

# SIDELINES

"Our children

cannot reach for

their dreams if

for cover."



Volume 75, No. 6

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

# dean named

**Benita Holmes** Staff Reporter

E. James Burton is poised to lead the College of Business into the 21st century.



Elam effective Aug 1. Elam, accepted appointment in the E.H. Patterson School Accountancy at University of Mississippi, has served as dean of the school since 1996

The accounting professor

As the new dean, Burton said he hopes to enact an

agenda that will spell further success for the School of Business. One of Burton's priorities will be preparation for reaccredidation, which he says, is largely a faculty process. Continuous improvement and maintenance of the school's standards will be insured by evaluations from several outside educators.

Although the enrollment of business colleges has declined, Burton says MTSU's enrollment has been steady and that there is a natural cycle of decline and increase in any discipline.

Prior to becoming a professor of accounting at MTSU in 1990, Burton launched, managed, and sold businesses for 16 years and founded Professional Growth Associates Inc. Burton's expertise in the field of business growth and development are offered in a new third edition of his book titled Total Business Planning: A Stepby-Step Guide with Forms (and Templates). The book takes the reader through the steps of business planning and facilitates the learning process through software and an Internet Web site with Power Point slides.

Burton says that he chose the topic of business planning because it is one of the most important aspects of running a successful business and is the foundation for accounting and other functions.

Burton, a CPA and certified fraud examiner, received his Ph.D. in accountancy from the University of Illinois, his MBA in management from Murray (Ky.) State University and his BA in Economics from MacMurray College Jacksonville, Ill. Before coming to MTSU Burton taught at Florida State and Murray State universities. He has served on the Board of Regents of the Association of Certified Fraud

See BURTON, page 2

# **Georgia shooter** hearing delayed

**Associated Press** 

CONYERS, Ga. (AP) - A hearing to determine if the 15-year-old charged in the Heritage High School shootings should be tried as an adult was delayed today after his attorney asked that his client be hospitalized for psychiatric treatment.

The hearing for Anthony "T.J." Solomon had been scheduled for Tuesday in Rockdale County Juvenile Court. It was put off until early August, but no definite date was set, said Lillian Sellers, a spokeswoman for Juvenile Court Judge William

Solomon, a sophomore at the school in the Atlanta suburb, is charged with 21 counts including aggravated assault, cruelty to children and weapons violations in the gunfire that wounded six of his classmates May 20.

Jan Harris, a lawyer for the Atlanta firm that is representing Solomon, said today that the teenager "suffers from long-term, untreated and major depression with psychotic features and has some degree of suicidal tendencies."

If convicted as an adult, Solomon faces a sentence of up to 351 years. The maximum sentence he could receive in juvenile court is 60 months in the youth prison system.

# New business Gore proposes new anti-crime stance

John McElhenny Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Unveiling a broad anti-crime initiative, Vice President Al Gore today proposed requiring photo licenses for all new handgun owners and tougher penalties for those who commit crimes in front of children.

"Our children cannot reach for their dreams if they are ducking for cover," he said in a speech at the Boston Police Department.

He criticized a criminal justice system that he said puts half a million unrepentant, unrehabilitated and drug- or alcohol-addicted prisoners back on the streets each year. These "walking timebombs of violence" pose a danger to

families and children, he said. In what was billed as his fourth major policy address as a Democratic presidential candidate, Gore touched on dozens of hotbutton issues, including exploiters of the elderly, school violence, Internet stalkers and domestic violence.

proposed He also constitutional amendment to protect the rights of victims

There were no estimate on the cost of the package.

School shootings this year in Littleton, Colo., and Conyers, Ga., have turned gun control into a major issue in the 2000 presidential campaign. Bill Bradley, Gore's only announced opponent for the Democratic presidential nomination, has outlined his own anticrime initiatives, including handgun registration and a ban on the manufacture and sale of cheap handguns.

In his remarks, Gore said crime had dropped across the nation since President Clinton's anti-crime bill was

passed, but he said those measures were only the guns" or "Saturday night specials," would be banned beginning.

He proposed tougher penalties for those who commit crimes in front of children, for repeat drug abusers and for those who commit hate crimes, calling on Congress to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

He also said he would work to improve an overcrowded court system that is less like the television show "Law and Order" and more like the game show "Let's Make a Deal."

Gore said his intensified war on drugs would focus on known drug hot spots, the increased trafficking of methamphetamines, and also would focus on alcohol

Requiring a photo license for handgun purchases and imposing new ways to trace weapons

will be just as effective as mandatory registration of all handguns, Gore said earlier today on ABC's "Good Morning America."

"But if other provisions are needed, fine," he said.

The most far-reaching of Gore's proposals deal with gun control.

they are ducking "I will insist on a policy of zero tolerance toward guns and drugs in our schools," he said in Boston -Vice President Al Gore "Parents have a right to know if a child has brought a gun to school, and

schools should be legally required to

Gore called for the creation of "second-chance schools" where kids heading for trouble can receive discipline and guidance.

"It is too easy for a child to get a gun and the e are too many political leaders who take their marching orders from the gun lobby," Gore said. "Let's create a family lobby that is greater and more powerful than the

Cheap, easily concealed handguns, known as "junk

under his proposal. Under current federal law, semiautomatic rifles equipped with detachable magazines and certain other features are banned. Similar guidelines are imposed on handguns and

Gore also wants tougher penalties for gun trafficking.

The vice president has already said he supports raising the age for handgun possession from 18 to 21; barring juveniles from possessing assault weapons or large-capacity ammunition clips; imposing new penalties for adults who sell guns to minors; and requiring safety locks on guns.

Whether Gore's new gun-control proposals would be approved by Congress is questionable. The vice president cast a tie-breaking vote in May when the Senate passed legislation expanding a system of background checks on firearms purchases so they would cover all such buys at gun shows and pawnshops.

His campaign hoped that the moment of drama would add momentum to his campaign. But political squabbling between Democrats and Republicans helped

kill a House gun-control bill in June. Gore's anti-crime package includes a "Stay Clean to Stay Out" policy that says defendants in drug-related

crimes who are awaiting trial must get off drugs to stay Criminals on parole also would have to stay off drugs

to stay out of jail, under the proposed policy. "Before you get out of jail, you have to stay clean and if you want to stay out then you better stay clean," he

Ever the technology buff, Gore would make increasing use of computers in law enforcement, investing in software that community police could use to map and target high-crime areas.

Other features of the anti-crime package include establishment of "gang-free zones," more aid for professional development and retraining of police officers and increased spending on after-school programs for youths and anti-drug efforts. ■

## Scarlett Fever



photo by Melanie McWhorter

Scarlett Commons, opening Fall 1999 semester, was toured by prospective students Saturday. Each apartment has four bedrooms, a kitchen, living area, two bathrooms and will be completely furnished for residents. This is the first housing development built on campus since Ezzell and Abernathy Halls were constructed.

# Former financial aid director faces charges

**Staff Reports** 

According to a Tennessee Division of State Audit report released July 7, Robert Winston Wrenn, MTSU's former director of student aid, illegaly awarded family members \$86,000 in scholarships between 1996 and 1997.

Wrenn was fired from MTSU in November 1997. Now Wrenn faces criminal charges from the findings of the "Special Report Improper Awards by the Financial Aid Director." Last month, Wrenn was indicted by a grand jury on five counts of criminal misconduct, one count of theft over \$60,000, and one count of tampering or fabricating evidence concerning his job at MTSU.

According to Wrenn's attorney, Frank Fly, Wrenn plans to plead not guilty to these charges.

The recently completed audit of MTSU's financial aid department's actions under Wrenn's direction has been going on since October 30, Before this misconduct, 57-year-old Wrenn had been at MTSU for

almost three decades. After Wrenn was dismissed, the state and federal auditors scrutinized loan applications during Wrenn's years of "We recieved the special report from the comptroller of the

treasury and we will be reviewing it carefully," said MTSU's President James Walker said of the situation. Prior to the release of the report under the direction of the vice president of finance and administration, there was a thorough review of the practices in the financial aid office, and additional measures have been put in place."

Wrenn plans to enter his not guilty plea in the Rutherford County Circuit Court Thursday morning.

# U.S. woman asks to switch prison in Peru

#### **Associated Press**

LIMA, Peru (AP) — An American woman serving a life sentence for treason ir. Peru has requested a transfer to another prison in order to end the isolation she finds unbearable, her father

New York-native Lori Berenson, 29, was transferred last year from frigid Yanamayo prison, 12,700 feet above sea level, to the lower-lying Socabaya prison, 465 miles southeast of Lima, for health reasons.

Although physical conditions in her Cajamarca prison in northern Peru or, as new prison are better, she was allowed more contact with other prisoners in Yanamayo, her father Mark Berenson said in an e-mail message from New York received Monday.

"The few women who were moved to Lori's prison wing live in separate cells under a different prison regime," her father said. "Lori has no meaningful contact with these other prisoners and is very isolated."

Berenson, a former Massachusetts Institute of Technology student, has apparently asked to be transferred to a second choice, returned to Yanamayo, her father said.

"We have no idea whether the Peruvian government will comply with her request," he said.

Berenson was convicted by a secret military court in 1996 for helping pro-Cuban Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement rebels plan a thwarted attack on Peru's Congress.

Berenson's parents say she is innocent and are carrying out a campaign to free her. President Alberto Fujimori has said she is a terrorist and will serve her full sentence in Peruvian prisons.

In Socabaya, Berenson is allowed only two hours a day outside her 6-by-10 foot unheated concrete cell and is not allowed to mix with the other inmates, who are mainly common criminals.

Yanamayo is a high-security jail for leftist rebel leaders, where inmates live under harsh conditions but have more freedom to socialize.

Berenson has suffered from stomach, eye and skin problems from harsh prison conditions and Yanamayo's high altitude.

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#### **SPORTS**

MTSU's own Sanford shoots for

Roadtrip to St. Louis - you

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Chicago Bears roster.....page 6

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never know what might happen.....page 5

# While Mrs.Clinton campaigns, Shooting suspect known for racial leaflets Giuliani will 'just be mayor'

Michael R. Blood **Knight-Ridder Newspapers** 

NEW YORK - With First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton whipping up an international media frenzy upstate this week, what will Mayor Giuliani be doing?

Counterstrike with his own upstate tour?

Hold a splashy event to divert attention from his likely Senate

Challenge her again to a Yankees debate?

None of the above.

As the First Lady bounces from Oneonta to Cooperstown to Utica on her four-day, Getting-to-Know-You political swing, aides and advisers to the Republican mayor think his best strategy is to play to his strong suit.

Just be mayor

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Squeeze f e

Brush up

Rinse

Brush do

Hold tooth rush

"The ballgame is business as usual," one adviser said. "His strength is based on performance in office.'

"He doesn't have to be in campaign mode right now," echoed another member of the Giuliani

stroke

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brain trust. "The best thing for him politically is an aggressive articulation of the politics that made New York a success story."

As politics go, Giuliani is coming off a good week as the First Lady treks around his turf.

A Quinnipiac College poll last Wednesday showed him running even with the First Lady in a hypothetical Senate matchup, after weeks of trailing her. Just as importantly, he trounces two of his possible GOP primary opponents, Reps. Pete King and Rick Lazio of Long Island, who didn't even get out of the single digits, the poll

Voter surveys show the First Lady running feebly in the Republican-rich upstate region -38 percent to Giuliani's 51 percent - so it's no surprise she's looking to lift her game with a trip her office is billing as a "listening tour" of New Yorkers.

Giuliani has been needling Clinton about her out-of-state roots, and the Brooklyn-born mayor will keep up the carpetbagger refrain as she schmoozes in Syracuse and gets

WHAT

YOUR KIDS

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WILL AFFECT

Some mayoral aides think the First Lady's trip - keyed to the formation of her Senate exploratory committee - could

The White House trappings, government jets and swirl of Secret Service security could turn off modest, middle-class upstaters, they suggest. Not to mention that the Clintons reportedly have been eving multimillion-dollar estates in Westchester County.

Giuliani will get his shot at a publicity coup when he flies to Arkansas later this month to highlight the First Lady's out-oftown pedigree - spending most of her life in Illinois and Arkansas.

In the meantime, he'll be raising money for his Senate hopes. Giuliani was planning to be on the Massachusetts resort island of Nantucket Tuesday, fattening his campaign bankroll.

Advisers said they expect he'll stick close to City Hall for the rest of the week - creating an image contrasting with the First Lady's

"He's going to work," one said, without elaborating.

BURTON

continued from page 1

Examiners, and is a member of the American Institutes of CPAs and the Institute of Management Accountants. He is a Samuel Moore Walton Free Enterprise Fellow and has been listed in "Who's Who in Finance and Industry" and "Who's Who in Business Planning." A native of Mt. Vernon, Ill., he and his wife Nancy have two children.



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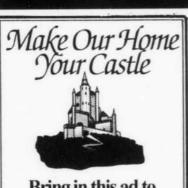
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**Evan Osnos** Knight-Ridder Newspapers

CHICAGO - One day last November, a crowd of 500 residents and students in Bloomington, Ind., marched through town in opposition to a campaign of racist leafletting during the previous months. As it snaked its way down the college town's main boulevard, the group faced a lone protester who was carrying a placard that read, "No hate speech means no free speech."

The bearer of the placard was Benjamin Nathaniel Smith. Then sophomore at Indiana University, Smith acknowledged he was responsible for the pamphlets, according to people who knew of him on campus.

On Sunday, Smith, who also was alleged to have distributed racist literature earlier this year in Wilmette, Ill., the town where he grew up, emerged again: He was charged in an arrest warrant with the shooting death of a student in Bloomington, and police say that incident is linked to a three-day string of shootings in two states that appear to be racially motivated.

Late Sunday, federal and Chicago authorities said the search for Smith ended with his death in downstate Salem, Ill.

While it remains unclear why a student from the North Shore turned to the white power movement, a paper trail over the past two years and interviews with people who knew him indicate that he was committed to the cause. Smith, 21, was a former member of the World Church of the Creator, a white supremacist group based in East Peoria, Ill. The group advocates white power, though it does not condone violence, according to group leader Matt

In April, Smith was charged with littering by Wilmette police in connection with the distribution of racist fliers there. After a June appearance at the Cook County Circuit Courthouse, Smith argued that his campaign was protected

by the First Amendment.

"They're saying we can't put out this literature," Smith, whose case was pending, said in an interview with the Tribune at the time. "Well, the Constitution says we

Smith's parents now live in Northfield, Ill., and his mother, a former Wilmette village trustee, is a real estate agent, said neighbors and town officials. His family declined to comment Sunday. Smith was enrolled at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from fall 1996 to spring 1998. After one run-in with police, authorities said, Smith wanted to be called "Erwin Rommel," the name of the noted Nazi tank commander.

Since arriving in Bloomington in the spring of 1998, after withdrawing in February of that year from Illinois, Smith had attracted citywide attention.

Calling himself "August Smith," he quickly earned the reputation as a fierce proponent of "separation from non-whites," as he wrote in a June 1998 letter to the school newspaper, the Indiana Daily Student. "It is true that the fliers were racially oriented," he wrote, "but to label them racist, bigoted or prejudiced demonstrates bias.'

Originally an English major, Smith later switched to criminal justice, according to Richard McKaig, vice chancellor and dean of students in Bloomington. McKaig said he called Smith into a meeting not long after he arrived on campus, in response to complaints that Smith had distributed hate literature on school grounds. After their meeting, McKaig said, Smith directed his activities to the community at large.

"There was nothing odd in his demeanor, except for his divergent

McKaig said. "He didn't indicate any interest in violence in what he was doing. He just wanted people to know what he was doing."

In his yearbook entry from New Trier High School, Smith wrote "Sic Semper Tyrannis" or "Thus ever to tyrants," said to be

the words of John Wilkes Booth after shooting Abraham Lincoln. The phrase also appeared on a Tshirt worn by Timothy McVeigh on the day he bombed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

In the Bloomington community, Smith was well-known as a fierce racist whose public views had made him the object of resentment, several people who knew of him said Sunday. According to residents at 2 Touchdown Terrace, the apartment complex where Smith lived until about two months ago, he was public in his beliefs but did not provoke physical confrontations.

Neighbors said they believed he was asked to leave his apartment because the windows of his unit were broken repeatedly. The incidents were widely believed to be in retaliation for his racist views, residents said.

"There was never a word of discontent out of his mouth, but you could tell how his body acted, he was uncomfortable," said Tyrese Alexander, a student who lived next door to Smith in the predominantly African-American housing complex. Smith called minorities "mud people," Alexander said.

"I would encounter him when taking out the trash, and when we would drive up he would roll his eyes and then go into the apartment," Alexander said. "He really didn't have an intimidating presence. We just thought he was weird and left it at that.'

Another neighbor identified himself only as David said he confronted Smith about his hate speech last fall, and Smith responded by handing him a stack of World Church of the Creator pamphlets, adding that, "Minorities will cause this society to collapse."

Elizabeth Sahr, Smith's former girlfriend, told the Daily Illini on Sunday:

"He is not going to stop until he's shot dead. He's not going to surrender

He's not going to give up until . he leaves this world." ■



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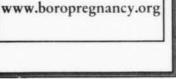
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# Marijuana considered 'gateway drug'

Jim Abrams Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - Young eople who smoke marijuana are far more likely than nonusers to move on to harder drugs, a substance abuse research group concludes in a report that opposes efforts to legalize or decriminalize nonmedical marijuana.

"Teen experimentation with marijuana should not be considered a casual rite of passage," said Joseph Califano, chairman and president of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University.

"Teens who smoke marijuana are playing a dangerous game of Russian roulette," he said.

The center's report was released as the House Government Reform Committee held a second hearing today on pros and cons of decriminalizing drugs. Testifying were former Drug Enforcement Administration head Thomas Constantine and advocates of relaxed laws on marijuana use.

"Marijuana stands convicted as a gateway drug," Califano concluded, citing conclusions in the report that youngsters 12 to 17 years old who smoke marijuana are 85 times more likely to use cocaine than those who do not.

Other studies have drawn different conclusions about the linkage between marijuana and more potent drugs. The National Institute of Medicine, in a study last March on the medical uses of marijuana, said that while the drug can cause respiratory disease, there is no evidence that it leads to

The Califano report, which focuses on nonmedical use of marijuana, said the drug is especially dangerous for teens. impairing short-term memory, stunting intellectual and emotional growth and increasing the likelihood of unprotected sex as well as leading to other drugs such as cocaine or heroin.

It said that of 182,000 teens and children who entered treatment in 1996 for substance abuse, nearly half, 48 percent, were admitted for marijuana abuse or

That compared to 19 percent for alcohol and a secondary drug, 12 percent for alcohol alone, 3 percent for smoked cocaine, 2.4 percent for methamphetamines and 2.3 percent for heroin.

The report concluded that decriminalization or legalization of

marijuana would surely increase use among teen-agers and children. But it also opposed mandatory sentences for possession of small amounts of marijuana, saying prosecutors and judges should be given wide discretion in order to encourage teens to stop using the

"Mandatory sentences are particularly insidious where teens convicted of possession of marijuana are concerned," Califano

The report said that 70 million Americans have tried marijuana, making it the nation's most commonly used illegal substance. In 1998, almost 23 percent of 12th graders said they had smoked marijuana within the past month, and just under one-half had tried marijuana during their lives.

## Man kills girlfriend, child fears own life

**Lori Johnston** Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) - Shot once in the elbow, 11-year-old Santonio Lucas hid in a closet for eight hours, terrified that the gunman who killed his mother, aunt and four other children would finish him off.

The youngster told his father the massacre began after his mother told her boyfriend that she was breaking off their relationship.

Described by neighbors as a smart, happy-go-lucky boy who enjoys Nintendo and basketball. Santonio was the only survivor of a shooting rampage in which seven people were killed early Monday. Family and friends said the

victims included Santonio's mother, her sister and four young people. Also dead was a man believed to be the husband or boyfriend of Santonio's mother. "The possibility does exist that

one of the persons inside, who is also deceased, is responsible for all the shootings and that injury to himself was self-inflicted," Deputy Police Chief C.B. Jackson said.

When Santonio approached neighbor Georgia Hall several hours after the killings, he told her his

stepfather had done the shooting. "He said: 'My stepfather shot my mama, my auntie, my brother, everyone," Hall said in today's Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Santonio's father, David A. Lucas, spent the night in a hospital with his son, and reported that the boy said the shooting started after his mother confronted the man.

"She told him she was ready to break it off," David Lucas told WSB-TV today. "I guess he couldn't take

Two of Lucas' sons, 13 and 8, were killed. Police did not release

the victims' identities.

Officers were called shortly before 3 p.m. after Santonio sought help from neighbors. He told police the shooting started before 6 a.m.

'He was just as sweet as he could be, and God had to be with him for him to hide," said Betty Fuller, who lives two doors down in predominantly neighborhood of single-family homes and well-kept yards.

Ms. Fuller said that Santonio's mother had lived in the house with her sister and their five children for three years. She said the boyfriend started coming around about a year

Ms. Fuller said Santonio's mother was attentive to her children and friendly, always stopping to wave and chat — unless the boyfriend was around.

After arriving at the house, police were kept outside for about three hours by a pit bull and a Rottweiler inside the home. After Animal Control workers coaxed the dogs out, detectives found the

"As you might imagine, there are bodies in a number of rooms, there is quite a bit of blood," Jackson said, adding that at least one gun was found in the house.

Santonio was in stable condition and alert, hospital officials said.

"He's interacted fairly well with the physicians and nursing staff of the emergency department, answering questions appropriately, given the things that he's gone through," Dr. Leon Haley said.

Neighbors say the children often played in the family's front yard. "They were really good kids," said Shirley Lee, who lived down the street.

"I'm devastated," said Gikeivia Johnson, a cousin of the family. ■

## Drug companies nervous about money

Alice Ann Love Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - Drug companies are lobbying hard against Medicare coverage for prescriptions, warning that research on new drugs for the elderly will depend on strong

"Profits attract investment, investment pays for research and research leads to the new cures and treatments that will help and heal patients," said Alan Holmer, president of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America.

"The concern is if you have government price controls, you would ratchet down revenues to the companies and that in turn could have adverse impact on investment," he said.

The drug makers' association has run newspaper ads in recent weeks aimed at raising public concern as lawmakers consider a White House proposal to offer new prescription coverage to all 39 million elderly and disabled Medicare beneficiaries.

Lawmakers who support adding a new drug benefit to Medicare call the warnings scare tactics.

"What you have here is an extremely greedy and profitable industry that is ripping off the American people big time and uses their profits to put extraordinary pressure on Congress through

Thanks to you, all sorts of everyday products are being made from the paper, plastic, metal and glass that you've been recycling

But to keep recycling working to help protect the environment, you need to buy those products.

campaign contributions to both parties not to move forward to

protect American consumers," said Rep. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt.

Drug companies' political action committees made more than \$4 million on campaign contributions leading up to the 1998 congressional elections, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. In addition, several individual companies made large "soft money" contributions, which are unrestricted and are supposed to be used for party-building activities. Among them were Pfizer Inc., \$747,050; Bristol-Myers Squibb, \$559,975; and Novartis, \$495,604.

The pharmaceutical industry reinvests about 20 percent of its revenue in research and development, and that's expected to total about \$24 billion this year, higher than the National Institutes of Health budget.

Nevertheless, senior citizens and others who must buy drugs on their own are paying about twice as much as people enrolled in large health plans that negotiate bulk discounts, according to a study conducted by Democratic staff of the House Government Reform Committee.

Clinton administration officials estimate that if Medicare were to use its own bulk purchasing power rheumatoid arthritis, took the to negotiate discounts through the small Seattle-based company same private benefit managers that many health plans use, decade and \$300 million to

percent on prescriptions.

"This is simply ... allowing Medicare to get the same discounts for their beneficiaries that every other insurance provider can currently get for their beneficiaries," said White House economic adviser Gene Sperling.

who watch Analysts pharmaceutical companies, however, are warning investors to pay close attention.

"The Medicare prescription drug benefit issue could have an adverse impact" on the drug industry, said a June 24 report by Christina Heuer of Salomon Smith Barney in New York.

Pharmaceutical companies are working on 191 new medicines to tackle diseases associated with aging such as arthritis, osteoporosis and Alzheimer's, according to a survey by the drugmakers' association.

Such new treatments can be too expensive for many elderly and disabled Americans who have no prescription benefits under Medicare, drug makers concede. But they say their prices must take into account the time and money it takes to develop and test a new

For example, the new bioengineered drug Enbrel, introduced last year to treat Immunex Corp. more than a

Enbrel costs around \$1,000 a month. That price is prohibitive for many who could benefit from the treatment - as company officials know from phone calls and letters received from doctors and Medicare beneficiaries.

"For Medicare not to cover that doesn't seem to make a lot of sense," said Peggy Phillips, senior vice president at Immunex. "We are very interested in some kind of Medicare reform."

But Immunex officials also point out that after 18 years in business, the company has only this year turned its first quarterly profit: \$245,000.

Pharmaceutical industry leaders say they could support alternatives to President Clinton's plan that would rely more on the private sector to bring drug coverage to retirees.

One such plan, supported by most members of an advisory commission that reported to Congress this year and praised by Republican leaders, would have Medicare contribute a limited amount toward the cost of private health insurance - including drug coverage - for retirees instead of paying their individual medical

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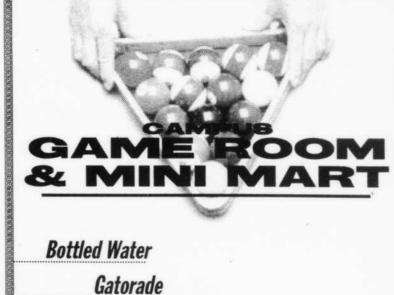
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# **OPINIONS**

"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the

—Thomas Jefferson

Murfreesboro, TN

## **Editorial**

#### **Student Let's Keep Our Campus Clean**

Have you ever been walking while eating a candy bar or bag or chips and throw your trash on the ground? Don't lie. We've all done it. Well, we really need to stop this bad habit because we'll end up cluttering our surroundings with trash.

Some people don't really care, while others may always think that there is going to be someone else picking up behind them. Sometimes there will be people picking up behind you but you could make their job so much easier if you just take the time to walk over to a garbage can and throw your trash away.

Let's use MTSU for an example. True, we have janitors who are employed to clean up dorms and other places, but it is really unnecessary for them to have to pick up loads and loads of trash everyday just because someone doesn't take the time to walk over to a trash can. It would be a little more understandable if garbage cans were scarce but they are everywhere.

Just think about how much more comfortable you would be if you were in a cleaner environment. Don't you want to be in a clean environment? Don't you want to have a nice clean campus to show your family and friends when they come to visit? Speaking of families, think about the prospective students who bring their families to tour the campus. Some students may actually choose another school over MTSU because of the trash that's cluttered around dorms and things.

This is not to say that MTSU is a junky campus. The campus is really very beautiful, when we're not under construction. But, if we stop throwing trash on the ground and spitting gum everywhere, we can make sure it stays beautiful.

By becoming more conscious when it comes to littering and caring for our campus, you may become a neater person all together. As a result, your house, room, yard, etc. will probably be cleaner.

Oh, if you see someone littering, say something to them.

SIDELINES

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**Jenny Tenpenny Crouch** 

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# Whites say no to affirmative action

Tom Bruise and Lynne Warner **Knight-Ridders Newspapers** 

Gloria Brown gets 75 cents for each person who signs the petition she waves on the street corners of St. Petersburg, Fla.

The petition, called the Florida Civil Rights Initiative, is the latest manifestation of a complex policy debate making its way across America.

But for Brown, it's a job. And though she's no expert on contemporary racial politics, she knows enough to keep the money coming in:

"If they're black," explains the white signaturegatherer, "we say it's to stop the government from discriminating against people because of their race and that it's a civil-rights initiative. "But if they're white, we tell them it will ban affirmative action."

Brown and her fellow petitioners are pushing Florida toward the nation's fourth popular vote on whether to end public policies that take race and gender into account to counter the impact of discrimination.

The initiative vote would coincide with the 2000 presidential election a prospect affirmative-action foes see as their chance to make this a major national issue

As in the other three places where such votes have occurred in the past three years, the people on both sides of the issue are raising money for expensive advertising campaigns and plotting the approaches they'll use to sway voters.

But an analysis of the three previous elections in California in 1996, in Houston in 1997 and in Washington state last year indicates

Gloria Brown has already identified a key factor in the outcome, one very difficult to overcome with

advertising: Skin color. Despite differences in the politics of the three locales, one thing was consistent: People of color overwhelmingly rejected the measures. Whites

overwhelmingly supported them. The anti-affirmative-action measures passed in California and Washington. The one in Houston

failed, but only because minorities, who outnumber whites, turned out in force. According to polls including one published in The Seattle Times most whites are not opposed to

the ideals of affirmative action. But they don't like many of the ways it actually works and would like to reform it. When given only a thumbs-up or thumbs-down choice, as the initiatives have done so far, most

white voters will turn their thumbs down. The implications are clear.

Whites dominate the voting in nearly every state, including Florida and the four others Colorado, Michigan, Nebraska and Oregon targeted for similar initiatives in the next few vears. If the pattern holds, they very likely will also shoot down affirmative-action policies.

Whites also continue to exert control over most public and private institutions, which are the targets of most race- and gender-conscious policies.

If their support fades, the policies will wither.

In short, the future of affirmative action the programs put in place three decades ago to help level the playing field for people of color and women remains in white hands.

It's a political reality rarely discussed openly by politicians civil-rights leaders. But in the bareknuckled political world of

Florida, a white man who identified himself only as Bob while collecting signatures with Brown put it starkly:

"I don't even bother with blacks anymore; they know what's going on. I just ask whites.

Programs for minorities are rarely wildly popular among the majority. Instead, affirmativeaction policies and other similarly targeted programs have been created over time by elected officials, judges and administrators.

They can put the interests of minorities ahead of, or on par with, the interests of the majority.

Most telling, perhaps was Houston's 1997 vote on Proposition A, a referendum sandwiched between the other two.

Like its cousins in California and Washington, Proposition A originally banned "preferential treatment." But Bob Lanier, the city's popular white mayor, rewrote the measure to say it would ban "affirmative action for minorities and women."

On Election Day, 54 percent of the voters rejected Proposition A. Outside Houston, advocates for affirmative action announced that a change in language had won the day. But analysts and pollsters in Houston knew better.

That's because exit polls indicated that whites had voted 2-1 in favor of Proposition A. The ban on "affirmative action" had won the support of 72 percent of white men and 54 percent of white

The measure lost only because minorities 60 percent of Houston's population overwhelmingly rejected it

Most political analysts credited the defeat to African Americans, who turned out in record

numbers to vote more than 9-1 against it. One black leader called it the most racially

polarized election he had ever seen. Was there confusion about the referendum?

"By the end of the Election Day, everyone knew exactly what they were doing," said Rice University's Robert Stein, who conducted polls before and after the election.

Minority voters, especially blacks, were energized by the election, Stein said. Not only was Proposition A on the ballot, so was Lee Brown, whose election made him Houston's first black

Most white voters made up their minds early on to vote for Proposition A, he said. A fifth of them, though, felt "orphaned."

What they really wanted was to reform the program, but that was not an option. So, after listening to both sides, most "orphans" chose to vote to end affirmative action, Stein said.

# Joke's on all of us

**Leonard Pitts** 

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Welcome to the end of civilization as we know it. At least, that's what I keep hearing. Not from guys bearing sandwich boards and walking downtown streets, mind you. Rather, this warning comes from experts with titles and degrees.

Yep, we're talking Y2K.

Here we are halfway through the year, and they're still rushing to make fixes so that when 2000 dawns, the computers that control our utilities, traffic lights, financial data, air travel - oh yeah, and nuclear devices won't suddenly go haywire and either shut down or blow up the entire world. Meantime, survivalists are already taking to the woods with their freeze-dried foods and portable generators, there to wait out The End in

As for me, I have yet to stock up on bottled water, much less build an underground shelter.

Maybe I'm too dense to fear what I should. Maybe too deep in denial to take the thing seriously. All I know is that, as we count down to whatever it is that happens on Jan. 1, I find that what I feel is less apprehension than a certain perverse ... amusement. I find myself laughing at a joke that is on me as much as it is anyone.

Funny, isn't it, how technology always seduces us? I don't care whether you're talking about the automobile, the television or the computer, the pattern is always the same. They come to us, shiny and new, promising to make our days better. They insinuate themselves into our lives with alarming alacrity - last year's dispensable accoutrement swiftly becoming this year's indispensable tool.

But there's frequently a price to pay for that advancement, a consequence that goes unforeseen. The world is changed, and not always for the better. The automobile brought smog. Television brought Jerry Springer. And the computer has brought us Y2K.

So it goes. Time marches on, technology moves inexorably forward. In many ways, if you're not on a computer, you're not quite in the world.

And yet ... perhaps it's good sometimes to wonder at how quickly and completely this machine has transformed us.

That transformation really came home to me one day a few years ago when I found myself in Nashville with a column deadline to meet and no computer to work on. So I went to a nearby copy center and rented a device I once used every day - a manual typewriter. (Note to younger readers: This is a mechanical contraption that uses levers and an ink-saturated ribbon to imprint letters on paper.)

So I took this thing back to my hotel room and rolled in a fresh sheet of paper. My hands descended toward the keyboard and ... nothing. Fingers • froze in midair, awaiting a command that never came.

It wasn't writer's block. It was the realization that whatever I typed on this page would stay there. I'd be committed to it, couldn't make it disappear or move it around with a few swift keystrokes. And this knowledge locked my brain up. I couldn't coax a single word forward. I simply could not work on that machine.

Because that other machine has changed me. It's changed us all.

Made the world colder and less personal, all but removed the human element from our daily transactions. Heck, you can't even get a live person on the telephone anymore. Folks who might once have once spent the twilight hours gossiping with neighbors over the back fence now spend that same time trading e-mail with people they've never seen in places they've never been.

Now we're told that these machines in which we have invested so much confidence can't tell the year 2000 from the year 1900. And that the results are potentially disastrous.

All right, so maybe I am just a little afraid of Y2K. Don't want errant computers wiping out my bank balance, turning off the electricity or opening the silos containing the missiles. But at the same time, it's hard not to see a certain poetic justice at work here, a serving up of just desserts.

It might be a good idea to take Y2K as a cautionary tale. Something to keep in mind next time the machines come, shiny and new, whispering their promises of change.

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# FEATURES

5 I SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

# Meet me in

by Billy Platt III/staff writer

# A whimsical road trip takes an unexpected turn.

MISSOURI

Riding down the road in the old little car, I wondered if we were really just going to pick up go. David had just picked up his paycheck from the Coca Cola distribution center in Nashville and at my suggestion to go to St. Louis, he had agreed with a stipulation: "If my check is over \$290.00, I'll go."

His check was for \$279.17. Apparently that was close enough because suddenly we were on I-24 heading west toward St. Louis.

You have to drive like the wind if you leave Nashville at 3:00 p.m. and want to be in St. Louis before dark. We cruised over the blacktop, making only a couple of stops for Coca Colas and M&Ms. Just across the Illinois border we waited in line at the urinals behind convicts wearing shackles and chains. Out in the lobby we debated whether or not to drive on to Chicago instead. We left the rest area undecided.

We continued on through southern Illinois as late afternoon set in. It was a place I had never been - the North - I was looking for something completely alienlooking to my southern eyes but I couldn't find it. The only difference I saw in this gently rolling wooded countryside is that the cedar trees were gone and bald cypress had taken their place.

By the time we turned west onto I-64, our course was decided: we would not go to Chicago. That would have been an ill-planned whim and it is not wise to do things on a whim.

Interstate 64 is a superhighway that feels like a country road. The traffic disappeared and the rolling hills fell away to flat farmland of black dirt stretching away to the horizon. White farmhouses and silos dotted the alternating green and gold fields of corn and wheat. Anytime I take a road trip, what makes it real is when I see something I don't see everyday. This flat farming landscape in the Prairie State affirmed that we had now come many miles and the things we would be seeing were new things we had never seen before.

David and I were both getting hungry and would have been glad to see a McDonald's (that bastard franchise that unifies America), but there was nothing around any of the exits on this scenic strip of highway. Besides, the sun was really getting low in the sky now, and if we hoped to see the Gateway Arch in the sunlight, we knew we had to press on.

Around eight o'clock we crossed the Mississippi and

entered the city of St. Louis. We drove down to the riverfront, past the gaudy gambling boats, and back around the block again. Finally we parked at the parking garage shared by the Arch and one of the casinos

A fair piece separates the parking garage from the Gateway Arch. But the walk through a beautifully landscaped grove of trees was worth it. Towards the end, the stainless steel arch comes rocketing out of the ground and soars up to 630 feet in perfect symmetry. Standing directly under the arch, tracing the structure from one leg to the other (not coincidentally, 630 feet away), the frame of the arch seems to twist like a steel ribbon. Mr. Seranin's arch is a work of art and one of North America's architectural milestones

We walked around the arch until after dark and

then walked further into downtown St. Louis. A couple of blocks into the city, we could already tell this was not the place to be. On a warm Thursday night more people should have been out going to restaurants, the theatre, or something. But there was hardly anyone. We stopped into a little bar and had a beer. I talked to the bartender and an off-duty waiter and found out that the place to party in downtown St. Louis was at the Landing.

The Landing is a couple of blocks of old buildings downtown on the riverfront that have been converted into restaurants and clubs.

Walking down the bricked streets, we heard live bands and dance music coming out of every doorway. The crowd was mostly college-aged with a few businessmen and women thrown into the mix. There were girls everywhere.

After eating a quick supper of chicken wings we settled on a place with a sand-floored outdoor courtyard called Banana Joe's. We stayed there until 2:00 in the morning.

After Joe's we stopped at a seedy place in East St. Louis where I ran out of money. It was already four o'clock when we had to leave. Back on the interstate I laid down and was out like a light.

At 5:00 a.m. I heard David cussing. The little car had broken down. We coasted over to the shoulder of the road. The only sound was rubber spinning on asphalt, no engine. In the pre-dawn gloom, David raised the hood and we examined the silent little engine. Neither of us being mechanics, we had no idea what the problem might be. The only certainty was that we were both out of cash, and if the car trouble was serious enough, our trip might last longer than expected.

Within minutes a steelworker named Wally pulled over and offered help. He looked at the engine and said that the problem might be the timing belt. Knowing nothing about engines we agreed and said that it was probably the timing belt. Timing belt - that

didn't sound like such a bad thing. Wally

gave us a ride into town — Centralia, Illinois — and dropped us off at the Hardee's. With pocket change, I ordered us a couple of large black coffees and we sat down by a window to analyze our options. A couple of locals, who meet at Hardee's every morning before work, overheard our predicament

and told us to call up a mechanic named Bill Bierman. They said he would tow us out to his place and work on David's car. After calling Bierman, we waited

out in the parking lot for him to come by. After about thirty minutes Bierman showed up in his wrecker. It sounded like he had taken the muffler off. We rode out of town to where David's car had broken down on the highway. Bierman told us about how good Centralia used to be "until the Blacks came in and took it over." I hadn't seen anybody but white people all morning. It was only about 8:30 a.m., but from the conversations with Wally, Bierman, and the men down at Hardee's, I had already decided that Centralia was probably the most prejudiced place I had ever been.

On the trip out to Bierman's house and garage he told us that he had been doing mechanic work since he was twelve years old. By the time he was fifteen a local car dealership was sending him customers. Since getting David's car running was the ticket to us getting out of Centralia, this sounded pretty promising.

Bill Bierman's house sat way out in the country. The landscape was completely different from the idyllic, prairie farmland just ten miles away. Bierman's property was rolling, with treelines and small weedy fields. All around sat cars and trucks in various states of disassembly. We were greeted by a secretary, another mechanic, and three large dogs, the largest of which was a wolf hybrid.

We sat there for the next four hours with nothing much to do but pet the dogs and chit chat. Knowing we were out of cash and probably hungry, Bierman opened a pack of cinnamon rolls. He gave two of them to one of the dogs and then told us we could have the rest. He also opened up a refrigerator full of soft drinks and told us we could have all we wanted. Rough hewn as he may have been, Bierman was as generous a host as we could have hoped to find.

Finally, the car was running, if not totally fixed. Bierman explained that the pistons in the engine were bent and fixing them would be a drawn out and expensive job. David wrote a check for the work. We thanked Bierman and once again were underway.

Driving on the little dirt roads that led from Bierman's house to the interstate we passed a couple of road signs with swastikas spray painted on them. It seemed ironic to me as a southerner that I rarely see such blatant racism and hatred in my own state. I later found out from a friend at work that Centralia was recently the sight of a large Ku Klux Klan rally.

David nursed the hesitating little car to the interstate and eased it up to speed as we turned south toward Tennessee. He drove as fast as the ailing engine would take us. We both had to be at work and didn't want to be too late.

I finally made it to work at about seven o'clock that evening. I was dead tired and exhausted from lack of sleep and highway lag. I thought about leaving early but I stayed until closing, stacking lumber, sweeping up concrete dust, and telling people about my trip to St. Louis.

# Digital Showdown: The music buying experience is about to change

**Gabe Frankel** Staff Reporter

All the talk these days in the recording industry is about on-line music. CDNOW, Mp3, Amazon.com, you name it.

The mp3 technologies enable anyone to convert CD tracks into mp3 files ready to spread all over the net. The music industry is in an uproar because there is no piracy protection for the mp3 files. The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) initially sued the Diamond Rio company from releasing their mp3 player under the Audio Home Recording Act of 1992. The Act states that all home digital music devices must include anti-copying protection.

The RIAA lost the initial case and just recently lost it's appeal, so the big five major labels launched theSecure Digital Music Intiative (SDMI) in late 1998. This new digital technology threatens to change the entire scope the record business.

The SDMI seeks to create a standard technology for digital players. It's main

focus is certainly to stop the avid online piracy. The SDMI just adopted a specification for portable devices in late

"The SDMI specification will allow for the development of consumer friendly systems for delivering digital music to portable devices," said Jack Lacy, chairman of SDMI's portable device working group. Having their secure players out by Christmas of '99 (just in time for that fourth quarter sales period) is SDMI's goal. The SDMI has a plan of phases for these new devices. They include filtering out pirated music for upload/download from SDMI players. It was recently announced that SDMI players will play existing mp3 files.

"The consumer wants convenience," said Dr. Leonardo Chiariglione, executive director at SDMI (Chiariglione was a pioneer in the group that created the mpeg technologies, Moving Pictures Group, and in May he was hired to head the SDMI).

The question now is: With all the mp3 players out there and songs galore on the net, will people abandon their mp3 players

for something new?

The SDMI has a serious challenge on its hands. Mp3 is the second most typed-in word to search engines (second only to sex). There are thousands of private web sites on Lycos and Angelfire stocked with tons of illegal mp3s. Lycos even has its own seach engine specifically for mp3s. Mp3.com, which has legal mp3s, has had over 27,000,000 dowloads. People have mp3 and they like it. Although, a recent internet survey on Sonic.Net said that people who download an mp3 track are sixty percent more likely to buy that CD, and with broad internet connections said to be the norm by 2003, whole albums will easy to attain. A forty five minute album can be downloaded off the Internet with a broad connection in twenty minutes.

The newest mp3 player by Diamond Rio has piracy protection included, but it's a bit too late. SDMI players are going to be more convenient, friendlier, better sounding, and offer more options than the existing mp3 players. The labels were

embarassingly late on this trend. The only way they can fight back is by making their

product better. It seems as though two things can happen. The first is a world of infinite cyberspace possibilites with thousands of labels, where artists can sell directly to their fans. Traditional retail would be a thing of the past, but many questions could come out of that: Who would be on MTV? Who would be on the radio? Would a new net radio wave emerge? Would Bill Gates hold some kind of monopoly on the recording industry? Would 500,000 downloads be a gold floppy? It would be hard to have superstars with that many labels and artists

The second possibility, and probably the most likely one, is that the companies will gain hold of this technology entirely. You could conceivably go to a label's web site and get any record from their catalog. Retail would be completely be cut out. Record retail could turn into computer shops who sell digital players and equipment. Tower records is already selling mp3 players against the RIAA's wishes. The whole music buying experience could completely change.

This business is all about the consumer. From marketing to sales to artist & repotoire (A&R), it's all about simply whether or not the consumer will buy. The digital music question is this: Will the consumer embrace the SDMI players? What will happen to mp3? Is traditional retail to go the way of the eight track tape? The next five to ten years will undoubtedly be a digital showdown. World War MP3.

Industry notes.... The new Limp Bizkit album "Significant Other" debuted at number one on the Billboard Top 200 Albums chart, selling over a million units in two weeks.... The Backstreet Boys latest album "Millenium," is 1999's mid-year bestseller. It broke the first week's sales record previously held by Garth Brooks.... The RIAA recently introduced a new sales award, the Diamond award, for albums who sell at least ten million units.... ■

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Services Department at 898-2414.



# SPORTS

6 # SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

## **Players should** decide all-star line up, not fans

Josh Ezzell Staff Reporter

One again, an all-star game is upon us, and once again there is controversy.

As usual, some players are upset because the fans didn't pick them. This year one of the players is Juan Gonzalez. Also, as usual, there are some questionable selections. This is why the players, not the fans, should decide who is an all-star and who is not.

Juan Gonzalez should be starting in the all-star game. Kenny Lofton is a great player, but has he played as well as Juan Gonzalez this year? No.

Gonzalez put up better numbers, but, Lofton gets more exposure because he plays for the Cleveland Indians. Cleveland is always a contender. Texas, on the other hand, is not always a contender.

In the past, non-players have been voted onto the all-star roster. Years ago, Mike Schmidt was elected, when he had already retired

In the NBA these same problems exist. Two years ago, the fans decided that Kobe Bryant should be a starter in the all-star game. Bryant didn't even start for the Lakers. Nevertheless, he started in the all-star game.

Meanwhile, fellow small forward Shareef Abdur-Rahim, who was among the league leaders in scoring, did not make the team. One might ask how this could happen. The answer is simple: fans vote.

Another reason deserving players do not make the all-star game is the media. Often, the chosen players are the same ones seen on commercials and Sports Center.

Kobe Bryant and Kenny Lofton are perfect examples. Bryant is seen many times a day on Nike and Sprite commercials. He is also seen on Sports Center throwing down a monstrous dunk over somebody.

The same goes for Lofton. He has he can be seen making great catches on Sports Center.

People such as Abdur-Rahim and Gonzalez, who are more technically sound, do not make the all-star teams because they are not marketable or flashy. As a result, the all-star games consist of people who don't belong.

It is often said that fans should vote because they pay the players salaries. Yes, fans do pay the players salaries, but most fans are not knowledgeable. They know what they read in the newspapers and see on Sports Center and the evening news.

Players, on the other hand, know who can play and who cannot. They play against each other every night. This system would not be perfect; players would have favorites, but the number of nondeserving all-stars would be greatly reduced.

This system has worked in the NFL. Occasionally, a deserving player is left out, but for the most part, the deserving players receive the recognition they deserve.

# Green monster the All-Star focus

Ben Walker Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) - Billy Wagner, Sean Casey and a bunch of their new National League teammates could barely contain themselves. Not only was this their first All-Star appearance, but it was coming at Fenway Park.

"I saw my first major league game there, back when I was in the Cape Cod League," Wagner said Monday. "I remember walking up the runway and the Green Monster popping out. You never forget it."

The Houston reliever hoped to add to those memories tonight, preferably by preventing any AL hitter from clearing the famous left-field wall. Then there was 10time All-Star Ken Griffey Jr., who planned to claim a piece of the park.

"Chip some paint off the wall, put it in a bag and take it home," Griffey said. "There's something I will take from this ballpark before I leave.

Griffey made his mark Monday night, overcoming a monstrous performance by Mark McGwire to win the home run derby for the second straight year. It was his best effort yet at Fenway, where he's connected for only eight of his 379 career homers.

"It's a good ballpark to hit in," Junior said. "It's a classic. There are certain behind them, and this is one of them. And before they tear it down, they've having an All-Star game here."

Just in time for 15-time All-Star Tony

"This is the one old park I haven't played in," the San Diego outfielder said. "I saw what Wade Boggs used to do here. I'm looking forward to doing it myself."

Gwynn, tied with Boggs at 2,982 career hits, won't be able to help the National League try to extend its 40-28-1 edge. Hobbled by injuries, he'll sit out as Boston ace Pedro Martinez starts for the AL against Philadelphia's Curt Schilling.

Still, Gwynn wanted to take batting practice and maybe field a few balls off the wall. How excited was he about seeing Fenway? He had a book detailing the history of the ballpark in his hotel room.

Likewise, Casey was eager to take some swings in a park he'd only seen on

"I'm going to try to hit a couple over in BP, just to say I hit one over the wall," the Cincinnati first baseman said.

Milwaukee's Jeromy Burnitz had other goals. Normally a right fielder, he was to start in left for the NL.

"I just hope I don't get a bad bounce off the wall and get embarrassed," he said.

Reds reliever Scott Williamson brought

ballparks that have a lot of tradition a camcorder to the home run derby and filmed all around Fenway.

To have an opportunity to step on a field that Ted Williams played on, it's great," he said.

Williams, who will throw out the ceremonial first ball, sounded less enthused about his old haunts.

"No, I'm not sentimental about it. I want to see a new ballpark where the seats are bigger," the 80-year-old Splendid Splinter said. "I've heard a lot of fans say, 'Oh, geez, I wouldn't even think about going anyplace else.' It wasn't that great. The park is just an old park."

With a lot of history wrapped up in that

At times, it was made of wood, brick, concrete and sheet metal. Now, the side facing the hitters is all tin and stretches about 240 feet toward center field.

It became known as the Green Monster in 1947 when ads for Lifebuoy, Gem Blades and other products were covered up with green paint. There's also a thin ladder running to the top - grounds crew members use it to retrieve balls that wind up in the 23-foot screen on top.

One other fact about the wall: The initials of former owner Thomas Austin Yawkey and his wife, Jean Remington Yawkey, appear on it in Morse code. Easy

to overlook, a series of dots and dashes for "T-A-Y" and "J-R-Y" show up in the vertical white lines to the left of pitchers' numbers on the out-of-town scoreboard.

Hugh Bradley of the Red Sox hit the first shot over the wall on April 26, 1912 -"Few of the fans who have been out to Fenway Park believed it was possible," the Boston Herald reported the next day.

Sammy Sosa hit his first major league homer over the Monster off Roger Clemens in 1989. McGwire hit 18 home runs at Fenway.

Rocky Colavito connected for the AL in the 1961 All-Star game at Fenway, stopped by rain after nine innings for a 1-1

Williams preferred to pull the ball to right. He put on a one-man show in the 1946 All-Star game at Fenway with two home runs, including a drive off Rip Sewell's "eephus" pitch, in going 4-for-4 with five RBIs in a 12-0 rout.

Marked at 310 feet down the line in left, many believe the wall isn't even that

"The wall's 290 feet," Williams insisted. "When I first got there in left field, they had a rise out there to let you know you're getting near the fence. But that was taken

"But still I knew the wall was only 290 feet. And I had a good conception of how close I was," he said. ■

#### Sanford shoots for Bears Josh Ezzell Staff Reporter Former Blue Raider

standout, Sulecio Sanford, is hoping to fill the Chicago Bears' void of a wide receiver. Sanford, drafted in the seventh round (221 pick overall) by the Bears, impressed many coaches and

"He has had a good mini-camp and has been working very hard," Bill Reece, director of collegiate player personnel for the Bears said. "He has good speed and a lot of

Sanford set a new single season record in 1998 with 54 catches. He also led the Blue Raiders with 385 kick return yards and 139 punt return yards in 1998. His 1,249 all-purpose yards is thirteenth on the Blue Raiders all time single season list.

Sanford and former Blue Raider Jamie Jamison, who had 701 yards of total offense in 1967, are the only two receivers to lead the Blue Raiders in total

Originally, Sanford came from Georgia Military College as a tailback. The Milledgeville, Ga., native as soon moved to flanker

In 1997, he snagged 27 catches for 407 yards and a team leading five touchdown catches. In addition, he returned a punt 85 yards for a touchdown against Chattanooga.

In 1998, he broke Jerry Smith's 33 year old record for receptions in a season. He also tied Joe Pelt's record for the longest kickoff return with his 99 yard scamper against Illinois.

He ranks sixth in receptions, ninth in yards and seventh in touchdowns on Middle Tennessee's all-time

It was widely thought that Sanford would primarily be used to return kicks. Bill Reece, however, feels that Sanford has a chance to make the team as a receiver.

"We don't necessarily think he will return kicks. We have been very pleased with his receiving ability. Obviously we will know more once the pads go on."

The pads will go on July 23 when Training Camp opens. The Bears preseason begins at home on August 7 against Indianapolis. The Bears plan on keeping six of the ten receivers in camp.

# Firebirds burn Nashville Kats, 61-59

Bleu Holden Staff Reporter

Prior to Friday night's crucial game against the Albany Firebirds, the Nashville Kats had had five games in a row decided in the final ten seconds. So, following suit, the Firebirds scored on a pass off the net in the end zone with no time lift on the clock and took the 61-59

"It's just really frustrating to lose a game like this," Kats quarterback Andy Kelly said. "We keep putting ourselves in situations to win, but mental errors keep

us from finishing.

The Firebirds' miracle finish followed what seemed to be a game-winning drive by the Kats. After James Baron recovered an onside kick with one minute remaining, Kelly led the squad down the field and hit Darryl Hammond for a touchdown with the clock showing just 5 seconds left to go in the contest.

Albany took it to the Kats early as they scored on four TD passes from Mike Pawlawski to Eddie Brown while the Kats came out of the gates much slower. In their first three possessions they lost the ball once to an interception and once on

downs. The Nashville team regrouped though. They pulled within four at the half after a touchdown and a safety within seconds of each other, but then they missed the chance to tack on a few more when Steve McLaughlin missed an 18-yard field goal to close out the half and went to the locker room down 27-23.

The Firebirds held their lead at 41-37 to start the fourth quarter after the teams swapped touchdowns in the third. Both teams scored two TD's a piece in the fourth. Nashville converted a two-point conversion, leaving the score at 54-52 at the time of Baron's onside recovery.

Kelly finished the night 36-54 for 335 yards and eight TD passes. Pawlawski, the AFL's top-rated passer the previous two seasons, was 22-28 for 345 yards and eight TD's for Albany.

Albany's Eddie Brown and the Kats' Darryl Hammond each finished with 15 receptions. Brown had 240 yards while Hammond had 117.

The Kats must win their final three games to have a shot at returning to the playoffs. Next Friday they face the San Jose Sabercats in their final home game of the year before heading on the road to Orlando.

"A good

has been

built over the

years

between the

TSSAA and

Middle

Tennessee..."

-Lee Fowler

# Rob's Wrestling Corner

by Robert Jordan/staff

This weeks top ten:

1) Stone Cold Steve Austin, WWF He didn't defend his title last week, but he drank a few "Steve-weisers" and gave

Vince McMahon a stone cold cursing. He will remain in the top spot until somebody takes him out. 2) The Rock, WWF "The People's Champ" had the fight of his

life last week in a steel cage with Hunter Hearst Helmsley. He prevailed, enabling him to hold this spot.

3) "Big Sexy" Kevin Nash, WCW Nash retained his belt last week with a victory over Sid Vicious. It was tough to let him retain this spot. Gosh, he's getting

4) The Undertaker, WWF

The Phenom" and his brother Kane whipped Paul Wight last week. He doesn't need the Corporate Ministry, Vince McMahon or any of that crap. He just needs his brother, Kane, and Paul Bearer. Until he gets another shot at the title, the other wrestlers will never rest in peace.

5) Billy Gunn, WWF

"Badd Ass" Billy Gunn moved up two spots this week. Gunn's been on a rampage since his King of the Ring victory. He continues to slam his old friends while hanging out with Chyna and Triple H. Hell, I'm proud of him.

6) Godfather, WWF

I am a bit biased on this pick. This pimp's been winning some quality matches lately. He moved up three spots this week as the "Ho-train" rolls along. Pimpin' ain't easy y'all.

7) Marcus "Buff" Bagwell, WCW

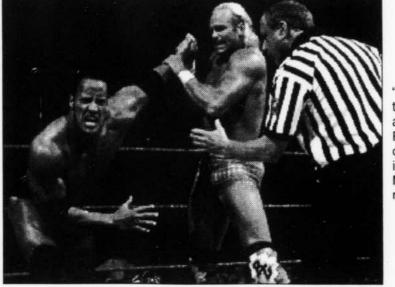
Buff has been the stuff as of late. He's a great, young talent. Hopefully the WCW will realize this and let Buff do his thing.

8) Chyna, WWF She's big, intimidating, has a body by Jake and looks like my brother. 9) Debra McMichael, WWF

I put her here in place of Jeff Jarrett. I know Jarrett holds the Intercontinental Belt, but this is only because of her "puppies" and that stupid guitar. Debra's puppies have carried Jarrett's tired ass week after week; it's time she got some respect.

10) Ric Flair, WCW

"Slick" Ric paid for this spot and stays here until he retires.



twists the arm of "the Rock" during Raw is War Monday

'Mr.Ass"

photo provided

# **TSSAA** tourneys continue in town

Josh Ezzell Staff Reporter

The Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association's Board of Control unanimously voted to accept Middle Tennessee's proposal to host the Boys and Girls State Basketball Tournaments for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005. Middle Tennessee's current contract with TSSAA currently runs through 2002.

"We are extremely happy to continue our on-going association with the TSSAA," athletic director Lee Fowler said. "A good partnership has been built over the years between the TSSAA and Middle Tennessee, which partnership has become beneficial to both parties and the Murfreesboro community."

MTSU has hosted the girls tournament for 34 years, including the last 25, and has hosted the boys tournament since 1989.

"Obviously we are excited about the contract extension for the state basketball tournaments with MTSU through 2005," TSSAA executive director Ronnie Carter said. "It is a great compliment to MTSU, Murfreesboro, Rutherford County and the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce."

Also, the TSSAA voted unanimously to accept Middle

Tennessee's bid to host the 2000, 2001 and 2002 State Volleyball Tournaments. "A big reason for Murfreesboro retaining the tournaments was the cooperation between the business community and the university," Lee Moss, head of the sports council and chamber of commerce, said. "It makes it very attractive to the TSSAA."

# Steffi Graf says retirement in future

**Tom Canavan Associated Press** 

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) - After saying goodbye to Roland Garros and Wimbledon, Steffi Graf is ready to say so long to tournament

Well, almost.

Graf made her strongest statement about retirement Monday, saying that she probably will leave the women's tennis tour at the end of the year, ending a magnificent career highlighted by seven Wimbledon championships and 22 Grand Slam singles titles.

Graf, 30, will play in a couple of events next year and go to places where she has never competed, but her days of playing the Grand Slam circuit are probably over, she

Graf didn't say specifically why she was leaving the tour, but she noted that over the past three years injuries have had her on the verge of retiring several times.

Doug Ferguson

Associated Press

CARNOUSTIE, Scotland (AP) -

Fred Couples has a bad back,

Scott Hoch a sore foot. Two-time

Masters champion Ben Crenshaw

and former U.S. Open champion

Tom Kite don't think they're

playing well enough to compete in

countless others might be wishing

an amiable welcome during the

first full day of practice for the

British Open - sunny skies and

only a mild breeze off the Firth of

Tay. No one was fooled by the

rigors that await on what is

generally regarded the toughest

"Someone is going to win,"

Colin Montgomerie said. "But at

Lee Janzen, a two-time U.S.

Open champion who plays his best

under the most severe conditions,

chose his words carefully when

asked for his first impression of

that's the best thing I can say

about it," he said. "I think it's the

toughest course I've ever played.

Par would be a great score, but I think higher than that will win -

and that's under good conditions. I

can't imagine what it would be

like if we have tough conditions."

"I think it's in great shape, and

Carnoustie.

the same time, it will be no fun."

course on the British Isles.

By the sound of it Monday,

Carnoustie Golf Links offered

the British Open.

they stayed home, too.

time and not having as much fun playing in tournaments also were

very busy thinking about it," Graf said when asked about retirement in a conference call prior to the A&P Tennis Classic at Mahwah, N.J. "I let things happen more or less, but most naturally, I will

Graf has five more events on her schedule this year, including the U.S. Open. She refused to pin down which would be her last

"I am not going to stop playing tennis for myself," she added. "Tennis will always be a big part of my life. I enjoy it and hopefully I'll get a chance to play here and

Once she retires, Graf said it's unlikely she will change her mind.

surprise. After winning the French Open, she said she would not be

Traveling, the demands on her returning to Paris. Earlier this month, she said she was finished with Wimbledon after losing the championship match to Lindsay Davenport.

Graf said she played the final week at Wimbledon suffering from bronchitis and a fever, which was the major reason she withdrew from a mixed doubles semifinal with John McEnroe.

McEnroe, inducted into the Tennis Hall of Fame last week, has criticized Graf for failing to inform him until just before they were to play. He was sent a note by Graf while he was working in the broadcast booth.

Graf, who seemed to be unaware McEnroe was annoyed with her, added that dropping out late was a difficult decision.

"I didn't want to talk about how was feeling," Graf said. "It's not my style.'

Retirement actually seemed an easier choice for her.

"You want to leave a sport when

you are at the top," Graf said. "That's an ideal situation, which is never really easy because obviously if you are doing well it's very hard to part from what you love so much."

Graf has run a sports management company for a couple of years and she intends to devote more time to that. She currently has three German junior players under contract.

When asked what she was going to do with her free time, Graf

What am I going to do with my life? I have a life, finally," she said.

Graf played her first Wimbledon in 1984, reaching the fourth round. She won the championship in 1988, '89, '91, '92, '93, '95 and '96. She was runner-up in '86.

Only Martina Navratilova has won Wimbledon more times, with nine titles. Grafs 22 Grand Slams are two short of Margaret Court Smith's record.

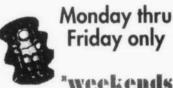


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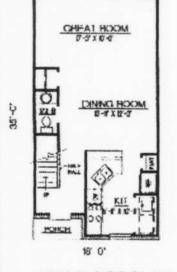
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factors, she said. "I have to say I haven't been

tournament.

The retirement isn't a big

Calm Carnoustie still a challenge

Colin Montgomerie owns the course record, a 64 during the 1995 Scottish Open. That should be safe this week Somebody is going to win. But

fun," said Montgomerie, who predicted scores in the 90s if the wind blows hard Considering that John H. Taylor won the Open in 1894 with

at the same time, it will be no

a 72-hole score of 326, that might be a bit of a stretch. Still, the one consensus at Carnoustie is that it figures to be the toughest test of the year. The course is playing at 7,361 yards at a par of 71. The greens are large and firm. The fairways are narrow enough to make the USGA jealous. The rough is so high that Duval missed the green on the par-3 13th

from the top of the grass to the bottom of the ball. Only 6 or 7 inches was really

and measured a full 12 inches

thick stuff," he said. In short, Carnoustie is everything the U.S. Open wants to

"This is the first time I think players will say the U.S. Open was more fair than the British Open,"

The British Open was last played at Carnoustie in 1975, the year Tom Watson buried his reputation as a choker in the majors by making a birdie on the 72nd hole and winning the last 18hole playoff in Open history. So much has changed since then,

except for one thing. While Duval, Tiger Woods, Payne Stewart and defending champion Mark O'Meara were among those who prepared for the Open by playing links golf in Ireland, PGA champion Vijay Singh arrived at Carnoustie last

"Each time I play, I seem to know a little bit more about the golf course," he said. "It will be OK, I think, if you drive the ball in play. I think the key is to have a game plan in your mind and just stick to it. That way, you don't go out there guessing what you're

trying to do." Singh stopped short of saying it was "unfair," but clearly that was on the minds of several players on

"Is it fair? It's the same for everybody," Stewart said. "We played today in conditions that just don't exist. If we get weather like this, it's possible under par could win. If we get blowing conditions, there's no telling what wins this golf tournament."

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