



SIDELINES



Volume 74, No. 16

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

Police seek sexual assault suspect

David Figueredo
Staff Reporter

Police are looking for a white male wanted for questioning in connection with a string of sexual assaults that began at 8:05 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 30.

"We are on the look for the suspect, and have put an APB [all points bulletin] out," said Public Safety officer Jeff Kelsey.

The suspect approached five female students in the area of the Belle Aire

Baptist Church parking lot asked for directions. He then allegedly exposed himself to the students and attempted to touch at least one of the victims.

The suspect is described as a white male, 19-20 years of age with green eyes. He is approximately 5 foot 8 inches tall with brown or blonde hair and no facial hair. The suspect was last seen wearing blue pants and a white tee-shirt with a square logo on the front. Other identifying markings are pierced ears with an earring

in each.

At present there are no leads as to the identity of the suspect, but Det. Darrell Collins, chief investigator for Public Safety, has been assigned to the case.

"Patrols have been beefed-up as we always do after incidents such as this," Kelsey said.

Public Safety reminds students to use good judgment when approached by a stranger and to use the following suggestions:

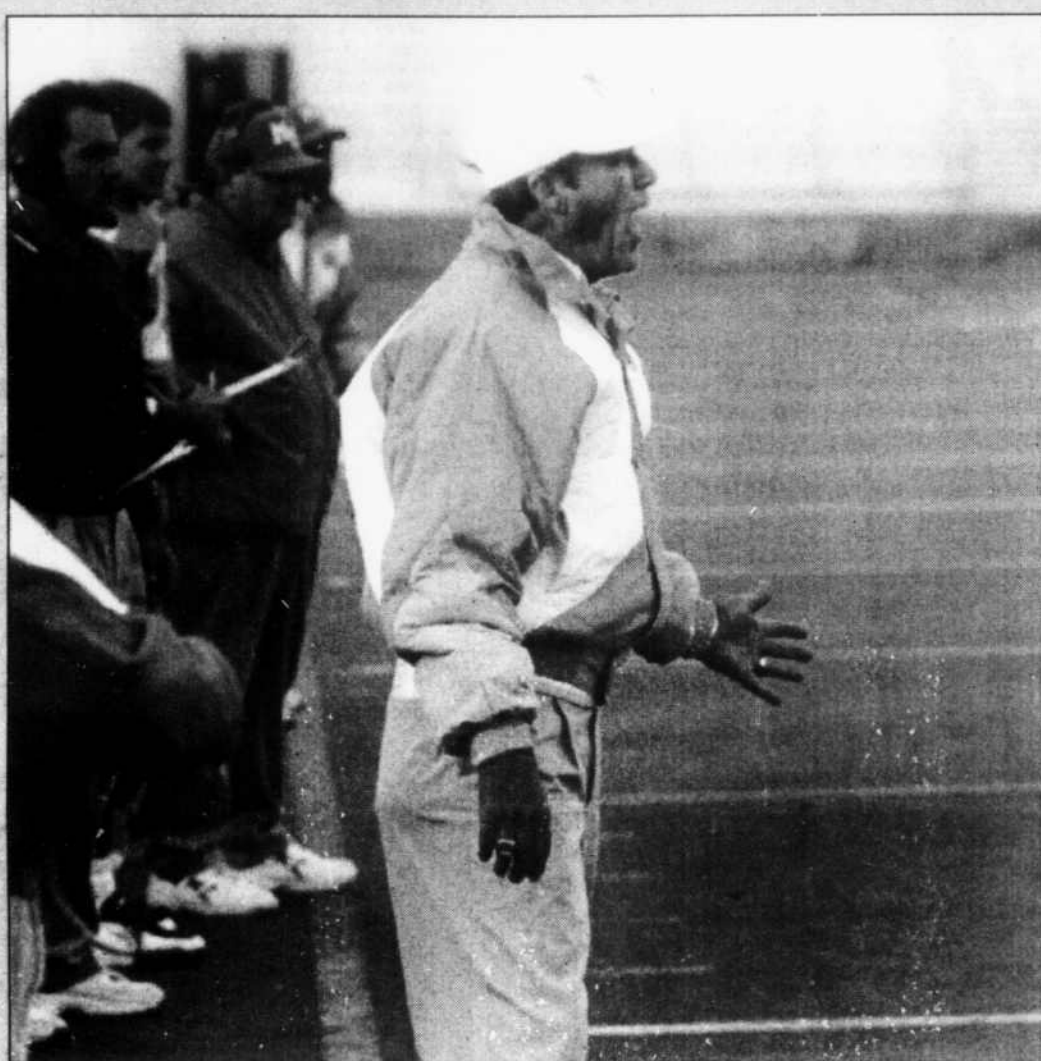
- Do not walk alone, especially at night.
- Stay away from poorly lit areas, especially buildings, parking lots and bushes.
- Do not walk with your head down. Walk with confidence and watch your surroundings.
- Never talk to strangers.
- Never accept rides from strangers or mere acquaintances.
- Always inform another person where

you are going and give an expected time to return.

• If a suspicious-looking person approaches you, walk the other way. If you are in a car, roll up the windows.

If you have any information about this crime or any other crime, please call Public Safety at 898-2424. Or you may call Crime Stoppers at 893-STOP. Information leading to the arrest may entitle you to a reward of up to \$1,000. All calls are anonymous and confidential. ■

Boots Donnelly resigns



James (Boots) Donnelly submitted his resignation last night. He intends to leave after the 1998 football season is over. See page 8.

Student elections suffer despite SGA's optimism

Jamie Evans
Staff Reporter

Like past student elections, the freshman senate and homecoming queen elections held Monday and Tuesday suffered from student indifference, despite the high hopes of Jason Lawson, Student Government Association president.

"For the most part, election day was quiet," Lawson said.

Only 1342 students, a little over seven percent of the total student population, turned out to vote in the elections. Lawson said he is disappointed.

"It seems that a lot of students complain about student apathy," he said, "but not a lot of students are willing to do anything about it."

One reason for the low participation, according to Lawson, was the lack of campaigning by both the homecoming queen nominees and the freshman senator candidates.

"I had expected active campaigning by all of the candi-

dates to drive people to the polls," he said. "In races as competitive as our homecoming queen and freshman senate, candidates needed to be outside all day getting people to vote, but we didn't see that."

Still, he said, students should have voted.

Voting booths were set up in the Keathley University Center and at Peck Hall which made them highly visible, Lawson said.

"The booths couldn't have been missed. It takes literally two minutes to vote, and the homecoming queen candidate's pictures were on the wall outside of the booths."

Lawson also admitted that the elections should have been promoted better.

"Some students plead that they didn't know about the elections. It is true that it should have been publicized more."

However, he said the minimal advertising was not because there was a lack of money allocated in the budget.

"The senate gave the election



Charles Lyons, a freshman pre-nuclear medicine major, places his vote.

commission \$1500 in excess of all election expenses, but they didn't use it."

Bobby Toy, SGA election commissioner, previously said he was told by Lawson not to overspend on advertising because of controversy that has surrounded other "thicker" election budgets in the past.

See ELECTIONS, page 2

Office of Student Development sponsors series of workshops

Justin L. Harris
Staff Reporter

The Office of Student Development, directed by Gina Poff, developed and is sponsoring the Emerging Leaders Institute. Offered both fall and spring semesters, the nine workshop program enables students to gain valuable leadership experience while interacting with other students, community leaders and university faculty.

"Participation for the institute in the past has not been the best because a lot of people don't really know about it," said Jody McHugh, assistant coordinator of the program and speaker for the communications session. "Letters have been sent out specifically to resident assistants, student orientation assistants, recipients of Leadership Performance and Otis L. Floyd scholarships, peer educators and organization presidents in hopes that they will use their identified campus leadership to spread the word about the program to others."

"We want the institute to be designed with students' interests in mind. The more that participate, the more ideas for improvement we get," she added.

Poff and staff are encouraging those participating not to limit their involvement to one year. McHugh says that in the future the program will be developed to the point where participants will "graduate" to different levels of leadership.

"Once students become seniors in the program, they can shape the institute around the specific

needs of the incoming leaders," she said.

As a reward for involvement in the program, Emerging Leaders certificates are given to those who attend and complete nine sessions in an academic year.

Even if nine workshops are not attended, individual transcripts describing each workshop is available upon request. "The transcripts look great for permanent transcripts and resumes," said McHugh.

The Emerging Leaders Institute is open and free to all students.

With quality being the primary concern, space for the workshops is limited. Those interested should register in advance in KUC 122 or by calling 898-2454. ■

Emerging Leader Institute Fall 1998 Calendar

Date	Session Name	Time	Location
Tues., Oct. 20	Credit Cards: Friend or Foe?	3:00 p.m.	KUC 305
Mon., Oct. 26	Motivation	3:00 p.m.	KUC 305
Tues., Nov. 3	Community Service: Focus on Community	3:00 p.m.	KUC 305
Mon., Nov. 9	Stress Management	3:00 p.m.	KUC 305
Tues., Nov. 17	Personal Life Planning	3:00 p.m.	BAS S274
Mon., Nov. 23	Embracing Diversity	3:00 p.m.	KUC 305
Mon., Nov. 30	Say What?: How to Communicate Effectively	4:00 p.m.	KUC 305

OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

Campbell helps special students

Barry Gilley
Staff Reporter

Dr. Ann Campbell, a professor of elementary and special education, is the recipient of one Outstanding Public Service Award.

Before coming to MTSU, she was the dean's grant project director at Arkansas State University and an assistant professor of special education at Murray State. Campbell has written or co-written a dozen books on childhood development and has received the Governor's Distinguished Service Award and Outstanding Young Woman of America Award.

Campbell came to MTSU in 1981. She teaches special education and is the director of two early intervention grant-funded programs for developmentally delayed children, Project Help and Tennessee Early Intervention Systems. Project Help is funded by a grant from the Department of Mental Help and Retardation and the United Way of Rutherford County and is located on land donated by the University. Tennessee Early Intervention

Systems is located across town and is funded by a grant from the Department of Education.

Both programs assist children

between birth and age three who are developmentally delayed in some way. Each has people with some administrative responsibilities on a part time basis with Campbell primarily overseeing, budgeting and performing between the university and the state. Despite similar goals, the two programs go about their work in different ways.



Dr. Ann Campbell

Tennessee Early Intervention Systems sends its staff out into 14 counties in south central Tennessee and functions primarily as a referral service to families, matching them up with diagnostic services, physical therapists, speech therapists or any service they might need for their children in their area. In situations in which parents do not have insurance and have difficulty paying for a service, the program will pay for services. Although Project Help is probably better known, Tennessee Early Intervention Systems is able to work with far more families due to the fact that it is in the business of referring families to needed services rather than providing them directly. The program is able to help about 250 to 300 families on its active case list.

Originally located in Jones Hall in a converted lounge area, Project Help has been on campus since 1983. The program serves families of Rutherford County through a home program and a center-based program which

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SPORTS

Hailee Walsh may break a record and the football team plays Tennessee Tech. See page 8.

FEATURES

Scottish celebration being held this weekend. See page 6.

WEATHER FORECAST



THURSDAY
PARTLY
CLOUDY, 78



FRIDAY
PARTLY
CLOUDY, 75



SATURDAY
RAIN, 74

ON CAMPUS

To submit an announcement for On Campus, submit information in person at James Union Building Room 310, mail information to campus box 42 or fax information to 904-8487. Due to space constraints, priority will be given to submissions with earlier deadlines.

Thursday, October 1
Bruce Foster of Samford University will be at the Davis Science Building room 241 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to talk to students about admission to the Samford University McWhorter School of Pharmacy.

The National Association of Black Journalists is having a general meeting at the Mass Comm building room 125 at 6 p.m. All interested students are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Larry Ridley at 898-4799.

There will be an "Old School Dance Party" at the LRC studio B from 8 p.m. to midnight. It will be hosted by Tom Selleck and will air live on MTTV and WMTS. Free! For more information, contact Jason Mazzo at 898-3215.

The American Criminal Justice Association will have a meeting at KUC room 324 at 5:30 p.m. The featured guests will be from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. Everyone is invited. For more information, contact Emily Hudgens at 867-4157.

The Radio and Television News Directors Association will meet at the Mass Comm building room 150 at 8 p.m.

Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 5 and 6
Gamma Beta Phi Society will have member meetings and 5 pm. in the KUC. For more information, contact Chere Vines at 898-3156.

Wednesday, Oct. 7
PRSSA will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Mass Comm building room 104. Representative Bart Gordon will be speaking. All majors are welcome to attend.

Phi Beta Lambda Professional Business Fraternity will hold its Installation Ceremony at Ruby Tuesday's, 419 Memorial Blvd. The evening will begin with dinner at 6 p.m., followed by the ceremony and a short business

meeting. For more information, call 849-8874.

Thursday Oct. 8
The Society of the Professional Journalists/MTSU Chapter will host a program/panel discussion entitled "Against the Odds: The Role of Alternative Media in the '90s" at BAS room S328. There will be guest speakers from the Nashville Scene, The Query, and The Tennessee Tribune. For more information, contact Lisa Rollins at 904-8380 ext. 1.

Sunday, Oct. 11
The Stones River Players will present "Le Grande Tango" music by the Argentine tango sensation Astor Piazzolla in the Wright Music Building at 3 p.m. For more information, contact Dr. Jerry Perkins at 898-2469.

Continuing
Organizations not requesting funds must have their organizational report forms completed on or before Sept. 21. The forms are due in KUC 122, and are currently available at KUC room 122 and at KUC room 306. The forms also will be available at the organization sessions scheduled for this week and next week.

S.H.A.R.E., MTSU's Peer Education Program, is now accepting applications. Peer educators perform theatre and educational programs on college health issues such as STD's, sexual assault, alcohol, drugs, etc. Pick up an application at KUC room 303 or call Tressa Cherry at 898-5453 for more information.

The June Anderson Women's Center's Eating Disorder Support Group will meet on Wednesdays from 12 p.m. to 1:30 at the Carson-Kennedy Nursing Building, room 109. Bring lunch and join the discussion and support group. For further information, contact Mary Glantz at 898-5725.

The June Anderson Women's Center's Looking Forward

Support Group will meet every Thursday from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the Carson-Kennedy Nursing Building room 109. This group is for survivors of sexual abuse. The meetings are facilitated by a therapist to assist in the healing process. For more information, contact Mary Glantz at 898-5725.

Raider Victory/The Victory Church of MTSU holds Sunday chapel church services every Sunday morning at 10 a.m. in the dance recital room of the Murphy Center. For more information, contact Pastor Franco Gennaro at 848-7979 or Ricky Walters at 371-8479.

Raider Victory Ministry will be holding dorm Bible Studies on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in Corlew Hall room 719, Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in Cummings Hall room 731, and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. in Felder room 204. Contact Ricky Walters at 371-8479, for more information.

The Presbyterian Student Fellowship will be having "Prime Time Study" on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., a "Noontime Forum" lunches on Mondays from 12 to 1 p.m., and cell groups on Mondays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. They will all be held at the PSF Fellowship House and Individual Apartments. For more information, contact Rich Zeigler at 893-1787 or resident advisers at 867-7370.

The Intercollegiate Debate Association of MTSU will meet every Tuesday from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Boutwell Dramatic Arts building room 220. For more information, contact Jason Stone at 898-2273 or Michael Krueger at 898-5607. All students are welcome to attend.

The Society of Professional Journalists has postponed its fall book sale, originally slated for Sept 30 and Oct. 1 in the KUC. The society is still accepting book donations, which are all tax-deductible. To donate, contact Lisa Rollins at 904-8355.

Fitch appointed as new Associate Dean of Student Life

Brian Forrester
Staff Reporter

Most students and faculty have adjusted to their fall schedule by now. However, for Gene Fitch, things have changed a good deal in the last week. He has been given a new position on campus that will affect the student body.

Fitch was the Assistant Dean for Judicial Affairs until last week but, as of Sept 23, he will be functioning as the Associate Dean of Student Life. For Fitch, this should be a comfortable position. Before coming to MTSU, he worked at the University of Arkansas as Assistant Director of

Student Activities.

While at Arkansas, Fitch set up the student development transcript and a community service program. The student development transcript presents extra curricular activities in a form that looks professional and is official for resume usage. The community service program utilizes a list of student volunteers who are willing to help local organizations.

The bulk of Fitch's experience with student leadership came at Arkansas Tech. He spent five years developing similar programs that helped students learn leadership skills necessary in both campus organizations and the work force.

Fitch's goals as Associate Dean of Student Life include setting up programs like the student transcript and community service program. However, right now he is having to coordinate both his new position and the one that he is vacating because there is currently no replacement for Judicial Affairs.

The official responsibilities of the Associate Dean of Student Life includes overseeing withdrawals from the university and the Office of Student Development, which includes student orientation and new student programs. Fitch also will be the chair of the Student Activity Fee Committee and will edit the Student Handbook. ■

Debate team sponsors annual speech tournament

Brian Gillespie
Staff Reporter

Teams from 16 states competed in the seventh annual MTSU Pejaver Debates and Cosmic Country Breakdown Revival speech tournament on campus this weekend. The tournaments were sponsored by the MTSU debate team.

The two events, held Friday through Sunday in the Business and Aerospace Building, attracted 425 competitors from 50 universities, according to Michael Krueger, director of debate.

The University of Florida won the speech tournament, with the University of Alabama placing second.

Southern Illinois University won the Varsity division of the debate tournament, Marshall University won the Junior Varsity division and Vanderbilt University won the Novice division.

The speech tournament consisted of individuals from 27 different schools. Contestants in the speech tournament participated in various rounds of competition that encompassed many different styles of speech.

Thirty different two-person teams competed in the Pejaver Debates. The debate tournament is named after Naveen "Scott" Pejaver, an MTSU student and debate team member who died in 1997.

The topic of this year's debate season deals with

Title Seven of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which deals with civil rights related to employment issues.

Although the MTSU Debate Team was unable to participate in last weekend's tournament, they started their season two weekends ago at a tournament held at Austin Peay State University. The team won nine awards including first place sweepstakes, which is the award given to the best overall team of the tournament. A majority of this year's team only has a year of experience in debate.

Last year, the MTSU Debate Team was ranked 10th in the nation of 200 competing teams.

This year's team consists of 12 people who are divided into six two-person teams. Although the season has begun, it's not too late for new people to join the team, according to Krueger.

Although winning is a key part of every competitive event, Krueger said that winning is not the most important aspect of debate competitions.

"We like to win," Krueger said, "but more important to us is the educational value of debate. Many of the debate team members share the same view.

Debate Team member Stacie Murphy said debate has been one of the most helpful extracurricular activities in which she's been involved. Member Matt Carter agreed. "Debate taught me I could achieve the goals I set," he said.

Anyone interested in joining the MTSU Debate Team should contact Michael Krueger at 898-5607. ■

ELECTIONS continued from page 1

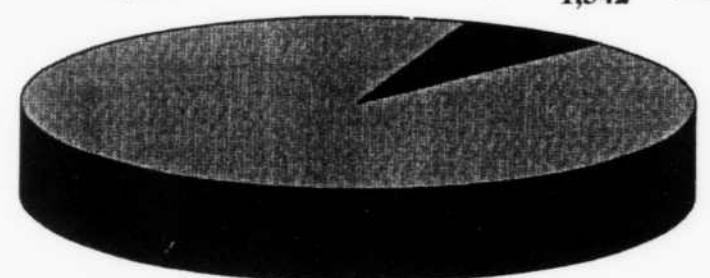
Out of the initial eight candidates who were running for five senator positions, Tru Loung, Emma May, Lisa Poeysel, Josh Pounders and Matthew Walker won. The five finalists for homecoming queen are Ashley Allen, Dwan Bell, Julie Hendrick, Carmen Jones and Chavela Stewart. The homecoming queen will be announced at the homecoming game on Oct. 10.

Even with the disappointing elections, Lawson still has ideas to get students more involved he said.

"Student apathy can be solved with a 'snow-ball' effect. If each student would participate at least once, excitement and school spirit would build and the problem would solve itself." ■

93%
18,432

7%
1,342



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How to get to the good stuff

AWARD
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provides needed services to families and training to MTSU students. According to Campbell, the program uses about 200 students from 11 different majors every semester for class credit. Students range from social work interns who spend several hundred hours to students in introductory education courses that may only spend eight hours finding out what it is like to work with children who have cerebral palsy, Down syndrome or some other difficulty.

The home program sends teachers into homes in order to work with parents of infants who either have developmental problems or are at risk due to factors such as family history or low birth weight. The parents learn things that they can do to stimulate their children and take them from where they are to where they need to go developmentally. The center-based program provides similar support to parents but also sees the children four-half days a week, providing a preschool environment while

working in any therapy they might need into their daily routines.

A year and a half ago, Project Help moved into its current building constructed due to private funding. The building's maintenance and utilities are provided by the university in exchange for the training Project Help provides its students. Its center is currently able to work with about 25 children and has a long waiting list. Campbell says the center is looking for more funding to provide another teacher and classroom assistant in order to double the number of children it is able to assist.

Although neither program is in danger of losing grant money or its ability to maintain current workloads, Campbell is constantly motivated by the need to grow with the needs of the growing communities these programs serve.

"Really and truly, these programs need a full-time administrative person but there's not enough money."

Despite occasional frustrations involved with her position as director of both programs, Campbell remains motivated in her

work for multiple reasons.

"Being in special education in a university setting, there is always the need for actually getting out there and doing things, rather than just reading about them in textbooks. These programs give me the opportunity to have practical experiences to assist in my teaching."

In the case of Project Help, students also have the opportunity to get practical experience themselves, as well as benefiting from Campbell's. Campbell also feels that people should use the resources they have to help people in the community and that organizations like Project Help and Tennessee Early Intervention Systems are a good way of doing that.

Most of Campbell's time outside of the university is spent with her eight-year-old daughter, who is involved in soccer and other activities. She enjoys being at home and working in the yard.

In the future, she would like to see Project Help continue to change and improve, primarily through integration of disabled and typical students, in order to be more beneficial to the community it serves. ■

Congress votes to let college tell parents about students' drug use

Ann O'Hanlon
Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Congress has approved legislation that would allow colleges to notify parents when students younger than 21 commit an alcohol or drug violation, a measure sparked by a string of five alcohol-related deaths on Virginia campuses last fall.

The bill, which passed the Senate Tuesday and the House on Monday, needs only President Clinton's signature to become law. Clinton said he is likely to sign the measure.

Current federal law prohibits universities from disclosing their records on students 18 and older, and most schools interpreted that to mean that they could not notify parents about a student's drug and alcohol use.

A Virginia task force on college drinking, led by state Attorney General Mark L. Earley, Republican, recommended in July that Congress exempt drug and alcohol records from the privacy requirement. Advocates of the change argued that many parents have no idea their children are abusing drugs or alcohol and thus can't intervene to help them. Some advocates also said that students might think twice about such behavior if they knew that their parents would be told.

Under the measure passed by Congress, colleges would be allowed to tell parents not only about student violations of alcohol and drug laws, but also about violations of the schools' own rules against drinking and drug use.

Some privacy advocates criticized the legislation, saying that it strips young adults of their rights.

"It's a ridiculous amendment," said David Banisar, the policy director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center. "Even drug and alcohol violations shouldn't override an adult's right to privacy. An adult student for better or worse is still an adult. ... This amendment would basically be turning the university into a babysitter for them."

But Sen. John W. Warner, R-Va., who sponsored the amendment at Earley's request, argued that some restrictions on privacy rights are appropriate.

"I just felt we had to make an exception, as much as I believe in personal freedom," he said. "These situations not only jeopardize the health of the person who consumes too much alcohol, but that individual in turn can do harm to others. Why shouldn't a parent be brought in?"

Warner and Earley both said they will encourage Virginia's state colleges and universities to implement the new policy as soon as the bill becomes law. ■

Reading moves to front of the class

Richard Lee Colvin and
Richard T. Cooper
Los Angeles Times

The 500 experts and education leaders representing all 50 United States attracted little attention last week when they assembled for a "Reading Summit" in Washington, a city obsessed with scandal.

But the national crusade their conference represented ultimately might affect more people's lives than the headline-grabbing saga of President Clinton and his pursuers. Teaching children to read has moved once again into the pre-eminent spot on the nation's crowded education-reform agenda.

From New York to California, governors, legislatures and school boards have launched a dizzying array of efforts to boost what many agree are intolerably poor reading scores. Many initiatives target teacher training. Others focus on getting more books in schools, requiring phonics lessons and instituting after-school tutoring programs.

Big cities have been among the earliest and most aggressive reformers. Houston is gaining attention for adopting a model of instruction that allows schools great flexibility, while Baltimore

has required every school to purchase the same textbooks for the early grades.

That focus on the earliest grades, stemming from the recognition that lags in reading ability only worsen over time, is a common theme of reading reform.

So is an impatience with the ideological battle of how best to teach reading — which often is oversimplified as a struggle between an emphasis on phonics and an emphasis on the joys of literature. Rather than try to settle that war, politicians and school officials have turned to scientific studies to broker a truce.

"At the core, we really know enough that we can't fight about it anymore," said Catherine Snow of Harvard University, a summit participant who helped write a report on reading issued earlier this year by the National Research Council. "The research is too clear."

Clinton is credited with spurring much of the wave of concern over reading when he highlighted the issue in his re-election campaign two years ago. He vowed to spend billions to form a volunteer army of tutors to make sure that children were reading well by the end of the third grade.

Since then, legislatures have enacted at least 25 bills related to

reading, according to Frances Patterson, an assistant professor at Valdosta State University in Valdosta, Ga.

Congress, too, has jumped into the fray. Skeptical of Clinton's call for massive tutoring, Congress is wrapping up work on a bill that proposes to spend more than \$200 million to promote teaching methods that are "scientifically based."

Arthur Levine, the president of Teachers College at Columbia University, said the focus on reading reflects the recognition that 15 years of education reform have failed to have much impact on student performance.

The most recent national assessment, conducted in 1994, found that two in five U.S. fourth-graders read too poorly to keep up in school. The proportion of failure is far higher among nonwhite students and the children of poorly educated parents.

Educators are awaiting results from a new reading survey, due out later this year, hoping they show that their recent efforts to bolster reading instruction are paying off. But data from another source — the widely used Iowa Test of Basic Skills — suggests that the reading skills of third-graders has declined every year since 1990.

Educators agree that toughened academic standards, an end to "social promotion" and greater accountability are linked in some way to the ability of children to read.

Last week, a group of about 35 new teachers spent three days in the Houston school district's reading "boot camp."

"It is required to have 90 minutes a day of reading; it has to be on your lesson plans," Celeste Humphrie told the recruits. "This is why we are training all of you who are new. Other districts don't have this, but we do. If you do it, all kids will be reading on grade level."

Indeed, the test scores at Lockhart School, in a mostly black community where 66 percent of the children are from families below the poverty line, have risen dramatically. This year, more than 90 percent of the students passed the state test.

"It really does make a major difference when the teachers are well trained and the kids get in line with the structure," Principal Hilda Gentry said.

Similar stories can be found across the district. Houston has a higher percentage of schools ranked highly by the state than any other urban district in Texas.

As principals of two of the most

troubled schools in the whole deeply troubled Baltimore school system, Linda Chinnia of Liberty Elementary and Sarah Horsey of Pimlico Elementary understand the need to improve reading.

They are solidly behind a new, systematic phonics program called Open Court that, for the first time, is being mandated for all children in kindergarten through second grade.

The problem is that when the bell rings on a new day, Chinnia and Horsey feel they have to put first things first. And, in what should serve as a cautionary tale other urban areas, what comes first is not always reading.

Baltimore's push on reading grew out of a series of lawsuits in 1996 and 1997. A reform-minded state education chief, Nancy Grasmick, demanded changes in the city's failing schools, and the city, in turn, demanded more money. The result was a settlement in which the impoverished, predominantly black city got \$254 million in new funds over five years from a legislature dominated by white suburban and rural interests. In return, the state got a larger role in managing the city's schools.

Mistrust and political arm-wrestling continue. With 88

percent of the city's third-graders failing Maryland's reading test, it seemed clear the old way of doing things would not work.

At Pimlico, a Herculean effort in 1996-97 produced incredible gains: The percentage of third-graders reading at a satisfactory level jumped to 22.1 percent, up from only 5.1 percent in 1995-1996. At Liberty, only about 5 percent of third-graders had satisfactory scores in 1996-97. Chinnia plunged her school into Open Court in 1997-98. She hopes for improvement when new state scores come out in December.

The problem is that some of the biggest obstacles to progress lie outside the school.

At Liberty, before the first pupils arrive, Chinnia must be sure custodians have swept the drug syringes and liquor bottles off the playground and shooed lingering addicts out of the nearby woods.

Many parents use drugs. Children often shuttle between parents.

Many live with grandparents so exhausted "it's all they can do to get the kids to school every day," Chinnia said.

"No one has ever read to them. No one has ever told them what a letter was. It gets worse every year," said veteran teacher Faye Augins. ■

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OPINIONS

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

4 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

Editorial

What road do you take?

There are several types of students.

There's the brain, the athlete, the nerd, the cool, the dork, the lazy, the bright, the creative, the bum...

And then there's you. Where do you fit in? What do you call your own?

There is no place like on a college campus to feel lost. I don't mean geographically. You can lose direction and still get to your classes. I mean 'lost' in terms of goals, and college seems to be the perfect place to lose your mental map.

Some college students graduate high school with a plan that involves four to five more years of school and a degree in their future career. Some even plan out a four-year course plan — when to take "x" class with "y" instructor. They look at prerequisites and course requirements and plan accordingly. They'll even mix in a party here and there.

What else is there, right?

Wrong. You forgot about what it means to be in college. Obviously, getting your degree is a primary goal, but there are others to focus on. What if you got an opportunity to travel the backwoods of Italy for six months? Would you take off from school to go?

You get invited to help build a house with a Habitat for Humanity group. The day they are building happens to fall on a weekday — do you go?

It's Thursday. You're worn out on studying for Monday's test and don't want to see the walls of Peck Hall ever again. Your friend offers to take you away on a canoe trip for the weekend — do you go?

I wouldn't suggest putting school on a low priority for any reason but one: mental health. Stress has proven to be a contributor to sickness and one of the best ways to ward off a cold is to relax.

There's nothing wrong with making good grades a top priority, and who's to say it won't pay off in the future? However, college takes up about five years of your life. Don't miss any opportunities to better yourself. Make it a point to find out what you really want to do. Then do it.

Battling the dragons of Cope

Brian Forrester
Staff

I hate the Cope Administration Building.

In the land of school, work and classes are not nearly as frustrating as stepping into that building. I never have experienced a pleasant visit. I only have a student loan from a local bank, but it seems that from August until now is sufficient time to process my application.

Many students have experienced similar circumstances.

One in particular received an eviction notice from his dorm this past Thursday stating the rent money was needed by Monday. He has tried since the semester began to get the payment process completed as soon as possible.

When thousands of dollars and important deadlines are at stake, I do not want to talk to a student worker. Too often I am told something incorrectly or not told all of the information I need. I think that there are several students who are not here this semester due to a communication problem between the financial aid office and the students concerning new policy about the FAFSA form and delayed

payment procedure.

Who dropped the ball? Both did, in my opinion. However, the only notice that I was given concerning this new policy was when I registered for classes in the spring.

It is time to get people in Cope who know what to do and know the answers. Students do not need to be dealing with issues like this. I am not against students being employed on campus, but the jobs in financial aid are too important to give to people who don't know specifics.

Presently, monkeys with crayons could do a better job than those in financial aid. ■

A killer hurricane needs a killer name

Carl Hiaasen
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

The name is a problem: Georges.

Multicultural, cosmopolitan - yeah, swell. It's a perfectly good name for somebody who designs handbags or dates Kate Moss. It would even be nice for a cologne.

But it's a truly pitiful name for a hurricane. Especially one that is, at the moment, headed straight for my front door.

The path of the storm will likely change, of course. Part of a hurricane's majesty is its comic indifference to weather forecasts.

But the odds are strong that this thing will hit either the Keys or Miami or Naples. Or possibly all three.

Which means that, throughout South Florida today, millions of people are sitting at their breakfast tables, stammering in bad French accents. Georges? Some will pronounce it George-iss. Some will pronounce it Gorge-iss. Some will pronounce it Shor-jees. Some will even pronounce it correctly.

The point is, if we're going to get creamed by a natural disaster, it ought to have a name that doesn't require Berlitz tutoring; a name even a child can pronounce.

And it ought to be one inspiring fear and trepidation. Like Bruno. Or Caligula.

Or Attila - not only multicultural but suitably ominous. Every trailer court and oceanfront high-rise from Big Pine to Cape Coral would clear out in 10 minutes at the prospect of a "Hurricane Attila."

But Georges? It makes you want to rush out and stock up on brie and croissants.

"Andrew" wasn't much better - too staid and academic-sounding. It was the first big hurricane for thousands of new Floridians, and who knows how many were lulled into complacency by the colorless name.

Fifty years ago this wasn't a problem, because hurricanes were anonymous. The word itself was enough to pucker orifices throughout the tropics, which is as it should be.

In 1953, the weather service started tagging storms with women's names, a

gimmick that proved more lyrical than instructive. Then, in 1978, succumbing to misguided political correctness, forecasters began naming hurricanes after men, too.

The unspoken supposition behind naming hurricanes anything is that the general populace is otherwise so easily confused that it can't keep track of them. Simple numbers work fine for tropical depressions, but are apparently considered too vexing once a storm begins to threaten.

The custom of naming these things has become a device not just for anthropomorphizing hurricanes, but for jazzing them into a sort of cosmic celebrity. Check out the stars of today's headlines. There's Bill, Monica, Kenneth and - hey! - Georges.

Yet as a practical guide the names remain meteorologically useless, even misleading - delicate-sounding Georges is, after all, a messy killer storm.

One remedy would be to assign more menacing names to hurricanes. Another would be to modify the way they're currently rated. Category 1, for instance,

could be replaced by the term "Nasty Little Bigger." Category 2 could be "Serious Butticker."

And so on, all the way up to a Category Five, which could be called something like "Biblical Cataclysm" or "Tempest of Certain Doom." Even if you just moved to Miami from Duluth, that sort of vivid description would grab your attention.

And there'd be no ambivalence when Don Noe came on TV to report that "Hurricane Attila has just been upgraded from a Nasty Little Bigger to a Serious Butticker, and our computer models show that it could strengthen into a Tempest of Certain Doom by early Friday morning."

Scary? You bet, but scary is accurate - and easy to pronounce. ■

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Readers may write to him at: 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, Fla., 33132, or by e-mail at HeraldEd@aol.com.

CURT MANN



Warning: Village idiots are a danger to thinking people

Leonard Pitts Jr.
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

It's important that you get the picture, that you see what I saw as I wandered through my local supermarket. We're talking about a child's hardhat, modeled after those worn in construction sites. It was yellow and made of plastic only slightly thicker than what you'd use to wrap your lunch. It was, in other words, a toy - so flimsy that not even the dimmest, dumbest, densest dolt could ever mistake it for anything but.

Yet it carried the following legend: "Caution: Hazard - These ... are not safety protection devices."

Folks, anyone addled enough to think he'd be protected from a brick in the head while wearing this hat deserves to get a brick in the head while wearing this hat. But who can blame the manufacturer for erring on the side of caution? You just know some genius is going to wear the thing into a construction site and try to sue for mondo bucks after a stray girder dents his dome. So a manufacturer attempts to head him off

at the courthouse. With an idiot warning.

I'm not talking about the perfectly sensible cautions one sometimes finds on products. It doesn't bother me that a drug company wants you to know that its pills will make you drowsy or that a fax machine maker warns that you run a risk of electric shock if you pull the back panel off the thing. These warnings, I can live with. Literally.

But what grates my cheese is those self-evident admonitions that would insult a reasonably intelligent chimpanzee. Lately, I run across them with depressing frequency. Browsing in the local office supply megastore the other day, I came across a package of razor blades which carried a warning that the blades were sharp. I guess if you wanted dull blades, that'd be a special order.

On the same aisle was an electric stapler bearing a caution sticker reminding the customer not to stick his finger under the chamber that shoots out the staples. Anyone who needs that reminder probably also needs an occasional reminder to breathe.

That same day, I went to McDonald's

and bought a cup of hot coffee. There were warnings all over it, all reminding me that, well ... this was a cup of hot coffee.

Of course, Mickey D's has been ... ahem ... burned before by overzealous litigation. You doubtless remember the famous 1994 case in which an elderly Albuquerque woman bought a cup of coffee from the hamburger maker, placed it between her legs and drove off. The coffee spilled, the woman was badly burned, and a jury said, Well of course that was McDonald's fault, and awarded her \$2.9 million.

Though the amount of the award was eventually reduced, the very fact that there was an award in the first place set a rather ominous precedent. You wondered what, exactly, was her culpability in all this. Isn't it true that anyone who precariously perches a flimsy cup of scalding liquid near tender skin isn't exactly operating from an excess of smarts?

Of course, we're all idiots at one time or another, aren't we? All suffer occasional cuts, burns and bruises from having done dopey things. In the wiser years, people took this as a given. Handed lemons, they made lemonade.

In the whiner years, we take this as an opportunity. Handed lemons, we punch up an attorney on the speed dial: "Hey, Morty, I got lemons here. There must be somebody I can sue!"

So a prudent corporation takes precautions, protecting itself from the stupid and the opportunistic while, unavoidably, insulting the reasonable and the intelligent. Who, in another few years, will probably qualify as an endangered species.

Because if idiot warnings are a symbol of encroaching legalism, they seem to me also a sign of the dumbing down of the nation, a continuing process under which one is presumed a dolt until proven otherwise, no one is expected to impute or infer, and - who knows? - "In God We Trust," the nation's motto, is eventually scrapped in favor of the simpler and more accurate, "Duh."

By the way: This newspaper is flammable. You can't say you haven't been warned.

I'll be sitting over here in my hardhat if you need me. ■

SIDELINES

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"Sidelines" is the non-profit, editorially independent student newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University and is published every Wednesday during June and July and on Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters. FLASH!, the entertainment magazine, is published every Wednesday during the Fall & Spring semester. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily "Sidelines" or the university.

The Cutting Edge

Spiritual truths for today's struggles

Is lying ok?

By Franco Gennaro

"Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?"

Sound familiar? How about this one: "Liar, liar, pants on fire!" What is it in us that causes us to boil over when we catch someone lying to us? Why do we feel emotionally raped and taken advantage of? When you are lied to, do you tend to mistrust that person just a little more the next time? Is there a time when lying is acceptable?

The chief executive officer of our nation recently found himself in a quagmire of lies and cover-ups. Like anything else, once you start on a path of deception, the longer you go, it seems to take more and more ingenuity to keep from getting caught.

Though most Americans disdain being lied to and are appalled at the recent discoveries in Washington, the fact still remains that, according to Time Magazine, over 75 percent of U.S. citizens say that is okay for them personally to lie under certain circumstances. Why the contradiction?

The reason is that we judge others by their actions and ourselves by our motives.

Most of the time we justify our actions by saying, "Well, it was just a little lie, gray lie, or worst yet, not really a lie at all."

In our confusing state of post modernism with its fruit of situational ethics, the youth of today become the victims. Children grow up not really knowing right from wrong because we have eliminated any solid foundation of truth.

The Ten Commandments have been the bedrock of most societies for thousands of years. In our schools and universities, they have been replaced with outdated pseudointellectual theories. Even the head of the French Academy of Science candidly admits, "Evolution is a fairy tale for adults."

Could it be that lying and cheating have a ground to stand on if evolution is the replaced standard of the day? Think about it — if there is no God, then there is no foundational truth in which we judge a society and its people.

Consequently, we fail to be moral agents responsible for our actions and we are left with no right and no wrong! Everyone is free to do what seems good in his own eyes. It's obvious that, in the animal kingdom, predatory actions are acceptable behavior.

As Aldous Huxley once responded to the question of why evolution was so readily accepted, he admitted, "The reason we accept Darwinism even without proof is because we didn't want God to interfere with our sexual mores."

But no, my friend, lying is always wrong — whether it springs from our own insecurities causing us to exaggerate, or withholding truth due to fear or just plain old cheating to get our own way.

As Jesus Christ clearly states in His Word: "Although they [man] claimed to be wise, they became fools..." and "men will have to give an account on the day of judgement for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words will you be condemned." (Romans 1:22 and Matthew 12:36) ■

Franco Gennaro serves as pastor with the Victory Church at MTSU and is chaplain to various sports teams in the community.

You're at a greater risk of getting skin cancer if your hair is blonde or red.

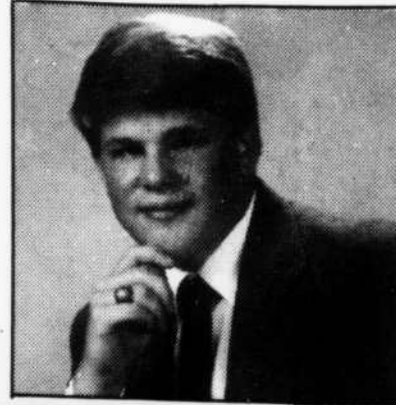


(No matter how much of it you have left.)

Fair skin, light eyes and a tendency to burn in the sun, also put you at a higher risk. So, examine your skin regularly. If you find anything unusual, see your dermatologist.



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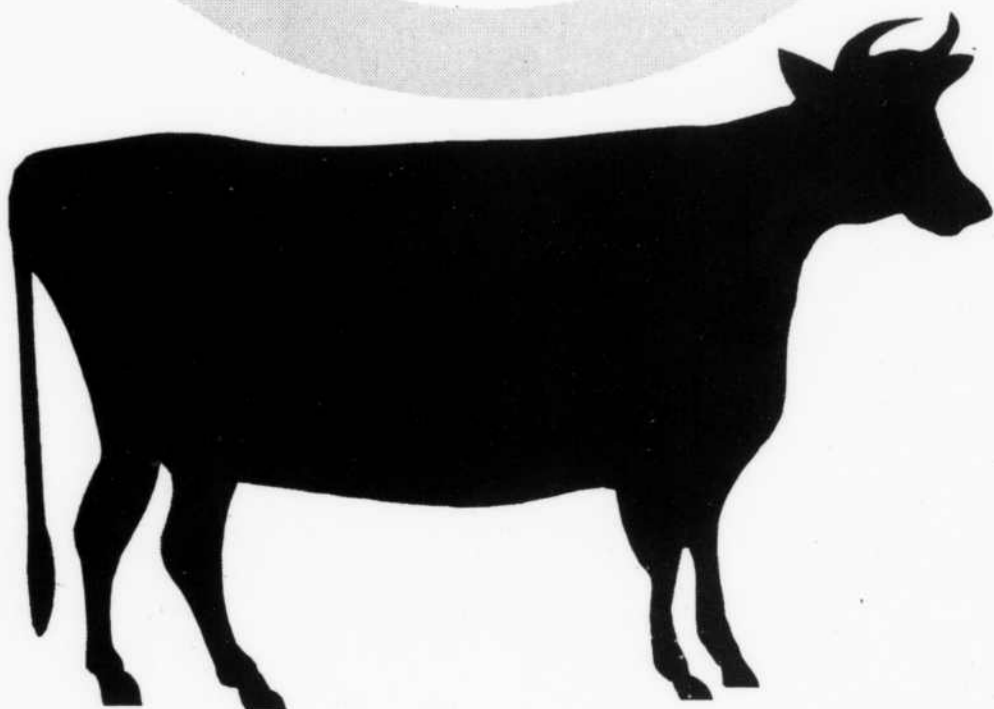
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PARKING NOTICE

Due to the Tennessee Dairy Expo being held at MTSU, the Tennessee Livestock Center parking lot will be closed to campus parking on October 7, 8, and 9.

Alternative parking areas are the Recreation Center parking lot (black permit parking) and the Middle Tennessee Baptist Church (green permit parking), on the west side of Tennessee Boulevard across from campus.

We appreciate your understanding regarding this request. If you have any questions, please contact Parking Services at extension 2850.



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YEARBOOK

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9A.M. - 6P.M. (FRIDAY FROM 9A.M. - 4P.M.)

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Seniors should schedule an appointment by calling 898-2815 or coming by JUB 306.

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PORTTRAITS

FEATURES

6 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

Capers, bagpipes, scones and kilts part of Scottish Celebration Saturday



The presentation of the many Scottish bands is one of the highlights of the Heart of Tennessee Scottish Celebration to be held Saturday.

Photos provided



A competitor in the caber toss contest gets ready to vault a telephone pole during last year's event.



A Scottish step dancer shows how it's done.

Shannan Tipton
Special to Sidelines

Whether you're of Scottish descent or not, Saturday's Heart of Tennessee Scottish Celebration taking place on campus has plenty to offer from Scottish athletics to Celtic rock music.

Massed bands in kilts, the skirling sounds of bagpipes, Celtic music, the tossing of the caber and sheaf, and the aroma of brides and scones will bring Scotland to MTSU this weekend. It's all part of the third annual Heart of Tennessee Scottish Celebration sponsored by MTSU, the City of Murfreesboro and the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce.

More than 10,000 people from all over the southeast are expected to attend Saturday's activities which include Scottish Highland games, pipe and drum bands, herding demonstrations, Highland cow and sheep exhibits, a British car show and the pageantry of the Parade of Tartans.

"Scottish athletics draw most non-Scottish people to the celebration," said Sandra Mauldin, the

celebration's secretary in charge of clans. "The games include the caber toss or what people commonly call the telephone pole toss."

The equipment used for all the games are objects that could be found around any Scottish farm or village. The object of the caber toss is to throw the pole end-over-end so that the small end falls away from the contestant. Distance has no bearing on the outcome, just skill.

The sheaf toss has an obvious tie with the agricultural regions of Scotland. Taking a pitchfork, the contestant must toss a 16-pound sheaf of hay over a bar. After each contestant has had a turn, the bar is raised until all athletes are eliminated except one.

Putting the stone is another of many events to test strength and endurance. This is the equivalent of the Olympic shot put event except that a smooth rounded stone is used instead of a steel ball.

Professional athletes will compete, but amateurs will be encouraged to join. The tradition of the Highland games is ancient. More than a thousand years ago, clan chiefs used the games to test the strength and

ability of their warriors. Though the games were originally developed to test the ability of the warriors, the games evolved into festive occasions in which the display of physical prowess continue to play an important part.

Entertainment at the festival will include a variety of local, national and international performers all day Saturday. Special entertainers include Murfreesboro's own "Celtic-eclectic" Secret Commonwealth, Scottish singer/songwriter Ian Bruce, internationally known singer Colin Grant Adams and folk group Isla.

Performing bands include the Atlanta Pipe Band, Lovat-Cameron Pipe and Drums, Louisville-Nashville Pipe and Drums and Knoxville Pipe and Drums. The Hamilton Country Dancers of Nashville will host demonstrations and audience participation in Scottish country dancing.

More than 60 Scottish clans and societies will share their history and provide genealogical information at tents on the grounds. Many Scottish and Irish people settled in Tennessee and the southeastern United States. There are many descendants of these

pioneers, and some of them may not be familiar with the culture and heritage of their forefathers.

Along with the music, exhibits, games and demonstrations, there will be plenty of activities and competitions for children. Numerous vendors will be set up with traditional food, jewelry and more. Todd Baxter of Woodbury will have longhorn Highland cows and calves along with black face sheep, Shetland sheep, Runner ducks and Shetland ponies.

One of the ways the event promotes the Scottish way of life is through educational seminars. These seminars are open to the public and will be held Friday at the Holiday Inn from noon until 4 p.m. Topics include Scottish history, spinning and weaving, genealogy, Scottish harp and fiddle demonstrations, the Gaelic language and Scottish dress.

A new event this year is an auction of authentic Scottish antiques and collectibles by Scottish auctioneer Hope Vere Anderson. The auction will be at the Holiday Inn from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. Saturday.

See FESTIVAL, page 7

Gershwin music highlights concert

Vickie Gibson
Staff Reporter

A tribute to Gershwin's 100th birthday will highlight the MTSU Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band's fall concert Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Wright Music Hall.

The university's wind and percussion ensemble is conducted by Richard Murphy, director of bands. The Symphonic Band is under the direction of associate director Terry Jolley. Two faculty members will be featured guests during the concert.

Polly Brecht, an associate professor of music, will be showcased on organ during the ensemble's performance of "Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals."

MTSU music professor Jerry Perkins will be a featured pianist for the concert's finale, Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue."

Both Brecht and Perkins maintain busy schedules performing in addition to teaching various music classes on campus.

Brecht, a twice-graduate of Indiana University and Florida State University, has won and been a finalist in various competitions. She can be heard on National Public Radio's "Pipedreams." She also teaches harpsicord at Blair School of Music in Nashville and is principal organist at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Nashville.

Perkins, an alumnus of the College Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati and Boston University. His piano music has been heard on WNYC-New York City, WPLN-Nashville, National Public Radio, the Austrian Radio Network as well as WDCN TV. He is featured on the Stones River Chamber Players' newly-released CD, "Music for a Farce" and is a soloist on Time-Life recordings of music of the Civil War. Known throughout the Southeast as a lecturer, teacher and piano judge, Perkins serves as coordinator of the piano program for the Governor's School for the Arts.

During Sunday's concert, two graduate conductors will conduct selections by the Symphonic Band. Philip Gregory will conduct Caesar Giovanni's "Chorale and Capriccio" and Ronald Duncan will conduct David Holsinger's "On An American Spiritual."

The band will also perform "March," "Solemn Music" and "Finale" from Gordon Jacob's "Suite in B Flat" and Getty Huffine's "Them Basses."

The ensemble will include "Normandie," "Bretagne," "Ile de France," "Alsace-Lorraine" and "Provence" from Darius

See CONCERT, page 7

Sebastian's hosts AIDS benefit

Staff Reports

A benefit concert is slated Thursday night at Sebastian's on the Square in Murfreesboro to raise money for AIDS. Fluid Ounces, Four Star Crush and Glossary are featured performers.

All proceeds will go to the Nashville Cares AIDSwalk, according to Sara Rainwater, one of the organizers of the local effort.

The show begins at 9:30 p.m. Admission is \$5. For more information, call Rainwater at 898-2193.

Skillet, Mancy A'lan Kane, Skypark kick off Homecoming week with concert

Vickie Gibson
Staff Reporter

The highly-acclaimed Memphis rock band Skillet will headline a concert Sunday to kickoff Homecoming week activities. Mancy A'lan Kane and Skypark will open the show sponsored by Alpha Omega, a campus outreach organization.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 4 in the JUB Tennessee Room. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the door.

Skillet, hailed by critics in both mainstream and Christian markets, has been compared to Nine Inch Nails and Stabbing Westward. "Billboard Magazine" recently reported the group may be the next big Christian act to follow in the steps of Jars of Clay and cross over onto the secular charts.

The trio of musicians that make up Skillet include John Cooper, bassist/lead vocalist; Ken Steoris, guitarist; and Trey McClurkin, drummer. A special addition to the group is Corey Cooper, John's wife, who plays the keyboard for live performances. John does keyboards on the group's recordings.

The concert is part of the "Hey You - I Love Your Soul" tour. The newest album includes touches of

electronica, new wave, industrial, power pop and rock. The band experimented with drum loops, sequencers and keyboards in the recording process.

"The music I was writing included a lot of different sounds and rhythms, so our sound took on quite a different feel," said Cooper. "Hey You is a unique blend of modern rock and electronics with passionate vocals and big dynamic range."

The group debuted in 1996 and have a growing number of fans. "There are different levels in 'Skillethood,'" said Steoris. "Skilletfans" are those who become fans by hearing the group's music while those who come to three or four shows traveling long hours, bringing skillets, banners and decorating their cars are "Panheads."

"Of course, we love them all, but we have a special place in our hearts for 'Panheads,'" he said.

But Skillet fans can tell you that this is not about love and adulation for a band; it's about love and adulation for God. All of Skillet's music has a call to holiness and an unwavering commitment to worship God.

"Our goal is to set an example of an uncompromising lifestyle," said Cooper. "By clearly preaching the

Good News, we hope to see serious renewal and spiritual fire in the people at our shows."

Kane, whose recently-released "Paper Moon" includes four tunes co-written with Jars of Clay, signed a record deal the day she turned 18. That was only a year ago. Now she is touring and performing her acoustic-pop songs.

"I have two very different sides," Kane said. "When I'm alone there's the me that ponders everything, that daydreams, that sorts through and finds voice for my emotions. The rest of the time I tend to be kind of giddy, silly and scatterbrained. Take me away from my introspective little cubbyhole and you'll find that I'm very much a girl in the stereotypical sense. The way I am when I'm alone though, is the side that usually comes through in my music."

Kane said she appreciates people who have come up to her after concerts and let her know what her music meant to them. "When I get that kind of feedback, it gives me great satisfaction to know that I turned these emotions over to God and He used them to help and comfort other people," she said.

The music of Skypark is difficult to define. Rock 'n roll doesn't quite

cover the range of music that this singer, guitarist, bassist and drummer group produces. The group includes lead vocalist Tyrone Wells, guitarist Joey Aszterbaum, drummer Keith Gove and bassist Tony Deerfield.

The group started as a campus band called Sinai at Pacific Christian College playing for campus coffee nights. The name Skypark came from a street named Skypark Circle in Orange County, Ca. "We named the band that because it reminds me of heaven," said Aszterbaum.

The group's new album "Am I Pretty?" includes rock 'n roll, some edgy roots rock and some underlying humor. The lyrics on the album are about relationships and insecurity. "I think people can relate to building up walls because they don't want people to know who they really are, and being afraid," said Aszterbaum. "This is not a Christian thing or non-Christian thing. It's a human thing."

He said he wants Skypark to be "a voice of healing to the world and a prophetic voice to the Church" but also humorously admits that music is a great career because "it's the best excuse to dress like a moron and pretend that it's OK." ■

FESTIVAL continued from page 6

The auction will feature items direct from Scottish estates that include furniture, clocks, glassware, pottery, paintings, prints, antiquarian books, silver and jewelry. There is no admission to the auction, which is open to the public, but a 15 percent buyer's premium will be charged. A portion of the auction proceeds will go to support the annual celebration.

Another event of the weekend is

the Kirkin' of the Tartan at First Cumberland Presbyterian Church Sunday, Oct. 4, followed by a luncheon and special entertainment. Reservations are required for this event which is open to the public. Call 848-9193 for more information.

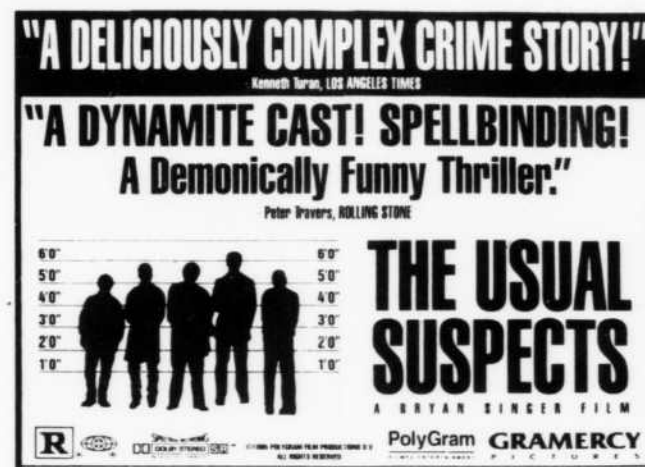
Gates open Saturday at 8:30 a.m. Many events begin at 9 a.m. and run throughout the day. The opening ceremony is at noon and the closing ceremony is at 5:30 p.m. Admission is \$3 for MTSU students with ID, \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 3 to 12. ■

CONCERT continued from page 6

Milhaud's "Suite Francaise." Also on the program is a trilogy of Calvary Marches, "The Black Horse Troop," "The Corcoran Cadets March" and "Riders for the Flag," by John Philip Sousa. Jolley will conduct the ensemble for "Psalm for Band" by Vincent Persichetti.

The concert starts at 3 p.m. in the Music Hall of the Wright Music Building. The concert is free and open to the public. ■

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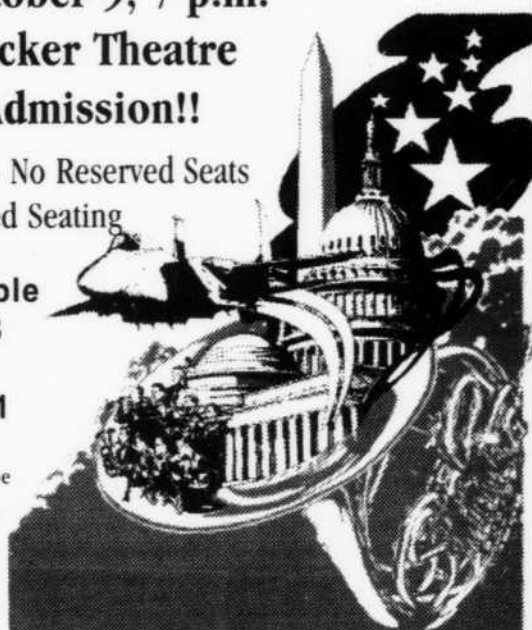
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Boots steps down as head coach

Mark Owens

Sports Information Director

James (Boots) Donnelly announced last night that he will be stepping down as head football coach effective at the end of the 1998 season. Donnelly, who is synonymous with winning football, is in his 22nd year as a head coach and his 20th at MTSU.

"People are probably wondering why I am stepping down at this particular point in the season, but I feel it is the best time for this program," Donnelly said. "With the move to I-AA in football next year, it gives the administration plenty of time to find a new coach and have him in place for the upcoming recruiting season."

Donnelly, who enters this week's game with an overall record of 150-92-1 in 22 years, will remain with the athletic department following the conclusion of the football season.

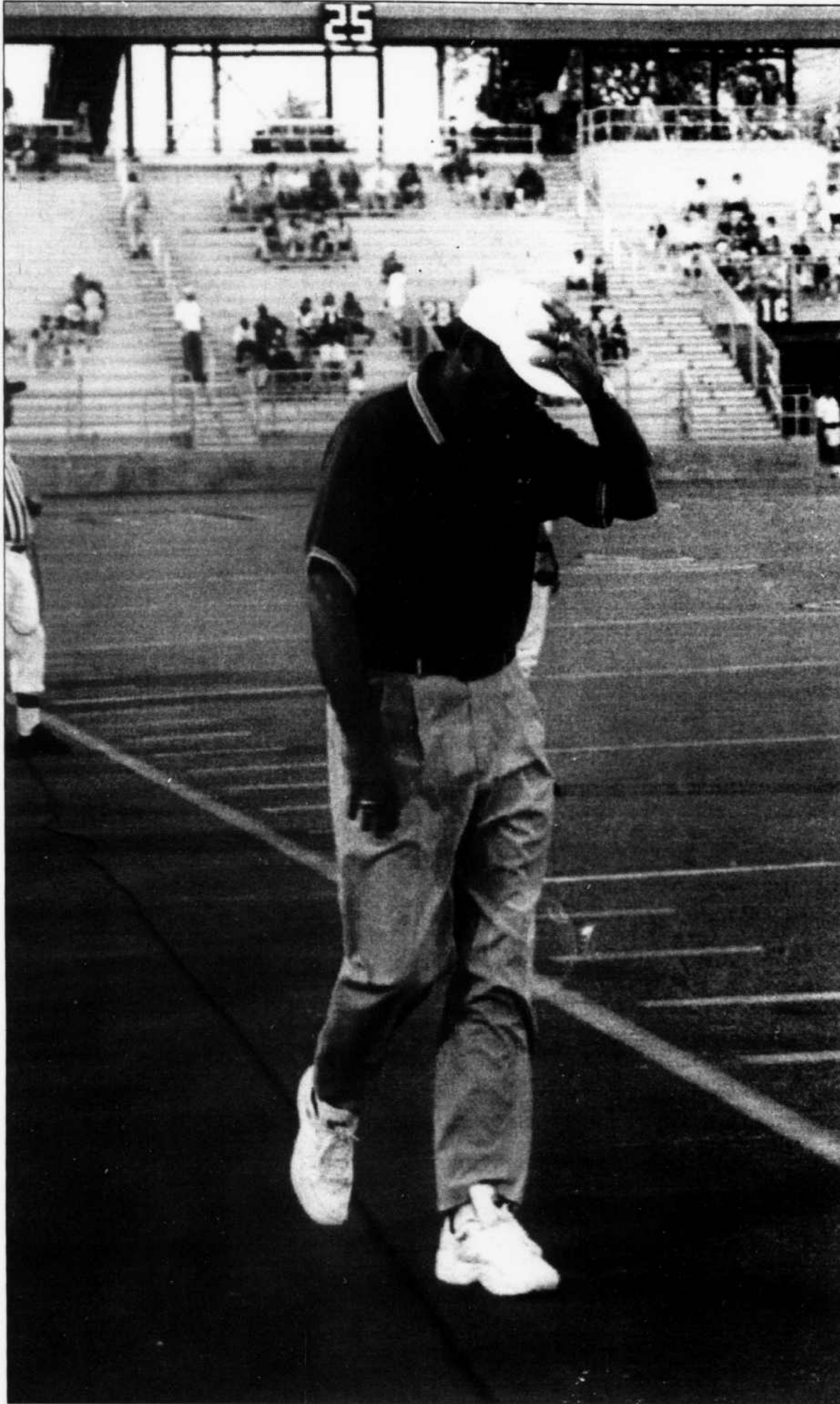
"Coach Donnelly has had a great career at MTSU," athletic director Lee Fowler said. "His success as a football coach at Middle Tennessee is the main reason we're making the jump to I-AA next year. He has established a solid program that wins, graduates players and prepares student-athletes to be successful in life. He will be sorely missed as a football coach and teacher."

The eighth-winningest coach in Division I-AA history, Donnelly was the recipient of the "Contributions to Football Award" from the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame in 1989. He was also inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in 1997.

"We appreciate the contributions Coach Donnelly has given to MTSU as a player and coach," school president James Walker said. "We look forward to having Boots as a part of the athletic department for many years to come."

"People are probably wondering why I am stepping down at this particular point in the season, but I feel this is the best time for this program."

Boots Donnelly.



Boots Donnelly is known for his animated sideline behavior. (Above and left) He tries to get the players' attention during last Saturday night's game against Eastern Kentucky. Photos by Jennie Treadway

Donnelly never lost integrity

Keith Ryan Cartwright
Staff Reporter

Wednesday evening was one of the most solemn occasions in recent Blue Raider athletic history.

After 20 seasons at the helm of the MTSU football program, Boots Donnelly has decided to call it a career. Effective at the end of this season, Donnelly will step down as head coach of the Raiders.

The announcement was made at 8 p.m. after several department meetings as well as an emotional meeting between Donnelly and his assistants.

Donnelly's resignation ends a couple of years worth of speculation.

There were those who said only his ego was keeping him involved with the organization so that he could say that he coached a I-AA team. Others thought athletics director Lee Fowler would replace him after his first year of I-AA.

The actual arrogance, however, is with those who ignorantly tried to predict Donnelly's fate in Middle Tennessee.

But they all forgot one thing: Donnelly is a man who goes about his life in his own way. So it seems only fitting that Donnelly would choose the least expected time to end a career which ranks him as the eighth most winningest coach in I-AA history.

It all comes back to the first thing I ever wrote about Donnelly when I first arrived at MTSU last fall, "Boots Donnelly has never been one to mince words and he's not about to begin now."

The way I see it, Donnelly has always maintained his integrity.

He's always stood up to anything he deemed as his mistake. There was the time I spoke to him after last season's final game, ironically it was a loss to this week's opponent, Tennessee Tech. After the game, Donnelly told me that maybe it was time to evaluate how he taught his players.

Never did he try to lay blame to a player for a loss if he thought better preparation by the coaching staff would have made a difference.

We all have our own Donnelly stories, but nonetheless, it was sad time at the Murphy Center last night. After the announcement was made, none of Donnelly's coaches, including Donnelly himself, could be found.

Though their cars remained in the parking lot well after the time they've all normally left, the men themselves remained together.

No doubt, Donnelly chain-smoked more than a few cigarettes. But then again, the man in blue was entitled to do as he saw fit.

In the coming days, Donnelly will be talked about on nearly every sports radio show, written about throughout the country and even mentioned on ESPN. I'm willingly to bet that one word not used to describe him will be grateful.

However, that's the way I'll always remember him. Donnelly was graceful enough to turn in his resignation early enough so that a good quality coach could be put in place early enough to be effective during the recruiting season. Graceful enough to help lead a football team to the climax of I-AA competition.

Yet Donnelly steps away from the game without disgracing himself by coaching at the I-AA level just for the sake of saying he coached there. Why? Because he has too much respect for the game he's been involved in for the better portion of his entire life.

Hopefully, he'll receive the respect he so deserves.

As Bob Hope said a million times, "Thanks for the memories." ■

An outstanding player at Middle Tennessee in the mid-1960s, Donnelly returned to his alma mater in 1978 to take over the reins of a once-proud football tradition that had fallen on hard times. MTSU had gone through six straight losing seasons before Donnelly became head coach.

After winning one game in 1979 and two games in 1980, Donnelly turned things around in 1981 with a 6-5 campaign that included a win over top-ranked Murray State. The Nashville native would go on to record 12 straight winning seasons, capture four Ohio Valley Championships, 10 national top 25 finishes, seven I-AA playoff appearances and earn five different Coach of the Year honors.

Donnelly has also coached 14 NFL players, eight first team all-Americans and 12 OVC Players of the Year during his tenure at MTSU.

Prior to his return to MTSU, Donnelly was head coach at Austin Peay State University in 1977 and 1978, leading Governors to their first-ever OVC title in 1977 and being named the league's Coach of the Year. His record at Austin Peay was 14-7.

Donnelly's coaching career began at Nashville's Father Ryan High School, where he had been a top-flight, all-around athlete. He was an assistant coach there for eight years before becoming head coach in 1974, leading Ryan to a 21-1 record over two seasons, including a 13-0 mark and the Tennessee Class AAA title in 1974.

Donnelly is married to the former Carole Holzapfel of Nashville. They have three daughters, Bunny, Helen and Lauren, and one grandson. ■



Hailee Walsh

Blake Patterson
Staff Reporter

Sammy Sosa and Mark McGuire aren't the only athletes breaking records this season. Lady Raider soccer forward Hailee Walsh is on pace to set a few of her own. Walsh, a 5-foot-5-inch

freshman from Leawood, Kan., is leading the Ohio Valley Conference in scoring with an average of 2 goals per game. The MTSU record for goals scored in a single 20-game season is eight. After just nine games, Walsh has scored seven goals. Three of these came against Cumberland (Ky.) College on Sept. 9.

"Once she got the second [goal], she really wanted the third," said head coach Collette Gilligan, adding that the "hat trick" is an extremely rare thing in soccer.

Gilligan was instrumental in recruiting Walsh from St. Thomas Aquinas High School. Highly scouted

early in her senior year by several big schools, Walsh tore her ACL on Oct. 31. While other schools gave up on her, Gilligan had confidence that this Olympic Development Team member would bounce back. That confidence brought Walsh to MTSU. She returned from the injury in only four and one-half months instead of the nine doctors said to expect.

"[MTSU] was a perfect fit," Walsh said.

Although Walsh admits she originally played soccer because she "wanted to be the center of attention," she now recognizes and respects the ability of her teammates.

"There is an incredible amount of talent and a great team chemistry," Walsh said. "My teammates make me look good."

She has all the attributes that make a great player: desire to win, attitude to want the ball, will to work and a strong mental presence.

"She's our go-to girl," said co-captain Lindsay Henderson.

Her love for the game is evident even at practice. She is always hopping like a boxer just before the bell rings. And, while there isn't much of a chance she'll take a bite out of any of her opponents, her physical game is strong.

"She doesn't care who she runs over to get the ball," Gilligan said.

Although she is a broadcast journalism major, Walsh would like to coach after finishing school. She has coached a team of 10 year olds for the past two years. She still gets phone calls and e-mails from her young players.

With a winning personality and a keen knowledge of the game, she couldn't pick a better field to go into.

"She is fun-lovin' and hard-workin'," said assistant coach Scot Wieland. ■

Freshman may break school record in scoring

Cubs have new attitude

Michael Wilbon
The Washington Post

CHICAGO— The most compelling baseball season in more than 50 years has rewarded us with a postseason that promised everything from the glamour of the most dominant franchise in sports — the Yankees — to the romantic desperation of the most forlorn franchise in sports, the Chicago Cubs.

The Yankees are never a surprise to play into October, the Cubs always are, which is why Monday's victory over the Giants at Wrigley Field set off an into-the-morning celebration that would suggest the clinching of the World Series instead of a wild-card berth. But small achievements for the Braves or Yankees are monumental accomplishments for a franchise that has qualified for postseason play only three times since 1945, and hasn't won a World Series since 1908.

For the better part of a century the Cubs carted off victory and individual honors. You know who held the National League home run record before Sammy Sosa? Hack Wilson, another Cub. You know who baseball's Iron Man was before Cal Ripken? A Cub, Billy Williams. You know where the Greatest Pitcher of Our Time was before he went off to Atlanta? Right here in Chicago, where Greg Maddux won his first Cy Young award.

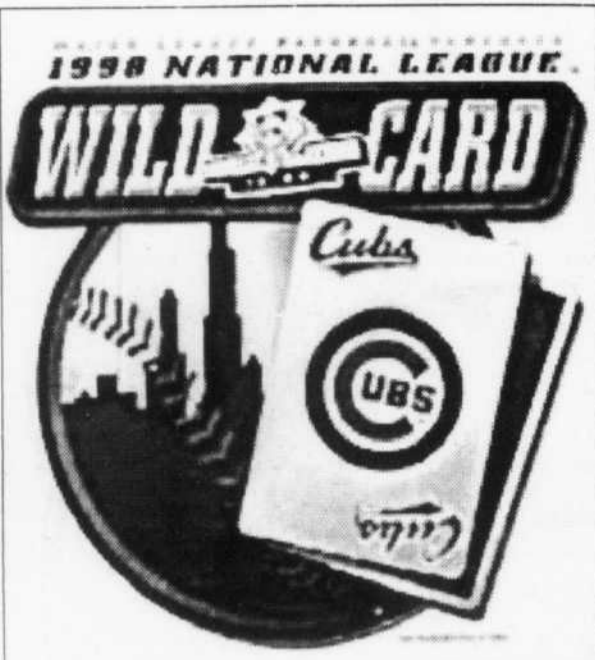
And all those distinctions contributed what, exactly, toward the ultimate team goal of winning a championship? Nothing. You see, the Cubs finally seem they're starting to get it. Let the other guy ride off into the sunset with trophies while you keep playing as the leaves turn to gold.

What Mark McGwire has is wonderful. But if you don't risk it all for a chance to win, you'd be a fool. So what Sammy Sosa has — a shot at winning it all — is better. Let's not play two, let's win two. "Please don't ask me about Mark McGwire," Sosa said, champagne streaming down his face in the victorious aftermath of beating the Giants. "I think Mark might want to be in my shoes right now. We're in the playoffs, and you never know what will happen. ..." The Florida Marlins might agree with that, having stood last year where the Cubs stand now, a wild-card afterthought.

Could it've been the Cubs are acquiring what they've never had through the years: attitude.

When Shawon Dunston, a Giants

reserve who was with the Cubs in their 1989 playoff season, sent word to Chicago's Mark Grace that history (the Giants beat the Cubs in the NLCS) would repeat itself, the always affable Grace shot back that if Dunston "had done anything" in that '89 playoff the Cubs would have gotten to the World Series. Amen. Maybe Michael Jordan's presence around the Cubs these last couple of weeks is beginning to rub off in a place the Cubs most need it: confidence.



Too often, the Cubs have been reliant on one or two players. Through the '50s and '60s it was Ernie Banks and Billy Williams. In the '84 playoff season it was Cy Young Rick Sutcliffe and MVP Ryne Sandberg. In the '89 it was Sandberg and Grace.

Knowing this was a winner-take-all game and knowing the victory history of this franchise in must-win situations, it was an all-hands-on-deck sort of night. The manager, Jim Riggleman, didn't have to ask. He had too many volunteers. The two men who pitched 11 innings Sunday in Houston—Terry Mulholland and Rod Beck—told Riggleman they'd be ready Monday for the Giants. Mulholland, who threw 121 pitches in Houston, walked into the clubhouse and pronounced he had two innings in him. Barry Bonds, who has played with Mulholland, said, "Terry's a gamer. He'd put on the equipment and catch if he had to." Both were called on Monday; Beck got the final out. Kevin Tapani, the 19-game winner

who figured to start Game 1 in a playoff series, tried to talk his way into Sunday's game and did come in to play a key role vs. the Giants. A guy who won't even be on the playoff roster, Matt Mieske, drove in what wound up being the winning run with a pinch-hit, bases-loaded single that kept us from second-guessing Riggleman the rest of his life.

Now, we don't want to go crazy here. These guys have a long way to go before de-Cubbing themselves. That's why management had Michael Jordan throw out the ceremonial first pitch, to inject an actual air of winning into Wrigley Field. You don't want to go around suggesting the Cubs can beat the Braves because you risk being fitted for a straightjacket. Wasn't it Beck who said this season of this franchise, "If they had a four-letter word for baseball, we'd be it." That's the best description of the Cubs I've ever heard.

But something's rumbling here. There might just be enough talent, determination, the Chicago clubhouse and nasty attitude in the callows clubhouse for the Cubs to give the Braves one hellacious battle. Gary Gaetti coming here after his release from St. Louis doesn't exactly make up for the Cubs trading Lou Brock to the Cardinals back in the early '60s, but it does give the Cubs a World Series veteran with a clutch stick at a position that hasn't been filled since Ron Santo.

Maybe Monday night's a step out of the lovable loser Cubbie identity that has marked 53 years worth of Cubs teams. If anybody's proved you can be great and lovable, too, it's Sosa, in our fantasies, all of our sports idols would. What you couldn't see at the end of the game, way late into the night when almost everybody was gone except 3,000 or so fans, was two bottles of champagne.

He sprayed those he could reach with the bubbly, then climbed into the stands with a couple of helpers to hug and kiss anybody within arm's reach. "I am nothing without the fans," Sosa said, folks hugging him and crying simultaneously. "I've never had champagne before."

Then again, he never hit 66 home runs before this year, and he never helped lead a team to postseason play, where the stakes and the rewards are bigger, better and so much more worthy of a toast. ■

Raiders look to redeem past

Keith Ryan Cartwright
Staff Reporter

Boots Donnelly has never believed in moral victories on the football field.

That's why a four point loss for the struggling Blue Raiders to 12th-ranked Eastern Kentucky last Saturday amounts to nothing more than another loss.

"Everyone has been giving us credit for effort," Donnelly said, "but that should be a given everytime we hit the field."

This week the Raiders are preparing for their last meeting with Tennessee Tech and anything short of a win in Cookeville will be disappointing.

With a record of 1-1 in the Ohio Valley Conference, a win over the Golden Eagles would keep the Raiders just one game out of the hunt for the conference championship. However, like the Raiders, the Eagles enter Saturday's game on the heels of a loss and are hungry to get back on track.

After outplaying the Colonels in nearly every offensive category, the Raiders (1-3, 1-1) hope they've found some new found stability with the team. In the absence of Judd Moore, the raiders have seen the emergence Wes Counts.

The red-shirt freshman from Murfreesboro connected on 19 of 30 passes for 190 yards, including three impressive touchdowns.

"Wes will give us everything he's got every play," Donnelly said. "He's been raised by quality parents and loves the program as much as anyone.

He may make a few mistakes, but you can always count on him to fight to the bitter end. I was proud of the way he played against Eastern Kentucky."

Despite his youth and inexperience, Counts showed his ability to maintain his composure and his ability to elude blitzing linebackers.

This week against the Raiders, Counts will lead the Eagles, Counts will lead the Raiders against a defense which has allowed an average of 236 offensive yards in its first three games.

With a record of 1-2, the Eagles have yet to win an OVC game, having lost 13-6 last week against Eastern Illinois. The Eagles fell 38-6 the week before in Birmingham against UAB. Their only win of the season came against a weak Kentucky Wesleyan team.

"This is our last visit to Cookeville and they have really been promoting the game," Donnelly said. "So a good crowd will be on hand and we will have to be ready to play."

Though Donnelly also praised the Eagles defensive abilities, look for the Raiders to mix up their offense. With running backs Torin Kirtsey and Kelverick Green both healthy, a solid running attack from the two could once again open some passing opportunities for wide outs Matt Lowe and Sulecio Sanford.

Prediction: It'll be the breakout game the Raiders have been looking for, Kirtsey and Green will combine for over 150 yards rushing, Counts will throw for more than 150 yards and Raiders will leave Cookeville with a 42-20 win. ■

Organization Group Photos

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