

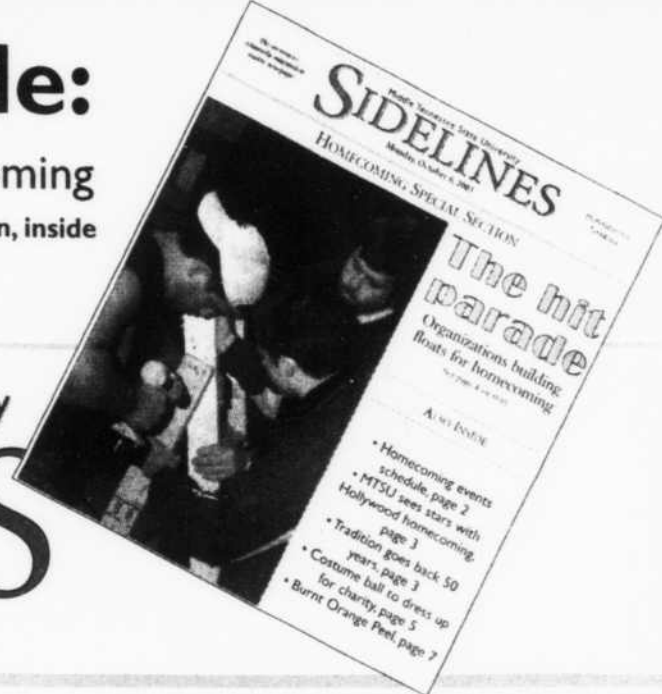


This week's poll question online at www.mtsusidelines.com

"Which presidential candidate do you like most?"

The hit parade:

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In the Homecoming Special Edition, inside



Middle Tennessee State University

SIDELINES

The university's
editorially independent
student newspaper

Volume 79 No. 28

State supreme court meets at MTSU

By Kristin Hall
News Editor

Last Friday, area high schoolers sat in on a special Tennessee Supreme Court session in which the justices heard cases involving the death penalty, wrongful termination of an employee and a malpractice suit.

Six hundred students from 12 high schools participated in the Supreme Court Advancing Legal Education for Students, wherein schools are able to wit-

ness the judicial branch in action.

"As a public school teacher, I think that students need this exposure to the real life, instead of just reading about it in a book," said Ron Scudder, government teacher at Oakland High School.

The students heard the cases of *State of Tennessee v. Daryl Keith Holton*, *Ronald G. Moore v. Averitt Express, Inc.* and *Sally Qualls Mercer v. Vanderbilt University*.

The first case involves an

appeal in a Bedford County death penalty case. Holton was convicted in 1999 of shooting his four children all under the age of 12 in a Shelbyville auto garage.

Holton's lawyer, John Appman, argued that the death penalty was inappropriate in this case because Holton suffered from insanity at the time of the offense and could not have planned this murder, as required for a first-degree murder charge.

"Premeditation is defined as

an act done after reflection and judgment," Appman explained. "Insanity is proven by evidence that the defendant does not appreciate the wrongfulness or the nature of the act as a result of a severe mental illness."

"The only way that the defendant can appreciate the wrongfulness of his acts would be by reflection and judgment," Appman said.

"I submit that this [act] is totally out of character and he had no significant prior criminal background," Appman said.

The state attorney, Mark Davidson, presented evidence to support the idea that Holton was not insane and that the murder was in revenge for his wife's infidelities.

"The evidence in this case was overwhelming that the defendant planned, premeditated and exercised reflection and judgment in the course of carrying out these executions," Davidson said.

"The defendant when he turned himself into the police told the police that he had been

planning this murder for two years," Davidson said. "He was tired of the custody battles with his wife and that was his motive."

The second case, *Moore v. Averitt Express*, involved the possible unlawful termination of Moore, once a pilot for the state of Tennessee, due to his involvement with an investigation by a news station into misappropriation of state funds.

Moore was hired by Averitt

See Court, 2

Candidate aims to gain support of college crowd

Presidential hopeful criticizes Bush policies in conference call

By Jason Cox
Opinions Editor

Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean discussed the gravitation of young voters toward his campaign in a conference call Thursday.

The event was sponsored by Generation Dean, a coalition of young professionals, college stu-

dents and high school students.

Dean is currently making campaign stops at universities across the country as part of the "Raise the Roots" tour.

Dean, former governor of Vermont, said that he hopes to attract younger voters by offering them more than other candidates have in the past.

"I think people your age have this incredible sensitivity to hypocrisy," he said. "And although I get myself in plenty of trouble for saying what I think, I say what I think, and people appreciate that."

"When I was your age, we did remove a president and change the foreign policy of the United States," he said. "You have better tools than we did to do that, namely the Internet, and hopefully, I think that you're a little less self-destructive than we were."

Dean criticized President Bush on issues ranging from the war in Iraq to the economy.

"The president specializes in saying one thing and doing another," Dean said. "The only two promises I can think that he's kept are he promised he'd go to war in Iraq and he promised he'd cut taxes for the wealthy, and he did both."

"He also said that he would not pass the problems of this generation on to the next generation," Dean said.

"That is obviously not true, with what he's done with half a trillion dollars in national debt that's only going to get bigger," Dean said.

Dean also stressed the importance of respectability abroad.

"Petulance [should not] be the driving force in American foreign policy," he said.

"After two and a half years of this presidency, you'd be hard-pressed to find a majority in too many countries in the world that want to be like America," he said.

As the conference call was with student newspapers across

"After two and a half years of this presidency, you'd be hard-pressed to find a majority in too many countries in the world that want to be like America."

—Howard Dean
Democratic presidential candidate

expanding AmeriCorps and the Peace Corps as his top ideas for education.

Bush's environmental initiatives also did not escape criticism from the presidential hopeful.

"[Bush has] the worst environmental record since the League of Conservation Voters has been keeping records," Dean said. "It's extraordinary what he's done — the Clear Skies initiative allows you to put more pollution into the air, Healthy Forests lets you cut down 30-inch diameter trees and on and on it goes."

"I think the most critical environmental problem we have, because it affects so much, is renewable energy," Dean said. "Our oil money now goes to the Saudis and others who use it to fund terrorism, which the president is doing nothing about."

Dean also expressed interest in renewable energy, such as solar and wind power, to curb America's consumption of oil and dependence on oil imported from other countries.

Dean closed by emphasizing a national community, which he said is vital.

"What we're really going to change about this country is that we're going to make it a community again," he said. "We're going to have everybody in this together." ♦

Caber tossing at the Highland Games



Donnie Scott attempts to launch a caber in the caber toss competition at the Tennessee Highland Games, Saturday. The caber weighs 110 pounds and measures about 17 feet in length.

Photo by Jamie Lorange | Chief Photographer

CNN executive discusses coverage of Iraq war

Role of embedded journalists examined

By Tiffany Brown
Staff Writer

The vice president of CNN International presented a lecture and question-and-answer session Thursday afternoon about embedded journalism as part of the Seigenthaler Lecture series.

Eric Ludgood spoke to a full audience in the Learning Resources Center, where he discussed the positive and negative aspects of embedded journalism, and what it takes for a broadcaster to facilitate such reporting.

"Embedded reporters are not new; Winston Churchill was embedded," said Ludgood, referring to the controversy that seemed to plague the U.S. media during the military action in Iraq.

Ludgood said that embedded reporting is a hot topic because it is controversial.

"The embedding process is fraught with danger, but that can be tempered by good, strong journalism," Ludgood said.

Covering war is dangerous; every embedded reporter had his or her life on the line, he said.

"Embedded reporters provide the world with a unique view of war. We put our lives on the line to make sure the rest of the world gets a fair picture of what's happening, not through a military filter," he said.

"We gave them one rule: don't be stupid," Ludgood said, referring to the embedded journalists.

Ludgood said that protection of the

embedded reporters was crucial, but that CNN provided almost all such protections for its staff.

"We would prefer reporters not have weapons in any situations," he said, explaining how CNN provided its embedded journalists with an independent safety contractor.

"It was a CNN decision: no military garb," said Ludgood. "Our vehicles were provided by CNN, not the military. Any armored vehicles were our own, and we had many that were not armored."

Ludgood explained that that U.S. and British governments allowed reporters to go along with the troops. The negative aspect of this is that it provides a narrow picture of the conflict. The positive is that it provides for very good coverage, he said.

Ludgood said that his general beliefs were that embedded journalism benefited the Pentagon more than the media, but that the public got to see more.

It was the responsibility of the reporter and the commanding officer to decide when CNN could and could not broadcast live, Ludgood said, explaining that this was the only agreement with the military.

The military suggested embedded reporters in Iraq, but had limits because the safety of all people in the unit was the number one concern, he said.

"One of the biggest questions was whether the embedded reporters lose objectivity because they become so close with the troops," Ludgood said.

He explained that one of the main ways to combat this situation was the requirement

See Lecture, 2



Eric Ludgood, vice president of CNN international, gives a lecture about embedded journalists and the war in Iraq on Thursday.

Photo by Rich Kersmarki | Staff Photographer

Court: Project designed to get students interested in judicial branch of government

Continued from 1

Express after he taped the interviews, but once the company found out he had participated in the investigation, they terminated him.

Although Moore did not expose Averitt Express of wrongdoing, the company felt that its clients expected confidential service and that Moore would "jeopardize the company's relationships with current and potential clients," according to the termination letter.

The third case, *Mercer v. Vanderbilt University*, involved a malpractice suit filed against Vanderbilt University Medical Center and a trial court decision that Vanderbilt was entirely responsible for a separate injury to the victim after he arrived at the hospital.

After each case the students met with the lawyers and asked questions about the arguments.

The students, during the

question and answer session, were actively critiquing the lawyers' arguments and some even asked questions that stumped them.

"I was extremely impressed with our students," Scudder said. "It was an excellent exercise in critical listening skills."

Each school that participated in the SCALES project was given court documents for the cases and spent weeks in class discussing the issues that were brought up in the arguments.

"The Supreme Court has committed itself to being a visible and accessible court, and not a court that is confined to an ivory tower," said Chief Justice Frank Drowota III.

"The SCALES project, we feel, is greatly important," Drowota said. "We hope it will promote a better understanding of the judicial branch of the government. We hope it develops a generation of students that better understand what the

courts are all about and the central role we play in the community."

More than 11,000 students across the state have engaged themselves in the governmental process of trials and appeals through the SCALES project, which was started in 1995.

"We have conducted 27 SCALES programs since that time," Drowota explained.

According to Scudder, this is the first year that Oakland High School participated in SCALES, and the opportunity to attend the Supreme Court was opened to all students, not just those currently taking government classes.

"The school system has been really supportive and it was great to see the legal community get involved with education," Scudder said.

"The whole process is a wonderful experience in democracy," Scudder said. ♦

Lecture: Commanders told journalists what information they could report

Continued from 1

the reporters tell where they are — not necessarily location, but a vivid description of the conditions of the situation.

In briefings, the commanders would tell the journalists what they could and could not use, Ludgood said.

"We would rather the reporter be cautious and delay a story and ask their question rather than submit something they are unsure of," said Ludgood, in response to an audience question about what material is too sensitive to military operations.

Editorializing in any form is not allowed, he said, adding that reporters must temper their responses to situations, no matter how difficult.

"We censored some images. I am the one who did it," he said.

Ludgood said the question is what is going too far and what is necessary to get the full picture of the situation.

"We were trying to be sensitive to human beings, otherwise those images become the story, and that isn't what you want," he said, referring to graphic images.

"All embedded reporters were voluntary, none were asked," said Ludgood, explaining that if the embedded reporters asked to leave, they were pulled out.

"Everybody worked during the war: the entire news organization went on a 24-hour schedule," he said.

We re-vamped the entire news-receival process, said Ludgood, referring to the unpredictability of the schedule on which reporters filed stories.

"We lost contact every day and sometimes at very inopportune times," he said. "The thing with embedded reporting is that we can't contact them, they had to contact us."

Ludgood said that upon returning from the Middle East, the reporters talked about the things they learned that they didn't expect to.

"It changed them," he said. "It is incumbent that every journalist have their own personal compass," Ludgood said, referring to the stance reporters must take when it comes to ethical decisions.

"It would have been wrong for journalists to say that the U.S. purpose was to free Iraq. That is the military's reasoning," he said.

"You just tell the story, right or wrong. The pictures and words will handle the rest," he said. ♦



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Best mixed drinks

Best happy hour

Best beer

Best atmosphere (restaurant)

Best atmosphere (bar)

Best breakfast

Best Mexican food

Best oriental food

Best sit-down meal in town

Best service (restaurant)

Best service (bar)

Best drunk/stoned food

Best grab-and-go lunch place

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Colleges sign on to Web site aimed at reducing youth suicide

By Shannon Dininny
Associated Press Writer

Faced with a growing number of student suicides, some universities are trying to combat the trend by offering depressed students the anonymity of the Internet to seek mental health counseling.

More than 80 universities have signed up so far for

www.ulifeline.org, which provides students a link to school mental health centers for information, counseling or to schedule appointments. At the same time, the free program gives universities the chance to help ailing students by using a favorite tool: the Internet.

"It's a tragic element of college life that suicide is part of it," said Peter Likins, president

of the University of Arizona. "Often times, people in depression are not able to go to mental health services that are available on campuses. They're embarrassed."

"Some of these youngsters may be willing to explore on the Internet and get some anonymous feedback," he said.

The suicide rate among 15- to 24-year-olds has tripled since

the 1950s, and now stands at about 9.9 deaths per 100,000 people.

The Web site is one of several programs offered by the Jed Foundation, which was created by Phil and Donna Satow after their 20-year-old son Jed took his own life in 1998 by hanging himself.

Phil Satow said the Internet is the perfect medium to teach

the current generation of students about the signs of depression. Realizing they missed those signs has been difficult for Jed's friends to live with, he said.

"That's what's been so devastating for them," Satow said. "That's one of the reasons they felt this Web site was so important."

Jay Zimmerman, the associate director of Ball State's coun-

seling center, said the Web site can help eliminate the stigma associated with mental health disorders.

"The more students who access our Web site, the more information they have, the more likely they are to get help or get help for their friends," he said. "And, the more likely they are to lead happier, healthier lives." ♦

Clark trails rivals in developing political organization in crucial early nominating state

By Mike Glover
Associated Press Writer

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — For all his high-wattage candidacy, Wesley Clark lags far behind his Democratic presidential rivals in the months of organizing and hours of handshaking that it takes to win the Iowa caucuses.

The state's Jan. 19 caucuses, the first test for Democrats in the hunt for the nomination, present a formidable challenge for any candidate, let alone a political neophyte such as Clark who entered the race only last month.

"You cannot run a credible campaign in Iowa from 30,000 feet," said Iowa Democratic Chairman Gordon Fischer. "You can't throw up a couple of television commercials, drop in a couple of times."

Between now and January, this is the candidate's task: persuade supporters to head out on a winter's night and attend a two-hour neighborhood meeting where they will argue with friends and neighbors and then publicly declare their preference for a candidate.

Organization is critical as is one-on-one persuasion.

In enlisting Iowans willing to commit to his cause, Clark trails his more established rivals.

Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missouri won the Iowa caucuses in his unsuccessful White House bid in 1988 and still has the contacts throughout the state. Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina earned good will when he spent nearly \$200,000 in campaign cash to help elect Iowa Democrats in the last election.

Howard Dean, the former

Vermont governor, has campaigned in the state for more than a year. He has more than 100 field staffers on the ground and an organization in each of the state's 99 counties.

Dean often acknowledges the work that has to be done, opening conversations with activists with the line: "I know you're an Iowan, and I'll have to talk with you five times before you even think about supporting me."

Ron Parker, a Democratic legislative staffer, says, "People expect the candidate is going to come into their living room, come to their coffee shop, come to the union hall, and once usually isn't enough."

"You've got candidates who have been coming here for a year and have talked to some activists a half-dozen times and still can't get them to commit."

Clark also is up against the

nature of who turns up at the caucuses — the committed, my-party-first-and-foremost type of Democrat.

The state counts 526,426 registered Democrats, but only about 100,000 are expected to show up for the sessions. They are certain to examine Clark's mixed history as a Democrat.

The retired Army general announced that he was a Democrat only last month, and he has drawn criticism for a record of having praised Presidents Nixon, Reagan and Bush, in the lead-up to the Afghanistan war.

"To what extent are these hard-core activists going to grant that he's a Democrat?" asked political scientist Dennis Goldford of Drake University.

"That's a problem because the very characteristics or resume that may help you in the

general election may prevent you from getting the nomination," Goldford said.

Still, that independence could work in Clark's favor.

"As a Democrat, I'd welcome any Republican who wants to be a Democrat," said veteran legislative staffer Paulee Lipsman, who supports Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman.

Added Michael Gronstal, a Council Bluffs Democrat who is minority leader of the state Senate: "Sometimes you celebrate the return of the prodigal son."

Clark makes his second campaign appearance in Iowa this week, joining four-term Democratic Sen. Tom Harkin, who remains neutral, for the senator's "Hear it from the Heartland" forum. Organizers said the demand for tickets has been strong.

"Everybody is going to want to kick that tire," said organizer Jeff Link.

Democrats in Iowa say it probably is too late for Clark to assemble a full-fledged field operation.

Most talented organizers have signed on with other campaigns.

"In Iowa it's difficult because you have to have qualified staff who understand the caucus process," said Gov. Tom Vilsack, who is neutral in the race so far.

In Clark's favor, his early fund raising has been strong, making it possible for him to survive even if he trails in Iowa.

Other Democrats argue that activists who attend the sessions are motivated by the overriding goal of ousting President Bush, and that works in Clark's favor. ♦

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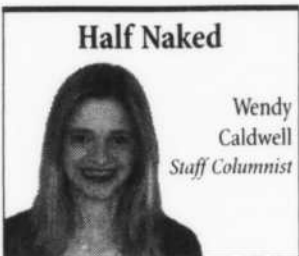
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No survivors? Russian roulette for ratings



Half Naked

Wendy Caldwell
Staff Columnist

be featured on this show. "It is a real gun with a bullet, and I am really putting it against my head," Brown told *The New York Post*.

OK. Just to reiterate. A man is going to play Russian roulette on television, hoping that he can sense which chamber the bullet is in. If he's right, he lives. If he's wrong, he's dead.

Sounds like Brown's not getting much of a deal here.

Brown also told *The New York Post* that he would not fire the gun if he wasn't sure he was right.

Well, that's a relief. No one's ever been sure of something and then ended up being wrong.

I am completely disgusted that any network

would stoop so low. How anyone could air something of this nature in good conscience is far beyond my comprehension. Ratings may be important, but life is more important.

I admit that I used to watch reality TV. I was really into the first three *Survivor* seasons. After that, however, it just kind of lost its appeal.

Once you've seen one group of unprepared castaways, you've seen them all. Besides, the contestants keep getting younger and more attractive, and that's just sickening. Usually, you can't find that high of a concentration of attractive people anywhere, much less the middle of some island.

The network airing

Brown's much-hyped game of Russian roulette claims they will air the show with a time delay in case Brown actually shoots himself. That way, no one gets to see him shoot himself in the head. They will instead show a blank screen explaining the circumstances.

I'm sure when we see him ready the gun, and the show cuts to a blank screen, no explanation will be needed.

I hope that this show will not find its way to the United States, but we are good at ripping off British programs.

I cringe to think of the Americanized version. I'm sure it will be called something like "Freedom Roulette," lest any of our citizens feel animosity

toward Russia. The contestants would probably be prisoners of war from the war on terrorism.

Maybe they could strap dynamite to them, too, just for added effect.

As much as it saddens me to admit it, I could definitely see that happening in our culture. If people will tune in to watch a regular guy attempt to avoid blowing his brains out, imagine the ratings if it were someone of the caliber of Osama bin Laden.

The show was set to air yesterday. Results were not available at press time. ♦

Wendy Caldwell is a junior mathematics major and can be reached via e-mail at visa717@aol.com.

From the Editorial Board Some words of wisdom for our ailing Raiders

Upon the Blue Raider football team's latest setback against Temple University, the sports experts at *Sidelines* (e.g. the casual and semi-fanatic fans) have a few bits of advice that head coach Andy McCollum might do well to read and consider. To wit:

Get back to fundamentals in practice. Despite scoring 36 points, there were too many wayward passes and dropped passes that, if caught, very well could have made the difference in this game. All the direct snaps to the running back and trick plays in the world won't do the job if the receivers can't catch the ball. You can't get anywhere without the basics.

Spread the offense out more and give quarterback Andrico Hines a chance to show what he can do. Especially now that MT is entering the conference schedule, receiver Kerry Wright's speed can overwhelm many of the secondary units the team will face the rest of the season. Hines has the arm and Wright has the speed – use them. Passing to the fringes on seemingly every other down isn't making very good use of either.

However, if Hines isn't doing the job, the coaching staff needs to make a change. In the days of Wes Counts, an interception often equaled a seat on the bench for a series or two while backup Jason Johnson went under center. As much potential as Hines has shown, MT has won only four games since he took over as starting quarterback.

Good character and a willingness to work are great qualities, but the excuses for the Blue Raiders' downward slide have gotten tired after a season and a half. If Hines can't perform, McCollum and his staff need to figure out who can.

Keep the offensive unit on the field. The time spent on the field by both offenses was more or less equal – which is OK, but not ideal by any standard. The constant no-huddle offense seems rather pointless, and it doesn't take a genius to figure out that an opposing offense can't score if it's not in the game. This also prevents the defensive players from becoming too fatigued to perform at their potential.

Finally, as much as it hurts to hear it, the Blue Raiders can't get mad at – or worse, taunt – the fans that booed the Blue Raiders off the field as they went into the locker room at halftime. Taking a knee to end the first half when you're losing is a lame thing to do, and the fans recognize that. The team certainly can't expect loving affection from the fans, some of whom paid to be at the game and all of whom took time out of their day to watch MT play, if it gives them reason to boo them.

After all, 0-5 is nothing to cheer about. ♦

A plea for modesty: Skin is not always in

By Adam Flowers
Guest Columnist

I welcome fall as I welcome an old friend after a nine-month absence. It's great to once again have the smell of a distant campfire in the air, to again enjoy the sound of dried leaves crunching under feet, and to look up at a perfectly blue sky, yet still need to wear a jacket. But more than all this, the thing I am most excited about right now is that fall fashion has finally returned.

In the fall, it takes class for women to look sexy. Girls have to do more than show as much skin as possible to turn heads. And class is so much sexier than nice legs.

Maybe it's just me, but I find it infinitely more attractive to see a girl wearing corduroy pants, a sweater, a pea coat and a scarf than to see a girl wearing a tiny skirt and showing more cleavage than a Sears catalog. The guy in me likes to see cleavage, but the man in me knows that there are more important things to a woman than cleavage, the things you can't see by simply looking at her. Cleavage may attract guys, but class attracts men.

Here's an honest look into the male mind. Female skin is like a magnet for male eyes. It doesn't matter who the girl is and who the guy is, if there is skin showing, we're going to look. It's a reflex.

But here is where the difference between guys and men comes in. While guys are looking for physical attraction, men want something more. Guys see cleavage and want nothing else; men see cleavage and choose to instead see the woman. So, men look past the physical.

But even then we're males – we're visually stimulated and weak. If that's how you're going to market yourself, that's what's going to attract us. And our culture has lied to us to the point that guys somehow think we're entitled to your body, and you're a tease if you don't give it to us. How sick is that?

Ladies, there are ten men out there, and we truly do want to respect you. But you need to give us a reason to. Please let us be attracted to your intellect before we are attracted to your belly button piercing. It's so much more intriguing when a girl in class is stretching and her shirt rises up enough to show her belly button than when it's out there for the world to see. At least when it happens to show when you stretch, it's only visible for a brief moment. It's not just there for a nice piece of eye candy.

The thing that bothers me is this: The guys on this campus will be husbands and fathers in a few years. And oh yes, there will come the time when kids will ask how their parents met. And I hope I never will have this conversation with my son: "Dad, how did you and mom meet?"

"Well, son, your mom was wearing a tiny little skirt one day, and I couldn't resist her."

I hope I will be able to truthfully tell my kids that their mother and I met in the library because we were both reading Dylan Thomas, or we happened to walk by each other and there was electricity when our eyes met.

Good looks are going to fade – consider Elizabeth Taylor or Marlon Brando. So ladies, I implore you, please carry yourselves in a manner that will attract a man. Because a woman would love you just the same if he went blind. That's a man, and we do exist.

There are lots of physically attractive people, but, as Sir Richard Steele once said, "Nothing can atone for the lack of modesty; without which beauty is ungraceful and wit detestable." Looks are going to fade, but class lasts. ♦

Adam Flowers is a junior mass communications major and can be reached via e-mail at amf2d@mtsu.edu.

Speaking of Which



David Cotton
Staff Columnist

In the days leading up to our invasion of Iraq I used many points to support an argument against a war. One of the points that I used was that we're not required by the community at large.

All over the country, brave Americans purchased a magnetic flag for their SUV as if to say, "I've done my part. Have you?"

Signs that said, "I support our troops" sprang up in yards and windows. "How do you support?" I'd ask. "I put the sign up, didn't I?" the pseudo-patriot might respond.

And that's about as much effort as most Americans are prepared to invest in their patriotism these days.

It was all too easy to question the patriotism of others instead of the worth of one's own.

But wait, your chance to contribute to the war effort hasn't passed yet, because the Bush administration has presented Congress with a request for an additional \$87 billion for war expenses. Surely all those patriots who were unable to personally charge into Baghdad are happy to help

in any way, right?

Apparently not. A recent ABC News poll shows that 61 percent of Americans oppose President George W. Bush's request. Contrast this with the ABC poll in March 2003 in which 72 percent of those polled supported military action.

So, while an overwhelming majority supported the war, an equally impressive majority apparently thought it would be free. We'll accept dead soldiers, but hit us in the wallet and we're upset.

So how did this country expect to pay for the war? There is still discussion of having the Iraqis pay for it. I guess we thought we'd just slip the bill between the pages of the "So We've Decided You'll Be a Democracy" pamphlet.

Surely, for decades they've been oppressed by a ruthless dictator and further impoverished by a decade of UN sanctions – but hey, maybe they do have \$87 billion squirreled away somewhere. Probably the same place they've hidden the weapons of mass destruction.

But what about all that valuable oil, you ask? Yeah right... the oil.

Does it strike anyone else as odd that we just conquered one of the richest oil producing areas in the world, yet our gas prices are up? Not to mention that the \$87 billion includes the cost of fuel importing.

That's right, fuel importing.

I wonder if, when the Romans conquered Egypt and a fertile Nile valley full of wheat, if they started importing grain. Either way, it seems silly to ask Europe to pay now. Have you ever tried to borrow money from someone you just called a useless coward?

We certainly gain nothing if we leave Iraq in a state of anarchy, so while there were plenty of reasons to argue against the war, to complain about the bill now is just sad. I certainly hate that we're now in the position of having to spend this money elsewhere when it's needed here, and I do support a strong look at the budget plan to eliminate any wasteful funds.

Yet in the end, I think when you arrive uninvited and tear the pay up, you should help pay to fix it. Call it a courtesy.

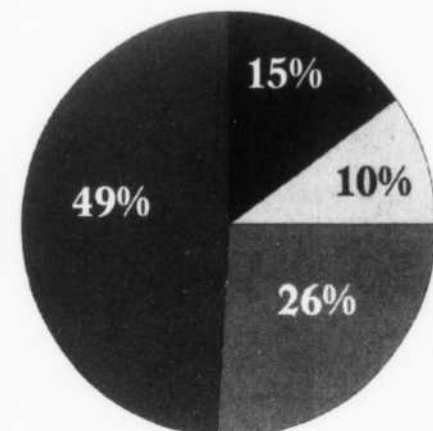
And for my fellow Americans who love the war but hate to pay, don't wish for a war and not expect a war tax. American service people have to pay their own way back from Iraq if they are lucky to receive any leave time. So, if you rooted the war on, you can cough up some cash.

That magnetic flag was nice, but how about some real support? ♦

David Cotton is a senior English major and can be reached via e-mail at dpc2b@mtsu.edu.

Sidelines online poll results

Last week we asked readers, "Will or have you use(d) the University Trolley?" Here's what you had to say:



- Yes – it has already probably saved my drunken little soul (15 percent; 6 votes).
- Yes – I plan to use it as soon as possible (10 percent; 4 votes).
- No – I prefer the challenge of driving under the influence (26 percent; 10 votes).
- No – I rely on my own personal designated driver (49 percent; 19 votes).

Be sure to visit www.mtsusidelines.com to vote in next week's poll: "Which presidential candidate do you like?"

SIDELINES

P.O. Box 8
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
Editorial: 898-2337
Advertising: 898-2533
Fax: 904-8193
www.mtsusidelines.com

Editor in Chief	Patrick Chinnery*
Managing Editor	Amanda Maynard*
Production Manager	Brandon Morrison
News Editors	Kristin Hall*, Nick Fowler*
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Letters Policy

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

Hey you! Yes, you! Stop leaving us drunken voicemails and start writing letters to the editor.

It's easy, we promise.

Just send an e-mail to slopinio@mtsu.edu or visit www.mtsusidelines.com.

Arranged marriage bad idea

Kacey's Corner



Kacey Hercules
Staff Columnist

Imagine that you are about to be a teenager, and your fate is planned out for you. You are getting married to a person that you never met, and very well may never truly love. That happened to Ana Maria Cioaba, a 12-year-old gypsy princess from Romania.

Cioaba, like many women in this situation, wanted to rebel. The only difference was that she took action, and walked out of her own wedding. She should have been praised for her boldness, but instead she was beaten for her rebellion.

A child doesn't need to be beaten because she doesn't want

to do something that she knows isn't in her best interest. No child should be beaten.

Being a little girl playing with friends one day and raising a family the next has to have some type of fear attached to it. I can't even imagine raising a family at my age, and she was 12.

Arranged marriages are simply inhumane. In this tradition, children are treated as property instead of little people that need to be loved and cherished. Marriages are not arranged because the relationship is (or could be) strong.

The arrangements are mostly made as business deals. If one family has money or land that the other family wants, they will often just make their children get married.

This makes me sick. Marriage should be a wonderful thing. It should be about two people committing the rest of

their lives out of love and devotion, not riches.

Remember the quote in the wedding ceremony "For richer or poorer, till death do us part." Money should never be an issue.

I love living in America where everyone has a choice to get married or stay single. I have chosen at this point in my life that I want to be single. I want to have the opportunity to learn how to be an independent woman. I don't need a man to feel whole.

No one needs another person to make him or her feel whole. They may think they need someone, but really it's just a gut issue. People don't need to get married. Some people want to have the experience of marriage, but its OK if that experience is not for you — because as humans we all have different goals in life.

Don't let anyone control

your fate, because you have the right to make your own choices in life. That should never be taken away from you.

That is why we should be proud to live in a country in which we can be individuals instead of having all the life-altering choices already made for us. Either the Gypsies in Romania practice the tradition of arranged marriages now, but Romania tolerates it.

There is nothing good and wholesome that I can see coming out of those marriages, so for the welfare of the country, Romania shouldn't tolerate this situation any longer.

It's against human rights, and it represents a lack of freedom that a person can and should have. ♦

Kacey Hercules is a sophomore social work major and can be reached via e-mail at kah2x@mtsu.edu.

WHAT A SCHMUCK!!

Sidelines'
occasional
watch for
muttonheads.



What's the only thing more useless than a heater in hell or an igloo in the Amazon? A bulletproof vest that can't stop bullets.

Second Chance Body Armor, Inc., sold tens of thousands of its Ultima and Ultimax vests to police departments across the country, including more than 600 to the Massachusetts State Police. The only problem with the vest is that its main protection, a synthetic material called Zylon, deteriorates faster than advertised — so fast, in fact, that the company doesn't think that it will last through the five-year warranty period.

Obviously, this is a problem for the police officers throughout the country who rely on the vest. A Forest Hill, Pa., police officer was shot through the vest in the stomach in July. As would be expected, the officer is suing Second Chance. It wouldn't be a crime to take their cash.

To make up for the defective vests, the company has offered Kevlar inserts for the defective vests at no charge to all the municipalities and state trooper organizations that have bought the useless garments.

However, a spokesperson for the National Institute for Justice, which sets safety standards for bulletproof

vests, told the Boston Globe that even with the inserts, Ultima and Ultimax certainly didn't live up to their names.

It is also offering \$1,100 vests to the affected communities for \$329 each. However, with little money in their coffers, many towns can't afford to re-outfit their police departments.

Imagine this scenario: A window washer falls, crashes to earth and sustains severe injuries because the scaffold was made with wood that rotted prematurely.

"Oh, sorry," the scaffold maker says. "Here's an inflatable cushion to put on the ground so the next guy that falls might not hurt himself as bad. Or, you could buy new planks from us. They'll be better, we promise."

Like anyone's going to trust the company that got employees killed. There's a lot to this story that stinks, and it's not all gunpowder. ♦

Original story from www.boston.com, posted Oct. 2.

Letters to the Editor

While response was impressive, disaster possible with DSB fire alarm

To the editor:

On Oct. 3, a fire alarm went off at the Davis Science Building around 10 a.m. I was in a class in the building at the time. In the time it took me to collect my belongings and walk around the corner to the nearest exit, the police were already on the scene. The response time of the authorities was impressive. Shortly afterwards, the fire and rescue crews showed up — phenomenally quick as well.

As I sat on a bench to the west of the DSB, waiting for the building to explode, I was taken aback by what I saw. To the left of me, a fire crew, in full gear, headed up the ramp at the south end of the DSB, directly in front of me, however, several students casually strolled up the steps and entered the DSB through the southwest entrance.

To my right, on the side of the DSB, an enormous sign hangs, reading "CHEMISTRY"

Fortunately, the tragic image which suddenly surfaced in my mind never came to be. The emergency crews dispersed, and I went along my way as well. But as I strutted across campus, a question kept circulating in my mind. "Shouldn't there have been someone at each entrance preventing brain-dead students, unalarmed by the emergency crews, flashing lights, screaming alarms and congregations of people outside the DSB from entering the building? Especially a building housing all those incendiary chemicals?" Shouldn't there have been?

Chris Jacobsen
Junior, College of Liberal Arts

Kuchinich misrepresented in letter

To the editor:

Jacob Levine's recent letter to the editor begs a correction. In the Oct. 2, 2003 *Sidelines*, Levine unabashedly mischaracterized presidential candidate Rep. Dennis Kucinich. This true patriot has earned more than the skewed ranting that appeared in these pages.

First, the letter casts Kucinich as a failed mayor. The irony of bashing a man for this and then defending a president who has run all of his businesses into the ground is not lost on me. The truth is that Kucinich saved the public utility, which is a natural monopoly. He reached an agreement with the banks and the banks reneged, thus making him look like a failure.

Over time, it has been revealed that Kucinich sacrificed his short-term political career so that Cleveland could have more jobs and cheaper power. The alternative was free markets. Comparing California's free market to Cleveland's public utility, I'll take Cleveland.

Second, the letter criticizes Dennis on health care policy. Again, the free market solution has been drug companies that profit by keeping people sick, doctors who profit by over-treating wealthy patients and under-treating poor patients, and insurance companies that profit by covering only healthy people. Dennis Kucinich is the only 2004 candidate who has noted this problem and introduced federal legislation to correct it.

Levine obviously cares about the nation, and that is respectable. But these half-truths that smear a good man's name are problematic. Dennis deserves more than these little jabs. He deserves to be given the treatment of a true American patriot.

Daniel Crews,
Economics and Finance

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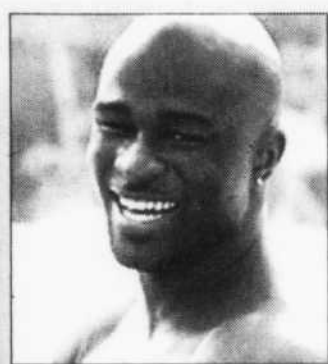
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Stokes

Reality & Temptation in America

By Stacie Wacaster
Staff Writer

Albert Schweitzer once said, "One who gains strength by overcoming obstacles possesses the only strength which can overcome adversity."

What better way to weather out the obstacles of a relationship than on a tropical island, surrounded by sand, sun, palm trees and 28 attractive singles determined to break up your happy union?

Welcome to *Temptation Island*, the place where all your questions about your partner's fidelity and commitment can be answered in three short weeks of tropical indulgence.

According to Fox's Web site, *Temptation Island* is "an unscripted dramatic series in which unmarried couples travel to an exotic locale to test and explore the strength of their relationships."

The couples are introduced to eligible singles, separated from their partners and given time and opportunity to determine the overall condition of their unions.

So what's in it for the "eligible singles," besides the satisfaction of help-

ing romantic partners discover each other's true sentiments?

Meet Sterling Stokes, former MTSU football player.

Tall with muscles in all the right places, Stokes easily captures one's attention. And his wide smile suits the title of current *Temptation Island* "tempter."

"I thought it'd be a good opportunity to try something new in the dating game," Stokes says of his recent role on the television show. "It was a great experience."

While Stokes describes being a part of reality television as positive, others have wondered why this show and other voyeuristic experiences, such as *The Bachelor*, so thoroughly capture our collective national attention.

According to David Lavery, MTSU English professor and pop culture expert, Americans' reasons for watching reality shows is an ironic and somewhat psychological one—to escape our own reality.

"It's a means of escapism, but with reality TV, we have people escaping from reality," he says. "In a world that's becoming increasingly bizarre, the best way to portray that

world is through parody," he adds.

Evidently, we connect with some aspect of this alternate reality. According to Nielsen Media Research, reality shows attract tens of millions of viewers weekly.

Maybe the secret of the shows' success is simply sticking to a tried and true formula.

"If they didn't create discord, [the shows wouldn't be successful]," Lavery says.

"Conflict is the secret of great stories, but it's very contrived and manipulated [with reality TV]."

Stokes, however, insists that the conflicts and events on the show—shot last spring in Honduras—were all authentic.

"It's the real deal," he says. "Nothing was staged. I am an actor [but] the way I was on the show was the way I was raised. I was actually more attracted to the single ladies than the ladies from the four couples that I was trying to tempt."

Manipulated or not, Americans don't seem to care either way.

Although there has been a massive, recent surge in the popularity of the genre, some say it is nevertheless headed toward extinction.

"There's something cannibalistic about it," Lavery says. "They've done everything—what else are they going to do? It starts to depart from reality."

Nonetheless, Lavery believes that the reality craze is only the beginning of some other form of entertainment of which we have yet to conceive or devise the technology for.

"We may be seeing, with reality, the birth of something new," Lavery says. "Lurking in there is something we haven't seen yet. TV has possibilities for showing us our world that other mediums can't."

Incidentally, Stokes is glad to have been far removed from modern technology during his stay on the island.

"The best part [about being on the show] was being able to interact with people on a different level," he says.

"There were no telephones or computers. You learn more about a person without all those distractions."

So in the end, it's a return to good, old-fashioned human interaction that keeps so many Americans glued to our TV screens, captivated by reality TV. ◆



Omar Ali, an entrepreneurship major, has started a Web site for prospective students.

Pursuing a dream

By Stacie Wacaster
Staff Writer

As proven by business gurus such as Bill Gates and Ted Turner, sometimes you have to start small and work up to your dreams.

MTSU senior Omar Ali recently took advantage of a small opportunity in order to gain valuable expertise on what could one day become a great enterprise.

The entrepreneurship major and former MTSU track member launched a Web site called College Pursue. The site is designed to help meet the needs of current and prospective college students around the country.

Ali's goals are to provide these students with helpful information that will aid in the decision-making process of choosing a school. He also wants to provide a means for current and future college students to communicate with one another.

"We've only been online for a month but the site is doing well," Ali says. "We have an average of 6,000 impressions (number of times the banner is loaded) a day."

College Pursue's main drawing card is a com-

plete listing of the homepages and sports Web sites of every college in the United States.

The Web site's welcome letter states that these sports pages are "categorized by Division I, Division II, and Division III . . . This gives high school students easy access to college coaches and . . . information pertaining to college sports programs."

College Pursue also offers a state of the art instant messaging system, which gives members the ability to contact college students to obtain information about their campus from a college student's perspective.

Links, polls and feature stories are among the Web site's other offerings.

Ali's target audience is high school and college students. College Pursue currently maintains a membership list of nearly 250 students from all around the country, including California, New York, Arizona, Michigan, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Texas and Florida.

Nate, one of the site's chat room participants, is a current college student in Tennessee who discovered College Pursue through Yahoo.com.

See Dream, 7

Dear Emily, Let's just be friends

Dear Emily,

As of Friday, a certain friend of mine and I aren't speaking to each other because I made her mad.

She has become very jealous lately of the fact that I have other female friends that I hang out with on occasion.

Although I know this girl is interested in me (as in more than a friend), I have tried to give every indication and signal that I just want to be her friend. I would really like to be her friend, but I'm not sure if she's going to let me.

She started in on me Friday night once again, with her jealous spiel, and I couldn't take any more. I said something like, "I should hang up for that," and she said "go ahead."

Well, I hung up on her, but I only did it because I knew she thought I wouldn't do it. I called her back minutes later, but she didn't answer the phone. I even sent her an e-mail saying I was sorry about the hang up and that it wasn't meant to hurt her feelings, but I haven't heard anything back from her.

What do you think of all this? Do you think she and I can still be friends?

Thanks,
Frustrated Friend

Dear Frustrated Friend,

As I'm sure you know, true friendships require dedication and sometimes even hard work to maintain.

That said, there comes a point when a friendship is simply more frustrating than enjoyable to both people. If that happens, it's time to allow some space between you and the other person, to decide whether the friendship is really working.

The frustration in your case stems from the fact that your friend has romantic feelings towards you which you do not reciprocate.

By the way, I completely admire your desire to still be friends with this girl despite your knowledge of her feelings for you. Many guys (and girls) would go running in the opposite direction if they were in your situation. It takes guts to stick around, hoping for the chance to build a friendship in spite of one person being more emotionally involved than the other.

As far as the answer to your question, it really depends. You can still be friends based on your intentions, but it ultimately hinges on your friend's response.

I think you've done all you can in giving her the "let's-just-be-friends" vibe. Now if she can grow up a little, respect your desire to only be friends, understand that you have other girl friends and try to get beyond her feelings for you, then yes, you can probably be friends.

Whether or not she will be mature enough to handle all that remains to be seen.

She will probably need some time to evaluate her level of commitment to the friendship against her desire to pursue a dating relationship that may never happen.

Frankly, you cannot help how you feel, and since you do not return her feelings, you should feel no obligation to manufacture what isn't there, nor to try to help her sort out her feelings. That's something she's going to have to do on her own.

About the phone call, I understand why she got upset, but I also understand why you hung up. However, what's done is done; we all make mistakes. You apologized and that's all you can do. Move on and don't let her manipulate you into begging for forgiveness.

Ultimately, if she simply can't get beyond her feelings for you and consequently, her jealousy of your other girl friends, then you may just have to cut your losses and let this one go.

Hopefully, though, she'll back off and treat you with the respect you deserve as a friend.

I hope everything works out for you. ◆

Send letters to mtsudearemy@hotmail.com.



Time for a Break

By Melissa Coker
Staff Writer

Students deserve a break, and MTSU is ready to deliver it.

As the air begins to chill and the leaves start to fall, a well-deserved two day break from classes is sandwiched smack dab in the middle of the month of October to safeguard students from falling (or the case may be) victim to burnout's evil forces.

Some students will spend fall break at home. Others look for exciting adventures.

"As a resident assistant on duty during that time, my plan is to spend days on end under house arrest in this empty building, navel gazing and thumb-twiddling," senior Erika Chambers says.

For those not under house arrest, the following opportunities will help the adventurous take advantage of this time off.

To get the show on the road, how about some concerts? For example, there's quite the little get-together called the Foothills Festival taking place in Maryville, Tenn., near Knoxville. As one might guess, it's held on the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park.

Starting Oct. 17 and running through Oct. 19, the event offers entertainment from such acts as K.C. and the Sunshine Band, Joe Nichols, Clark (formerly the Clark Family Experience) and the Charlie Daniels Band. Alabama is scheduled there for their Farewell Tour on Sunday, but that requires a separate ticket.

The festival also showcases arts, crafts and family fun. The children's activities, which are free, include giant slides, clowns and magicians.

Two-day tickets are \$35 in advance and \$45 at the gate. For more information, check out their Web site at www.foothillsfallfestival.org.

Is the King more your thing? Then head west. Memphis' Graceland swings open its doors at 8:30 a.m. and closes them at 5 p.m. Roam around the rooms, including the jungle room and the kitchen. Regularly priced mansion tour admission is \$16.25 for adults, \$14.63 for seniors and students, \$6.25 for children ages 7-12 and free for those 6 and younger. For more information call Graceland at (901) 332-3322.

While at Graceland, be sure to explore the Heartbreak Hotel across the street. It's at the end of the appropriately titled Lonely Street, and the desk clerks dress in black.

While still in Memphis, go out of this world at the Sharpe Planetarium, housed in the Pink Palace Museum. Special star shows include the "Star of Jade" and "Autumn Nights", which illustrates that the signs of seasons changing can be seen on more than earth. The displays begin at noon and flicker out around 7 p.m. Cost is \$4.25 for adults and \$3.75 for seniors and children 3-12 years old. Need additional details? Call (901) 320-6320.

If Memphis or Maryville is too far for you and yours, there can still be time-well-spent closer to home. Fall is an especially fun time for younger children since it plants wonderful opportunity for hay rides and festivals.

In Middle Tennessee, Spring Hill turns a little west in the Amazing Mule Maze, described as "2.5 miles of twisting, turning fun." Call Rippavilla Plantation at (931) 486-9037 for details.

The Tennessee State Fairgrounds holds an

Arcade Games Auction from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Oct. 18. Admission is free. Contact Chuck Ryan at 226-3826.

October is "Creativity and Adventure Month" at the Adventure Science Center, featuring a variety of special programs and activities. Visit www.adventuresci.com.

In anticipation of Halloween, you might want to make a trek to visit the scary beasts housed at the Nashville Zoo. Meerkats can be pretty terrifying, especially when chasing their own tails or looking around.

The zoo's long-awaited Bamboo Trail has finally arrived, featuring Red Pandas, Clouded Leopards and Ring-Tailed Lemurs.

And if there's a need the following weekend for an extension on the official fall break, then pounce on over to the zoo again when it celebrates the last week in October with Ghouls at Grassmere featuring games, treat stations, and



Illustration by Lucas Antoniak | Staff Illustrator

haunted hayrides Oct. 25-31.

Ghouls at Grassmere runs from 5-9 p.m. each evening.

Wherever your fall break adventures take you, enjoy the time away from books and classes. ♦

Dream: MTSU student becomes an entrepreneur

Continued from 6

"I came to the site to find schools in Tennessee to transfer to," he says.

"It's a really cool site, with a fast chat. I chat with girls and chat about sports," he adds.

Ali's experimental endeavor seems to be a hit. But surprisingly, his intentions for entrepreneurship are not epitomized by a successful Web site.

"Though I've started with the Web site, it's not my main goal," Ali says. "[My goal is] to start my own construction company. My father has been in the business for 19 years and I know the industry exceptionally well."

It seems then, that College Pursue is a practice run for Ali, to help him gain insight into the workings of entrepreneurship.

Linda McGrew, department chair for Business Education, Marketing

Education, and Office Management at MTSU and chair of the entrepreneurship department says there is an increasing popularity for free enterprise.

"Entrepreneurship is a popular major and minor with this generation of students who are eager to be self-employed," she says.

According to MTSU's Web site, the bachelor of business administration in entrepreneurship was implemented in the fall of 2000, while an interdisciplinary undergraduate entrepreneurship minor has been available since 1996.

The Web site also says the entrepreneurial studies mission is to provide education about the roles and contributions of entrepreneurs in economic development and job creation.

Additionally, the entrepreneurial studies program is designed to prepare students for successful venture creation and implementation.

Ali certainly saw the merits of self-employment when he decided to pursue entrepreneurship.

"My mom was reading books and magazines, like *Fortune*, and there were a lot of opportunities for entrepreneurship," Ali says. "[The business involves] little overhead and high revenues, so there's a lot of money in it, hopefully," he adds.

Ali admits that he had at one point considered dropping out of school, since it seemed his career path was already set in motion. But, he says, his father advised him to stay in school and graduate so he could have something to fall back on, if necessary.

Ali's perseverance is about to pay off. He's set to graduate in August and will go on to pursue his dream of starting his own business.

To visit Ali's Web site, go to www.collegepursue.com. ♦

Campus Calendar

Today

Honors Lecture Series
Peck Hall Room 109A, 3 p.m.
"War: Yesterday and Today"
Speaker: Amy Staples,
For information, call 898-2152.

Tuesday, Oct. 7

Steinway Dedication Series
Performing: Beaux Arts Trio
Wright Music Building Music Hall, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$20 each
For information, call 898-2103.

Wednesday, Oct. 8

MTSU Employee Benefits Fair
James Union Building, Tennessee Room,
9 a.m.-3 p.m.
For information, call 898-2929.

School of Music

Brass Chamber Ensemble
Wright Building, Music Hall, 8 p.m.
For information, call 898-2493 or e-mail
tmusselm@mtsu.edu.

Thursday, Oct. 9

School of Music
Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Band
Wright Building, Music Hall, 7:30 p.m.
For information, call 898-2493 or e-mail
tmusselm@mtsu.edu.

Friday, Oct. 10-12

"Voice of God" Exhibit
Tucker Theatre, 9 a.m.
For information, call 907-1212.

Cooperative Education Awards

Ceremony and Alumni Dinner
JUB Tennessee Room, 6 p.m.
For information, call 898-2225.

Pigskin Pregame Event

Featuring a pig roast by Slick Pig
MTSU Foundation Reception House
324 West Thompson Lane, 7 p.m.
Charge: \$15 per person in advance; \$20
at the door
For information, call 800-533-6878.

Saturday, Oct. 11

Alumni & Friends Open House
Floyd Stadium, 8:30am
Alumni and friends are welcome to stop
by the Alumni Center for a continental
breakfast before the parade.

Alumni Center

Cooperative Education Awards Dinner
JUB, Tennessee Room, 6:00 p.m.
For information, call Wayne Rollins at
898-2225.

Jennings A. Jones College of Business

Open House
Business & Aerospace Building, SunTrust
Room, 8:30 a.m.
Complimentary
For information, call 898-2764.

Annual Homecoming Parade

Bob McLean as Grand Marshal
Complimentary bleacher seating located
in front of the Alumni Center on
Tennessee Blvd., 10 a.m.

Golden Raiders Society Induction

Honoring the Class of 1953
JUB, Tennessee Room, 11:30 a.m.
Complimentary to guests
All alumni and friends are invited to
come join us as we induct the Class of
1953.

Homecoming Barbecue

Sponsored by the MTSU Alumni
Association and the Blue Raider Athletic
Association
JUB, Tennessee Room, 12 p.m.
Charge: \$10 for adults; \$5 for children 10
years old or younger
BRAA members complimentary with
membership card.

Alumni Homecoming Queen Reunion

Floyd Stadium, Halftime
Complimentary with game ticket purchase
Were you a former MTSU Homecoming
Queen? Join us on the field at halftime
and participate in the crowning of the
2003 MTSU Homecoming Queen.
For information, call 1-800-533-6878.

African American Alumni Council Social

JUB, Tennessee Room, 9 p.m.
For information, call Brenda Spencer
McKinney at 385-4709.

Middle Tennessee Football

Floyd Stadium, 2 p.m.
Blue Raiders vs. New Mexico State
For information, call 898-2570.

School of Music

Guest Marimba Artist, Janis Potter
Wright Building, Music Hall, 7 p.m.
For information, call 898-2493 or e-mail
tmusselm@mtsu.edu.

Sunday, Oct. 12

"MTSU On the Record"
WMOT-FM 89.5, 7 a.m.
"Law Enforcement Seminar"
Guests: Sgt. Steve Scott and Deborah
Newman
For information, call 898-2919.

School of Music

University Orchestra
Wright Building, Music Hall, 3 p.m.
For information, call 898-2493 or e-mail
tmusselm@mtsu.edu.

School of Music

Darrell Thompson percussion recital
Wright Building, Music Hall, 8 p.m.
For information, call 898-2493 or e-mail
tmusselm@mtsu.edu.

Blue Raider Volleyball

Florida International (SB)
Alumni Memorial Gym, 12 p.m.
For information, call 898-2570.

Lambda Theta Alpha

Latin Sorority
Informational meeting
Keathly University Center, 2 p.m.
For information, e-mail
cmb3c@mtsu.edu

Monday, Oct. 13

Honors Lecture Series
Peck Hall Room 109A, 3 p.m.
"Journalism and Corporate Control of
the News"
Speaker: Richard Campbell
For information, call 898-2152.

School of Music

MTSU Women's Choral
Wright Building, Music Hall, 7:30 p.m.
For information, call 898-2493 or e-mail
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MT ballers suffer through losses on road

By Colby Sledge
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee volleyball team's conference woes continued with losses to the University of Arkansas-Little Rock and Arkansas State University this weekend.

On Friday, the Lady Raiders were swept by UALR 3-0 (24-30, 28-30, 26-30) behind 19 kills from Larisa Durmisevic, who hails from Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Ivana Vracar added 14 kills and Randi Salis posted a match-high 12 digs.

The match was the first home contest for the Trojans (10-6, 1-1) this season after 15 straight matches on the road.

"We were glad to be home after spending the first five weeks of the season on the road," UALR head coach Van Compton told www.ualr.edu.

"The team really seemed to have a good time out there, [but] I think we were just tired of playing on the road."

Both teams finished with poor attack percentages. MT's .139 percentage was slightly better than the .121 percentage posted by the Trojans, who won the third game despite committing eight attack errors and putting down only nine kills.

KeKe Deckard finished with 15 kills to lead MT's offense, which registered only one service ace compared to UALR's

nine. Kimberly Moeller and Victoria Monasterolo added nine digs each.

The Lady Raiders then traveled to Jonesboro to take on the Lady Indians on Sunday, only to fall to ASU 3-1 (30-22, 22-30, 31-33, 17-30).

Pip Soulsby led ASU's offense with 18 kills, while Giedre Tarnauskaite (17 kills, 17 digs) and Caitlyn Mitchell (13 kills, 18 digs) both posted double-doubles.

"Middle Tennessee gave us everything we wanted and more," ASU head coach Craig Cummings told www.asuindians.com. "It was a battle, and we had to grind it out. Our team stayed focused. I credit our team for staying on top and getting the job done."

KeKe Deckard again led the Lady Raiders (7-12, 0-4) as she recorded a season-high 28 kills

along with 15 digs, her eighth double-double this season. Karisse Baker added 12 kills and five blocks.

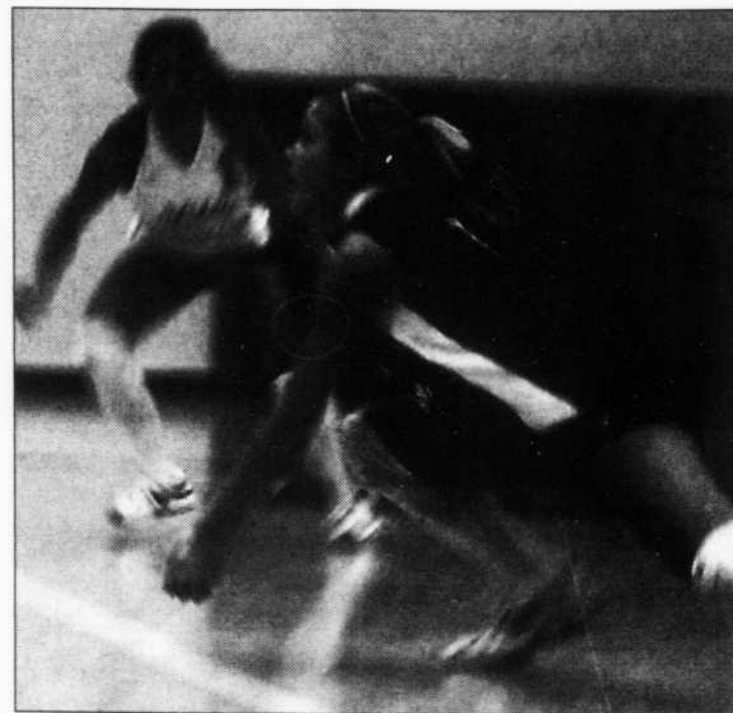
With the win, ASU (15-4, 3-0) remained the only undefeated team in the SBC East Division.

The Lady Raiders, who have yet to play a conference match at home, are one of three winless teams in SBC play and have lost six straight games.

MT's last victory came on Sept. 20 against Western Illinois.

MT returns to action Wednesday for a non-conference match at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga.

The squad then returns to Alumni Memorial Gym for its SBC home opener against Florida International University on Sunday at noon. ♦



Libero Kimberly Moeller digs the ball during a game against Western Illinois University Sept. 20.

Photo by Rich Kersmarki | Staff Photographer

Temple takes 44-36 win over Raiders

Big East team records first win over of season

By Jon Leffew
Staff Writer

The first-ever visit by a BCS team to Floyd Stadium proved painful for Middle Tennessee. Big East cellar-dweller Temple beat the Blue Raiders Saturday night.

Despite an impressive fourth-quarter comeback from 41-14, the Owls escaped with a 44-36 win.

The game was another mistake filled outing for the Blue Raiders. The Owls scored 13 points off four Blue Raider turnovers, and capitalized on 10 penalties for 81 total yards by the home team.

"We really hurt ourselves with the turnovers, and that's one thing we haven't done to this point this year," head coach Andy McCollum said.

MT won the coin toss and got the ball first, but a fumble thwarted the drive. The Owls took over at their own 31, then began a drive that ended with a missed field goal.

After the ensuing MT drive stalled, the Owls were forced to punt. After a back injury forced starting quarterback Andrico Hines to the sidelines, Clint Marks took over in what turned out to be an inspired performance for the young quarterback.

Marks got some help as Kerry Wright took a screen pass 71 yards for the first of two first half scores.

Brian Kelly's extra point was good, making the score 7-0 in favor of the Blue Raiders with two minutes remaining in the first quarter.

MT then took advantage of a Temple mistake, as defensive lineman Dominic Jones forced a fumble that was recovered by defensive lineman Demetrios Walker. Eugene Gross then ran for his first of two touchdowns from 24 yards out. Kelly's extra point made the score 14-0, Blue Raiders.

After these scores, the Blue Raiders seemingly disappeared for a half.

Temple outscored the Blue Raiders 41-0 in the second and third quarters.

The Owls got on the board first after quarterback Mike McGann picked apart the MT defense, eventually scoring on a one-yard run.

On the ensuing drive, Marks' pass was intercepted, setting up a field goal that closed the gap 14-10.

Hines then returned to the game, only to fumble. This set up the next score for the Owls.

Down 17-14, the Blue Raiders managed to wind the clock down to 38 seconds, only to see a Robert Billings punt returned 74 yards by Zamir Cobb to the MT 13-yard line.

McGann then scored on a draw, making the half time score 24-14.

The Owls were still hot in the third, scoring 17 points off another field goal and touchdowns by Phil Goodman and Ferguson.

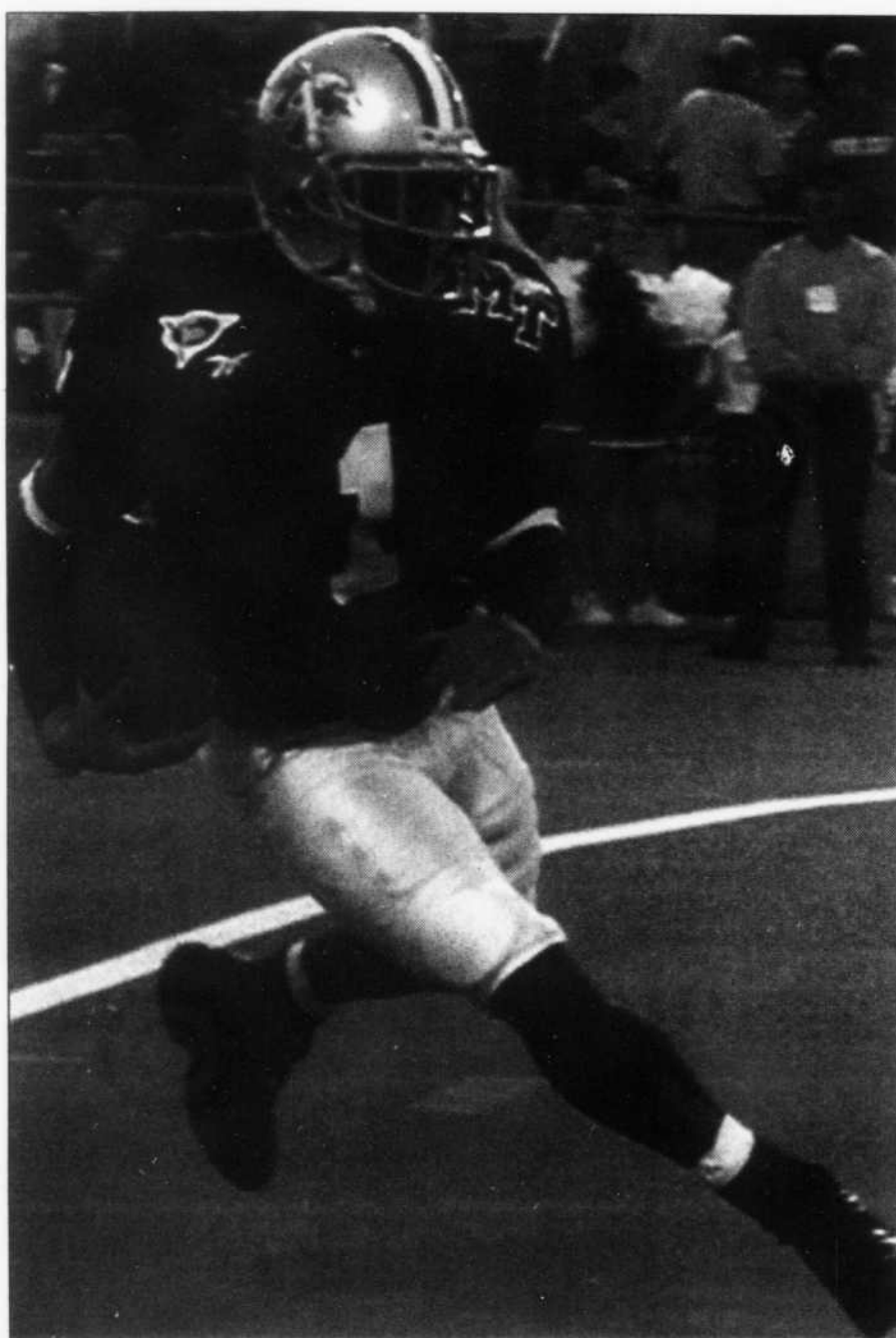
When the dust settled, the Blue Raiders found themselves in a huge hole, down 41-14 entering the fourth quarter.

The Blue Raiders struck first in the fourth quarter, as Gross scored from four yards out to cap a long drive. After the MT defense forced a punt, Marks threw his second touchdown pass of the evening to Jerrin Holt, making the score 41-28.

After the Blue Raiders failed to recover the onside kick, Davis kicked his final field goal from 42 yards, making the score 44-28.

Marks then led another scoring drive, this one taking just over two minutes. He capped the drive himself with a touchdown run, then converted the two point conversion with a pass to Wright, making the score 44-36.

The Blue Raiders made this ending another exciting one, as the onside kick was recovered and the offense had the ball inside the Temple 20-yard line with four chances to score. However, the Owl



Wide receiver Kerry Wright runs the ball against the Owls Saturday.

Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

defense held, as Marks' fourth down pass in the waning seconds of the game fell incomplete.

Despite the loss for the Blue Raiders, several players turned in impressive individual performances. In his first extensive action of the season, Marks was 10 of 14 passing for 150 yards and two touchdowns. Gross ran for 80 yards

and two touchdowns, while Kevin Davis helped the late comeback with a career high 91 yards.

Several defenders also played well, despite the high score. Brandon Lynch continued his stellar play, leading the team with seven tackles. Demetrios

See Temple, 10

Media shouldn't take credit for success

Are you serious?



Jonathan Long
Staff Columnist

Rush Limbaugh's comments showed how little football knowledge he possesses and opened eyes to the racism evident in the NFL. Limbaugh's stint as an ESPN analyst ended on Wednesday, following his comments made on ESPN's Sunday NFL Countdown.

Discussing Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb, Limbaugh said, "The media has been very desirous that a black quarterback do well, [that] black coaches and quarterbacks do well. There is a little hope invested in McNabb, and he got a lot of credit for the performance of this team that he didn't deserve. The defense carried this team."

Call him a bigot or a racist - Limbaugh touched on the racism that plagues the NFL.

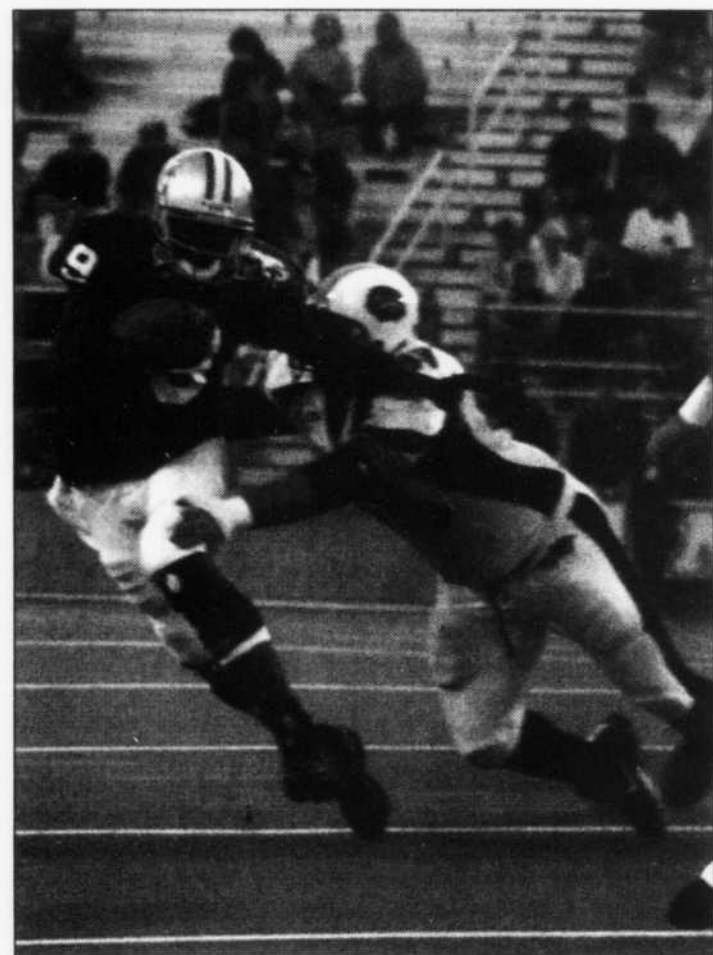
McNabb threw for 3,365 yards and 21 touchdowns in 2000, 3,233 and 25 touchdowns in 2001. In only 10 games last year he threw for 2,289 yards and 17 touchdowns. Those stats validate his three Pro Bowl appearances and his runner-up status in the league MVP voting in 2000. Not to mention he led his team to the last two NFC Championship games.

Limbaugh's resignation should not have been accepted by George Bodenheimer, President of ESPN and ABC Sports. As an opinions writer, I have the right to say what I feel about a given subject; the right to give my opinion. I am held accountable for that opinion.

Rush should be held accountable as well. He should have to stand up, be a man and explain his opinion. He accuses the media of being biased towards the success of black quarterbacks and coaches. Where is this media? If it exists, why are there are no black owners in the NFL and only three black coaches in a league of 32 teams?

Why is it that the league's first black coach, Art Shell, with a win percentage of 60 percent, has not gotten a coaching job since he stopped coaching the Raiders in 1994? Where was this media when Warren Moon went to the Canadian Football League because if he went directly to the NFL he would have been forced into changing to a position that fit his athleticism? Where were they when Charlie Ward, a Heisman Trophy quarterback at Florida State decided to enter the NBA draft because teams were going

See Media, 10



Quarterback Andrico Hines attempts to run the ball during the game against Temple Saturday.

Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

Team played like past game

Point of View



David Hunter
Staff Columnist

While watching the Middle Tennessee football team fall short in their comeback in Saturday night's 44-38 loss to Temple University, I thought I was having a flashback to 2001.

Ironically, next week the Blue Raiders open their conference portion of the schedule with New Mexico State coming to Floyd Stadium.

The last time the Aggies visited Floyd Stadium, they led MT by 24 points going into the fourth quarter.

However, thanks to the passing of Wes Counts, who went 13 of 16 for 218 yards, and receiving of Kendall Newson with seven receptions for 119 in the final quarter, the Blue Raiders won the game 39-

35.

The sad thing is I left the game early thinking it was over.

After jumping out to a 14-0 early in the game Saturday night, the Blue Raiders gave up 41 unanswered points because of three turnovers to the Owls.

Like in the comeback in 2001, the Blue Raiders had a left-handed single-caller wearing the jersey No.17. Instead of Wes Counts, it was Clint Marks who came in to replace the injured Andrico Hines. Marks was only in his second appearance for the Blue Raiders. The team got behind him and never gave up in trying to win their first game of the season.

The Blue Raiders got back on the board first when Eugene Gross ran the ball in from the four-yard line with 10:12 left in the game to cut the deficit to 41-21.

After an Owl punt, MT had the ball at the 50. Four plays later, Marks hit Jerrin Holt for a 36-yard touchdown pass with

7:36 left in the game to make the score 41-28.

TU added a 42-yard field goal with 6:05 left to increase the margin back to 16 points.

The Blue Raiders scored again with a Marks one-yard run with 4:21 to go in the game. Marks then found Kerry Wright in the end zone for the two-point conversion to make the score 44-36.

MT recovered the on-side kick with 4:21 remaining in the game at the 50. The Blue Raiders drove all the way to the TU six-yard line. However, the Owls tackled Kevin Davis for an eight-yard loss after a catch. Temple's defense held strong as they forced Marks into two straight incompleteness on third and fourth downs to seal their first victory of the season.

"We had some guys that made some big plays, there is no quit in these guys. These guys had just come off Georgia, Clemson, Missouri, and

See Loss, 10

MT kickers take two wins

By Jon Leffew
Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee soccer team picked up two important victories over the weekend – a key conference match up and a huge in-state game.

The team opened the weekend on Friday with a historic and exciting victory at home over Florida International University.

The victory marks the first time the team has beaten FIU, the first conference shutout and the first time the team has opened conference play with a victory.

"I really think this is the beginning of a new era of Middle Tennessee soccer," head coach Aston Rhoden said.

"This marks the first time we have beaten FIU and I hope it's the first of many to come."

Laura Miguez and Rebecca Rodriguez scored first half goals to give the Blue Raiders the 2-0 shutout.

The teams played a very physical match, as 47 total fouls were given, including two red cards during a scuffle between three players with just over eight minutes remaining in the contest.

However, the Blue Raider defense and goalie Danielle Perrault stayed strong in the second half.

Perrault finished the game with three saves.

The first goal of the contest came in the 13th minute, when Miguez fired a crossing shot off of the FIU goalie to give the Blue Raiders the 1-0 lead.

The goal by Rodriguez came with under a minute remaining in the first half, as she took the rebound of her own shot off the goalie once again for the final goal of the game.

The team continued its hot play two days later, traveling to Clarksville, Tenn., for a match up with in-state rival Austin Peay State University.

Taking advantage of a relaxed defense, the team put forth an offensive outburst on

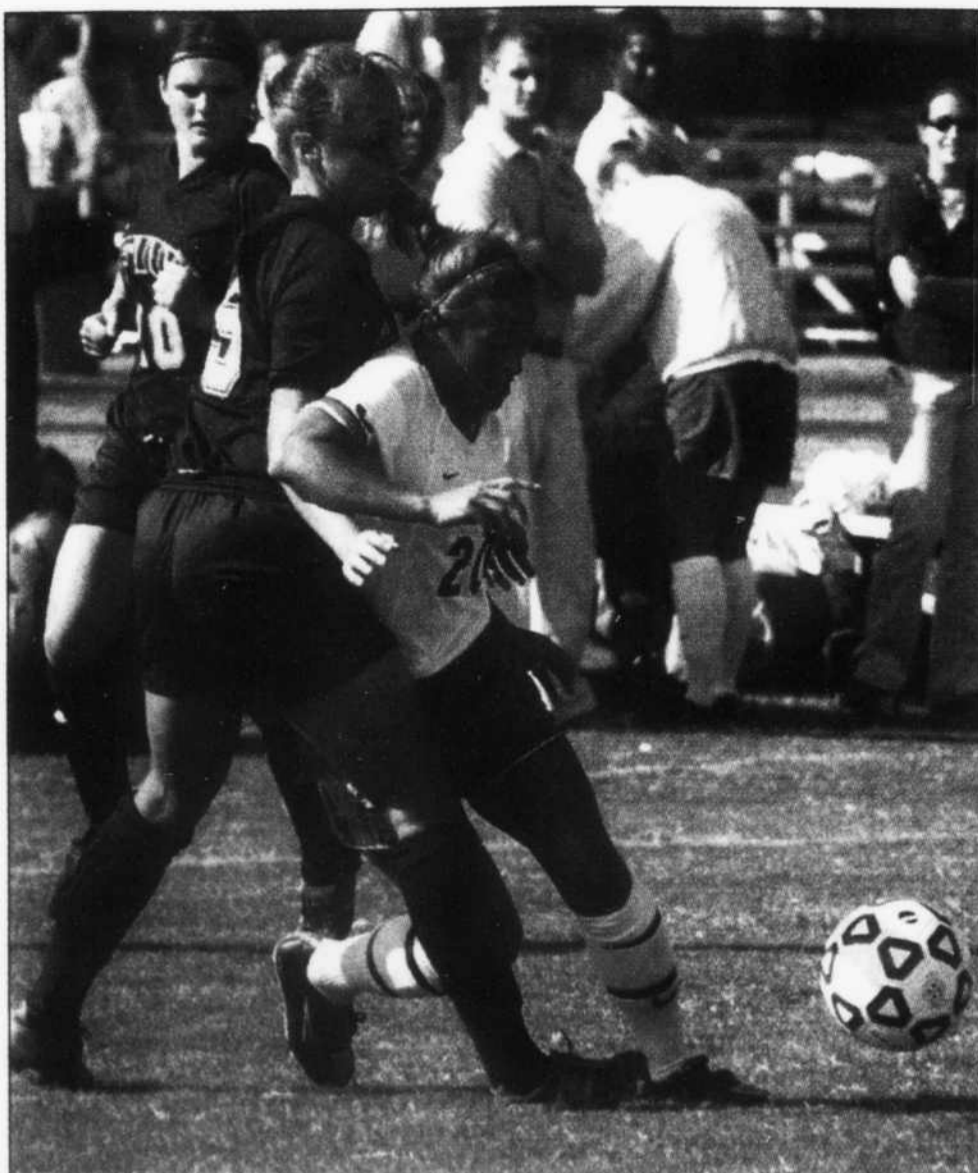


Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer
Junior Laura Miguez attempts to shake an FIU defender Friday afternoon.

the way to the 4-0 win.

The victory puts the Blue Raiders above .500, while knocking the Lady Govs to 2-8-1. Three goals were scored in a 2:39 span, as the Blue Raiders outshot the Lady Govs, 27-4.

Using a team effort, the Blue Raiders took advantage of a team that was reeling, despite the stellar play of APSU goalkeeper Sarah Broadbent, who came away with nine saves. ♦

Temple: First win of season

Continued from 8

Walker recorded a forced fumble and a fumble recovery, accounting for two turnovers forced by the Blue Raider defense.

"Despite the score, I thought our defense did some things today against a high powered offense and a good quarterback [in McGann]," McCollum said.

"Overall, we have to be pleased with the effort that the team showed, and we've got to execute and be ready to play against New Mexico State next week."

Next Saturday will mark the team's first SBC game, as kickoff at 2 p.m. at Floyd Stadium. ♦

Loss: Defense played well

Continued from 8

they're still fighting their tails off," MT head coach Andy McCollum said.

This is the third near miss of the season, but the rest of the Sun Belt Conference better take notice of the Blue Raiders.

They could be SBC champs.

Remember 2001? Eventual co-champion University of North Texas started the year 0-5 and ended up in the New Orleans Bowl.

Next week will go a long way in deciding if the Blue Raiders are contenders or pretenders in the SBC. ♦

Media: McNabb earned spot

Continued from 8

switch him to defensive back? But yet, the media is the reason why black quarterbacks are excelling in the NFL.

In a column from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the author cited in the latest figures from the National Association of Black Journalists, there are approximately 1,500 daily newspapers. In 2003, there were 4,500 to 5,000 sports columnists with the freedom to edit-

rialize at their discretion – and 23 of them are black.

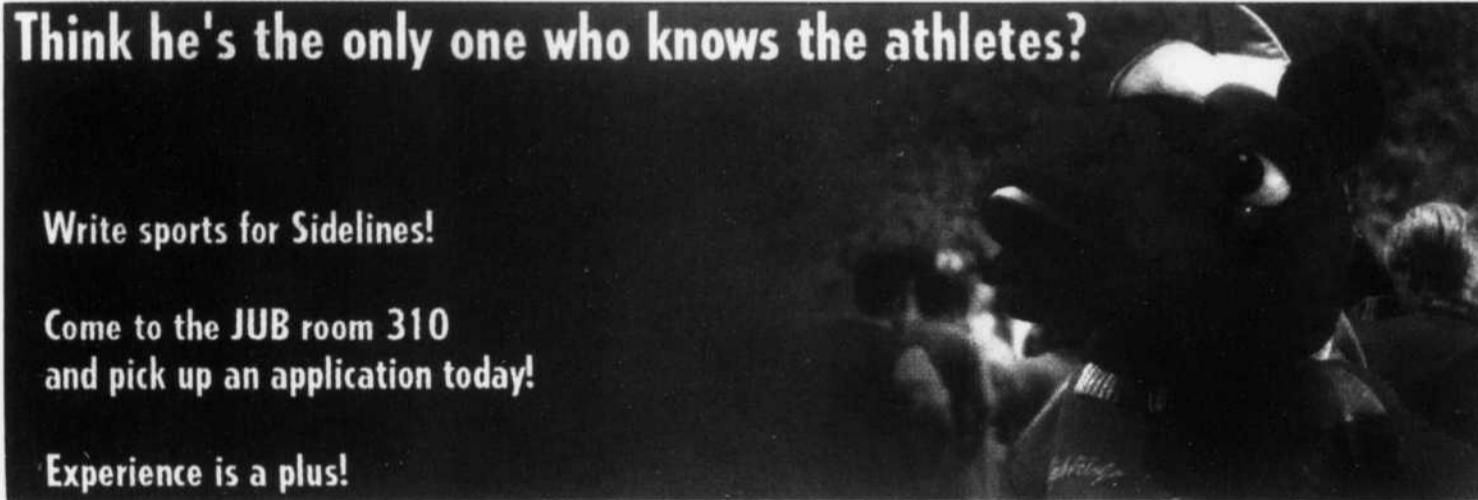
McNabb told ESPN that the comments were "shocking." They should not have been. Rush Limbaugh makes similar if not worse comments on his radio show about such topics as affirmative action and minority culture. His mistake here was that he made these comments in a media where black people not only have a voice, but also don't listen with deaf ears. ♦

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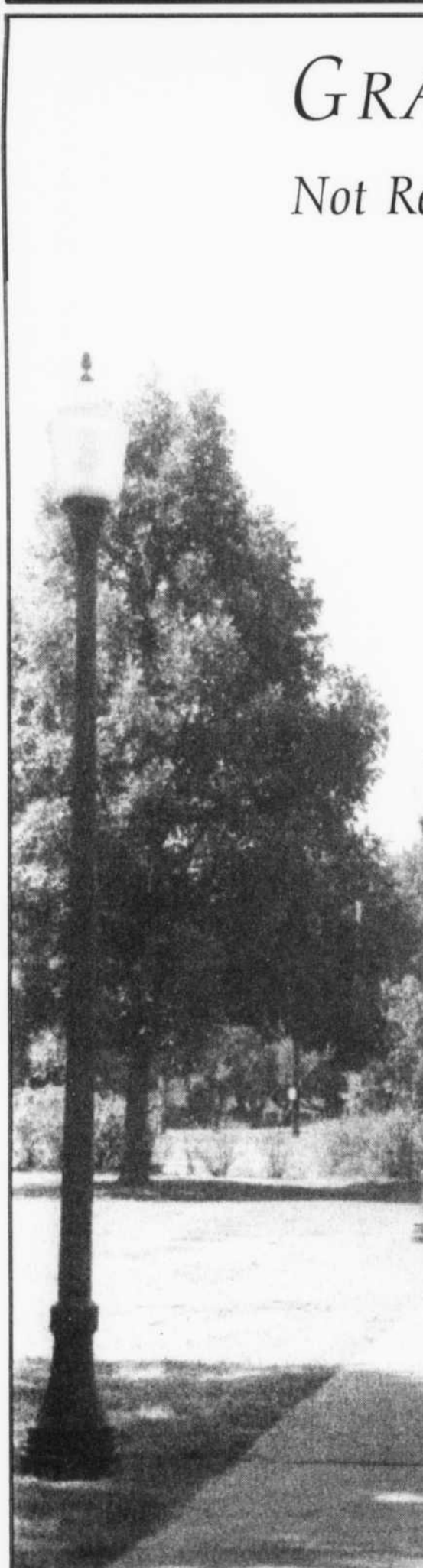
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GRADUATING? Not Returning to MTSU?

The Housing and Residential Life Office is currently accepting housing cancellations for the Spring 2004 semester from students who are graduating from MTSU and will no longer be taking additional classes, and from those students who will not be returning to school at MTSU after the fall semester. The deadline for submitting cancellations for prepayment refund is Wednesday, October 15, 2003.

Requests for cancellations must be submitted in writing to the Housing Office in the Keathley University Center, room 300 or mailed to Box 6, MTSU.



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Middle Tennessee State University
SIDELINES
Monday, October 6, 2003

MURFREESBORO,
TENNESSEE

HOMECOMING SPECIAL SECTION



The hit parade

Organizations building
floats for homecoming

See page 4 for story

ALSO INSIDE

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- MTSU sees stars with Hollywood homecoming, page 3
- Tradition goes back 50 years, page 3
- Costume ball to dress up for charity, page 5
- Burnt Orange Peel, page 7

Schedule of homecoming events

Monday, Oct. 6

• **7:30-9:30p.m.** Charity concert by students will be held in the Wright Music Hall.

Thursday, Oct. 9

• **8-10 p.m.** Costume ball will be held in the James Union Building, Tennessee Room.

Friday, Oct. 10

• **11 a.m.** Annual Homecoming Golf Tournament at the Indian Hills Golf Course. Cost is \$75 per person, includes lunch, trophies for the winners and prizes. Call the Alumni Relations Office at 1-800-533-6878 for information.

• **5 p.m.** Chili cook-off at Murphy Center.

• **6 p.m.** Pep rally at Murphy Center.

• **7:30 p.m.** Pigskin Pregame Event at the Foundation Reception House, 324 W. Thompson Lane. The cost is \$15 in advance, or \$20 at the door, featuring a pig roast by Slick Pig. Assorted beverages will be provided. Proceeds will benefit the Rutherford County MTSU Alumni Scholarship Fund. Call the Alumni Relations Office at 800-533-6878 for information.

Saturday, Oct. 11

• **8:30 a.m.** Alumni and Friends open house. Stop by the Alumni Center for a continental breakfast before the parade.

• **8:30 a.m.** The Jennings A. Jones College of Business open house in the Business Aerospace Building, SunTrust Room. Call 898-2764 for more information.

• **10 a.m.** Homecoming Parade. Enjoy the annual MTSU Homecoming Parade with Bob McLean as grand marshal.

Complimentary bleacher seating will be located in front of the Alumni Center on Tennessee Boulevard. The parade will start on Maney Avenue, travel onto East Main Street, turn left onto Tennessee Boulevard, turn right onto Faulkenberry and end up on the Loop.

• **Noon-1:30 p.m.** Homecoming barbecue in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. The barbecue is sponsored by the MTSU Alumni Relations Office and the Blue Raider Athletic Association. The prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of 10. Blue Raider Athletic Association members will get complimentary admission with membership card.

Blue Bolt Tailgate Contest- Two categories-alumni and students. Charge is \$10 entry fee per team. Win \$250 and a trophy. Celebrity judges will look for good food, good decoration and great school spirit as they judge the competition. All entered teams are required to tailgate in the Loop. The Loop (grassy area between Peck Hall and Cope Administration Building) is being designated for alumni and student tailgating. Music, MTSU cheerleaders, Band of Blue pep band and more will be in store as fans prepare to cheer the Blue Raiders against New Mexico State. Winning teams will be presented on the field at the football game.

• **2 p.m.** Homecoming game kickoff- Blue Raiders vs. New Mexico State.

• **All Homecoming Week** Get a free T-shirt at the T-shirt Swap. Bring another school's T-shirt to the Alumni Center and get a MTSU T-shirt free while supplies last. All T-shirts received will be donated to charity. ♦

HOMECOMING SPECIAL SECTION Staff

editor in chief Patrick Chinnery
managing editor Amanda Maynard
photo editor Brandon Morrison
section editor Kristin Hall
section designer Lindsey Turner

On the cover: Photo by James Harris | Staff Photographer Ricky Lundgren, from Beta Theta Pi, drills a screw into the frame of a homecoming float while Mike Carlson, from Tau Kappa Epsilon, and Chad Robinson, a BTP pledge, brace it.

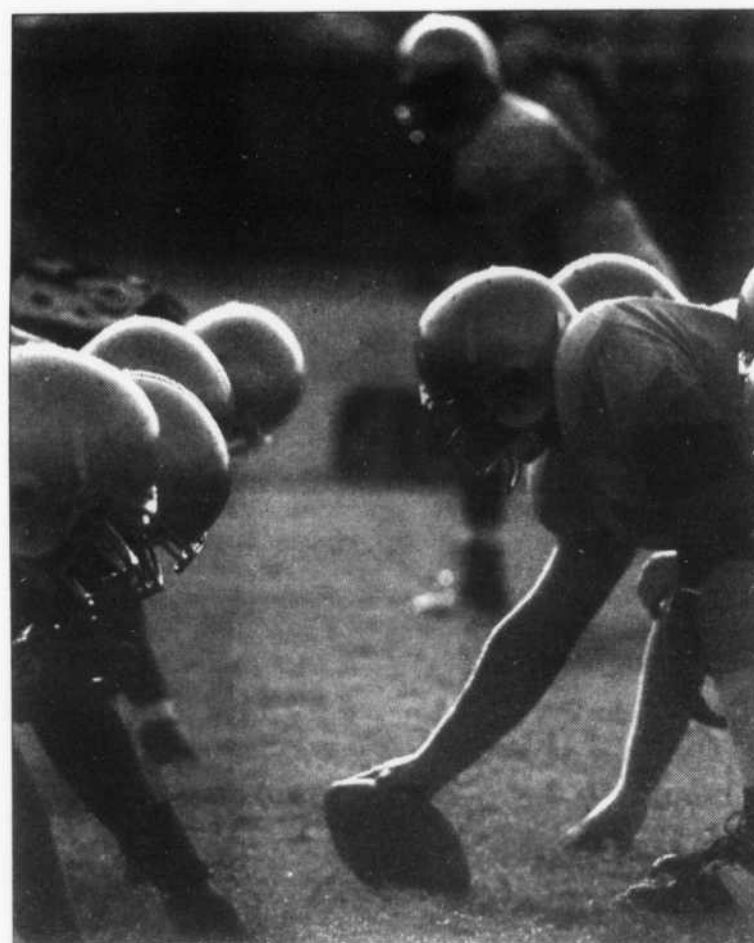


Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer MT Blue Raiders dig in for another practice, preparing for this week's homecoming game against the New Mexico Aggies.



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MTSU sees stars with Hollywood homecoming

By Stephanie Hill
Staff Writer

Saturday's game against the New Mexico State Aggies marks the end of the 2003 Hollywood homecoming festivities. Planning for this year's week began last June when the Homecoming Committee had their first meeting and decided on this year's theme.

"We have about 40-plus people on the Homecoming Committee this year with jobs duties that vary from a director of an activity to a logistical team," said Homecoming Director Leah Beth Bean. "Any person who was interested on being part of the committee was accepted. All you had to do was fill out an application at the SGA office," she said.

Bean was appointed Homecoming Director in May and began planning for this year's festivities that day.

"I think the hardest part of this job is trying to please everyone and only having a week to be able to do that," she said.

See **Hollywood**, 6

Tradition goes back 50 years

By Wendy Caldwell
Staff Writer

For more than 50 years, MTSU has held an annual celebration of homecoming.

Although there is no written record of the history of MTSU's homecoming festivities and their origins, MTSU has other records of the event.

The *Midlander*, MTSU's yearbook, has various accounts of past Homecomings.

While yearbook editions dated 1926 through 1937 show no evidence of homecoming festivities, the 1938 *Midlander* contains several photographs and references to a "teachers homecoming." That year's football game ended in a tie with Tennessee Tech.

The next year, homecoming was held on Thanksgiving in several inches of snow

That homecoming also featured a parade and a pep rally.

In the 1941 *Midlander*, photographs of a king and queen were added to the homecoming page.

Thus, the tradition of MTSU's homecoming began to take shape. Each year, a parade accompanied the football game, and each year various student organizations on campus participated by making signs and constructing floats.

As the years progressed, the parade began to more closely resemble the current homecoming parade. The 1960s saw the addition of fraternities and sororities on campus.

These organizations became involved in homecoming festivities, adding floats to the parade and nominees for king and queen.

The parade itself has

evolved throughout the course of MTSU history.

Earlier floats consisted of cars transporting students holding signs. Other floats included horse-drawn carriages.

Later homecomings exhibited more elaborate floats. These floats were built on trailers usually pulled by trucks.

The frames were made of a combination of wood and chicken wire. Colored pomp (thin squares of tissue paper, usually rolled into balls) covered the floats, creating the look of today's homecoming floats.

Each year homecoming has a theme, and various teams compete against one another in categories such as fight song, parade floats and banners.

See **History**, 5

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The hit parade:

Organizations building floats for homecoming



By **Tekendra Fayne**
Staff Writer

Building a float for the homecoming parade can be as stressful as it is exciting and fun.

"My schedule is so busy," said Christy Stonecipher, a sophomore and an Alpha Delta Pi member who is helping to build the organization's float this year.

"I didn't leave from designing the float to about 2 a.m. this morning," Stonecipher said.

ADP last year swept the homecoming awards and won overall with banner, fight song, and float design.

"Alpha Delta Pi takes this serious," Stonecipher said.

The 2004 homecoming theme is "Hollywood." Ideas can range from classical movies to recent ones, props used in movies, actors and actresses and memorable movie songs.

The theme was encouraged by the Student Government Association to motivate organizations to be creative and to create a sense of school spirit

and unity to support MTSU football.

Some of the themes for homecoming floats are "Back to the Future," "The Godfather," "Harry Potter," "Lord of the Rings," "S.W.A.T.," "Star Wars," "The Lion King" and more.

The deadline for all official entry forms and fees was Sept. 8.

Groups and organizations that wanted to work together had to note that in their official forms. There were four mandatory meetings and all times and deadlines were strictly enforced.

Each group and organization will be judged in the same group category. The winners will be announced at the end of third quarter at the football game.

The organizations have a chance to appeal if they feel the judging is unfair, but appeals must be in writing to the associate dean for student life within 24 hours.

Due to incidents at last year's parade, the last rule is the no alcohol policy. Because MTSU is a dry campus, this

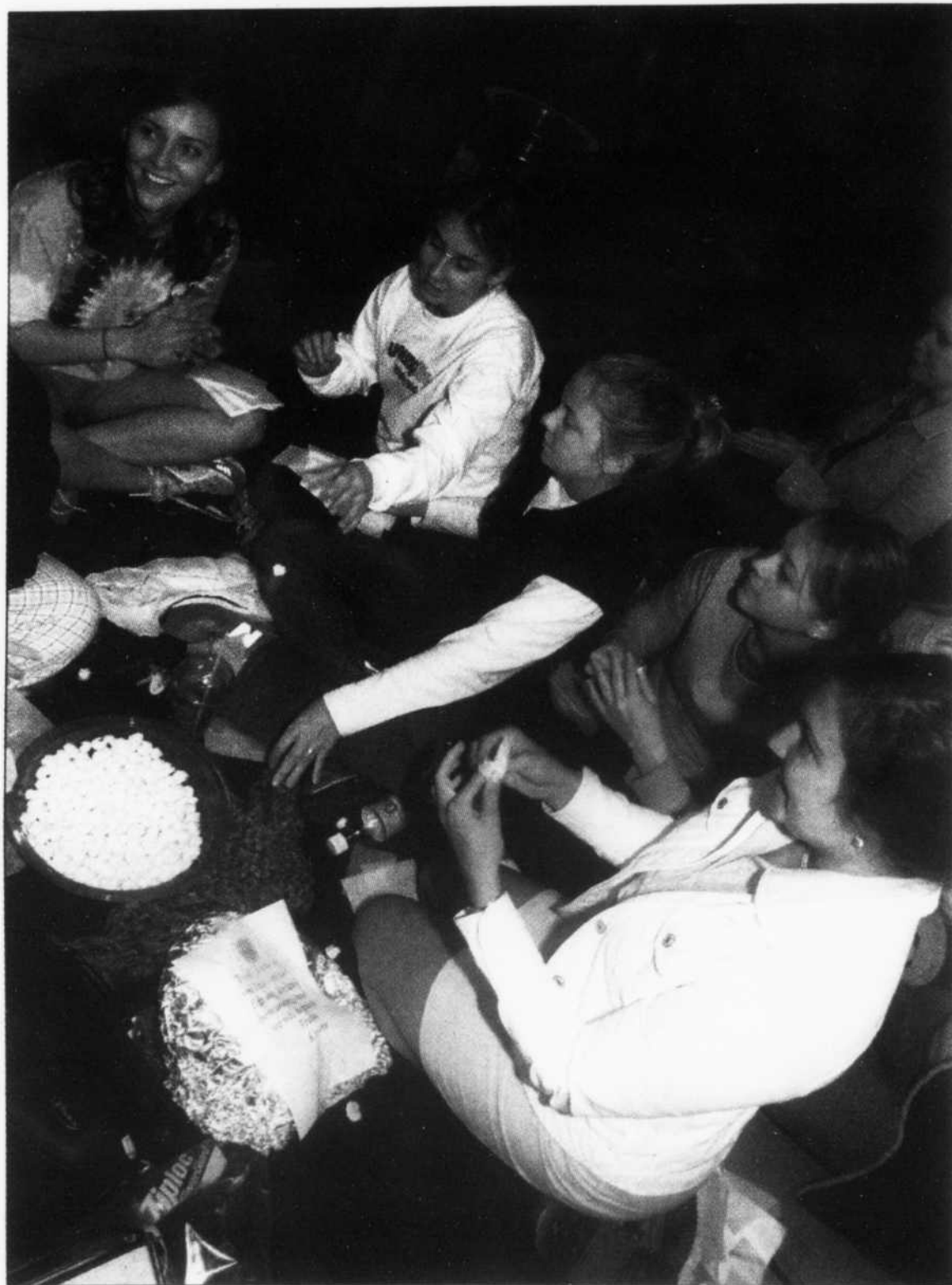


Photo by James Harris | Staff Photographer

(Above) The women of Alpha Delta Pi create balls of tissue paper called pomp for their homecoming parade float. The parade will be Oct. 11 at 10 a.m.

(Left) Ricky Lundgren and Paul DeMotte from Beta Theta Pi build the float frame.

rule is strictly enforced. Any organization caught drinking or holding any alcoholic beverage during the parade will be disqualified.

The parade will begin at 10 a.m. Oct. 11, starting on Maney Avenue.

All parade entries must be at the intersection of Maney Avenue and Roberts Street by 8 a.m.

The floats must be two-sided, viewable from both sides. Also, for safety purposes, the floats must have at least one working fire extinguisher on board.

During the float competition, judges will be throughout the parade judging spirit as well as the float's theme and its purpose.

Members are encouraged to

be spirited in the parade to the end at Faulkenberry Drive.

For many student organizations, designing and building a float is the best part about participating in homecoming.

"We bleed this stuff," Stonecipher said. "But I love it. We meet so many people and have so much fun." ♦

Costume ball to dress up for charity

Students go as actors, singers to raise money

By Melissa Coker
Staff Writer

Hollywood is this year's homecoming theme, so the Student Government Association decided to celebrate with a celebrity costume ball.

"The costume ball will allow students a chance to dress as their favorite actor or actress and enjoy a night of entertainment together as a student body," said Jackie Ingram, homecoming committee adviser and coordinator of student organizations.

Students and student organizations will participate in the first-ever event, which

benefits the American Heart Association. It will be held Thursday in the James Union Building's Tennessee Room from 8-10 p.m.

Armbands can be purchased in advance through the SGA office in the Keathley University Center, Room 208, for \$10 and provide admission to the costume ball, fight song competition and chili cook-off.

The donation is not mandatory for the competition or cook-off but does guarantee preferred seats. Tickets purchased at the door will be a \$5 donation to each event, according to Ingram. There is no admission to the ball without an armband.

"I am really excited about homecoming because of the variety of increased student participation," said Homecoming Director Leah

Beth Bean. "There are about 52 student organizations participating in this year's events and half are non-Greek. Last year, there were only two of those."

Costume ideas aren't limited to actors or actresses. Musicians, singers, movie characters, political leaders, couples and groups are all fair game. Events during the ball will include "Cell Block Tango from *Chicago*," a Hollywood hunk contest, a costume contest, performances by Sonny and Cher and a diva dance mix.

The SGA hopes that MTSU students will feel a great sense of pride knowing they are giving time and money to the community. SGA will present a check from students to the AHA at the homecoming football game during halftime. The American Heart Walk will take place Oct. 26 at 2 p.m. on the

MTSU campus.

"Students' contribution to the American Heart Walk might help an MTSU alumni or even themselves one day," Ingram said.

All homecoming events revolve around past students returning to campus, current students showing their Blue Raider pride and future students taking a first taste of college.

Bean, along with senior David Scott, chair of the costume ball committee, have worked since May to ensure the ball yields a night of MTSU spirit, laughs and entertainment.

For more information contact the SGA office at 898-2464, stop by KUC room 208, or call Bean at 898-2537. ♦

History

Continued from 3

However, homecoming has not always been theme-oriented.

The first homecoming theme was the "Roaring Twenties" in 1973. The court rode in a vintage Ford from the 1920s that year.

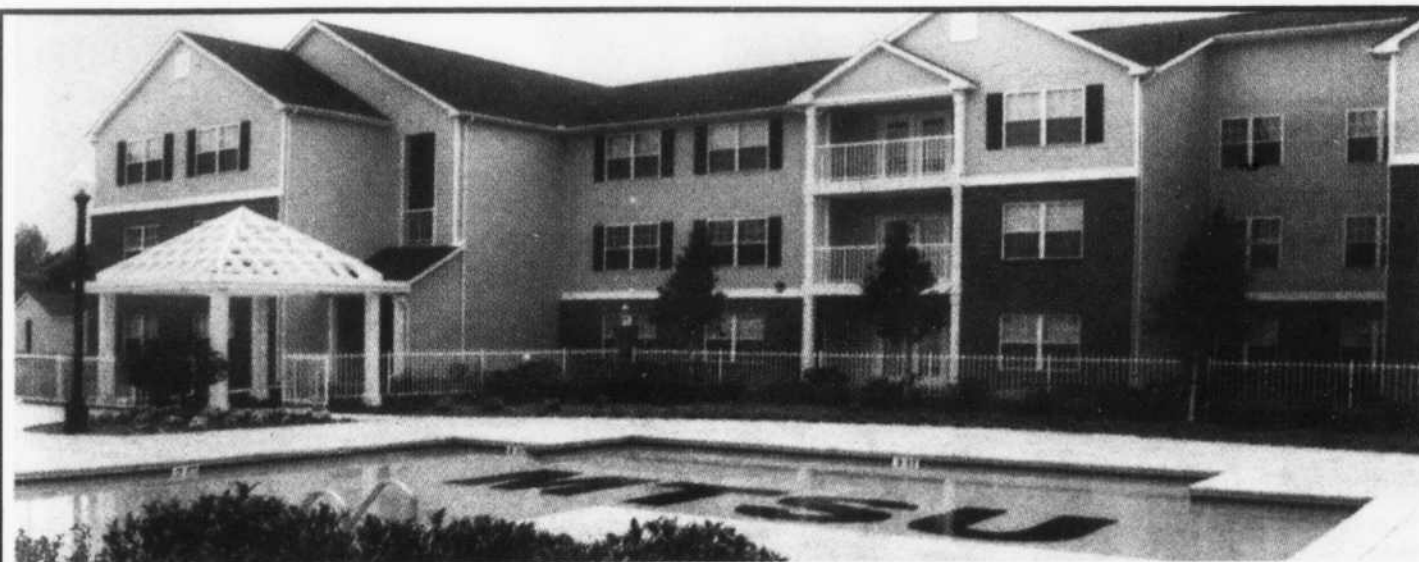
That year was also the first record in the *Midlander* of winners for homecoming.

The yearbook cited the fraternity Sigma Chi as winners of the float contest.

Homecoming continues to be an annual celebration at MTSU.

The Alumni Center sponsors the event, which will honor the class of 1953 this year.

For a complete list of homecoming events, visit www.mtalumni.com. ♦



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Hollywood: Fight song, parade most competitive events

Continued from 3

"The Homecoming Committee is the greatest committee I have ever worked with and they have made the entire experience so wonderful and exciting," she continued.

Homecoming events began on Oct. 3, with the fight song competition held in the

Murphy Center.

Family weekend, combined with the start of homecoming, included a tent city competition where organizations could decorate a block of grass in Peck forest for tailgating purposes for the game versus Temple.

Other staple events, such as the float competition, the car-

nival and the chili cook-off are also being held this week. See the schedule of events on pg. 2.

"Fight song and the parade competition are the most competitive events that we have," said Bean.

"Since they are annual events, people work very hard and spend a lot of time so they are able to express their school spirit," Bean said.

The money raised during the charity concert on Monday

will benefit the American Heart Association.

"I think it will be very rewarding to everyone to be able to see what everyone worked for go to a great cause makes it all worthwhile," Bean said.

Approximately 60 campus organizations are participating in the festivities this year; 23 of them are non-Greek organizations.

This year's homecoming

advisor, Jackie Ingram, has been helping the student committee throughout the process.

"She has been wonderful," Bean said.

"Her role is to correct us when we are wrong but also be the first one to tell us we are doing something great," Bean said.

"She helps out when we need her and makes sure our logistics are in order." ♦

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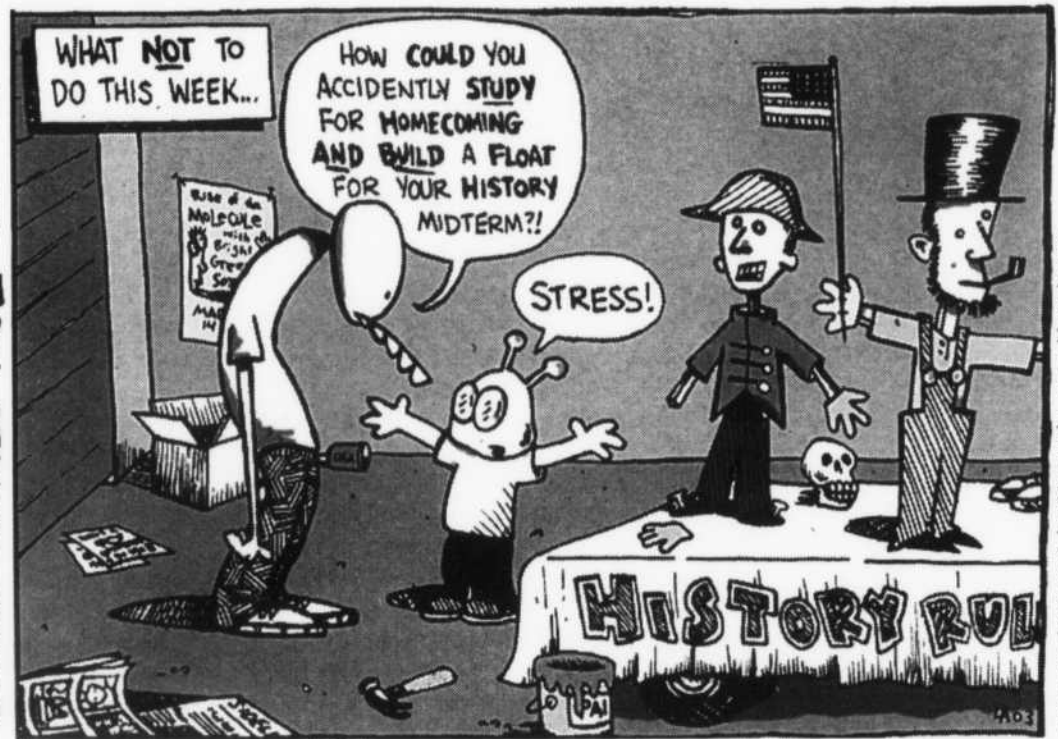
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L. *prurigo*
achorous], 1. h
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-o-nas), *adj.* [*Fr.* *prurigo* < *prurire*,
prurigo < *prurire*,
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tense itching.
adj. of or having p
), n. [*L.* *prurire*, to
without eruption.
2. Prussian.
) n. a former state
previously a kin
on), *adj.* 1.
tc. 2. like
itary caste
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member of a Le
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stant of Pr
West

...
the Old Testament, consisting of 150 psalms.
Psalms: abbreviated *Ps.*, *Psa.*
Psal-ter (sôl'têr), n. [*AS.* *psalter*, *saltier* < *L.* *psalterium*,
Gr. *psalterion*, stringed instrument < *psallein*, to
twitch; replacing *ME.* *psalter*, *sauter* < *Anglo-Fr.*
sauter (O*Fr.* *psalter*) < *L.*]. 1. the Book of Psalms.
2. [also *p-*], a version of the Psalms for use in religious
services.
psal-te-ri-um (sôl-têr'i-um), n. [*pl.* *PSALTERIA* (-ôl-
see *PSALTER*: so called from the appearance of the
folds it contains], the omasum, or third stomach
of cud-chewing animals; manyplies.
psal-ter-y (sôl'têr-i, sôl'tr-i), n. [*pl.* *PSALTERIES* (-
triz)]. [*ME.* *psalterie*; O*Fr.* *sautere*, *psalterie*; *L.* *psalterium*; see
PSALTER]. 1. an ancient stringed
instrument with a shallow sound
box, played by plucking the strings
with the fingers or a plectrum.
2. [*P-*], the Psalter.
psam-mite (sam'it), n. [*Fr.* < *Gr.*
psammos, sand], sandstone.
psam-mit-ic (sa-mit'ik), *adj.* [*<*
psammite + *-ic*], of or consisting
of sandstone.
pse-phite (sê'fit), n. [*<* *Gr.* *psêphos*,
a pebble; + *-ite*], conglomerate or
fragmental rock.
pseud-, pseudo-
pseud-, pseudonym.
pseu-dax-ia (sôo-dak'sis), n. [*pseud-*
+ *axis*], in botany, a sympodium.
pseu-de-pig-ra-pha (sôo'do-pig'ra-fa, sôo'do-pig'ra-
fa), n. [*Mod. L.*; *Gr.* *pseudepigrapha*, neut. *pl.* of
pseudepigraphos, having a false title < *pseudos*, false,
epigraphos, to inscribe; *epi*, upon + *graphein*, to
write], writings falsely ascribed to Biblical charac-
ters.
pseu-de-pig-ra-phous (sôo'do-pig'ro-fas, sôo'do-pig'ro-
fos), *adj.* [*Gr.* *pseudepigraphos*], of, or having the name
of, pseudepigrapha; spurious.
pseu-do (sôo'dô, sô'dô), *adj.* [*ME.*; see *PSEUDO-*],
false; spurious; pretended; counterfeit.
pseu-do- (sôo'dô, sô'dô), [*Gr.* *pseudeo* < *psêdein*, to
< *psêdein*, to deceive], a combining form meaning
pretended, sham, as in *pseudonym*. 2. *mis-*
spurious, as in *pseudepigrapha*. 3. *doubtful*,
similar to (a specified thing), as in *pseudopod*.
4. *relating to the reality, illusory*. 5. *illusory*.
6. *related form of (the specified word)*.
7. *see PSEUDO-*.
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