



# SIDELINES



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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

## Denver suburb faces school tragedy

### Bodies unmoved as officers check for booby traps

Robert Weller  
Associated Press

LITTLETON, Colo. — Working around bodies still lying where they fell more than a day earlier, bomb squad officers checked lockers and backpacks for booby traps Wednesday as investigators tried to piece together one of the deadliest school massacres in U.S. history.

Hurling bombs and blasting away with guns, two students in black trench coats killed 12 schoolmates and a teacher Tuesday at Columbine High School, most of them in the library. The gunmen, Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, then apparently killed themselves.

Officials were trying to determine if others were involved, and they questioned the killers' parents and other members of the boys' dark group of outcasts, the "Trenchcoat Mafia."

Parents waited for more than 24 hours after the

attack until they finally received official word of their children's fate. Not until Wednesday afternoon were the first bodies removed from the scene. By 7 p.m., the other corpses all had been taken to the coroner's office.

Investigators had left the bodies in place for so long so they could check for explosives and record the details of the crime scene, which SWAT members described as something from "Dante's Inferno."

Many bodies were sprawled on the floor, slumped in desks or crouched beneath tables, boxes and cubicles where they apparently tried to hide. Police found a handgun under one of the killers, and a semiautomatic rifle and two sawed-off shotguns elsewhere.

"It was a different sort of chaos inside," SWAT Sgt. George Hinkle said. "There were fire alarms going off, strobe lights, four inches of water in the cafeteria. We had been told there were bombs in backpacks and there were backpacks everywhere. It was the toughest tactical problem I've ever seen."

Sheriff's spokesman Steve Davis said 30 explosive devices had been found at Columbine, in the killers' vehicles and at their homes. Late Tuesday, more than 10 hours after the shootings, a time bomb blew up, but no one was hurt.

"Some of these devices are on timing devices, some are incendiary devices and some are pipe bombs," Sheriff John Stone told ABC's "Good

Morning America." "Some are like hand grenades that have got shrapnel in them wrapped around butane containers."

Nine of the victims were male and four were female. District Attorney Dave Thomas said there was no evidence that the killers targeted minorities, as some students claimed. Only one of the 13 victims was black.

"I've only seen the photographs, but it appears to me that most of the victims were victims because of where they were at a particular time, not that they were sought out," Thomas said. "Most of the victims were in the library, and that's where these two persons ended up. ... I don't know what the motive was other than anger."

Sixteen people remained hospitalized, 11 in critical or serious condition.

The gunmen's families would not speak to reporters, but both issued statements Wednesday.

"Our thoughts, prayers and heartfelt apologies go out to the victims, their families, friends, and the entire community," the Klebold family said. "Like the rest of the country, we are struggling to understand why this happened, and ask that you please respect our privacy during this painful grieving period."

Harris' parents said: "We want to express our heartfelt sympathy to the families of all the victims

See SCHOOL SHOOTING, page 2

### Shooting massacre hits close to home for Lincoln County

Vicki Brown  
Associated Press

FAYETTEVILLE — Lincoln County High School students struggled Wednesday with memories of their own school shooting a year ago as they began the day by silently remembering victims of a Colorado high school massacre.

Students said they can no longer take comfort in the belief that "it can't happen here" because they know from experience that school violence can happen anywhere.

"If someone is going to try to bring a gun to school, they will find a way to get it in," said David Goodwin, an 18-year-old senior who said television images from Colorado brought back vivid memories of seeing senior Nick Creson lying fatally wounded in the school parking lot last May 19.

Jacob Davis, the honor student charged with shooting Creson in a dispute over a girl both had dated, goes on trial for first-degree murder on July 26.

The flag at Lincoln County High flew at half-staff in memory of the victims at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo. Lincoln seniors planned to send flowers or letters to Columbine.

Lincoln Principal Jim Stewart said the mood was somber.

"Everybody here this morning has had a pretty tough time," he said. "I talked to a group of seniors and asked them for help. I told them we've got to pull together and just in our own private way deal with it."

"They said the reason people keep asking these questions is because we are all looking for answers."

While seated at a McDonald's across from Lincoln County High, Goodwin and fellow seniors T.J. Cross and Brian Meeks reflected on how the shooting last year has changed them and their school.

"I think it's pulled a lot of us together. I feel for those kids in Colorado, because everyone will think it's a bad place," said Cross, 17. "But if it's this bad now, what's it going to be like five or 10 years from now for our brothers and sisters, or for our children?"

Cross and Goodwin said Lincoln County High now is stricter about students leaving class, where they park and what kind of backpack they carry.

And if teachers even get a hint that a dispute is brewing, the students involved can expect to be pulled out of class for a conference with a guidance counselor, they said.

Tara Ledford, the mother of a 2-year-old, said the violence concerns her so much she is considering home-schooling her child. "I know you can't keep them from everything, but it's just scary," she said.

Betty Walker, a grandmother, recalled sadly that when she was growing up school was "just the safest place you could be." Even with the violence, she doesn't like the ideas of metal detectors in schools and students being searched for weapons.

"If we're going to do all that, we ought to just put a fence around the school and call it a jail or a prison. I don't think that's right, either," she said.

Stewart doesn't like metal detectors and searches either, but he does support programs that seek to teach students to find peaceful ends to their disputes. He expressed dismay that a tight state budget may mean the end of a grant that paid for a counselor to help Lincoln students resolve conflicts.

Stewart said he takes comfort looking at the senior class and seeing students like Larrisa Garner, the valedictorian who just won two prestigious scholarships, and the many other teens who have excelled at Lincoln.

"I see so many more positive things than negative things," he said. ■

### U.S. accepts refugees, reconsiders ground troops

Tom Raum  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States will temporarily admit as many as 20,000 refugees from Kosovo, the Clinton administration said Wednesday, even as Defense Secretary William Cohen suggested plans to widen the NATO campaign with a ground offensive could be put into place if necessary.

"It could happen very quickly," Cohen said of the possibility of sending ground troops. However, in testimony to the House defense appropriations subcommittee, he reiterated the administration position that neither President Clinton nor NATO allies are yet considering such a move.

The decision to temporarily resettle refugees in the United States, announced by Vice President Gore in a speech at Ellis Island, replaces an earlier plan to possibly send them to the U.S. military base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Gore said the effort would focus on "those with close family ties in America and those who are vulnerable, and we will have them here until they are able to return home safely."

White House deputy chief of staff Maria Echaveste said officials would try to match refugees with relatives or sponsors after the Kosovars arrived at two or three ports along the East Coast.

"We're going to be focusing on family reunification," she said.

On the military front, while administration officials said anew that the president opposed using ground troops at this point, their statements seemed calculated to open the possibility.

Both Cohen and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright noted in congressional testimony that NATO had worked up plans for a possible ground offensive last fall — plans that could be put in operation if necessary.

Cohen said the plans called for some 200,000 NATO ground forces for a full invasion of Yugoslavia, or 75,000 for a scaled-back offensive that would just invade Kosovo.

Such plans could be quickly developed into a full-scale operational effort if so decided by Clinton and NATO allies, Cohen said.

A White House official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the alliance may soon seek to update its assessment — made in October — that the campaign should be limited to air power.

And in London, in a speech to the House of Commons, British Prime Minister Tony Blair said that sending ground troops ahead of a peace deal remained an option. His comments came just before he flew to Washington for talks with Clinton before a NATO summit that will be dominated by the crisis.

Blair still said the most effective plan was to press ahead with airstrikes, now in their fifth week.

Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic would not be

See KOSOVO, page 4

### Show me that smile



Staff photo by Derrick Wilson

Art students draw on the sidewalk in front of the KUC in honor of art appreciation week. Students also took advantage of the event to express their need for a new art building.

### Phi Kappa Phi inducts new members for 98-99

LaSonya Washington  
Staff Reporter

It was a night to remember for some special MTSU students, faculty and alumni.

Phi Kappa Phi held its initiation ceremony for the 1998-99 school year Monday night.

Phi Kappa Phi is a national Honor Society with the purpose of recognizing high scholastic achievement in all disciplines.

The organization hopes to encourage the honorees and inspire others to achieve the same high standards.

Ryah Durham, a senior journalism major and former president of the

SGA, was selected to receive a graduate fellowship from Phi Kappa Phi's national office.

Every year individual chapters select one member to compete for the award.

The fellowship is worth up to \$7,000 per year toward the student's graduate or professional school of choice. Durham competed against 263 other applicants from across the nation.

June McCash, president of the MTSU Phi Kappa Phi Chapter, proudly announced that Durham is the first MTSU student to be awarded the fellowship. She said MTSU has received two honorable mentions since

See HONOR SOCIETY, page 3



Staff photo by Shawn Whitsell

Dr. Rueben Kyle and Ryan Durham pose at the Phi Kappa Phi reception. Dr. Kyle received the Distinguished Member Award and Durham a graduate fellowship worth up to \$7,000.

INSIDE

- Campus Capsule.....page 2
- Editorial.....page 6
- Features.....page 8
- Sports.....page 10

SPORTS

The ultimate freesbie team competes in the 11th annual Monkey Bowl. See page 10.

FEATURES

See the beautiful sights of Venezuela. See page 8.

WEATHER FORECAST



THURSDAY  
CLOUDY,  
HIGH 81,  
LOW 60



FRIDAY  
CLOUDY,  
HIGH 77,  
LOW 64



SATURDAY  
PARTLY  
CLOUDY,  
HIGH 82, LOW 60

# ON CAMPUS

## LOOKING AHEAD

**APRIL 23, 24**  
The Dance team will have tryouts on Friday from 4 p.m. till 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m. Dance Team tryouts are on Friday. Majorette, Guard and Drum Major tryouts are on Saturday. For more information call university Bands office 898-2993 or Betsy Drewry at 898-5583.

**APRIL 24**  
Student Government Association Homecoming committee applications are due by 4 p.m. in the SGA office, KUC 208. For more information call Julia Graves 898-2464.

Student Government Association has Homecoming Surveys for 1999. They are interested in what the student body really thinks about Homecoming. Questionnaires are available in KUC room 208. For more information call Julia Graves or Cee-Cee at 898-2464.

**ON GOING**  
Presbyterian Student Fellowship will host dinner and discussion on Wed at

6:30 p.m. located at the Fellowship House on 615 N Tennessee Blvd following the study there will be wallyball at 9 p.m. at the Rec Center. For more information call Rich Zeigler at 893-1787 or Andrew Lee at 867-7370.

Raider Victory Fellowship will have weekly meetings and Bible sessions on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Corlew Hall room 719. They will meet on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Cummings Hall lobby and at 8 p.m. at Felder Hall room 208. Contact Ricky Walters at 317-4541.

Dragon's Guard School of Sword Fighting and Reenactment teaches swordfighting techniques and swordplay. The school meets for practice at 7 p.m. at Middle Tennessee Christian School gymnasium on Tuesdays and Fridays. For more information contact Hunter Jones at 896-4596 or e-mail at shadowwh@bellsouth.net.

MTSU Fencing Club will have practices every Monday at 8:30 p.m. till 10:30 p.m. in the Aerobics Room located in the Rec Center. The

practices are geared to students of all skill levels. Contact Michael "Hunter" Jones at 896-4596 or e-mail at shadowwh@bellsouth.net.

The Kingwood Heights Church of Christ will host monthly devotions every second Thursday at 6:30. Kingwood Heights Church is located at 115 East MTCS Road. Contact Chuck Mullins at 898-1086 or Alan Welker at 890-0940 for more information.

Raider Victory Fellowship will hold Sunday services at 10 a.m. in the Murphy Center. Contact Ricky Walters at 907-4079 for more information.

Campus Crusade for Christ will meet on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in KUC room 322. Those interested may contact Courtney Rushlow at 849-7899 for more information.

The Tennis Club will have meetings every Wednesday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 12 noon at the MTSU tennis courts. Players of all skill levels are welcome. Contact Carrie Hupp at 896-7164 for more information.

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.

## SCHOOL SHOOTING

continued from page 1

and to all the community for this senseless tragedy. Please say prayers (for) everyone touched by these terrible events."

Witnesses said Harris and Klebold targeted athletes and minorities, laughing at their victims and using a racial epithet to describe the black victim. "All jocks stand up!" one of the boys yelled during Tuesday's attack. "We're going to kill every one of you."

Some students lay still and quiet on the floor, listening as the gunmen finished off the wounded.

Classmates said the boys wore outcasts who wore black, spoke German to each other, played war games and sometimes wore Nazi symbols. According to classmates, the boys admired Adolf Hitler and apparently picked his birthday for the attack.

Columbine student Brooks Brown, 18, said Harris had once

threatened to kill him, but later had resumed their friendship. Brown said he saw Harris carrying a duffel bag as he walked into the school on Tuesday.

"I was walking out for a cigarette and I told him, 'Hey, man,' and he said, 'Brooks, I like you. Now, get out of here. Go home.'" Brown said. "And so I didn't think twice about it."

Harris and Klebold had a juvenile record, but not for anything violent — they were caught breaking into a car. They completed a program that allowed them to clear their record, Thomas said.

While investigators continued their work, memorial services were held across the city Wednesday, and dozens of counselors offered support to grieving students, parents, friends and family.

Several hundred students from around the Denver area gathered at a park near the school Wednesday, many with their parents. Bouquets

were scattered around the grounds. Students placed flowers and other mementos on a car driven to school Tuesday by one of the students believed to be killed.

A poster on a wall in the park near the school contained messages of condolence and scorn.

"These flowers and prayers are for the innocent victims and their families, not for the two monsters that committed these selfish and violent acts," the poster said.

Red-eyed students, including one girl wearing a T-shirt listing the names of Columbine's '99 senior class, streamed into the Light of the World Church for a memorial service and a noon prayer vigil.

Outside the church, visitors placed flowers and cards at the base of a weathered 12-foot cross leaning sideways against a tree.

The massacre forced the closing of all schools in the Jefferson County school district, which has 89,000 students and is Colorado's largest. ■



## NATIONAL NEWS

### First arrest at anti-abortion rally; man points gun at guard

**Rochester, NY (AP)**— Police on Wednesday made their first arrest during a week-long series of anti-abortion protests when a motorist allegedly pointed a rifle at a security guard outside a hospital.

Officers who seized the man found two military-style rifles and ammunition in his car. Police said the gunman appeared to have no links to activists on either side of the abortion issue.

Scores of anti-abortion protesters are in the area for Operation Save America, which is calling on supporters to come here and demonstrate.

James Krentel, 34, of Rochester, was held on charges of harassment and possessing a loaded weapon in a vehicle.

The episode passed largely unnoticed a half-block from Genesee Hospital, where some 200 anti-abortion protesters were reciting hymns and prayers and holding placards aloft.

Alongside them, a smaller number of abortion rights activists chanted their opposition in slogans and song.

Hospital security guards allegedly saw Krentel pointing a weapon at one of them as he drove by in a gray Oldsmobile, the police chief said. ■

### Commission puts North Carolina on notice about low-level waste dump

**Raleigh, N.C. (AP)**— A regional commission Wednesday told North Carolina its inaction on construction of a repository for low-level nuclear waste has violated federal law.

But the resolution, enacted on a 10-2 vote by the Southeast Compact Commission, has little teeth unless the state is kicked out of the regional group or taken to court.

"The commission has repeatedly communicated ... its concerns over funding and the need to develop a comprehensive plan to provide the additional needed funds," said commissioner Mike Mobley of Tennessee.

"I am very disappointed that North Carolina continues to show no intention of discharging its legal obligation to the other six states in the compact to assure protection of the public and the environment from the hazards of radiation," Mobley said.

During discussion, commissioner said they wanted North Carolina to come to them with a plan and a timetable for building a repository to handle low-level radioactive wastes from seven Southeastern states.

North Carolina has tried for 12 years to develop a disposal site for the waste, which ranges from lab beakers and rags to parts from nuclear reactors. ■

### Florida bans outdoor burning; Everglades fire contained

**Miami (AP)**— A fire that has been burning in the Everglades for more than a week, charring a chunk of sawgrass 24 miles long and 15 miles long, may be burning itself out at last, firefighters said Wednesday.

"We want to make sure the fire doesn't escape the area we have it confined to," said John Fish, a state Division of Forestry spokesman. "We're considering it contained but still not under control."

If firefighters keep the south Florida blaze contained, it should burn out after charring about 5,000 acres more, he said.

No homes have been burned in the fire, which is burning in a section of the Everglades' roughly 2 million acres that is outside Everglades National Park. Columns of smoke have been visible for miles as the fire scorched through 165,000 acres.

Dry weather has turned the Everglades vegetation into kindling, and no significant rainfall is forecast through the end of the month.

The weather had state officials fearing a repeat of last summer's wildfires, which blackened nearly 500,000 acres and forced 100,000 people from their homes.

Interstate 75, South Florida's main east-west highway known as Alligator Alley, was ordered closed again Wednesday as thick smoke hung overhead, hindering visibility. ■



## WORLD NEWS

### Source says Castro's bodyguard defects in Dominican Republic

**Santo Domingo (AP)**— One of Fidel Castro's bodyguards defected during the Cuban leader's recent visit to the Dominican Republic, high-ranking sources in the Dominican government said Wednesday.

The sources, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity, said Capt. Lazaro de Betancourt sought asylum at the U.S. Embassy Sunday after a summit of the Association of Caribbean States.

Spokesmen at the embassy and the State Department in Washington would not comment on the reports.

"I'm not in a position to comment at this time," embassy spokesman Michael Stanton said in Santo Domingo. A State Department spokesman said he could neither confirm nor deny the report.

The captain was the second-in-command of a circle of bodyguards who protect Castro, the Dominican sources said. They added he is being housed in a U.S. diplomatic residence in Santo Domingo. ■

### Ukraine says Chernobyl will keep operating

**Kiev, Ukraine (AP)**— The Chernobyl nuclear power plant will continue to operate until the West provides money promised to complete two new nuclear reactors, Ukraine's president said Wednesday.

President Leonid Kuchma's statement came just days before the 13th anniversary of the world's worst nuclear accident. The April 26, 1986 explosion and fire at Chernobyl's reactor No. 4 sent a radioactive cloud over much of Europe, and contaminated large areas in Ukraine, Russia and Belarus.

The world's seven richest nations, the G-7, promised aid to Ukraine in 1995 to help the former Soviet republic close Chernobyl. Ukraine in turn, promised to shut down the only reactor at the plant still working by 2000.

Ukrainian officials complain, though, that the money has been slow in coming. They say they can't shut the plant before receiving aid to complete new reactors that will compensate for taking Chernobyl off-line.

With Ukraine's five Soviet-era nuclear power plants producing more than 40 percent of the country's electricity, Kuchma and others long have argued that Chernobyl's energy was too precious to lose. ■

### Queen Elizabeth celebrates 73rd birthday in Korean village

**Hahoe, South Korea (AP)**— Britain's Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her 73rd birthday Wednesday in an ancient village where she was offered, but did not eat, a traditional Korean feast.

The queen normally celebrates her birthday privately at Windsor Castle. But on her four-day state visit to South Korea, she wanted to share a little part of the celebration with residents of Hahoe, a serene walled village rich in Korean tradition.

The village of 235 residents is known for its traditional wooden mask dance and was the birthplace of many famous Confucian scholars.

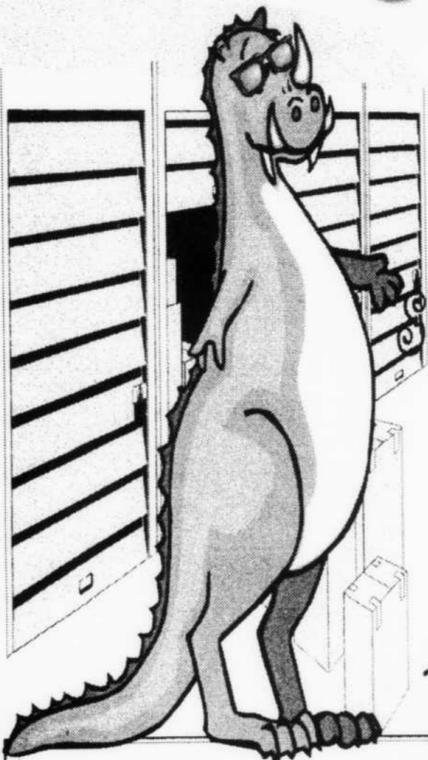
After learning how to make "kimchi," Korea's spicy cabbage, the queen watched a 10-minute mask dance performed by nine villagers.

Wearing a sky-blue dress with white polka dots, a white jacket and matching shoes and hat, the queen smiled continuously as she watched the open-air dance to the beating of drums.

Villagers then laid out on a wooden table a 47-dish birthday feast, the type of ceremonial meal eaten by Korea's ancient kings.

"Does the birthday person eat all these?" she asked, according to one guide. "I don't know what all this is, but this is wonderful." The queen, however, did not try the food. Aides offered no explanation. ■

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# Lecturer predicts 21st century news changes

Caney Sherfield  
Staff reporter

Former "New York Times" political columnist and award-winning author, Tom Wicker, has been watching things go in and out of style for more than half a century.

And according to him, just as he saw the disappearance of the upright telephone, the wood range and Lucky Strikes cigarettes, the strength of the Democratic Party and newspapers will also fade in the 21st Century.

That's what Wicker told his audience last night during the annual Seigenthaler Lecture at MTSU. Wicker addressed the future of journalism and politics by raising several thought-provoking questions and offering his predictions on current events.

"Can anyone define the 'victory' for the war in Kosovo?" Wicker asked. "Because I haven't found a definition that satisfies me yet."

Wicker questioned the existence of a successful outcome relating to the Kosovo conflict. According to him, even if NATO defeats Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, there is no way to maintain peace without the establishment of a constant peace-keeping militia. Because, according to Wicker, once NATO pulls out, the fighting will recommence.

Wicker said he does not see the United States' moral responsibility, as deemed by President Clinton, as an acceptable reason for participating in the war.

"Why do we have a moral responsibility?" he asked. "We didn't have one in Rwanda."

Because of these unanswered questions, Wicker said more questions will inevitably arise in the coming months as American soldiers began to return home to their loved ones in body bags, and as the overall economic contentment starts to decline among Americans.

"If this war drags on without something we can declare as a victory, it will open up a lot of room for criticism," Wicker said. "Furthermore, Clinton dodged the Vietnam draft, and I feel that question will come up again."

For these reasons, Wicker predicted the situation in Kosovo will damage the Democratic Party and Vice President Al Gore's chances in the 1999 presidential campaign.

"Being on the defensive is not a very good way to win a campaign," he said.

As far as the future of journalism, Wicker said he was tempted to say that newspapers are too institutional and too

ingrained in our society.

"I'm tempted to say that, but I won't," he added.

The custom of acquiring information from newspapers will thrive throughout the approaching millennium, but the manner in which readers receive and perceive the news will evolve, according to Wicker.

"I think technology will take over the delivery of the newspaper," he said.

Wicker predicted a 21st century newspaper delivery style in which a machine will be built into homes of the future, and the machine will just "spit out" newspapers right into your living room.

"Newspapers will be delivered by technology rather than, lets say, a small boy on a bicycle," he said.

Wicker also predicted that the traditional reports of "what happened yesterday" will not be in the newspapers of the future.

According to him, the Internet and television will take over that aspect of journalism. In order to survive, Wicker said newspapers will have to address the "what does it mean?" instead of the "what happened?" question.

"They will provide more of an analysis of yesterday's news as only newspapers can do," Wicker said.

Also, he said the newspaper world will shrink drastically over the next 20 years leaving a slim four to five large papers, presumably to include such media giants as "The New York Times" and "The Washington Post," and a thriving population of small local papers. Medium market papers such as "The Tennessean" will suffer extinction as they fail to compete.

His notion is that people will get the bulk of their news and information from television, the Internet and other technological sources. Readers will depend on newspapers for analyses.

In effect, the larger papers will supply the best source for national commentary and small hometown papers will be essential for the traditional coupon clippings, classified section and local news coverage, leaving no room for mid-sized market competitors.

Wicker contends that it is mandatory for newspapers to define a clear stand on national issues and provide its readers with smart analyses and commentary. He even supports distinct party-supporting newspapers like those that used to display their support for the Democratic or Republican Party on its masthead.

"Newspapers will serve us better when they become more intellectual rather than objective," he said. ■

# Norton to discuss environmental ethics in presentation Friday

Staff reports

Does nature have value? What justification can be given for protecting biodiversity and threatened and endangered ecosystems?

Those are questions Bryan Norton will address Friday in an environmental ethics presentation.

Norton's lecture is called, "Toward a Universal Valuation of Nature: Beyond the Anthropocentrism/Non-Anthropocentrism Debate."

Norton is a philosophy professor in the Georgia Institute of Technology's School of Public Policy.

He is also the author of many articles and five books on the topic of environmental philosophy, including "Toward Unity Among Environmentalists," which argues for an

integrated theory of management.

He has completed several works that defend the importance of protecting global biodiversity, a book that almost single-handedly created the contemporary ecosystem health approach to environmental management, and most recently Ethics on the Ark: Zoos, Animal Welfare and Wildlife Conservation.

The lecture is part of the annual Applied Philosophy Lyceum, sponsored by the department of philosophy. The purpose of the Lyceum is to provoke philosophical reflection by bringing distinguished scholars to the MTSU community to address various contemporary issues.

The lecture will be held in the James Union Building 304 at 3:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public. A discussion period and an informal reception will follow.

For more information, call 898-2907. ■

# Institute to cover women's issues

Staff reports

If you're a woman trying to improve your personal and professional life, then here's the seminar for you.

MTSU will sponsor the Women's Institute on Saturday at the MTSU Foundation House (located on Thompson Lane) from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Women's Institute is a half-day seminar, including a breakfast and a networking lunch designed to provide women with the skills and tools needed to better their personal and professional lives.

Keynote Speaker Holly Thompson will focus on motivational methods for taking control of life rather than letting life do the controlling, in her presentation "Take Charge of Your

Life." Thompson, an MTSU Honors graduate, is currently an anchor and reporter for WSMV-TV in Nashville.

Joyce S. Harrison, a professor in the human sciences department, will discuss "How Women Can Control Their Financial Destiny." Harrison will walk participants through the maze of complex financial choices available to women today.

"It is crucial for women to have a good financial plan," Harrison said. "More than 90 percent of all women will have sole control over their finances at some point in their lives. Nearly twice as many women as men report feeling a lack of control in their financial lives."

"Every woman deserves to feel financially safe, confident and in control of her own future. This presentation will include the critical things women can do to develop those feelings,"

Harrison said.

Beverly Renee Lewis will share "Talk the Talk: The Secrets Every Woman Should Know About Effective Communication," based on her book "Talk the Talk."

The presentation is designed to offer women the necessary skills to present their thoughts and ideas in a clear and concise way.

To register for the Women's Institute Seminar (using Visa or MasterCard), call MTSU's Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service at 898-2462. Participants may also register in person (using cash or credit card) at the Cope Administration Building 113.

For additional information on the seminar, call Valerie Avent coordinator of Career Education Services Center, Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service at 898-5651. ■

## HONOR SOCIETY

continued from page 1

its chapter began around 15 years ago. McCash presented Durham with a certificate from the national Phi Kappa Phi Office and a \$250 check.

Durham said he sees it as "an extreme honor for MTSU."

He is awaiting a response from the law schools of Harvard, Duke, Vanderbilt and UT Knoxville. After receiving his law degree, Durham plans to pursue a career in Tennessee politics. He said getting to know the people he serves is very important to him, so he plans to settle down in a place not unlike Murfreesboro.

Charles H. Myatt, regional president of First Tennessee Bank, spoke to the group. He offered a set of qualities important to a successful life in any field. He and Bob Parks were the two alumni initiates.

Myatt listed patience, persistence and trustworthiness as qualities that would lead to strong relationships among friends and co-workers and ensure a good quality of life.

The 86 initiates also include Regina Johnson, professor of speech and theater, and Stephen Shearon, professor of music. Johnson lectures and researches in the area of intercultural communication, while Dr. Shearon composes both classical and jazz

compositions.

Reuben Kyle received the Distinguished Member Award, an honor for people who have served the organization in a special way.

McCash said Kyle is the organization's "mainstay, spirit and guide," noting his willingness to help in every way possible.

McCash, who ends her term as president this year, said she will remember the cooperative spirit that pervades the organization.

She acknowledged that a good academic record and signs of strong character and community involvement are important for selection as a Phi Kappa Phi. ■

## The SGA Needs your Organization's Support!!

Please complete the following questionnaire and share your organization's concerns and feelings about Homecoming events and competitions. The SGA would like to start some new traditions that would appeal to your organization. This will enable us to increase student involvement and enjoyment throughout Homecoming week. We appreciate all suggestions, and if you would like to help with Homecoming, come by the SGA office in KUC 208 or call 898-2464. Thanks to all of you for your support!

Does your organization participate in Homecoming? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you group participate in:  
More individual activities? Yes No  
More group competition? Yes No  
More daytime activities? Yes No  
More nighttime activities? Yes No

In the past, has your organization participated in:  
Float competition Window painting Charity 2K Run  
Chili cook off Fight song Can drive  
Banner competition Casino night/ costume competition  
Step show Charity bowling

Why or why have you not participated in these events? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think would increase your organization or individuals on campus' involvement?

Better student awareness of events MTSU radio and TV plugs/ads  
More competition for groups More competition for individuals  
Less competition Incentives such as money or prizes

If you are a non-Greek organization, would you participate in Homecoming if: (please circle):

There was less non-Greek competition More non-Greek competition  
Organizations were teamed together More knowledge of activities

Circle two possible themes or list your own:  
MTSU goes Hollywood Mardi Gras MTSU Viva MTSU  
Hawaiian Luau TheMillenium Roaring Twenties  
Are you ready for some Football!

Please write below or on the back any ideas, compliments, or complaints you have about Homecoming or events we should do or leave out of the program. Your feedback is important to our Homecoming!!!



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STAFFMARK

**KOSOVO**  
continued from page 1

able to prevent ground troops from being deployed, Blair said, though he added that an invasion against full-strength Yugoslav forces would pose "formidable" difficulties.

White House press secretary Joe Lockhart said the United States has not asked for a reassessment of the airstrike strategy.

But, he added, "We believe that if the military command believes that this is the right way to go and that it would be prudent for them to update, then it's certainly something we'd support."

"We would have no objection to

updating the assessment that was done in October, I believe, of putting ground troops in. ... It's not committing ground troops," Lockhart said.

The House International Relations Committee met into the evening Wednesday debating a move by Rep. Tom Campbell, R-Calif., to invoke the War Powers Act and force a House vote — perhaps as early as next week — on either formally declaring war on Yugoslavia or ordering troops withdrawn. The committee is expected to vote on the measure on Thursday.

Albright, testifying earlier before the panel, opposed either course.

"We think declaration of war

would have a number of negative effects, such as NATO cohesion, regional stability and our relations with Russia," Albright said.

Campbell said the administration has violated the War Powers Act of 1973 by committing U.S. forces to the Balkans without seeking congressional approval.

Neither the war declaration nor the move to withdraw U.S. troops appeared to have much support.

Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., called the War Powers Act "a dumb law and a dangerous law" that all recent presidents have chosen to bypass.

Albright, meanwhile, expressed concern that the war might be spreading into Montenegro, Yugoslavia's smaller pro-Western republic.

"We are very concerned about what is going on there and have been in very close touch with President (Milo) Djukanovic, who seeks to maintain a degree of self-government there," Albright told the committee. ■

# Prominent polygamist pleads no contest to beating daughter

Hannah Wolfson  
Associated Press

LOGAN, Utah — A man accused of beating his daughter after she ran away from an arranged marriage to his brother pleaded no contest Wednesday in a trial that had many calling for a crackdown on Utah polygamy.

The plea came during jury selection in the trial of John Daniel Kingston, father of the 17-year-old girl.

"I feel like it would be in her best interest not to put her through more than what she has already gone through," Kingston, 44, told the judge as his daughter watched in tears.

The case had generated enormous interest in a state with an estimated 25,000 polygamists.

Although plural marriage was abandoned by the predominant Mormon church in 1890, numerous sects with Mormon roots continue the practice in defiance of a state bigamy law that prosecutors say is nearly impossible to enforce.

The daughter, now living in foster care, says her father drove her to a family farm near the Idaho line

in May and whipped her for disobeying David Ortell Kingston, 32, who had made her his 15th wife. He is facing incest charges at a June trial.

Under the plea agreement for John Kingston, prosecutor Jon Bunderson agreed to reduce the charge from second-degree to third-degree child abuse, which carries a penalty of up to five years in prison.

Sentencing is scheduled for June 29.

Though lawyers for both sides say the trial was not about polygamy, the Kingston clan is one of the most prominent polygamous groups in Utah, and the issues have become inseparable.

No large-scale bigamy cases have been prosecuted since the 1950s, when agents raided the town of Short Creek on the Utah-Arizona line. The incident backfired when the public, enraged by images of families being torn apart, protested and the state backed off.

But anti-polygamy groups say prosecutors should attack once more.

The clan led by patriarch Merlin Kingston goes by the name of the "Latter-day Church of Christ" and has about 1,000 members. The brothers are the sons of the clan's leader, who died in 1987. ■

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# Federal judge refuses to stop CBS broadcast

Paul Nowell  
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — A federal judge refused to block CBS's planned telecast Wednesday night of a hidden-camera report on alleged dangerous conditions and falsified records at a psychiatric hospital.

Charter Behavioral Health Systems, which runs 91 hospitals in 32 states, accused CBS of violating patient confidentiality by sending a worker into a Charter facility in Charlotte with a tiny camera on his eyeglasses.

The health group's request for a temporary restraining order was denied just hours before the segment was to air on CBS' "60 Minutes II."

Using the hidden camera, clinical worker Terrance Johnson allegedly documented cases of falsified records and patient mistreatment, such as a physically restrained boy left gasping and

crying.

In arguing its case, CBS News officials said patient confidentiality was not compromised by the "60 Minutes II" report because the faces of those filmed were blurred and their voices altered.

Despite that, attorneys for the health system said several patients were worried they might be identified in the report.

"Simply blackening out their faces and disguising their voices won't prevent a patient's family and friends from recognizing that person," said Karen Popp, an attorney for Charter. "Their identities will be exposed."

John Wester, another Charter attorney, said CBS committed a crime by using the hidden camera. He said the program also violated patients' privacy.

"There's no doubt that when an individual enters a psychiatric hospital, the events that occur are his or her private matters," he said.

CBS attorney Lee Levine said the report needed to be broadcast

because it raised important questions about the quality of care at psychiatric hospitals.

U.S. District Judge Graham Mullen expressed concern that laws might have been broken in assembling the hidden-camera report, but said he had no choice but to deny the motion.

"It appears to this court that the Supreme Court has elevated press powers to the point where prior restraint is all but impossible to obtain, even when the press sets out to commit a crime," he said.

"Certainly, the press is not free to commit a crime ... but even if they did, it does not give me the opportunity to shut it down."

Charter attorneys said they weren't sure if they would appeal.

The dispute with CBS comes two years after a North Carolina jury ordered ABC to pay \$5.5 million for using the technique in an investigation of the Food Lion supermarkets. The award later was reduced to \$315,000 and is still under appeal. ■

# Global warming might make El Nino-like conditions permanent

Malcolm Ritter  
Associated Press

Conditions like El Nino might settle in almost permanently if global warming gets bad enough, making climate disruptions such as droughts or excessive winter rain essentially the norm, a computer study suggests.

That might happen around the year 2050 if nothing is done to control emissions of carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases, said researcher Mojib Latif of the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology in Hamburg, Germany.

El Nino is a natural phenomenon that involves a surface warming of the eastern and central Pacific Ocean around the equator. It happens every three to four years on average. It can disrupt climate around the world, producing extra rain in the southeastern United States and in Peru during the winter, while causing drought in the western Pacific, for example.

The computer simulation suggests that

restrained global warming could set up the same kind of pattern in ocean surface temperatures, but as a more or less constant condition.

Latif and colleagues report their findings in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature.

Essentially, the study suggests that the Pacific would warm more in the east than the west. That's because the western part is already so warm that with further heating it would spawn clouds that provide cooling shade, Latif said.

The El-Nino-like temperature pattern might be broken every five years or so by a strong cooling like the periodic phenomenon called La Nina, he added.

Latif said scientists have "a long way to go" before they can be sure the study's conclusions are correct.

Gerald Meehl of the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo., agreed it will take more study to understand how global warming might affect El Nino. Studies have disagreed on whether the warming would produce the El-Nino-like Pacific surface temperatures, he said. ■

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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

## Editorial

### Stop the violence: Valuing children may help them value others

Twenty-five people were shot in a Littleton, Colo., high school Tuesday. Fifteen of them died: 12 students, a teacher and the two gunmen.

The two gunmen were students at the school.

News of the breaking story swept across the nation, monopolizing the all-news channels and punctuating the others with special reports, kicking Kosovo right off the airwaves.

The incident was called tragic. It also should be called, "all too common."

This is the seventh major school shooting in the last 18 months. Tuesday's scenes on the television brought back memories of Pearl, Miss.; Jonesborough, Ark.; Paducah, Ky., and others.

If it seems that tragedies like this just don't happen around here, think again. A student at Lincoln County High School in Fayetteville, Tenn., was fatally wounded last year when shot by a schoolmate in the parking lot, allegedly after a dispute concerning a girlfriend.

Why is school violence escalating to new heights?

Maybe kids today are more troubled. Maybe they are less disciplined. Maybe the parents are to blame. Maybe they're not.

Is there a way to stop it?

Maybe all schools should step up their security systems. Maybe school uniforms and clear backpacks should be required. Maybe the in-crowd should be nicer to the outcasts.

Answers to questions like these are not easy to find. In fact, they may not even exist.

Awareness, however, might be the key. Isn't it scary to realize that the gunmen always wore black trenchcoats to school, were often adorned with Nazi symbols, often played "war games," spoke to each other in German and admired Adolf Hitler?

Although they have the freedom to believe what they want, signals such as these should have been taken more seriously at least by the adults who interacted with them.

President Clinton urged parents to shield their children from violent acts and experiences and to set a good example by resolving conflicts peacefully.

But perhaps another idea is to really pay attention to children. Don't dismiss what they are going through as unimportant and trivial. Don't ignore them.

Listen when they say things. Care about what they think. Always show them love, compassion and understanding.

Maybe when children feel they are valued people, they will begin to value others around them.

Maybe then the violence will stop. ■

## In today's society, lawsuits are an American tradition

Sienna Crawford  
Illinois State University



Americans like to sue one another.

Americans like to sue each other almost as much as the rest of us like to sit back and

watch the carnage - just ask Judge Wapner or Judge Judy or Judge Mills Lane or Judge Joe Brown.

We sue because neighbors won't shut up, because unwitting cashiers accidentally give incorrect change, because stupid teen-agers can't drive and because McDonald's serves scalding hot coffee.

Greedy shoppers hunt out items to trip over in busy grocery stores so they can run to Dr. Nick Riviera for treatment and Lionel Hutz, Esq. for legal representation.

Minor traffic accidents have turned into veritable gold mines and virtually every item imaginable has a warning label attached to it. Windex warns against cleaning contact lenses with the potentially blinding solution. The windows on the top floor of Watterson Towers come complete with a sticker that advises against pushing and leaning into the glass.

While lawyers across the nation reap the benefits of a saturated market and the pitfalls of modern life, we continue to play

the blame game like immature schoolchildren. Essentially, that's what it comes down to - blame.

And - oh yeah - lots of money.

People can't admit they may in fact be responsible for tripping over their own feet. We just can't reconcile that sometimes accidents do happen, or in some cases, people are evil to one another just because they have that power.

Three families in Kentucky (understandably) can't accept that the lone gunman who shot down their children was in fact - lone. A year after the perpetrator was sentenced to life in prison without parole for killing three students at a prayer meeting, their families are suing various Hollywood forces to make them responsible as well.

It seems Michael Carneal, the 14-year-old who stole a gun in 1997 and shot three of his classmates, also enjoyed Internet porn, violent video games and Leonardo DiCaprio movies.

The families are asking for \$130 million from various entertainment companies because, apparently, the industry has become an unwilling accessory to Carneal's crimes.

This case is particularly peculiar because, unlike the Nevada molestation/murder case going on right now, the defendant isn't asserting Internet porn and evil video games caused him to act. It's the victims' families playing the blame game

this time.

To most, the idea a movie would cause an otherwise normal 14-year-old boy to kill three people is preposterous. The 14-year-old boy didn't even try to say so.

"We intend to hurt Hollywood. We intend to hurt the video game industry.

"We intend to hurt the sex porn sites," Jack Thompson, the attorney for the plaintiffs, said.

Well folks, I'm sorry to say it, but suing not one but several entertainment providers for a mere \$130 million isn't going to hurt too much...nor will it bring back any of the children...nor will it even ease any of their pain.

The prosecution alleges a scene in "The Basketball Diaries" inspired the violence Carneal unleashed. This top-down argument makes no sense - thousands of relatively sane teen-agers watch that very film every year without following up on some need to kill their fellow classmates.

This is not to say "The Basketball Diaries" is an appropriate film for children to watch, but no one will ever say the sole purpose of the entertainment industry is to baby-sit preteens. We have video games for that.

But then the video game industry is to be punished in this case as well - another moot point. Violent video games have been a concern since the Atari, but if parents think the games are too violent, they don't have to supply them for their kids. Kids can't buy

violent video games, they're too expensive. Parents purchase them so their kids won't stop loving them.

Most teen-agers do have their own money, but mentally balanced 14-year-olds won't go around shooting people just because the guy in "Redneck Road Rage II" did.

Obviously, Carneal had some other mental defects which led to him kill other teen-agers with a stolen pistol. What they were isn't an issue, or even interesting; what is an issue is that he's now in prison and won't get out.

To put it simply, the entertainment industry cannot, and should not, be held responsible for a murderer's actions. Making such an assumption would compromise the judicial system and the principles of living in an almost free society. Senseless acts of violence occur in the most oppressive of regimes, with or without porn sites.

The solution to our litigation problem will only come when people get over the get-rich-quick schemes and "you owe me" attitude.

Placing restraints on certain industries, or the legal system, will only cause more problems.

The whole point of the Freedom of Speech clause of the 1st Amendment is to ensure a free exchange of ideas; if some of those ideas just happen to be uncomfortable, or showcase Leonardo DiCaprio in black leather, we do have to allow them. ■

## Credit requirements made too easy

Angela Murphy

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Welcome to the University. We want your academic experience here to be as valuable a learning experience as possible.

Effective now, (unless you were born in an odd year under a full moon or have a personal identification number ending in seven), these are the requirements for graduation.

All questions should be referred to the appropriate adviser. Your General College adviser will be happy to assist you in locating the appropriate advisers. You need to obtain an adviser in your major, in the College of Arts & Sciences and in your second major or minor as applicable. Instructions for locating advisers can be found in the Undergraduate Majors and Advising manual, available on the Internet.

Unfortunately, the site is down for routine maintenance or a database update.

Basic English requirement: each student must complete Conversation 101 and 102, unless you learned to speak coherently in high school, in which case you must take at least two levels of an argument class numbered with as many toes as you can find on a chicken. These cannot be counted toward major credit, and they might not count toward graduation, depending on what day of the week you ask.

If your high school principal was bald, you are exempt from the aesthetic requirement, but must take a pre-Civil War postmodernism class of your choice, as long as it is from a department outside your major and numbered in such a way as to exclude all possible prime numbers and derivatives thereof. If your principal was not bald and you have a drivers license, you are required to complete the aesthetic perspective as detailed on page xxxiiv of the Handbook from Hell.

All students are required to complete a study of foreign language. If you choose to continue in your high school foreign language ("high school foreign language" being defined as two or more years of a language not found in graffiti on rest room walls in your hometown), you must complete the language through level three. The

exception is Pig Latin, which must be taken through level 10.

All classes will receive three hours of credit, unless that class section meets more than three hours per week, at which time the number of credit hours will be determined by adding the number of basketball games won that year to the total number of students in the class and dividing by the cumulative grade point average of the student whose middle name is closest to "Clyde."

Mathematics is an important real-world skill that we here at the University take very seriously. All students are required to demonstrate proficiency in math they will never use, through level (45/67)-[90+(876/4)].

Whoop-de-do for you if you were smart enough to take the Advanced Placement test. Students are required to take Math 10 or the equivalent foreign language course to graduate. These courses will be taught in broken English, with an emphasis on group problem-solving.

All students must complete the Western/Non-Western/Eastern/Cardinal-Directions 'R' Us Comparative Perspective. Two courses must be taken, one of which must cover at least one country on the same latitude as Zaire, unless it occurs to you that no one knows what latitude Zaire occupies, let alone how to figure this requirement out.

The other course can be chosen from any of the remaining classes in the Department of History as long as it is pre-1700 and covers the basics of World War II.

Physical education is the basis of good health and a primary facet of your education. You are required to take two credits of physical education, one of which must be underwater basket-weaving (Note: There is a surcharge for this class unless you already own your own scuba equipment or can provide proof of state residency in your family for at least 15 generations).

These hours are not counted toward graduation, but they will affect your total GPA. Your scuba equipment will spontaneously combust if you have any outstanding parking

See CREDIT, page 7

## COLLEGE PRESS



## Hate crimes are unacceptable

Jason Miller  
Illinois State University

I hate a lot of people. I hate individuals without humility. I hate slow drivers. I hate middle class people who complain about not being rich enough. I hate people who push buttons on elevators more than once. I hate those who do not win. I hate people who impose their opinion on others and who do not know when to shut up. I hate you, and the person next to you.

I hate people for all sorts of reasons, but one thing I do not do is hate people for stupid, superficial reasons like ethnicity, gender or sexual preference. I believe that if you take the time to get to know someone, you will find plenty of good reasons to hate them.

While prejudice is reprehensible, I do not believe crimes committed because of prejudice should be any more important than other crimes. Hate crime laws are

unnecessary. I do not want to be misunderstood; I am not condoning bigotry by any means. I still think individuals who discriminate should be social outcasts.

I just do not think ignorance should be a crime.

Hate crime laws are a value judgement of a crime's motivation. The laws send a message there are acceptable and unacceptable reasons to commit a crime.

Society already forgives those who murder an abusive parent or lover. Is it anymore acceptable to commit crimes against criminals, poor people or unpopular ethnicities?

Though hate crime cause more serious problems than simply sending a negative philosophical message.

Hate crime laws provide certain segments of the population more protection than others. No individuals

See HATE CRIMES, page 7

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## From the Mailbox

To the Editor  
In response to the articles "From The Heart" and "Discrimination Clause Will Make MTSU a Joke" in Thursday, April 15.

First of all, let me just deal with the color issue. Yes, we all know that blacks, African-Americans, whatever it is WE are being called now (yes, I'm black) have suffered too much discrimination and have made it through. Even today, many of us are still discriminated against, not only by white folks, but also by jealous black folks. Lift me up, don't pull me down.

Now on to the matter at hand. I am a young black man who stands strong and proud of who and what I am. Yes, I said what: I'm not only black, but I am bisexual as well. Talk about discrimination -- shit, that's a double whammy! Not only do I get discriminated against by people who don't know me, but also by people who love me and care about me, but that's a personal problem. Even in the church where I was taught to love one another, people began to discriminate against me once they found out that I wasn't exactly like them as they thought. I am attracted to handsome men and beautiful ladies. I don't know why. I just preferred it that way, and yet that's another issue. Back to the discrimination issue. Have you ever been

dissected because of what people thought you did behind closed doors? What people do there is supposed to be their personal lives, but if someone mentions that they are gay, then people start ASSuming the worst of things. And what is said about people who assume things: they make an ass out of themselves. Yes, you, you without sin, cast the first stone. Why did you put down your rocks? Did I say something right? Well, of course I did, and you know it.

Now, the issue about including the words "sexual preference" in the discrimination clause is something that I'm not really aware of even though I am a bisexual. All I know is that my mother raised me to take care of my own, and I would do exactly that. So far, I have not been discriminated against because of my sexuality on campus, but that's solely because the only people who know are involved in Lambda.

How can you say that the inclusion of two words "will make MTSU a joke?" Why do you feel that way? Discrimination is not a joke, and it is not only based on the color of your skin. I could care less whether or not the university decides to include those two words, but that's just my opinion.

Also, I know a number of minorities that live in Eagleville, and there are plenty in Smyrna. How have "gays," as referred to in From The Heart, cheapened Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream? Who has the right to

take a claim on a hero? He was not only a hero to black people, but a hero to humanity which includes all people no matter what.

The worst thing is stereotypes. People thought my sister was a lesbian solely because she chopped four inches off of her hair. She told me that she was tired of her "nappy bush" and it made her hot and uncomfortable. Not only that, but the fact that she was our neighborhood running back when we all played backyard/street football. My heterosexual best friend wasn't interested in playing ball so people assumed he was gay, but he's married with three beautiful children (my godchildren).

Erase the hate. Lambda is, in fact, about community, not only political issues. What's wrong with them writing positive messages on the sidewalks that washes away when it rains? Absolutely NOTHING. I think everyone is allowed to do that, but why condemn, threaten, or spread hatred by writing derogatory or negative statements? That's pointless and very child-like.

Grab Thursday's issue of Sidelines and open it to page 5 and read "Discrimination not Limited to Racism." In the words of another King, Rodney King, "Can't we all just get along?"

Thank you,  
James Thomas Lee  
ywjuan@hotmail.com

**HATE CRIMES**

continued from page 6

deserve preferential treatment from our law enforcement.

Rich people hire a team of lawyers and the public complains about an unfair legal system. However, rich people have the right to spend their money on whatever they want.

Hate crime laws will simply create a more subjective legal system.

The current hate crimes law bans only crimes based on religion, race and ethnicity. The Hate Crimes Prevention Act being pushed by Clinton right now will add the categories of sexual orientation, gender

and disability.

The additional categories are just the beginning. Frankly, if there are any hate crime laws at all, there should at least be more. Why are crimes against overweight individuals and abortion doctors not considered hate crimes?

Pretty soon, almost any individual will qualify for protection under a hate crime law. After this article, I may need some added protection.

Despite being morally wrong and potentially damaging, hate crime laws are also ineffective.

The laws are intended to prevent crime and alter public opinion.

However, punishing criminals after

crimes having been committed has not proven to help anything.

Statistics show that jail sentences do not work as a deterrent against any type of crime. Individuals ignorant enough to commit a hate crime are certainly not going to have the foresight to consider the consequences.

The way to prevent hate crimes is to educate individuals before it is too late.

President Clinton is backing a partnership between industry, education and our government to educate middle-school students and promote tolerance. Programs such as these need to reach people before their ideals are too deeply embedded.

Elementary schools first need to better educate students about other cultures of the world - a particularly weak point in American education. A better understanding of the other cultures will not only create more well-rounded children, but it will also reduce the amount of ignorance that causes stereotypes and discrimination.

However, lessons on world history alone are not enough.

Students need to be taught that stereotypes are all a part of being human. People automatically use stereotypes to categorize all the stimuli we receive each day.

If children understand stereotyping is

not always bad, they will be better prepared to handle their own instincts.

While some class on tolerance will not wipe away all of our problems immediately, more jails didn't save Matthew Shepherd or James Byrd.

It is not easy speaking out against hate crimes. This article is clearly the most controversial article I have written since I was brave enough to speak out against abstinence.

No matter how valid my argument is, many readers will simply disqualify my comments and label me a religious fanatic or a bigot. The fact that I am a white male probably does not help my argument either. ■

**CREDIT**

continued from page 6

tickets.

We strongly encourage students to take advantage of capstone courses. Capstone courses can be taken from any discipline as long as you have written proof that a famous alum took at least one class in that department when he or she was here. Prerequisites for capstone courses are waived, unless the prerequisites include other capstone courses or major requirements, in which case you must drink from a fountain - any fountain - on campus and hop on one foot in a circle while chanting "Go team, go!"

Students are reminded that

there is a restriction on hours that can be taken for credit in their major departments. In some cases, fulfilling the major might require going over that restriction, then the student is screwed and must take electives to reach 120 hours (actually, more than 120 hours because certain hours of the major credit are subtracted from the total hours earned toward graduation).

Students failing to follow the instructions spelled out in this literature and in the Encyclopaedia Britannica risk violating the Honor Code. Students found in violation of the code will be punished to the full extent of the code, which can be found on page 12.455 of the University-system Manual Overflow Notebook Guide. ■

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# FEATURES

Murfreesboro, TN

8 ■ SIDELINES

# Viva Venezuela

Brian Forrester/ Staff Reporter



Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, is composed of two cities and offers both contrast and beauty for visitors.

Staff photos by Brian Forrester

Staring at an orange orb, coloring the sky pastel as it sets over the ocean, causes me to reflect on my sojourn in Venezuela and long for another day in the country.

A person looking for a refreshing break from a fast-paced lifestyle might try Venezuela for a moment of relaxation.

The country is located on the northern coast of South America and features beaches facing the Caribbean Sea. The country's neighbors are Brazil to the south, Guyana to the east and Columbia to the west.

The landscape flows from equatorial blessed beaches to the foot of the Andes Mountains. It also hosts flat plains called Los Llanos, where cattle roam and anaconda and piranha share the water.

## CARACAS

The capital city, Caracas, boasts a population nearing 3.5 million people and a growth rate of 10 acres a day for new houses. The size of the city has influenced its modernization. Although, even with modern aspects, the city air carries the smell of diesel since cars are not mandated to have catalytic converters. The city also has a large commercial industry and boasts some of South America's most impressive architecture.

The growth of the city has produced numerous tin-roofed shanties, however, which speckle the red mountainsides. These shantytowns, with low standards of living, are starkly contrasted by very wealthy neighborhoods owned by former dictators, politicians and upper middle-class citizens. Its the contrast between the three-tiered class structure of low, middle and upper class that defines a developing country. For those born into poverty, there is little hope of ascending the social ladder to upper class.

Caracas is located in a scenic valley on the northern coast of the country. It is the birthplace of South America's liberator from Spanish rule, Simon Bolivar Palacios. Visitors can find his residence preserved in the center of a large commercial hub. Though Bolivar was exiled from the country and died in Columbia, his grave site is also located in the capital city.

Caracas features a very ornate plaza, built during the last dictatorship, which commemorates the contributions of national heroes. The plaza is decorated with ornate sculpture and fountains devoid of water. The landscaping of the plaza and maintenance of the site tells a visitor that to the people of Venezuela, this is an important place both symbolically and physically. Every Sunday a large stretch of road on the plaza is closed to traffic so pedestrians and runners may take advantage of the afternoon. This same strip of road is the site of Venezuela's independence parade on July 5. The president, along with the citizenry, witnesses the parade.

## ANDES MOUNTAINS

The Venezuelan landscape which surrounds Caracas rises into the picturesque foothills of the Andes Mountains. These mountains have numerous communities nestled into their valleys and hillsides. Some towns consist of only a few families and a dirt road.

People of this region remind travelers of a more simplistic time period. Though people may be without modern conveniences - several even without electricity - they live in a comfort their hands have created.

Some children have never set foot inside a school before and are clothed in their older siblings' pants or shirts. However, in their eyes there is an innocence some may say has been lost in the Western world of video games and a commercialized Santa Claus.

In a mountainside town, children laugh and run circles around Plaza Bolivar during the early evening hours. The children laugh and run gaily, unaware of who the statue bust memorializes. The town's men lean against a church in the predominately Catholic country, beer in hand, watching the children. Women spend time cooking food several using wood burning stoves instead of modern appliances.

The country enjoys fresh fruit year-round: melons, pineapple, bananas and watermelon. Natives both eat and blend the fruit into juice. A common site at a Venezuelan meal would be bread, pancakes, chicken, pork, beef and various stews. The country's national dish consists of shredded beef, rice, black beans, cheese and fried plantain.

The people of these small towns and farms, speckling the Andes, preserve a history of their country that is slowly dying. The younger generation is moving down to cities like Caracas and Merida, leaving the older generation to the only life they have known. Travelers will take away visions of beauty from both the Andes and the people who live there.

## MERIDA

The capital city of the Andean region, called Merida, shares the same name as its region. Merida, the capital, is well known for its collegiate environment. The city is an attraction for students interested in studying Spanish in a



Hammocks sway in the afternoon breeze waiting to offer tourist a comfortable afternoon nap.

cultural setting. The university offers students a chance to experience both the country and the language at an inexpensive price.

The town is a favorite site for travelers to visit. It has an airport with flights to and from Caracas, giving it easy access. Visitors can find several posadas, or hotels, to choose from for a couple nights' rest.

The city, nestled below the feet of two famous mountains, has a beautiful backyard. Pico Bolivar, the country's highest peak, overlooks the city along with Pico Espejo, which boasts the world's longest and highest cable car. For the traveler interested in unique world records, the city is home to the famous ice cream store, Heladeria Coromoto. The store is the proud home of over 600 flavors of ice cream.

## LOS LLANOS

The Llanos, "Serengeti of South America" as nicknamed by natives, spreads over several miles of flat land. The vast region is difficult to access quickly due to poor road conditions. For a traveler in a jeep with an ambitious driver the trip to the Llanos from Merida can be a very interesting, yet rough and exhilarating, ride.

The region is home to several large



Staff photo by Maiko Takasu

The MTSU Performing Arts Company rehearses the company number, which includes all members of the dance club. This dance was choreographed by Veda Whipple, pictured center.

## History that will sweep you off your feet

Amanda Virgillito  
Staff Reporter

Bored with history class? How about learning history in a fun and unique way?

The MTSU Performing Arts Company plans to make history come alive this semester. Their Spring show, themed "Time Tracks," will feature dance through the ages from primitive times to the present.

The show will run Friday, April 23, and Saturday, April 24, at 7:30 p.m. in Tucker Theater. Admission is \$2 for students with an ID, \$3 for non-students, and children receive free admission.

The show will start with the beginning of mankind. This was a time before words were ever used, and people used dance-like motions to communicate.

According to Anne Holland, director of the dance department, dance was the "mother of speech."

Dancers also plan to interpret ancient Egypt through dance and will perform tributes to famous dancers such as Isadora Duncan, Martha Graham and Bob Fosse. The show will cover each decade of the 20th century through modern, tap, jazz, ballet and hip hop styles of dance.

MTSU instructors contributing to the show include Anne Holland, Angela Armstrong and Lisa Lewis. Student choreographers include Valerie Hackworth, Nicki Russell, Lori Pyles, Leslie Loney, Christy Rose, Lisa Barley, Jamie Parker, Terri Summers, Vida Whipple, Alexis Michael, Katie Griffith, Andrea Gooch, Angela Gooch, Brandi Grenese, Leah Bass, Cindy Clemans and Seanna Parrish.

This will be the MTSU Performing Arts Company's last performance as part of the HPERS department. The dance program will become part of the speech and theater department next year. Anne Holland hopes this will increase departmental support for the dancers.

Anyone is welcome to join the MTSU Performing Arts Company, commonly referred to as the "dance club." The club meets Tuesdays from 6:30-9 p.m. in Dance Studio A. ■

## Music on the Knoll brings Tao Jones and Osadokos to campus

Courtney Asford  
Special to Sidelines

As students come upon the last week of school, many search for a way to unwind and have a little fun before summer, and Music on the Knoll is the answer.

Local bands and vendors will be at Music on the Knoll from 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday on the KUC knoll at a price anyone would love - free.

Larry Mignogna from MTSU's Student Programming said that the bands Tao Jones and Osadokos will be playing for the entertainment of the students. The jazzy sound of Tao Jones will begin around 3 p.m., and the mood will shift to reggae as Osadokos takes the stage at 4 p.m., Mignogna said.

Vendors will also be present along with various MTSU organization representatives to interest attending students. The Native American Heritage Society may also be present to perform as well as teach the art of Native American dance, Mignogna said.

The entire event should "have a festive feel to it," Mignogna said.

It is not definite at this time which organizations will be present during Music on the Knoll, Mignogna said. For more information, contact Mignogna at 898-2551. ■

**VENEZUELA**  
continued from page 8

farms, called hatos. The hatos mainly raise cattle, however, due to the size of the area and sparse population, the people must rely mainly on their own resources for living. Llaneros have a proud legacy of bravery feared even by the Spaniards.

Llaneros survive without electricity for the most part. Some homes have electric generators, but those are used sparingly. Typical houses of the countryside are made from hardened mud and thatch.

The Llanos plains are habitat to several exotic animals. The area's bodies of water are home to alligators, freshwater dolphins and the well-known anaconda constrictor snake. Travelers beware before entering the waters for a quick swim in this dry land. These rivers and ponds are also home to piranha, the meat eating fish. Another world record holder to view is the world's largest rodent, capybara, which roams the pastures in herds and is an agile swimmer.

Avid bird watchers would enjoy the diversity in species of birds the

Llanos has to provide. Home to over 300 different birds, the area is amazingly dissimilar in population. An afternoon tour in a native's boat down a river would produce countless sightings of different animals.

**A WORD TO THE TRAVELER**

Though Venezuela is an exotic country of adventure, travelers should be aware that the country is extremely poor. Outside of major cities the roads are poorly maintained, making traveling difficult in some areas. The people are warm and enjoy sharing both their culture and language. Many natives have warm smiles and friendly hands to offer.

In more rural areas, natives share their homes with complete strangers. To these people, "Mi casa, su casa" (My house is your house) is a way of life and not just a saying. When you think of panic pace lifestyles in the United States and obligations to the corporate world, remind yourself of a more simple place. Let a trip to Venezuela rejuvenate your soul with simplicity. ■



Obirow loads a burro with travelers' packs, preparing for a trip into the Andes Mountains.

ALEX & WAYNE



By: Andre Harris

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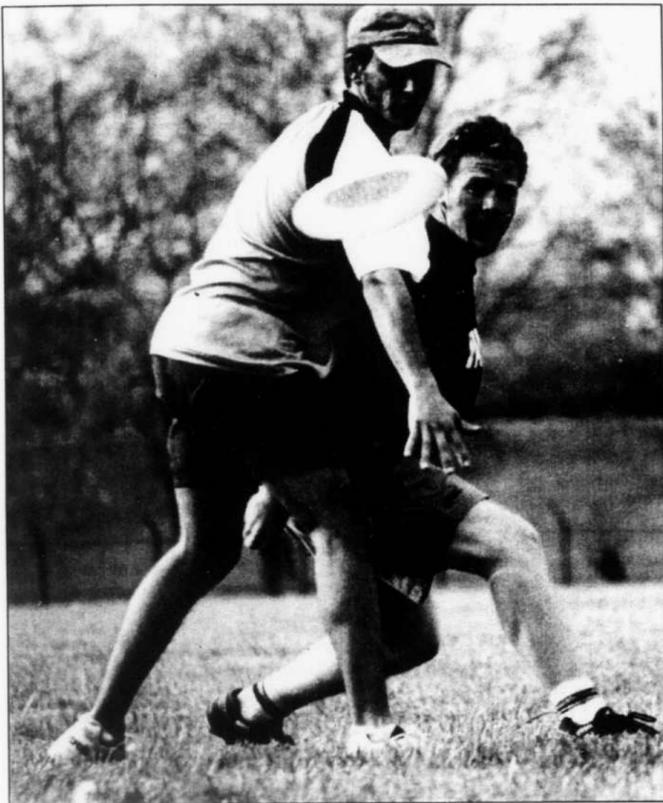
10 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

## Ultimate Frisbee



Top: Members of the Ultimate Frisbee team relax after a tough game. Right: Burley Grimes (in black) swings pass around a defender.



Photos provided

**Paul Bonner**  
Staff Reporter

Monkey Bowl tournament in Nashville.

The Ultimate Frisbee Club has been hard at work for two semesters getting in shape and learning the strategies of the game.

After a 15-year absence, MTSU rounded up enough Frisbee enthusiasts to put together a team. On April 10th and 11th, the Disciples of Disc were able to test their ability in the 11th annual

The team, 12 members strong, ran through four backgames on Saturday and two more on Sunday. After falling short to Vandy, they played an older, more experienced Nashville club team.

Next the DOD took on the University of Kentucky and finally Purdue. Even though Purdue went on to win their division on Sunday, MTSU put up an excellent fight and

had the Boilermakers on their heels with a five-point run late in the game.

After a night of rest and relaxation, the team came out fierce and ready for more Frisbee action against the Vanderbilt Medical team on Sunday. With the swirling winds, it was anyone's game and the DOD ended up losing two more heartbreakers.

Fortunately, the team held their heads high and continued their

practices this week. Practices take place every Thursday and Sunday night at the intramural fields.

Interested in learning more about a fast and incredibly fun sport? The Disciples of Disc will be active again next year and would love anyone and everyone to come out and play. For more information please call Eric Fraumen at 898-2811 or visit the team's webpage at [www.mtsu.edu/~ultimate](http://www.mtsu.edu/~ultimate). ■



**Josh Ezzell**  
Staff Reporter

## The first annual Sidelines All-NBA Awards

**Josh Ezzell**  
Staff Reporter

The end of this year's abbreviated regular basketball season is drawing to a close. This means that the play-offs and awards are near.

On behalf of Sidelines, I would like to present the awards for the Most Valuable Player, Rookie of the Year, Coach of the Year, Sixth Man of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year and Most Underrated Player. I will also give awards to the most surprising and most disappointing teams.

Unlike most years, in which Michael Jordan won the MVP award going away, this year's MVP award is up in the air. The five leading candidates are: Karl Malone, Alonzo Mourning, Tim Duncan, Shaquille O'Neal and Gary Payton.

In a close call, Shaquille O'Neal wins the award over Tim Duncan and Karl Malone. O'Neal's team has been erratic, but his 27.1 ppg average leads the NBA. In the end, his ppg average and his ability to dominate games gave him a slight edge over Duncan and Malone, respectively.

Surprisingly, this year's rookie class has been very productive. The candidates for Rookie of the Year include: Vince Carter, Paul Pierce, Jason Williams, Mike Bibby and Michael Dickerson.

Both Jason Williams and Paul Pierce have had great years, but Vince Carter gets the nod. His 18.1 ppg average, which leads all rookies and impact on the Raptors make him the obvious choice. Before Carter's arrival, the Raptors were one of the doormats of the NBA. Now the Raptors are competing for a play-off spot.

As usual, some coaches have fared well and some have been fired. A few of the former include, as the Best Coach nominees: Mike Dunleavy, Chuck Daly and Pat Riley.

All three have done great, but Dunleavy has done the best job of the three. With his leadership, Isaiah Rider and company have cast aside their egos and, as a result, Portland has a 30-10 record, which is tops in the Pacific Division.

The superstars are not the only ones that deserve recognition. The next award honors the lead bench warmer; better known as the sixth man. The finalists are: Darrell Armstrong, Rasheed Wallace, Latrell Sprewell and Terry Porter.

This award goes to former Tarheel Rasheed Wallace. Other sixth men, such as Latrell Sprewell, scored more points, but his inside play put him over the top.

Not all players get the recognition they deserve. Hence the most underrated player award.

Vancouver's Shareef Abdur-Rahim wins this award. He averages 23.6 points per game, which is fourth in the NBA; yet he has never been an all-star and he receives virtually no coverage from the press.

On the contrast is the award for the most overrated player.

This one was a toss up, but in the end New Jersey's Stephon Marbury gets the honor of wearing this badge of shame. In Minnesota, Kevin Garnett made him look good. In New Jersey, his true colors will shine through.

The candidates for Defensive Player of the Year include some old faces - Dikembe Mutombo and Gary Payton - and some new faces - Kevin Garnett and Theo Ratliff.

Ratliff and Payton have played well in tough circumstances (Ratliff with an injury-prone 76ers team, and Payton with a bad Sonics team), but once again, Mutombo has been the cream of the crop. His inside presence virtually eliminates any inside scoring.

Now its time to give out the last two awards: the most surprising and disappointing teams in the NBA.

In a no-brainer: the most surprising team would have to be the Portland Trailblazers. Who would have thought that Portland would be the leaders of the Pacific Division?

On the flip side, the most disappointing team would have to be the New York Knicks. New York was supposed to be a contender in the Eastern Conference, but bad trades and lack of chemistry have resulted in a mediocre season. ■

## The Great One checks out

**Michael Barrett**  
Staff Reporter

of eight consecutive MVP trophies. He also became the youngest ever to score 50 goals in one season. All this in just his rookie season.

In his second season he would win his first of seven consecutive scoring titles. He would also set the single season goal mark that year with 92, breaking the old mark of 76. He also scored over 200 points that season, becoming the only player ever to accomplish that feat.

Wayne Gretzky would go on to lead the Edmonton Oilers to four Stanley Cup titles in his nine seasons with the team. Also as an Oiler, he would win two Con Smythe Trophies (Playoff MVP), score more than 500 goals and 1,000 assists and win four Lester B. Pearson trophies, which goes to the most outstanding players voted on by players.

He was traded to the Los Angeles

Kings on Aug. 9, 1988. In Los Angeles, he would be a huge part of making hockey a sport that could be enjoyed anywhere and not just in Canada and the northern US.

During his stay in L.A., he would lead the Kings to their first-ever Stanley Cup Final. Then he would become the NHL's all-time leading goal scorer on March 23, 1994, when he scored his 802nd career goal to move past Gordie Howe.

After just eight years as a King, he was traded to the St. Louis Blues, where he would play just 18 games.

On July 21, 1996, Wayne would sign a free-agent contract with the New York Rangers. Here Gretzky would finish out his career and continue to add to his resume as the greatest hockey player.

This past Sunday, Gretzky would assist on a Rangers goal in his final

game. This would be a fitting way to end his career, because he notched an assist in his first-ever NHL game on Oct. 10, 1979.

Wayne Gretzky holds 61 NHL records. He has more assists than any one has at his career point. He won nine MVP trophies, more than any player has won in any sport. He also won 10 scoring titles throughout his magical career.

Wayne Gretzky did more for the sport of hockey than any other athlete this century has done for his or her respected sport. He is the main reason for professional hockey franchises in places like Florida, California and even here in Nashville.

The people in the crowd on Feb. 15 will agree: they saw the greatest ever hockey player and possibly the greatest athlete of all time. ■

## Vols, Blue Raiders will meet again

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. (AP) - The Tennessee Volunteers and the Middle Tennessee State Blue Raiders will renew their rivalry in a new three-game series starting this December.

The teams have met only twice before, splitting the games. But Middle Tennessee athletic director Lee Fowler announced Wednesday that the schools will play three games starting with the 1999-2000 season.

Tennessee will host the Blue Raiders Dec. 10, play Middle Tennessee at the Nashville Arena Dec. 15, 2000, and conclude the series in Knoxville in December 2001.

Fowler credited the series to Tennessee coach Jerry Green and Middle Tennessee assistant Andy Herzer, who played for Green in college.

"The two have remained excellent friends, which is a big reason this series is going to get under way," said Fowler.

Middle Tennessee won the teams' first meeting in 1988 in the opening round of the NIT 85-80, while Tennessee won 86-83 in Knoxville in 1991. ■

## Stars will shine in playoffs

**Michael Barrett**  
Staff Reporter

Professional Hockey fever has hit Tennessee.

The Nashville Predators were a huge success in their inaugural season in the NHL. They won more games than many experts predicted, and that was due in part to the great fan support. The Predators were in the top 10 in fan attendance in the NHL. The Predator's season ended Saturday night, but the NHL is just heating up.

Yes, it's time for the Stanley Cup playoffs. Sixteen teams will skate for the chance at Lord Stanley's Cup.

The New Jersey Devils come in with the best record in the East. They will face the Pittsburgh Penguins in their first-round match-up. The Devils are led by Bobby Holik and netminder Martin Brodeur. The Penguins will rely heavily on Jamir Jagr, the NHL's leading scorer this season. The Devils do not score a lot of goals, but they do not need to with Brodeur in goal. The Penguins will need some great goal-tending of their own if they will look to advance.

Other match-ups in the Eastern Conference Playoffs are the Buffalo Sabres against the Ottawa Senators. This should be the tightest series with teams equaling each other in four out of

their five meetings this year. The Sabres will go only as far as all-world goalie Dominik Hasek can carry them.

The Philadelphia Flyers will face off against the Toronto Maple Leafs. The Flyers will not have all star Eric Lindros who is out with an injury, but will look for John Leclair to step up in his place. The other series pits the Carolina Hurricanes against the Boston Bruins. Hurricanes goalie Arturs Irbe will look to continue on his great season and lead the Canes toward the Cup.

The two-time defending champion Detroit Redwings are locked and loaded and ready to make a run for a third consecutive title. The Redwings will come into the Eastern Conference Playoffs as one of the hottest teams in the NHL. They have been on fire since the trading deadline when they acquired Chris Chelios and Wendal Clark. Both have added extra offense to an already potent team. The Redwings are seeded third and will face another team with plenty of offense in the Anaheim Mighty Ducks. Teemu Selanne and Paul Kariya will need to score and score often and Guy Hebert will need to play great in goal if they look to upset the Redwings.

The Dallas Stars are the top seed in the West and own the best record in the NHL.

They will face the injury

plagued Edmonton Oilers. The Stars are led by Mike Madano and Brett Hull and will look to sweep the Oilers who come in with their two leading goal scorers - Bill Guerin and Josef Beranek - out with injuries.

The Colorado Avalanche will face the San Jose Sharks in their first-round match-up. The Avalanche will have no problem scoring goals and no problem stopping them with Peter Forsberg doing most of the scoring and goalie Patrick Roy doing his impersonation of a brick wall. The Sharks will need goalie Mike Vernon to play like he did with the Redwings two years ago, when he led them to the Stanley Cup title.

The Phoenix Coyotes will face the St. Louis Blues in their first-round series. Keith Tachuck will look to lead the Coyotes past the surprising Blues team. The Coyotes will be without all-star Jeremy Roenick, who is out with a broken jaw.

The Devils will face Ottawa Senators in the Eastern Conference Finals and the Dallas Stars will challenge the Colorado Avalanche. The Stanley Cup finals will showcase surprising Senators and the talented Dallas Stars.

When the ice is thawed and the crowd is silenced, the Dallas Stars will hold Lord Stanley's Cup high above their heads. ■

**The Hook-Up**

Commentary by Josh Ezzell/ Staff Reporter

# Big Sexy nashes Nature Boy

**B**ig Sexy's in the house!!! We'll discuss that and much more on this, the next-to-last edition of the Hook Up.

On a serious note, Rick Rude passed away; the cause of death is unknown.

Rick Rude 1958-1999. Nitro began with a tag team match between Scott/Steve Armstrong and Dean Malenko/Chris Benoit. The Armstrong brothers fought hard, but in the end "The Texas Cloverleaf" was just too much to overcome.

Are you ready to feel the bang? Goldberg was certainly ready, and he proved it when he confronted the champ in the ring and asked for a match.

At first Page denied "da man's" request, but he backed down when Goldberg got in his face. It was set: Goldberg would fight DDP for the belt.

DDP was not the only champ defending his belt. Rey Mysterio Jr. defending the Cruiserweight belt in a four corners match involving Psychosis, Blitzkrieg and Juventud Guerrera.

It was a beauty. Bodies were flying around, man it was great. The result was surprising: Psychosis won the match and the belt when he pinned Blitzkrieg.

Buff Bagwell was in action against Wolfpack wannabe, Disco Inferno. Disco put forth a great effort, but in the end Buff was "the stuff."

Bagwell's new enemy, Scott Steiner, had some comments for his former friend. According to Steiner, Buff is not a man, and he wasn't good enough for the NWO. The end result was this: "Big Poppa Pump" will fight Buff in the next pay-per-view.

In the next match, Raven faced former flock member, Kidman. There was no love lost in this one. Both men attacked each other like animals - but it was pointless. Benoit and Malenko interfered, guaranteeing a no decision.

Kidman's tag team partner, Rey Mysterio Jr., saved the day just as things were looking down for the former flock members.

With the help of David Flair, Rowdy Roddy Piper was able to pull one over on the Horsemen; I'll get to that later. In the process, Piper signed a match between "Big Sexy" and Ric Flair.

"The Nature Boy" didn't react too kindly to the news that he was going to fight Kevin Nash. He was so mad that he fired Piper - three times. Piper didn't seem to mind; let's find out why.

Flair battled "Big Sexy" in the next match. Nash dominated the match and went for the pin after landing a power bomb. Charles Robinson refused to make the cover, but Gorgeous George was willing to oblige. She made the count, and "Big Sexy" was victorious.

Flair was hurt afterwards and needed an ambulance. Piper was there all the way, taunting "The Nature Boy" and laughing. Nomedical help was given, much to the surprise of AA.

While nobody was looking, Piper shut the door, and Flair was on his way to the nut house. That's right. David Flair and Piper had him committed.

And now, for the main event.

Goldberg butted heads with DDP. Both men dished out a lot of punishment, but neither man was able to gain the momentum.

Page finally grabbed the momentum. Just when it appeared that Goldberg was going to suffer loss number two Nash entered and clocked the champ with a belt. The result was a no contest.

That's the last WCW column of the semester. Thanks for your support; I'll rap with you about the WCW next semester. ■

# Classifieds

## Notice

Sidelines recommends that you use discretion before sending money for any advertised goods and services. We recommend that you get in writing a full description prior to sending money.

Check out Collective Soul's new album, Dosage, in stores now. Featuring the hit singles "Run" and "Heavy."

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## Roommate

Need a roommate? Students with non-commercial interest may place ads at no charge in the Sidelines Classifieds. Come by our Student Publications office in the JUB room 306.

Roommate needed to share 4 bdrm, 2 ba apartment 3/10 mile from campus. \$265 per month, electric & water included. Call 904-7890

Female Roommate needed for summer. University Courtyard, fully furnished. Please call Jenny at 907-2185.

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## Looking for a first job in journalism?

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# Nascar: these guys are fast

Hank Kurz Jr.  
Associated Press

Ward Burton and Tommy Baldwin Jr. are just looking to keep a good thing going.

Burton's Winston Cup career appeared stalled before Baldwin came to Bill Davis Racing last September as crew chief. Although their first joint effort resulted in a 33rd-place showing in the MBNA Gold 400 in Dover, Del. - Burton's fifth finish of 28th or worse in six races - it wasn't long before Baldwin made a difference.

"We're trying to run up front constantly and learn how to run in the top 10 before we get in the top five, and then run in the top five before we learn how to win," Baldwin said. "It's a growing and learning process."

Burton followed his bad showing at Dover Downs with an 11th-place finish in Martinsville, Va., then ran second the following week in Concord, N.C. He wound up 14th or better in all but one of the last seven races of 1998, moving from 20th to 16th in the final Winston Cup point standings.

He's ninth after eight of 34 races this season.

"You've got to have those two clicking or nothing else is going to click," Burton said of his relationship with Baldwin. "He works good with me and never gives up. He brings leadership and is a role model to all the guys in the shop."

That's exactly what Davis had in mind when he hired Baldwin.

"Tommy brought a lot of enthusiasm, a lot of energy and a lot of confidence to the team that we didn't have before, and that's been huge," Davis said.

Even though Burton dropped two spots in the standings after a trouble-filled 27th-place finish last Sunday in Martinsville, he already has four top-10s in eight races - as many as he managed in all 33 races last year. And he very nearly won for the second time in his career, losing a late-race shootout to his younger brother Jeff last month in Las Vegas.

The 32-year-old Baldwin is modest - almost embarrassed - about the praise he receives for making Burton's Pontiac better than ever.

"It's just team chemistry," he insisted. "We've got a really good bunch of guys that are working with me."

He says the goal this season is a top-10 finish in points, something he could never have realistically considered in his last job with the underfinanced team owned by Junie Donlavey. Baldwin says Burton's consistency is a big reason to believe the team will continue its progress.

"Ward's done an awesome job for us driving this race car, keeping it in one piece, and everything's just clicking right now," Baldwin said.

The feeling that his team is

heading in the right direction makes it easier for Burton to deal with weekends that don't go so well.

"It's a lot of fun going to the race track," he said. "We went through some times where there wasn't enough positive around me so I might have doubted my ability."

"But if I've learned anything, I've learned to overlook those times and try to be positive and not let the negative consume me."

Baldwin helps there, too, keeping the team focused on taking small steps rather than a giant leap. And he knows plenty about winning from his days as crew chief when Winston Cup sophomore Steve Park was a Northeast modified driver.

"I've only been out here three years now, and I don't know half the stuff I should be winning races," Baldwin said of his Winston Cup experience.

Davis, whose only victory as an owner came with Burton behind the wheel in 1995, also is enjoying the team's ascent. It has moved from 33rd to ninth in Burton's three-plus seasons as driver.

"We've got everything that it takes to be one of the top teams in the garage," Davis said. "We've got the personnel. We've got the motor program."

"We had a hard time consistently racing to our potential, and this year we're doing that." ■

## NEW PARKING LOTS NEW LOOK NO RATE INCREASE

MTSU Parking Services and Campus Planning are working on the following projects to be completed by this Fall.

- A new parking lot on the site of the old heating plant (north of the Midgett Business Building), providing approximately 55 spaces for white-permit parking.
- A new addition to the gravel Recreation Center lot, providing about 97 spaces.
- A new road will connect this lot addition to 2nd Street, alleviating traffic from Rutherford Blvd. into 2nd, which converges at the intersection of 2nd and D Streets.
- A new gravel lot with approximately 100 spaces on Greenland Drive next to the Tennessee Livestock Center lot.

### PARKING PERMIT RATES TO REMAIN THE SAME

The rates for parking permits for the 1999-2000 school year will remain at \$65 for white permits, \$45 for green permits, and \$30 for black permits.

### RESERVED PARKING FOR SPECIFIC RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Traffic Committee also approved a recommendation that, starting this fall, there will be reserved parking for residents in Scarlett Commons (the new apartment-style residence halls), the Student and Family Housing Complex, and Greek Row - and all those residents must park in their designated areas. If a particular area is full, those residents will be allowed to park in the Recreation Center parking lot, including both the gravel and paved areas. If, however, these residents are parked anywhere else on campus, they will receive a ticket for "unassigned space." Special validation stickers for each of these three residential areas will be issued in order to identify the residents.

### ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS ON CAMPUS

This Fall, students, faculty, staff, and visitors will see:

- re-stripped parking areas
- new signage - Removal of the curb coloring is planned this summer, and by Fall, it is planned that all campus parking designations will be indicated by signage. New signs and pavement markings for parking permit designations will replace the colored curbs, as deemed appropriate. (Yellow curbs and fire lanes will be marked appropriately.)

MTSU Parking Services invites all suggestions and comments, which will also be forwarded to the MTSU Traffic Committee for review. The committee will meet again in the fall. To contact Parking Services, please call 898-2850.

This fall may also bring some revised shuttle bus routes to better accommodate the campus community. If you have comments or suggestions regarding the MTSU Raider Xpress shuttle service, please call Ed Barlow at 898-2415.



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