

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 6, 2002

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Mostly Cloudy



Raider Rampage

In Homecoming
Special Edition, inside



Basketball shows off on Media Day

In Sports, 6



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

Do you support the implementation
of a state lottery?

An editorially
independent
newspaper

Middle Tennessee State University

SIDELINES

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

Volume 78 No. 41

Campus Briefs

Health Services, Nursing to offer flu shot

Health Services and the School of Nursing are planning to offer flu shots to the MTSU community.

Students, faculty and staff may now make appointments.

Times may be reserved by contacting Linda Lawrence, either via e-mail at lawrence@mtsu.edu or by phone at 898-5950.

Shots will be administered Nov. 12, 13 and 14 in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building. The shots cost \$12.

Blood drive to be held at University Center

The American Red Cross, along with the School of Nursing and the Office of Greek Life, is sponsoring a blood drive on Monday, Nov. 11.

The drive will be held on the third floor of the Keathley University Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free T-shirts will be given to everyone who donates a unit of blood. For more information, please contact Madeline Methvin of the American Red Cross at 893-4272.

Fashion show benefit to help child charity

The MTSU fashion promotion class will be hosting a holiday fashion show on Nov. 23 at 11 a.m. in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

"Couture de la Neige, Fashion of the Snow" will benefit Special Kids, an organization that assists children up to age 18. The runway fashion show will focus on winter apparel.

Tickets are \$10 at the door, and \$5 for student advance purchase. For more information contact Ali Davis at 579-7430 or Beth Franklin at 907-3236.

Professors compare bullying in Japan, U.S.

A Japanese professor will present research comparing bullying in Japan and the United States later this month.

Professor Genshiro Hiruta of Fukushima University, MTSU's sister institution in Japan, will lecture on the results of the study in the Business and Aerospace Building at 6 p.m., Nov. 15.

Five educational centers in Japan were designated by the Japanese government as research centers for the study. The data collected from those schools were compared to data from seven Nashville-area schools.

The three-year study was underwritten by the Japanese government. It has also approved a three-year follow-up study, to begin later this year.

Local geologist to offer workshop on Boro rocks

Nancy Stein will offer a free box of rocks and a learning experience for everyone who attends her Murfreesboro workshop.

For information, contact Karen Hargrove at 898-2660.

Faculty Senate gets budget increase

Required hours assessed as well

By Stephanie Hill and
Amanda Maynard
Staff Writer and News Editor

The Faculty Senate is now able to provide additional operating monies to departments across campus since approving a new budget with a \$1,000 increase.

The increase proposed by Duane Stucky, vice president for Business and Finance, was a much-needed advancement.

"In reviewing the needs of budgets, I believed it was important to provide greater

support for the Senate and proposed to do so to the provost," Stucky said. "The increase will allow more money to go toward departments around campus for more equipment, supplies and travel."

President of the Faculty Senate Jennifer Dooley asked Provost Robert Eaker as well as Stucky to jointly recommend overall budget allocations to the various provost/vice president divisions.

"This year, we were fortunate enough to be able to address serious deficiencies in academic

department operating budgets," Stucky said.

The Faculty Senate is a critical, legislative body on the campus composed of 54 members, holding important responsibilities in the governance of the school; the Senate does not report through a regular academic administrative channel such as a department chair or college dean.

The extra money is not coming from another group, nor is it taking money away from another organization on campus.

"The two of us (Eaker and myself) agreed to allocate an additional \$1,000 from

resources available to us to the Senate," Stucky said.

Along with receiving new funding the Faculty Senate has also passed a motion asking the Tennessee Board of Regents to extend the timeline for revising the required number of hours for an undergraduate degree.

The plan was originally suggested by the TBR through the Defining Our Future program. Under that project, the TBR re-examined and modified operations at TBR schools so Tennessee would use less money.

The plans for 120-hour programs for baccalaureate degrees and 60-hour programs for asso-

ciate degrees are now due to the TBR staff Sept. 30, 2003.

The plans will then be reviewed by the TBR staff and submitted to the TBR board in December for voting.

The first implementation of the programs will begin in fall 2005, contrary to the previous implementation date of fall 2003.

As of now, MTSU requires 132 or more hours for graduation. With the new program, students may receive a diploma after only 120 hours.

For more information, visit the TBR Web site www.tbr.state.tn.us.

Post-terror journalism examined



Photo by Chris Nichols | Staff Photographer

John Seigenthaler, front, and Anthony Lewis, Pulitzer Prize winner from the *New York Times*, listen to questions from the audience at Tuesday's "Journalism after Sept. 11" panel in the State Farm Lecture Hall of the Business and Aerospace Building. Geneva Overholser, who holds the Curtis B. Hurley Chair in Public Affairs Reporting for the University of Missouri School of Journalism and Phillip Drummond, professor at the University of London Institute of Education, also participated in the panel discussion, sponsored by the John Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies.

Alexander definitively wins U.S. Senate contest

By Wendy Caldwell
Staff Writer

Though most results were unofficial at press time last night, several candidates were projected to win, and only one clear winner emerged.

CNN and CBS predicted Lamar Alexander to take Fred Thompson's seat in the U.S. Senate early in the evening. John Hood was also predicted to win over Chris Grant for the House of Representatives seat for District 48. Donna Rowland was predicted to win the House seat for District 34. At press time, the gubernatorial race was too close to call. Kent Coleman lead the race for the House seat for District 49, and Bobby Sands lead the state Senate race for District 13.

Voter turnout was an issue as it is in most midterm election years. Rain kept many people away from the polls in the morning hours.

"At 7 a.m. you did not want to go to the polls," U.S. Congressman Jim Cooper explained on Channel 5-Plus. "This rain could be his [Phil Bredesen's] worst enemy today."

"I think older people were concerned about the weather," noted Bart Gordon, U.S. Congressman (D-Tenn.).

The gubernatorial race remained close all night between Democratic candidate Phil Bredesen and Republican candidate Van Hilleary. The state's budget problems and the income tax both played large roles in the 2002 campaign.

"We need a business person to get us

back on track," said Byron Trauger, Bredesen's senior adviser.

"I do see a lot of Republican businessmen who have turned to Phil Bredesen," Cooper noted.

The election process has changed considerably since the controversial presidential election two years ago. Exit polls were used sparingly, if at all.

Bredesen received a surprisingly high percentage of the early voting in Knox County, a traditionally Republican area.

"We have made a real effort in East Tennessee," Trauger said.

Two other issues were on the ballot. The much-awaited lottery vote carried a steady 60 percent of voters in favor of instituting the gambling method. Voters also voted yes on maximum fines.

Writer examines blacks in media

By Jessica Stevens
Contributor

Award-winning research by an MTSU professor suggests that the media continues to depict black women unfairly.

"This study seeks to determine whether advertisement images in women's magazines send a message that black women are integral members of society," Teresa Mastin wrote in her report. However, her research proposes they still are

not.

Mastin started researching the treatment of minorities, black women in advertising, about a year and a half ago. She found strong evidence that advertisers feature black women who will appeal to both white and black consumers. Her study also hints that advertisers try to stay away from showing black models touching other models.

Though research like this has been in the past, Mastin focused on the '90s.

"Examining the last decade of the 20th century provides a benchmark, a snapshot of history," Mastin said. "This can be easily compared to what went on before and what's to come."

According to prior research cited in Mastin's report, advertisers began to notice the untapped economic power that black yielded after the civil rights movements of the '50s and '60s. This led to an inclusion of blacks in advertising.

Mastin's research shows that

in the '90s, advertisers were trying to cater to black consumers without offending their Caucasian regulars. Mastin cited prior research that showed white customers are less likely to purchase a product if it is advertised by a black. Advertisers had to find a way to compromise.

In an attempt to appeal to both races, advertisers use black women with medium skin tones

See Mastin, 2

Prime minister to speak today

By Kristin Hall
Staff Writer

Benazir Bhutto has been called a lot of names in her lifetime.

From her countrymen and women in Pakistan, where she served as a civil liberties leader, she has been dubbed an Islamic "Rambo." The Western press, swept up in her unshakable attitude in times of danger, likens her to Joan of Arc.

However, Bhutto shares a very special name with only her closest family and friends: "Pinkie." Her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, called her by that name, up to the last days of his life in 1979.

Bhutto, the former prime minister of Pakistan, will speak tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Tucker Theatre about her prominent political past and how she found herself head of one of the largest parties in Pakistan.

"She speaks eloquently about her experience," said Candace Rosovsky, director of the June Anderson Women's Center, which is sponsoring the lecture.

"It was a long and difficult road for her," Rosovsky said.

Her father formed the Pakistan People's Party in 1967, and won the popular vote for prime minister in 1971. Meanwhile, she studied at Oxford University, not planning on replacing her father in the political limelight.

But when General Zia ul-Haq organized a successful coup of the government, Bhutto and her mother took up the fight to free Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. However, the general, fearing the immense power Bhutto had won from the Pakistani people, had him executed.

Benazir Bhutto sought refuge in Britain until General ul-Haq lifted martial law in 1986. Once back in her country, she began to rebuild and renew the PPP to support her bid for prime minister in 1988.

Her popularity with the people was so overwhelming that, on her return to Pakistan, 1-to-3 million Pakistanis greeted her at the airport.

Bhutto struggled against criticisms of her youth, her



Bhutto

See Bhutto, 2

CRIME LOG

Friday, Oct. 25 - 3:12 a.m.

Public intoxication

Greek Row

Jeffrey Miller of 1540 New Lascassas Dr. was charged with Public Intoxication.

Saturday, Oct. 26 - 4:39 a.m.

Burglary

Peck Hall

Three subjects were seen fleeing from Peck Hall after smashing the west side candy machine at Peck Hall.

Saturday, Oct. 26 - 4:54 a.m.

Arson

Corlew Hall

Housing staff at Corlew hall reported a fire on the sixth floor. Someone had apparently set a bulletin board aflame. Housing extinguished the smoldering corkboard. Murfreesboro Fire Department came by as a safety precaution.

Sunday, Oct. 27 - 1:56 a.m.

Underage consumption

Old Main Circle at Normal Way

Justin Grierson was issued a state citation for drinking alcohol under the age of 21.

Monday, Oct. 28 - 3:53 a.m.

Communicating threat of suicide

Corlew Hall

Individual who was making threats of suicide was talked to by officers and taken to the emergency room for evaluation.

Monday, Oct. 28 - 3:20 p.m.

Simple assault

Corlew Cafeteria

Two female individuals were engaged in fisticuffs.

Monday, Oct. 28 - 7:11 p.m.

Theft of bicycle over \$500

Alumni Memorial Gym

Expensive bike stolen.

Tuesday, Oct. 29 - 11:00 a.m.

Theft

Keathley University Center

Complainant advised Public Safety of a roll of carpeting that was stolen from the post office.

Wednesday, Oct. 30 - 7:41 a.m.

Vandalism

Scarlett Commons Building 2

A maroon vehicle in a handicapped space was broken into.

Wednesday, Oct. 30 - 6:07 p.m.

Harassing phone call

Reynolds Hall

Complaint of someone making a harassing phone call.

Thursday, Oct. 31 - 10:25 p.m.

Trespass warnings

Scarlett Commons

Housing had written up one black male for alcohol violations, in response he threw a beer can at them. Another individual squealed his tires and performed donuts in the parking area to the chagrin of the Public Safety and Housing Officials. Three individuals received trespass warning.

Thursday, Oct. 31 - 11:10 p.m.

Simple possession-marijuana

Corlew Hall

Marijuana possession handled by Housing.

Friday, Nov. 1 - 12:44 p.m.

Theft of car parts

McFarland Health Services

Subject reported that all the removable windows of his green Jeep Wrangler were removed and stolen.

Bhutto: America must focus on leadership

Continued from I

inexperience in politics, and especially her gender to win the elections. Even so, Bhutto kept some of her heritage's traditions, such as wearing a headscarf and agreeing to an arranged marriage.

Rosovsky feels that America needs to learn to focus on equality in leadership, and perhaps take notes from countries like Pakistan.

"There are many ways in which developing nations are way ahead of us," Rosovsky said.

Bhutto was dismissed in 1990 by the Pakistani president on charges of corruption and abuses of power. Despite this she won the election in 1993, but was again dismissed in 1996 amidst a corruption scandal.

Forced into exile or face prison, Bhutto has been living abroad for the past six years. General Pervez Musharraf banned her from running in this year's elections in October, but she has not given up control of the PPP.

Bhutto, the first woman prime minister of a modern Islamic nation, offers a unique perspective on politics and women.

She will be sharing her insights and ideas in a lecture called, "What Women Bring to Politics: Leadership in the Muslim World." The MTSU Distinguished Lecturers Series and the Tennessee Economic Council on Women is co-sponsoring the lecture. ♦

Mastin: 'United States remains a largely segregated society'

Continued from I

and Euro-centric features.

"It become apparent during research that white consumers respond to the features, and black consumers respond to the medium skin tones," Mastin commented.

Mastin's research showed that in advertisements using blacks, the models tended to have a medium to dark skin tone. However, in bi-racial ads, the black models usually have lighter skin.

Generally there was little to no physical contact between black and other models of the same or a different race. Mastin said "this research shows white people are uncomfortable with

contact, whether it be blacks touching whites or blacks touching blacks."

Black women were not seen in these magazines proportionally to their actual subscriber numbers. Black women make up about seven percent of the subscribers for *Ladies Home Journal* and about 17 percent of the *Working Woman*; however, only about 2 percent to 3 percent of the women in these magazine's advertisements were black.

Mastin, who teaches in the school of journalism, presented her research at the annual meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism last August. She submitted reports in both magazine and advertis-

ing categories, but her entry in the magazine division was named the top faculty paper at the international convention in Miami Beach, Florida.

"My general interest in this topic is to help racial groups understand one another better," Mastin said. "Since the media play an important role in providing us with information, I think it is important to consider what messages, both overt and covert, they are providing about various racial and ethnic groups."

Mastin reviewed advertisements in three of the major women's magazines currently on the market: *Ladies Home Journal*, *Essence* and *Working Woman* magazine. These three

magazines were chosen because they all cater to a similar economical class, with the subscribers to *Working Woman* having a slightly higher income.

Ladies Home Journal is a magazine geared predominately to white women, while *Essence* is one that focuses on women of color.

Working Woman provides the balance of the two with subscriber percentages more even.

"The United States remains a largely segregated society," Mastin wrote in her research review. "As a result, many people have little real-life experience with or knowledge of other racial and ethnic groups. Consequently, media portrayals of minority racial and ethnic

groups can greatly influence how these groups are perceived.

"The award speaks to the topical importance of the research and the quality of the research," Mastin said. The magazine division was one of the largest at the annual convention.

Mastin is continuing to conduct research that focuses on media portrayals of minorities and women.

She has recently wrapped up a piece dealing with women's magazine coverage of mental illness.

Her newest project considers how mainstream and black print media are handling the issue of U.S. slave reparations. ♦

Middle East focus of lecture

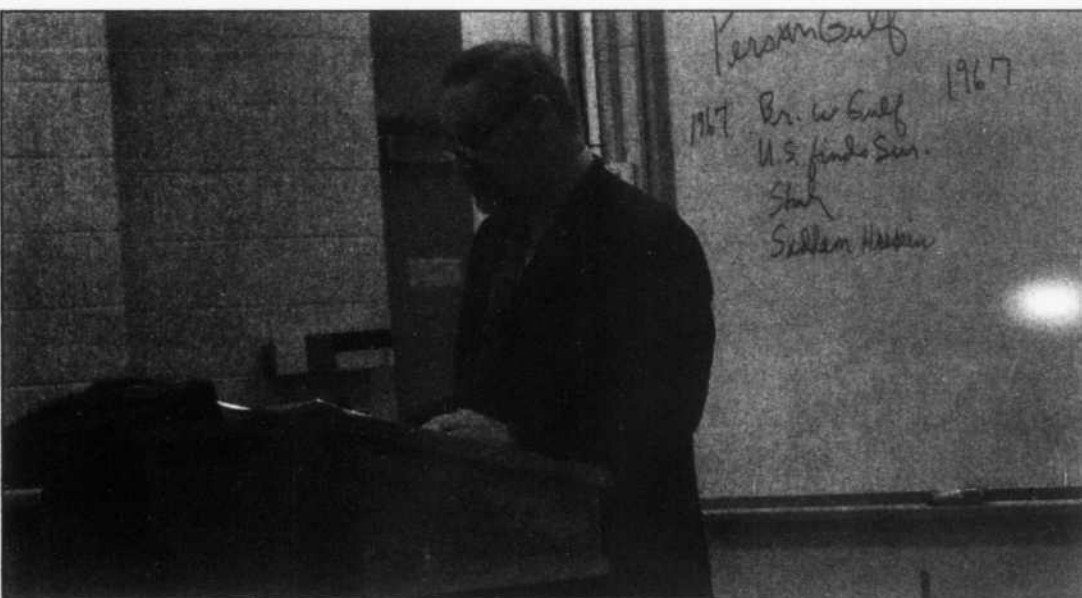


Photo by Blake Pearson | Staff Photographer

History professor Ron Messier delivers yesterday's honors lecture in Peck Hall, Room 109A. The topic was "The Middle East and the Global Crisis."

Crime Stoppers

Indecent Exposure

A man exposed himself to two female students on two different occasions. The incidents occurred in Belle Aire Church and the Bell Street parking lot. The man is described as white, around 6' tall, slightly heavy-set, having dark hair and in his late 30's.

Golf Cart Taken

A Ingersal-Rand golf cart was taken during the late afternoon or early evening hours Oct. 6. It was stolen from the east side of the football stadium by one of three white high school boys.

Cars Vandalized

Four cars were vandalized in the new gravel parking lot at the corner of MTSU and Rutherford Boulevards Oct. 12. Almost all of the windows were broken in every car, along with taillights and headlights.

SUV vandalized

A blue 1993 Chevy Blazer with Tennessee license plate was unlawfully entered between 2 p.m. and 6:40 p.m. Oct. 23. Seventy CDs, a CD case, a Polo wallet and a hunter green

Eastpack backpack were taken.

Bike stolen

A bicycle was stolen from the bike rack at the Alumni Memorial Gym Oct. 24. The bike is a 21-speed red and white Trek Y-3 with a black seat.

Arson at Corlew

At approximately 3 a.m. Oct. 26, three men set a bulletin board on the sixth floor of Corlew Hall on fire. They then went into the sixth floor bathroom and set some papers on

fire. They may have gone on to commit a vandalism spree that either started or ended on the east side of Peck Hall with a vending machine burglary at 4:30 a.m.

If you have any information about these incidents, please call Crime Stoppers at 893-7867 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. All callers will remain anonymous and if your information leads to an arrest, you will be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

GO BLUE RAIDERS!!!



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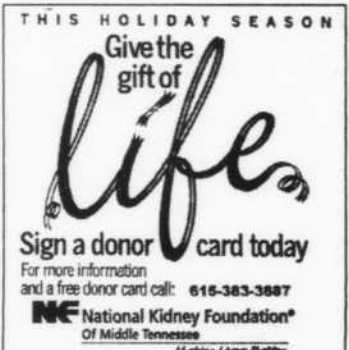
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OPINIONS

3 ♦ SIDELINES

Wednesday, November 6, 2002

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

From the Editorial Board

A voting story

As of press time, Phil Bredesen had a slight lead over Van Hilleary and Lamar Alexander had a comfortable lead over Bob Clement.

Alexander has proven himself to be a proponent of education. He served as the U.S. Secretary of Education under former President George Bush the elder and was the president of the University of Tennessee. Despite a rather ignorant pledge to vote with the younger Bush "99 percent of the time," his experience in education and the thoughtful, intellectual manner in which he has generally conducted himself will make him an excellent advocate for education - post-secondary in particular - in Washington, D.C.

As for Hilleary, the editorial board sincerely hopes that he returns home to work for his pappy once again (or maybe even fail the bar exam again.)

We breathed a sigh of relief when few signs of voter fraud showed themselves nationwide. Regardless of which candidate benefits from the fraud, it is atrocious to interfere with the democratic process in this manner.

It's sad that, even in an election that had the highest voter turnout of any mid-term election in history, a high percentage of the registered voters did not bother to show up at the polls. While circumstances unique to college students prohibit some living across the country from getting home to vote, there's no excuse for those of you who couldn't brave the rain to go out and exercise your duty.

Non-voters often say that they are disgusted by the negativity in ads and, as such, choose to withdraw from the political process. Not only is this a copout, but it holds no intellectual merit. Politicians have been campaigning long enough that their consultants have this down to a science. They are appealing to those who vote. By exercising your right to vote, you can change the way voter demographics are traditionally thought of and, in turn, change the way campaigns are carried out.

Then again, the right to vote carries with it the right to not vote. The non-voters, in turn, hold the right to be ruled by their peers. A scary thought. ♦

My ticket to the Hall of Fame

Filler



Brandon Morrison
Staff Columnist

In the main hallway of the Mass Communication building, there is the Hall of Fame.

In it, the school honors its best and brightest graduates who have gotten out of the school and maintained respectable jobs.

Most of the people on the wall seem to be typical white-collar businessmen and women. However, the

second-farthest photo on the left is of Blake Chancey, senior vice president of Sony Music.

Chancey looks like he's straight out of the '60s. He has long hair and small, circular sunglasses. In one hand, the man has a fat cigar. In the other hand, he's got a beer can.

Chancey has a look on his face that seems to say, "Hi, I'm Blake. I graduated from this hell-hole, and now I'm stinkin' rich. Booya."

When I graduate from MTSU in about 20 years, I, too, want to be on the Hall of Fame wall. Obviously, they won't give the award

to me for my award-winning columns, but I bet I'll get in for my soon-to-be outstanding career as a sports editor. Hopefully, I won't resort to spray painting my self-portrait on the wall.

When the school finally decides that I'm worthy of some recognition, I'm going to rival Chancey for the oddest photo on the Hall of Fame wall.

At first, I thought I might photocopy my mug shot from the paper and put it up. But by then, all this year's issues of *Sidelines* will have probably been burnt in the bonfire that most of them are

destined for.

Then I thought I should digitally put myself in some weird situations. I think it would be cool to have a picture of me in places I would never step foot into, like a church confessional or a Van Hilleary political rally.

But if I start doctoring up my photos, I might get myself in some real trouble with what I could come up with. So, instead, I'm just going to have to outdo Chancey at his own game.

Instead of a picture of me with a cigar and beer in hand, I want a statue of me with a cigar and beer in hand. Nothing says success

like a couple of harmful vices in your hands. I'll have the statue put up next to Chancey's photo.

The inscription on the bottom of the statue will read, "You're not the only one who can get out of here, Chancey."

But the chances of me getting into the Hall of Fame any time soon is slim-to-none. Until then, I'm going to have to break down and buy some bottles of spray paint. ♦

Brandon Morrison is a sophomore media design major and can be reached via e-mail at bjm2k@mtsu.edu.

Legal prostitution government dream

A Single Voice



Heidi Ward
Staff Columnist

Inspired by conversations and movies that deal with this subject, I decided to make a statement with today's column.

Prostitution should be legalized.

Some people who know me are now scratching their heads in confusion. No, I'm not condoning prostitution as a way of life; however, the fact that it's illegal makes no sense at all.

The main reason that prostitution is illegal is that it is considered by most people to be immoral. That's OK.

But, laws aren't supposed to be made to govern personal morality. They're supposed to be made to keep the majority of citizens safe. Prostitutes and their customers make up a great deal of the population.

As long as it's consensual, prostitution is not harming anyone.

Making prostitution legal would make it safer by allowing regulations to be instated.

Nearly 70 percent of prostitutes have been raped by customers or pimps.

By legalizing prostitution, it can be monitored. It can be done in a safe building with security. The "streetwalker" would disappear because they could work out of a building and not have to hide from police.

Customers also wouldn't have to put themselves in danger by going to seedy neighborhoods where they risk getting mugged, or worse.

Pimps could be eliminated entirely. Their role in the equation is supposedly to protect their prostitutes. There would be no need for their "protection" if the prostitutes already had a safe environment to work in.

They would also lose their market.

Very few people would go to streetwalkers when

they could go somewhere that was certain to be safe and have clean, disease-free workers.

Licensing would also ensure that prostitutes were over 18, not addicted to drugs and free of sexually transmitted diseases. Medical checks and drug screenings could be periodically required, as well as condom use.

Prostitution should be made as safe as possible, since it will happen whether it's legal or not.

Not only is it a futile effort to try to end prostitution, it costs taxpayers a lot of money. The average arrest, including court costs, is \$2,000. Cities spend an average of \$7.5 million every year on prostitution control. That's money that could be going to something more important.

Also, if prostitution were legalized, it could be taxed. We're talking about a \$14.5 billion a year business.

That's a lot of money for the government.

That money could possibly fund useful organizations. Imagine those taxes building drug rehabilitation centers or homeless shelters.

But no one wants prostitution in their back yard. By making it legal it can be zoned as well. Nevada has legal prostitution, but only in cities under a certain population. This keeps the brothels out of Las Vegas and other large cities.

It would be as simple as writing zoning laws that keep them away from schools and residential neighborhoods.

Otherwise, you have people walking the streets wherever there is a market for their services.

I've also heard that the appearance of prostitution will cause people to cheat. I battle this with common sense. If someone's going to cheat, they're going to cheat. Point the blame in the right direction.

If it were legal, at least when (s)he cheated on you (s)he wouldn't be breaking the law. ♦

Heidi Ward is a senior journalism major and can be reached via e-mail at hlw2a@mtsu.edu.

Letters to the Editor

MPRO set to 'challenge the system'

To the Editor:

As an active supporter of marijuana legalization on MTSU's campus, I'm responding to the editorial that encourages "believers in freedom to remove their mouths from the bong and go out, get involved and challenge the system" ("Legalization requires supporter effort," Oct. 30).

Although we had an informational booth set up at the very debate that the editor quotes, *Sidelines* must be unaware that a student organization working for marijuana legalization exists on campus. I'm the president of the Marijuana Policy Reform Organization of MTSU. On Oct. 14, we became an officially recognized student organization. We will soon be an affiliated chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. Our organization works to legalize marijuana for medicinal, industrial and personal use.

I would encourage anyone who wants to help "challenge the system" to become a member of MPRO of MTSU. We will hold our second meeting Thursday, Nov. 14. The time and place have yet to be determined. Watch for flyers. Anyone wanting additional information about how to get involved with us can contact me at seg2g@mtsu.edu. Prohibition didn't work for alcohol in the '20s, and it's not working now.

Sherry Landtroop

Tips based on performance, attitude

To the Editor:

John Miller's tales of woe regarding tipping in restaurants do little to obscure the fact that he doesn't like his job. For that I'm sorry; ideally, everyone should have the opportunity to do meaningful work for fair pay.

However, nobody is forcing Miller to work as a waiter. Waiting tables in a restaurant is a performance-driven occupation. A server who is friendly, helpful and professional will earn more over time than one who isn't. I'm quick to reward a server who is pleasant, attentive without hovering and quick to meet my needs without much prompting.

Miller complains that servers' tips are unfairly lowered by factors outside their control, like a messy toddler at the next table or the inexperienced cook. That "monster" is a customer just the same as I am and doesn't deserve the disdain shown by Miller.

Also, a good server will get the manager involved if the food isn't right so that the problem can be resolved and the customer will go home happy.

I should hope that Miller is kidding about using a customer's credit card to make unauthorized charges. No amount of frustration on the job justifies credit card fraud.

The price of restaurant meals makes them prohibitive. It's a treat to go out for dinner. If you wait on me, I don't care how tough your job is. You make a choice every day to go to work as a server. Handle yourself with class and do a good job, and the tips generally take care of themselves.

Jacob Levine

Halloween issue misrepresents students

To the Editor:

I enjoy reading *Sidelines* just as much as the next student, but I have to say that your Halloween edition was just downright offensive. On the front page, having "666" where the weather goes was wrong in itself. Come on, you can keep a nice Halloween theme going with your paper without having to use questionable manifestations.

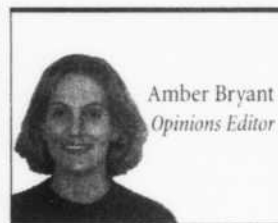
Also, in the opinions section, the column "Messiah could have offered better deal than Satan" is offensive to some, but the addition of Jesus promising the players "hot blonde foreign exchange chicks from Sweden" was a mockery. Any editor who would allow such a distasteful publication shouldn't be an editor. Even the "Dear Fannie" section (Dear Annie is a feature that I have always enjoyed) was just very inappropriate. The reference made about the "man in a white van" - seriously, the insensitivity toward all those affected by the sniper is just unacceptable; you shouldn't joke about that, at least not yet.

Please, just remember the thousands of diverse students this publication represents. I know you can never make all of them happy, but obviously you have no intention of even trying.

Josh Williams
Senior, computer information systems

From the Opinions Editor

Voting experience gave me that American feeling



Amber Bryant
Opinions Editor

Yesterday, for the first time in my apparently inexperienced life, I voted.

To be honest, it was a last-minute decision. I originally planned to sleep through my morning window of opportunity and pretend that I wasn't even aware an election was going on. If anyone asked, "Have you voted today?" I planned to stare blankly for a while and then change the subject to sex, which never ceases to permanently derail a person from his or her intended direction of conversation.

The reason I decided to drag myself to the polls is almost as cheap as my method of diversion. My grandfather, the most passionate advocate in my family, sent out his yearly e-mail reminder encouraging us all to vote. The message prompted me to recall how I'd apathetically ignored his advice for the past three years and the consequential verbal lashings I'd received when I went to visit. Anticipating such a scolding, I mustered up

the limited political information I had and trucked it down to the poll booth.

The process was much more confusing than I'd expected. After listening to the pros, I thought it'd be a lot like TRAM, only without the voice of God. The left side of the board was easy enough, but the right side was a bit baffling. I didn't know what or how I was supposed to decide. Fortunately, an election official was there to help. I now realize that there was a small, red light directing me to my district representative choices, but the random lights and trinkets on my computer have conditioned me to ignore such signs. A perfect example of how nervousness and inexperience can often lead to stupidity.

When it was all over and I'd finished pouting over the "I Voted" sticker I never received, I felt like an American. My hatred for greedy politicians and government shortcomings actually faded for one-fifth of a second, and I was proud to have a voice, albeit a small one.

I figure, even if voting is just a false exercise meant to humor powerless citizens and keep them at bay, at least I saved myself a lecture. ♦

SIDELINES

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From dust to dust

Professor discusses the origin of life

By Jarret Rice
Contributor

"The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul,"

— Genesis 2:7

Many people believe this biblical story. In fact, most of the U.S. population believes that some God is responsible for life on Earth — but not everyone thinks it happened in the same way.

MTSU biology professor Marion Wells came from a family of Baptist preachers.

He has published eight books, given more than 50 presentations outside of the classroom, and was honored with the Distinguished University Scientist Award in 1999, given by the Tennessee Academy of Science.

Like many, he was taught the origin of life in school at an early age. Not in the schoolroom, but at church.

When Wells turned 18, he left home to discover the truth for himself. What he discovered was that ignorance was at the heart of the Bible vs. evolution debate.

As a professor, Wells believes his job is to rid students of ignorance.

The origin of life has the far left and far right. The left extreme is those who believe in naturalistic evolution (evolution of life occurred on its own).

The right extreme is the creation scientists (God created life in six calendar days).

"My goal is to teach students to think for themselves, not to tell them what is correct," he says.

Wells opens every semester discussing natural selection with his classes.

"The classic example is fossil evidence of a short neck giraffe," Wells says.

"There are no more short-neck giraffes. How do you get from a short-neck giraffe to a long-neck giraffe? A mutation occurred that gave rise to the long neck giraffe."

The class discusses how certain genetic mutations come to be advantages in ever-changing environments.

In our example, the long-neck giraffe could reach its food better and thus remain strong to mate. This slowly phased out the short neck.

"I then ask the class, who believes this is possible?" Wells asks. "Usually, most people raise their hand."

"Biologists have actually watched fruit flies change in a lab to the point of becoming a new species. I then ask the class, 'Who believes in Darwin's theory of evolution?'"

Wells says that, consistently, many students who raised their hand before do not raise it again.

Being told that Darwin's theory and natural selection are the same thing is not what some students are ready to accept. A lot of students are like the Rev. Carl Wenck, senior pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Murfreesboro.

"In junior high, when other theories [besides creation] were presented to me, I chose to stay with a faith-based approach instead of a solely scientific approach," Wenck explains.

Wenck supports and teaches creation science in the Lutheran church.

Creation scientists believe that God created the universe during six consecutive 24-hour days.

Most believe this was done less than 10,000 years ago. A few creation scientists believe

in an old Earth creation. This is where the Earth is billions of years old and God created the universe in six periods of time, not actual days.

The majority of creation science followers regard the Hebrew Scriptures to be an accurate document of history; they interpret Genesis literally.

A 2001 Gallup Poll found that 45 percent of the U.S. population supports it.

It's not that Wells and other biologists want to steer young minds away from religion and faith.

"I want students to search deep in their minds for what they really believe," Wells says.

The other end of the spectrum is naturalistic evolution. The same poll reveals little support for this theory: 12 percent.

Essentially, naturalistic evolutionists believe God stepped out of it or that there is no God at all. They believe the universe is more than 10 billion years old, and animals formed out of lower life.

The middle ground, supported by 37 percent of the U.S. population, is theistic evolution, also known as process creation or multiple creation.

Wells currently attends and teaches Sunday school at First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro. His beliefs are in line with theistic evolution. This widely accepted belief agrees with naturalistic evolution, except that God caused the first living cell to appear and He continues to oversee evolution.

Pastor Wiatt Funk of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Murfreesboro agrees and teaches theistic evolution.

"God can do it through evolution just as well as through creationism," Wiatt says.

Wenck points out that society "can't prove either one." Wells would agree, but claims that science is missing from

creation science. They can co-exist, but James Schombert of the University of Oregon explains to his students that "science can be separated from pseudo-science by the Principle of Falsification, the concept that ideas must be capable of being proven false in order to be scientifically valid."

Having faith in the accuracy of Genesis is fine, but in science it is not. It's not possible to prove creation science wrong. Evolution, like other scientific theories, can be proven incorrect.

"A theory is our best guess. We are prepared to accept it if evolution is proven wrong," Wells asserts.

"Most of the controversy is taking place in the church on Sunday morning."

One morning he showed up for service attentively awaiting the sermon. To his surprise, the preacher essentially split the church.

"He stood before the congregation, slammed his fist down and said, 'I am sick and tired of science teachers teaching evolution as a fact.'"

Wells was appalled and confronted the pastor after the service.

"I told him that scientists don't teach anything as fact," Wells says. "He said, 'I'm sure you don't, but...'"

Wells told the pastor that, in his 38 years of teaching, he had never met a professional biologist who teaches evolution as a fact. The pastor ended up leaving with half the church members.

Wells emphasizes that science uses facts as tools.

"We don't formulate facts," he says.

Many people are fine with accepting what a preacher tells them, but Wells will tell you to use the mind you've been given to find out for yourself.

"Don't you think God would want you to be curious about creation?" Wells proposes.

One of the United States' biggest promoters of creation science is the Creation Research Society. The name indicates that they research the possibility of a young Earth and special creation.

However, to be a voting or sustaining member of the CRS, you must already agree with their Statement of Belief.

Part of the statement includes that you must first believe evolution never happened.

"All basic living things, including man, were made by direct creative acts of God during the Creation Week described in Genesis," according to the statement.

Critics of creation science say the CRS and creation science supporters find plenty of ideas to discount evolution. They don't, however, do actual research that might disagree with them, say the critics. They find ways to back up what they already believe.

The quintessential misconception is that Charles Darwin and evolutionists believe man came from apes.

"We have never believed we evolved from apes," Wells exclaims. "We believe we may have shared a common ancestor."

In other words, the missing link became divided into two separate environments. They each changed to become two different species — man and ape.

Eugenie Scott, a spokesperson for the National Center for Science Education, told an Associated Press reporter, "I think many Americans believe that somehow they are less special to God if they evolved from non-human animals."

Prior to 2001, The Gallup Poll had repeated the same survey five times. The results have remained virtually unchanged. The consistency in the demographic characteristics of the different belief systems was analyzed after the 1997 poll.

The poll revealed in 1997 that 65 percent of people in America without a high school diploma believe in creation science. On the other hand, 54 percent of college graduates believe in theistic evolution. In addition, 16.5 percent of graduates support naturalistic evolution.

George also noted that younger, better educated, mainline Protestants and Catholics are more likely to fall in the middle as theistic evolutionists.

Here in the South, Wells receives much challenge for his beliefs and what he tells his class.

"Students always tell me, 'My pastor wants to debate



Wells

with you," he says. "I don't want to debate with them."

But perhaps Wells is doing both sides a service.

Obviously, his own side, theistic evolution, benefits, but what about those who believe in creation science?

People cannot effectively convince others who think on their own to believe their ideas without first understanding the opposing views.

As Wells told the preacher, "You need to investigate what you talk about."

The reason America debates the origin of life more than other developed countries could be in its attitude toward faith.

George found that, compared to Britain, America is five times more likely to believe the Bible is the actual word of God and it is to be taken literally, word for word. Possibly parallel, America's church attendance is four times higher than Britain's.

A British survey of 103 Roman Catholic priests, Anglican bishops and Protestant ministers showed that 97 percent do not believe the world was created in six consecutive days.

Wells is in the process of retiring.

He has engaged the minds of thousands of students.

He believes that God's creation was done in a most fascinating and complicated manner, which science is learning more about every day.

But, when it comes down to what's important, he will tell you it doesn't matter what your interpretation is of "from dust to dust."

He says, "What matters is family." ♦

Cruising through college: Semester at sea

By Keosha Thomas
Staff Writer

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to attend a college at sea with the smell of salt, scenic ocean views, diversity of cultures and hands-on courses with learning experience?

The Semester at Sea Program is the answer for those who wish to incorporate all of these options and opportunities.

Semester at Sea started in 1964 and has involved more than 35,000 students since then by offering 100-day voyages.

These are headed aboard the S.S. Universe Explorer, a fully air-conditioned and stabilized ocean liner, which has been equipped as a floating university.

The ship is a Panamanian registry and is an American Bureau of Shipping and U.S. Coast Guard licensed. Summer voyages use similar certified smaller vessels

on their floating campus.

Semester at Sea provides opportunities for the exploration and study of many of the people, places and cultures around the world.

The programs are designed for undergraduate students seeking to include study abroad in their college experience. The institute's approach to cultural and international education provides the setting for a lifetime of knowledge, concern and commitment to others.

"Students are attracted to the idea of actually getting to travel globally to these countries and looking at them in different objectives independently," said Paul Watson, director of Enrollment Management. "Students learn to develop a global perspective about different countries, cultures, respecting and understanding differences between cultures, and the many issues these cultures face."

Watson said MTSU as has five alumni

who have gone on trips and that the university will have three fellow students coming in the summer semester at sea.

"A semester at sea is the best thing a student can be involved in throughout college," Watson said. "It adds more to your college experience or background."

The spring 2003 Safari in Kenya and Tanzania is at full capacity.

Summer 2003 is still accepting applications and it will be the Pacific countries.

Space is currently available for the fall 2003 semester.

Applications must include transcripts reflecting academic work through the spring 2002 semester. Financial aid applications are mailed to all academically admitted students who request them on the application.

Financial aid applications will be due April 15, 2003.

For further information visit the Web site www.semesteratsea.com. ♦



Dear Annie



Dear Annie,

I had been dating this guy for 1 1/2 years when I cheated on him in August. I told him about it the next day. I felt horrible. I had never cheated on anyone before. We stayed together for about a month after that, but then he broke up with me because of what I did. Only a week after breaking up with me, he started dating this girl. She seems really sweet (which is annoying). They instantly became attached at the hip, spending lots of time together. After dating her for about one month, he calls me wanting to come over and talk. Once he came over he said he thought about me this past weekend when he went home. He said he missed me and was thinking of breaking up with his current girlfriend. I was instantly happy with the hope of getting back together with him because I love this guy. Well he and I "hooked up" that night. He said he felt bad for it, and that it was a mistake, but he came over two nights later and cheated on her with me again. So I was really confused. Then they broke up two days later. But rather than starting to spend time with me again, he

still spends every waking moment with her. He even told her about both times he cheated on her and she still wants to be with him. Is she crazy? I know if a guy I had been dating only a month had sex with his ex twice I would dump him. We still spend time together now, but only as friends (and I want more). Why is life so unfair that when I cheat on someone I get dumped? But when my ex-boyfriend cheats on a girl with me she continues to be sweet as pie to him. He says he doesn't know if he could go back out with me because of what I did to him. Granted that I did was wrong but he did the exact same thing to someone else. Would you please explain to me what's going on? Should I continue to hope that we will get back together? Is there anything I can do to win his trust back?

- Hopelessly Confused

Dear Hopelessly Confused,

You can't win someone's trust back. You have to earn it. I don't know why you want this relationship to work out - besides the fact that you "love him." Why did you

cheat on him? Maybe something was missing from the relationship.

To explain "what's going on," is really very simple; you cheated on him and he found someone new. I'd really have to know the guy to explain why he's having sex with you while he's dating someone else ... but I'll take three guesses. One - he's not over you. Two - he wanted sex. Three - he wanted to hurt you for hurting him. It's not life that's being unfair to you, it's your ex making you feel guilty when he's doing the same thing. I wonder how you can trust him now that he's shown he's guilty of cheating too.

This is a messy situation. I don't like to tell people to give up hope. So, I'm going to tell you to take a step back and really evaluate the relationship and yourself. And let me remind you that having sex with an ex keeps you from moving on in your life.

Take a break from each other and clear your thoughts so you won't be confused and hopelessly waiting for him to come back.

Please e-mail your questions to DearMtsuAnnie@aol.com



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For the Fall Semester 2002, the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi invites the following students to join this national honor society that recognizes outstanding accomplishments in all academic disciplines.

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Sarah Alexander	Allyson Harper	Hitendra Patel
Benjamin Allington	Hongli He	James Penner
Joseph Babilon	Shawna Hendrix	Benjamin Petzinger
Jennifer Bailey	Christy Hooge	David Powell
Olivia Barnes	Michael Hovis	Qinghua Qian
Ginny Barton	Katie Jones	Gayle Reese
Tamara Blunthel	Hui Kim	Wade Rohrbach
Travis Blunt	Gregory King	Sherri Sharpe
Minden Bullock	Joann Lawson	Deborah Shipley
Carla Bush	Brian Lewis	Bobby Skelton
Angela Cathey	Mary Lovett	Jessica Spies
Nicholas Cote	Katie Lovett	Amy Suggs
Leslie Davis	Thomas Mc Cuddy	Brenda Terry
Charles Dorris	Jeff Mc Daniel	Jennifer Tomlinson
Edward Drumm	Doris Mc Laren	Sandra Walker
Russell Emrath	Janelle Mehall	Mary Ward
Mary Godbey	Wosenu Mergo	Adrienne West
Constance Gowder	Dora Newman	Lindsey Yoes
Rana Hajizadeh	Sally Nigro	Tara York
Ryan Hamilton	Bradley Palmquist	

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Troy Allen	Rhonda Holmes	Leslie Ragan
Sarah Allen	Kaci Hunter	Andrew Rawlins
Betrice Baldwin	Kevin Johnson	Joshua Ray
Jeffrey Bandy	Derek Johnson	Kathryn Reeves
Sarah Beecham	Holly Jordan	Kimberly Ridley
John Bradley	Karen Kendrick-	Kimberly Smelcer
Jennifer Brown	Toalston	Christine Snyder
Roger Burnett	Patrick Kennedy	Sophal Sun
Andrea Compton	Sherry Kirker	Alicia Szajnda
Leslee Davis	Jeffrey Lafavor	Pamela Travis
Jennifer Ditmer	Heather Lawson	Patricia Vargo
Abigail Ezzelle	Denise Leggett	Xiaojuan Wang
Larry Ezzelle	Jeffrey Martin	Jeffrey Whidby
Karie Fields	Valerie Martin	Amy Whitticker
Paul Frisby	David Miller	David Williams
Christopher Gill	Patricia Moore	Holly Williams
Harold Gillen	Teresa Moore	Ella Williams
Carey Gower	James Moseley	Kelly Williams
Steven Gregory	Carolyn Oliver	Shilei Yang
James Hartbarger	Vicky Patterson	Xiaolin Zhao
Jennifer Hartley	Terri Peaslee	

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Amanda Boles	John Hall	Debora Sloan
Chasity Brackett	Susanna Haynes	Jennifer Steinfeldt
Monica Butler	Shelley Haynes	Jennifer Talbert
Ruth Chananie	Robbie Jones	Jennifer Terry
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Courtney Cox	George Knight	Susan Usery
Cassie Cuccia	Mae Matthews	James Wade
Jessica Druce	Paul Morris	Stacy Weber
Matthew Draper	Jennifer Nasti	Michael Wiggins
Katherine Dupuy	Matthew Palmer	James Wilburn
Lane Edwards	Mary Paris	Lori Williamson
Shawna Estes	Matt Pauley	Jaime Woodcock
Michael Ford	Sara Petty	Jennifer Wright
Claire Garcia	Kristine Phillips	Akie Yanagi
Lindsay Graves	Melissa Radley	Stephen Yerka

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Sandra Curless
Kristy Carr
Erin Washam

The initiation ceremony and reception will be held Monday, December 2, 2002 at 5 p.m. in the Alumni Center. If you would like more information about Phi Kappa Phi, contact Dr. Bob Glenn at 898-2440.

Basketball shows off on Media Day

By Jared Hastings
Staff Writer

The approach of the college basketball season can only mean one thing: Media Day.

Middle Tennessee women's coach Stephany Smith, new Blue Raider head coach Kermit Davis Jr. and players from both teams met with members of the press Monday at the Middle Tennessee Basketball Media Day.

"We are pretty excited about the season here," Smith said. "We've grown up since our seven freshmen last year and have a little more experience under our belt."

The Lady Raiders return four of their five highest-scoring players from last season's squad, which finished 16-13 overall, 7-7 in Sun Belt Conference play. The lone loss being leading scorer, Jamie Thomatis.

SBC Freshman of the Year Patrice Holmes is MT's leading returning scorer. The sophomore guard from Bishopville, S.C., averaged 12.6 points per game last season, as well as a team high of 6.1 rebounds.

Smith will expect seniors Paula Penttila and Mia Parvianen to provide leadership not only on the floor in games but off the court as well.

"[They] have been instrumental," Smith said. "They set the tone in practice and in the preseason. They are very positive and our team chemistry is great."

On a team with only two seniors and two juniors (Jennifer Justice and Keisha McClinic), leadership will be at a premium.

A young team will not be Smith's only challenge, as the team has been bitten hard by the injury bug in the preseason.

"We have gone through a lot of adversity in the preseason; we've had a few people miss preseason conditioning and training due to various injuries," Smith said.

Redshirt freshman Cartia Bailey, who suffered a season ending injury of her own a year ago, said that it is all in how the team handles the adversity.

"We've been doing pretty well considering the injuries and everything," Bailey said. "It's about who is going to step up and do their role."

Davis, however, is still trying to solidify his team leadership.

"I think any time you take over a program, you try to put a base into a team," the first-year coach said. "You try to get the team to think like the staff on a day-to-day basis. In April, when we were hired, that's what we tried to do."



Photo by Kyle Postlewaite | Staff Photographer
Head coach Stephany Smith answers questions from the media.

The team looks to improve on last year's 14-15 overall record that included a 6-8 effort in SBC games.

After losing last year's leading scorer, rebounder and inside presence in Lee Nosse, MT will look outside for its identity.

"The strength of our team right now is the collection of wing guys, as far as the numbers," Davis said. "We played a 36 minute scrimmage and made 15 of 32 threes."

One of the those wing players, senior John Humphrey, recorded a team record eight threes in a game against SBC regular season champion Western Kentucky University.

See Media Day, 7

Cross country takes 11th place in championships

By David Hunter
Staff Reporter

The Middle Tennessee Cross Country teams took home a third- and 11th-place finish at the Sun Belt Conference Championships Monday at the University of North Texas.

In the men's 8K, Middle Tennessee's Geoffrey Lagat came into the event as the two-time defending champion. However, he had not run since the middle of August because of a stress fracture in his right shin he received last spring.

This year, on a rain-soaked course, Lagat completed the race in second place with a time of 26 minutes, 22.63 seconds. The winner of the event was Brent Corbitt, from University of Arkansas-Little Rock, who completed the race in 25:43.26. With the victory, Corbitt was named Most Outstanding Performer of the meet.

"Geoffrey ran a really great race, especially considering the leg injury he had in the spring," MT head coach Dean Hayes said.

The men's team placed 10th, with senior Levi Sybert taking home a 10th-place finish in a time of 27:13.34. With the top 10 finishes, Lagat and Sybert earned a spot on the All-SBC Team.

Two other runners made the top 20 in the meet. Anthony McGary completed the race in 19th position (28:00.56). One place behind him was Edwin Koech with a time of 28:05.05. Josh Carroll came in at No. 38 in a time of 29:12.13. Sean Rabe brought home a 62nd place finish in a time of 32:08.12. Steve Safstrom was unable to compete in the race. The team finished with a combined time of 2:18:54.01.

The 89 points scored by the men's team put them in third place behind Western Kentucky University, who had 80 points, and UALR with 21 points.

"Levi also ran a terrific race, as did all of our top five guys,"

"Geoffrey ran a really great race, especially considering the leg injury he had in the spring."

—Dean Hayes,
MT cross country coach

Hayes said. "We ran about as well as we could run, but it did hurt us not to have Steve Safstrom available."

The women finished the SBC Championship meet in 11th and last place for the third consecutive year.

In the 6K, freshman Trisha DeValcourt was the top finisher for the Lady Raiders with 49th place in a time of 27:42.25. DeValcourt has been fighting an injury during the fall.

Erin Russell completed the meet in 54th place with a time of 29:07. The Lady Raiders had finishers with Fran Hass (59th, 30:24.63), Chelsea Taylor (60th, 30:57.73), Rosemary Okafor (63rd, 32:48.14) and Laura Smith (65th, 33:49.47). Kishara George and Laura Leigh did not compete in the race. The final combined time was 2:30:59.76 for the Lady Raiders.

"The women ran hard and Trisha ran pretty good after being hurt this fall," Hayes said. "It was a sloppy, wet and windy day, which made it tough for everyone and made the times slow."

UALR won the overall women's title with 29 points that included five runners in the top 10. Leah Thorvilson was the top finisher with a final time of 22:10.57. WKU finished second with 47 points, and New Mexico State was third with 79 points.

The next event for MT is the NCAA regionals at Knoxville, Tenn. on November 16th at 11 a.m. ♦

Horses provided by team helps success

"In equestrian horse racing, you have beginners, and you also have world champions. The good thing about our team is that we have a strong mix of both."

—Sarah Elder,
Equestrian team member

By Erich Heinlein
Staff Reporter

The Middle Tennessee equestrian team dominated competition and gained the most points in the region at Murray, Ky., this Sunday.

The team also assisted the tournament by providing additional horses.

Team member Sarah Elder seems to think this helped the team.

"Having to help get all the horses up to Murray State really gave us a sense of teamwork, and that really helped us in the tournament," Elder said. "It has kept up the team spirit, and as a result, everybody has been riding well consistently."

Coach Anne Brzezicki is excited about the win.

"It's a promising start," Brzezicki said. "We are really excited and encouraged, but we know we are the new target everybody is shooting at. So we have to stay on our toes because the biggest challenges are yet to come."

Other schools competing in the tournament were Murray

State, University of the South, University of Tennessee, Vanderbilt University, Western Kentucky University, UT-Martin and Tennessee Technological University.

Players picking up wins for the Lady Raiders were senior Sarah Elder, senior Raquel Maddox, junior Lydia Whitlow and freshman Lori Puckett.

According to Elder, it is hard to really prepare for these races strategically.

"When you start a race, nobody really knows who everybody else is going to choose for their team," Elder said. "But we're not really worried about that because, in the end, it is when it matters who has the most points."

In order to make the races fair, the races are divided up into classes, depending upon the rider's experience and ability level.

Elder is excited about the rest of the year.

"In equestrian horse racing, you have beginners and you also have world champions," Elder said. "The good thing about our team is that we have a

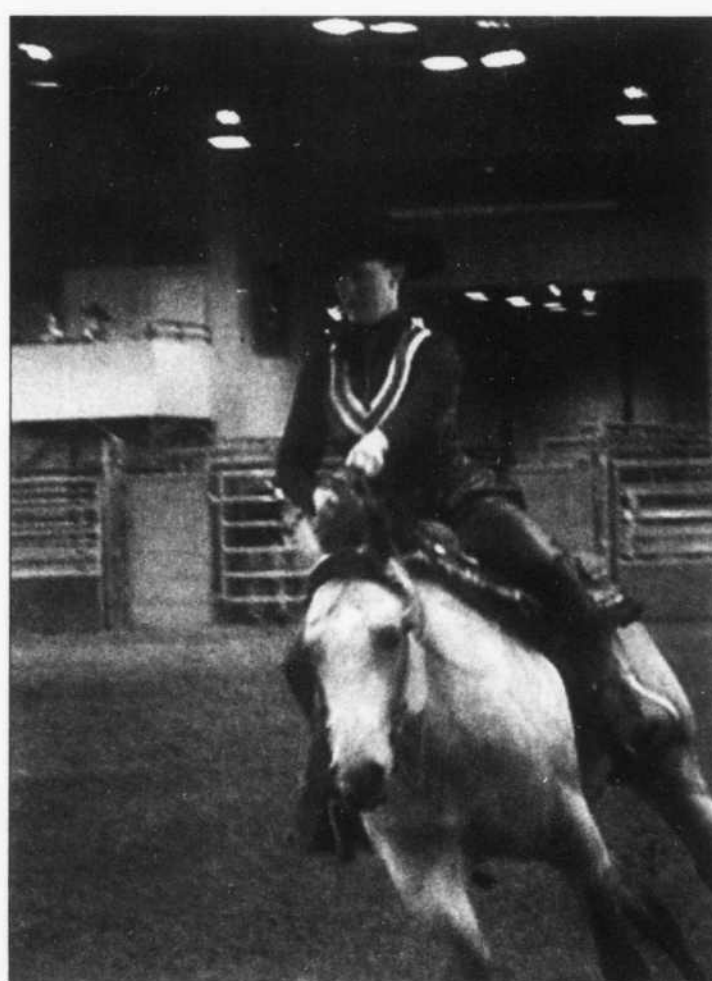


Photo provided
Equestrian team member Sarah Elder rides a horse during one of the squad's recent competitions.

strong mix of both. That should help us in the long run."

During the tournament, Elder had the most points for both days, winning all four division classes.

Other Blue Raiders who contributed to the cause were Maddox and Whitlow, who was accompanied by Puckett. Each of these individuals won their races.

Elder echoed the confidence. "This win should give us more confidence come December," Elder said. "This puts us in a great position to

possibly win our region.

The biggest thing about this weekend, and for the future, is that we have been and need to continue to be consistent."

If the Blue Raiders should win the region, they will then go on to the Zone championships. The winner of the Zone championships will then proceed to go on to the NCAA tournament.

The next match for the Equestrian team is Dec. 13 through the 15th at MTSU. ♦

Basketball, soccer: for the fast-paced world sports fans

Sports commentary



Angela Journagin
Sports Editor

It is that time of year again.

The chill is in the air. People are getting turkey crazy, anticipating the start of the holiday season. This semester is almost over, just as the number of classes that I can miss has hit zero.

And best of all, basketball season has started.

When I was younger I used to bemoan the fact that I could no longer watch soccer when the fall season started wrapping up. Lost in misery, I would ponder what could possibly compensate.

That is when I found out that basketball goes almost hand-in-hand with soccer.

For those who are confused, let me explain.

In football it can take almost a year in between plays. In soccer and basketball there is non-stop play until the break. Sure, basketball players can take timeouts, but let's be real. Running up and down the court, by the time that they get the breather, it is well deserved.

Baseball is the same story. If I had to choose between Philadelphia 76ers' Allen Iverson and the Philadelphia Phillies' Johnny Estrada in an

endurance test, I would pick Iverson every time.

Another way that basketball is better than football, and like soccer, people in other countries like to play it. Often.

If someone in the United States went south of the border to Mexico and said that they wanted to play a game of football, the people would probably be very mad when you tackled them. If you went to Mexico and said that you wanted to play basketball, then you would probably be led to a hoop.

Take one of the most talked-about rookies in the 2002-2003 season, Yao Ming. The 7-foot-5, 296 pound Chinese center is just one more recent export to the NBA ranks.

Right here in Tennessee, Paul Gasol, of the Memphis Grizzlies, hails from Barcelona, Spain. And please, the Major League Soccer association would be cut in half if you eliminated all of the foreign players in their ranks.

Though the United States would like to believe that we rule the world in athletic activities, I refuse to believe that every other country is wrong.

In soccer and basketball it is all about reflexes and fast thinking. Plays are thought about before the game, but it is up to the players to decide what will work while they're pounding on the court or racing across the field.

See World, 7

2002 Sun Belt Conference soccer overview



2002 Sun Belt Conference soccer standings (through games on Nov. 2)

	W-L-T	Pct.	Streak
Denver	14-1-2	.853	W12
North Texas	12-4-1	.735	W1/U5
South Alabama	8-9-3	.475	L1
Louisiana-Lafayette	6-8-3	.441	L1
Western Kentucky	9-8-0	.529	L3
Florida International	2-13-2	.176	L2
Middle Tennessee	8-11-1	.425	L3
Arkansas State	4-13-1	.250	L1
Arkansas-Little Rock	6-12-0	.333	L1

Arkansas State Indians

Junior GK Adrienne Mann is averaging six stops per game and has shutout opponents in her last two outings, tying Florida International 0-0 in double overtime and beating Arkansas-Little Rock 1-0 in overtime. Jamey Spear is the team's leading scorer with 10 points on four goals and two assists. Sheri Kiser, ASU's all-time assists leader, follows Spear with seven points on two goals and three assists. Six players have scored at least two goals this season. The Indians are 4-4 at home this season, but 0-9 on the road.

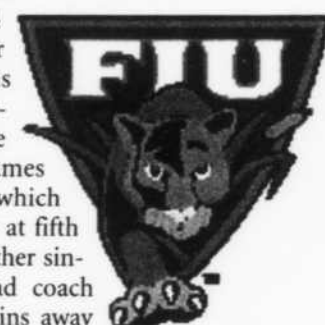
Denver Pioneers

In eight matches, the Pioneers produced six shutouts, only allowing two goals and 30 shots in conference play. Denver has a 15-game regular season Sun Belt Conference unbeaten streak, and an overall 18-game Sun Belt unbeaten streak in progress, including three wins in last year's championship tournament. The Pioneers are the first team in Sun Belt women's soccer history to go through the conference season undefeated. Denver has won 13 straight games at home, dating back to last season, and has surrendered only one goal at home in as many games (last goal allowed vs. North Texas on Oct. 4; last home loss vs. South Alabama on Oct. 15). The Pioneers have not lost a game in the state of Colorado in 15 straight matches. Denver suffered a 2-0 defeat to Colorado

College in the Springs on Oct. 18. Erica Izard has allowed just nine goals this season and boasts a .053 GAA and .812 saves percentage. She recorded one save last weekend and is now in second place on Denver's all-time saves list with 330 in her career. Izard also recorded her school-record 41st career shutout last weekend and also notched her school-record 49th career win. She is now in first place on Denver's all-time wins list. The Pioneers currently have a 12-game winning streak in progress, the longest single-season winning streak, since 1989. Ten Pioneers have tallied multi-point games this season. Katie Antongiovanni earned a team season-high five points versus North Texas. Jamie Norwood is in second place on Denver's all-time list with 29 career helpers, just five shy of first place (Annette Wagner 34).

Florida International Golden Panthers

Senior forward Nicola Bell has been integral to the Golden Panthers' success on offense this season. Bell has been directly involved in 80 percent of FIU's goals in games she has played. For her career, Bell ranks fifth all-time at FIU with 14 assists. Junior goalkeeper Adrienne McWilliams finished the regular season with 98 saves, despite missing two games with an injury, which currently puts her at fifth on the Golden Panther single season record list. Head coach Everton Edwards in three wins away from 150 career wins as a head coach. His overall coaching record is 147-136-26. ♦



Media Day: Seasons open Nov. 22, 25

Continued from 6

regular season champion, Western Kentucky University.

He will be looked to for more of the same this season. But Humphrey, who has built the reputation of being a leaper and won the slam dunk competition at the Fan Jam, said offense isn't the focus.

"We focus on defense," Humphrey said. "The offense will come, but as long as we focus on defense this year, we'll be OK."

With a strong group of guards, one point of emphasis will be down low. Center play is key in a conference filled with quality big men, including pre-

season player of the year, seven-footer Chris Marcus of WKU.

"There's SEC-type big men all over this conference," Davis said.

"That's definitely the strength of this conference right now."

In an effort to get his team ready for that challenge, Davis has already been working, including an effort to trim up starting center Demario Watson so he can be more explosive in the post.

"Coach Davis came to me and said, 'Demario, you need to lose a few pounds, be quicker and more explosive to the rim; so that's what I did,'" Watson said.

For the Blue Raiders, the cupboard isn't completely bare, as they return their second leading scorer (Tommy Gunn, 12.5 ppg) and rebounder (William Pippen, 4.1 rpg) as well as a solid supporting cast and key junior college transfer Napoleon Rhodes.

The 6-foot-9-inch, 250-pound Rhodes will provide solid minutes in the low post, and along with Watson, help the Blue Raiders establish themselves inside.

The men open the regular season Nov. 22 at the Murphy Center against East Carolina University. The women open Nov. 25 in Cookeville against Tennessee Tech at 7 p.m. ♦

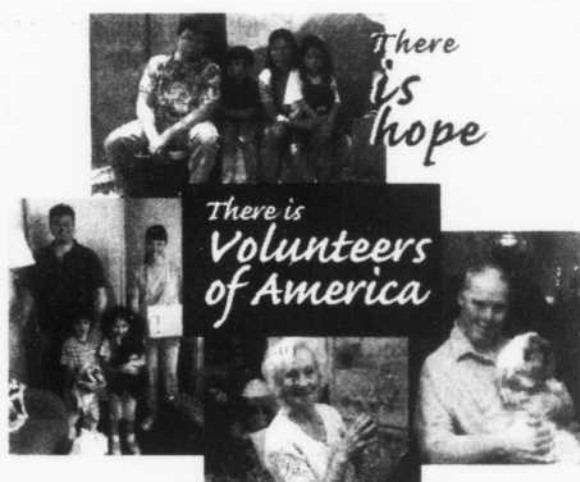
World: B-ball not for the ignorant

Continued from 6

If you can't think fast in these sports, you will be left in the dust. If your reflexes are slow in basketball, then the person you are guarding will leave your head spinning on their way to the net. If your reflexes are slow in soccer, then there is a good possibility that someone is going to take the ball away, and your butt will be on the ground, and then on the bench.

Soccer may on its way out, but basketball is here. I guess someone out there loves me after all. ♦

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Billings receives special teams award

MT Media Relations

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — Junior Robert Billings was named the Sun Belt Conference Special Teams Player of the Week on Monday following his performance Saturday at New Mexico State.

The preseason all-SBC punt record single-game average of 56.5 yards per punt on four attempts, while placing two

inside the opponents' 10-yard line.

Billings, who also had a career-long 68-yard punt, moved his career average to 40.90 to rank No. 2 all-time at Middle Tennessee.

The Collierville, Tenn., native enters the open week leading the Sun Belt with a 43.9-yard average and has put 15 of his 43 punts this year inside the opponents 20-yard line.

If the season ended today, Billings' current average would match the single-season record at Middle Tennessee (43.90).

The honor was Billings' first of the 2002 season and his third overall.

Billings and the Blue Raiders will step back into action on Nov. 16 at home against Louisiana-Monroe.

The Homecoming game will be televised regionally on ESPN and will kickoff at 2:36 PM CST. ♦

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1992 Nissan 240SX. 120K miles, automatic, cd player, cold air, good tires, excellent condition. \$3,500 OBO. Call Neil at 714-6345. 1996 Dodge Avenger ES, loaded, leather int., sunroof, CD/Tape, red w/polished aluminum spoke wheels. 107,000 miles. \$5,900 Tullahoma, TN 931-455-8868. Do you rap or sing? Are you looking for Hip-Hop or R&B tracks? Well I have tracks for all different styles for sale. If interested, call Rufus @ 898-4275 or email beatstalka@hotmail.com For Sale: 1993 Nissan

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105 General

ATTENTION. C.E.O. FANS. Due to the current management and staffing at MTSU's Channel 10, the show "On Da Scene Wit Bookey Scene" will not be airing this semester. The show was supposed to showcase local talent as well as exclusive personal footage of artists like J.D., KHIA, SLICK RICK, as well as C.E.O.'s own artist BIG FELLA & TE' ARTHUR.

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165 Roommates

Roommate wanted to share 3 BR, 2 BA apartment 1/2 block from MTSU. Available Nov. 15. \$200 per month plus 1/3 utilities. \$100 deposit. 895-9062. Roommate wanted: \$100 deposit, \$385 includes all utilities,

washer & dryer, fully furnished. Call 615-907-3962 or 931-216-2879. Room for rent. Female needed. One bedroom in 3 bedroom house. All appliances included. Close to campus. \$285 + 1/3 utilities. Available now! Call 494-3877. Spacious room with private bath, laundry and kitchen privileges. Grad student preferred. \$350. 867-6994. Room for Rent, women only. 2 1/2 blocks from MTSU, furnished room. Includes everything. Washer and Dryer, Towels, Linens, all you need is your clothes, toiletries and food. \$350 a month, no deposit, no lease, month to month. Call Glenna 896-0123. 432 S. Tennessee Blvd. 2 female roommates wanted to share new 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, 5 minutes from MTSU. Fully furnished. \$325 per person. Call 494-0077 ask for Amber.

4 BR / 2 BA (male). \$370 a month all utilities included. Sterling Gables. "I will pay you \$100 to move in!" Call 289-0720.

170 Subleasing

Tired of Campus Life? One bedroom includes everything. Phone, cable, furniture, very nice place. Please call 308-9700. Avail. ASAP. Sublease before Dec. 6 and I'll give you \$100.00.

190 Services

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205 Other

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Basketball player works on his game

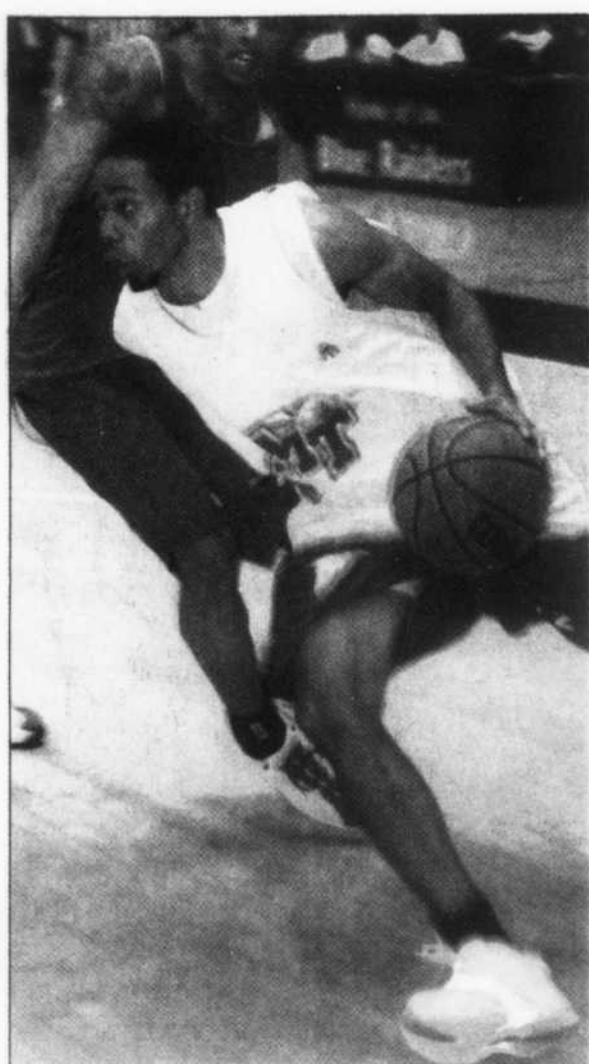


Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

MT forward Bryant Mitchell gets ready for the start of the 2002-2003 basketball season during a recent practice. This is Mitchell's third season on the basketball team. Last season he battled knee injuries all season.

Coach Davis looks back, forward to 2003

By Jared Hastings
Staff Writer

Boots Donnelly knew what he had to do. He knew what he wanted in a new men's basketball coach and Kermit Davis Jr. had it.

"I wanted to bring someone in here that wanted to be here, not just to be a head coach, but who wanted to take over our program," the Middle Tennessee athletic director said.

On April 12, Davis was introduced as the 19th head men's basketball coach in Blue Raider history.

"It feels really good to get a job like Middle Tennessee, with all the possibilities and the resources that we have to get this program back to where it was in the late 80's," Davis said.

For Davis it is his third head coaching job in the Division I ranks. He also served as a head coach at Southwest and Chipola junior colleges.

After starting his career at Southwest, he served two years as an assistant at Idaho before taking over the program in 1988. In two years his team recorded back-to-back 26-5 records, including a Big Sky championship and conference coach of the year

honors in 1989. At the time, Davis was the youngest Division I head coach in the country at 28.

Success at Idaho garnered Davis national attention and at the end of the 1990 season, he was lured away from Idaho by the vacancy at Texas A&M University. But it was short-lived.

An 8-20 record combined with a recruiting scandal cost Davis his position at A&M and landed him on NCAA probation as well. But it is a mistake he has learned from and moved on. He addresses it as straightforwardly as possible, which was key through the interview process.

"I think everybody is measured on how they handle adversity," Davis said. "I was a young guy at 30 years old when I was the coach at Texas A&M, and I made some mistakes. Like all mistakes, you learn from it, you move on, and you deal with it head on."

After leaving Texas A&M, Davis spent one year as an assistant and one year as head coach at Chipola Junior College before heading north again for a one-year stint at Utah State, followed by a return to the University of Idaho.

But after a one-year return, Davis was presented with the opportunity to return

south with wife Betty and daughters Ally and Claire.

Davis took the associate head coaching position for new LSU coach John Brady. From 1997 to 2002, LSU has made two post-season appearances, winning one SEC championship and reaching the NCAA Sweet Sixteen in 2000.

As he takes over as the coach of the Blue Raiders, one of the first things on Davis' agenda is to instill a new sense of discipline and toughness in his team.

"With Coach Davis, the key word is toughness," said senior guard John Humphrey. "He's going to make us tough. It was really different in the beginning, but now everybody knows what they're supposed to do."

Under former coach Randy Wiel, the Blue Raiders gained a bad reputation for being undisciplined and soft on defense but that is one of the new coaching staff's first priorities to set straight.

"We've got a lot of hard work ahead of us," Davis said of his new team. "Not all of the guys have quite bought in, but they're getting there and they're beginning to understand what it takes to be a really good team." ♦



Photo by Kevin Jones | Staff Photographer

Head coach Kermit Davis discusses game play strategies with one of his players.

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Wednesday, November 6, 2002

SIDELINES

Middle Tennessee State University

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE



Homecoming 2002

Raider Rampage



Middle Tennessee vs. Louisiana-Monroe

Nov. 16, 2 p.m.

Floyd Stadium



Sunday, Nov. 10

2 p.m. – Kickball Kickoff at the intramural fields. Teams will battle during 30-minute games to see who will take home the number one spot.

Monday, Nov. 11

10 a.m.-4 p.m. – Blood drive in Keathley University Center, Room 322.

Banners in offices and dorm lobbies will also be judged after noon.

Tuesday, Nov. 12

11 a.m.-3 p.m. – Carnival on the KUC Knoll.

Thursday, Nov. 14

7 p.m. – Raider basketball at Murphy Center vs. VASDA

Friday, Nov. 15

All day – During Swap Day, you can bring in T-shirts from other schools and get an MTSU shirt.

Raider Pride day – Wear Raider blue

10:30 a.m. – Golf tournament at Indian Hills Golf Course. Noon shotgun start; \$75 per player includes cart, green fees, lunch and goody bag. Forms are available on the alumni office Web site at www.mtalumni.com. Forms need to be in by Nov. 8

5:30 p.m. – Chili Cook-off on the Murphy Center track level, outside.

7 p.m. – Raider Rally in the Murphy Center, to be followed immediately by the Fight Song Competition.

8-11 p.m. – Pigskin Pregame at the MTSU Foundation Reception House, located at 324 W. Thompson Lane. \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Proceeds benefit Chapter Scholarship fund.

Saturday, Nov. 16

8:30 a.m. – Breakfast with the president at the MTSU Alumni Center, no charge. Informal visit and continental breakfast with MTSU President Sidney McPhee

10 a.m. – Homecoming Parade. Viewing stand will be located at the intersection of Tennessee Boulevard near the Alumni Center. Parade will assemble at the intersection of Roberts Street and Maney Avenue and will travel on Maney and turn left onto East Main Street from Maney, then left again on Tennessee Boulevard, then right onto Greenland Drive and end at Murphy Center. Grand marshal will be Emmett N. Kennon Jr. of Nashville, one of the three 2002-2003 distinguished alumni.

Noon-2 p.m. – Pre-game cookout and activities at Greenland Drive Picnic Pavilion. Lunch by Outback Steakhouse, \$10 Raider Meal, \$3 Junior Raider Meal for children 10 and under. Activities include balloon artists, face painting, MT face stickers and pictures with Lightning.

Blue Bolt Tailgate Contest – Judges, including Liz McPhee, will stop by the tailgate areas to choose the best one for a \$500 prize and trophy that will be presented during the football game.

1:15 p.m. – Raider Walk, A mini-pep rally, will be held between Murphy Center and the football locker rooms.

2:30 p.m., – MTSU vs. University of Louisiana-Monroe Indians, Floyd Stadium, \$15 adult ticket.

Both teams face struggle coming into matchup

By Angelica Journagin
Sports Editor

With a break this week, the Blue Raider football team looks forward to playing against the University of Louisiana-Monroe next week for Homecoming.

Middle Tennessee played ULM for Homecoming in the 2000 season and beat them 28-0. When MT played the Indians last year, they beat them 38-20. However, this season both teams will go into the game with deficits that will affect their play.

So far this season, the Indians have not won a home game. Interim head coach Mike Collins said he thinks that location is not the issue; the level of play is what counts.

"Number one, we have gotten better every week," Collins said. "We have gotten better as a football team, not just offensively or defensively, but as a complete team - special teams, too."

The Indians amassed more than 1,600 yards of total offense in their last three games before this weekend's defeat to the University of North Texas. The offense had only 186 yards and three turnovers. The record is not expected to improve greatly this weekend when the Indians play Auburn.

For MT, the Blue Raiders are contending with several injuries this semester. Wide receiver Tyrone Calico and quarterback Andrico Hines' injuries have hindered the team in the past two games.

Playing injured in the match against Idaho, Calico has not made a catch in the past two games. Hines is on a day-to-day list and has not started in the last two games. In the match against New Mexico State University, Hines didn't play at all.



In the past two games, the Blue Raiders have had four people play in the quarterback position: Josh Harris (who left the Idaho game early with a broken collarbone), Hines (who played injured), Andre Green and Reshard Lee.

"When you lose caliber guys like those, it's tough," said head coach Andy McCollum. "We've got to have young guys keep stepping up in those opportunities."

The Blue Raiders take on the Indians Nov. 16 at 2:30 p.m. ♦

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Homecoming King candidates



Adrian Edsall

Sponsor: Alpha Omicron Pi

I would like to be Homecoming king because I feel that this person should be representing MTSU at its best. I believe that I have represented greatly this school, my fraternity and the community.



Cal Majure

Sponsor: Pi Kappa Phi

Homecoming king is a great honor for anyone who is fortunate enough to be elected because he, along with the queen, represents the "spirit" of MTSU. I would like the privilege of giving back some of my "college experience and spirit" to the university by representing it in this way.



Jimmie Wilson

Sponsor: Alpha Phi Alpha

Homecoming royalty is very important because the individuals chosen serve as ambassadors of the university. I am seeking the position of Homecoming king to serve as an ambassador of the university and to assist with keeping the meaning of Homecoming alive.



Luke Burke

Sponsor: Kappa Alpha Psi

If given the opportunity to become the 2002 Homecoming king, I would positively represent the university not only for my remaining time at this prestigious university but for the rest of my life.



Nick Fowler

Sponsor: 'Sidelines'

I want to represent the average Joe MTSU student. I'll use my powers as Homecoming king to fight terrorism abroad and at home.



Michael Shirley

Sponsor: Alpha Gamma Rho

I see the chance of being Homecoming king as an opportunity to further my involvement with our university and represent MTSU.



Samuel Adams

Sponsor: Kappa Alpha Order

A Homecoming king should be a man with loyalty, leadership and pride for his university. I feel that I have these qualities.

Vote online on WebMT
www.mtsu.edu/webmt

Homecoming Queen candidates



Sponsor: Sigma Gamma Rho

Homecoming queen would be an honor. I am a person filled with patience, understanding and compassion. It is a joy to interact with my fellow students.

Lolita D. Ross



Sponsor: Zeta Tau Alpha

I am very active in many different aspects of the college community and love to take on challenging leadership positions.

Collen McEachen

Sponsor: Delta Sigma Theta

The opportunity of being Homecoming queen begins with the honor of representing my sorority. The chance to wear the crown will also add to my involvement in the MTSU campus community.



Mia D. Patterson



Sponsor: Alpha Kappa Alpha

If voted queen, I will represent MTSU in a positive light and take the title to another level.

Andrea Jones

Sponsor: Beta Gamma Phi

Becoming Homecoming queen will give me a chance to represent the beauty, prestige, poise and dedication to hard work that MTSU stands for.



Loreida Jennings

Sponsor: NAACP

Homecoming queen would be an honor. I am a person filled with patience, understanding and compassion. It is a joy to interact with fellow students.



Monica Rucker



Sponsor: Alpha Chi Omega

It is an honor for me to be nominated by my sorority, Alpha Chi Omega, and it would be an even greater honor for me to represent Middle Tennessee State University as its Homecoming queen.

April Little

Sponsor: Alpha Delta Pi

MTSU's Homecoming queen should be someone who truly believes in and promotes the university. Through these past three and a half years, I have given of myself to the university.



Jessica Heim

Sponsor: Delta Zeta

Being a Blue Raider is a dream come true. Being the Homecoming queen would be an honor that I would cherish for the rest of my life.



Rachael Ramer



Sponsor: Chi Omega

The reason I am running for Homecoming queen is because I would love to be able to represent MTSU in a positive way.

Britney Denny

Sponsor: Assoc. Information Technology Professionals

I represent most if not all of MTSU and its diverse community in various modes. Therefore, I am a good choice for your 2002 Homecoming queen.



Jami Harbin

Sponsor: Omega Phi Alpha

I would like to be Homecoming queen because I would like for students of MTSU to be well represented. By this I mean to see a person who has accomplished great knowledge from this facility.



Yashica Robinson



Sponsor: Panhellenic Council

To be a Homecoming queen, you must possess compassion, loyalty and involvement within and to your university.

Carrie Elizabeth Smith

Sponsor: Alpha Omicron Pi

My college life is coming to an end soon and I am so grateful that I have had the chance to be so involved with MTSU, the community and different organizations.



Kristi Allen

Sponsor: Kappa Delta

I feel that the Homecoming king and queen are representatives of what the school is about. It is a great honor to even be nominated.

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Laura McGregor

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Homecoming history favors Blue Raiders

By **Brandon Morrison**
Assistant Sports Editor

Middle Tennessee historically has remained victorious when playing the University of Louisiana-Monroe, and next week's Homecoming game should be no exception.

The Blue Raiders have a 42-18-2 record on Homecoming games. MT has had two 10-year winning streaks over 1962-72 and 1988-98.

Last year's Homecoming game resulted in a complete domination of Arkansas State, with the final score of 54-6. The game clinched the Sun Belt Championship for Middle Tennessee.

"Every win is enjoyable, but to get where we are from where we started three years ago and win a championship, it couldn't be more special," said head coach Andy McCollum. "You want to be part of a championship and set your goals for that, and to see your kids reach it is what [coaching] is all about."

Middle Tennessee scored 15 unanswered points in the first six minutes of the game.

"We came out with a relentless mind frame," said MT receiver Kendall Newson. "We were playing to win and not worried about losing. We had the crowd with us, and we were playing for each other. We were not going to be denied."

Quarterback Wes Counts played an excellent game, completing 10 out of 15 passes for 102 yards. On

top of that, Counts also ran for a 1-yard touchdown during the game.

MT players Reshard Lee and Dwone Hicks rushed for a combined 214 yards during the game. The two scored a combined 18 points during the game.

MT's offense wasn't the only side of the team to show up for the game. The defense held Arkansas State to a measly 174 yards offense, the fewest yards allowed by an MT defense since playing Austin Peay in 1997.

"We all knew what this game meant and came out and played," Counts said. "This was a goal for this team, and we went out and accomplished it. It's very satisfying. This is what it's all about."

The 2001 season was one of many productive seasons for the Blue Raider football team. During the 1985 football season, the Blue Raiders went 11-0. However, Murray State came close to upsetting the perfect season when it took MT into double overtime before succumbing, 31-24.

The game started off as a romp on Murray State. MT player Vince Johnson blocked Murray's first punt to put the Blue Raiders up 7-0. Murray answered back with two touchdowns. At the end of the half, Murray State led Middle Tennessee, 14-10. This marked the first time that season that MT was trailing in a game.

During the second half, Middle Tennessee's defense only allowed Murray a field goal. It took a little

time and some help from the defense, but the Blue Raider offense also showed up during the second half.

Blue Raider John Garrett blocked a field goal late in the fourth quarter to put Middle Tennessee at the Murray State 45. Five plays later, MT quarterback Marvin Collier bootlegged right and saw a wide open tight end named Donte Lofton. Collier launched the ball and tied up the game 17-17 with 1:29 left in the game.

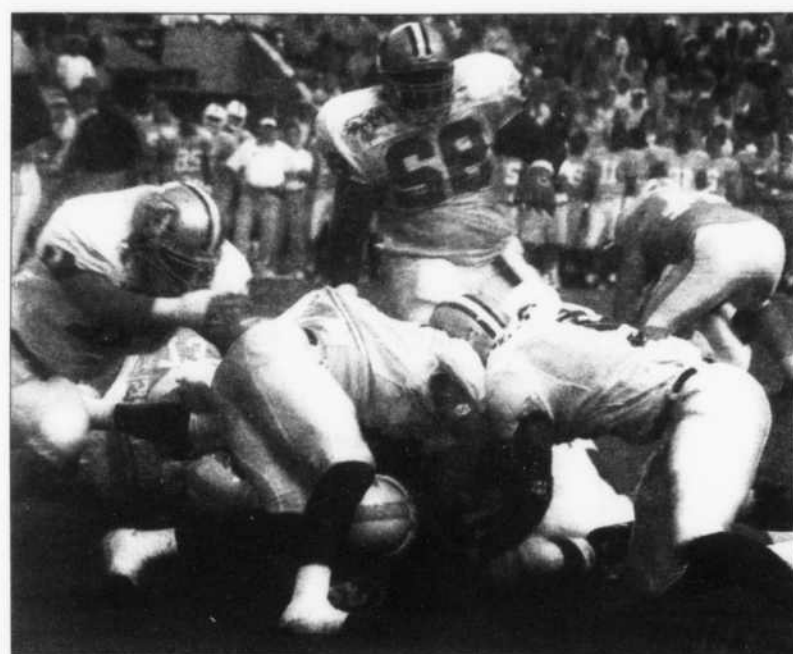
During the first overtime, Murray State struck first with a six-play series that ended with a touchdown, putting them up 24-7.

MT's first overtime possession also wielded a touchdown. On first down, Collier nailed MT fullback Tony Burse, who took the ball to the Blue Raider 4-yard line. Then it was Stone's turn again to score, catching a quick pitch for the score.

During the second overtime, it took only one play for Middle Tennessee to score. A short pass to flanker Mike Pittman yielded a long run and a Blue Raider touchdown.

Then-head coach James "Boots" Donnelly gave all the credit for the win to the Blue Raider defense.

"The defense provided the opportunity, and the offense seized



File photo

Middle Tennessee will face the University of Louisiana-Monroe Nov. 16 in its 63rd Homecoming matchup.

it," Donnelly said. "The defense won the game for us."

The Blue Raiders continued their winning tradition that season to finish a perfect 11-0 season.

The 1985 Homecoming game wasn't the first time Murray State has come close to spoiling a good

football season. Back in 1954, when MT was Middle Tennessee State College, Murray State played MTSC to a close 21-13 match.

Middle Tennessee has played Murray State 17 times for homecoming. MT has won 13 of those matches. ♦

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