system. While the state is lacking in other special programs for top students, the unique opportunities provided were a beacon of light to many in underperforming schools.

These programs are available elsewhere – if you've got the pretty penny to pay for it. One of the best part of the Governor's Schools program was that it was free, which ensured that high schoolers from all economic backgrounds would have the opportunity to focus on the subject they were most passionate about.

When it comes to funding for Tennessee's best and brightest (the secondary schoolers that qualify for the Governor's Schools and the higher education students), where's the commitment? ◆

Ruling opens doors, minds for gays



Wit and Wonder
Callie Elizabeth Butler
Staff Columnist

On Thursday, the Supreme Court struck down a Texas sodomy law that made gay sex an illegal act, reversing a ruling in a case concerning Georgia 17 years ago that upheld the anti-sodomy law.

Lawrence v. Texas was an appeal of a ruling with the Texas Court of Appeals that upheld a law that barred "deviate sexual intercourse."

John Lawrence and Tyron Garner were discovered by Houston police having sex during a response to a false report of a disturbance and were arrested. Both were fined \$200, spent the night in jail and plead no contest to sodomy charges.

Anti-sodomy laws were on the books in all 50 states until 1961, and the number dropped to only

24 states by 1968. The Supreme Court's ruling invalidated the remaining laws in 13 states.

In 1986, a Georgia anti-sodomy statute was upheld by the Supreme Court, applying to heterosexual and homosexual couples, but was later voided in the state. Thursday's 6-to-3 Texas decision, however, showed a dramatic turn in the court's view of sodomy laws.

In the majority decision, written by Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, the court stated, "The state cannot demean their existence or control their destiny by making their private sexual conduct a crime."

This new ruling is a victory for everyone, heterosexual and homosexual couples alike. Individual states should not possess the power to prance into Americans' bedrooms and dictate sexual behavior between consenting adults.

No form of sexual expression between adults should be deemed a crime, regardless of its nature.

Justice Antonin Scalia wrote the dissenting opinion, within which he noted that this ruling could, in his opinion, open the doors to same-sex marriages.

"This reasoning," wrote Scalia, "leaves on shaky, pretty shaky, grounds state laws limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples."

And why shouldn't it? It's clearly time for those opposing same-sex unions to wake up and realize that there is no threat to the union of a man and woman when two men or two women tie the knot. This would allow couples to be recognized as life-long partners and allow them the legal rights they are entitled to within marriage.

It does not strike down the fiber of marriage – if anything, allowing same-sex marriages would celebrate the spirit of marriage: love, trust and companionship.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist took this as his moment to stand up against homosexual mar-

riage, deeming such a union an attack on American values and a threat to traditional marriage, and standing in support of a constitutional amendment that would ban such marriages.

In an interview on ABC's *This Week*, Frist said, "I have this fear that this zone of privacy that we all want protected in our own homes is gradually – or I'm concerned about the potential for it gradually – being encroached upon, where criminal activity within the home would in some way be condoned."

Defining his stance on same-sex marriage, Frist continued, saying "Marriage is a sacrament, and that sacrament should extend and can extend to that legal entity of a union between – what is traditionally in our Western values has been defined – as between a man and a woman. So I would support the amendment."

What Western 'values' does Frist speak of? The West – specifically the

United States – is a melting pot of various cultures, backgrounds, religions and even sexual preferences. The idea of a defined Western value is an outdated one. Today, the United States is filled with various beliefs and values, and there is no way to narrow that diversity into one statement that would represent everyone.

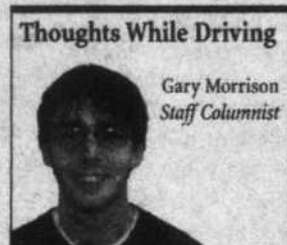
The Supreme Court's decision was a valid and just one, providing a forced, but needed, wake-up call to the remaining 13 states with sodomy laws still in place and extending the right to freedom of sexual expression to gay couples.

Government should not dictate adult behavior between the sheets and anti-sodomy laws should have been eradicated long before 2003.

Whether this opens the doors to gay marriages remains to be seen. ◆

Callie Elizabeth Butler is a senior journalism major and can be reached via e-mail at ceb2k@mtsu.edu.

Do Not Call registry does not solve problem



Thoughts While Driving
Gary Morrison
Staff Columnist

Have you registered for the national Do Not Call registry?

You know, the registration list that will stop telemarketers from calling you? I just registered online and am already enjoying the sounds of silence.

"But Gary, the registry doesn't go into effect until October," I hear the voice of reality say inside my head. Actually, that voice belongs to my wife as she is reading this over my shoulder. (This reminds me of a T-shirt I saw the other day that read: If a man speaks in a forest, and there is no woman there to hear him, is he still wrong?)

Technically, she is correct. The Do Not Call registry will not be enforced until October, and then most telemarketing companies can be fined if they call a number on the list.

That's right, most telemarketers. Most is better than none, but have you seen the list of those organizations that are still allowed to call you even if your number is on the list?

The following are listed as exempt on the Do Not Call Web site (<http://donotcall.gov>): long-distance phone companies, banks, credit unions, airlines and

insurance firms.

You may also still receive calls from political organizations, charities, telephone surveyors or companies with which you have an existing business relationship.

My top three hated phone callers are on the exempt list. Telephone surveyors? Give me a break. I absolutely detest answering my phone and being asked to take a survey.

Even if I am not doing anything important at the moment, I find telephone surveys to be intrusive and bothersome. But they made the exempt list, so that probably means their frequency will increase.

Political organizations are number two on my hated calls list. They would be number one, but they really only affect me around election time when I am too busy being bothered with more annoying items, like direct mail from the candidates and every other television commercial smearing one candidate or another.

The recorded messages offering a reminder to get out and vote for (candidate's name here) are just another bit of litter that falls off of the campaigning garbage truck. But they're exempt, too, so what can you do?

Number three would have to be from charities. I must say that I have never been moved to donate to a charity that solicits via the telephone. Maybe you have, but I'm not in the habit of giving

my money to people who call me on the phone and ask for it.

It's bad enough I have to deliver my money in person to MTSU, and what is this I hear about a tuition increase? Is that correct?

I wonder why I didn't get a telephone survey call about that? That would have been one survey I would have welcomed.

Overall, I don't know what to think about this national Do Not Call registry. There seem to be plenty of loopholes that will allow solicitors to continue calling the unsuspecting public.

Oh, they may have to be a little more creative, perhaps putting the word "charity" in their name before trying to sell you titanium siding for your home even though you live in an apartment, but I just can't believe this will significantly reduce the amount of telemarketing calls that people receive or be as beneficial to the consumer as the name suggests.

I think the idea of a no call registry is great, but I do not think the way it is currently set up goes far enough. A "no call registry" should live up to its name, meaning no calls, no exemptions, no exceptions and no annoying calls in the middle of dinner or your favorite television show. ◆

Gary Morrison is a graduate student in English and can be reached via e-mail at gwm2c@mtsu.edu.

Sens. Lott and Frist: A tale of two bigots



Out of Leftist Field
Lindsey Turner
Staff Columnist

Once upon a time, in a capitol far, far away (about 650 miles), there lived a Senate majority leader named Trent Lott.

Little Lott frolicked about the land, furthering Republican agendas, until one day, with a slip of the tongue, he rang the death

knell of his career as majority leader by implying that racial segregation is less than detestable.

After being banished to the trenches of lowly Senator-dom, a knight in shining armor arose to take Lott's place.

It was Bill Frist, from the State of Volunteers. "With his dashing Southern gentility, soft drawl and medical degree, how can we go wrong?" the Senate Republicans chanted.

Civil rights activists and embarrassed Republicans alike breathed a sigh of relief – finally, the Senate could move past such a sinister public relations disaster.

Upon his appointment, many civil rights and gay rights advocates, including Log Cabin Republicans, invested much hope in Frist for the future.

Frist seemed to be a well-educated, compassionate man devoted to inclusiveness – a man who told the LCR at their 2002 annual conference, "We cannot win without your help."

Little did the gay community know that an evil sorcerer – one armed with visions of constitutional amendments banning gay marriage – hid beneath Frist's pristine armor.

Then one day (Sunday, to be exact), following a monumental decision by the Supreme Court to strike down anti-sodomy laws across the land, Frist tired of his open-minded façade, and remarked on ABC's *This Week* that he would support a Constitutional amendment that would ban legal unions between all but men and women.

"I very much feel that marriage is a sacrament," the gallant Frist said, "and that sacrament should extend and can extend to that legal entity of a union between – what is traditionally in our Western values has been defined – as between a man and a woman."

Lesbians and gay men all over the land were devastated. The ouster of one bigot had been a small, but substantial victory for those who found themselves outside the majority.

Then, months later, having the supreme justices of the land grant them privacy within their own homes was a colossal triumph.

But, upon hearing such hateful, ignorant ideas spew from the mouth of one in whom many invested great trust, gay rights and civil rights supporters had to relinquish all the hope they had held for Frist, as his homophobic agenda seemed to have no bounds.

Frist shed his armor of compassion and donned his cloak of coldness to announce that the Supreme Court had overstepped its bounds in striking down the anti-sodomy laws.

"Generally, I think matters such as sodomy should be addressed by the state legislatures," Frist said, asserting that local government is better at addressing and legislating community norms.

Frist also espoused concern that, if sodomy is allowed in the home, what's to stop prostitution or drug trafficking from running rampant in the privacy of American homes?

If gay men are allowed to be affectionate in their own curtained bedrooms, what's to stop those same evil sodomites from running amok on the streets, making obscene, indecent love to everyone and everything in sight, while snorting crack and getting paid for it?

"The end is near!" Frist cried to debauchers everywhere. "Repent! Repent!"

But, having seen Frist for what he truly was – just another Trent Lott-esque politician who lies when he says he truly wants to help people – civil rights crusaders renounced their support and invested it elsewhere, for there is no hope in an American lawmaker who doesn't believe in equal freedom and equal rights for everyone. ◆

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SIDELINES

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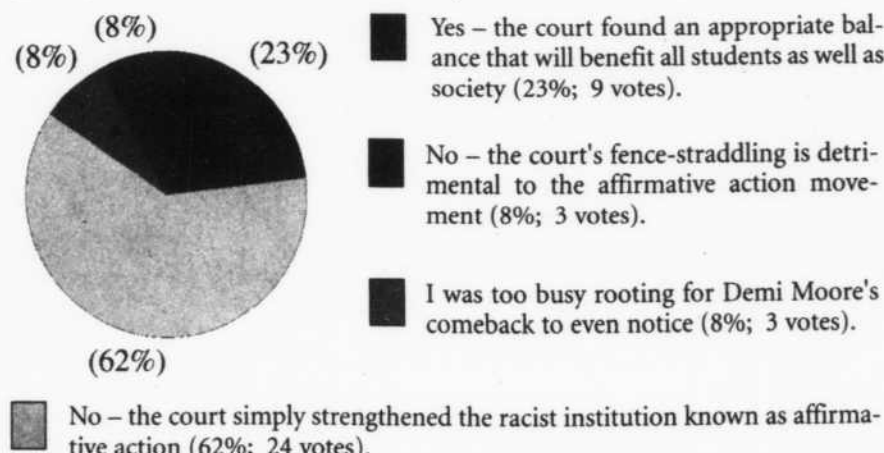
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Sidelines online poll results

Last week we asked, "Do you agree with the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions regarding affirmative action?" Here's what you said:



Be sure to visit www.mtsusidelines.com and vote on next week's poll question: "What do you think is the cause of declining album sales in the record industry?"

West Nile Virus

What's all the hype about?

By Maryam Kassaei
Staff Writer

With wide-spread attention being given to West Nile virus, this localized disease has become a nationwide concern.

West Nile is one of five mosquito-borne viruses that can infect people in the United States.

First discovered in a woman from the West Nile district of Uganda in 1937, the disease has since spread across areas of Africa, Eastern Europe, West Asia, the Middle East, and most recently, the United States.

The vast majority of people who become infected with West Nile have no symptoms or experience only a mild flu-like illness that includes fever, headache and body aches.

The symptoms and illness, which generally appear between three and six days after exposure, last only a few days. Some people may also have mild rash or swollen lymph glands.

"At least 90 percent of those who get infected have no symptoms at all," MTSU biology professor Dr. Stephen Wright said.

"Most symptomatic cases occur in the elderly, in large part due to their less vigorous immune response. Others at risk are the very young and those whose immune systems are compromised by chemotherapy or AIDS," Wright said.

Less than one percent of those infected develop meningitis or encephalitis, the most severe forms of the disease. Those who develop these more serious aspects of the illness exhibit an extremely high fever, a flu-like syndrome (several days of extreme aches and pains in muscles and legs), severe headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, tremors, convulsions, paralysis and coma.

In rare instances, death occurs.

"By that time, they start to lose some of their mental facilities. They might be very sleepy, and can't answer themselves. In other words, almost comatose, or not able to perform normal function ... Then, that's when there is a chance of dealing with encephalitis, or an infection entered the brain. To that point, they definitely need to be hospitalized," Dr. Swinger, a medical epidemiologist in the chemical disease section of Tennessee's department of health, said.

The disease is spread by birds — though not all species — who are infected by mosquitoes and serve as the natural host and reservoir for West Nile virus. Although the virus usually doesn't make the birds ill, many can carry it in their blood for three or four days, allowing more mosquitoes to feed on them and become infected.

"In Middle Tennessee, crows and blue jays are 'good markers' for the presence of the virus in the area. Probably all birds [crows and blue jay species] can get infected, but not all birds die," Swinger said.

Wright indicated that "under normal circumstances," there's no way birds can directly infect humans. However, dead birds shouldn't be handled with bare hands.

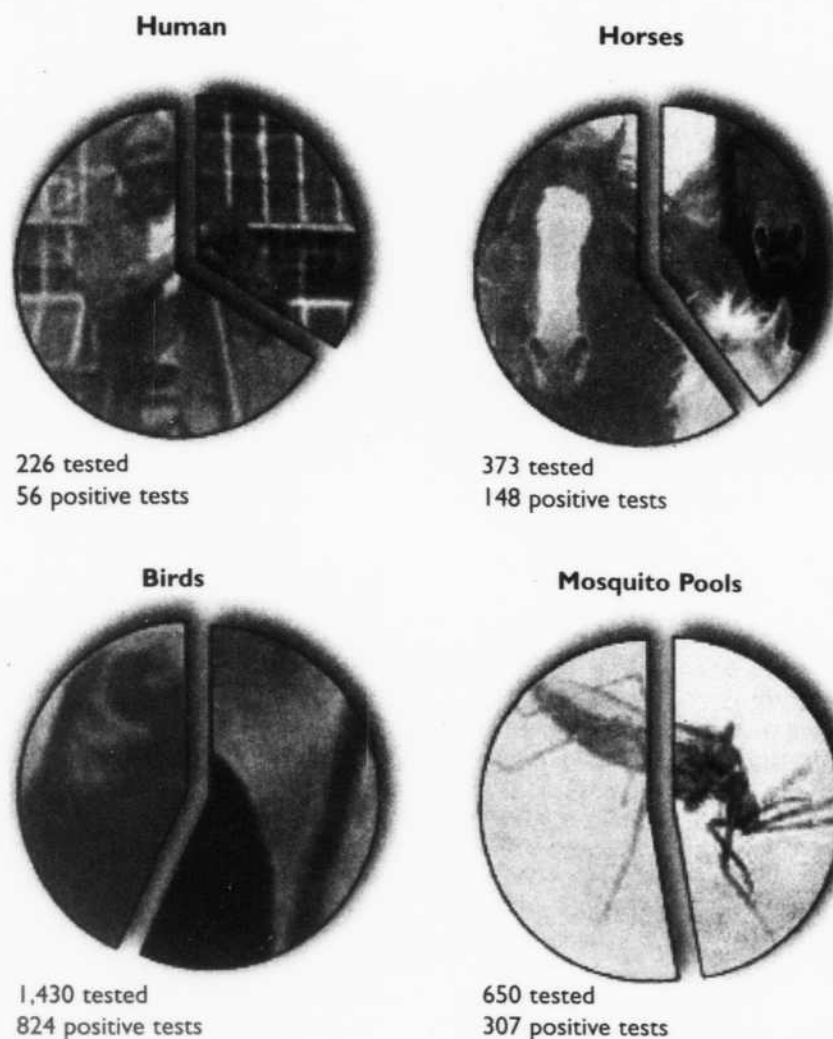
Gloves should be used to carefully place dead birds in a double plastic bag, which should then be put into an outdoor trash receptacle.

Generally speaking, the virus can't be spread from human to human. However, Wright makes reference to some recently released, documented events.

"There were several cases when the new mother became infected right around the time of birth. It appears that the virus was passed on to the infant through nursing. Another case occurred

Detection of West Nile Virus in Tennessee in 2002

Source: Tennessee Department of Health



through blood transfusion. A young lady, who was not previously infected, was in a car accident. She received several units of blood, one of which was later determined to contain West Nile. The victim died and her organs were made available for donation. Four organ recipients became infected by the virus," Wright said.

Wright pointed out that plans are currently under way to screen blood for the presence of the virus. It's expected that the screening procedures will be in place this summer before the peak season of West Nile activity.

Currently, there's no human vaccine for West Nile virus, though there is a vaccine for horses.

Some health officials and scientists, such as Swinger, believe West Nile will eventually disappear — as did the St. Louis virus which had symptoms similar to West Nile virus and was also spread by mosquitoes.

Others, such as Dr. Tim Jones, deputy state epidemiologist for the Tennessee Department of Health, aren't so sure.

He worries about the warm temperatures in southern states, which allow mosquitoes to survive and thrive.

"No one knows what will happen," Jones said.

All are quick to point out that, comparatively speaking, this particular virus isn't a major health concern.

"There are a lot of viruses and bacteria that will produce an encephalitis or meningitis. West Nile is only one of them. The others can infect people of all ages," he said.

"During the last summer, we had one case of West Nile encephalitis. During the same period of time, we had, at least, over a hundred cases of adult encephalitis, due to many, many types of things," Swinger said. ♦

Prevention

Although the human risk of West Nile virus is low, the best way to further protect yourself is to avoid mosquito bites. The Centers for Disease Control recommend that these precautions be taken during mosquito season (generally April — October).

- Limit outdoor activities between dusk and dawn, since this is the time of greatest activity among the species of mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus.
- If you're outside when mosquitoes are prevalent, wear protective clothing, such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts and socks.
- Use a mosquito repellent that contains DEET (the chemical N,N-diethyl-methyl-p-toluidide) and follow the directions on the label. DEET is the most effective and best-studied insect repellent available. Avoid using products that contain more than 10 to 15 percent DEET on children and more than 30 percent DEET on adults. Do not use repellent containing any DEET on infants.
- Fix any holes in your screens and make sure they're tightly attached.

To reduce the population of mosquitoes around the home, get rid of standing water where they can lay eggs. Weeds, tall grass and bushes also provide outdoor homes for mosquitoes.



Frugal Stu

Money saving tips for cash-strapped college students

The following area businesses offer discounts or specials to those with valid student identification.

River Rats Canoe Rental — Duck River

Approximately 35 miles west of Murfreesboro at the intersection of U.S. Highway 412/Route 99 and U.S. Highway 431/Route 106. Open 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Visit www.geocities.com/riverratcanoe or call (931) 381-2278 for information.

Students receive \$2 off the posted price of canoe rental.

Cheap Shots Baked Goods and More

1403-B Greenland Drive (across from Murphy Center). Bakery items and hot lunches. Every Friday from noon until 6 p.m., buy one get one free of any regular priced item on the menu.

Slick Pig BBQ

1920 E. Main Street. Barbecue style food. Buy a 99 cent pork barbecue sandwich every Tuesday, all day long.

New York Café

1403-A Greenland Drive. Brick oven pizza and calzones. Students receive 10 percent off of any regular priced item on the menu.

Strike and Spare Family Fun Center

941 N.W. Broad Street. College night every Wednesday from 9 p.m. until midnight. Charge is \$12 per person for unlimited bowling and \$1.50 for 16 oz. draft beer.

Dating on a shoestring budget

Observatory for Two

Go to the library and check out a book on constellations. Note the different star shapes visible in the skies above Murfreesboro.

On a clear night take a blanket, flashlight and your star guide to a grassy knoll.

See how many constellations you and your date can locate. Make up stories about the different star drawings. Share with each other what you would wish upon a star.

Share some laughs and learn some secrets about your date.

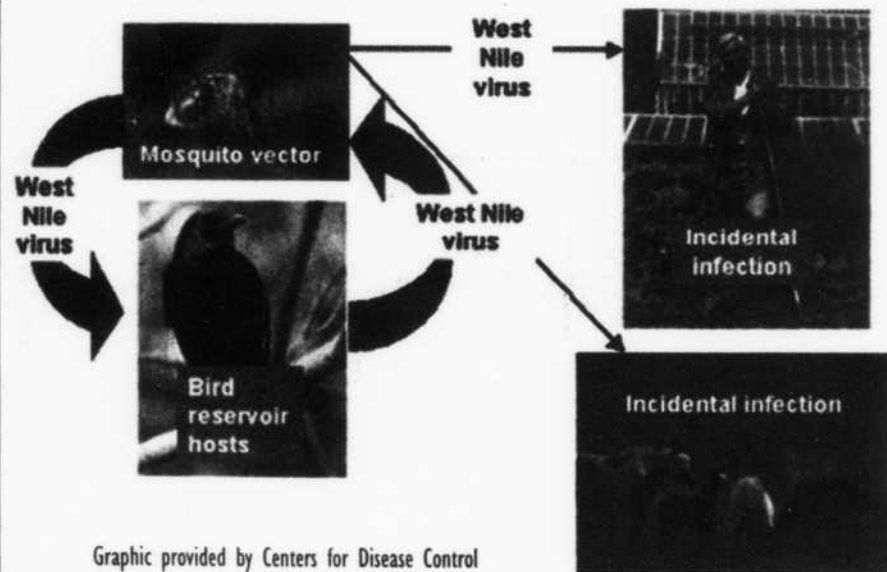
Silent Movie

Rent an old movie you and your date have already seen. Fix popcorn or buy some snacks at the video rental store.

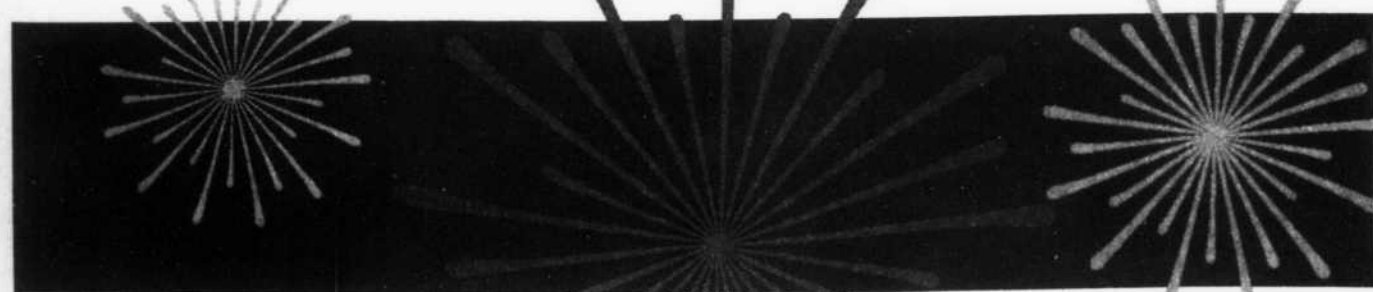
Watch the movie with the sound off. Call out the script lines as you remember them. See who has the best memory.

Good, old-fashioned competition and lots of laughs. ♦

West Nile Virus Transmission Cycle



Star-spangled celebration in store



Staff Reports

This year's Celebration Under the Stars gets underway at 5:30 p.m. at MTSU's intramural field.

• 5:30 p.m. until 7:25 p.m. Karaoke with large video screens and 100 compact discs to choose from, face painting, roller ball, a duck pond, disc golf, Hoola Hoops and yo-yos.

• 7:25 p.m. until 8 p.m. Rep. John Hood will make the welcoming remarks. Also speaking will be Mayor Tommy

Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce chairman, Rebecca Climer and President Sidney McPhee.

• 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. The Murfreesboro Philharmonic Symphony, under the direction of Laurence Harvin, professor of music, will

perform patriotic songs such as the national anthem, "American Civil War Fantasy" and "Star Wars".

• 9 p.m. The fireworks show begins.

The event is free and open to the public. Families are welcome to bring all the tailgating necessities such as blankets,

lawn chairs and, of course, food. However, families may not bring pets, cooking grills, alcoholic beverages, fireworks or sparklers.

Concessions, including soft drinks and the traditional holiday sandwiches, snacks and desserts, will be on sale by the Blue Raider Athletic Association.

Rutherford Boulevard will be open before and after the fireworks but closed during the display.

For information, call 896-6710 or 898-2919. ♦

Sales: Internet file sharing one reason for sales slump

Continued from 4

including Internet music piracy, radio play lists and economical issues, such as high album costs.

Beverly Keel, associate professor in the recording industry, says that radio's play lists — at least in the country format — have been halved over the past few years. For example, an artist releases maybe two singles a year as compared with a previous number of as many as four. Therefore, if those two singles don't do well, album sales suffer as a result.

But shortened play lists are not all negative. A big benefit to come from reduced play lists is that artists who do sell, sell very well. This means fewer artists can sell lots of albums. And, fewer artists translates into reduced marketing and promotion costs for the record company.

In regards to economic concerns, Keel thinks that high album prices are a justifiable reason for shying away from their purchase. She suggests that more CDs should include special feature incentives that the consumer can't get elsewhere — such as free bonus merchandise or enhanced elements.

"People don't have as much disposable income as they have in years past. They could choose to use that money for food or to pay a bill," Keel said.

"But that doesn't justify the free downloading of copyrighted music. It's illegal."

Fischer claims that the technology underlying the illegal downloading is, in itself, legal. This means the recording industry is competing with free. And that's not easy to do.

"The technology cannot be legislated out of existence. That it's often used to infringe on copyright is a separate matter. When you're competing with free your price needs to get close to free and/or you need to be offering something consumers cannot get anywhere else. Throwing lawsuits at the most successful Internet upstarts is just a delaying tactic," Fischer said.

Apple's 99 cents a download is about the same price per song as physical CDs. Listen.com's 79 cents a download is another option. And the Future of Music Coalition has proposed eight cents a download. Three cents of that would go to the label, three cents to the holders of the

song's copyright, and two cents for administration.

According to Fischer, media monopolies also deal their hand into the overall music picture.

"Ownership of radio is consolidating in the wake of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. There are numerous companies that now own hundreds of stations nationwide, and one, Clear Channel owns over a thousand. These giant companies standardize programming among the stations they own within a given format. Their country stations share a play list, as do their rock, oldies and urban stations," Fischer says.

"Radio? It stinks," states Dr. John Dougan of the recording industry department.

"I listen to radio online and frequently it's the BBC. They still have disc jockeys picking music, not some cloth-eared mid-level management drones. I think there's plenty of good music available. It just doesn't get heard through mainstream sources," Dougan says.

Another competitor worthy of conversation in the realm of entertainment is the digital versatile disc, the fastest adopted consumer electronic format in American history.

Although a CD is incredibly long-lasting, why buy one when, for a few more dollars, you can have video along with the audio?

"For example," Dougan said, "the new Led Zeppelin DVD with 5 1/2 hours of unreleased live footage could be purchased on sale at Best Buy for \$18. When was the last time you purchased 5 1/2 hours worth of music for \$18?"

"It is to a certain extent an apples and oranges comparison. There's much more flexibility to a CD listening than DVD viewing, but consumers would argue that if you can get that much bang for your buck on DVD, you should be able to do the same on a CD," Dougan said.

Whatever the contributing factors to declining album sales, those who keep tabs on the music industry say the bottom line of blazing the trail to booming business is for the industry to revise the business models they've been relying on for decades.

"If they want to survive, they have to face reality about the changing marketplace," Fischer said. ♦

Frugal Stu wants to know...

Do you know of an area business that offers discounts to students?

Are you a creative dater?

Got a good idea for a creative, inexpensive date?



E-mail your ideas to sfeature@mtsu.edu.

Feeling confused about your future?

Let *Sidelines* help.

Experience working for your college newspaper helps reduce the likelihood that you'll ever have to utter these words after graduation:

- Do you want fries with that?
- Paper or plastic?
- Sorry, officer, I don't know what I did wrong.
- Geez, mom, I'll clean my room tomorrow.
- Yes, you can send it back to the chef if it's in the temperature danger zone.
- This mop smells like cat food.
- Hi, I'm Candy Sparkles. I'll be your stripper today.



Career tip No. 1: Don't be this guy.

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SPORTS

6 ♦ SIDELINES

Wednesday, July 2, 2003

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

East makes comeback in '03 Shrine Bowl

High school athletes play football to raise money

By Jerry Wilkinson
Staff Writer

The 2003 East-West Shrine game went off without a hitch at Middle Tennessee's Floyd Stadium Saturday.

After a week of preparation, the two teams were ready to play the last game of their high school careers. West's Tommy Tharp from Sycamore High School and East's Greg Montooth of Franklin County High School were selected as the coaches for each team.

The East team was looking to bounce back from a 21-9 defeat.

The Shrine All-Star game is an annual event held to raise money for philanthropy efforts to benefit sick children. Dr. Walter Millard Fleming and 12 associates started the Nashville Al-Menah chapter 42 years ago. Since then, the Shriners have helped a number of families with the care of their children.

The game started out in West's favor as they jumped out to a 14-0 lead at the end of the first quarter. West quarterback Brett Wilcutt scored the two touchdowns to put them on top.

"The first half, I don't feel that I could have done anything more. The offense was just clicking, and I couldn't have asked more from the defense. They provided us with some turnovers that put us in good field position," Wilcutt said.

East started out with a fumble that was recovered by West's Dana Stewart from Springfield. This was only the beginning for the East's first quarter troubles.

On East's second possession, quarterback William Healy threw an interception after Terrace Harper put the East in good field position with a 40-yard kick-off return early in the first quarter. West's Bobby Lewis returned the interception for 44 yards.

In the second quarter, Brett Wilcutt was perfect, throwing three-for-three and 47 yards. The East struggled the first half and went into halftime down 14-0.

The East quarterback, Riverdale's Stephen Britton, threw 13 passes for five completions and two interceptions.

"I wasn't doing too good. I was forcing some balls and threw those two interceptions, which didn't help anything," Britton said.

In the third quarter, East drove the ball down the field and scored with an Ian O'Connor 23-yard field goal and continued to hold the West to its 14 points. West turned the ball over twice with a fumble from Michael Clarke in the end zone, giving up two points on a safety; Terry Jackson committed the other fumble.

The fourth quarter was the turning point of the game for the East. East

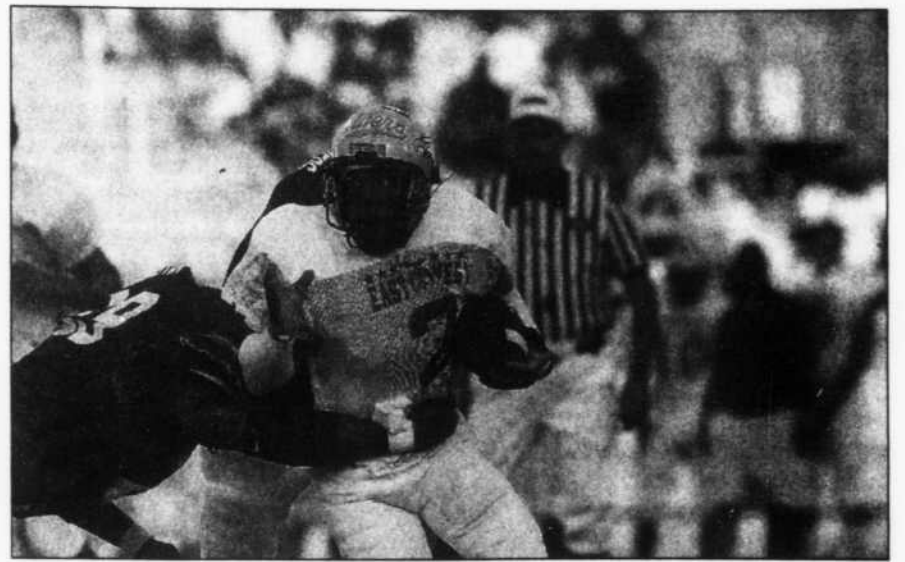


Photo courtesy of Jae S. Lee | Daily News Journal

Terry Jackson, an MT signee, fights for yardage during the game.

drove the ball with 7:38 left on the clock. After nine plays and 52 yards, Stephen Britton scored with a quarterback keeper to put the East team on top, 18-14, with 3:15 left on the clock.

With 2:18 left, Wilcutt threw an interception to East's William Nelson. He returned the ball for 52 yards for a

See Bowl, 7

Brazelton sent to Class A ball

Ex-Blue Raider standout demoted from Majors

By Josh Beasley
Assistant Sports Editor

After 10 starts in Major League Baseball, the Devil Rays opted former Middle Tennessee hurler Dewon Brazelton down to Class A Bakersfield Blaze of the California League in exchange for infielder Antonio Perez from Triple A Durham Bulls.

The week leading into Brazelton's demotion was one to be forgotten. While in New York, Brazelton, the No. 3 overall pick in the 2001 First-Year Player Draft, was misdirected on the subway system and ended up in Brooklyn.

He also ended up at Yankee Stadium more than an hour late and found himself in the doghouse. After a poor start in which he allowed four unearned runs, Brazelton was bumped to bullpen duty and missed a start.

Brazelton arrived at the ballpark on time or early every game since the New York incident. He also went through extra workouts to make sure he was as ready as he could be for his next start.

"I'm going to do everything I can," Brazelton said to mlb.com. "I realize I am here learning some things that a lot of guys learn in the Minor leagues. I know how fortunate I am."

Although the 23-year-old right-hander was back in the

rotation, he was greeted rudely by the Bronx Bombers at Yankee Stadium. His demotion came the day after he walked four of nine hitters and allowed three runs in a little more than an inning.

After signing late in 2001, Brazelton spent most of the 2001 season at Double-A Orlando (5-9, 3.33) before making one start in the play-

I realize I am here learning some things that a lot of guys learn in the Minor leagues. I know how fortunate I am.

— Dewon Brazelton
Former MT pitcher

offs for Triple-A Durham. He made two starts with the Rays in September and was 0-1 with a 4.85 ERA. This season, Brazelton was 1-6 with a 6.89 ERA.

Instead of being sent to Triple-A Durham, Devil Rays

General Manager Chuck LaMar said Brazelton was sent to Single-A so he could concentrate more on mechanical issues.

"At Durham, it would be extremely hard to make adjustments because a young player there knows he's just a phone call away from the Majors, and he's more concerned about results," LaMar said.

"Dewon has mechanical issues to address to get him to the point we've seen in the past. When we drafted him, he was easily one of the top five best players and the second-best pitcher behind Mark Prior [Chicago Cubs]. But he has not been throwing with the same crispness or velocity we saw," LaMar said.



File Photos

(Above) Dewon Brazelton hurls the ball during a game. (Right) Brazelton signs a T-shirt before a game.

"Did we rush him? Of course. That's been well documented. We had to. But I don't think any of us has seen the pitcher with the stuff that we saw when we drafted him out of college. He's gifted with an outstanding changeup. The question has always been his breaking stuff against right-handers and command. When you are facing the Yankees, the command becomes more important," LaMar said.

As for when Brazelton might return, LaMar said he wasn't sure.

"There is no timetable," LaMar said. "We'll know. His pitching will tell us when he's ready." ♦



Bowl game not just showcase of local athletes

East-West Bowl raises money for philanthropy

By David Lawrence
Staff Writer

Also known as Tennessee Football's Finest Hour, the Seventh Annual East-West Shrine All-Star Football Classic kicked off last Saturday inside Middle Tennessee's Floyd Stadium.

The game, which featured some of the top high school football players in the state, was played to raise money for disabled children. The Shriners, whose 22 hospitals across the country for burn victims and provide both free care and transport for the patient.

However, they need an operating budget of over \$1,000,000 per day to

maintain care for their patients. Events like the charity football games are a handy way to raise money.

All the money raised by this event goes to help disabled children. Last year, two patients that benefited from the Shriners' hospitals competed in the game.

"Everybody had a great time," Shriner JD Kennedy said. "The money raised at the game will go to the upkeep of the hospitals and the purchasing of prosthetic limbs for children."

The game itself was well played. The East came from behind to win the game with a 24-14 victory, although winning was not really the point. The point of the game is to help children who aren't as fortunate as others.

Of course, football isn't the only way the Shriners help. Collection drives and other activities all play a part in raising money for the Shrine. The money raised by the game is still being tallied, but



according to Kennedy, enough was made to cover the expense for this year.

Besides treatment for burn victims, the Shriners also supply more than 1 million leg braces for children unable to walk.

The costs of the treatments and braces are astronomical, and with well over 6,000 operations performed per year, the Shriners need all the support they can get.

Medical attention is given to kids up

to the age of 18, including quality care for children affected by orthopedic problems and spinal cord injuries.

Recently, the organization was named one of the top 17 most efficient charities in the country.

Thanks to the efforts of not only the players, but also all the people who took time for their schedules to attend the game or just give money, the Shriners will be able to keep helping children all across the country. ♦

Sports Briefs

Compiled by Amy Jones
Sports Editor

750 student tickets on sale for Georgia-MT game

The Middle Tennessee ticket office will begin selling tickets July 9 to students for the Blue Raiders' game at Georgia.

According to ticket manager John Brooks, the ticket office has reserved 750 tickets for students, and they will be sold until the allotment is gone. Any unsold tickets will be returned to Georgia prior to the game.

Tickets are \$32 and can be purchased only at the Floyd Stadium box office near gate 1A just off Faulkinberry Drive. There is no limit to the number of tickets that students may purchase, but each student must present a valid Middle Tennessee ID in order to buy tickets.

Students with questions about the tickets should call the MT Ticket Office at (615) 898-2103 or 1-888-YES-MTSU.

MT women's volleyball hires new assistant

MT head volleyball coach Lisa Kisee announced the addition of Jay Umbroh to her staff as an assistant coach Tuesday.

Umbroh is a 1996 graduate of MT. While attending Middle Tennessee, he played for the men's volleyball club team and served as team president and captain for two years.

In a 10-year span, Umbroh played in the USAV and AVA leagues. He coached Junior Olympic Volleyball Clubs in Nashville and Murfreesboro and was the director of the SportsCom's Juniors in Murfreesboro for two years.

Umbroh spent one year as an assistant with the UT-Chattanooga volleyball program. While there, he helped the team to their highest winning percentage as the team reached the conference tournament finals. He also assisted in the recruiting of two of the current starters for UTC, one of whom was named Freshman of the Year and a three time All Southern Conference team member.

Raider Roundup set to raise money in auction

The 11th annual Raider Roundup will be held Saturday, Aug. 16. The event, chaired again this year by Dr. Liz Rhea, will begin at 6 p.m. in the stadium tower at Floyd Stadium.

The Raider Roundup is put on each year to raise money for scholarships and other program needs. As in the past, there have been a number of quality auction items donated by area businesses to assist in the success of the event.

This year, the auction will be highlighted by a change of venue. In recent years, the event

See Briefs, 7



NWA:TNA Wrestling Insider

By David Lawrence
Staff Columnist

A new set plus old faces equals one amazing show.

The first match of the night had World Tag Team champs Triple X, Elix Skipper and Christopher Daniels facing America's Most Wanted, James Storm and Chris Harris, in a cage match.

Harris and Storm have had some ring rust lately, but it all vanished the second the bell rang. Almost every high spot connected, and there was the breathtaking death performed by Harris off the top of the cage.

This could easily be the best match of 2003. America's Most Wanted took home the pin and the belts.

Eric Watts, in his first official match for TNA, continued his feud with Kid Kash. Aside from Watts' bizarre metamorphosis into parody artist Weird Al Yankovic, the match showed the

limits of Watts' skill.

Sadly, that isn't a good thing, as Watts limited himself to simple power moves. The manhandling of Kash ended when Abyss, the masked wrestler who injured Watts last time, rushed out from the back and knocked out Watts again. This allowed Kash to pick up an easy win. The backstory of Kash's abuse toward Trinity wasn't mentioned, but it looks like this feud will continue regardless.

In the main event, Glen Gilberti and Shane Douglas teamed up to face Jeff Jarrett and Raven. I still think it's a mistake to force Raven into the face role, as he has been better suited as a tweener or a heel, but the crowd ate it up, even cheering for Raven and booing Jarrett. Despite the hard work shown by all four men, the match ended abruptly when Rev. James Mitchell of the New Church returned and hit Raven in the face with a fireball.

Mitchell's return was unexpected but was a welcomed change from the ongoing S.E.X. versus Jarrett plot lines. The New Church stable has been hit hard by TNA's nonexclusive contract policy, as witnessed by most of the members leaving for weeks at a time.

Next week may feature the final Hard 10 battle; ECW mainstays New Jack and the Sandman will face each other. The feud between Jerry Lynn and Justin Credible looks to be progressing nicely, as the two will meet in a "Russian Chair" match this time out. Sting will be appearing for a special sit down interview with announcer Mike Tenay.

If you want to see the show live, then drive to the Nashville State fairgrounds. Admission is \$10 general admission and \$15 ringside. Pay-Per-View cost \$9.95 and is available on either In Demand cable or Direct TV. The show starts at 7 tonight. ♦

Briefs: Raider Roundup set for Aug. 26

Continued from 6

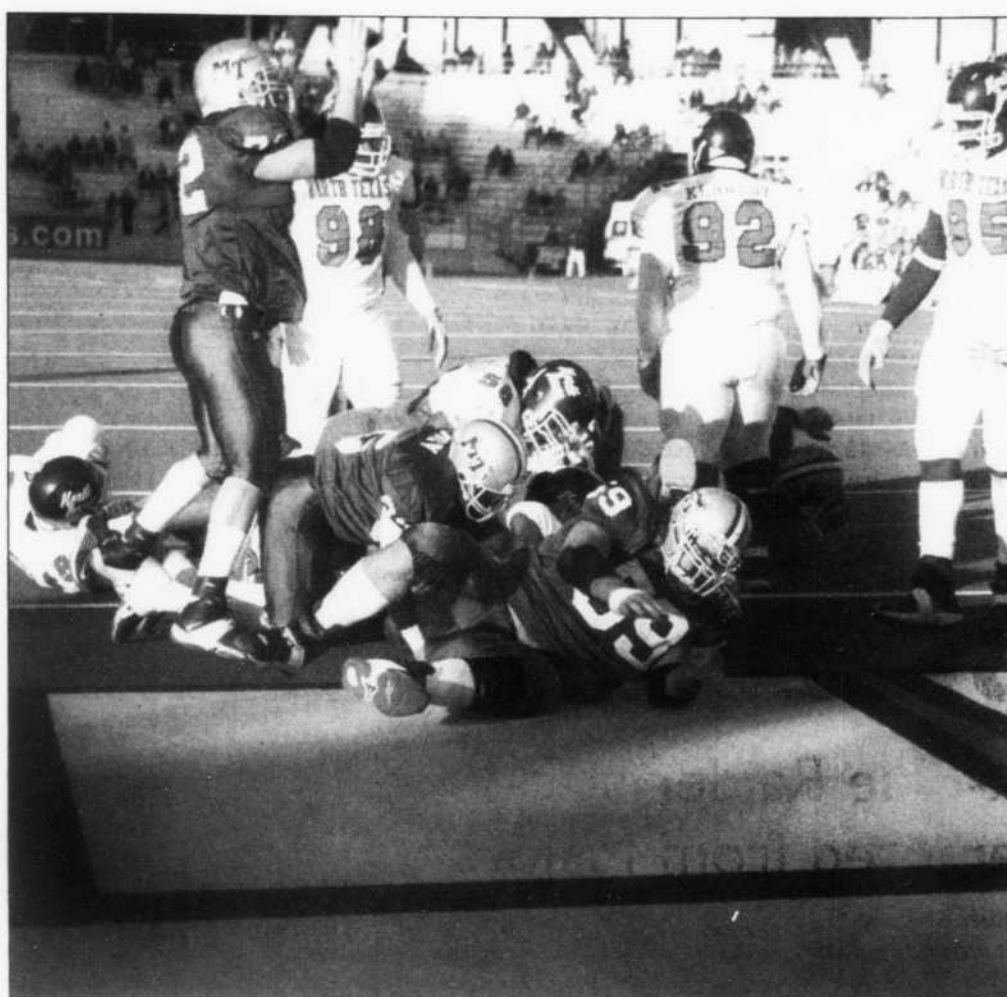
has been held at the Middle Tennessee Foundation House, but it will move to the stadium

tower at Floyd Stadium.

The festivities will also include an open bar, music and food provided by Outback Steakhouse. The cost per person

is \$50. Guests may dress in casual attire. For more information, call the BRAA office at 898-2210. ♦

56 DAYS



'til the bones
crunch on
the gridiron.

Bowl: Athletes raise money for charity

Continued from 6

touchdown, putting the game out of reach for West squad.

"I think it was the first half we had five or six turnovers, so we didn't get much going in the first half. The guys went in at halftime and came out and played hard in the second half. On the late game interception by William Nelson, Chris Grimes gave him a great block downfield to score that touch-

down," Greg Montooth said.

"I think that the East came out in the second half and wore our boys down. We did the same thing to them last year, but this year the roles were reversed. We had them at about a 3 and-15, and they had a tackle playing tight end so that they could run their midline or their veer scheme, and he [East] had an ineligible number but he was an eligible receiver, and our safety didn't notice him, they hit that

tackle for a first down and after that everything started going their way."

The 2003 East West Shrine All-Star Game MVPs were East's Jacob Holt of Maryville and Josh Couch of Polk County. The West's Brett Wilcutt of Bartlett and Stephen Johnson of Marshall County round out the list.

The final score was 24-14, with the East taking home the victory. ♦



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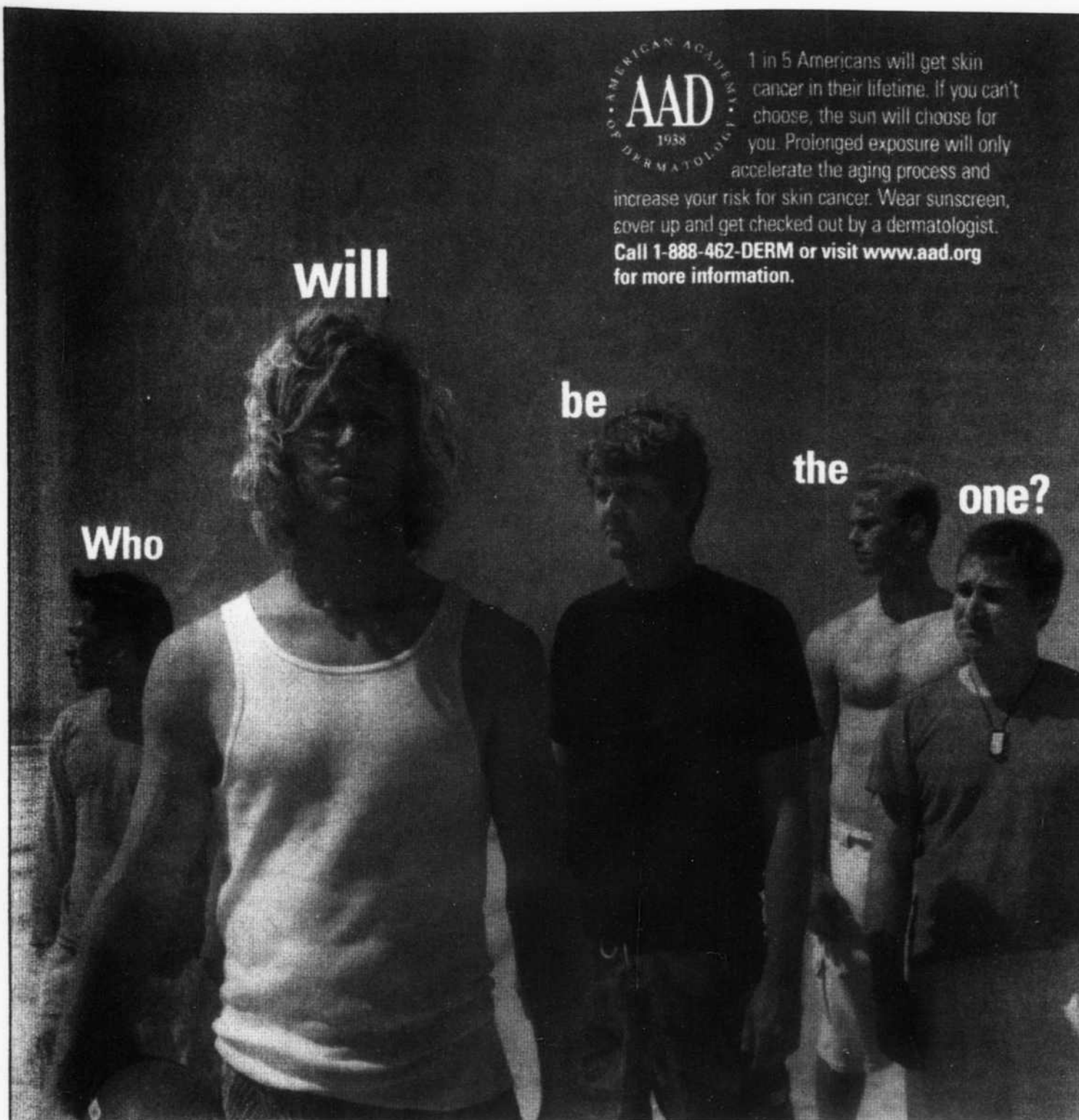


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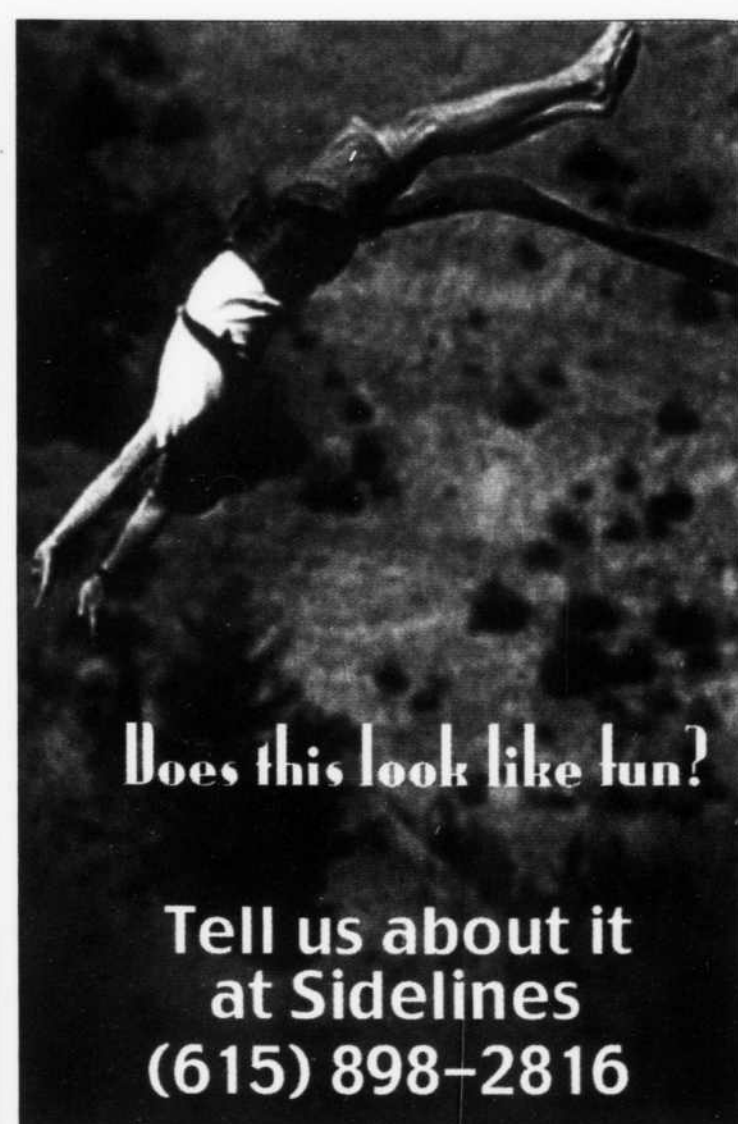
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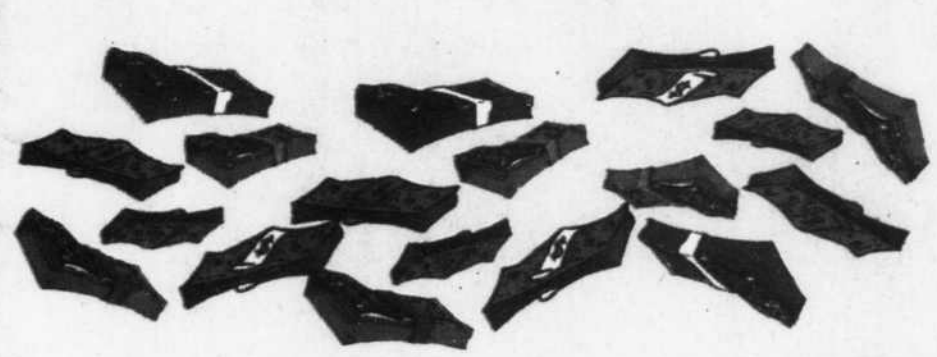


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