



Middle Tennessee State University SIDELINES

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Wednesday, June 24, 1998

In the News

State counting on federal money for Tennessee park

CHATTANOOGA(AP) The state is counting on federal money, grants, and private donations to help turn the 220-mile Cumberland Trail into a Tennessee park.

The state controls about 65 miles of the corridor, which runs from Signal Mountain to the Kentucky border, and will spend \$5 million to acquire the remainder of the route.

Much of the property is held by private landowners and the federal government.

Gov. Sundquist designated the trail as a state park on Monday.

Along the route are the Cumberland Mountains, the Obed Wild and Scenic River, Grassy Cove in Cumberland County and the Tennessee River Gorge.

Police fatally shoot car thief suspect following short chase

NASHVILLE(AP) Police fatally shot a suspected car thief early yesterday after the suspect tried to run over an officer following a short chase.

Darrell David Peebles, 30, was shot once in the neck and was pronounced dead at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Peebles, who had 42 prior offenses, had an arrest warrant outstanding for robbery.

Police officers Don Pirtle and Marcus Babbit said they spotted two men in a car they believed was stolen. A check on the car's license plate confirmed it had been reported stolen.

After a car chase, Pirtle got out of his car and ordered the driver to surrender, but Peebles turned the car around and drove at Pirtle who shot him, police spokesman Don Aaron said.

Improved technology may cause pilots to fall asleep

SAN FRANCISCO(AP) More airline pilots are falling asleep at the wheel due to improved cockpit technology and an increased demand for flights, according to a NASA study.

Pilots often must endure more transcontinental flights with little to do at cruising altitudes, said David Neri, who heads NASA's research into pilot fatigue at Moffett Field in Mountain View, Calif.

Currently, pilots are banned from napping or taking mid-flight walks except to use the toilet.

Thompson says he may seek Republican nomination

DES MOINES, Iowa(AP) -- Tennessee Sen. Fred Thompson says he has "a full plate" of congressional investigations, but he will squeeze in a look at seeking the Republican presidential nomination.

Thompson has gotten heavy attention for a series of investigations he has headed, the most recent being the transfer of satellite technology to China. All have put heat on the Clinton administration, and stirred speculation about Thompson's intentions.

Thompson's presence would boost an already substantial Tennessee delegation in the presidential field. Former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander is busily assembling another presidential bid, and Vice President Al Gore is widely expected to seek the Democratic nomination.

Construction begins on student apartments

□ Cynthia Ryan/ staff

The demand for more student housing at MTSU is being met with construction of an apartment complex where the horse pasture previously was.

"The apartments are designed for upperclassmen and graduate students," Patti Miller, director of campus planning, said.

The school has found that as students move through the college life experience, they are looking for more independence and privacy, Miller said.

The notice to proceed with construction was given June 15, according to Bill Smotherman, director of facilities services.

The complex is scheduled to be completed by August 1999, said Debra Sells, director of residence life.

"We began working with the architects about a year ago," Sells said.

The apartment complex will consist of nine apartment buildings and one central building which will serve as a clubhouse, according to Sells. The clubhouse will include the manager's apartment, an office space,

a community TV room, laundry facilities and an outdoor patio available for picnics and barbecues.

Each of the 104 apartments will consist of four private bedrooms and two bathrooms with a shared living room and kitchen.

The parking at the new apartments will be on a one-to-one relationship, one parking space for each student.

"The school did a marketing survey to determine... what students would be looking for on campus," Miller said.

The survey concluded that the current dormitory situations allow for a good college life experience and that most new students enjoy the opportunity to meet new people and have a roommate, Miller said.

More student housing projects are currently under discussion.

"The overall goal is to provide enough housing on campus to enrich campus life," said Miller.

The construction contract with R.G. Anderson Co. for \$9,433,000 was received in May.

Shuttle touches down on campus

□ Nikki Bagwell/ staff

The Dream Mission Space Shuttle landed on the MTSU campus last Thursday.

At 53 percent of the size of an actual space shuttle, the Project Dream Mission replica was created by the Jackson Foundation of Dickson, Tenn., and is sponsored by BellSouth.

The 63-foot-long, 30-foot-high replica is outfitted with a network of multimedia equipment and computers. It has more than one hundred times the computing power of a real space shuttle.

Gerry Hill, director of the Tennessee aerospace educational workshops, reserved the shuttle in February to accommodate the aerospace workshops that are in progress. According to Hill, the workshop participants endure a six-week curriculum prior to becoming

Dream Shuttle specialists.

"In the shuttle, students simulate the actual condition of a mission," Hill said.

Participants work as a team in the shuttle and endure typical weather conditions that could be detrimental to the mission.

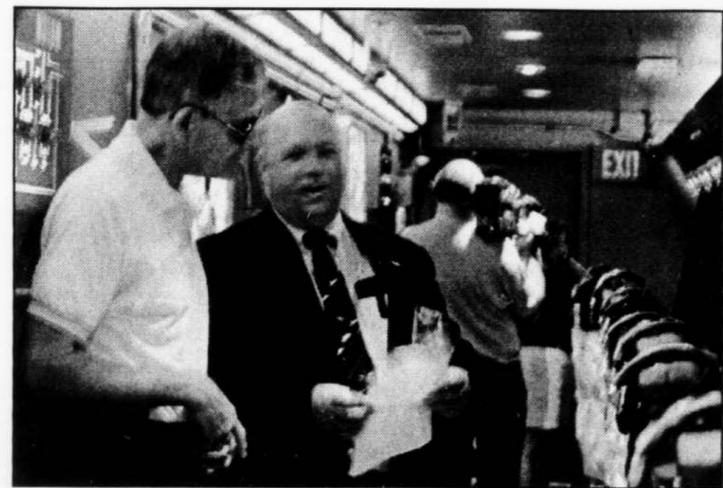
The specialists interact with NASA Shuttle Commander Robert "Hoot" Gibson.

The actual mission takes three hours, but is condensed to one hour.

"It was very enjoyable and it gave me a chance to see what it's like," said workshop participant Carolyn Graves.

Project Dream Mission was originally developed for middle and high school students in Tennessee and Kentucky. The students also endure a six-week curriculum before the mission.

The shuttle was the feature exhibit for International Space Day



Emily Parker/ staff

Gerry Hill gives a tour of Project Dream Mission to local and regional media. The shuttle was built early this spring to give aerospace students a chance to experience the possible complications of a space shuttle mission.

May 21 in Washington, D.C.

During its stay at MTSU, students were invited to witness the

mission from the outside, but the shuttle was not open to the public.

Testing of AIDS vaccine begins

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Volunteers began rolling up their sleeves and receiving injections Tuesday in the first-ever large-scale human test of an AIDS vaccine.

The three-year trial of VaxGen Inc.'s AIDSVax is intended to learn whether it can protect people from infection with the AIDS virus. The testing is the final step before Federal Drug Administration approval.

Five thousand volunteers will participate in more than 30 U.S. cities, including New York, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles and St. Louis.

Volunteers will be injected with either a placebo or AIDSVax, which scientists say is not dangerous because it is not a live strain of the AIDS virus.

The test is open to people who are considered to be at high risk of contracting the AIDS virus, such as gay men and women whose sexual partners are infected. Many of the volunteers are already veterans of the

fight against AIDS.

Dr. Mark Watkins, 38, was the first participant in the nation to receive the injection. He is among 150 volunteers in Philadelphia.

"In treating HIV patients, I realize the devastation this disease causes, and I thought this was a worthwhile trial," Watkins, who specializes in patients with AIDS, said as reporters and camera crews looked on.

Petr Pronsati, who works for the AIDS awareness clinic Philadelphia FIGHT, said he volunteered and agreed to the media spotlight to "give hope to people." "I think it's great that people see there is something being worked on and people see the faces of people involved," Pronsati said.

Volunteers will be given a series of shots, undergo periodic blood tests and discuss their sex lives with researchers.

Some 25 potential vaccines have been tested worldwide, but none has advanced to this larger-scale testing,

known as a Phase III trial.

VaxGen is using copies of the outer coating of the AIDS virus to try to stimulate the immune system to fight off the most common subtypes of the AIDS virus. Two different formulas will be used to fight strains found in the United States and others that are predominant in Southeast Asia.

Many U.S. scientists are skeptical because AIDSVax is based on gp120, a vaccine the National Institutes of Health decided was too weak to study in 1994. But VaxGen said AIDSVax improves on gp120.

Smaller AIDSVax tests showed 99.5 percent of vaccinated people produced strong levels of antibodies, immune system cells that can target and kill infection, said VaxGen chief operating officer Daniel T. Reiner.

Study organizers are also seeking permission from the Thai Health Ministry to inject 2,500 high-risk people in Thailand.

Congress funding threatens K-25 uranium cleanup

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Department of Energy's cleanup of the former K-25 uranium enrichment site in Oak Ridge is threatened by a lack of funding from Congress, DOE-Oak Ridge manager Jim Hall says.

Hall said Monday he is disheartened that Congress is proposing to restrict spending on decontamination and decommissioning activities in Oak Ridge in fiscal 1999, which begins Oct. 1.

This could most keenly affect the British Nuclear Fuels Ltd. cleanup of three massive processing buildings at the former K-25 site, which is being converted into an industrial park known as the East Tennessee Technology Park.

Appeals court overturns Microsoft injunction

WASHINGTON (AP) — Microsoft won a court appeal today in part of the federal monopoly case against the computer giant, winning the right to tie its Internet software to its popular computer operating system.

The U.S. Court of Appeals agreed that a lower court's injunction against Microsoft was improper, and sent the matter back to the federal trial judge overseeing the antitrust case.

The broad, 2-1 ruling found that U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson made procedural and substantive errors in issuing a

preliminary injunction against Microsoft in December.

Jackson ruled that Microsoft could not force computer makers who sell the nearly ubiquitous Windows 95 operating system to also offer the company's Internet search product, called a browser.

Government prosecutors did not specifically ask for the injunction, but Jackson issued it anyway. On appeal, Microsoft lawyers complained that the company did not have an opportunity to fight something they did not know was on the table.

The appeals court agreed.

"The preliminary injunction was issued without adequate notice and on an erroneous reading," of the law, the majority of the three-judge appeals court panel wrote.

The ruling dealt in part with the substantive question of whether Microsoft can tie the two products together — finding that the practice is acceptable — but sent the case back to Jackson for further review.

Microsoft spokesman Greg Shaw called the decision "a great day for consumers."

"Today's decision affirms the central principal Microsoft has been defending, that every company should have the freedom to improve its products and integrate new features on behalf of consumers," Shaw said.

Microsoft had also complained that the judge should not have appointed a "special master" to consider important technical issues and report back to him. The company claimed that the master, Harvard University law professor Lawrence Lessig, was biased

Please see MICROSOFT, page 2

OPINIONS

Patti Fosbinder discusses the pros and cons of an interstate littered with semi trucks, page 4.

FEATURES

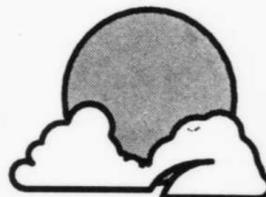
Bell Buckle hosts Ugly Truck contest, kazoo band, RC Cola and the world's largest Moon Pie, page 5.

SPORTS

Carol and Lee Fowler continue MTSU' ticket blitz. The Blue Raiders need to average 17,000 at 1998 home games, page 7.

WEATHER

Partly sunny, hot and humid with a high in the mid 90s. Winds out of the southwest at 10 miles per hour



Know something noteworthy happening on campus? Call the Sidelines news desk at 898-2336 or fax us at 904-8487. Information can also be mailed to box 42.

Former TVA employee sues over job loss

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Whistleblower Ann Harris, one of the most vocal critics of the Tennessee Valley Authority's nuclear program, is waging a court battle over the loss of her TVA job.

"They have made it very personal, and I never did," Harris, 58, said outside a small courtroom where her Department of Labor complaint against TVA is being heard.

The case before Administrative Law Judge Paul Teitler opened Tuesday and is expected to last several weeks.

TVA attorney Brent Marquand said Harris' criticism of TVA had nothing to do with the elimination of her job after she had worked nearly 16 years with the agency.

"It is our view that throughout, TVA has bent over backwards, has gone out of our way to accommodate her," he said.

Harris, a former inspection manager at TVA's Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, raised dozens of safety complaints about Watts Bar construction practices and record-keeping beginning in 1987. She also was a conduit for other whistleblowers before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The furor contributed to a decade-long

delay in completing the multibillion-dollar Watts Bar reactor, which went into service in 1996.

A TVA employee since 1982, Harris claims those actions led to a pattern of harassment by TVA supervisors — five complaints against TVA were settled in 1990 — and ultimately to her transfer to a make-work job that TVA knew was going to be eliminated in a corporate reorganization.

Harris, who was earning \$59,700 a year when her job was eliminated in 1996, is seeking \$542,000 in lost wages and retirement benefits.

TVA counters that as part of that 1990 settlement the agency paid Harris to get her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Tennessee and agreed to bring her back to work.

But Marquand claims she refused to help TVA officials plan for her return. When pressed about what job she would like, she said, "I'd be willing to take the chairman of the board job" or three other executive positions.

He said she asked TVA for a buyout offer, then turned it down. She eventually was given a largely clerical job in the

nuclear division's human resources office in Chattanooga, some 80 miles from her home near the Watts Bar plant in Spring City.

Harris claims TVA officials knew the job wouldn't be around long, though TVA contends it was considered a needed position.

She was told in 1996 that the job was being eliminated, and she would have to bid for other jobs. She was sent to TVA Services, a kind of holding unit for such employees where they were provided help finding new work, in Knoxville.

Harris said she was never offered or told about jobs that fit her qualifications, although she later learned as many as six jobs she could have filled were available.

TVA contends she simply never pursued another job, so she was let go.

Harris' lawyer Lynne Bernabei said it was part of a pattern in which "TVA decided this was a good way to get rid of Mrs Harris."

But Marquand said, "Had she applied (TVA) would have felt compelled to offer her a position to avoid the controversy that would arise."

MICROSOFT continued from page 1

but said his appointment amounts to the wrongheaded addition of a surrogate judge to the case.

The appeals court decision

applies to the first, narrow antitrust move that government lawyers made against Microsoft last year.

The Justice Department contended the software company tied sale of Windows

95 to its Internet Explorer product in violation of a 1995 agreement Microsoft made with the government.

The Justice Department filed a broader monopoly case against the Redmond, Wash.,

company this year that is not directly affected by the appeals court ruling.

The judges noted, however, that the second, broader case may supersede the first one.

Lightning Cola?



MTSU and Coca-Cola have entered into an agreement to promote the Blue Raider's move to Division I-A. Machines across campus and Middle Tennessee will bear this logo.

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Government holds two-day summit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Warning companies that do business on the Internet to better protect the privacy of consumers, Commerce Secretary William Daley said today the federal government will intervene unless industry changes its ways.

"I don't want to hear any griping or moaning if that happens," Daley said, opening a two-day summit on Internet privacy.

Companies and the government want to encourage the growth of fledgling Internet commerce while balancing the privacy rights of consumers. Industry wants to develop its own rules and punishments. Privacy advocates want the government to write tough new privacy laws — now.

So far, the Clinton administration, wary of stifling business on the Internet with burdensome new laws, has indicated it will give companies more time to come up with ways to regulate themselves.

Daley, who will issue a report on Internet privacy to Clinton within weeks, said the president "doesn't want to do anything that would mess up this success."

"What happens if self-regulation fails?" Daley asked. "The loser will be industry. They have the largest stake to lose."

Critics said the government is giving businesses too much time.

"They have their eyes closed and their fingers crossed that it will all work out," complained Jeff Chester, executive director of the Washington-based Center for Media Education. "The administration has been on its knees pleading with American high-

tech companies to come up with measures to protect online privacy, and they've been met with a loud chorus of denials."

The Internet can be a corporate candyland of personal consumer information. Customers routinely respond to questionnaires on Web sites, providing their names, e-mail and postal addresses and other personal data.

Once a person is identified on a Web site, companies can easily track which Web pages are read at that site.

Buy anything on the Internet — or just fill out one of those innocent-looking forms on a Web site — and a company can learn a lot about you: what you read, what you wear, how you vote, maybe even information about your health.

Until a person identifies himself, only relatively innocuous information can be collected behind the scenes, such as which kinds of software the person uses.

"Once an individual gives over information, that can be tied to a whole bunch of data about what you've done at a Web site or at a whole bunch of Web sites," said Deirdre Mulligan, a lawyer with the Washington-based Center for Democracy and Technology. "That might reveal your preferences, your taste in books, your taste in politics or in clothes. It gives people the ability to create dossiers unparalleled in the offline world."

On the eve of the privacy summit, nearly 50 large companies that sell products on the Internet formed a trade group Monday to convince the federal government that industry can police itself

against abuse.

"Think of it as an online neighborhood watch," said Christopher Caine, a vice president at IBM.

The companies include America Online, AT&T, Disney, Equifax, Microsoft, Netscape, Procter & Gamble and the largest personal computer makers.

Daley, who met with the group's leaders, said today that "on first impressions, I like what I saw."

The group proposed that companies should not collect information online from any child under 13 without a parent's consent or without directly notifying parents. They also urged companies to tell customers what information is being collected and how it's used and to offer customers the chance to keep their personal data private.

But, significantly, the Online Privacy Alliance did not announce how it will punish companies that violate its principles, saying its members "are finalizing an enforcement and consumer redress policy."

Caine said the group will announce its plan by Sept. 15, but Daley said today that "frankly, we were disappointed we have to wait another day."

"Ultimately it is the consumer who is going to vote," said Mary Whelan, a vice president at AT&T. "As people begin to understand how much information is collected about them, they'll begin to ask questions. That will drive how businesses will behave."

China withdraws radio worker's visas

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton today denounced as "highly objectionable" a Chinese decision to withdraw the visas of three Radio Free Asia employees who had planned to cover the president's trip to China.

"We will protest it. We hope they will reconsider it," said Clinton, who is scheduled to depart Wednesday morning with a large official delegation. Most of the more than 350 reporters, photographers and technicians on the assignment leave today for Beijing.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich wrote Clinton, meanwhile, that he was "gravely concerned." The Georgian called the Chinese action "censorship — pure and simple."

He urged Clinton to make clear to China that American freedom of the press was not negotiable. If the visas are not returned, Gingrich told Clinton, "You should bring them with you in person as your guests on Air Force One."

State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said protests were lodged here and in Beijing. He called the withdrawal of the visas regrettable and said China had undermined its decision to permit the widest-ever press coverage of a presidential visit.

Pulling the three RFA visas will "deprive China of the credit it otherwise would have gotten for giving more visas to a more diverse group of journalists and allowing more different kinds of people in there than they've ever done before," Clinton said.

"I think it's a highly objectionable decision." White House officials also advised the reporters not to attempt the trip without visas because under U.S. regulations, airplanes cannot carry Americans to foreign countries without valid visas.

The three banned by the communist government are Arin Basu, an Indian who is a diplomatic reporter for the broadcast agency; Patricia Hindman, a technician and producer; and Feng Xiao Ming, a Chinese-American who is a broadcaster for Radio Free Asia.

They were telephoned Saturday afternoon by the Chinese Embassy here and told their visas had been canceled. Later, in a formal letter, the Chinese government said the reason was they worked for Radio Free Asia, which is funded by the U.S. government.

Officials of the agency asked for help from the White House and where told today "we shouldn't try it because a carrier cannot have passengers who do not have valid visas," said an RFA official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The three broadcast employees were to have gone with scores of other reporters on a charter to China today to cover the President's trip.

RFA broadcasts to mainland China in Chinese and has upset officials there with its reports on human rights abuses and on other issues.

E. coli outbreak effects more than 4,000

ORLAND PARK, Ill. (AP) — A form of the E. coli bacterium lurking in a popular caterer's potato salad caused more than 4,000 people to fall ill, health officials said. And in Georgia, a virulent form of E. coli sickened at least six children.

The Illinois case was the largest documented outbreak in the United States of the strain called enterotoxigenic Escherichia coli, or ETEC, Cook County Health Department officials said Monday.

The bacterium was identified in stool samples from three victims of the illness known as "traveler's diarrhea," said Dr. Stephanie Smith, the department's director of communicable disease.

More than 4,000 people became ill after eating potato salad prepared by Iwan's Deli and Catering for several hundred parties in the Chicago area over the weekend of June 6.

Officials from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention were conducting tests to isolate the bacteria in the food or water at the catering company in suburban Orland Park.

Although ETEC is common in developing countries, the CDC

in Atlanta has tracked just 14 ETEC outbreaks in the U.S. in the last 23 years, Smith said.

Meanwhile, health officials in Georgia were searching for the source or sources of a more dangerous strain of E. coli that has sickened six children — ranging from ages 2 to 12.

Three of the children are suffering from hemolytic uremic syndrome, a life-threatening condition that affects the kidneys, according to the state Division of Public Health.

Authorities declined to identify the six children, but Atlanta Braves shortstop Walt Weiss confirmed his 3-year-old son, Brody, is among them. Brody was in serious condition suffering from kidney failure and intestinal problems. Two other children were in critical condition.

The strain of the bacterium, E. coli O157:H7, is the same one that killed three children and sickened hundreds in western Washington in 1993. That outbreak was traced to undercooked hamburgers served at Jack in the Box restaurants.

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Editorials

Kids don't know power of guns

It finally happened. A mother died from the bullet of her young angry teen with a gun.

Now, the boy must live the rest of his life remembering his mother's face before she died as well as the face of the aggressor he missed.

Last week in Chattanooga, a 14-year-old boy got into a verbal fight with a 17-year-old. In an effort to get the last word, the boy got a gun and shot at the enemy in front of him.

He missed and accidentally shot his mother, who was trying to stop the fight, in the head.

Just a week before, there was a report of a young teen in Virginia who brought a gun to school on the last day to "get even" with a coach.

At a high school graduation party in a California town last month, two seniors were shot and killed.

It's unreal.

How do kids get a hold of these guns? Do they buy them off the street or do they find them in their parents' dresser drawers?

It is becoming too frequent — the six o'clock news anchors telling us that yet another young teen was arrested with a gun in his hand. And more now than ever, the results are fatal.

Gun control may not even be the answer to such a fierce dilemma. Americans have the right to bear arms -- but at what cost?

Responsibility must come into play. Parents must teach their children the dangers of guns, not to mention that if you have a gun at home, hide it!

I don't ever remember such a violent time in my childhood, nor could I imagine the intense anger and hatred in the minds of these young assailants.

We teach kids not to run with scissors. We tell them not to swim after eating. We make them wear their seatbelts and tell them not to talk to strangers.

We are cautious and careful in nearly every realm of a child's life.

So, when are we going to take the guns out of their hands?



Virtual reality lessons to curb road rage

□ Patti Fosbinder/staff

As a resident of Nashville and a student in Murfreesboro, it's easy for me to say the greatest day of the coming school year will be the day the construction on Interstate 24 is completed. And although I empathize with Native Americans and landowners in Williamson County, another great day in my life will be when they complete Highway 840 and pass laws that semis can only travel inside the loop to deliver locally or return to their corporate hub.

Yes, I have a problem with semi drivers. What I hate are semi drivers who think they have the right of way, who do not realize what it means to drive a subcompact with a semi tailgating you at 70 miles per hour in a construction area with a 55 speed limit.

I know semi drivers have to do some serious studying and take tests to get their licenses. But why do they forget these things when they are on the road?

I was traveling with my sister to Savannah, Georgia. While I was driving, a semi came up behind me in the center lane of a three-lane interstate heading toward Atlanta. He didn't even want to slow down for me. He was following so close I could not even tell if he was driving a Peterbilt or a Kenworth.

Having gone to a safe driving class to get out of a speeding ticket, I recalled the teacher saying that if anyone ever tailgates you on the interstate, just slow down and they'll go around you. So I

turned off the cruise control, causing the car to decelerate.

The semi had to swerve violently into the left lane (where, according to signs, semis aren't supposed to go) to keep from running over my sister's car. I kept a close eye on him wondering what he'd do next and, sure enough, as soon as he was beside me he started moving back into the center lane.

I was forced to slam on my breaks until the right lane was clear, then move over. I pulled up alongside him in the third lane and my sister wrote down his vehicle number. He must have noticed because he slowed down to the speed limit and stayed far behind us after that.

As I drove on I started imagining a form of education for semi drivers to make them realize what it's like to be on the other side. And then it came to me — virtual reality driver training.

Just imagine . . . before a professional driver could get a license he would be placed in a drive simulator. Special gloves and belts would be placed all over his body to stimulate his senses and make him feel as if he were really in the car. And right around his belt he would be given an epidural — you know, the pain killers they offer women during childbirth.

But instead of driving a semi, the participant would be placed in an Aspire or some other sub-sub-subcompact. The simulator would have him traveling through town, then onto an interstate.

Once he was racing at 70 down the highway, a semi would appear on the

horizon. It would quickly approach, showing no signs of slowing down. Soon the participant would be spending half his time looking in the rearview mirror and sweating, paying much less attention to his speedometer or the road.

Then an 1970s Pinto going 55 swerves in front of him to avoid hitting a semi coming up the onramp. The test driver slams on his breaks to keep from hitting the Pinto only to cause the semi behind him to leave a set of rubber tracks over the top of the car, spilling gasoline as he goes.

Suddenly all the virtual reality equipment is activated to inflict very real pain on the driver — the crush of the semi, the smell of gas, the heat and impact from the explosion. And by the time he's aware of what's happening, the epidural kicks in and he has a chance to realize what it would be like to be confined to a wheelchair the rest of his life.

Yes, I realize this kind of training is impossible. With their reputation for poor diet and exercise, the average semi driver would have a heart attack before completing the test. I just wish all drivers on public roads could realize this could happen to anyone followed by a tailgater. That doesn't mean it's safe to tailgate, just not safe to be tailgated. Following a half second behind another vehicle doesn't get you there any faster, it just encourages road rage. And anyone who pays attention to the news knows what road rage can lead to . . .

Got a gripe? Let us hear about it.



E-mail your letters to the editor to "Sidelines" at: stupubs@frank.mtsu.edu

Sidelines

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"Sidelines" encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words. Authors who want more than 300 words to express themselves should contact the editor. "Sidelines" keeps its pages open to all viewpoints and all members of the MTSU community. Authors should include their name, address, major, classification and phone number for identification purposes. (Phone numbers will not be published.) "Sidelines" reserves the right to edit for length, grammar, style and libel. EMail letters to stupubs@frank.mtsu.edu. Send letters to Box 42, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132 or drop them off at the "Sidelines" office in JUB Room 310. Theft of this newspaper is a crime and punishable by law.

Jordan shows his best at the worst

□ Bob Greene/CPS

The best lesson anyone can take from Michael Jordan's life — the lesson that comes the closest to explaining why he is who he is, and why he has accomplished what he has accomplished — made itself evident during the brief period of his adulthood when no one thought he was any good.

During last week's victory celebrations, basket-steal-basket sequence in which Jordan won the championship for the Bulls — during those moments when everyone was saying, once again, that he is the best in the world — I found myself thinking about those moments of Jordan's failure.

They came during the time when people were making fun of him — during his attempt to play baseball. I have been fortunate enough to see Jordan at close range during days of triumph and cheers, and also during days of apparent humiliation. There haven't been many of the latter. But those days — the days when he was no good — provide the answer to why the brilliant days are so often his.

That baseball summer — the summer that followed the murder of his father, the summer Jordan in essence ran away from basketball — there was a minor-league batting instructor named Mike Barnett who was assigned to the Birmingham Barons, Jordan's team.

And this is what would happen just about every day:

Barnett would be in his room at the Holiday Inn, or wherever the Barons were staying. Early in the morning,

following a night game in which Jordan may have gone hitless, Barnett's phone would ring.

The caller — Jordan, from another room — would always greet Barnett with some variation of the same question:

"Is it too early for us to go over?"

Meaning: Jordan wanted to work. Meaning: Jordan would like Barnett to go with him, hours before anyone else, to the local minor-league ballpark.

The two men would go to the ballpark and, as the sun climbed higher in the sky, would work for hours in the heat. Jordan wouldn't be making it to the majors — everyone knew that by now. He would never be good enough. He could quit baseball now and no one in the world would blame him. Go home, enjoy your millions of dollars, and decide whether you want to return to basketball. That would be the logical way out.

But the Southern League season wasn't over, and Jordan wasn't going to concede defeat yet. Instead, sweat pouring down his face, soaking through his clothes, he worked and worked and worked at trying to get better at something at which he had already been declared a failure. To witness that day after day — to sit in an empty ballpark while Jordan and Barnett spent hour after hour at this task — was something to see. The best and truest Jordan.

Why? Because this is the kind of thing that gets you to where you dream. The great moments — the moments the world cheers, whether you are an athlete or a businessman or an artist — are not

the moments that count. The moments that count are the ones when it's just you, and people have stopped believing in you, and the work you put in comes with no guarantee that there will ever be a reward. The work you are putting in may very well be wasted.

But there is no waste in that kind of work — that's the secret. Far from being wasted, that is the kind of work, those are the kind of moments, that define you. I would watch Jordan missing the ball as he swung, then adjusting his swing, then dribbling the ball weakly through the empty infield. His minor league teammates — most of them more skilled than he — were still asleep, or sitting by the motel pool.

And he wouldn't go back to his room. He wouldn't leave. Instead he would ask Mike Barnett if they could work longer — if they could keep practicing in the sun. No one in the seats, no real prospect of becoming good enough — Jordan had an assignment to be here: an assignment from himself. "I think I'm getting this," he would say to Barnett with a hopeful sound in his voice.

Meaning: Keep working with me. I don't want to stop.

The cheers last week, the championship trophy? They start somewhere. The cheers are loud on the day of victory, but they begin in moments of doubt when a whisper could break the silence.

I'm no good? Then I'll try to be better. I have no chance? Maybe not — we'll see. I think I'm getting this. I think I'm getting this. Is it too early to go over? Let's work.

Sound Bites
Marilyn Mathis



Did you miss my column last week?

What you missed was a preview to the WMTS benefit show which took place last Thursday at Mainstreet, a farewell to the now-defunct band Caesar's Glass Box and tidbits of what was news in Middle Tennessee music last week.

Not being one to dwell on the past, I'll just let you know that I mentioned Flu Thirteen had to cancel their June 14 show at the Indinet Record Shop. They have rescheduled the show to July 7. No word yet on if Suburban Lawn will still open the show.

This past week had many options for the live music fan. Thursday night, WMTS held a benefit show at Mainstreet. The line-up was strong with Holtzclaw, Glossary, 22 Caliber Atom (formerly Slump), The BooDogs and Voight Kampff providing live entertainment.

Three DJs were on hand to keep things going between bands. Attendance was not as strong as past WMTS benefit shows. Icehouse Dancing in the District featured Soul Asylum, Semisonic, Athanem and Iodine that night.

Friday night, the place to be was The Boro. 22 Caliber Atom headlined a show after guesting on "Chicky-Pie's Chick Rock" on WMTS from 6 to 8 p.m. Lead singer/guitarist Ross Monteleone's is featured in the current issue of "High Times" in a story about local hemp store Enchanted Planet.

Denial of Grace also appeared to prove that death metal is alive and well.

Saturday night, The Boy Wonder Jinx from Raleigh, North Carolina, made the trek to Murfreesboro to do a show at Sebastian's with Glossary. The band also stopped by the WMTS studio to guest DJ before the show. The band is known to many music fans as "the best band without a guitarist."

The Features were originally scheduled but had to cancel at the last minute.

This week is another impressive live music week. Tonight, Elektra recording artists Spacehog will be at 328 Performance Hall. Friday at 328 will feature MCA's Big Wreck.

Thursday night's Icehouse Dancing in the District features the ever-present Webb Wilder.

If you would like to have your show included in future "Sound Bites," call me at the Sidelines Features desk Monday through Friday from 2 to 3 p.m. My e-mail is mim2a@frank.mtsu.edu. The deadline for each Wednesday edition is the previous Monday.

Southern soda and snack treat receive honors

As Southern as an RC Cola and a Moon Pie, festival celebrates both

BELL BUCKLE, Tenn. (AP) — It sure is hard to dance in wet overalls. But then, nobody said synchronized wading would be easy.

Yup, synchronized wading. That was the peak of the annual RC Cola & Moon Pie Festival, held Saturday in honor of that oh-so-Southern snack.

But first there's the Ugly Truck contest. The kazoo band. And of course, the world's largest Moon Pie, four feet across.

"People say we're a cross between Lake Wobegon and 'Saturday Night Live,'" said festival organizer Anne White Scruggs. "But I think we're a whole lot more 'Saturday Night Live.'"

Bell Buckle, population 453, looked like a circus as twice that many swelled the main street. At one end, folks queued up for barbecue sandwiches and homemade pork rinds. At the other, people pumped quarters into a soda machine offering

six choices: RC, RC, RC, RC, Cherry RC or diet RC.

Steve and Margie Knoll and their niece, Rachel Steimle, walked through the crowd wearing foot-wide foam Moon Pie hats. They bought a case of Moon Pies and drove from Nunnely, two hours away.

"We read about it and said, 'We must go!'" Mrs. Knoll said. "It looked like so much fun!"

Though Moon Pies have been a Southern favorite since the Depression, the festival only began four years ago, when folks in town decided they wanted something fun to do in the summer.

They hit on the idea of celebrating the Moon Pie, a treat invented by the Chattanooga Bakery in 1917. It consists of two graham cookies stuffed with marshmallow and coated with chocolate.

From there, it was an easy leap to Royal Crown Cola, a combination immortalized by country artists

Lonzo and Oscar in their 1951 song "Give Me an RC Cola and a Moon Pie."

"When I grew up, it's something that went together," said Bud McGrew, chairman and CEO of the First Community Bank of Bedford County.

Since then, the festival has grown. This year, Gov. Don Sundquist agreed to be Moon Pie King — and festival organizers

were not quite ready.

"The governor's office said they wanted to ride the parade route," said Scruggs. "The route's only about a block and a half long."

I told them, 'You know, our town's only five blocks long! It's probably the world's shortest parade.'

Bell Buckle is an artist's haven, set in rolling green hills 50 miles south of Nashville. Carla Webb, synchronized wading choreographer, is a musician; Scruggs is a potter; her next door neighbor, Margaret

Vaughn, is poet laureate of Tennessee — and author of "Ode to RC and Moon Pie." In fact, the town hosts a far more serious craft festival each fall.

The RC Cola & Moon Pie Festival is strictly for fun.

Just ask the Pie Heads, who rode by on their parade float decked out in huge foam Moon Pies, with signs that read "Yankees drink Coke."

"I had never dreamed that such a refinement could exist," joked Tony Stermer, who lives in Huntsville, Ala., and considers himself a Moon Pie connoisseur.

And then, to cap it all off, there's the synchronized wading exhibition — or exhibitionists, as they call themselves. Last year was an Elvis tribute; this year they decided to send Frank Sinatra up to heaven, in top hats and denim.

"Here are these middle aged, sturdy females in unbecoming bib overalls," said Scruggs. "People just don't quite know if we mean to be funny or not."

But if it weren't tongue-in-cheek, it wouldn't suit the day, she said.

"It's just not serious and the serious people should stay home."



What vacation?

TV writers, producers get to work on fall shows

LOS ANGELES (AP) — While television characters get to lapse into a summertime slumber, the folks who create them aren't quite so lucky.

True, TV writers and producers do take a month or two break from the 12- to 15-hour days they routinely spend nurturing series. But with the blank slate of a new season looming, they have more to work on than a tan.

Every fall brings the challenge of convincing viewers that a veteran show like "ER" still deserves attention or a fledgling series such as "Dharma & Greg" wasn't a one-season wonder.

Although "ER" was television's No. 2 program (behind "Seinfeld") as it ended its fourth year, that doesn't translate into complacency for executive producer John Wells and his colleagues on the NBC medical drama.

No backyard barbecues for them; they gather for a different kind of grill session.

"We do it every summer," said Wells. "At the beginning of June, we sit down and watch episodes from all four seasons, a ton of 'ER's, and we talk about style and form and what

we're doing well.

"We beat each other up about story lines we thought were mawkish or badly done. I mean, it's a really brutal, horrible week," he said. "Everybody passes around a piece of paper in which you put down your least favorite moment and the worst line, and they get read."

Hoots and screams ensue, but it's an effective way to bring the year ahead into focus, Wells said.

So can "ER" still pour on the adrenaline? Wells insists there are intriguing stories yet to tell about the emergency room staff of a fictional Chicago hospital.

"We haven't hit that wall yet. The basic story material of the show is such that I think we're still several years away from that 'Oh, my God, what are we going to do?' moment, which does eventually happen," he said.

The ensemble cast that includes Anthony Edwards, Julianna Margulies, George Clooney, Noah Wyle and Eriq La Salle is intact this coming season, although it may be Clooney's last if he leaves to focus on movies.

"ER" has undergone cast upheaval before; Sherry Stringfield

Please see VACATION, page 6

Vandy psychology major is new Miss Tennessee



JACKSON (AP) — Heather Heath, a 20-year-old psychology major from Vanderbilt University, was crowned Miss Tennessee Saturday night.

Heath of St. Louis appeared in the pageant as Miss Heart of Tennessee. She plans to become an entertainment lawyer.

First runner-up was Brandy Burnette, Miss Historic Jonesborough. Burnette, 21, is from Science Hill and plans to become a lawyer.

Second runner-up was Jessica Lynch, Miss Rocky Top. Lynch, 19, of Germantown, said she wants to become a broadcast journalist.

Third runner-up was Allison Hollin of Jackson, who appeared as Miss Northern Tennessee. She plans to become a speech pathologist.

Fourth runner-up was Miss Springfield, Ashley Gibbons, 21, of Prattville, Ala. She is a psychology major at Vanderbilt University.

Can't miss night at the Campus Twin

□ Marilyn Mathis/staff

Are you tired of the same old stuff? Do you want something different to do for a change?

Future Murfreesboro celebrities Justin Meyer and Patrick Riley have answered your prayers. The two guys will be putting on a rare show at the Campus Twin Theatre located at 726 South Tennessee Blvd. behind Mercury Plaza. The festivities will take place on Thursday, July 2.

Spongebath artists The Katies, Fl. Oz (pronounced Fluid Ounces) and Count Bass D will perform live while local visual genius Rick Hawkins provides a light/slide show on the screens for your optic pleasure.

The doors will open at 10 p.m. and all ages will be admitted.

Tickets for the event are \$6 and are available at both Digital Planet locations, the Red Rose Coffeehouse & Bistro, Enchanted Planet, Spongebath Records and the Sound Shop in Stones River Mall. Tickets may also be purchased through Patrick Riley at the Campus Twin. Call 890-0205, extension 11, to ensure Riley is available.

The rumor is a special movie (maybe Tarantino?) will run after Count Bass D's performance.

Show-openers The Katies are on Spongebath Records, which coincidentally is true for the night's other two acts as well. The Katies are a Murfreesboro-based high energy rock trio complete with hints of pop thrown in for good measure.

They have been playing all over town and recently started spreading their radius to include most of the Southeast. When Florida heavy pop band The C-60s (also on Spongebath Records) roll through Murfreesboro, The Katies will handle opening

Nashville Scene, "Alternative Press," "CMJ New Music Report" and "Magnet" among many others.

The album can be purchased via mail order and at select retail outlets. Check Spongebath Records' website for more information at www.spongebath.net.

Spongebath hip-hopper Count Bass D will bring his eclectic rhymes in to headline the show.

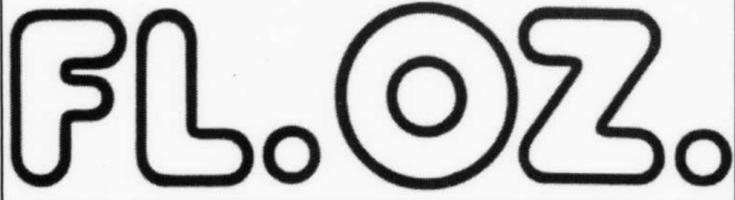
Count Bass D released the critically heralded album "Pre-Life Crisis" on Columbia Records a few

years back, but even his overflowing talent and wit were no match for the machinations of the recording industry.

Although Count had positive reviews in "Spin," "Vibe," "The Source," "Pulse," "Rap Pages" and the like, he was prematurely dropped from Columbia's roster. He now lives in Nashville and is a part of the Spongebath clan.

A new Count Bass D album should be available this fall. Until then, Count can be heard on Vanderbilt's 91 Rock WRVU doing his hip-hop show with DJ Egon. Call 91 Rock at 322-ROCK (7625) for current listings.

With this top-rate line-up and original setting, the Campus Twin show is sure to go down in 'Boro history.



duties.

Seth Timbs' piano-pop group Fl. Oz. will go on after The Katies. Timbs became a major presence in Murfreesboro during his stint with the legendary group Ella Minopy, which also featured Matt Mahaffey. Mahaffey is now the leader of the Spongebath/Dreamworks band Self.

This year's June 11 installment of Icehouse Dancing in the District featured the Fl. Oz. with labelmates The Features and Self.

Fl. Oz. garnered much critical acclaim with their debut album "Big Notebook for Easy Piano." The CD received rave reviews in "The

Publishers Weekly Best Selling Books

HARDCOVER FICTION

1. "Summer Sisters" by Judy Blume (Delacorte)
2. "A Widow for One Year" by John Irving (Random House)
3. "Message in a Bottle" by Nicholas Sparks (Warner)
4. "Bridget Jones's Diary" by Helen Fielding (Viking)
5. "You Belong to Me" by Mary Higgins Clark (Simon & Schuster)
6. "Secret Prey" by John Sandford (Putnam)
7. "Cold Mountain" by Charles Frazier (Atlantic Monthly)
8. "The Street Lawyer" by John Grisham (Doubleday)
9. "A Night Without Armor: Poems" by Jewel (HarperCollins)
10. "Unspeakable" by Sandra Brown (Warner)

NONFICTION/GENERAL

1. "A Pirate Looks at Fifty" by Jimmy Buffett (Random House)
2. "Tuesdays With Morrie" by Mitch Albom (Doubleday)
3. "The 9 Steps to Financial Freedom" by Suze Orman (Random House)
4. "We Are Our Mothers' Daughters" by Cokie Roberts (Mogrow)
5. "Sugar Busters!" by Steward, Bethea, Andrews and Balart (Ballantine)
6. "8 Weeks to Optimum Health" by Andrew Weil (Knopf)
7. "Angela's Ashes" by Frank McCourt (Scribner)
8. "In the Meantime" by Iyanla Vanzant (Simon & Schuster)
9. "Titan: The Life of John D. Rockefeller, Sr." by Ron Chernow (Random House)
10. "The Man Who Listens to Horses" by Monty Roberts (Random House)

MASS MARKET PAPERBACKS

1. "Unnatural Exposure" by Patricia Cornwell (Berkley)
2. "The Horse Whisperer" by Nicholas Evans (Dell)
3. "The Perfect Storm" by Sebastian Junger (Harper)
4. "Into Thin Air" by Jon Krakauer (Anchor)
5. "The Angel of Darkness" by Caleb Carr (Ballantine)
6. "Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution" by Robert C. Atkins (Avon)
7. "Up Island" by Anne Rivers Siddons (HarperPaperbacks)
8. "The Notebook" by Nicholas Sparks (Warner Vision)
9. "Pretend You Don't See Her" by Mary Higgins Clark (Pocket)
10. "Fat Tuesday" by Sandra Brown (Warner Vision)

'X-Files' and 'Mulan' top box

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The truth is out there.

Apparently, so were the fans, as X-Files flocked to theaters to make "The X-Files" the No. 1 movie of the weekend, according to estimates on Sunday.

With little new competition, "The X-Files" debuted with \$31 million in ticket sales.

The conspiracy-minded weren't the only ones at the movies as "Mulan" had the best opening for a Disney animation epic in years with \$23 million.

"The Truman Show" was No. 3 with \$12.4 million.

"The X-Files" stars David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson, reprising their TV roles as FBI agents on the trail of a sinister global conspiracy. The movie picks up the continuing story and also will propel the TV show into its sixth season.

Fox gambled \$60 million on "The X-Files," hoping its TV cult favorite would intrigue even non-fans. The move apparently paid off.

The movie was playing well "across the board," appealing to young and old, male and female, said Tom Sherak,

chairman of the 20th Century Fox domestic film division.

"We found that over 25 percent of the audience [were] not fans. That's really important."

The \$23 million opening for "Mulan" beat the \$21.5 million "Hercules" earned in its debut last June and the \$21 million that "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" grossed with its June 1996 opening, according to Exhibitor Relations Co., Inc.

The story about a Chinese girl who takes her ailing father's place in a war against the invading Huns had the fourth-best opening of a recent Disney animated feature.

It trailed 1994's "The Lion King" with \$40.9 million, "Pocahontas" in 1995 with \$29.5 million and the \$29.1 million earned by "Toy Story," also 1995.

The film took in a respectable \$7,964 average per theater even though many of the tickets were sold at discounted children's rates.

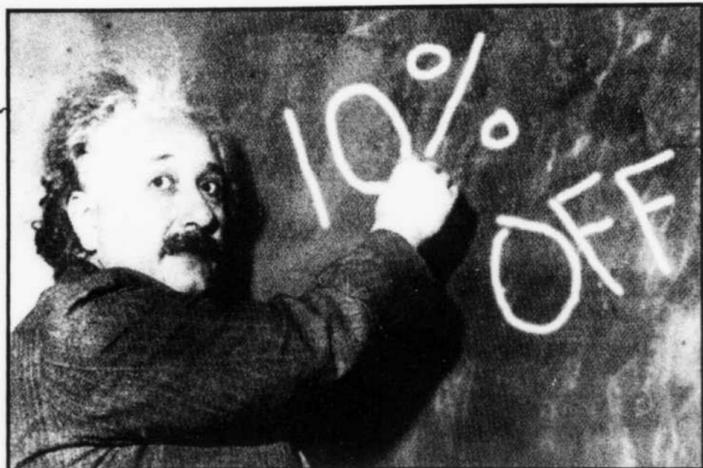
Disney had two other films in the Top 10: "Six Days Seven Nights," which was in fourth place, and "The Horse Whisperer" at No. 10.

Overall, the expected \$99.6

million gross for the weekend's Top 10 films was up 4 percent over the same time last year.

Below are estimated grosses for the top movies at North American theaters for Friday through Sunday as compiled by Exhibitor Relations.

1. "The X-Files" **\$31 million**
2. "Mulan" **\$23 million**
3. "The Truman Show" **\$12.4 million**
4. "Six Days Seven Nights" **\$10.5 million**
5. "A Perfect Murder" **\$7.3 million**
6. "Can't Hardly Wait" **\$4 million**
7. "Hope Floats" **\$3.2 million**
8. "Godzilla" **\$2.8 million**
9. "Deep Impact" **\$2.73 million**
10. "The Horse Whisperer" **\$2.7 million**



Einstein, shown here proving his lesser-known Maurices Theory of Relativity.

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VACATION

continued from page 5

left in 1996 and there have been additions such as Alex Kingston and Maria Bello as Drs. Corday and Del Amico. As Wells sees it, new blood is increasingly important.

"The series was crafted as a show about young interns and residents at the beginning of their medical career, struggling. I think you'll see all the attention we put on introducing new characters is going to be back on that territory," said Wells, who also will be producing the new NBC drama "Trinity."

One factor out of his control is the loss of "Seinfeld." Whether "Frasier" will be an equally strong lead-in remains to be seen, although Wells favored the Kelsey Grammer comedy as a replacement for "Seinfeld" and professes faith

in it.

Over at ABC, "Dharma & Greg" — one of the few new hits of the 1997-98 season and a bright spot for the struggling network — presents a very different challenge for its co-creators, Dottie Dartland and Chuck Lorre.

The sitcom about mismatched newlyweds has to prove that its bubbly charm won't go flat in Year Two. Part of the fun is the unbridled sexual passion between the very attractive Dharma and Greg (Jenna Elfman, Thomas Gibson). But can it last?

"We started talking about that, maybe about them having problems with their sex life, or the bloom is off the rose," said Dartland. "And we started talking very sensibly, 'Maybe if their relationship could reach this more mature, deeper level that's more gratifying.'"

The result: The writers "all got really depressed," said Dartland.

But there is more to explore than the couple's passion, she said, noting that the best sitcoms gain complexity.

"I think we can start deepening the relationship. Every series does that over time; 'Cheers' started out with Carla and the wisecracking relationship and all very stock characters," she said.

Before she gets back to worrying about Dharma and Greg's life, Dartland plans to live it up a little — while keeping the upcoming 22 episodes in mind. After all, she said, it's tough to write stories if you don't collect fodder for them.

"I'm going to Costa Rica. I'm going to Ireland. I'm getting together in New York with old friends. During my hiatus, I travel and read as much as I can. That's the best you can do to try to fill up during the off-season."

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Kin Easter
Sports Editor



Ticket sales is a family business

□ Kin Easter/staff

The Fowlers and other couples help in the Blitz Campaign

The athletic programs at high schools and universities across the country are growing fast, and the academic world is just getting jealous.

Sure, academics should come first, because the mind can last longer than the physical body and hardly anyone goes professional in sports.

But purists shouldn't be criticizing sports. In fact, they should be encouraging it.

Why? Well, it brings in students to the universities, it brings in money. That's what people want, right? Especially at MTSU.

Obviously, this university loves money. If you're a student, just count your expenses.

Money also comes from admission prices and concession stands. And with all this construction going on, this extra money can be useful.

It also provides entertainment students need to relieve some of that stress they get from their studies or tuition bills.

Athletes have also been accused of not being bright. But if football strategies or plays are explained to critics, they may get lost.

Academics has its rewards. The mind power and knowledge will increase. A college degree increases the chances of getting a decent-paying job in a nice environment. Academics can be a ticket to financial success, if it is used properly.

But sports has its rewards too. Like academics, sports teaches character. Coaches teach their athletes to never give up no matter how tired they are or how high the odds are. That teaching can be very useful in academics and in a future career to come.

Both departments operate the same way, they're in there for the money. Both departments are money-making industries.

Many critics say that too much money is put into sports and it should be focused on academics. Sometimes academics is left out in the cold when it comes down to distribution of finances.

Some of the metro Nashville schools may look like a ghetto, while Mayor Phil Bredesen sends money to build a new stadium for the Tennessee Oilers.

But through an unbiased look, it's just all about making money.

College academics should not criticize college athletics, because both departments are in the money making business.

Students are ripped off at bookstores when they are forced to buy a textbook so they can pass a course. Full-time students pay approximately \$1,500 in all their expenses.

I wished I owned all the parking lots at MTSU. Most of my yearly income would come in the fall when students pay either \$35 or \$20 for a parking permit before the semester. The other part of my income would come from ticket fines.

With all this money being sucked out of the students paychecks, academics should never accuse school athletics of being in business just for the money.

Both departments operate the same way, they're in there for the money. Both departments are money-making industries.

Academics should not be ruled out of anyone's life. It should made a priority. But sports has its place in schools just like academics.

If I had a son or daughter going to high school, I would hope he or she had one extra-curricular activity after school. I would hate for them to go home and sit in their rooms absolutely bored with their studies. They may be so bored that they may start sniffing glue.

Lee Fowler is making a risky business move. A little voice said to him, "If you build it, they will come."

Johnny (Red) Floyd stadium has been renovated to accommodate 31,000 screaming football fans.

Those football fans have to come to the stadium.

Fowler's wife, Carol, is the coach of the Blitz Campaign that is pushing the ticket drive to meet NCAA regulations by averaging 17,000 spectators for all four home games this upcoming season.

The Fowlers are in risky business, but Lee has put much faith in his wife. Carol has structured the organization, along with a training manual for the workers.

"I felt she has as much to lose as I do," said the Blue Raider athletic director.

Seventy-five hundred season tickets are expected to be sold by the start of July, according to Lee Fowler.

Carol Fowler is optimistic, saying the average will be reached.

"It's going to happen," she said.

Carol is no stranger to campaigning. She has worked for the American Heart Association, has run a corporation in Memphis, has worked in Coca-Cola sales for eight years, was the president of the Middle Tennessee symphony last year and hosts a television show on Channel 45 called Murfreesboro Night and Day.

She now occupies most of her time with the Blitz Campaign, thanks to



Kin Easter/staff

Lee Fowler helps his wife, Carol, in organizing the Blitz Campaign phone-a-thon. They hope to reach the needed 17,000 spectators for the fall season.

her husband.

"She knows what she's doing," Lee Fowler said. "I told her this April when she got done with the symphony not to plan for anything else."

Never in her life has Carol Fowler ever dreamed of pushing ticket sales to football games. In fact, much of her life she didn't even care about sports.

"Until I met and married him, I was not a sports enthusiast," Carol Fowler said. "I never dated a jock."

The reins are now given to her for the final phase in putting the Blue Raider football program into Division I-A, but Carol doesn't find the campaign difficult.

"This has been one of the easiest because of everyone's willingness to help participate in the athletic part of the university," she said.

"Dr. Walker has put his full support behind it. I know there is \$100 million going toward other things on campus, but he's looking at athletics as well."

All nine quarterbacks and 90 players are charged with selling 50 season tickets. The volunteers wear stickers that say, "MTSU football season tickets: just say yes" and work three days out of the week in three hour shifts.

Volunteers include State Senator Andy Womack, State Rep. Mary Ann Eckles, State Rep. John Hood, Daily News Journal publisher Ron Fryar and other prestigious members of society.

Football coach Boots Donnelly's wife, Carol, is a quarterback and men's basketball coach Randy Wiel's wife,

New drive begins for ticket sales

Phase one of the Blitz Campaign is about to come to an end. Calls are being made from the "quarterbacks" and "players" to sell as many tickets as possible to average 17,000 tickets per home game this upcoming season in order to move to Division I-A in 1999.

The second phase of the campaign is expected to begin in July. Every third bottle of Coca-Cola throughout Middle Tennessee will have a ringer containing an order form for season tickets. Twenty-five hundred tickets are expected to be sold through phase two.

Phase three will begin at the start of the fall semester and will be targeted toward students through advertisements in *Sidelines* and *WMTS*. Table tents will also be set up around campus encouraging attendance. Student attendance averaged just over 1,000 per game last season.

Connie, is a player.

Another husband and wife duo in the campaign is Chairman of the Rutherford Co. Chamber of Commerce Larry Quesenberry and wife Susan.

As of last week, Larry has sold 125 season tickets and his wife sold 20.

"She [Carol Fowler] called my husband and twisted my arm, even on the TV show," Susan said. "Carol twisted his arm, he twisted mine."

Season tickets will cost between \$18 and \$36 on the sideline. For ticket purchases, call 1-888-YES-MTSU.



Emily Parker/staff

The rugby team had a tough tournament last Saturday against several regional teams -- Bullmoose, Stones River, MERC, Ft. Chattanooga and Huntsville.

MTSU made it to semi-finals but lost to Bullmoose. MERC was the final winner.



Emily Parker/staff

Janzen emotionally accepts US Open Cup

□ Ron Sirak/AP

SAN FRANCISCO — The air of anticipation going into the U.S. Open was that this would finally be the one.

This would be the major championship when Tiger Woods, Ernie Els, Justin Leonard and David Duval shoot it out down the stretch.

As in the three previous Opens at The Olympic Club, the course provided a scintillating finish. But the young lions of the game were nowhere to be seen.

Instead, there was Lee Janzen, 33, overtaking and then holding off Payne Stewart, 41. That those two have won two major championships each yet are not among the marquee names just shows how many good golfers there are.

A year ago, the under-30 crowd won the Masters (Woods), U.S. Open (Els) and British Open (Leonard).

But Mark O'Meara, 41, won the Masters this year. And the best of the young crowd at Olympic was Duval and Lee Westwood of England, who finished seven strokes behind Janzen and were never factors.

Phil Mickelson was eight back, Jim Furyk was nine behind, Woods was 10 off the pace, Leonard finished 14 behind and Els, a two-time Open winner, was 16 back.

"It's very disappointing," Els said after his 76 on Sunday. "I wanted to defend my championship better. I think I've had more bogeys this week than I've had all year."

Even though Els has won the tournament twice, it was clear that of the four majors, the U.S. Open is the one in which patience and experience mean the most.

"I'm still trying to grasp it and learn about how I'm going to approach it next year," said a dazed Duval.

Perhaps the one with the most explaining to do is Woods, who after winning the Masters by 12 strokes last year was perhaps unfairly expected to contend in every major, if not win them all.

But since his Masters win, Woods has played his last 20 rounds in majors at 19 over par. The only time he has broken 70 was a 3-under 67 in the second round of the U.S. Open at Congressional, and a 7-under 64 in the third round of the British Open.

Since that third round at Royal Troon, Woods has gone 13 straight rounds without breaking 70 at major championships.

The only major where he was under par through 72 holes was at the Masters. He had four rounds in the 70s, but his 3-under 285 was 15 strokes higher than the previous year.

Even he seemed somewhat confused.

"I played pretty good this week," Woods said. "I hung in there. I pitched out. I scrambled from the deep stuff. I just missed some putts."

But he also lost control at times and even the slightest letdown in a U.S. Open, with its ankle-deep rough, narrow fairways and brutally fast greens can spell disaster.

A perfect example was on the final hole of the tournament. Woods had a 7-foot putt for birdie and walked off the green with a bogey.

Janzen and Stewart are perfect examples of the kinds of players who do well at the Open. They never try to impose their will on the course. They take advantage of their opportunities and accept the consequences of their mistakes.

Stewart hit a perfect drive on No.

12 in the final round and ended up in a sand-filled divot.

"It was the first fairway I had hit in a while and sure enough I was in a bunker," he said.

Janzen played the final 15 holes at 4 under par and erased a seven-stroke deficit.

"Lee Janzen shot a 68," Stewart said. "No one who was in contention in the golf tournament shot in the 60s today but Lee Janzen. Give him credit."

The young lions may not have played that well, but this Open did produce images that will linger.

For the fourth consecutive year, Tom Lehman played in the final group at the U.S. Open, adding a fifth-place finish to his third, second and third efforts the three previous years.

Casey Martin and his cart finished at 291, 11 strokes behind Janzen. Jack Nicklaus, 58 years old and playing the Open for the 42nd time, was at 295.

Amateur Matt Kuchar, who turned 20 on Sunday, was at 289, nine strokes behind.

The last 15 majors have been won by 15 different people. Perhaps at the British Open next month one of those young lions can break that streak.

Please fax any information on sports and recreational activities to *Sidelines* at 904-8487 or call the Sports desk at 898-2816.



Stay Fit
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Shortcuts give short term results

Diet pills, shakes, cellulite cream, tummy-tucks and drugs. No willpower needed. We have all seen the commercials and ads for effortless weight-loss products that only cost \$19.95 plus shipping and handling. What's sad is that those companies stay in business because the American people actually purchase the worthless products. It seems like we'll do anything to lose weight with as little effort as possible.

Don't you think that if there really was a 'miracle' drug or cream that worked we would ALL be stunningly beautiful?

Sure, I'd like to drop a few pounds without lifting a finger, but how realistic is that? I could take about 30 diet pills, not eat, wait two weeks and slip into my



bathing suit all slim and trim. In a few weeks of regular eating, I'd be back to the weight I was before.

Our bodies don't work on short-cuts. Starvation doesn't work. Eating only fruits and vegetables doesn't work. Exercising four hours a day doesn't work—for long term weight loss, that is. Sooner or later, you're going to skip a workout or two, eat a little more than carrot stick and slowly slip back into the lifestyle you lived before you cut corners. It is too easy to say, "I gotta lose five pounds. I'm skipping lunch all week." Too often, people try crazy tactics and expect for them to ward success.

Don't you think that if there really was a "miracle" drug or cream that worked we would ALL be stunningly beautiful? Good health requires effort. Willpower. Unfortunately, some of the newer exercise machines don't take a whole lot of effort. Whether it be a slider, glider or a sit-and-rider, some of the more high-tech machines tend to do more of the work than your muscles.

Our society's lack of willpower extends beyond the realm of exercising and into the greater world of health. Everything from food to doing your taxes has a quick route. No time, no effort. No one even writes real letters anymore. "Snail-mail" takes too long. Email you mom. It's quicker. Speed limits are getting higher. I can get home to Chattanooga faster now that I-24 has a 70 mph limit. Our computers are never fast enough (remember the Apple IIGS??). Red lights take too long and most grocery stores now offer "8 items or less" lines for those of us who can't wait an extra five minutes.

Is it laziness? Impatience? Maybe it's just a lack of willpower.

In looking for a way out—an easy route to our destination—we'll do anything. However, our health status does not have an improvement button. A healthy life is something you have to work for. You can speed up your metabolism like a highway speed limit, but you have to do it the old fashioned way: a healthy diet and regular exercise.

Hingis defends title

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — On a drizzly afternoon, Martina Hingis opened her Wimbledon title defense with a difficult victory over Lisa Raymond, one of only five players to beat her last year.

Hingis, the top seed, defeated her 19th-ranked opponent 7-5, 6-3 in a match delayed because of rain.

"I expected it to be tough," Hingis said. "She beat me last time and I'm sure she had confidence. In the first couple of games, I really didn't know what to do. ... I hope now it's going to be easier for the next two our three rounds."

The player Hingis beat in last year's final, No. 3 Jana Novotna, advanced with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Sandra Kleinova. And No. 6 Venus Williams, a first-round loser in her Wimbledon debut last year, downed Jana Nejedly 6-3, 6-3, to join her sister Serena in round two.

Williams came within five minutes of being defaulted when she turned up 10 minutes late. She thought the match was on Court 18 when it was scheduled on Court 13.

"I could never figure out where Court 13 was," she said.

Williams had less trouble with her opponent. She played exclusively from the baseline, with no need for forays to the net.

"I wasn't really trying too many new things," Williams said. "My plan was more or less, make my shots and get off the court before it rains."

Raymond and Hingis played a sparkling first set. The American, who beat Hingis in three sets in their last meeting in Switzerland, kept Hingis at bay with a low-bouncing slice backhand and powerful forehand.

Raymond also took her

chances to chip and charge the net for putaway volleys, often leaving the Swiss teen-ager shaking her head in frustration.

"Having beaten her before, I knew I had it in me," Raymond said. "I just didn't play the big points well. ... She comes up with the big shots when she needs them."

After Hingis broke for a 5-3 lead, Raymond responded by breaking back for 5-4 and saving two set points in the next game to draw even at 5-5.

Raymond could have taken control of the set when she earned a break point in the next game. But Hingis held for 6-5 and broke in the next game to finish the set in 52 minutes.

Drizzle then stopped play with Hingis leading 2-1 in the second set. When play resumed 90 minutes later, Hingis ran off three straight games for 5-1.

Though Raymond saved three match points in the seventh game and held serve for 5-3, Hingis closed the match in the next game.

After a rain-free opening day, showers and drizzle disrupted play today. Play started more than three hours late on some courts, and all doubles matches were canceled.

In men's play, No. 2 Marcelo Rios was to play Francisco Clavet. No. 4 Greg Rusedski, No. 5 Carlos Moya, No. 6 Patrick Rafter and No. 9 Richard Krajicek were also to play.

On Monday, Steffi Graf made a triumphant and tearful return to Wimbledon.

A year ago, the seven-time champion was recovering from major knee surgery. Two months ago, her comeback threatened by more injuries, she considered retirement.

So after winning her first-round match in straight sets on

Centre Court, Graf was overcome by emotion. Twice during a news conference, she broke down crying.

"I get emotional because I don't take it for granted being here," said Graf, playing her 13th Wimbledon. "It's just special to be here."

Graf, who rarely expresses her emotions on or off the court, said she was surprised to be on Centre Court, the scene of her greatest triumphs, for the opening match against Spain's Gala Leon Garcia.

"It is not common to play the first match on Centre Court unless you win the year before, so I didn't take it as normal at all," she said. "I got really excited, and it definitely pumped me up to be playing out there."

After some initial nerves, the German star settled down and beat Garcia 6-4, 6-1, a solid start to her first Grand Slam tournament since the French Open in 1997.

After surgery following the French, Graf didn't return to tournament play until March. But she was sidelined again with calf and hamstring injuries. That's when she started wondering whether her career was over.

"There have been a couple of occasions where it has been really difficult, seven or eight weeks ago was the last time," she said. "I had so many little injuries and every week something else came around."

But Graf, who said she now feels "100 percent," must be considered a title contender.

"There is no question it is my favorite tournament and I do feel the grass suits my game and experience does help," she said. "But winning is a long way. That is not as far as I am looking now."

four of his coaches: John Goryl, Luis Isaac, Jeff Newman and Mark Wiley.

Minnesota's Dick Martin and Detroit's Russ Miller will serve as trainers for the AL team. Colorado's Dave Cilladi and Philadelphia's Mark Anderson will be the NL trainers.

coaches for the AL team.

Florida Marlins manager Jim Leyland, the manager of the NL team, also selected four of his own coaches for the game: Rich Donnelly, Bruce Kimm, Milt May and Tommy Sandt.

Cleveland Indians manager Mike Hargrove, the manager of the AL team, picked

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All-star coaches named

NEW YORK (AP) — Pittsburgh manager Gene Lamont and Colorado manager were picked Tuesday to be coaches for the NL team at the All-Star game in Denver on July 7.

Yankees manager Joe Torre and Oakland manager Art Howe were selected as

coaches for the AL team.

Florida Marlins manager Jim Leyland, the manager of the NL team, also selected four of his own coaches for the game: Rich Donnelly, Bruce Kimm, Milt May and Tommy Sandt.

Cleveland Indians manager Mike Hargrove, the manager of the AL team, picked

four of his coaches: John Goryl, Luis Isaac, Jeff Newman and Mark Wiley.

Minnesota's Dick Martin and Detroit's Russ Miller will serve as trainers for the AL team. Colorado's Dave Cilladi and Philadelphia's Mark Anderson will be the NL trainers.

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