

SNIDELINES

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Walker lured to Alabama by turtle bribe

Advice columnist Judson to take helm

By Bob Woodward / staff

After recently removing his name from the list of candidates for the president's office of the University of Alabama, MTSU president James Walker has had a change of heart and decided to take the position, leaving the presidential position at MTSU vacant.

Walker said Alabama's original offer was not tempting enough to make him leave MTSU, but they called back and offered to change the name of the sports teams from the Crimson Tide to the Hoppin' Turtles, in honor of Walker's collection of turtles.

"I love Murfreesboro, but when they called back about the name change, what could I say? I just love

turtles and the idea that I could spread the turtles' word throughout the SEC was just too enticing to pass up."

Walker's sudden departure left MTSU with the difficult task of finding a new president.

After considering hundreds of candidates based upon experience, merit and lengthy personal interviews, the university settled upon *Sidelines* columnist Dr. Father Judson.

Judson, who is a graduate of Grundy County Community College, has spent the last several months giving advice to the Middle Tennessee area via his syndicated advice column. Judson said he had decided it was about time to expand his horizons and try something new, when the



Judson

opportunity to run the university presented itself.

"They called me up and asked me to send in my resume," Judson said.

"I told them I didn't have any idea how to run a university and they told me they were really desperate and that it, oh wait ... they told me not to say that. Is that recorder on?"

Judson said he plans to take the school in radical new directions for the future. Some ideas already in the works include the addition of a campus contact chess team, clothing optional dormitories and enough parking spaces so that everyone can actually

drive their cars to school.

However, Judson is most proud of the new courses he is designing for the philosophy department.

"Those Greek guys, you know, that one guy who drank Drano or something and those other ones, well, they had some good ideas for their time, but I want to bring us up to date," Judson said.

The first course, a 900 level class slated to be added to the curriculum this fall, is called "Galileo, Schmalileo - the Earth Revolves Around Judson."

The course teaches that the only way to true enlightenment is to achieve "Judsonness," a state rivaling nirvana.

To reach this state, one must undergo numerous appearance changes, usually done with ink, and pray in the direction of Grundy County 18 times daily.

By Judson's definition, Bucksnot, Tenn., is the true center of the universe and all must make a pilgrimage to there once in life.

"I'm very excited about the class. Luckily, we will be using my own book as the text," Judson said. "I'm glad, because I lost my shirt when I published the book, but the 250 percent increase in price should help me make some money back."

Another proposed course involves Judson's theory of reincarnation, which states that all people have lived past lives and that all of them were at one point in time a member of Judson's family.

University officials were unavailable for comment about their decision, but Judson assured us that they were thrilled to have him. ●

New dormitory plans unveiled

By Ralph Wiggum / staff

Housing Director Deb Sells unveiled the first part of her three-phase plan for expanding on campus housing Friday.

This first phase of the Master Plan for Inter-Campus Living Space is currently in the design and research phase with one prototype in operation. The prototype was built next to the Keathley University Center near the grease and sludge dump used by the Grill.

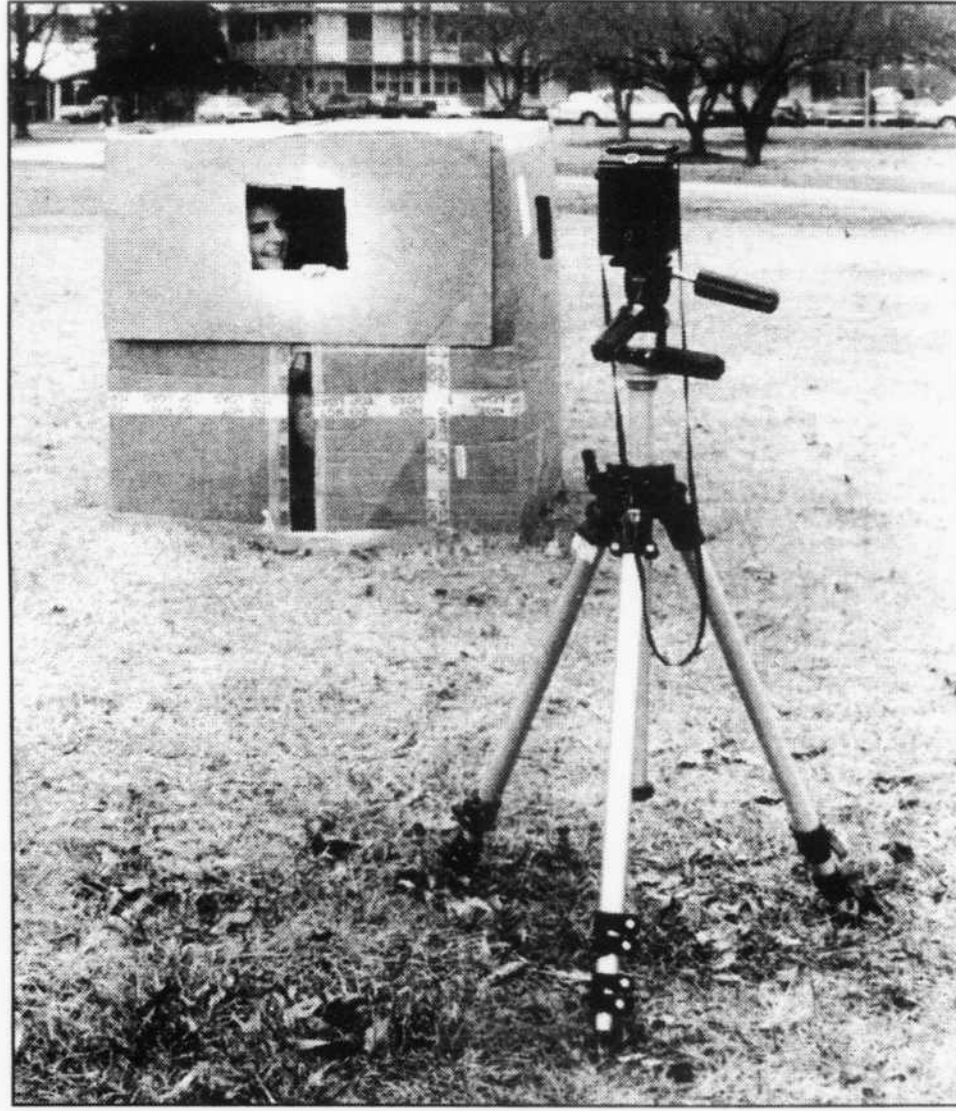
The idea is to create "efficiency" dormitories that are easily assembled and provided at a low cost to students. The efficiencies are made of cardboard boxes that the university no longer uses - unless Vice President for Student Affairs Bob LaLance wants to use them to play "LaHouse" in his office.

"That's the beauty of this whole project," Sells said. "Once we are finished with a big cardboard box, we just throw it at the kids instead of throwing it away."

Sells also said some students found their dorms too large and that the new style could provide a sense of choice. She used the I-A football move as an analogy for how such "sensations and perceptions of a better life are established."

President Walker, now in his last semester at MTSU, said students living in these dormitories should have a better understanding of their future life.

"We believe this a way to prepare students for their living conditions after graduation," Walker said. "MTSU is saying to its students: 'toughen up, the job market for your demograph really sucks.'" ●



Annie Liebowitz / staff

Marsha Brady, a resident assistant, demonstrates the new cardboard dormitories at a press conference last Monday. The dorms, part of a three-phase plan to expand campus housing, are the proposed solution to the overflow problem experienced last fall.

MTSU pro-lifers offer anti-abortion street fair

By Kent Brockman / staff

In an attempt to boost slacking membership, the MTSU campus chapter of Pro-Lifer USA (PLUSA) will be offering an anti-abortion street fair and dance on April 1 in front of the Keathley University Center.

"We want the students to know that just because a person is against an abortion doesn't mean they can't make crappy jewelry and play hacky-sack just like everybody else," said PLUSA president Cravin Buchanan.

The street fair promises to have several booths located along the sidewalks in front of the KUC. Among the booths will be one with a couple of sorority girls who sit at a table, say "Hi" to their friends and look at you as if you really were dog crap stuck to the bottom of their expensive shoes. There will also be plenty of games to keep students busy during the day. Some games expected to be a big

hit include pin-the-blame-on-the-school-system, crazy condom checkers, and a couple of sorority girls letting people hit them in the face with whip cream while they look at you as if you really were dog crap stuck to the bottom of their expensive shoes.

"We want the students to know that just because a person is against an abortion doesn't mean they can't make crappy jewelry and play hacky-sack just like everybody else."

Cravin Buchanan
PLUSA President

Not everyone is excited about the street fair, however. Harold Ness, president of Hell-No-Hetro, the campus gay and lesbian student union, said, "We really aren't too excited about this street fair and dance. None of us are going. I don't think my lover and I ever have to worry about having an abortion anytime soon. Besides, half of the membership in PLUSA aren't allowed in the dance first place."

Music at the dance will be

Please see FAIR on page 2

Grill changes menu to avoid charges of discrimination

By Iggy Pulitzer / staff

Facing an increasing amount of pressure from students, grill officials have announced the changing of certain products names. Starting April 1, 1996, the grill's "Raider Burger" will be known as the "Old Blue Burger."

"We want the students to know that we are looking out for their interests," said grill spokesperson, Hugh Jorgan. "The name 'Raider Burger' has raised complaints from several members of the pirate community."

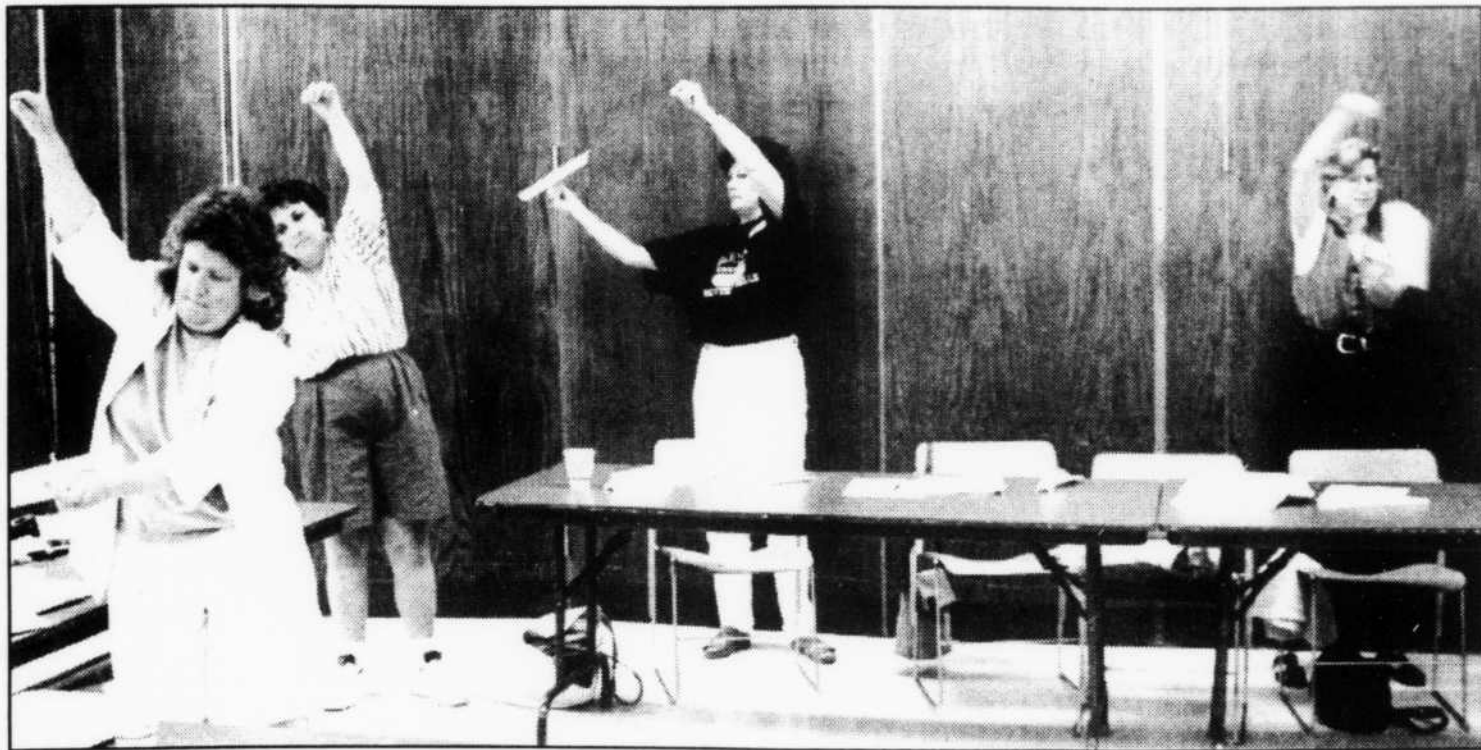
"We received a long list of charges from the Pirate Action Committee, stating that ground beef would never have lasted on long sea journeys, therefore it is historically inaccurate and unfair to assume that raiders, pirates or any seafaring person would have enjoyed the luxury of a burger. The PAC suggested instead we sell rum drinks and name them the Raider

Hooter. After serious consideration and student polling, we decided to name our famous grilled burgers after the campus' lovable and hilarious mascot, Old Blue."

"The burgers are not going to be made from dog meat or anything like that," Jorgan continued to ramble, "we are just naming the burger after a lovable and hilarious dog named Old Blue. That's why it is called the Old Blue Burger. It's still made from 100% grade 'A' British beef."

At press time, no word had come from any animal rights groups.

Other changes coming to the grill include almost FREE BEVERAGE REFILLS, a three percent discount on all vegetable purchases over \$3 (excluding cheese substitute-covered items), bread sticks that are microwaved longer to (hopefully) reduce the sponge-like texture, and lard extract smeared in greater quantities on the windows of the smoking section. ●



Ron Jeremy / staff infection

MTSU dance troupe Blue Moves performs the classic hit "YMCA" at the KUC Theater Karaoke night.

FEATURES

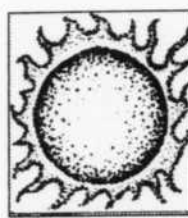
10 easy steps for growing your own dorm dope Page 1

WEATHER

MON
mild locust showers
High: -14
Low: -69



TUE
boils and frog plague
High: 74
Low: 73



WED
scattered damnations
High: 98
Low: 3



SPORTS

Patino, Fowler to discuss b-ball coaching position Page 18

If you can't beat them, lick them on the butt



Black Eyed Pea solves your problems

Dear Black Eyed Pea,

I am having problems at my workplace. I work at a fast food restaurant and my supervisor threatened to fire me because I don't wash my hands often enough. I have tried to explain to him that the quality of the food is not going to be diminished by a little dirt on my hands, since the chicken isn't really chicken and I won't disclose what is the main ingredient in the secret sauce. However, he hasn't been very responsive to my attempts to improve the situation. What should I do?

Urchin Child

Dear Urchin Child,

When will some people learn that hygiene is an overrated concept? I suggest you try to make a pact with your supervisor. Do what I do: lick him. Think how well all dogs that lick each other get along and if he still complains about your hygiene deficiency, explain to him that there are fewer germs in a dog's butt than in the average human's mouth. If that doesn't work, do what I do when someone makes me mad: pee on his shoes.

Good luck!
Black Eyed Pea

Dear Black Eyed Pea,

I am just finishing my freshman year and have fallen victim to the legendary "Freshman 15." I

suppose all those late night pizzas and 12-packs of Bud took their toll on me. I thought I was getting enough exercise (I have a rigorous nightly regimen of speed-walking to the bathroom and back repeatedly, especially on Beer Night), but all my hard work could not keep my weight down. How can I get rid of this weight?

Bob

Dear Bob,

Your problem is far from uncommon. Countless numbers of students gain weight after moving away and starting school. A little change in your diet is all that is required to get yourself back into shape. I too had a weight problem, but I came across a wonderful diet that has helped me maintain my figure. I learned to exist on plastic bottles and venetian blinds and complement my diet with a disciplined workout, consisting of chasing fat college students for approximately 13 hours a day. Hope this works as well for you as it did for me.

Sincerely,
Black Eyed Pea

*Miss Pea is neither a licensed therapist nor a certified dietician. Actually, she is our news editor's dog, but we still find her more interesting than Dr. Father Judson. At least Pea is toilet trained. Sidelines assumes no responsibility for those following her advice, since, if you haven't noticed, this is April Fool's Day.

MTSU Apathy Party added to SGA ballot

By Clark Kent / staff

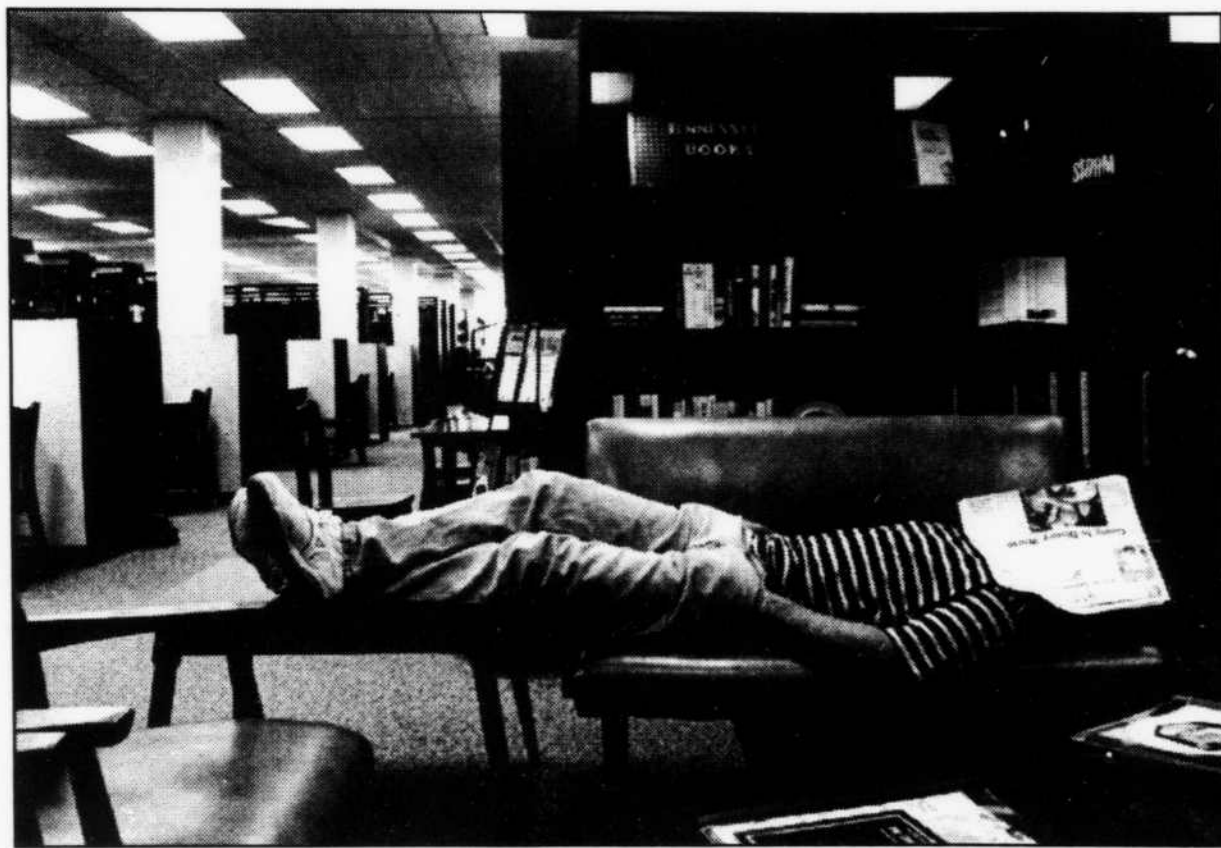
With SGA elections only a few weeks away, a new party has been formed and added to the ballot.

The MTSU Apathy Party, a group formed by active members of the campus community, was added after a petition was drawn up by someone else and submitted for approval. The group spokesperson, Artis Grace, said he was glad someone turned it in, because none of the other members were on the ballot or not.

The candidate the party named, Oliver Klozof, had little comment about how he planned to work for the student body.

"I'm pretty much open to suggestion. I really could care less," Klozof said. "People could vote for me or not. Whatever."

The Apathy Party was founded on the belief that nothing any organization does will really have an impact on the school. The group has an active membership of several thousand, although most rarely bother to show up for meetings, so an accurate number is hard to come by.



Andy Warhol / staff

Apathy Party presidential candidate Oliver Klozof, busy preparing his political agenda, proclaims that he suffered psychological trauma as a child from the Puritan work ethic.

"We really want to do all we can for MTSU, even though if we don't, it won't really bother us," Grace said.

The party has several strategies to improve things at MTSU, but no one has taken the time to map out any plans.

However, Grace insists that the strategies are effective ones. "I could say we are excited, but we're not," Grace said. ●

Student activity fee increase a practical joke: Walker

By Alec Guinness / staff

President Walker stunned campus insiders today when he announced that the move to I-A football was really just "a big joke."

"Lee Fowler and I were sitting in The 'Boro downing a few pitchers of Norel. I guess we'd had a few too many. Fowler said that he'd been trying, on a bet with one of his coaches, to figure out a way to raise student fees for no particular reason.

"I said, of course, you couldn't do that, students would freak out. But Fowler said that if you did it right you could sneak anything by them and nobody would ever notice," Walker said. "Next thing you

know, we're in front of the TBR trying to get a 'stadium fee increase' passed.

"Damned if I wasn't surprised when they went for it."

Walker said that he kept meaning to announce the hoax but every time he got ready, something came up.

"Well, first I had to get the oil in my car changed. Then my wife had to

"I never expected the students would vote for it . . . Come on. Not even MTSU students are that stupid."

President Walker

pull a hangnail and that kept me busy for weeks."

Walker said that the most amazing part of the hoax was getting the SGA to go along with it and schedule an "election" on whether or not the \$65 dollar fee should remain.

"I never expected the students would vote for it . . . I

mean, come on. Sixty-five dollars to build a stadium we don't need, for a football team we don't have, in a league we're not a part of? Come on. Not even MTSU students are that stupid.

"Anyway, now that we've got the money, we're sure not going to waste it on a stadium. We've got some serious academic uses for that money."

Announced plans to begin the lobotomization of biology professors in order to get them to comply with the state's new "Monkey Law," which was passed last week.

"If we don't lobotomize them, they will insist on teaching evolution as fact. We just can't have that," Walker said. ●

FAIR: rap group scheduled to swear a lot

Continued from page 1

provided by Sing His Praises, a local hard core rap group. Frontman, M.C. Lead Pipe, said, "Yo, I don't know what those crazy m!!!!r f!lkers want us to play for. S!t, when we were thinkin about a band name, I told those m!!!!r f!lkers that m!!!!r f!lkers would think that we was a m!!!!r f!lking church house choir. All I know is that those m!!!!r f!lking Pro-Life f!lkers are gonna have their m!!!!r f!lking world rocked after they get an earful of Sing His mother f!lking Praises."

The campus chapter of Pro-Anti-Pro-Lifer's are planning to counter the fair and dance. "We want to send those people a message," said PAPA president Hugh Jass.

"These people can't come onto our campus, make our crappy jewelry, play with our hucky sacks, and have live music that has the potential to be more offensive than anyone we have ever had on one of our fairs," Jass continued. "We plan on holding a huge boycott of the entire fair and dance. We encourage students to not show up for this event, except to support M.C. Lead Pipe and his 'Sing His Praises' friends."

Both camps are expecting a huge amount of confrontation once festivities begin, but we all know that the student body on this campus isn't going to do "jack" thanks to our new student mascot, "The Fuzzy Apathetic ...ah who gives a crap." ●

Special Deals All Week Long at the Grill!!!

***Brown Beans, Only \$3/each!!!**

*** 5% off of all drink refills**
(sorry, no students)

*** 5% off all orders over \$50**
(That's a \$2.50 discount!!!)

*** On Mondays, all potatoes only \$1.25!!!!**
(small potatoes only)

*** Tuesday is LADIES NIGHT**
From 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.,
LADIES EAT FREE
(Grill closes at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays)

*** Wednesday is sullen boy day**
All sullen boys get dirty looks
FREE!!!

COME SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE GRILL!!!

Editor's Note:

Items found on pages one and two of this issue of Sidelines are completely and undeniably true.

Wanted:

Masochistic personalities for jobs with Student Publications.

Applicants should

- * like late hours
- * thrive on little acknowledgment of effort
- * smoke like a broken chimney
- * love your neighbor
- * be self-cleaning

(Gays, straights, evolutionists, creationists need not apply.)

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY SIDELINES

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Volume 71, Number 55

UEC launches state-wide campaign for equality

Four universities join efforts to address equal and civil rights

By Kris Wetzel / staff

The Uniform Equality Committee (UEC) launched a state-wide campaign Thursday night in a press conference following the formal release of their report assessing the campus climate towards gays, lesbian and bisexuals.

"The 'Equality is Civility' campaign is a united effort among Tennessee and neighboring universities to clarify the issue and initiate greater social change," UEC Chair Michael Grantham said.

The UEC was formed last June to facilitate the adoption of a sexual orientation statement in the university's non-discrimination policy. The UEC proposal would not affect Affirmative Action and ROTC non-discrimination policies.

The adoption of a sexual orientation statement will insure equal rights to gay, lesbian and bisexuals, Grantham said.

Representatives from East Tennessee State University, Vanderbilt University and University of Memphis attended the conference in support of a state-wide effort to enhance campus policy towards gays, lesbians and bisexuals.

"Starting today, the campuses represented here-MTSU, ETSU, Vanderbilt and University of Memphis-enter a campaign in unity to address the issues of equal and civil



Brian G. Miller / staff

Representatives from four universities surround UEC chair Michael Grantham (center).

rights gay and lesbian citizens also deserve," Grantham said.

The UEC began to assist other campus gay, lesbian and bisexual groups in January in response to the formation of the sexual orientation task force under the Student Affairs Sub-Council in the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR).

The task force was formed to consider whether a sexual orientation statement should be adopted into a state-wide policy. The task force also plans to evaluate how student affairs administrators should approach sexual

orientation issues, according to Robert LaLance, vice-president for Student Affairs.

The Tennessee Campus Index (TCI), available on the Lambda Web site, links the UEC with other campus organizations. Lambda is currently the only gay, lesbian and bisexual campus group in Tennessee that has a World Wide Web site, according to Devon Wlodyga, UEC member.

The TCI was developed in anticipation of the need for state-wide mobilization. The TCI can be accessed on Lambda's web site at

<http://www.mtsu.edu/~mtlambda>.

The report is a 90-page examination in support of the adoption of a sexual orientation statement in the university's non-discrimination policy. The report includes the UEC resolution, 12 appendices and a request for the formation of a presidential task force for further campus assessment.

Copies of the report were sent to President James Walker, LaLance and David Esa, the chair of the sexual orientation task force. ●

Symposium addresses homosexuality and modern culture

By Mark T. Gibson / staff

Approximately 180 people attended the "Homosexuality and Culture" symposium Thursday night, according to an official count reported by the Uniform Equality Committee.

The discussion was moderated by Vanderbilt University's Dean of Residential and Judicial Affairs K.C. Potter. Panel members were: Charise Gendron, professor of English; Kim Sokoya, professor of marketing and management; David Zacker, assistant professor of philosophy; and Bill Turner, co-chairman of the Lesbian and Gay Coalition for Justice in Nashville.

Panel members answered five questions written by Lambda members. Audience members were encouraged to submit questions on program notes and submit them during the intermission. The panel responded to two audience questions.

Compare and Contrast Special Rights and Equal Rights.

Sokoya said that equal rights refer to fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

"Sometime in the history of this particular country the issue of special rights came about," Sokoya said. "Looking at the literature we can conclude that special rights are those

Please see SYMPOSIUM on page 4

Channel 8 criticized for language on broadcast

By Dustin Schrimpscher / staff

During a taping of Channel 8's program "Marsha and Tyson at the Movies," a computer error lead to the broadcast of behind-the-scenes crew members using foul language.

One student who viewed the show said the crew was verbally abusing the two disabled students hosting the show.

"Between the time of 11 and 11:20 p.m., I was flipping through channels and I saw two students sitting on a couch," said Brandon Wilson, MTSU student who saw the broadcast.

"Music was playing loudly, and they were swaying to the music."

"All of a sudden I notice people off screen cursing, directing Marsha not to cough so much and for the two of them not to move so much," Wilson said.

"Someone yelled, 'Tyson roll down your sleeves, you look like a red-neck.' Tyson said he was comfortable and someone yelled back, 'you look like a retard!'"

Wilson said he was very offended and feels the episode reflects badly on the university as a whole.

Bob Spires, Channel 8 faculty advisor, has received at least 10 complaints about the broadcast Friday afternoon. Spires said he had not yet seen the tape but plans to review it over the weekend.

"We have scheduled meetings with producers and production staff members to avoid this in the future," Spires said.

"In the past we had a policy manual, and we currently have a policy manual in the works."

"The students in charge of the station are extremely upset because this reflects badly [on the station]," said Mary Nichols, chairperson of Radio/Television/Photography. "There are plenty of students who do go by the book. I'd like to say that students who are disabled have just as much opportunity as anyone else at Channel 8."

Deryl Leaming, dean of the College of Mass Communication, said he had not seen the broadcast but said an equipment error in Television Services is responsible for the accidental broadcast of Channel 8 staff members using "college language." ●

Panel addresses women in business

By Elisabeth T. Fisher / staff

MTSU's chapter of the Women in Music Business Association held a panel discussion on Thursday, March 28, featuring speakers from the Nashville music industry.

The Women in Music Business Association (WMBA) is an alliance of women working in all facets of the music industry and is designed to offer support and networking opportunities to members. MTSU has the first and only student chapter of the organization.

The campus chapter was started this semester by Natalie Collins and Kelly McDermott, both mass communications majors. It offers the benefits of the organization to the many female recording industry students at MTSU. The panel discussion was held to honor Women's History Month and to help bring recognition to WMBA.

The panel consisted of five distinguished women from various music industry backgrounds. To begin the discussion each guest introduced herself and gave rudimentary career advice which would benefit any college student preparing to enter the business world.

Renee Grant-Williams, a freelance vocal instructor and composer, urged young graduates to "learn as you earn....get a job and then learn it." Tracy McGlocklin of Sony Music, Nashville, stressed the advantage she had when she graduated from MTSU's department of the Recording Industry



Amanda McCadams / staff

Panel members talked about women working in the music business.

with computer skills. She also emphasized the importance of attire: "Dress like an executive and you'll be seen that way."

Music publisher Judy Harris told of how she went from a high school Grand Old Opry tour guide to successful self-employed entrepreneur. She advised the audience to "Take it all in. Give each class 100 percent and it (success) will happen for you."

The only musician on the panel

was Jonell Rolansky, a classically trained guitarist who also boasts a Master of Arts in electrical engineering. She now works as a music producer, engineer and session musician. When she arrived in Nashville, Rolansky said she was told to not refer to herself as a producer. She promptly refused and is now a successful producer.

Also featured on the panel was Kristi Weaver, marketing head of Giant Records in Nashville. ●

TRAM now available for summer, fall registration

By Christi Underdown / staff

Priority registration for summer and fall semesters begins today through TRAM (Telephone Response at Middle).

Each student should refer to their personal data form for their individual registration times. The data forms are

mailed to the student's campus mail box and also include how many hours the student has completed and the advisor's name. Students can register on the date scheduled for them or anytime after that date.

Summer and fall schedule books have been mailed to campus post

office boxes. Students who do not have campus boxes can pick up schedule books at the Scheduling Center, JUB 123. Schedule books are also available at the Adult Service Center in the KUC, Room 320 and the evening school office in Peck Hall, Room 101D.

Summer fees will be due on May 13, and fall fees will be due in August.

TRAM is also designed to allow students to drop or add classes, pay tuition and fees with VISA or Mastercard and access their grades. The inclusion of financial aid and admissions information will be added

in the future, according to Cliff Gillespie, dean of Admissions and Records.

Students can access TRAM by calling 898-2000, and students calling from campus must dial 9-898-2000. TRAM is operational daily from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ●

FEATURES

Science fiction on the Internet

Page 9

WEATHER

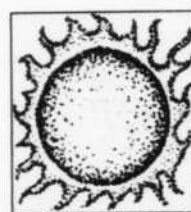
MON
partly cloudy

High: 50
Low: 32



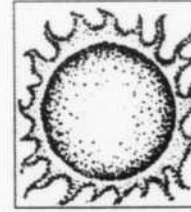
TUE
sunny

High: 65
Low: 35



WED
sunny

High: 73
Low: 43



SPORTS

Men's tennis wins Cal-Irvine tourney

Page 11

SYMPOSIUM: debate addresses homosexuality

Continued from page 1

which are guaranteed to reaffirm the fundamental rights. Those rights are not special except as they are necessary as a result of fundamental rights being denied a certain group of people.

Turner said he believes the issue [of special issues] is one of political misdirection by the far right.

"I submit . . . there is no such thing as a special right to be had . . . it does not exist," Turner said.

"I've concluded as a historian that we've created the notion of special rights to mislabel our racial prejudices onto lesbians and gay men," Turner said.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of structured gender roles in society.

"First of all," Gendron said, "structured gender roles usually mean a dominant masculine role and a subordinate feminine role."

"Human beings are composed of numerous drives, and those drives are filtered through gender roles."

"If, when you're born, you are assigned to a particular gender role, then some of your drives, some of your creative impulses are going to be suppressed while others will be encouraged," Gendron said.

"Men do tend to benefit from rigid gender roles," Zacker said.

"There are more disadvantages than advantages," Zacker said. "Structured gender roles lead to an erosion of liberty. People are denied the right to be what they want to be."

Define Homophobia. Can we relate discrimination based on sexual orientation to other forms of discrimination, such as sexism or racism?

"I think that we would all do well to think about the term heterosexist . . . that is, we grant greater privileges to people who find themselves attracted to members of the

"The mere fact of discussing the issue at all is sort of a quantum leap forward."

**Bill Turner
Co-chair of the
Gay and Lesbian
Coalition for
Justice**

opposite sex than we do to people who are attracted to members of the same sex," Turner said.

"Why should other people's irrationality be allowed to dictate other's choices?" Sokoya said discrimination was not the best word to use.

"When I think of discrimination, I think of exploitation of people because of their race or gender," Sokoya said.

"To exploit or discriminate against an individual because of their sexual orientation is bad."

"At the same time that does not mean that I have to accept



Brian G. Miller/ staff

Panelist Bill Turner, co-chair of the Gay and Lesbian Coalition for Justice, participated in Thursday's debate.

a particular behavior if that is wrong," Soyoka said. "To discriminate against somebody because they are doing something that I think is wrong is morally acceptable to me."

How does the issue of homosexuality fit into a discussion of morality?

Sokoya said that because of his religious beliefs, the issue of morality is the easiest to address.

"I can define what is moral because in my paradigm I do have a measure of absolute morality . . . homosexual sex takes place outside of marriage, and that is wrong."

Sokoya said majority opinions are not necessarily sufficient to define morality, noting that at one point a majority of people approved of slavery in America.

Zacker said morality involves a discussion of rightness and wrongness, and

there is a distinction between orientation and behavior.

Gendron said the issue of morality was very important in discussions of lesbian ethics.

"Ethics need to be developed in a community in order to foster the health of the community," Gendron said. "Discussions in the lesbian community take place on many different levels."

Turner said that being gay is not fundamentally immoral.

"The issue of morality is really not the gender of the sexual object," Turner said. "The issue is of consent between adults."

"It is only recently that we have accepted the notion that a married man can rape his wife. It is more moral for me to have consensual sex with a man than it is for a married man to rape his wife."

What is your advice to society on resolving the

conflicts it has with homosexuality?

"I think that we do a service when we publicize the many people in culture who were lesbian or gay," Gendron said. "I guess the onus is on the people who are discriminated against, initially, to educate society at large."

"As for advising people how they can overcome prejudice, it takes a lot of hard work and a certain degree of self-honesty to let go of the power that comes from discriminating against others."

Zacker advised people to conduct a careful self-examination of their own prejudices.

Sokoya said that it was important to not demonize homosexuals.

"We should be tolerant of all persuasions," Sokoya said. "Sexual behavior outside of that between husband and wife is wrong."

"But we should care for other people because they are created in God's image and that is why they have value."

During the intermission two questions were chosen from audience submissions combined into one issue by the moderator.

The questions selected were: "If homosexuals have equal rights, then aren't you discriminating against Christians by forcing them to be exposed to what they believe is morally wrong?" and "Why should sexual behavior be given special protection?"

After the discussion, the panelists all said they felt the symposium had accomplished

its goals, but they would have preferred a more open format which would have included the audience participation.

"I felt that the audience behaved extremely well considering that they had very little input into the discussion and had to listen to a lot of discussion," Gendron said.

"They were extremely attentive . . . which I really appreciated," Gendron said. "Maybe in future events there'll be more give and take between audience and panelists which would be even better."

"It might even be appropriate to provide more opportunity for interaction because I do think it's important to address the questions the audience is interested in," Turner said.

Jeff Hendricks, president of Lambda and one of the chief organizers, said that audience participation had not been desired.

"We were concerned about the sensitivity level of audience participation as far as making sure that it was a calm atmosphere, not one that was where people were shouting at the panel," Hendricks said.

All of the panelists said they felt the discussion was a benefit to the community.

"The mere fact that we are discussing this is a quantum leap forward," Turner said. "The questions were interesting and compelling, and they gave us a lot to talk about."

"This offers a learning opportunity at the university that is not confined to a specific classroom. I think that is always an excellent idea." ●

Sidelines will not publish this Thursday, April 4. The next issue will be the following Monday, April 8.

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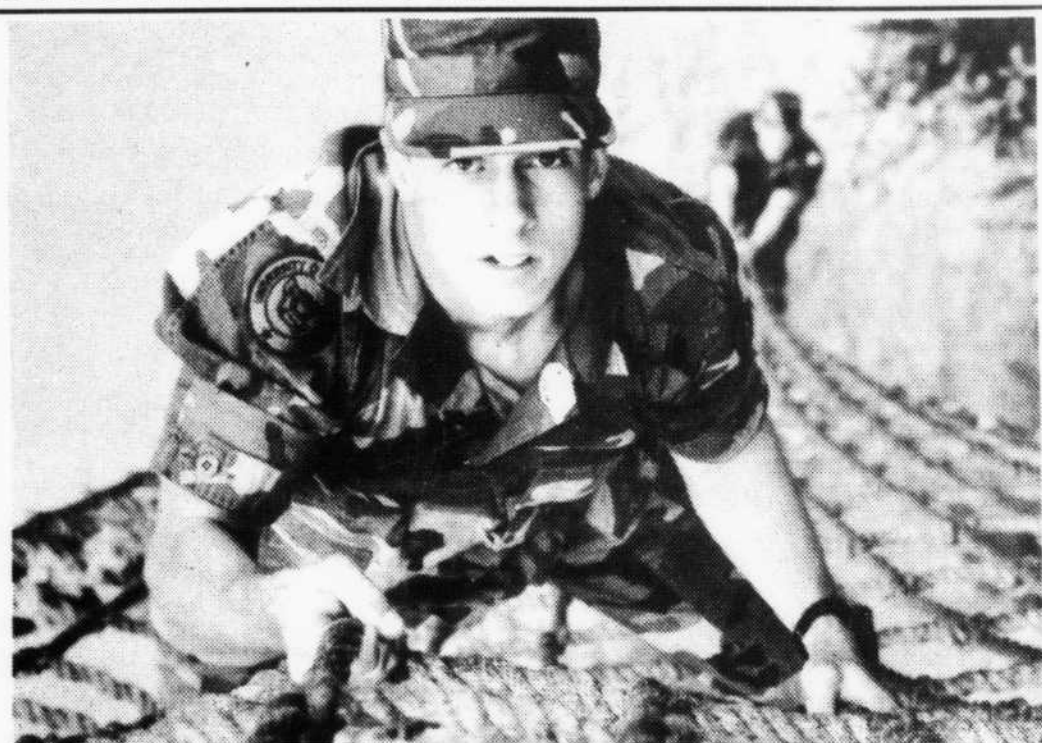
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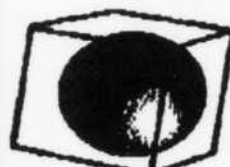
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MIT installs \$3 million simulated trading room for finance majors

College Press Service

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—The Massachusetts Institute of Technology recently unveiled the first-ever trading room built on a university campus.

The state-of-the-art facility at the Sloan School of Management is just like the real thing: Stock prices race across a display, students

playing the role of traders talk hurriedly into high-tech telephones, and a wall-mounted electronic panel flashes breaking financial news from Europe.

"Every thing in the room is identical to everything you'd find on Wall Street," said David R. Lampe, communications director at the Sloan School.

Designed by the same

architects who built trading rooms in world capitals, the \$3 million facility will serve as a classroom for students and a center for research.

"This new facility is...a realistic proving ground where we can work closely with industry to develop and test the new financial techniques," Sloan School Dean Glen Urban said. "It is also a classroom for

teaching the people who will implement those new tools in practice."

Students can use the trading room for not only classroom work but also homework assignments on investments, financial market analysis, options pricing and information technology.

MIT, which produced the Black-Scholes formula in the

1970s that later transformed the options market, will continue to do financial research in the 3,000-square-foot facility. Projects include using advanced computer graphics to visually present stock portfolios and studying how psychology influences trading decisions.

"It's not just a way to see how Wall Street works," Lampe

said. "It's a way to change how Wall Street works."

The trading room, by the way, isn't exactly like Wall Street.

Prices that flash on the display are deliberately delayed by 15 minutes, Lampe said.

"We don't want students to make or break fortunes in our ivy halls here," Lampe said. ●

Recreation Center parking lot to open following repavement

By Christi Underdown / staff

Weather permitting, the Recreation Center parking lot will be opening in the next couple weeks, according to Jay Wallace, administrative coordinator for Campus Planning.

Closed since the beginning of the year, it has undergone renovation to better traffic flow,

Wallace said.

Although repavement is scheduled for early next week, recent weather threatens to delay the process.

"You have to understand that if it continues to rain and snow like it has the past few weeks, the paving will be put off," Wallace said.

Wallace said the parking lot will open the week after it is

paved.

According to officials in the Parking and Transportation office, the parking lot will hold 350 vehicles and has been designated for black and green parking permits.

The lot includes 16 handicapped spaces, 13 motorcycles spaces and a rack that holds 10 bicycles. ●

Conference to address impact of technology on higher education

By Todd R. Cruse / staff

The first Mid-South Instructional Technology Conference is being held at MTSU to allow college faculty and administrators to discuss the impact of the new technologies on education.

The conference will center on developing technology-based teaching facilities while

using technology-based materials in the classroom. It will also cover developing course material, supporting and motivating faculty to use technology, library support and distance learning.

Speakers scheduled to appear include Ben Shneiderman, professor of computer science from the University of Maryland at

College Park and Steve Gilbert, director of Technology Projects at the American Association for Higher Education.

For more information regarding the conference, contact the office of information technology at 898-5345 or send e-mail to ITCONF@mtsu.edu. ●

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CAMPUS CAPSULE

MONDAY, APRIL 1

Gamma Beta Phi will meet at 5 p.m. in KUC Theater.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

Placement and Student Employment Center will offer a "Your Job Search" workshop from 11 a.m. to noon and from 3-4 p.m. in KUC Room 305. Learn about placement services, resume expert, campus interviews, and employment opportunities.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Phi Beta Lambda (Collegiate division of Future Business Leaders of America) will hold a member meeting at 4:30 p.m. in KUC 322B featuring guest speakers John Helsley and Wendy Miller from Deloitte & Touche. For more information contact James Roberson at 898-3051 or Dr. Robert Blair at 898-2036.

Placement and Student Employment Center will hold a Resume Writing Workshop from 4-5 p.m. in KUC Room 305. Learn the basics for writing your resume.

A Leadership Development Seminar will be held on the Value of Diversity, in KUC Room 314 at 3 p.m. Linda Berry, Executive Director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews will be discussing differences between individuals, how we stereotype and develop prejudice, becoming aware of how we may learn from one another and how this may lead to individual success.

The Native American Heritage Society will hold a general meeting from 5-6:30 p.m. in KUC Room 332.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

Placement and Student Employment Center will hold

an Interview Preparation Workshop from 11 a.m. to noon in KUC Room 305. This is a workshop for developing interview skills and professional dress.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

MTSU Theatre will present **Jesus Christ Superstar** April 5, 6, 9-13 in Tucker Theatre. All shows begin at 8 p.m. For reservations call 898-2716. MTSU students' admission is free with a student ID. General admission is \$5.

The Military Science Department is presenting its Annual ROTC Spring Awards Ceremony on April 11 in KUC Theater at 11 a.m.

Application deadline for the **Alpha Delta Mu Social Work Honorary Scholarship** is April 12. Applications can be obtained in the social work office. Criteria are posted with the applications.

The Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club's 11th Annual Spring Fair and Sale will be held April 13 and 14 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Creative Arts Building at the Tennessee State Fair Grounds in Nashville. Exotic birds, cages, feeds, toys and supplies will be sold. Admission is \$2 (children under 12 free).

The Native American Heritage Society will hold a general meeting April 15 from 5-6:30 p.m. in KUC Room 322.

The Fourth Annual East West Conference, "Effective International Managing and Marketing", will be held April 15-17 at the Marriott Hotel. For more information call Angie Ray at 898-2764 or email at ARAY@frank.mtsu.edu.

National Association of Environmental Professionals will hold the Earth Day 5K Race in front of MTSU's Alumni Gym

on Saturday, April 20. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Registration is \$8 before April 13 and \$10 the day of the race. All registrants will receive a T-shirt and there will be drawings for door prizes. For more information contact Kathy Maurer at 896-4393.

The Native American Heritage Society will hold a general meeting May 2 from 5-6:30 p.m. in KUC Room 322.

ONGOING EVENTS

If you are interested in international relations and current affairs, and want to develop leadership, negotiation and debate skills, get involved in **MTSU's Model United Nations!** For more information, contact Tony Mathews at 223-8884 or Dr. Anne Sloan in the Political Science Department.

ENT on MTSU's Channel 8. Movies, Music and More. Monday and Wednesday night at 8:30 p.m. Questions or comments: entch8@frank.mtsu.edu.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets every Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. in Dance Studio B. Everyone (athletes and non-athletes) welcome. Come for fun, fellowship, and Bible Study.

Women's Clinic in the Academic Nursing Center offers the following gender specific assessments for \$15 initial and \$10 follow-up: breast exam, pap smear stool for occult blood, urine check, pregnancy test, blood chemistry profile, tests for infections if indicated and follow-up reporting and counseling. Blood Chemistry Profiles available the first Wednesday of every month from 8-10 a.m. at \$10 for the 18 component blood chemistry profile and \$10 for PSA (prostate cancer test). The clinic also offers free blood pressure screenings every Wednesday

from 1-4 p.m. For an appointment call 898-5950.

Raiders for Christ will hold a devotional on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Middle Tennessee Christian Student Center.

The MTSU Christian Faculty and Staff Fellowship will meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday in KUC Room 312. Interested Faculty and Staff are invited to attend any of these meetings. For further information contact Kim Sokoya at 898-2352 or ksokoya@frank.mtsu.edu.

The MTSU College Democrats will hold weekly meetings in room 313 of the KUC at 5:00 p.m. Come and find out what we are all about.

Codependents Anonymous (Coda) will meet Thursday's from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Marks United Methodist Church, Room 109 under the red handrail. Coda is a fellowship of men and women whose common problem is an inability to maintain functional relationships. The only requirement for membership is a desire for healthy and fulfilling relationships with others and ourselves.

Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) will meet Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. at St. Marks Methodist Church, 1403 E. Main St., Room 109. ACOA is a 12-step support group for people raised in an alcoholic or other dysfunctional family.

Lambda, an organization for gay, lesbian and bisexual students, faculty, non-students, and their supporters, will meet every Tuesday in the Mass Comm building, room 103, at 6:30 p.m. For further information write to MTSU Box 624 or call 780-2293.

Lambda will be hosting a "Movie Night" every Thursday at 7 p.m. in Mass Comm Room 103. For more information call the Lambda Hotline at 780-2293.

Intervarsity Christian Fellowship will hold its weekly meetings on Tuesday at 8 p.m. and Campus Prayer meetings on Wednesday at 9 p.m., in KUC room 312. All campus ministries and all individuals are invited to attend.

Seniors and Graduate Students: create your resume with Resume Expert Plus Software and register with the Placement Center in one easy step! Contact Placement and Student Employment Center KUC 328, 898-2500.

Wesley Foundation will be hosting an hour-long ongoing study group on Human Sexuality in the Christian Faith, Mondays at 5:30 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation.

Wesley Singers rehearsals will be held Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation. Anyone who loves to sing is welcome.

MTSU students who need speech testing or speech therapy services should call the **MTSU Speech Clinic**, 898-2661, for an appointment.

Anyone interested in being a tutor or getting tutored, please contact Tanisha Harris of the **NAACP (Educational Committee)** at 898-4056.

MTSU Equestrian Team will hold regular meetings every Monday night at 7:00 p.m. in the TLC Sales Arena. Everyone is welcome!

Inroads Nashville, Inc. plans to recruit Sophomore and Junior Minority Students in marketing, computer information systems and business administration. With a GPA of 2.9 or better, successful recruits will have the opportunity to do internships with such firms as IBM, Price-Waterhouse and Northern Telecom. Those interested should immediately call Prof. B. Fayissa at 898-2385 or see him in

KOM 322G.

Canterbury Episcopal Campus Ministry meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. for dinner and fellowship at St. Paul's Church, 315 E. Main St. and Thursdays for lunch in the KUC Grill. All are welcome. Contact Andrew Wright at 893-3780 for more information.

MTSU Raidersharks- Scuba Club will hold meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. in the MTSU Pool. It is open to anyone interested in scuba diving or associated activities. All students are welcome. For more information call Tim or Jude at 895-6249.

Phi Sigma Pi will hold their weekly meetings on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Stark Ag Building Room 125. Contact an officer if you can not attend.

DEADLINES FOR CAMPUS CAPSULE SUBMISSIONS:

MONDAY EDITION:
4:00 P.M. FRIDAY

THURSDAY EDITION
4:00 P.M. TUESDAY

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Norwest Financial will be conducting on-campus interviews Tuesday, April 9 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you are interested, contact the MTSU Placement Office to register.



Holy Week and Easter Worship Services

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
315 East Main St.

Maundy Thursday
April 4, 6:30 p.m.

- † Agape Meal
- † Footwashing
- † Holy Eucharist
- † All Night Vigil

Good Friday
April 5, 6:30 p.m.

- † Stations of the Cross
- † Good Friday Liturgy
- † Communion from Reserved Sacrament

Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day

6:15 a.m. Sunrise Service, Holy Eucharist

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist



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Lack of understanding pervasive in creationism



By
**R. Stephen
Howard**



and
**Patrick
Doyle**

the factual basis of evolution. By definition, a scientific theory is a working model supported by a preponderance of evidence. To qualify as scientific, a theory must: 1.) have empirical support; 2.) infer its principles from observation; and 3.) generate testable and falsifiable hypotheses. Creationism is not a scientific theory because it fails to meet any of these criteria.

A developing trend among proponents of creationism is to admit the occurrence of "microevolution," but to deny the historical reality of "macroevolution." To biologists, there is no clear cut distinction between these two processes; they are really one and the same. Given sufficient time, small changes accumulate to produce what we perceive as very large differences. While the time frame over which such changes take place varies from thousands to

In reality, the creation/ evolution "debate" has been over for many years, but its ghost apparently still lurks in the minds of a few people who refuse to take a hard, unbiased, look at the data.

millions of years, biologists have never argued, as a recent letter writer has implied, that single mutations instantaneously transform fruit flies into fish! (Statements such as this reveal a complete and utter misunderstanding of the theory of punctuated equilibrium, and of known patterns in phylogenetic relationships in general.)

With respect to "macroevolution," two direct lines of evidence show that it has occurred. The fossil record unequivocally documents large

changes in lineages over geological time and, contrary to what some have said, is replete with transitional forms. One of the best examples is seen in the recent discovery of "missing link" whales (Gingerich, P.D. et al. 1994. "New whale from the Eocene of Pakistan and the origin of cetacean swimming." *Nature* 368: 844). For other examples (and there are many), we suggest the reader consult any university level text on general biology.

The second line of direct

evidence comes from recent advances in molecular genetics. The DNA of organisms is an historical record of accumulated molecular changes. A tremendous amount of research now shows that molecular changes in different lineages are strongly correlated with age as determined by radioactive dating of the fossil record. Furthermore, recent experiments have shown that modern organisms can retain the genetic potential to express ancestral phenotypes. Kollar et al., in a paper published in *Science* (1980, vol 207 pp 993-995), describe experiments in which genes for tooth production were activated in chickens!

In reality, the creation/ evolution "debate" has been over for many years, but its ghost apparently still lurks in the minds of a few people who refuse to take a hard, unbiased, look at the data. A much

improved understanding could be gained by a careful reading of Darwin's "Origin," coupled with a perusal of the scientific literature of the last hundred years.

In closing, we would also point out that we find no justification for denying or challenging the facts of evolution from a religious perspective. Science, because of its framework, would never attempt to prove or disprove the existence of God. Answers to such questions as "is there a God?" or "what is the meaning of life?" are simply beyond the scope of science; they must be obtained by some other method of inquiry. For scientists and non-scientists alike, belief in the existence of God is sustained by faith and faith alone; and that is as it should be.

Drs. Howard and Doyle are professors of biology at MTSU.

In an essay pertaining to Tennessee's infamous "Monkey" trial, H. L. Mencken wrote "The late William Jennings Bryan, LL. D., always had one great advantage in controversy: he was never burdened with an understanding of his opponent's case." Sadly, the same criticism can be leveled against those who would grant creationism the status of a scientific theory, while at the same time denying

Future of human race of more consequence than origin

By Shannon Russell Holt

Either you believe that God created the world in seven days or you believe that the universe evolved from nothing over a span of several billion years. Or not. It seems like people have a strong need to explain everything, especially the things that elude explanation like the origin of the universe. But no one knows God personally. Not really. Some will claim to, but if you could get into their minds and hearts you would discover that they don't know God any more than they know Santa. Scientists do not have all the answers and they probably would like for us to respect them for their research a bit more than they deserve, but they are not all out to fool us into disbelieving in God so that we'll all go to hell. My guess is that the ratio of God fearing scientists to atheistic scientists is probably about the same as the ratio of God fearing ministers to atheistic ones.

The thing about the origin of man is this. None of us were born yet. In fact, I wasn't born until 1971 and I don't even remember that. My point is this: If you had been born on a remote island and your parents left when you were zero years old and you spent your whole life on that island alone without any trace of anything elsewhere, what would be the chance of you discovering the exact process and circumstances of your birth? None. But with the origin of the universe, no one was there. Okay, what about the Bible? I've read it. I began reading in Genesis when I was seven years old and finished reading Revelation when I was fourteen. I believed in every word I read too. But a strange thing happened three years later.

In my Bible class at a private church school this teacher that I failed to have much respect for taught that in this life, we as humans cannot be perfect and live sinless lives. Only when we get to heaven can we do that or perhaps before then but only after the closing of probation (a term that not everyone should feel obligated to be familiar with). I argued that I felt I could be perfect now with God's help. He disagreed, I suspect more to save face than out of any genuine conviction. I responded not with more argument, but with the determination to prove him wrong. I prayed that evening to God and asked

Him to come into my life and into my heart and to use me as His servant, not to prove my teacher wrong, but to glorify my creator. (Sorry, I can't remember if "creator" is supposed to be capitalized or not, no offense intended). He gave me a list of resolutions and focuses in my endeavor to achieve perfection for God and with His power. I stopped swearing, I stopped being mean to my family, I kept the ten commandments to the letter, and I loved my neighbor as myself. I even stopped watching TV and listening to the radio so as to avoid any worldly distractions or influences. I tried to witness for God and to give Him the glory for every blessing in my life. Oh yeah, and I watched my diet too so that my body, which I was raised to believe was the temple of God, would be pure for His purposes. I prayed to Him continually for almost two weeks.

And then one day as I was praying, I wondered if there really was a God up there somewhere listening. I had wondered that before, but this time the thought did not immediately vanish when I reminded myself that such thoughts were an invitation to Satan's temptations. The next thought was that if I stopped believing in God and was found a sinner in the day of judgment and condemned to eternal hell, well then that didn't seem very fair to me. There was no turning back. I was questioning God in a dozen ways. Was He really fair? Was He actually real?

I don't believe in God anymore. Not the one in the Bible anyway. And if I'm wrong, it doesn't matter. I don't want to be anyone's servant and I don't accept anyone's love on penalty of eternal damnation. To me the God of the Bible is a crock. And yet it doesn't matter to me really if others believe in Him. I wish they would keep out of my face with it, but even that I'm getting used to. Some Christians seem very kind and sincere and I respect them very much. I respect their conviction and I would never want to offend someone like that. To me the world is a place where anyone can do and believe anything they want, so long as they grant others the same freedom. For my part, I'm a bit more concerned with where the world is going than where it came from.

Mr. Holt is a sophomore who is majoring in English.

Federal employees pay taxes, should not be demonized

To the Editor,

As the daughter of a retired Army officer and a civil servant who file taxes and pay the taxes they owe, I feel I am qualified to answer the recent attacks made, on employees of the federal government. Federal employees work very hard for their money (which isn't as much as some people think). How many people do you know who would come into work receiving no pay or half pay? This is what most federal employees, my mother included, did while Congress debated the budget. Federal employees' taxes are taken directly out of their checks; therefore, they are paying taxes. If Congress substantially downsized the federal government, the employees who are affected by downsizing would no longer be paying taxes, they would be drawing unemployment. Wouldn't that be saving the taxpayers money! Failure to file income taxes and failure to pay taxes due has nothing to do with the jobs federal employees do. To the professor who feels that federal employees feel they are better than the rest of us and that they need to get real jobs — Do you even know any federal jobs? They work hard for little pay and next to no appreciation. Many people feel that teachers need to get a real job but, I doubt that stops you from picking up your paycheck. Let's keep in mind that federal employees aren't the Leona Helmsley's of the world. Sincerely,

Bonita Piatt

Senior, Interdisciplinary Studies

Evolution is not science: creationist, student

Editor's Note: This letter is addressed to MTSU biology professor Charles McGhee who wrote an opinion, "Laws of Thermodynamics drive evolution," for the March 28 edition of Sidelines.

Dear Dr. McGhee,

I was thumbing through *Sidelines* when I noticed your article about the Laws of Thermodynamics. I will warn you ahead that I am a creationist, so go now and roll your eyes, but I do hope that you will read

my rebuttal to your opinion.

I am a student at MTSU and I intend to major in a field of science. I also believe that the Bible is the inspired, inherent word of the living God (anyone who tells you there are contradictions in the Bible has not read it carefully). I would like you to know that I was not offended by your article. Everyone is entitled to an opinion. The Bible tells us in 2 Peter 3:3-7 "...that there shall come in the last days scoffers..." (KJV). In 1 Timothy 6:20, the Bible also tells us to avoid "...vain babblings..." and "...science falsely so called..." (KJV). I believe the Bible is referring to evolution. Don't get me wrong, I love science, but evolution has nothing to do with the subject. No one has ever observed evolution. All anyone has ever seen is minor variations. I would call that adaptation not evolution, and adaptation is by no means proof of evolution. It might be proof of an intelligent designer.

The First Law of Thermodynamics is a common ground in which most scientists stand on. Each has his or her own interpretation of the law. You say the first Law of Thermodynamics basically states matter cannot be created nor destroyed, and I would agree. If this is true, evolution should be rejected on that definition alone. I say this because matter has to begin somewhere and if matter cannot be created, as we have both agreed upon, therefore someone or something had to put it there. Therefore the first Law of Thermodynamics speaks against evolution. I contend God created matter. As I have stated before, we all have opinions. No one can prove creation and no one can prove evolution is fact either, and if they can I will show them, at the end of this article, how they can make themselves \$10,000.

The Second Law of Thermodynamics basically states everything in the known universe tends toward disorder. You say this only "...applies when you run out of energy..." and you discuss how solar energy is recycled. Once again I agree but in your article you say the sun has a time limit of a few billion years (how anyone can know this as "fact" would fall into the realm of belief and faith not science). Which means it is winding down (Second Law of Thermodynamics). The Bible even teaches the Second Law of Thermodynamics in Hebrews 1:10-11 "And Thou Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the Earth; and the heavens are the work of thine hands: They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they shall wax old as doth a garment" (KJV).

Some will remark, "see, not even God can create a world that will last" and this would come from those who do not realize the Second Law of Thermodynamics wasn't functioning until after man had sinned. The original creation was meant to last forever. God gave man the freedom of choice and man made the wrong decision. Nearly every human has a job to fight the Second Law of Thermodynamics: carpenters, mechanics, scientists (those who attempt to find new materials that last longer), etc.

In your article you mention cleaning our rooms and you relate this to what you comically call "room evolution." First of all, even though we rearrange our room we still end up with a room. It didn't evolve into a car or an elephant. We can rearrange our room a billion times, and we will still end up with a room. The only reason the room was changed or even exists is due to intelligent intervention. The same applies to living organisms. The genetic capability of a living organism has limits. For example, take the word Christmas. You can make a lot of words out the word Christmas like mash, mat, cash, etc. but you will never get the word zero, Xerox, or oxygen. The initial information is not there to do it. So how do these organisms get the extra information to evolve? If you say "Nature selects," then you have nature as being the god. You say the "...apes convert their compounds into new compounds which end up being humans." How did these apes know how or why they needed to change?

It all boils down to what you believe and not proven science (even though the Bible has never been proven scientifically inaccurate). I hope that you, Dr. McGhee, or anyone else who reads this will maintain an open mind. After all an education is supposed to show all sides fairly and accurately. Whereas indoctrination shows only one side. And it is through discussions such as these that we all can learn something new.

As I have promised I'll tell you how you can make an easy \$10,000. All you have to do is call Dr. Kent Hovind in Pensacola, Florida (904-479-3466) with some kind of proof that evolution is a fact. He has a standing offer of \$10,000 to anyone who can. It is very odd no one has collected the prize. He travels to universities all around the country debating evolutionists and would be delighted to visit MTSU if invited.

I will end on a quote that I heard from a friend. "If I am wrong about creation then who cares, but if you're wrong you're in some serious trouble." Sincerely,

Mark Jaggars
Freshman

SIDELINES

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More tolerance towards conservative ideals needed



Scott Link

in our nation. Quite the contrary, they are actually arming proponents of non-heterosexual lifestyles with convincing ammunition. Of course, what ends up happening is that all people who oppose the approval of these lifestyles are lumped in with those who do not even tolerate.

However, many tolerant people do not accept these alternate lifestyles as viable choices. They do not want them taught as such in schools or to see marriage and adoption privileges given to same sex couples. They will not, in any way, approve of the homosexual life. Yet, they tolerate it everyday. They do not hate the people, they only hate the act.

I understand the concern for equal rights, and if there really is a need for legislation we should seek to pass it. What happens when rights collide, though? Will the right to choose a sexual lifestyle preclude the right of religious freedom? Many non-heterosexuals say that they should not be denied the

It is the right of every American to criticize and disapprove of society. Still, those who exercise that right regarding non-heterosexual lifestyle choices are labeled homophobic and intolerant.

privilege of renting a room on the basis of their sexual preference. What if a landlord believes that by renting a room to a homosexual couple she is damning her soul to hell? The landlord, if she really believes that, is not going to rent it to the couple no matter what kind of suit is brought against her. The threat of eternal damnation carries a lot more weight than litigation. Who's rights are more important? Who is being intolerant? The landlord by fearing for her soul and refusing occupancy, or the couple by forcing her to rent to them?

It is the right of every American to criticize and disapprove of society. Still,

those who exercise that right regarding non-heterosexual lifestyle choices are labeled homophobic and intolerant. This is not intolerance. It is genuine concern for the social climate.

Being tolerant does not mean you cannot verbally disagree with other positions, or cannot lobby for laws which reflect your views. The American government is a democratic republic, and laws reflect what the majority feel is right. Much like the debate last Thursday, conversations around opposing views bring forth new information and heighten understanding of the issue.

Homophobia is the irrational fear of homosexuals. This brings to mind those who are afraid to speak with, or even stand near a homosexual for fear of catching "gayness" from them. That is most definitely an irrational fear, but is it irrational to fear the impact widespread acceptance of non-heterosexual lifestyles and sweeping changes in the concept of family will have on our society? Still, the battle cry of the homosexual community seems to always be "homophobe!" Let anyone speak out against them, and they are labeled bigot. In our tolerant society, should not all views be tolerated, even those which disagree with non-heterosexual lifestyles?

Even so, many react to those who believe that non-heterosexual lifestyles are morally wrong with classic intolerant behavior. Seeking to injure them in some way, they lash out, calling them names, and otherwise dragging their reputation through the mud. Character assassinations are

painful. How ironic that these are normally the very people who are calling for tolerance. How is this possible?

I think it is because they have confused tolerance with acceptance. As long as that is the case, this issue will never be resolved. Those on both sides are convinced they are correct, and will not waver. Until tolerance is accepted there will not be peace.

I would like to express my gratitude for the professional manner in which the members of the panel handled themselves during the Homosexuality and Culture Symposium. What could have become an ugly spectacle, was instead a picture of tolerance. Opposing viewpoints were discussed by adults, and each opinion was respected. One way it could have been better would have been to have a greater balance between pro and con, but I understand that sometimes it is hard to schedule panelists, especially about these issues and in this forum.

Mr. Link is a senior who studies Radio/TV.

VOTE!!!!

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This has been a Public Service Announcement from Sidelines

Creationist takes issue with biology prof

By Joe Dowell

WARNING: This article contains 100 percent science. Disciples of Darwin BEWARE.

In response to Charles R. McGhee's March 28 article in *Sidelines*:

Macro-evolution is undefendable. Mr. McGhee, every word you wrote was a testimony to this fact. I appreciate the warning you gave, but you grossly underestimated the percentage of "blarney."

To begin, the metamorphose of a caterpillar to a butterfly has NOTHING to do with evolution. The metamorphose is controlled by hormones which are ultimately controlled by DNA. This is called growth or development, not evolution.

It is true that matter can be at a higher or lower state of entropy. It is also true that everything tends to disorder in a closed system. As far as science is concerned, the universe is a closed system because of the first law of thermodynamics. The "steady-state" theory was proposed by evolutionists because the laws of thermodynamics DEMAND a beginning or "creation" and an eventual end. The "steady-state" theory is not based on observation or fact.

Entropy can be decreased in an open system — at least temporarily. (A system can not be universal in order to be properly termed "open" — it must have parameters.) The growth of an organism is a good example of the temporary decrease in entropy within an open system. The temporary decrease in entropy within an organism does not mean that the organism can now evolve — it's not that simple. The temporary decrease in entropy within an organism is necessary for the organism to live, grow and reproduce. One crucial question to ask is, how is entropy decreased in the system? The answer is through work and energy. Machines, whether they are biological (protein molecules, people, bees, plants, etc.) or mechanical are needed to temporarily decrease the amount of entropy (to do the work). Another question now arises, how did the first machine (biological or mechanical) come into existence? If I posed this question to myself (a creationist), the answer would be, "Through intelligence, planning, and design of course." This is good logic — science has never seen a machine (biological or mechanical) arise without the aid of intelligence, planning, or design. An evolutionist might answer the same question like this, "If the machine is as complex as a paper clip, then of course it took intelligence, planning, and design. But if the machine is as simple as a single cell or the human brain, then it happened by chance!" This is bad logic. Science does not support this kind of logic. Evolution demands spontaneous generation to arrive at the first machine (cell), but this is yet another unscientific theory proposed to defend their religion.

Mr. McGhee, you seem to be unsure about what "change" means. You arrive at the conclusion that "change" means evolution. If the evolution is micro-evolution, then I can go along with that. The programmed variability within organisms does allow a "change" within organisms. For the most part, this is a change in appearance due to the pronouncement of traits. If you think "change" is synonymous with macro-evolution, I will have to disagree for strictly biological reasons. The same program that allows the fantastic variability of organisms also sets limits on those organisms. Macro-evolutionary theories break the programmed limits of the organism involved. Mutations are the evolutionist's only hope. It has been demonstrated repeatedly that mutations are detrimental to organisms. Mutations that give an organism an evolutionary advantage do not happen in nature. Furthermore, the more complex the organism (or machine), the more likely that a mutation will be detrimental to that organism. For example, what are the chances that a random change in a computer program will increase the order of that program? Now consider the chances that the most complex program in the universe (DNA) will become more complex by a random change!

The sun or "Old Sol" if you prefer, did not create the first machines, nor does "Old Sol" provide an answer to the second law of thermodynamics. Bombarding matter with photon energy does not automatically decrease the entropy. The machine's programming is the limiting factor. Evolution does not occur without a change and addition to the program. This is why I say the mutation is the evolutionist's "creator."

In conclusion, I leave you with an amusing quote from Lewis Carroll's *Alice In Wonderland*.

"Alice laughed. 'There's no use trying,' she said. 'One can't believe impossible things.'

'I dare say you haven't had much practice,' said the Queen. 'When I was your age I did it for half an hour a day. Why sometimes I believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.'

Mr. McGhee, you've obviously had plenty of practice at believing impossible things.

Mr. Dowell is a freshman who studies chemistry and biology.

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FEATURES

Monday, April 1, 1996

SIDELINES

Page 9

MTSU biology student identifies disease-causing bacteria

Discovery suggests different strains of Legionnaire's Disease could exist.

By Scott Link / staff

In late summer, 1976, the American Legion held a conference at a hotel in Philadelphia. Unbeknownst to the Legionnaires, small amoebae living in the water that had condensed in the air conditioning unit contained deadly bacteria. History records that the first outbreak of what is now known as Legionnaire's Disease happened at that conference. Immediately all eyes focused on the City of Brotherly Love. Nationwide, newspapers ran stories on the outbreak, and all watched for news of the cause. Eventually the cause was identified and spread was stopped.

Twenty years later, a student here at MTSU has made a startling discovery.

Biology graduate student Tammy Scott of Winchester has identified a bacteria that normally lives in amoebae which is very similar to the bacteria that causes Legionnaire's Disease. Scott is currently trying to characterize the bacteria to determine if it is an undescribed species in this group of microorganisms. This

discovery suggests there may be many types similar to Legionella that have yet to be discovered that have the potential to cause disease in humans.

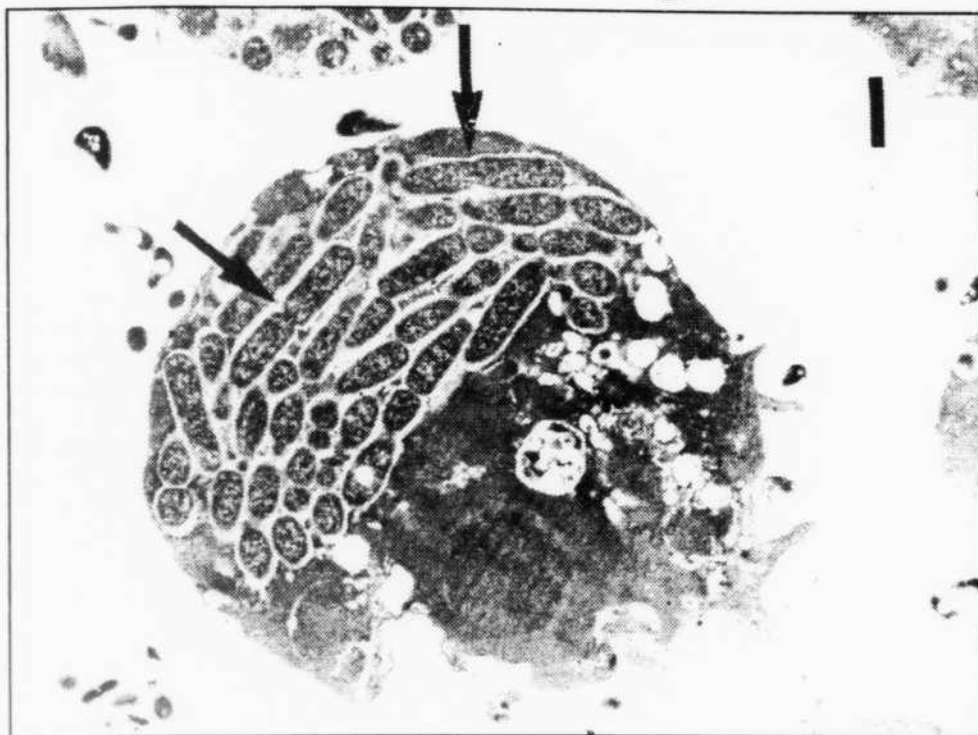
Legionnaire's Disease is caused by bacteria, lives in the lungs and causes a type of pneumonia. The disease is caught by breathing in the bacteria.

Scott, while working under the supervision of assistant professor of biology Anthony Newsome, has done research showing that the bacteria responsible for legionnaire's disease can live and multiply inside common free-living amoebae in a similar manner to that which occurs inside human cells. This information may play a key role in later outbreaks of the dreaded disease. Scott identified bacteria from a soil sample in Antioch.

"This discovery will help us understand the ecology of Legionella bacteria," said Newsome.

Bacteria grows inside amoebae naturally, and reproduces in large numbers. It is possible to reproduce and spread up to epidemic proportions.

Scott earned the honor of speaking at the seventh International Conference on Small Free-Living Amoebae in Adelaide, Australia. At this conference, microbiologists share knowledge about emerging infectious diseases. They are now finding that in addition to viruses and bacteria, amoebae can cause health problems.



Pictured is an amoeba with Scott's bacteria. Arrows indicate where the bacteria is splitting and reproducing. photo courtesy of Anthony Newsome

The conference meets once every three years. It will be held at MTSU in the summer of 1998. Scientists from all over the world will be on our campus to discuss their new discoveries.

Scott has not let this attention phase her, and has kept her priorities

straight.

"I just want to graduate. This is my thesis project," she said. "I'm not doing it for fun."

Sidelines reporter dispels rumor of neglected horse

By Dustin Schrimpsner / staff

Early last Wednesday, *Sidelines* received a call reporting that a horse owned by MTSU had frozen to death.

Rumor had it that all the university horses living in the pasture across Rutherford Boulevard from campus were without shelter.

Looking out the office window and seeing snow, I thought, "Poor little horses."

That was it. My interest was sparked. My journalistic juices were flowing as I saw the opportunity to right the wrongs of humanity.

I would get to the bottom of this. I wanted an explanation!

A few phone calls later, I had my explanation.

To keep you from worrying about the poor little horse I'll tell you now that they are all alive and well.

Anne Brzezicki, director of horse labs, let me know in no uncertain terms that the MTSU equestrian program is among the most respected anywhere.

MTSU hosts 12 credit courses dealing with nutrition, management, training, reproduction and judging of horses.

"We have a 50 member equestrian team which consistently sends students to the national competition," said Brzezicki. "In 1995 the MTSU Equestrian judging team won the national championship in Oklahoma City."

As for the horses across Rutherford Boulevard, Brzezicki said there are a few Tennessee Walking Horses used in the breeding program as well as Thoroughbreds, Appaloosas, Arabians and a Canadian Hunter used in the riding program.

All school horses are donated but

not every donated horse can stand up to the rigors of being a school horse. Those animal loving equestrians rehabilitate those less-than-ideal horses as best they can and find suitable homes for them.

As for shelter, Brzezicki admits that a lot of horses are kept outside.

Ah-hah! I smell abuse!

Wrong.

"We have fewer respiratory problems than most barns. The horses kept outdoors have the least respiratory problems," Brzezicki said. "We are notorious for having horses live into their 20s."

What about the rumors? What about my journalistic search for justice?

"We did have one mare who was shivering pretty bad so we brought her in," Brzezicki said. "We check on them, they're fed. Horses can heat their bodies by digesting roughage. Extra round bails are put out during cold snaps."

As testimony to the dedication of MTSU staffers, Kevin Saunders woke up with a cold Wednesday morning. She had spent almost all of Tuesday night outside, in the snow, with the horses.

Saunders, farm director for horse labs, was concerned because it had been snowing for three days. She spent the night toting bales of hay and finding shelter for any horse who needed it.

It was obvious that there was no abuse here.

My urge as a journalist was fulfilled. There is, in fact, a shelter for the horses across the road from campus. They're all taken care of and the MTSU equestrian program is one of the best there is.



Amanda McCadams / staff

Just Jammin', Man

Drummer Dean Tapper and guitarist J. Dzermeiko enjoy the outside air and get a little practice in the KUC courtyard Friday before Music on the Knoll.

Baseball: American pastime or a covert plot by the KGB?

By Dave Barry / syndicated columnist

As I ponder the start of yet another baseball season, what is left of my mind drifts back to the fall of 1960, when I was a student at Harclid C. Crittenden Junior High ("Where the Leaders of Tomorrow Are Developing the Acne of Today").

The big baseball story that year was the World Series between the New York Yankees and the Pittsburgh Pirates. Today, for sound TV viewership reasons, all World Series games are played after most people, including many of the players, have gone to bed. But in 1960 the games had to be played in the daytime, because the electric light had not been invented yet. Also, back then the players and owners had not yet discovered the marketing benefits of sporadically canceling entire seasons.

The result was that in those days young people were actually interested in baseball, unlike today's young people, who are much more interested in basketball, football, soccer and downloading dirty pictures from the Internet. But in my youth, baseball ruled. Almost all of us boys played in Little League, a character-building

experience that helped me develop a personal relationship with God.

"God," I would say, when I was standing in deep right field—the coach put me in right field only because it was against the rules to put me in Sweden, where I would have done less damage to the team—"please please PLEASE don't let the ball come to me."

But of course God enjoys a good prank as much as the next infallible deity, which is why, when He heard me pleading with Him, He always took time out from His busy schedule to make sure the next batter hit a towering blast that would, upon re-entering the Earth's atmosphere, come down directly where I would have been standing, if I had stood still, which I never did. I lunged around cluelessly in frantic, random circles, so that the ball always landed a minimum of 40 feet from where I would be standing, desperately thrusting out my glove, which was a Herb Score model that, on my coach's recommendation, I had treated with neat's-foot oil so it would be supple. Looking back, I feel bad that innocent neats had to sacrifice their feet for the sake of my glove. I would have been just as effective, as a fielder, if I had been wearing a bowling

I never have cared for the Yankees, and for a very sound reason: The Yankees are evil.

Dave Barry

shoe on my hand, or a small aquarium.

But even though I stunk at it, I was into baseball. My friends and I collected baseball cards, the kind that came in a little pack with a dusty, pale-pink rectangle of linoleum-textured World War II surplus bubble gum that was far less edible than the cards themselves. Like every other male my age who collected baseball cards as a boy, I now firmly believe that at one time I had the original

rookie cards of Mickey Mantle, Jackie Robinson, Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Jim Thorpe, Daniel Boone, Goliath, etc., and that I'd be able to sell my collection for \$163 million today except my mom threw it out.

My point is that we cared deeply about baseball back then, which meant that we were passionate about the 1960 Pirates-Yankees World Series match up. My class was evenly divided between those who were Pirate fans and those who were complete morons. (I never have cared for the Yankees, and for a very sound reason: The Yankees are evil.)

We followed every pitch of every game. It wasn't easy, because the weekday games started when we were still in school, which for some idiot reason was not called off for the World Series. This meant that certain students—I am not naming names, because even now, it could go on our Permanent Records—had to carry concealed transistor radios to class. A major reason why the Russians got so far ahead of us, academically, during the Cold War is that while Russian students were listening to their teachers explain the cosine, we were

Please see BASEBALL on page 10



The Internet by Joe Legge

Sites that put the 'space' in cyber space

Since the beginning of media, the public has been obsessed with the unknown. Whether it came from a book, comic, television or movie, people wanted to see what they wanted to believe. Today is no different. In fact, our search for the truth in these matters appears to be bolder than ever before. Of course, I'm talking about science fiction. Just look at the success this genre has had all to itself—the "Alien," "Star Wars" or "Back to the Future" trilogies, books such as "Stranger in a Strange Land" and "Star Trek," "The X-Files" or "The Outer Limits" on television.

As some may recall, a column from last year discussed the uses of the Internet to save a television program from cancellation. One of the successes of this method was FOX's "Sliders," a program about four friends who slide into different dimensions of Earth each week, trying to find their way back home. Sounds a lot like surfing the 'net, doesn't it? Anyhow, latecomers to the show might want to check out Ed Hall's Earth Prime

s i t e (<http://www.brillig.com/sliders>) for spoilers on upcoming episodes, production notes and an episode guide for previously aired entries, and news from the producers of "Sliders" about upcoming book, action figure, comic book and season renewal deals.

Fans of "The X-Files" have a vast region to cover on the Internet if they are looking for all the information they can obtain. A perfect starting point is Terminal X

(<http://www.neosoft.com/sbands/xfiles/xfiles.html>) which is possibly the best web site I have ever seen. Terminal X makes use of new plug-ins for Netscape 2.0 that allows moving video to be encoded into the website, thus allowing visitors to watch "net-movies" while they are logged on, instead of downloading them first. "The X-Files" already has a line of comic books out from Topps, and the current issue can be read online. Terminal X also has links to the FBI, CIA, IRS, real X-files from real people, fan fiction (where the fans write the show), photos, bloopers and more.

Located at <http://www.netaxs.com/~hager> is a video and information archive for "Star Trek: Deep Space 9," "The Outer Limits" and, of course, "The X-Files." A site solely devoted to "The Outer Limits" (<http://www.mgmua.com/outerlimits/outerlimits.html>) also uses the new features of the latest version of Netscape, divided the screen into three separate sections while showing a net movie in one. Episode guides, video clips, show dates and time are all available here.

A lot of people like to keep up to date on their favorite programs using the Newsgroup or Usenet. It's like a big e-mail box where fans can send in messages and read other responses. To use a Newsgroup with a frank account, at the \$ prompt, type: tin. It may display some things like group:alt.sidelines.fan.internet-column (y/n/q) after typing tin. What this means is if you wish to subscribe or join this group, type "y;" if not, type "n;" and if you wish to quit, type "q." "Sliders" has two newsgroups available at alt.tv.sliders and alt.tv.sliders.creative (this is where fans write in episodes of the show). The "X Files" has about five Newsgroups, but only two official US listings: alt.tv.x-files and alt.tv.x-files.creative (again, for fan episodes).

Questions or comments should be e-mailed to legman@knuth.mtsu.edu. For previous Internet columns, link to <http://www.mtsu.edu/~legman>.

BASEBALL: Barry

continued from page 9

listening, via concealed earphones, to announcers explain how a bad hop nailed Tony Kubek in the throat.

That Series went seven games, and I vividly remember how it ended. I was out for the day, and I was heading home, pushing my bike up a steep hill, listening to my cheap little radio, my eyes staring vacantly ahead, my mind locked on the game. A delivery truck came by, and the driver stopped and asked if he could listen. Actually, he more or less TOLD me he was going to listen; I said OK.

The truck driver turned out to be a rabid Yankee fan. The game was very close and we stood on opposite sides of my bike for the final two innings, rooting for opposite teams, him

chain-smoking Lucky Strike cigarettes, both of us hanging on every word coming out of my tinny little speaker.

And, of course, if you were around back then and did not live in Russia, you know what happened: God, in a sincere effort to make up for all those fly balls he directed toward me in Little League, had Bill Mazerowski—Bill Mazerowski!—hit a home run to win it for the Pirates.

I was insane with joy. The truck driver was devastated. But I will never forget what he said to me. He looked me square in the eye, one baseball fan to another, after a tough but fair fight—and he said a seriously bad word. Several, in fact. Then he got in his truck and drove away.

That was the best game I ever saw. ●

Peasant refugees' arrival upsets Sarajevo residents

By Associated Press

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — War battered Sarajevo's buildings and tattered its tradition of multi-culturalism. But now that peace has come, many natives see a new threat to their once cosmopolitan city: the country bumpkin.

"You can call me a racist, but the difference between Sarajevans and those who are not is clearly visible in every aspect of life," said Boris Saric, between sips of coffee at the trendy Kogo bar.

"They dress different, talk different, drive, eat, think — everything. They are just different and don't fit in."

Such language is often used by Serbs, Croats and Muslims to explain why they could no longer co-exist in what used to be a multi-cultural Bosnia.

But for Saric, who is of multi-ethnic heritage, and others born in Sarajevo, coexistence in their city is less a matter of who you are than where you come from.

If you're from the city, you're OK, regardless of ethnicity. If not, you're not.

It is a common sentiment in the Balkans, where city life is on a par with the West but peasants often live in conditions reminiscent of the last century.

Sarajevans are no different. Their city had a trendy reputation while part of Yugoslavia, and most of them consider its spirit intact, despite the Serb shells that left few buildings unscathed.

Sarajevo is clawing back to normality. Discos, restaurants and chic stores are open again.

But the feel is different. And so are most of its people. Shabbily dressed peasants, bodies bent and faces careworn, now mingle with perfectly made-up city women, men in suits or designer leather and denim jackets. Muslim women in the baggy pants and kerchiefs of the countryside are a frequent sight.

The first refugees started arriving in April 1992, as their nearby towns and villages fell to the Serbs. By late last year, the Bosnian Health Ministry

had registered 110,000 displaced people in the city. Another 90,000 others were not listed because they stayed with friends and relatives.

That means refugees make up 65 percent of Sarajevo's now shrunken population of 360,000. And their country ways irritate many natives — especially since other issues, such as daily survival, are no longer cause for worry.

Differences often come to a head in buildings shared by natives and rural newcomers.

"The whole building smells different. In fact, it stinks," said Nedžad Imamovic, a 25-year-old actor and native Sarajevan. "They leave the shoes in front of the doors, when they cook they open the door and all the smell of garlic and onions in the weird dishes they prepare fills the building."

Elevators, corridors and stairways look like "a pack of wolves went through it," he complained.

Amela Rasic, another urbane-looking native, agreed.

"They refuse to pay for the repair of the elevator because

they never use it. They are afraid of it," the 27-year-old said.

Selim Beslic is one of the newcomers. He fled the eastern Muslim enclave of Srebrenica before it fell to the Serbs last July. Now living with relatives, he says it's difficult to adjust.

"I had a nice life back home. I did not ask to come here," said the 54-year-old refugee, dressed in old rubber boots, a black beret and a worn overcoat. "To tell you the truth, I prefer my life in Srebrenica to the one here. But what can I do now? I have nowhere else to go."

Some, like Imamovic, struggle to understand the plight of people from backwoods villages with no electricity and running water.

"It is not their fault they were driven out of their homes in a village somewhere," Imamovic said.

Others have no patience. Saric, 38, dressed in an Armani suit and splashy tie, said all newcomers need at least two generations to forget "the peasant habits they have." ●

Sidelines will not publish this Thursday, April 4. The next issue will be the following Monday, April 8.

He's no Houdini.

The great escape artist Harry Houdini vowed that his greatest feat would be to rise from the grave. He didn't deliver. But someone else did. That man claimed to be the God who created the universe. And said he would die and then bodily rise from the dead to prove he was God.

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SPORTS

Monday, April 1, 1996

SIDELINES

Page 11

Men's tennis team wins at UC-Irvine

Host team falls to Blue Raiders in tournament championship

By Joel Frey / staff

Perhaps for the first time this spring season, Coach Dale Short's Blue Raider tennis team finally "fired on all cylinders."

Playing in the Cal-Irvine Marriott Classic over the weekend, top-seeded MTSU strung together a series of three victories culminating in a 5-2 win in the championship Sunday against second-seeded and host school Cal-Irvine.

With the win over 24th-ranked UCI, the 23rd-ranked Blue Raiders captured the Marriott Classic for the first time.

The doubles teams of Julius Robberts/Mark Follet and Fred Niemeyer/Marshall Brown earned the opening point of the match for MTSU with hard fought wins.

With a 1-0 lead and momentum in their favor, Middle was able to win four of the six singles matches in taking the title. The same quartet of Raider netters won their singles matches against UCI.

Before Sunday's final, MTSU won matches over Brown University and the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. It was the second defeat of UALR for the Blue Raiders this season.

As in the UCI match, Middle began the day by winning the doubles

point against UALR, followed by victories in four of the six singles matches.

Niemeyer, Anthony DeLuise, Brown and Follett were victorious at numbers one, two, five and six, respectively in the Blue Raider line-up.

Follett played particularly well at number six, cruising to a 6-0, 6-0 win over Filipe McClusky of UALR.

After receiving a first round bye, MTSU began play in the tournament on Friday versus Brown.

Although Short described the play of his team as "fair," against their Ivy League opponents, Middle still managed a 7-0 victory, including a sweep of the doubles point with three match wins.

"Brown was definitely a good tune-up for our match with UALR on Saturday," Short said. "UALR upset Southwestern Louisiana, who was seeded third, so it was important for us to set a good tone against Brown."

Short's squad will not have too long to enjoy their victory in California. They travel to Vanderbilt's Curry Center on Wednesday for dual competition against the Commodores.

Although the Blue Raiders are ranked ahead of the Commodores as a team by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, Vanderbilt Knoxville native Chris Groer, ranked 16th in the nation by the ITA.

The 12-4 team will travel to Nashville and play UALR on Saturday.

Following their first OVC matches of the year this weekend versus UT-Martin and Murray State, the Raiders will travel to Knoxville April 9 to make up a match with Tennessee from earlier this season that was postponed due to inclement weather. ●



Brian G. Miller/staff

Junior Fred Niemeyer concentrates on a forehand in a recent Blue Raider match. Niemeyer's play in the Cal-Irvine Marriott Classic over the weekend was a key factor in MTSU's taking of the championship.



The Leprechaun's Pot
Sean P. O'Toole

Braves, Tribe should still be tough to beat

Well ladies and squires, it is that time of the sports calendar again.

Yup, it's baseball time. Now granted, baseball isn't what it used to be, and it sure isn't the "great" national pastime anymore, but it is still the game of summer, played by the boys of summer.

So the ol' leprechaun thought he'd give you fantasy leaguers some real predictions before you go out and spend your hard-earned money on players like Don Mattingly (he's retired), but they're picking him anyways), or for you Reds fans out there, Eric Davis and Chris Sabo (It's 1996, not 1990, and their play will show that).

AL EAST: This one could be the closest race in the majors, for a while. Baltimore went out and started handing out \$1000 bills like they were business cards.

Normally I would not say that teams who spend a horrendous amount of money like that win pennants, but I will make an exception in this case. Baltimore added one of the best managers in the league in Davey Johnson, and the best infielder ever in Roberto Alomar.

The pitching is suspect, but Mike Mussina and David Wells will be enough, and Kent Mercker can be a great pitcher when he wants to be. It will be close for most of the season, but barring major injuries, Baltimore wins the East.

The Yankees could be a tough team to beat. The pitching barrage of Kenny Rogers, Jimmy Key, David Cone, and an apparently resurgent Doc Gooden will be the key to victory in New York.

The hitting is good, and will be complemented by the arrival of Tino Martinez at first base. The Yankees will keep up with Baltimore till the end, but will probably end up with a wild-card for the second straight year.

Unfortunately for Boston, the American League HAS figured out Tim Wakefield's knuckler, and Erik Hanson is also gone. The offense will be the same, and will probably keep the Sox in it till mid-September, but they will fall to the Orioles and the Yanks. The pitching needs a miracle for Boston to contend seriously past September.

And unfortunately, the Blue Jays and my beloved Tigers are both going through terminal rebuilding, but keep an eye on them in TWO YEARS!

AL CENTRAL: Please, give me a break here. The list of questions is only down to one here: By HOW MUCH will the Indians win? This is a cake walk folks. Indians by 30-plus, again.

AL WEST: This one could get interesting. The Mariners are looking to repeat, but every owner's best friend, the salary cap, forced the Mariners to give away key pitchers and big hitters Tino Martinez and Mike Blowers. Too bad so sad, but the Mariners will be watching from a TV come October this year.

The Angels are the team to beat here. They have not forgotten about last year's fallout, and it has actually played as a motivational tool.

The pitching is led by Chuck Finley and Mark Langston, two of the winningest left handed-pitchers in the 90's.

The hitting is fueled by MVP candidate Tim Salmon, and bright youngster J.T. Snow. Chili Davis adds serious punch at the DH slot, and last year's rookie of the year runner-up, Garret Anderson, is the hottest thing to hit California since Wayne Gretzky. This is the year for the Angels, and they are still really ticked off that they almost had their team name changed to THE BIG GREEN (Disney joke).

Now on to my favorite, uninteresting, non DH-using league, the National League.

NL EAST: This division, like the AL Central, has but one question: By how much will the Braves win? Well, the Mets may pose some mid-summer problems, but the only players the Braves lost were Luis Polonia (remind me what he did again), Kent Mercker (replaceable) and Mike Devereaux. Braves in a walk.

NL CENTRAL: This will be the tightest race in the NL. The Astros are the team to beat, and they know

Baseball team takes two of three from UT-Martin

Staff Reports

The Blue Raiders took advantage of strong relief pitching and a couple of big innings at Martin, Tenn., scoring four runs in the fifth inning and four more in the seventh to take the rubber game of a three-game series from the UT-Martin Skyhawks, 9-4.

The Raiders got on the board in the top of the first on Sunday, as designated hitter Chris Snyder and catcher Andrew Thompson hit back-to-back doubles to give the Raiders a 1-0 lead.

Martin took over the lead in the bottom of the inning, scoring two runs on no hits as Skyhawk outfielder Randall Harvey walked and shortstop Chad Wyatt reached on an error. DH Erik Morgan was hit by a pitch to load the bases, and third baseman Daisuke Oda drew a walk to score UTM's first run of the game. Wyatt scored on a fielder's choice later in the inning to give Martin a 2-1 lead.

Middle got on the board in a big way in the fifth, scoring four runs on four hits.

The Skyhawks got two runs back in the fifth off Raider reliever Chad

Kirby, as Martin strung together three hits to close the MTSU lead to one.

Kirby settled down after the fifth, retiring 11 straight UT-Martin hitters over the next four innings.

The Raiders got four more runs in the seventh. Perry Lyons led off the inning with a single, then stole second. Snyder drew a walk, and Thompson drove both runners in with a one-out double down the left field line. A Doug Barner single drove in two more Raider runs to seal the 9-4 victory.

Kirby got the win for the sophomores, his second of the year. The Raiders from Lewisburg, Tenn., worked five

innings, allowing two runs on three hits, walking two and fanning three.

Sunday's win allowed the Raiders to take the series from UT-Martin, two games to three. The two teams split a doubleheader on Saturday, winning the first game 11-3, but losing the nightcap 5-1.

The Raiders will be at home for five games this week. MTSU will host Jacksonville State Tuesday night at 7:00 and Wednesday afternoon at 3:00. This weekend the Raiders will resume OVC play, as they host a three-game series with the Eagles from Morehead State. ●



Brian G. Miller/staff

Layin' it down

Lady Raider right fielder Jamie Polsteen lays down a bunt during a recent home game. The Lady Raiders were swept by Morehead Saturday, 3-2. 3-1. MTSU's softball team will be at home against Morehead Saturday, April 6 at 1 p.m., and will host Eastern Kentucky Sunday, April 7 at 2 p.m.

CORRECTION

In the photos accompanying Thursday's story on the Lady Raider softball team's sweep of Austin Peay, pitcher Kelly Johnson was incorrectly identified as Kim Blair. We apologize for any confusion this error may have caused.

MTSU BASEBALL
vs. Jacksonville State
Tues., April 2 - 7 p.m.
Wed., April 3 - 3 p.m.
Reese Smith Field

Raider golfers take second in Alabama tournament

MTSU's golf team ended the Southern Junior/Senior Collegiate Golf Tournament strong, but not strong enough.

The Blue Raiders shot 892 for the three-day event finishing tied for second, three shots behind tournament champions Kennesaw at 889.

Kennesaw had a 12-shot lead on Middle Tennessee going into the final round.

Junior Maine Brock led the way for MTSU shooting a one-over-par total of 217 to finish fourth overall. Brock's eagle on the par five fourth hole appeared to pull the Blue Raiders in a position to make a late charge, but missed opportunities in the form of short putts squandered the Raiders chances.

"We did not play nearly as well as we should have and a lot of the blame needs to go my way," said MTSU Head Coach Johnny Moore. "I made some decisions that maybe I shouldn't have, but now we have to get back in a positive mind frame for our next tournament."

"Our season really is made or broken at the OVC Tournament at Springhouse in late April. We have to get prepared mentally and physically to defend our title."

The Blue Raiders are the two-time defending Ohio Valley Conference Champions.

Middle Tennessee also had the tournament's fifth-place individual finisher in senior David Reed. Reed shot a two-over par score of 218 for the three days. ●

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Track teams look good at Mississippi meet

MTSU's track teams had a strong showing this weekend at the Mississippi State Invitational meet.

The Lady Raider squad finished second out of seven teams in Saturday's meet at Starkville, Miss., while the men's team took fourth place.

The men's and women's teams from Auburn University won both sides of the meet. The Lady Tigers scored 132 points, just 15 ahead of MTSU, while Auburn's men's team scored 170 points, 18 ahead of the second place team from Mississippi State. MTSU's men's team scored 73 points to finish fourth.

Nadia Graham broke MTSU records with wins in

both the 400 meter run and the 4 X 400 meter relay. Graham's mark of 53.30 in the 400 qualified her for the NCAA meet in that event. The 4 X 400 team, consisting of Graham, Melanie Hall, Rachel Parrish and Tyjuana Phillips also set a school record, finishing first with a time of 3:42.25.

Nekeya Ralls won the long jump and was third in the 100 meter hurdles. Andrea Byars finished second in the long jump, while Kim Watson finished fifth in the 100 and Phillips took sixth. Phillips also finished fourth in the 200 meter dash.

Hall took third in the 400, while Parrish finished fourth in

that event and sixth in the 200. Shelley Johnson placed second in the discus and third in the shot, while Angie Venable and Adrienne Kirkwood took second and third in the javelin.

"Second place in a meet like this is tough," said MTSU track coach Dean Hayes. "They really competed hard."

For the men, Christian Nsiyah ran NCAA qualifying times in the 100 and 200 meter dashes, winning the 200 and finishing second in the 100.

Dana Dixon placed sixth in the high hurdles and 400 meter intermediate hurdles, while Carlis Shackelford and Shane Heavener took third and fifth, respectively.

Dave Creary and Lamone Hunter finished fourth and sixth in the 100, and Curt Arthur finished third in the steeplechase. Kenden Maynard finished fifth in the 400.

Jaz Salahuddin took sixth in the triple jump, while Carlos Clardy finished fifth in the high hurdles. Michael Pope took sixth in the javelin.

"The competed very solid," Hayes said. "The sprinters are beginning to come around, and we'll need all of them for the OVC."

MTSU's next meet will be this weekend, when they will compete in the SEMotion Relays at Southeast Missouri. ●

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LEP: L.A. should win NL west

Continued from page 11

it. Their young pitching staff may need some time to come around, but when they do, the Astros will be the one team Houston doesn't want to give to Nashville, I can assure you.

The Reds will be a tough team until around late August. The pitching is good, but the hitting, as they proved in the NL championship last year against the Braves, is horrible. They will contend more for the wild-card than the pennant, but they too will be TV-bound come October.

NL WEST: This is all Dodgers. Now that the disreputable phrase of "Nomo-mania" has passed, it is time for the Dodgers to show what they are really made of.

With tough hitters like Raul Mondesi, Mike Piazza, and Eric Karros leading the team, and a great pitching staff, the Dodgers are pennant bound in what will probably be Tommy Lasorda's last season

(That Slim-fast stock has finally started rising).

The mystery here is not the pennant, but the wild-card. The Rockies are still riding the Rocky Mountain high, and will kick and scratch all season long for victories. But in the end, lack of pitching will send the Rockies packing.

The Padres, on the other hand, are one of the most talented and deserving teams ever. Led by six-time batting champ Tony Gwynn, and sharp-hitting, good-glove third baseman Ken Caminiti, the Padres could be on their way to their first post-season in over a decade.

Add to that probably the most underrated pitching staff in the league, led by Andy Ashby and Joey Hamilton, complemented by inning-eater Bob Tewksbury and young right-hander Sean Bergman, and the Padres, in my opinion, are headed for the playoffs. ●

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THATCH by Jeff Shesol



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- ACROSS
- Sharp pain
 - Station
 - Blockhead
 - Cupid
 - Shun
 - Spy Mata
 - Durango dollar
 - Gives for a time
 - Neighbor of Iraq
 - No matter what place
 - Mexican morsel
 - Certain European
 - Titled lady
 - Hit the hay
 - Hated
 - Without peer
 - Anias
 - A Gershwin
 - Ding
 - Change
 - Ski lift item
 - Mimic
 - Mount
 - Reagan cabinet member
 - Took umbrage
 - Dog
 - Wall calories
 - Count St. pessimist
 - Bookkeeping items
 - Military establishment
 - Mob scene
 - River ducks
 - Foolishly enthusiastic
 - Sea raptor
 - Good golf score
 - Atop
 - Unwanted plant
 - Metal waste
 - Require
- DOWN
- Hemingway sobriquet
 - Final word
 - Prying
 - Warning sound from a dog
 - Remove
 - Chris of tennis
 - Window section
 - Singular
 - One with a will
 - in (interrupts)
 - Zhivago's love
 - Not written
 - Attend a banquet
 - and now
 - lowa city
 - Crossed out
 - Detection device
 - Wed in secret
 - Some are pear-shaped
 - Bestowed attention
 - Lama land
 - Expunge
 - Brave one
 - Winter hazard
 - Certified
 - Quadrilateral
 - Fit of anger
 - Certain food
 - Amended
 - Feels
 - Ringers
 - A Barrymore
 - Emerald Isle
 - Skeletal part
 - Half a Samoan capital
 - Donated
 - S-shaped molding
 - Ancient symbol
 - Cup handle

Sidelines will not publish this Thursday, April 4. The next issue will be out the following Monday, April 8. Have a good Easter weekend.

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International Programs and Services Office CONGRATULATES

the following MTSU students and faculty who are scheduled to participate in Summer and Fall study abroad trips through the Cooperative Center for Study in Britain (CCSB).

IRELAND/SCOTLAND

Lance Evans
Tanya Farmer
John Mauldin
Susan Newby
Darcy Oordt
Stacy Wolfe
Dr. David Lavery

Penelope Beasley
Siva Balke
Shawn Brabham
Jace Cherney
Joyce Fox
Angi Kuzma
Patsy Fowler
-Our \$500 Scholarship
Winner!!

LONDON SUMMER

Mandy McBroom
Christy Robinson
Caroline Sobel
Krys Spain
Carrie Sublett
Dr. Gay Brewer
Rachel Bailey
-Cambridge in the Fall
Semester



Former Participants Say:

"All the posters and books from (the Globe Theater) and our British Museum trip have been used in my class as well as a community madrigal. Thank you for giving me so much to bring to my students and my own life!"

"After staying in London with trips to Dover, Stonehenge, Bath, Canterbury, and Stratford-On-Avon, I realized there is more to this world than what is outside my door here in Tennessee."

International Programs and Services

For more information on opportunities abroad, visit our web site @ www.mtsu.edu/~ipso

Check out these exciting EXCHANGE opportunities:

University of France - Comte (France)

Besançon, France, majors or minors in French who are juniors; one or two semesters.

University of Caen (France)

Business majors, year-long program, graduate or undergraduate students to participate.

Escuela Politecnica del Ejército (ESPE) --Near Quito, Ecuador,

wonderful opportunity to steep yourself in South American culture and visit historic sites.

Moscow State University (Russia)

Through College of Mass Communication with emphasis in journalism, Russian language instruction available.

University of Mainz (Germany)

Germersheim, Germany, through Foreign Languages Department.

Kansai Gaidai University (Japan)

Substantial scholarships available, including airfare and stipend for living expenses.

Asian studies (language of instruction is English), homestay or dorm housing available, semester or year-long program. Near Osaka, Japan

Our current participant says:

"This semester at Kansai Gaidai is everything I had hoped for. Last weekend, we went on a bicycle tour of Asuka, near Nara with my Japanese history class. Definitely, I recommend that other MTSU students try this great experience."

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to you by
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Programs and
Services Office
202 Cope
898-2238

