



SIDELINES



Volume 74, No. 20

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

Police investigating indecent exposure reports

Brian Forrester
Staff Reporter

No further incidences of indecent exposure have occurred since the incidents in late August and September. However, investigations are still underway with a possible suspect.

The incident which occurred on August 27 near the Thompson Lane Greenway trail head was the first of three offenses of indecent exposure reported this semester.

The female had been walking on the Greenway trail and stopped to look at a tree when a white male approached her, exposed himself and propositioned her for oral sex. Two more incidences occurred on September 30.

The first incident that day happened at approximately 8:10 a.m. near Belle Aire Baptist Church parking lot. A white male approached a female asking for directions. During the conversation, the male grabbed the victim

while holding his penis.

The second offense that morning occurred at approximately 8:15 a.m. in the same general area. A white male approached a female asking for directions. After the conversation, the male flashed his penis to the female.

These three incidences have made MTSU Public Safety more cautious and increased efforts of patrol units. Lt. Roy Brewer of Public Safety said that annual

leave for MTSU police officers must be approved by either himself or Lt. Drugmand in order to ensure maximum personal to patrol campus.

Police believe the suspect is not an MTSU student.

"The biggest thing [for students] is don't expect a normal walk from car to campus buildings," he said.

Detective Larry Nobles of the Murfreesboro Police Department said that one arrest had been

made. Although the suspect had previous criminal background similar to the incidences, which he had been arrested, he produced a solid alibi for his whereabouts during the time of the crime. Upon verification of his story, he was released.

Nobles said the investigation is still underway even though some time has passed since the last offense.

A common denominator in all three offenses is that the females

talked to strangers, which possibly could have prevented them from becoming victims. These occurrences also happened in broad daylight. Therefore, poorly lit parking lots or sidewalks were not an issue.

Students are encouraged to be aware of where they are and their surroundings at all times.

"Unless someone is under arrest, then there is a danger of repeat occurrences," Brewer said.

Food science major receives new Technology concentration

Michele Conklin
Staff Reporter

The Department of Human Sciences and the School of Agribusiness and Agriscience have added Food Technology, a new concentration, to the Nutrition and Food Science major to give students another alternative.

According to Janet Colson, professor of nutrition and food science, "The Food Technology program was created to give students another avenue of study away from Clinical Dietetics."

In the United States, but especially in Tennessee, the food industry is becoming one of the largest and fastest growing industries around. According to Tony Johnston, professor in the School of Agribusiness and Agriscience, MTSU can now contribute to the industry's growing need for educated and trained individuals.

"There is a heavy concentration of the food industry in Middle Tennessee and MTSU can play a significant role in addressing the need of the food industry in the Middle Tennessee area," he said.

"Food technology," as defined in the fifth edition of the Food Science textbook written by Norman N. Porter and Joseph H. Hotchkiss, "is the use of the information generated by food science in the selection, preservation, processing, packaging and distribution as it affects the consumption of safe, nutritious and wholesome food."

With a Food Technology degree, graduates will be qualified to work in entry-level positions in the food industry.

According to Karla Hughes, Department of Human Sciences chair and a graduate of the Food Technology program at the University of Tennessee, career opportunities include those in public health, USDA, school food service, quality assurance, package design and research and development.

"This is an applied science," said Hughes, "not cooking and sewing."

This program was designed so that MTSU students can continue studies in an Institute of Food Technology-approved graduate program at the University of Tennessee without requiring a lot of prerequisites.

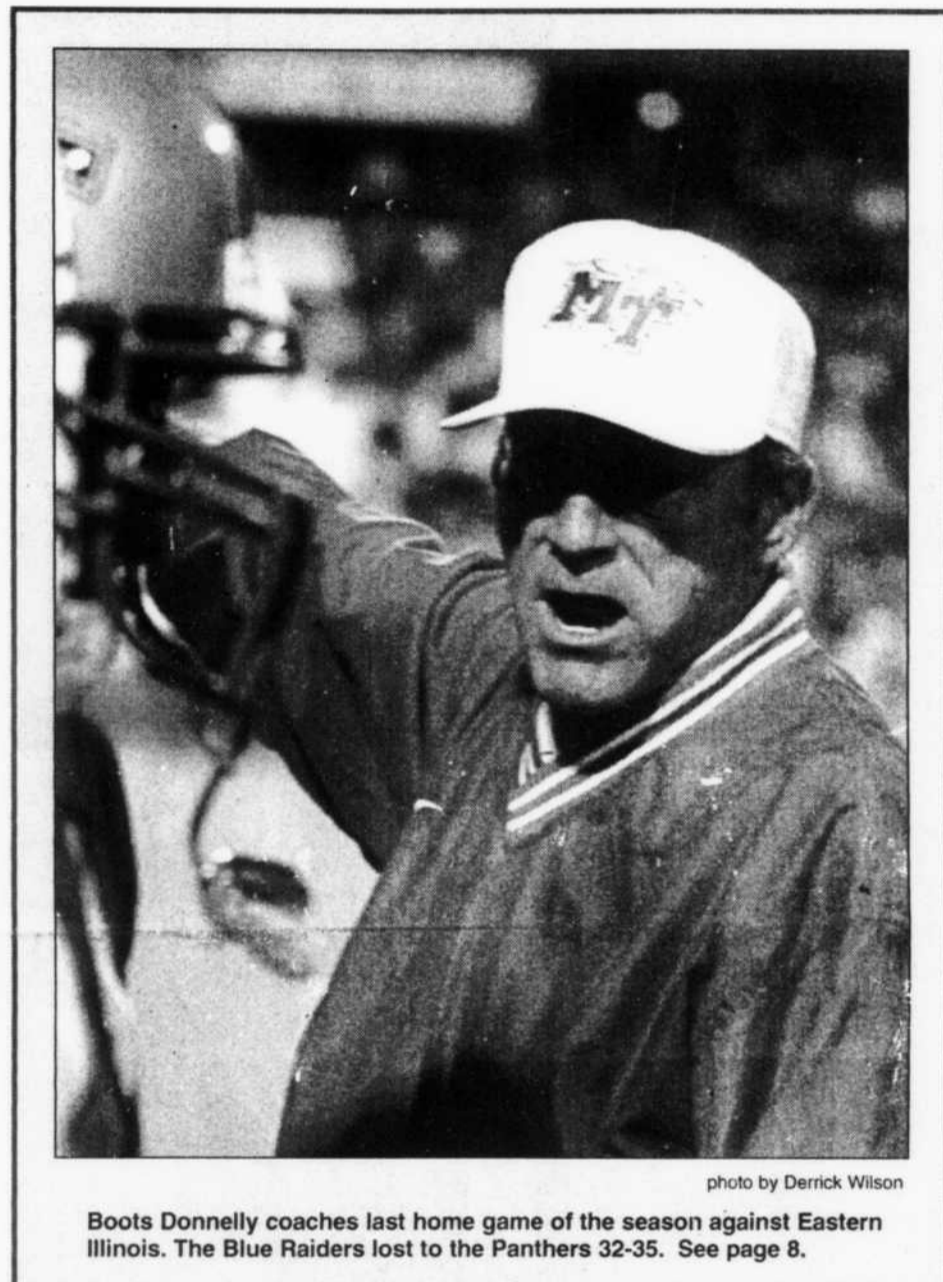
The Department of Human Sciences,

in collaboration with the Agribusiness department, offers not only classes, but also gives students opportunities outside of the classroom setting. Both areas of study are currently working together to attempt to bring a Food Technology-based student organization to MTSU. This organization will give student members many opportunities to hear speakers in this specialized career field, to network with prospective employers and to socialize with students with the same interests and goals.

Phi Tau Sigma, an honorary organization of Food Science, is one possible organization that Johnston and Hughes are looking to bring to MTSU. Several other universities, such as University of Michigan, University of Tennessee and University of Wisconsin, currently have chapters in Phi Tau Sigma.

Another possibility which students may join is the Institute of Food Technologists, a professional organization for the food science and technology industry. This organization offers a wide variety of services to more than 28,000 members in 76 different countries.

See CONCENTRATION, page 3



Boots Donnelly coaches last game of the season against Eastern Illinois. The Blue Raiders lost to the Panthers 32-35. See page 8.

Talk of name change on back burner for now

Michael Barton
Staff Reporter

MTSU will have to remain MTSU, at least for the moment.

Talk of changing the name of the university has stopped and there are no plans to resume it in the immediate future, according to Doug Williams, director of News and Public Affairs.

A year ago, when plans were announced to change MTSU's logo and mascot, there was also talk of changing its name to The University of Middle Tennessee.

The announcement of this possibility caused a fair amount of controversy on campus last year. Many people favored the idea, claiming that "The University of Middle Tennessee" sounds more sophisticated than "Middle Tennessee State University," which tends to sound like the name of a community college.

But those who opposed the idea, saying that there is no legitimate reason for the name change, will

get their wish.

"There are certainly no plans to change the name of the university right now," Williams said.

Last January, state Rep. Andy Womack drafted a bill proposing the name change. But before the

"There are more pressing projects we need to be working on right now."

- Doug Williams

bill could be passed by the state legislature, it had to be approved by the Tennessee Board of Regents.

Though many at MTSU, including President James Walker, believed that the proposal for the name change would be easily approved and in effect by the 1998-99 school year, the TBR delayed its

approval when questions arose about the possible conflict the name change would have on the state's Geier Stipulation.

The Geier Stipulation was established by the state in 1984 to prevent what is referred to in the Stipulation as a "dual system of higher education."

In other words, the state wanted to eliminate any remnants of racial segregation in public schools.

"The name change may have an implication," said Julie Walker, director of communications at TBR.

The Geier Stipulation makes specific references to TSU, stating that one of the state's goals should be to "implement TSU's mission as the regional urban university for Middle Tennessee."

Attorney General John Knox Walkup, in his opinion statement last April, stated that the name change at MTSU could hinder this mission for TSU.

See NAME, page 3

Minority quota requirement close to being met by university

Jamie Evans
Staff Reporter

MTSU is not far off from meeting its requirements for African - American student enrollment, according to officials from the office of Multicultural Affairs.

Under the Geier Stipulations, Tennessee public institutions are mandated to fulfill certain conditions each semester in order to make them more integrated.

For this semester, MTSU is supposed to have a 12.87 percent black undergraduate population. Currently, 1937 African - American undergraduates, 10.51 percent, are enrolled in classes, according to figures from the enrollment management office.

Ralph Metcalf, multicultural affairs director, said that MTSU's is in the midst of a five - year trend in which African - American student enrollment has been increasing. This semester the African - American

population increased three percent.

Still, MTSU is not meeting the projected target, but Metcalf said university officials are doing whatever they can to meet the Geier requirements.

"Most of it depends on the number of people graduating from high school each year," he said.

Metcalf explained that the number of high school graduates has declined over recent years and, in doing so, has made the pool of potential students smaller.

This study found that, in Tennessee, African - Americans made up only 17.7 percent of first-time freshman in 1996. This is actually a decrease compared to 1976 when African - American students made up 22.3 percent of first-time freshman.

The study also showed that even though the number of African - Americans attending college in Tennessee is low, the number that actually graduate is even lower — only about 10.4 percent.

This is partially due to the lack of support African - American students receive once they have enrolled. He said that often they are motivated to further their education, but they do not receive the encouragement needed to get a degree.

"They go and everything is a culture shock," Metcalf said. "They have to balance academics with new-found freedom."

White students make up the majority of the MTSU student body with 15,792 students while African - American are the second largest at 1937.

Other ethnic groups that add to the student body include 344 Asians, 213 Hispanics, 78 Native Americans, 22 Alaskan natives and 46 other ethnic groups, according to the multicultural affairs office.

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SPORTS

Former Blue Raiders return to MTSU to bid goodbye to head coach Boots Donnelly. See page 8.

FEATURES

Art professor Mimi Kim's work is displayed in the Art Barn Gallery. See page 6.

WEATHER FORECAST



MONDAY
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TUESDAY
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WEDNESDAY
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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.

Monday, Oct. 26

The Psychology Club/Psi Chi will have a meeting entitled "Kicking the Habit: Is it as hard as you think?" at 2:30 p.m. in Peck Hall 109A. After the presentation, there will be an organizational meeting.

Raider Assistance Project (RAP) will have a meeting in the KUC 322 at 4:30 p.m. to discuss upcoming community service projects. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Tuesday, Oct. 27

Sankofa, featuring The Great Debate Honor Society, will host a debate production from 8 to 10 in the BAS 102 (State Farm Lecture Room). Admission is free and refreshments will be served. TSU, affiliated chapter members and neophytes of MTSU, BEH Chapter come together to present a great debate production entitled: "Real Men vs Real Women" A Battle of the Sexes. For more information, contact Angela Bond at 867-2608.

The Department of Physics and Astronomy will have an open house at the MTSU Observatory from 7:30 to 9 p.m. For more information, contact Dr. Jay White at 898-5946. If the open house will be re-scheduled.

Wednesday, Oct. 28

The Seventh Adventist Student Fellowship will hold the Next Millennium Seminar from 6 to 7 p.m. in the KUC 315. The title is "Titanic: Are we next?" Is the secret of our fate hidden in the movie the whole world has seen? Check out the "Next Millennium seminar" website at "net98.org" For more information, contact Perry Loudon at 563-2669.

A public debate to discuss the benefits of adding sexual orientation to MTSU's nondiscriminatory policy will be held in the Carson-Kennedy Nursing Building 121 at 7 p.m. The

debate is sponsored by the Intercollegiate Debate Association, the MTSU Department of Speech and Theatre, and the Lambda Association. Both those who support the addition and those who oppose it are welcome as there will be a generous question and answer period.

PRSSA will hold an organizational meeting in Mass Comm 104 at 4:30 p.m. Join them for a tour of Nissan. All majors welcome.

Wednesday, Oct. 28-Friday, Nov. 20

The Japan Center of Tennessee in the cooperation with Volunteer State Community College will sponsor a Netsuke Exhibit at the Thigpen Library at Volunteer State Community College located at 1480 Nashville Pike, Galatin, TN. The public is invited to view the exhibit Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the lobby of the Thigpen Library at Volunteer State Community College.

Thursday, Oct. 29

Masquerade Ball is hosting a Masquerade Ball at the Foundation House, 324 Thompson Lane. The event is \$2 with costume, \$4 without. Refreshments will be served, cash prizes for best costume, cash prizes for best Karaoke act, and horror movies shown all night. For more information, contact Mario Moore at 898-3711.

Pi Sigma Epsilon will host a dance for diabetes Jonathan's (on the Square) starting at 8:30 p.m. Eddie and the Readies and Still Standing will be performing. For more information, contact Amber Carpenter at 904-6151.

October-Dec.23

The Japan Center of Tennessee is sponsoring a Mini-Exhibit

"Japanese Containers" in the lobby of the Cope Administration building at Middle Tennessee State University. The public is invited to view the exhibit Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For more information, call The Japan Center of Tennessee at 898-2229.

Monday, Nov. 2

The Placement and Student Employment Center is sponsoring a Nurses/Health Career Day at the JUB (Tennessee Room) from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Representative from organizations will be present to talk with students interested in health occupations. For more information, contact Martha Turner at 898-2500.

The Jack C. Massey Graduate School of Business at Belmont University will hold an informational open house for the Master of Business Administration (including our MBA with a healthcare focus) and the Master of Accountancy degree programs. The open house begins at 6 p.m. with a reception to follow in the Jack C. Massey Business Center. For more information, call Kathy Elliot 460-6480.

Thursday, Nov. 5

Open forums will be held in the Keathley University Center Theatre, allowing administrative and classified employees to share their thoughts and concerns about MTSU. The forums are: 9:30 a.m., Classified Maintenance; 1:30 p.m., Classified Clerical; and 3:00 p.m., Administrators (all divisions).

Thursdays, Nov. 5, 12, 19, and Tuesday, Nov. 24

Belmont University's Center for Entrepreneurship, and association with the National Federation of Independent Businesses, presents "Strategic Planning for Small Business." The class meets from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Jack C. Massey Business Center, located on Wedgewood Ave. at 16th Ave.

The cost is \$300, and the registration deadline is Oct. 28. For more information, call 460-6608.

Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 12-14

The Lipscomb University Drama Department will present a production of "Guys and Dolls" in Collins Alumni Auditorium, on campus located at 3901 Granny White Pike, Nashville. The show begins at 8 p.m. The show is free and seating is on a first-come basis. For more information, call 269-1000 or 800-333-4358, ext. 2367 or e-mail Larry.Brown@dlu.edu

Continuing

Student Activity Fee Applications for Spring 1999 are now available in KUC 130. The application on both IBM and MAC formatted disks for your convenience. Ten photocopies of the application and disk are due on Nov. 23 at 4:30 p.m. in KUC 130. For more information, call 898-2808

Public Safety will be offering Rape Aggression Defense Systems classes exclusively for women. The 12 hour course is open to MTSU students and employees as well as area residents. The classes will be held at the Foundation House, 324 West Thompson Ln., on October 27-29 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. The cost for MTSU students, faculty, and staff is \$15 and for others \$30. To register, contact the Campus Police at 898-2424 or 898-2259.

MTSU Civil War Society will meet on the second Tuesday in every month from 6-7 p.m. in Peck Hall 202. For more information, contact George Pimentel.

The Intercollegiate Debate Association of MTSU meets Tuesdays from 5-6 p.m. in Boutwell Dramatics Arts room 220. For more information, contact Jason Stone at 898-2273 or Michael Krueger at 898-5607. All students are welcome to attend.

IN THE NEWS

Nashville, TN— Hundreds of trees, some with trunks two feet in diameter, have been bulldozed on a Interstate 24 median to make way for a widened road.

Piles of aging cedars and hardwoods could be seen Friday along the median between Sam Ridley Parkway and Almadale Road.

Freddy Miller, a design engineer with the Tennessee Department of Transportation, said the median is unusually wide at 190 feet across. It will be narrowed by 72 feet to add two lanes and rights of way on each side.

That would still leave room for the trees. But transportation officials said a series of sinkholes and a decision to remove limestone from under other parts of the median required taking out the trees.

The reason the median was built so wide originally was so the road would be far from the sinkholes, Miller said. The sinkholes are openings in the limestone underground that act as drainage pathways for water.

The danger is that land around a sinkhole can collapse as the limestone erodes. Also, silt can clog a sinkhole, causing flooding. ■

Oak Ridge, TN— Bechtel Jacobs Co., the federal Department of Energy's environmental manager here, is laying off 136 people.

Bechtel Jacobs announced over the summer plans to eliminate about 200 jobs this year, with more cuts expected in 1999 and 2000.

A voluntary plan that included a severance package helped reduce the number being laid off. The company replaced Lockheed Martin Energy Systems earlier this year and got 1,500 Lockheed Martin workers.

Bechtel Jacobs is subcontracting nearly all of the cleanup tasks and plans to retain a relatively small management staff, officials said. ■

Oak Ridge, TN— The federal Department of Energy has postponed its plan to rebid a management contract at the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant.

DOE officials are considering including the plant and other weapons facilities in a "mega-contract."

"We cannot proceed with this procurement until the impacts of this pending decision are known," said DOE spokesman Steven Wyatt.

Wyatt said the agency withheld a Y-12 contract announcement scheduled to run in the Commerce Business Daily.

Energy Secretary Bill Richardson is looking at consolidating the Y-12 contract with other weapons sites such as the Pantex warhead assembly plant near Amarillo, Texas, and a weapons electronic facility near Kansas City, Mo.

Supporters say consolidating the plants under a single contractor would save money and increase efficiency.

Y-12 has been managed by Lockheed Martin (or its predecessor corporation Martin Marietta) since April 1984. ■

Whitley City, KY— Police have made arrests in Saturday's killing of a Kentucky woman shot while riding in a car.

Police have not released information regarding the identity or the number of suspects.

Patricia Walker, 21, of Whitley City was killed Saturday morning when shots were fired into the car in which she was a passenger.

The driver of the car, Donnie Bell, 22, of Pineknott reportedly was involved in a confrontation with the suspects at a bar in Tennessee, police said. Walker was shot when Bell drove by the suspects' residence.

Walker was pronounced dead at Scott County Hospital in Oneida, Tenn. Bell received minor injuries and was treated and released from the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville. ■

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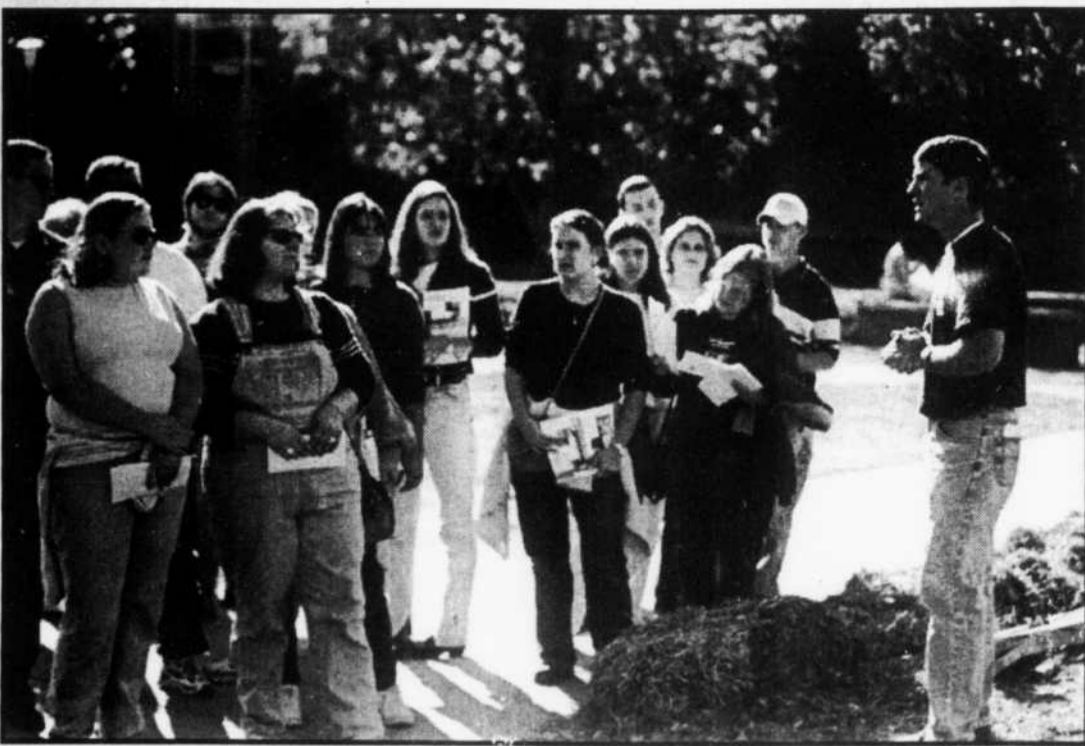


photo by Derrick Wilson

A student guide takes a group of potential students on a tour of the campus. These tours were combined with other activities, including tables set up in the Mass Communication building which provided information about the fields of study available at the university.

Lobbying for colleges: not an academic question

Bill McAllister
The Washington Post

It probably will come as a surprise to many lawmakers, but the Chronicle of Higher Education reports that only 75 of the nation's top 475 private colleges and universities told the Internal Revenue Service that they spent any money on lobbying.

Many agencies find IRS guidelines on reporting "fuzzy and confusing," the publication said. But it also suggested that many colleges "try to reveal as little as possible because they seem embarrassed to be doing it (lobbying)."

No. 1 on the spending list was Boston University, which reported spending \$846,993 in the last half of 1996 and the first half of 1997, the period surveyed. Virtually all of BU's lobbying money went to Cassidy and Associates, the Washington lobbying giant that has made a specialty of getting federal money earmarked for colleges.

The smallest expense the Chronicle unearthed came from Southern Methodist University, which

listed only \$600 in expenses. Princeton University, which the Chronicle said maintains a five-member staff in Washington, listed its expenses at \$35,000. A Princeton spokesman said the dollar figure is correct but the Washington staff numbers only three.

The only universities in the Washington area listed by the Chronicle as acknowledging lobbying expenses were George Washington University, which told the IRS it spent \$333,211, and Georgetown University, which listed \$163,603.

How the colleges fill out their Form 990s is important because any one that commits a "substantial part" of its funds to influence legislation risks the loss of its nonprofit status. Many of the colleges rely on an IRS definition that calls lobbying "direct contact" with officials for the purpose of influencing legislation, the Chronicle said.

That excludes seeking federal contracts, informing campus officials about the status of legislation and trying to limit government regulations. Obviously, there's a lot of that and "strategic thinking" among academics these days. ■

NAME
CONTINUED from page 1

"The Board should not approve the proposed name change unless, after an analysis of relevant information, the Board affirmatively finds that the proposal will have no such impact,"

Knox concluded.

Rather than devote the time and resources to combat this conflict, administration has decided not to further pursue the name change for the time being and instead focus on other areas of the university.

"There are more pressing projects we need to be working on right now. Because of this, the

name change has been put on the back burner," Williams said.

Williams said that projects such as the construction of new buildings on campus are a more immediate concern to the university, as these projects will better enhance the educational system than adopting a new name. ■

State faces political problems after murder

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - Political squabbling erupted Sunday over the race to fill the seat of state Sen. Tommy Burks, only days after the popular lawmaker was buried and his election opponent was charged with his murder.

Gov. Don Sundquist, a Republican, has ardently disavowed Byron Loper, Burks' Republican opponent who was arrested Friday and charged with shooting the veteran Democratic lawmaker.

But Sundquist has balked at endorsing Burks' widow, Charlotte, as a write-in candidate in the Nov. 3 race.

Democratic gubernatorial nominee John Jay Hooker blasted Sundquist Sunday "for letting partisanship get in the way of good common sense."

"What's he waiting on? I don't get it," Hooker told The Associated Press.

"A member of the General Assembly has been murdered, and his Republican opponent has been charged with the crime. It seems to me that under the circumstances the classy thing to do is to encourage Senator Burks' wife to seek that seat."

Sundquist spokeswoman Beth Fortune said the governor does not want to get involved in a race where the Republican Party, which has disavowed Loper, has no candidate.

"The Republican Party isn't

fielding a candidate, and he thinks that's appropriate," Fortune said. "The governor has been reluctant to talk politics during this tragic time for Senator Burks' family."

The bizarre murder has sent election officials poring over state law on how to revise the ballot.

Burks' death requires that his name be stripped from the ballot and Democrats were not allowed to name another candidate because his death occurred within 30 days of the election. However, Loper's name will remain on the ballot.

To vote for Mrs. Burks, a voter must request a write-in ballot. Democrats vow to have workers at each of 150 precincts in the district to urge voters to do just that.

"In that area, (supporters' of Mrs. Burks) are not just energized; they are electrified. They are committed," stated Democratic Party chief Bob Corny told The Knoxville News-Sentinel.

The GOP could regain control of the state if a Republican opponent wins Burks' seat and one other.

Meanwhile, Loper attorney Lionel Barrett was to meet over the weekend with his client in the Cumberland County Jail, where the 34-year-old Loper is being held without bond on the charge of first-degree murder. Barrett said he would not comment on the case until later this week.

Looper, the Putnam County property assessor, had not been seen in the area since the night

before Burks' killing. Burks' body, with a gunshot wound near his left eye, was found Oct. 19 in his pickup truck on his farm. Loper was arrested without incident Friday after returning to his Cookeville home being staked out by authorities.

Police have disclosed little information about their investigation or the relationship between Burks and Loper.

Looper already faces a trial in December on charges of theft and misusing his office. He also was being sued for \$1.2 million by a former girlfriend who claims he forced her to have sex, fathered a child and stole ownership of her home.

Newsweek magazine, in its issue on newsstands Monday, reported that Loper had other complaints against him.

In a sworn affidavit, the magazine said, one former employee alleged that Loper hired her to see if his phones were bugged and to "determine if he could listen in on the telephone conversations of other people in the office."

In another affidavit, a different former employee alleged Loper targeted political enemies for tax audits, Newsweek reported.

District Attorney General Bill Gibson, who is overseeing the case, did not immediately return phone calls from The Associated Press Sunday to respond to the Newsweek article. ■

CONCENTRATION continued from page 1

Publications such as Food Technology and the Journal of Food Science offer scientific articles, news of the food industry, government and academia and peer-reviewed reports of original research in all aspects of food science.

IFT also offers education, career advancement training seminars, employment services, local, regional, and national meetings and a web site that expands to many other resources of

information. More information can be downloaded off of the IFT web site at www.ift.org.

Janet McNaughton, also a professor in the Human Sciences Department, Hughes and Johnston are current members of IFT and encourage all students within this degree program to join.

"Like with any student clubs," said McNaughton, "it gives students the opportunity to network with others who are in the industry."

Every year IFT has a national Food Expo that will allow students the opportunity to network with

over 200 different companies and organizations. Next year the National IFT Food Expo will be in Chicago.

Food science and food technology are fairly new concepts and, with the addition of the Food Technology concentration to MTSU students will have the opportunity to be on the cutting edge as the food industry and its sciences flourish as they become more critical.

Anyone who may be interested in the program may contact Johnston, Hughes, or McNaughton. ■

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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

Murfreesboro, TN



4 ■ SIDELINES

Editorial

Thank you for your devotion

When Boots Donnelly announced his retirement, a stunned hush came over the Blue Raider athletic world. The MTSU alum and former football player was leaving the athletic program after years of involvement. Once word got out, local businesses started displaying their 'thanks' to the 20-year devotee on marquees and billboards, while students, faculty and administration questioned his decision.

Well, it's time to move on. We'll find another coach to lead the football team into Division I-A and go on to build a winning team. Donnelly will be remembered fondly by all of Murfreesboro for his strong dedication to the Blue Raiders.

But in the whirlwind of Boots' goodbye and a loss of such a dedicated man, one can't help but be reminded of all those devoted to the improvement of MTSU students. Although the university continues to bring in new faculty population, many professors stay on staff after 10, 20 and even 30 years of instructing at MTSU.

David Arnold, associate professor of speech and theatre, started teaching here in 1962, which adds up to 36 years of dedication. Kurt Blum, biology professor, came to MTSU in 1969 and has a proud 29 years of Raider teaching under his belt.

Robert Eaker, the dean of the college of education, started his MTSU career 26 years ago in 1972, and Jeannette Heritage started teaching psychology here in 1971, giving her 27 years of experience with Blue Raiders.

June McCash started here in 1967 teaching in foreign languages, while Sandra Neal started 11 years later as an assistant professor in the HPER department.

The list can go on for pages, but the point stands: This university is blessed with people who are dedicated to giving students the best education and experience they can.

Knowing a degree cannot be granted by a student's effort alone, thank you. Thanks to all of you who have stayed, being the light that leads us. ■

Put end to chalk wars

David Figueredo
News Editor

Imagine that if you are walking through campus and admiring the scenic landscape that the university has tried so hard to create.

The trees are full of fall colors and the squirrels are romping around in the grass. Students are talking in their little cloven groups, and just for effect, the birds are singing and flying about your head.

Suddenly, something catches your eye. All along the sidewalks someone has taken chalk and vandalized the campus. Worst of all, the statements all seem to be saying the same thing: "I'm gay, get over it."

This is a common scene on campus, as anyone who has ever walked more than five yards on a campus sidewalk can attest. But isn't this illegal? Isn't it wrong to banter and brow-beat people by throwing graffiti all over campus?

Much of the graffiti is from members of the Lambda organization. The members apparently feel that they must launch a campaign against straight people.

Do they think that these irritating statements in chalk will make a difference in the lives of gay and/or straight people? Maybe it is because I am a new student to MTSU or that I have lived in larger cities all my life, but I do not see what these walkway statements can do.

Do they really think that everyone is out to get them? It is life in general on college campuses — and in life in general — 95 percent of the people on the street do not care about sexual preference.

Sure, just about everyone in the world tuned in to hear Ellen reveal that she was gay, but it was not necessarily because we cared one way or the other. It was just that the press made such a big deal out of it that we had to tune in to find out what all the fuss was. If you haven't noticed, Ellen was canceled shortly after the "big revelation."

The chalk drawings do little more than irritate those that the messages do not apply to. They really do more harm than good.

Ok maybe they convince one person to suddenly have an epiphany and decides to love everyone for who they are, regardless of the past apathy that they once felt. For every one person who changes his mind, there are nine others who, after walking over these messages for several weeks, want to write some messages of their own.

I am one of the latter. I could care less about anyone's sexual preference. I am straight, am secure in my sexuality and am not homophobic. I have gay friends, gay co-workers and even gay family members.

Gay people do not bother me. Confrontational people bother me.

It looks to me that the only reason that

See CHALK, page 5

CURT MANN



What really drove killers of gay student?

Leonard Pitts
Knight Ridder/Tribune

"It wasn't meant to be a hate crime." That's what the girlfriend of one of the suspects told a reporter.

By now, you've doubtless heard the story. How Matthew Shepard, a gay 21-year-old student at the University of Wyoming, reportedly flirted in a bar with 22-year-old Aaron McKinney. How McKinney, embarrassed by the unwanted attention, allegedly got together with 21-year-old Russell Henderson and abducted Shepard, taking him to a spot just outside Laramie, Wyo. How Shepard was robbed, pistol whipped, burned and strung up to a fence, where he was later found by two bicyclists.

How he languished for days in a coma. How he died.

Maybe it "wasn't" meant to be a hate crime. Unfortunately, it became one.

Reminds me of what happened a few years ago to a man named Scott Amedure after he appeared on an episode of the

"Jenny Jones" talk show, surprising a guest named John Schmitz with the news that he had a crush on him. Schmitz was humiliated by the unwanted attention. So much so that three days later he went to Amedure's home and shot him to death.

Now Matthew Shepard evidently dies for essentially the same "crime" — flirting with a straight man. No, it's not a trend yet.

But it is troubling. It'd be easy enough to throw this wickedness into the laps of those political and religious conservatives who've been campaigning to "cure" gays of their orientation. Easy enough to contrast their professions of godly love with the act of ungodly hatred that allegedly ended Shepard's life. But I'll save that for another time.

Fact is, I don't know what God — if any — McKinney and Henderson worship, and I don't much care. I find myself more concerned with the idea that two men might find a gay man's interest so threatening that violence was the only appropriate

response.

One is forced to wonder — and not entirely facetiously — if maybe the reason they hated being mistaken for gay is that somewhere inside, they feared they might be. It is a sense one frequently takes away from conversations with homophobes, particularly male ones. I've had men describe to me with eager, explicit disgust the supposed sexual practices of gay men, and I invariably find myself wondering: How do you know so much about it?

And why do you care? It's difficult to consider the deaths of Amedure and Shepard without wondering what it inside their killers that was so insecure it could not brook the attentions of gay men. Why couldn't McKinney just express his disinterest and move on? What's the name of this irresolution that demanded more? You look at Shepard's death — the brutal, grisly violence of it — and it seems apparent that his attackers were trying to kill something more than one small man.

Something that threatened them as

much as it repulsed them.

Of course, some men's sexuality is always threatened. Demands to be proven, pronounced, demonstrated, at every opportunity. To watch some younger man — some athlete, rapper, Wall Street type, college kid — braying his maleness and sexual prowess from behind a cloud of cigar smoke and a chunk of red meat is to feel, just sometimes, that you're in the presence of a telling overcompensation.

At some point, you'd hope a man would mature enough that he would feel no need to demonstrate what he was. It would be enough to simply "be" what he was.

If police are right, that point never arrived for Aaron McKinney and Russell Henderson. And Matthew Shepard lies dead as a result. His death is, of course, a tragedy. But there is a different tragedy in the painful, obvious truth his alleged killers missed.

Anyone who has to slaughter a gay kid to prove his manhood was never much of a man to begin with. ■

Clinton's enemies make blacks support him more

Gerald Horne
Los Angeles Times

Why is black support for the scandal-plagued, impeachment-threatened Bill Clinton so rock solid, hovering steadily in the 90 percent range?

Comic Chris Rock has an answer: "I view Clinton as the first black president," he told a Vanity Fair interviewer. "He's the most scrutinized man in history, just as a black person would be. Everything he's ever brought up has been second-gussed. He spends it hundred-dollar bill, they hold it up to the light."

Rock may be onto something, but his answer skirts an important element of the fervent

and dependable black support for the White House: loyalty beca he has not necessarily been reciprocated.

Where to begin? The dissing of Justice Department nominee Lani Guinier and Surgeon General Jocelyn Elders in 1993? A draconian welfare-reform bill that disproportionately affects black women and children? A crime bill that no doubt will increase the number of blacks behind bars? A retreat from a campaign promise to allow Haitian immigrants into this country soon after his 1992 election?

Certainly, his policies are not the primary reason blacks overwhelmingly support Clinton in his time of political need. On

the other hand, his appointment of many blacks to government posts has helped to cement his ties to a community that gave him huge majorities in 1992 and 1996.

At the recent annual dinner of the Congressional Black Caucus, Vice President Al Gore had the audience cheering as he read a long list of Cabinet, sub-Cabinet, ambassadorial and other black appointments made by the president. For example, the spouse of one of the president's most articulate defenders, Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., is the former ambassador to the Bahamas, a post once reserved for fat-cat campaign donors.

One may be cynical about how — and whether — the six-figure

salaries of Clinton's black appointees benefit the black community, but the point is that this array of instant dignitaries have sons and daughters and relatives and friends who, in turn, comprise a large percentage of the "chattering classes" among blacks.

Similarly, when one surveys the president's entourage at his time of crisis, it is hard not to notice all the melanin-rich faces, from Jesse Jackson ("spiritual adviser") to Vernon E. Jordan Jr. ("first friend") to Betty Currie (personal secretary). Furthermore, among those called before Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr's grand jury were a number of critically placed blacks, including Larry Coker (the Secret Service agent in charge of the president's security detail), Cheryl D. Mills (deputy White House) and Jocelyn Jolley (Monica S. Lewinsky's supervisor when she was an intern at the White House).

Lewinsky herself has drawn on the black legal skill that is a hallmark of the nation's capital, retaining Francis D. Carter, her first lawyer, and Nathaniel H. Speights, one of her current lawyers, in her legal battle with Starr. Her mother, Marcia V.

Lewis, also chose a black litigator, Billy Martin, to represent her.

Of course, all this black talent may simply be a case of enlightened self-interest, since about 70 percent of Starr's grand jury is black, not to mention presiding U.S. District Judge Norma Holloway Johnson. Should there be any criminal trials in

Washington flowing from the Lewinsky affair, no doubt the racial composition of the juries will reflect the heavily black city.

One suspects that this demographically coerced imbalance may be why Starr assembled a second grand jury across the river in heavily white Alexandria, Va. To many blacks, his maneuver was eerily similar to the kind of venue shopping that resulted in the first Rodney G. King beating trial being held in Simi Valley, Calif., not downtown Los Angeles.

Starr's prosecutorial team, moreover, is not distinguished by its racial diversity. Nor, for that matter, is the GOP majority in the House, which will vote on Clinton's impeachment. Purely on

See CLINTON, page 5

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.

COLLEGE PRESS



CHALK
continued from page 4

these people are writing these statements is to egg-on a fight that they do not realize they have already won. We all know that we can not discriminate on the grounds of race, gender, religion, or

sexual preference.

People should realize that most people are apathetic about who is gay and who is not. We do not care. We have bigger things to worry about, such as Monday's test or what to put on the pizza we are about to order.

Please stop writing these

sidewalk ad campaigns in a futile attempt to persuade us that sex preference matters. It does not. We can now successfully live with each other in a deliriously happy world. ■

CLINTON
continued from page 4

visual terms, it would be difficult for blacks to root for Starr and company.

Some have suggested that black loyalty to Clinton stems from blacks' belief in a special Christian notion of forgiveness and their instinctual sympathy for the persecuted, an attitude born of their unique American experience. This view is not without its merits, but its limits seem clear: It's hard to imagine similar black support for a woman leader charged with lying about having oral sex with a man 30 years her junior.

Actually, the Clinton case may be tapping into another historical memory among blacks that is similarly gendered but not grounded in religion. In the 1930s, the U.S. Communist Party attracted substantial support among blacks when it rose to the defense of nine Scottsboro, Ala., youths falsely charged with the rape of two white women. The Communists soon learned that they could reliably attract black support by focusing on similar cases, and they did: Willie McGee, a black Mississippi man convicted of rape and executed in 1951; and the seven black Martinsville, Va., men convicted of rape in 1949 and executed in 1951. During the darkest days of the "red scare" in the early 1950s, such cases of interracial rape continued to

garner significant opposition from blacks.

Because of the way accusations of sexual impropriety have been manipulated historically to the detriment of black men, it has become difficult for many blacks to give much credence to them, even when grounded in fact. This may explain why some blacks continued to support future Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas after Anita F. Hill accused him of sexual harassment during his 1991 Senate confirmation hearings. Sexual waywardness, not his wild-eyed conservatism, seemed to be the crux of the indictment against him. Since Clinton's political and legal problems are the result of his sexual peccadilloes and infidelity, blacks are, accordingly, more sensitive than others to how such charges can be used to destroy a person. Hence, they either downplay or disregard them.

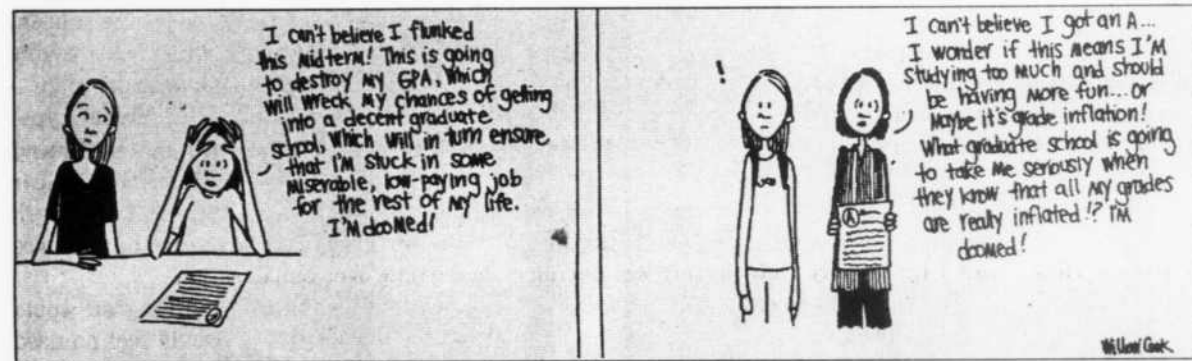
Of course, it would be awkward, if not downright foolish, for the GOP, given the party's stands on various race-sensitive issues, to urge blacks to drop their support for Clinton because of the president's milquetoast and unproductive approach toward racial matters. Which brings us to the main reason why black backing of the White House has been so steadfast. It's not so much that blacks are ecstatic about Clinton as president as much as they are scared stiff about the alternative:

the macabre House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., and the ghostly House Judiciary Chairman Henry J. Hyde, R-Ill., who together seek to suffocate the "activist government" that blacks historically have lobbied to assist them in their fight against poverty and bigotry. Both have been firm opponents of affirmative action, for example, while Clinton's "mend it, don't end it" bromide at least holds out hope that this essential policy can continue in some form.

The historical memory of blacks is not so clouded that they have forgotten the bad old days of the Reagan-Bush era, when presidential campaigns were launched in Philadelphia, Miss., where civil-rights marchers were murdered by Klansmen and law enforcement officers in 1964. This would be tantamount to the German chancellor initiating his election campaign in the cemetery at Bitburg, where members of Hitler's notorious SS units are buried.

Clinton's enduring popularity among blacks owes nothing to his famous rogue charms or some notion of Christian mercy. Rather, it is quite simple. Who will benefit if Clinton is impeached? Reps. Gingrich and Dick Arme, and Sens. Trent Lott, Jesse Helms and Strom Thurmond, otherwise known as the Deep South's "murderers' row." ■

WILLOW COOK



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FEATURES

Murfreesboro, TN

Kim paintings *grab* attention in Art Barn Gallery

Rachel Parrish/ Staff Reporter



"Chicken Kitchen" by Mimi Kim is an unusual work in oil and graphite.

Photos by Vickie Gibson

Inside MTSU's Art Barn with its pink-haired mermaids and three-eyed goddesses majestically scrolling across the walls of blue is a gallery displaying some thought-provoking paintings by Mimi Kim. Kim is an assistant art professor at MTSU teaching various painting and drawing classes. The exhibited art works include oil paintings, some oil and graphite on canvas and one oil, ink and enamel on canvas.

Along one wall of the gallery, a group of students crowd wide-eyed around a painting titled, "Did You learn Your ABC's?" The painting contains about 20 or so sexual nuances and positions associated with each letter of the alphabet. Sound interesting?

Kim claims she's not so sure and is disappointed that it is this particular painting that people single out.

"Everybody has a sexual side to them even though they may not express it publicly," she says. "Even little kids think about these things when they're quite young. People think that kids are pure or innocent—but they're not. I remember in second grade when kids would draw naughty little pictures and even though everyone would giggle and laugh about them, they still had some knowledge of what they were about."

"When we're children, we learn to give responses to certain things or associate items with letters of the alphabet. What I did was take the learned responses of children and juxtapose it with extreme adult visual



This oil, ink and enamel on canvas by Mimi Kim entitled "Yes, I Speak English Well" was inspired by a language misunderstanding in Iowa.

language. It's meant to be an irony."

Irony is just one of the many themes within Kim's work. Everything she does has a purpose, she says.

Promotional postcards for the exhibit included an incorrect reproduction of one of her paintings. Kim's slide was printed backwards with the writing readable on the left side. But the writing on the actual painting titled "AHHHH" hanging in the gallery is reversed and on the right side.

"I was pretty upset when I saw that," she says. "I wrote the message backwards for a reason. So many people are used to reading from left to right. What I want is for them to actually look at what they're reading. I want them to think."

The gallery and publications department said the problem with printing from slides is that you never know which way they go unless they're labeled, but apologized to her for the misprint.

Kim herself is used to misunderstandings about her work. She said some of her work is in response to certain social issues. A picture entitled "Yes I speak English very Well" was the result of an incident in Iowa where she taught before coming to MTSU.

"I went to look at a car at a dealership and asked about one of the cars," she says of the ordeal. "The salesman, I guess because I was Asian, was like, 'Oh boy! You speak American so good! Wooo-Weee!'"

Kim says she encourages her students to paint what they feel and not what they see.

"Mimi is a good teacher," says freshman Jenna Cook. "She always has something new and different going on. It's a totally different experience from my high school art class. I remember one of the first days of class when a male model strolled in and disrobed. A lot of students were uncomfortable, but I thought it was great."

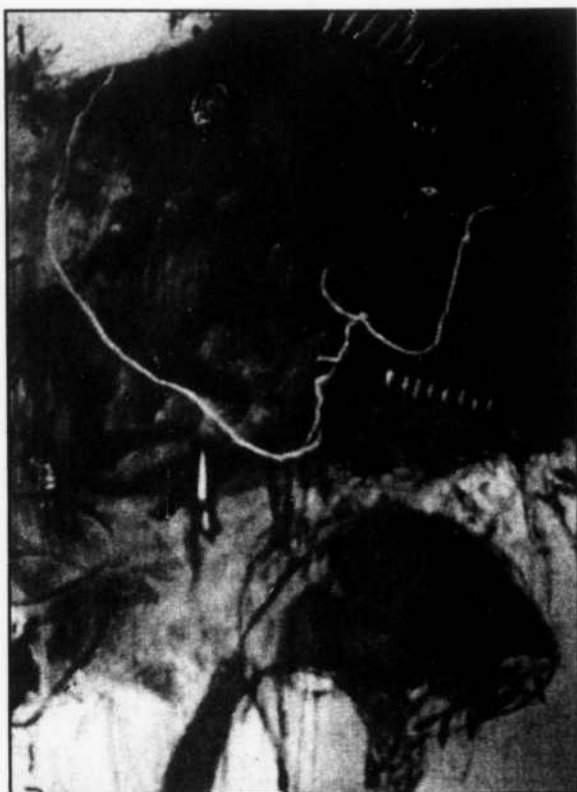
"Teaching is wonderful," Kim explains, "but it comes secondary to my painting. I'm going to do it full time."

Kim will be leaving MTSU in May and plans to go to New York to pursue painting.

The exhibit continues through Oct. 30 at the Art Barn Gallery. ■



This oil painting titled "Feast" is among the works by Mimi Kim on exhibit at the Barn Gallery through Oct. 30.



"Yo Steve" is one of Kim's works in oil and graphite on canvas.

Walk On Town Benefits March Of Dimes

Staff Reports

Murfreesboro's first "Walk on the Town...A Taste of Middle Tennessee" will be held at MTSU's Murphy Center Tuesday, Oct. 27. Hosted by the March of Dimes, the event will feature more than 50 restaurants that are providing their specialties and favorite dishes to be sampled by an expected 2,500 tasters.

"This promises to become Rutherford County's largest social and charitable event," said Stephen Blocker, event chairman.

Starting at 5:30 p.m. and continuing until 8:30 p.m., those attending will be able to sample an array of entrees from different restaurants while enjoying live entertainment.

Proceeds go directly to the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation. Sponsors are MTSU-Murphy Center, J.C. Penney, State Farm-South Central and Wal-Mart of Murfreesboro.

Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, \$8 for students and seniors, and free for children under 6. Group tickets are available in blocks of 10 for \$100. Tickets are available at various outlets on campus, Wal-Mart, State Farm Insurance offices, J.C. Penney's catalog department and SunTrust Bank.

The March of Dimes is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects and infant mortality. For more information, call 399-3200 or toll free at (888) 399-3272. ■



Kevin Kenner

Award-winning Pianist In Concert

Staff Reports

The MTSU 1998-99 Concert Series brings concert pianist Kevin Kenner to perform on campus Thursday, Oct. 29.

Kenner, considered one of the best classical pianists in the country, is the only American ever to win medals at both the International Tchaikovsky and International Chopin Piano Competitions. Along with the top prize at the 1990 Chopin competition, he also won both the People's Prize and the Polonaise Prize. His bronze medal at the Tchaikovsky contest in Moscow earlier that same year was accompanied by a special prize for the interpretation of Russian music.

He also won prizes in the Van Cliburn International Competition in 1989 and the Gina Bachauer International Competition in 1988.

A former soloist with the Warsaw Philharmonic, the San Francisco Symphony, the Baltimore Symphony, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and many other groups, he debuted last season at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam and in major venues in Vienna, Hong Kong, Seoul and Singapore.

Kenner has made a number of recordings on Polygram Records in addition to recordings for the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) and Polish Radio.

A previous performer in the Concert Series in 1995, he will play the four Scherzi of Chopin and music by Franz Liszt, including the Spanish Rhapsody.

Two other concerts in the series are scheduled in the spring featuring classical guitarist David Tanenbaum and the Harvard Glee Club.

Thursday's concert begins at 8 p.m. in the Wright Music Hall. Tickets are \$8 adults, \$6 seniors and students. Admission is free for MTSU students with ID. For tickets or information, call 898-2469. ■

Boot camp making a difference with troubled teens

Leslie Lambert
Special to Sidelines

Say the words "boot camp" and for many it calls to mind visions of hard work, perseverance and determination. The Wilderness Boot Camp, where MTSU students are helping young teens in trouble, is no exception.

MTSU students and alumni are putting their education and talent to work at the Wilderness Boot Camp, a 30-day challenge experience located in Middle Tennessee for teens ages 13-17 who are struggling with the choices in life.

"The goal of this program is to help the kids develop purpose-driven lives," said camp director Larry Nellist. "We try to help them see why they are here and what they are supposed to be doing."

It all began earlier this year when two judges in Putnam County approached former probation officers Larry and Lori Nellist with the idea of opening up such a facility for young offenders. The Nellists were already running New Frontiers, a non-profit wilderness challenge program in Middle Tennessee, and agreed that it would be a good place for the new program. On September 15, the first group of teens arrived.

Wilderness Boot Camp is designed for "youth at risk," or teens who have started getting into trouble but are not involved in major offenses. This includes things like

truancy, running away, shoplifting or fighting. The camp combines wilderness expeditions with classroom studies and community service to help the teens turn their lives around.

Several MTSU students and alumni became involved in the program early on. One is Brent Scott, the camp's program coordinator who graduated from MTSU in May 1997 with a master's degree in recreational therapy.

Because Scott had worked some with New Frontiers, the Nellists asked him what he thought about starting the camp. A few months and a lot of hard work later, the camp was a reality and Scott was busy putting his education to work trying to help troubled teens find their way.

"We create the opportunity for the kids to stretch physically, mentally and emotionally," Scott said. "They learn to open up their minds to see where they are right now and to make decisions about their lives."

The Boot Camp can accommodate as many as eight teens per 30-day session. The youth engage in activities such as backpacking trips, canoeing and hiking for three- to five-day stints, then return to base camp for school work and classroom discussions.

It takes a lot of planning to keep things running smoothly, and another MTSU graduate is there to help.

Mike Baldwin graduated from MTSU in December 1997 with a degree in psychology and is the primary office person for

the camp.

He is responsible for creating brochures and fliers about the program as well as providing basic support services like buying groceries, setting up camps and acquiring necessary permits. Doing the little things that he says are "tedious but necessary," he says he believes in the program and hopes to eventually become more directly involved with the kids to use more of what he learned in school.

"A lot of these kids are getting in trouble doing what they want to do," Baldwin said. "It's easier for them to keep making the wrong choices and keep going downhill. But we try to reach them before they get too far down hill. If we can turn around the life of one kid, we've made a difference."

Baldwin says the camp puts the kids through challenge activities, and then tries to relate that experience back to their own lives.

"We do activities that take courage and make you scared such as climbing walls and rappelling. Then we get the kids to relate this courage to areas in their life where they may need it," he explained. "This is very effective with teenagers. It's something they're actually doing and not something they can just ignore."

Besides helping the kids with leadership and team-building skills, the program also provides educational instruction during their stay.

Ginger Kendall, a certified teacher and MTSU graduate

student working on her masters in special education, instructs the children in between their wilderness expeditions.

"A lot of these kids lack the functional skills they need," she said. "It's a great experience to add to my graduate program and also helps me better understand how behavior affects the ability to learn."

Kendall is very supportive of the methods the Boot Camp uses to help the youth. "It's not the traditional 'in your face' type of boot camp. We try to build trust and communication skills, a sort of tool bag that will help them cope in society. We help them building the kids up will make more of a change than tearing them down."

Kendall said the focus of the Wilderness Boot Camp is prevention, not therapy.

"These children are on the verge -- looking for attention," she says. "We show them that they can get positive attention in other areas."

Although she plans to pursue a full-time teaching position after graduation, Kendall also wants to continue work with the camp on a part-time basis.

Scott also has his eye on the future with ideas on ways to reach more troubled teens and give them a wake up call before it's too late.

"My goal is to expand the staff and the programs to have three camps going at one time and help as many teens as possible," he said. "The most important thing we can teach these kids is that they have to change themselves. And some of them will go home different people." ■



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New Jazz Orchestra Tunes Up For Debut

Vickie Gibson
Staff Reporter

There's a new sound on campus and it's reaching out to all who will hear this week. The newly-formed Middle Tennessee Jazz Orchestra will make its debut performance Wednesday, Oct. 28.

In its inaugural year, the MTJO is composed of professional musicians from Middle Tennessee and selected MTSU music students.

The group's repertoire includes the music of great contemporary composers

and arrangers of big band music. Their concerts will include Latin rhythms and fusion grooves in addition to straight-ahead swing and blues, according to Dana Landry, assistant music professor at MTSU and director of the new orchestra.

This concert will feature special guest Mike Longo, former music director and pianist with the legendary trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie. Longo has performed with a long list of jazz greats and has recorded several albums.

Members of the orchestra include Tony Reed, Jim Hall, Ped Foster, Jack London

and Peggie Grisham on trumpet; Jack Sheets, Paul Dunlap, Matt Glassmire, Joe Zalatel and Reagan Mitchell on saxophone; Lee Herring, Seth Fletcher, Justin Cordelou and Don Schaefer on trombone; with Matt Coker on piano, Erik Applegate on bass and John Hearnese on drums making up the rhythm section.

Wednesday's debut concert begins at 8 p.m. in the Wright Music Hall. Tickets are \$5 and available at the door. Admission is free for MTSU students with ID. For tickets or information, call Landry at 898-2724. ■

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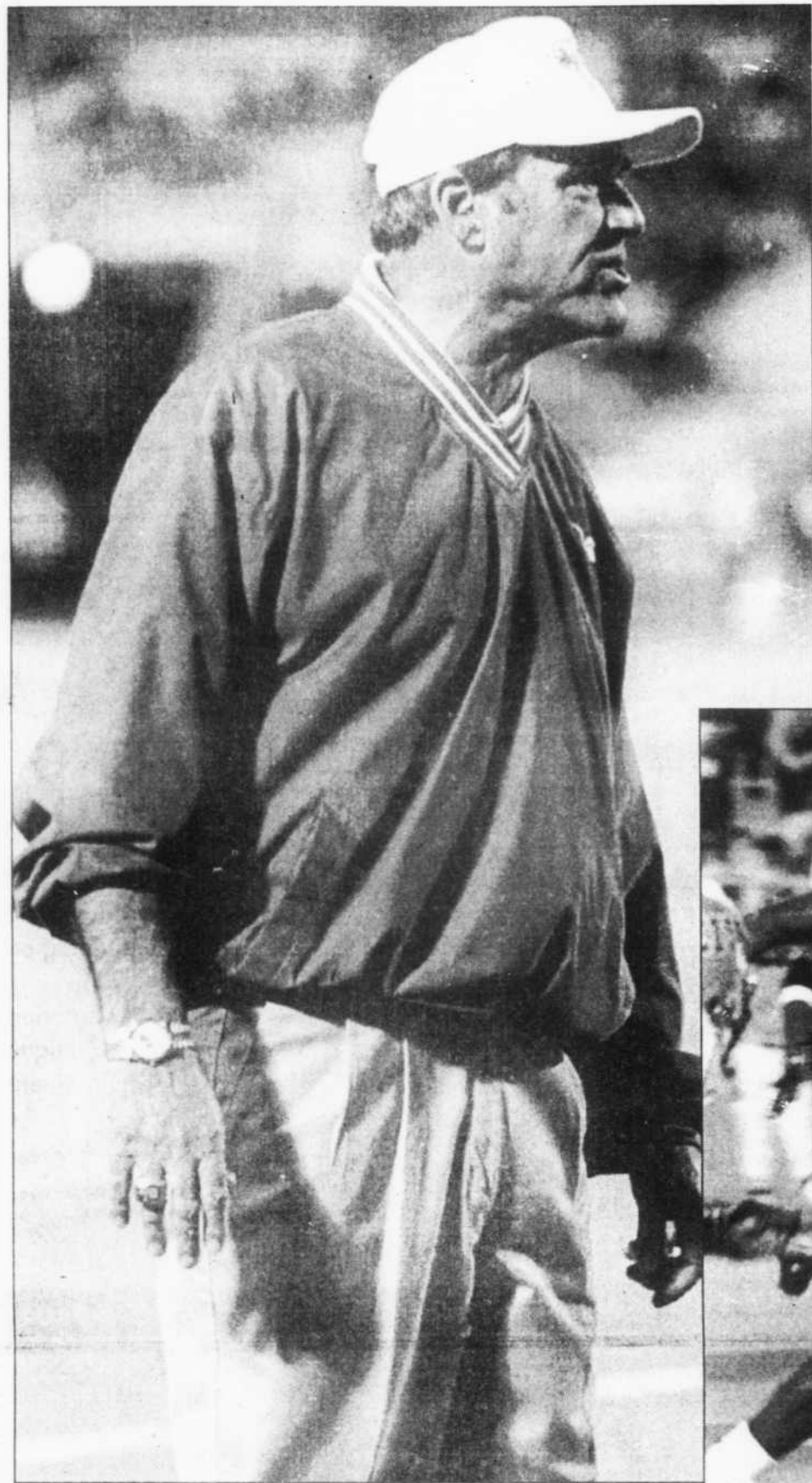
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SPORTS



Boots coaches last home game, Panthers take win

The last home game of the season brought frowns to the faces of Raider fans, as well as Boots Donnelly. Eastern Illinois scored two goals in the last minute and a half of the game, giving the Panthers a 35-32 win.

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

Head football coach Boots Donnelly coached his final football game at Floyd Stadium Saturday versus the Eastern Illinois Panthers. The Blue Raiders jumped up big on the Panthers but EIU fought back and won 35-32 by way of a miracle.

Early in the game, the Panthers punted while the MT defense played very solid. On EIU's first drive the Panthers ran three plays and punted. Sulecio Sanford returned the punt 24 yards to the EIU 42.

The Blue Raiders looked sharp as they moved the ball effectively during the first series of downs. However, thanks to a sack by Mike Keegan of EIU, the Raiders were forced to kick a 48-yard field goal. Keegan Ray's attempt looked long enough but at the end it sailed wide right.

On the very next possession, the Panthers drove down the field, starting at the MT 31 yard line. Eight plays later, they were faced with a fourth down and one situation. The gutsy Bob Spoo decided to go for it. Tailback Justin Lynch was hit for 2 yards and an Eastern first down. Two plays later Lynch, from the 18-yard line, ran in for the first touchdown of the night. The drive took over three and a half minutes and also covered 69 yards.

The Blue Raiders were up for the challenge of answering the EIU score with one of their own. Starting from their own 26, the Raider's Wes Counts and Torin Kirtsey led the team on this drive. Counts completed four of six passes for 48 yards, while Kirtsey a 21-yard dash that set up the score. Counts threw to Sanford who dazzled the crowd with a 13-yard run. After 74 yards and 9 plays, the score was tied at 7.

On the next drive, the Panthers hurt themselves with a crucial mistake. Anthony Buich converted on third and eleven with a pass to Phil Taylor that spanned 16 yards up to midfield. Two plays later, Buich tossed to Lynch. Unfortunately for EIU, Lynch was not in the area. The ball was picked up by MT's Jeff Thomas, who rumbled for 19 yards to the EIU 19 yard line. The Blue Raiders could not make the Panthers pay for their mistake and were stuck for a loss of 4 on the next possession before Ray connected on a 40-yard field goal.

The scoreboard read 10-7 in favor of MTSU after one quarter.

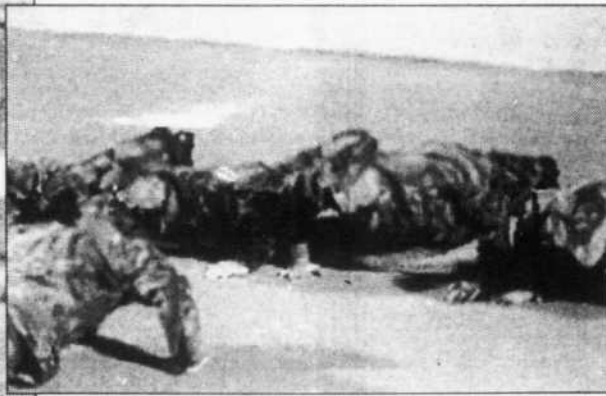
The Panthers started the next drive from their own 37 yard line. After nine plays and 22 yards, the Panthers were forced to punt. The punt, however, was blocked by Wes Stephens. LeBron Elder continued to knock the ball down until the ball was recovered in the endzone by the EIU punter. Bessenhofer was immediately dropped by a host of Blue Raiders. The safety made the lead five for the Raiders.

EIU chose to punt the safety kick and it was fielded by Kirtsey who returned the ball 19 yards to the Eastern 48. Kirtsey stole the show and totaled 67 all-purpose yards on the drive including a touchdown. Kirtsey scored on a 26-yard jaunt. On the conversion, Counts completed a pass to David Calvo for two points. MTSU led 20 to 7 after twenty minutes.

The Panthers came right back. EIU converted on two third downs and one fourth-and-one situation. The drive was extremely efficient. While amassing 82 yards, the Panthers ran 17 plays and scored a touchdown on a five-yard halfback pass play. Shaun Grace threw to Fred Baker for the score. The PAT was good, and the lead was cut to six for the Blue Raiders.

At the end of the first half the score remained 20-14, with the

At the end of the first half the score remained 20-14, with the Raiders on top, but the second half would be a different story.



photos by Derrick Wilson

Above left: Boots Donnelly eye-balls the field during the last home game of the season. Above right: Torin Kirtsey, 20, junior tailback, makes a run with the ball toward the goal. Lower left: Three Blue Raiders barge down the field. Lower right: ROTC students do push-ups to celebrate a Blue Raider touchdown Saturday night.

See FOOTBALL, page 9

Lowe credits success to Dad and Donnelly

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

At the age of six, Matt Lowe began a football career that would prove to be very successful.

Lowe began playing early in his life and continued to play throughout middle school and high school.

Lowe played quarterback for Powell High School and totaled 2,400 yards as quarterback. When he was recruited for college football, he was a receiver. Most all of the Division 1-AA schools in the south recruited him out of high school. Schools like Furman, ETSU and UT-Chattanooga were on his list of candidates, as well as many others.

Throughout the refining of his abilities, his father Doug has always been there to encourage and motivate Lowe.

"I credit my success to my dad, my middle school coach, my high school coach and, without a doubt, Coach Donnelly," Lowe said.

At the moment, Lowe ranks second on the all-time receiving list for MTSU. He is behind Dee Mosteller of the 1993-

1996 Blue Raiders and the speedy Herbert Owenby of the 1964-1967 MTSU team. Lowe needs 17 more receptions over the last three regular season games and then the playoff games.

One aspect of his abilities that he says is most important to his game is his ability to play consistently. Week in and week out, Lowe is in the game. For the last few games, he has played despite having bruised ribs. He is a fighter in every sense of the word, but more importantly, he is one of the most competitive players that has ever strapped on pads for the Blue Raiders.

He is 5 feet 11 inches and weighs 181 pounds. He runs a 4.69 forty-yard sprint. With those numbers, one might ask how he can play for a school that is going to division 1-A. His competitive fire drives him to work hard everyday in practice and on Saturdays. The bottom line is that he wants to win.

"If I could change anything about my career it would be that I haven't won a championship," Lowe said.

The experience he has is another big advantage to him.

"If I could change anything about my career it would be that I haven't won a championship."

-Matt Lowe

like Steve Tasker played for the four time AFC champions, the Buffalo Bills.

"The NFL has always been a nice dream, but the NFL decides who plays there," Lowe said.

If the opportunity to play overseas or in the CFL is available, he says he

See LOWE, page 9

Former Blue Raiders give thanks to Boots

Keith Ryan Cartwright
Staff Reporter

If there was ever a question as to how much Boots Donnelly meant to Middle Tennessee and the Blue Raider football program, it was answered Saturday night.

Following the game between the Raiders and Eastern Illinois, Donnelly's last game as head coach, there was a reception held in his honor in which hundreds of former players gathered to reminisce, including several of the 14 players Donnelly has guided to the NFL during his 20 years.

"Coach Donnelly has had a great career and he's meant a lot to this program," said Don Griffin ('85), who recently retired from the NFL after 12 years. "He's been building this program to get it to where it is today.

"Let me just say this, 'He will be missed by a lot of people.'"

Also in Murfreesboro for

Donnelly's last game was Marty Carter ('90), whose Chicago Bears were in Nashville for a Sunday afternoon matchup with the Tennessee Oilers.

Like many of the former players gathered, Carter was sad to see Donnelly end his career. Carter added that, if Donnelly felt it was time to leave, then he would firmly back his decision.

"Coach Donnelly has never been a man to worry about decisions. He makes them and he lives with them," said Kelly Holcomb ('94), who made his first NFL start at quarterback last season for the Indianapolis Colts. "That's what he feels is right for the program."

Aside from just being a man who did things his way, many of the sentiments reiterated time and time again from former players revolved around Donnelly's influence on life outside of football.

No one had a harder time

See THANKS, page 9

FOOTBALL
continued from page 8

Raiders on top, but the second half would be a different story. The teams traded punts for about 11 minutes until the Raiders' Counts completed four passes consecutively, including a pass to Kendall Newson that netted 36 yards and a touchdown. The drive lasted two minutes and forty nine seconds, while running seven plays and 72 yards. The commanding 26 to 14 score would be short-lived as the Panthers quickly drove down field and scored in just over two minutes. Wayne Brown ran into the endzone from 29 yards out. The Raiders would make two more field goals before the hearts of over 15 thousand people would be ripped out and crushed. With 1:25 left on the clock, the Panthers took the ball from

their own 35 yard line. Buich completed passes of 24, 20 and 21 on the extremely quick drive. On the last play, the Panthers connected on a pass of 21 yards to Justin Lynch. The score was 32 to 27 with thirty eight seconds remaining. The Panthers would attempt a play that has always been the most exciting eight seconds in all of football, the onside kick. Kicker Chad Lerner got set while the heads of the 15,000 Blue Raider faithful crept up their throats. Larner's kick took two small hops before it bounded very high into the air. The Raiders got hands on the ball, but they could not hang on to it. The Panthers recovered. EIU started from midfield. On the first play, Buich winged a pass to a wide open Rhaasan Smith. Smith ran down the middle of the field to the 16 yard line. Brown then sliced his way 14 yards to the two. Buich passed incomplete on first down. The next pass was

tipped by MTSU, caught by EIU and then dropped. It was third down and the Raider defense was two stops away from going into history as the greatest goal line stand ever. The crowd was as loud as it has been since the opener against TSU. Lynch took the ball on the next play and walked through a massive hole in the line and scored. The Blue Raiders' final gasp was made on a long pass to Sanford, but it fell incomplete leaving MTSU on the losing end of a 35-32 score. Kirtsey rushed for a game high 144 yards on only 17 carries, while Sanford caught nine balls for 117 yards. Counts completed 17 of 31 for 188 yards and two touchdowns. The team is at the defining juncture in the season. The maturity level will come forward after the tough loss. When asked if the team could win out, Matt Lowe answered with a resounding, "Yes." ■

THANKS
continued from page 8

explaining his feelings than Anthony Hicks ('96), who played in the World Football League. "I can't explain how I feel right now. To see a great man's [career] like that come to an end, you don't want to let it go." Kenny Tippins, who spent seven years in the NFL, including one with the Dallas

Cowboys and six with the Atlanta Falcons, agreed with Hicks but took it one step further in his explanation of what Donnelly has meant to so many. "Coach Donnelly played a big part in my life," Tippins said. "I often call him I have questions or problems. Not only was he a coach, he was like a father figure." Though many of the players who assembled

Saturday night after a tough Raider loss no longer have a chance to see Donnelly on a regular basis, it's apparent that he's never far from their thoughts. "He's a great coach and I think he's still got some coaching in him," said Carter, after flipping the opening coin-toss, "but if he thinks it's time, then it's time." ■

LOWE
continued from page 8

would play there. Lowe wants to continue playing, but right now he is looking to become a coach someday. Coming off the loss to EIU, the season may look bleak but the Blue Raiders still have a

great chance to win the OVC if they keep on winning. Lowe says that is what he expects. "I expect to finish the season strong," Lowe said. For those people who failed to see Matt Lowe play, you missed a great experience. ■

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Game's attendance more disappointing than score

Keith Ryan Cartwright
Staff Reporter

Let me just say this, "Boots Donnelly is a legend."

It's probably not the last time I'll ever use that phrase. But then again, I am a man who speaks the truth.

Donnelly has meant more to the Blue Raider football program and Middle Tennessee in general than most people will ever comprehend.

On Saturday night, the man who has headed the Raiders for 20 glorious seasons walked away from Horace Jones Field for the last time as head coach.

For Coach Donnelly, a last-second loss proved hard to swallow for a man built on pride. For me, a paltry 15,123 fans in attendance proved hard to swallow.

I'm definitely not cappin' on those in attendance, but I'm disappointed in the thousands who failed to show up — mainly the student body of MTSU.

Everyone always complains that there's not much to do in Murfreesboro. Well, Saturday night there was plenty to do — namely support our football team in its bid for an Ohio Valley Conference championship.

My complaints begin with fraternities and sororities. Don't get me wrong: there were some members who were there showing some support and others that I just as soon hope never attend another Raiders sporting event again.

Organizations like these are the first to

jump up and push for the support of their causes, yet all too often, they're the first to show up at a game, wave their little flag then leave by halftime.

Again, I did notice a few — a minimum number — who remained for the entire game.

Unfortunately, one of those that stayed is an embarrassment not only to the football program but also the university as well.

He's a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, and I know he knows who I'm talking about for the

simple fact that he made himself look like he had with his fake and obnoxious laughs as the Raiders fell in the last seconds of Saturday's game.

But, it was one of his comments in particular that struck a nerve.

"No wonder he's quitting."

If Donnelly thought that the loss made him sick, this guy made me even more sick. To think that I could possibly be lapped into a classroom with this guy churns my stomach.



Boots Donnelly

Donnelly and his players deserve more than

that. They deserve to know that those around them are acknowledging their efforts, not demeaning them behind their backs.

Regardless of what the above-mentioned jerk feel, the fact remains that Middle will compete at the next level and, though it may take some time, they will prove to be a competitive foe for anyone who crosses their path.

In a time when the term is used far too often and all too often by those who don't deserve it, Donnelly truly is a legend. ■

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Will Yankees to stay together?

Jon Heyman
Newsday

NEW YORK —Where do the New York Yankees go from here? The easy answer is downhill, but only because it's impossible to improve on, or even duplicate, a season like no other in baseball history. The final tallies: 125 victories, 50 defeats, zero turmoil. In the case of the Yankees, that last figure is nearly as astounding as the first two.

It was a special year, and it can't possibly be repeated. But that doesn't mean they won't try. George Steinbrenner always sets his sights high, and this winter he won't want to do anything to disappoint the Cablevision folks, who might shell out upward of \$650 million to buy his team in the coming months. Steinbrenner looked a tad misty-eyed when interviewed on TV during the World Series celebration scene. This can't possibly be because he'll miss Bernie Williams, can it?

A nice goal for the Yankees would be to return all their players to the Bronx and see if they can all do it together again. Other teams have holes to fill, problems to solve, wounds to lick. The Yankees' objective is easier in the sense that they know what combination of players can deliver the goods: the one they have.

"We'll do our best to try to keep the team together," Steinbrenner said while celebrating. "We hope we can keep a nucleus of the team together because I'm not done winning." Whether he soon will be done owning was not

addressed as the champagne dripped off his face.

Steinbrenner and his top decision-makers will get together next week to discuss their plan. This conversation won't be quite as painful as it is with other teams because Steinbrenner never has been tight with money. Like no other owner except maybe Steinbrenner wannabe Peter Angelos in Baltimore, Steinbrenner puts his players above his player payroll.

In past years, we have made suggestions as to how the Yankees might improve their team. Considering their season, not only would it be presumptuous to suggest some big new plans, it would be downright silly. They already have the team they need and want. The real question is how much of it they can keep together.

General manager Brian Cashman said "it's unrealistic" to think they can come up with enough money to keep all their major free agents in the Bronx. But that doesn't mean they won't try. "It doesn't mean we won't bait the hook and see if everyone bites," Cashman said.

Cashman also said it would take some players being "willing to take less" to stay. That sounds a tad ominous in at least one obvious case. Williams is showing no signs of wanting to do any charity work for the Yankees.

In all likelihood, the Yankees' front-office people eventually will have to do a little scrambling. No problem. As they proved this year, they have almost as much know-how as cash. After their unheard-of season, there is no reason to doubt they will do the right thing. The top front-office

tandem of Cashman in New York and Mark Newman in Tampa showed the same kind of teamwork as their players.

Not only that, they were constantly right. They were right to give Orlando Hernandez \$6.6 million for three years when everyone else was looking for lines on his face. They were right to take Scott Brosius, the Series MVP and author of one of the greatest one-season turnarounds ever (.300 this year after .203 in 1997) for Kenny Rogers, a nice man who was a postseason ornament. And they were right about Randy Johnson. He wasn't needed.

Cashman's team saved some extra worry by getting superb and clutch right-fielder Paul O'Neill signed in midyear for \$6 million, which doesn't come close to approximating his value. Williams, Brosius and David Cone (once he presumably rejects a \$5.5-million option for 1999 on Wednesday) are the three big free-agent questions. With Mo Vaughn waiting in the wings (along with Steinbrenner's agent buddy Tom Reich, who represents Vaughn), Tino Martinez, who is signed for two more years, is the other big question.

Figuring conservatively that Williams, Brosius and Cone each could be in line for a \$3-million annual raise for '99, and that the arbitration cases of Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera and Andy Pettitte could add another \$9 million or so to the payroll, it's easy to see how the Yankees' payroll could shoot from \$70 million to an unprecedented, unheard-of \$90 million. ■

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