



SGA discussing ideas for university's future

Mary Anna Brown
SGA Reporter

A Student Government Association Senate meeting was held last Thursday to discuss plans for the upcoming fall semester.

Speaker of the Senate Josh Pounders conducted the meeting.

The main issue on the agenda was the status of MTSU pertaining to its students and campus life.

"Currently, MTSU has the reputation of being primarily a 'suitcase college'," Pounders said. "We feel students will obtain more out of their MTSU experience if we move towards a more traditional university."

Ideas were presented by Senate members in order to accomplish this goal.

"It was agreed upon by Senate members that one way to boost campus life is to be more active in the athletic program," Pounders said. "We hope to host school spirit activities on Friday nights and Saturday afternoons before athletic events."

"One suggestion mentioned was pep rallies to interact with players and coaches and show student support."

Another goal the SGA would like to accomplish is the beautification of MTSU's campus through extensive landscaping projects.

"We have a beautiful campus as it is now," Pounders said.

"However, SGA feels that with the addition of trees and flowers, MTSU's campus will further improve."

Pounders also spoke about adding a number of seats to the Senate.

"I would like to extend a portion of the Senate seating to representatives from each of the housing areas," Pounders said. "We need more influence on how we can make dorm life better, and students who live in the dorms provide the best source of knowledge."

"These students are also on campus 90 percent of the time so they have even more influence on matters concerning campus life."

David Fletcher, the senator representing the school of Mass

Communications and the news director for Channel 10, voiced the news station's support to the rest of the Senate panel.

"Channel 10 would like to be an active part in the SGA," Fletcher said. "We hope to have more televised SGA events such as scheduled meetings, interviews with SGA representatives and SGA sponsored activities."

Senate members also discussed the importance of extending library hours of operation to better aid students.

Tentative plans for the fall semester will be announced and implemented throughout the summer.

The next SGA Senate meeting will take place August 15 at the Foundation House. ■



Photo by James Evans | Staff Photographer

Getting the boot

Candi Russell, a freshman in the College of Education, was cited by Public Safety Wednesday afternoon outside Mary Hall for allegedly attempting to remove a boot that had been placed on her car by Parking Authority.

"She was attempting to remove the boot from her car," said Public Safety Sgt. Vergena Forbes, who responded to the call.

After learning she had a boot on her car, Russell called some of her non-student friends to assist her with removing the device, according to Forbes.

Forbes also issued trespassing citations to Russell's friends for being on campus and involved in the incident.

- James Evans
Managing Editor

Charity Walkathon to benefit 9-year-old

Mary Anna Brown
Staff Reporter

The Alpha Gamma Rho Agricultural Fraternity is hosting a charity walkathon for a nine-year-old girl of Dickson with the degenerative respiratory disease cystic fibrosis.

The four-mile walk will take place this coming Saturday at nine in the morning at the intramural fields in front of the Recreation Center.

According to junior Josh Laws, AGR Vice Noble Ruler of Planning, Michelle Walker and her family are in need of \$20,000 for sterile living facilities after her lung transplant.

"We hope to raise anywhere from six to 7,000 in the walkathon," said Laws.

Michelle was adopted by the Walker family when she was just a few weeks old and weighed only four pounds and several ounces.

She was born with the inherited cystic fibrosis gene and developed the disease as a result of malnutrition. Cystic Fibrosis is the most common cause of chronic lung disease in children, but early recognition and treatment can lengthen survival time and improve the quality of life.

Currently, Michelle has one and one-half lung capacity and will undergo a right lung transplant when one is available.

She has been on the transplant waiting list for one year and was given a two-to-three-year waiting period when she was accepted to the list.

"Her doctor is in Pittsburgh, and we could get the call any day now that they have a lung ready for her," Michelle's mother Billy Walker said. "We will be moving to Pittsburgh soon to be ready for her surgery."



Photo Provided

Michelle Walker

Insurance will pay for Michelle's lung transplant. However, it will not pay for treatment after her surgery.

The apartment the Walker family will be residing in after Michelle's surgery must be professionally cleaned and steril-

ized because she cannot be subjected to any kind of germs during the recovery of her lung transplant.

"There cannot be any traces of mold, bacteria or dust in the pipes or air ducts," Walker said. "Even the building has to be rel-

atively new."

Michelle's treatment expenses are the motivation for the AGR walkathon.

"Finding an immaculately clean living area and maintaining its sterility can be a costly process," Laws said. "We are hosting this walkathon in order to offset some of the expenses the family will incur."

Walkers in the walkathon are being sponsored by local businesses or have made donations to the Walker family. Michelle and her family will be attending, and Michelle will be presented with a check at the walkathon as long as she is healthy enough. Michelle said that she is "really excited about Saturday."

All walkers will receive a free t-shirt commemorating the event and will also be given free food.

According to Laws, the walker who raises the most money will receive a \$100 savings bond and a \$20 gift certificate to Logan's Roadhouse.

There will be a barbecue after the walk for everyone who comes to the event. Slick Pig is donating the barbecue, and Lewis Bakery and Bunny Bread are donating the buns.

AGR Member freshman Adam Moss will be participating in the walkathon.

"I am doing this to help this little girl out, and I care for her and her health," Moss said. "People that are able to stop by and lend a hand need to. I want to see her get better."

AGR Vice Noble Ruler of Membership Terry Moran, a junior, will also be participating in the walkathon.

"I feel that by walking, I have accomplished a goal for Michelle, AGR and myself," Moran said. "She is a special

See Walk, 2



Photo by Turner Hutchens | Staff Photographer

Mock trial team participants senior Rebekah Stephens, Kim Golden, Clyde Willis, associate professor of Political Science, junior Kyle Dodd and John Vile, chairperson of Political Science celebrate their recent successes at the Tuesday reception.

Mock trial teams driven by success

Turner Hutchens
Staff Reporter

A reception was held Tuesday to recognize the hard work and achievements of the students and coaches of the MTSU mock trial teams and to thank supporters.

"I'm glad we're getting to do this," said Kim Golden, student leader of team one. "It lets us show everyone just how much their support means to us."

"It's been a great year," said John Ralph Vile, head coach of mock trial and professor of political science. "It's been a great decade, really."

MTSU has placed in the top ten in the national tournament every year for the past nine years.

"And we only started doing it 11 years ago," he added.

This year both mock trial teams went to nationals, with team one placing seventh and team two receiving an honorable mention for coming in 12th place.

"This year we were only three points away from the final round," said Vile. "The only teams that beat us were the teams that came in number one."

Vile has high hopes for next year's teams and for the future of the program in general.

"A lot of the students are going to do it again," he said. "I think we could make up two winning teams just from the students who are coming back next

See Mock, 2

'Sidelines' editors chosen, plans underway for fall semester

R. Colin Fly
Staff Reporter

"Sidelines" will undergo several major changes beginning in the fall of 2000, following the Student Publications Committee's election of the editor-in-chiefs for the summer and fall semesters.

Returning as editor for the summer semester is junior Angela White.

Among the goals of the summer staff is to recruit a strong freshman class of writers.

"We have an orientation issue geared toward incoming fresh-



White



Evans

will be her first full semester in the role of editor.

"We were impressed with all of the candidates," said Jimmie

White said. "We want to recruit new staff members for the fall as well as the summer semester."

White replaced Randall Ford as editor in March after Ford resigned. The summer

Cain, chair of the Student Publications committee. "We decided that we would continue with Angela White in the summer."

"We were very happy with Angela's work in a very challenging situation and her own abilities allowed us to work [through the resignation of Ford]."

Cain also discussed what the committee looked for in choosing a qualified candidate for the editor in chief position.

"We look for a variety of characteristics, including experience, quality of applications, academic success and letters of recom-

mendation," Cain said. "We drilled the candidates with very pointed questions to see how poised and prepared they were."

White, a political science major with an emphasis in pre-law, has been on staff since fall 1998.

Current Managing Editor James Evans will assume the role of editor in chief beginning in Fall 2000.

Evans, a senior journalism major, plans to publish "Sidelines" in broadsheet format on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

"Our goal is to make 'Sidelines' more competitive

with other college newspapers in our region and in our division of the Society of Professional Journalists," Evans said.

"There will be less wire stories, more structure in the newsroom, stronger leadership and an increased staff working in conjunction with the professors in mass communication."

Evans and Student Publications Director Jenny Tenpenny Crouch are working on the budget for the fall, which will allow all issues to have full color on the front page.

Evans also said that "Sidelines" is continuing to take applications for editorial staff as

well as staff writers, photographers and designers throughout the rest of the semester and the summer.

Former editor Randall Ford added that White and Evans are both very qualified to handle the job.

"They've both proven to the university that they can provide the kind of leadership" needed to be editor in chief, he said.

Evans has served in various roles at "Sidelines" during his four years at the newspaper. He has also worked at the "Nashville Business Journal" and continues to freelance in his spare time. ■

On Campus

To submit an announcement for On Campus, come by the James Union Building Room 308. Due to limited space, some announcements with later dates may be held.

April 19-30

The Can Do Crew will be collecting used eyeglasses and lenses for the Lions Club. Donation boxes will be placed in Phillips Bookstore, Cope Administration Building, Room 217, Murphy Center Lobby and the Holmes Building. For more information, contact Karen Milstead at 898-5390.

April 27

The June Anderson Women's Center is sponsoring a free legal clinic from 7-9 p.m. The clinic is available to all MTSU students, faculty and staff. Appointments to speak with an attorney can be made by calling Candi Russell at 898-2193. Space is limited.

The ninth annual Ebony Awards Banquet will be held at 7 p.m. in the James Union Building, Tennessee Room. This banquet is dedicated to honoring individuals, organizations and departments that have made a difference in the lives and quality of life for underrepresented members of the MTSU family. Tickets are \$7 and will be available in the Multicultural Affairs Office in KUC, Room 124 this month.

April 27-May 1

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. is hosting "Y-Blu-K, Sigma Week 2000" on the following times and dates:

4-27 Display table in KUC with "Baby Blues" and "Sigmawaring War Against Cancer," Ebony Achievement Awards in the JUB Tennessee Room at 7 p.m. and an after-party at the Boys and Girls Club;

4-28 Community service at Spring Valley Community Center at 3 p.m., Movie Night at the LRC Multimedia Room at 8:14 p.m. and an open mixer at Haynes Manor Clubhouse at 10:14 p.m.;

4-29 Alumni Dinner at 12:14 p.m., "Steppin' In Style" step show at AMG at 7:14 p.m. and an after-party to be announced;

4-30 Cookout at Murphy Center Pavilion at 3:14 p.m.; 5-1 Faculty Appreciation in KUC, Room 322 at 3 p.m. and a Zeta Phi Beta Sigma Informational Meeting in the Hazelwood Dining Room at 7:14 p.m. For more information, contact Justin Harris at 898-1252 or online at www.mtsu.edu/~pbs.

April 29

The Middle Tennessee Psychological Association is

holding its spring meeting from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first floor of the Business/Aerospace Building. The meeting provides an excellent opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to present their efforts to colleagues from other colleges and universities. Papers on completed research, ongoing research or theoretical reviews are encouraged. The deadline for submission forms was April 17.

May 11

There will be a "Planning and Leadership Strategies for the New Millennium Seminar" from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost will be \$59 per person, \$50 for groups of four or more and \$20 for students. Featured speakers will include Earl Swenson, Nashville architect and holder of MTSU's Chair of Excellence in Urban and Regional Planning, who will present, "Focus on Planning: Considerations for Tennessee, the Region, and Beyond in the 21st Century;" and Dr. Mark Mendenhall, J. Burton Frieron Chair of Excellence in Business Leadership. For more information or to register, call Carol Puryear, Continuing Studies, at 898-2462.

Ongoing

The Lambda Association welcomes gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and straight students to general interest meetings every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in BAS, Room S301. Contact Tony Gowell at 867-3658 for more information.

The MTSU Peer Education Program is currently accepting new members. Credit hours are available. Applications may be picked up in KUC, Room 303, or call 898-5453 for more information.

The June Anderson Women's Center will be hosting a weekly support meeting, "Women: Food and Body Image," Tuesdays in the CKNB, Room 124 from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. The group is also holding meetings Thursdays titled, "Looking Forward," a support group for survivors of sexual abuse, at the same time and location. For more information, call Mary Glantz at 898-5725. All contacts are confidential.

The Student Pagan Organization holds meetings every Thursday in the second floor lounge of the KUC at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in

Wicca, Paganism, Shamanism or any other alternative spirituality is welcome. For more information, contact John Bryan at 907-3328.

Raider Victory Ministry and Champions for Christ are holding weekly Bible meetings on Mondays at 7 p.m. in Scarlett Commons, Room 317. Contact Delvin Pikes at 896-2348 for more information. They are also holding worship services on Sundays at 10 a.m. in AMG Alumni Gym. The service is open to students, faculty and the community. For more information, contact Delvin Pikes at 896-2348.

The MTSU Crime Stoppers Board is currently looking for people interested in joining its board of directors, especially graduate and undergraduate students. If you are a full-time student or employee at MTSU and wish to apply for one of these openings, pick up an application at either the campus police department or KUC, Room 303.

Students for Environmental Action invite all students to weekly meetings every Wednesday at 6 p.m. in Peck Hall, Room 201. For more

information, e-mail Lori Bruner at greenmind@home.com.

Cyber Cafe at Woodmore presents "Open Mic Night" every Monday from 7:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Part-time campus jobs are available in food service, catering, concessions, student patrol and dispatch. Interested students should contact the Placement and Student Employment Center in KUC, Room 328.

The Martial Arts Club of MTSU is holding weekly meetings in the Recreation Center aerobics room on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. For more information, call Billy Colepaugh at 898-2104.

The Murfreesboro Salvation Army has nearly run out of food, especially chicken and hamburger. They urge anyone who is able to donate food to bring it to the Salvation Army headquarters at 1137 West Main Street. Kathy Wheeler, business manager, said they also need salt, sugar and other condiments. For more information, call Wheeler at 895-7071.

Walk: Students walk for charity

Continued from 1

young lady who holds a special place in my and my fraternity's heart."

Laws is a friend of the family and has been Michelle's "big brother" for the past four years.

"Occasionally, I would take Michelle out to eat or to a movie," Laws said. "Whenever she had to stay in the hospital, her mom would let me know, and I would go and visit her."

Other organizations and schools have had fundraisers for Michelle, including the silent auction hosted by the Fairview Masonic Lodge.

"When we adopted Michelle, the doctors did not give her two years to

live," Walker said. "She is a testimonial of what love, prayers and hard work can accomplish. Michelle has come so far."

Michelle will celebrate her 10th birthday next Tuesday and is a fan of music and arts and crafts.

"I like the Backstreet Boys and Britney Spears, but I don't like N'Sync," Michelle said. "I like to go driving in the car and see the places around Dickson."

Walkers may sign up until the morning of the walkathon, and need to arrive early in order for registration to be done in a timely fashion.

If you are interested in participating or making a donation, call Josh Laws at 494-8633 or email him at Reed100655@aol.com. ■

Mock: Coach has 'high hopes'

Continued from 1

year.

"I'm sure that we will make first place one of these years. But even if we never do make first, it's more than worth it."

In addition to winning, MTSU now hosts the second largest regional tournament in the country every November, with 40 teams from various schools attending.

Vile said the educational benefits to the students are invaluable. He singled out Johnny McCraw, who went to the national competition with mock trial this year and was just accepted into Michigan Law

School, one of the top 10 law schools in the nation.

"It helps just getting the experience of being around lawyers," said McCraw. "I've also made a few connections just talking to the judges after the trial."

"One of the programs that puts a spotlight on MTSU is the mock trial discipline," said President James Walker. "Their achievements reflect a standard of excellence that we ask our students to strive for."

Vile extended the thanks of everyone involved to all those who had helped throughout the year.

"The liberal arts department, who gives us most of our fund-

ing, has been great," said Vile. "And this semester, we've received a lot of funding and help from the SGA."

Vile said he was most proud of the award for good sportsmanship, which team two won in the regional tournament this spring.

"It's easy to give high scores to a team you just beat," said Vile. "You guys, we're really good losers, we'll vote for you." But our team came in second in the regionals and was the only team to receive the award.

"That says a lot about the kind of program we run, and about the kind of students we have." ■

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"Open Mic Night" honors its loyal

Wesley R. Bush
Staff Reporter

Students converged into Cyber Cafe Tuesday night to see who had been voted the best performer, despite a day-long downpour.

Certificates were awarded to individuals who have participated in a weekly campus cafe concert called "Open Mic Night," in which students are allowed to display their talents in front of a wide-eyed audience.

"People are always saying 'there's nothing to do here on campus,'" said Jonathan Fletcher, a guitarist and vocalist who organizes the events. "Well, here it is."

First place for Favorite Female Singer was awarded to Mary Anne Beard for her skillful use of the guitar and ear-teasing voice.

Favorite Male Singer was given to a man simply known as "Roary," who played the guitar but also demonstrated his mastery of the harmonica.

Seth Hulbert and Emily Fulenwider were voted Favorite Duo.

Voted Favorite Instrumentalists was a group named "Page 80." Although there is no lyricist in the group, the music created demands from the back of the cafe to turn the volume up, which Fletcher was more than willing to do.

As the night progressed, empty chairs became scarce and room to stand slowly started to diminish, but the atmosphere remained laid back. So much, in fact, that when the winners of the Favorite Group award were asked if they call themselves "Sweet Daddy," one of the members quickly replied, "Sure, why not."

But musical artists are not all that perform on "Open Mic Night." The winner of the Favorite Entertainer award went to a student who calls himself "Dorf." His performance resembled that of a Broadway play mixed with a supple amount of poetry, mayhem and an artistic quality that even a mother would be proud of. In fact, his mother



Photos by Wesley R. Bush

"Open Mic Night" participants play for the Tuesday night awards show at the Cyber Cafe.

watched from the center of the room, listening to Dorf recite songs that he said she used to sing to him as a child.

"I come here because I love the music, and it lets everyone express themselves in ways that were otherwise not possible," he said.

Sue Yost, manager of Cyber Cafe, said that one of the reasons why "Open Mic Night" has become so popular is the loyalty of those who perform and those who watch.

"It may not make a lot of money because it's free," she said, "but it means a lot to the people who come to watch week after week."

"Open Mic Night" is available to all students who wish to display their talents, abilities and experiences. The production has



been open every Monday night at 7:30 until 10:30 since the beginning of spring semester.

Wednesday nights offer the same type of forum, but are open to disc jockeys and turntablists instead of singers and songwriters.

Fletcher said an acoustic ver-

sion will preside over the summer and the original should begin again in the fall.

"I hope that we'll be able to continue doing 'Open Mic Night,'" he said. "There's so much talent that performs here every week, and I'd hate to see people lose that." ■



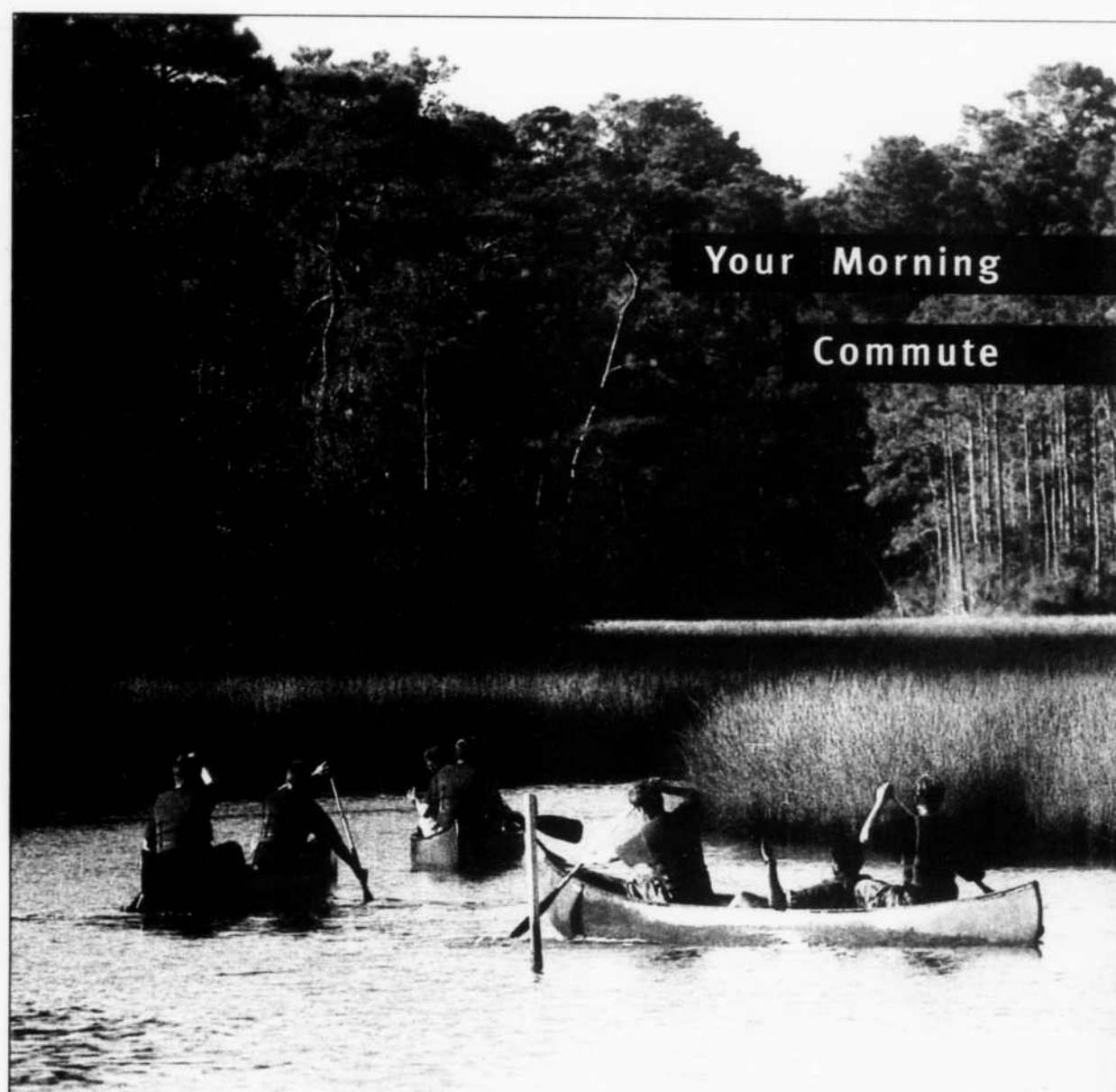
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COMING TO THEATRES MAY 5TH

Student leaders showcased at reception

James Evans
Managing Editor

MTSU's overachievers were honored Tuesday at the inaugural 2000 Student Leadership Reception.

The event was coordinated by Gina Poff, director of Student Development, and Maggie Prugh, coordinator of Student Development. The intent of the reception, Prugh said, was to hold an comprehensive award ceremony that would showcase all of MTSU's student leaders at one time.

"We know that a lot of departments and organizations have their own [award ceremonies]," Prugh said. "We thought it would be good to show what all our groups do."

The most prestigious award was the Outstanding Student Contribution Achievement and Recognition award — otherwise known as the O.S.C.A.R. award.

There were three nominations for the award — Charles Pierce, Brook Rodgers and Kealie Frazier. Frazier won the award which resembled the gold statue given at the academy awards.

When asked to make a few comments, Frazier told the audience "thank you" with a smile.

Thomas Roddy was awarded Outstanding President for his work as the president of Kappa Alpha Order. Student Ambassador Lisa Poepsel was given the Unsung Hero Award. John Harris, the director of Disabled Student Services, presented Synthia Greenwell and Maria Ramirez awards from his department, and Juli Heavener, the cheerleading coach, awarded various members of her squad. Heavener also shared a tearful goodbye and thank you to her cheerleaders because she is leaving her position after this semester.

The departments and organizations that participated in the



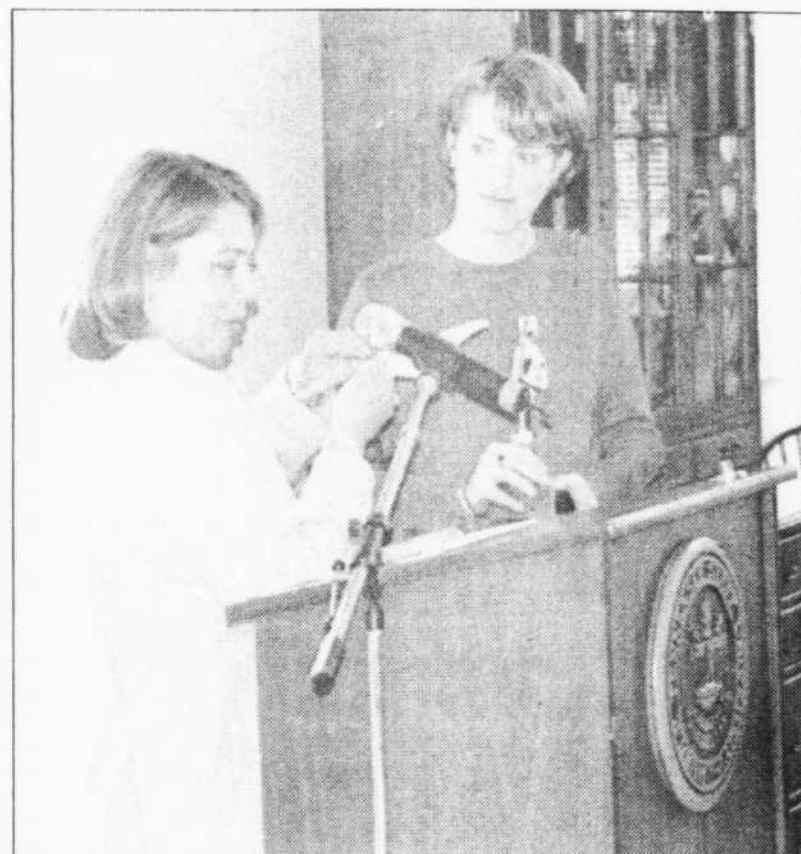
Photo by James Evans | Staff Photographer

Gina Poff, director of Student Development, hands off leadership awards to students at the Student Leadership Reception Tuesday.

leadership reception were also asked to put together display boards to be exhibited throughout the Alumni Center — where the reception was held — to show what the various groups

had done throughout this fiscal school year.

Prugh said they hope to hold a student leadership banquet every year from now on.



Metallica, Recording Industry Wage War Against Napster

James Boozer
Columbia College

CHICAGO (TMS) — One of the newest and largest online music-sharing sites, Napster, suffered a major blow April 13 when the rock group Metallica sued it and three universities for copyright and racketeering violations.

The suit claims that Napster, along with Yale University, Indiana University and the University of Southern California, encouraged the trad-

ing of copyrighted music over the Internet without prior permission from Metallica.

Yale and IU have since been dropped from the lawsuit after vowing to block access to Napster. USC, on the other hand, announced Friday that it will not block access, saying it will permit its students access to Napster "only for demonstrably legal purposes from designated university personal computers and under university supervision."

"It is sickening to know that our art is being traded like a commodity rather than the art that it

is," said Metallica drummer Lars Ulrich in a statement on the Elektra Records Web site.

"We take our craft, whether it be the music, the lyrics, or the photos and artwork very seriously."

Napster, a San Mateo, Calif.-based company that grew out of a dorm room at Northeastern University, allows registered users to search and download music directly from the hard drives of other Napster users. The files are stored using the MP3 digital format which allows them to be transmitted over the

Web. The MP3 digital files allow for the content of an average compact disc to be compressed to one-tenth its original size while retaining its crystal-clear sound quality.

Joining Metallica in its fight against Napster is the Recording Industry Association of America. The RIAA filed a copyright infringement suit against Napster in December of last year. They also support a new standard, the Secure Digital Musical Initiative, aimed at wiping out music piracy and establishing a copy-pro-

TECTED alternative to the MP3.

"We regret that the band's management saw fit to issue a press release — and to file a lawsuit — without even attempting to contact Napster," said Eileen Richardson, CEO of Napster, in a statement to the Associated Press. The suit marks a new chapter in this music battle by involving three universities.

IU blocked access to Napster in mid-February, but restored it last month after fixing its computer system.

See Napster, 5



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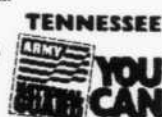
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Rapist's conviction raises questions about campus safety laws

Cornelia Grumman
Chicago Tribune

LINCOLN, Neb. — Like leaving a sinister calling card, the man would rape his victims the same distinctive way.

He hit tiny colleges, mostly in the Midwest. He wore a dark ski mask. He looked for young women sitting alone in music rooms or computer labs. He attacked from behind. When finished, he told his victims to pray for him. Sometimes he took their panties.

If not for the struggling screams of one victim, luck and maybe even a fluke, the man a Nebraska jury convicted last week of one of those assaults, 38-year-old traveling comedian Vinson Champ, might still be free.

Now, while authorities investigating similar attacks decide how to proceed with cases in their own jurisdictions, Champ's conviction raises questions about whether recent campus safety laws go far enough in preventing these sorts of serial rampages.

While citing the difficulty of tracking any serial criminal across a broad geographical area, some authorities speculate that schools' traditional reluctance to publicly disclose or share details about campus crimes might have inadvertently prolonged the spree of assaults in 1996 and 1997.

"I wonder whether each of these individual departments sort of looked at those problems as just being germane to their specific campus and didn't make the next connection that perhaps there might be a person who might be committing these crimes in a broader geographical area," said John King, president of the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators.

Already colleges and universities have come under fire for lax compliance with laws requiring greater reporting about campus crimes.

The Campus Security Act of 1990 and its 1998 amendments require all colleges and universities to report three years' worth of serious crimes and to keep a daily

log book for public inspection.

But conformity with that law, known as the Jeanne Clery Act in honor of a 19-year-old student who was raped and murdered in her Lehigh University dorm room in 1986, has been so negligible, particularly among smaller schools, that Congress this summer plans to start enforcing it for the first time by withholding significant amounts of student aid to violators.

"College is big business today, and they are afraid of losing funding in alumni giving or enrollments," said Connie Clery, who, with her husband, Howard, was instrumental in persuading Congress to pass the bill in the wake of their daughter's death.

"So this is why there has been such a tremendous cover-up situation. They're afraid to have the public know there is so much crime."

Beginning July 1, schools that do not report serious crimes to the federal Department of Education, and who do not open their daily incident books to the public within 48 hours of an incident, will face penalties of

\$25,000 per violation.

While students on campuses where the masked rapist preyed generally said they were quietly informed about the attack shortly after the fact, news of the incident rarely traveled far beyond campus.

"If you've got that free flow of information, the agencies can collaborate," said Daniel Carter, vice president of Security on Campus Inc., the non-profit campus security watchdog group founded by the Clerys. "That's the type of thing that when they keep it quiet, the public often isn't the only people left in the dark. Other agencies also are left in the dark."

That was true in other campus attacks that since have been linked either by DNA evidence or by characteristics of the attack. At Knox College in Galesburg, Ill., for example, news of an attempted assault Feb. 9, 1997, merited a brief mention in one Galesburg weekly, though long after the event.

"They (Knox officials) consider themselves sort of an island and private," said Norm Winick, editor of the Zephyr independent

weekly in Galesburg. "When anything negative happens they like to leave it as unreported as possible."

Sgt. David Clague of the Galesburg Police Dept. said no notice was put out about the attack because "that's just usually our policy."

Another nearly identical attack occurred the next day in a college music room in Kenosha, Wis. A week later, two more women reported separate campus assaults, one in Rock Island, Ill., and the other in nearby Davenport, Iowa. But it wasn't until April that authorities in Galesburg started connecting the Knox attack with those on other Midwestern campuses.

And Davenport authorities learned that a similar rape had occurred in Omaha only because two professors from the respective colleges who were friends happened to discuss the issue one day. Only a few of the investigating agencies reported details of the crimes to a national database maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"It's much easier for police

departments in the same state to communicate than those across the nation," said Ross Rice, an FBI spokesperson based in Chicago.

The schools where Champ allegedly found his victims were in small towns within driving distance of his college and club performances. From January 1996 until his eventual arrest in May 1997, the former "Star Search" contestant known for his Michael Jackson impression gave 80 performances in 17 states, according to his former Chicago-based agent.

Union College in Lincoln, which was the focus of trial testimony over the last week in a Lancaster County courtroom, still does not open its daily log books to the public, according to Dean of Students Joe Parmele.

"I wasn't aware we had to keep daily incident reports," he said.

At the University of Nebraska at Omaha, it was the victim, Heidi Hess, who first contacted the student newspaper to tell her story after she was assaulted in a third-floor computer room March 5, 1997, her mother said. ■

Napster: Metallica fights mp3 exchange

Continued from 5

Yale officials alerted its students in February to the requirements of federal copyright laws as they applied to Napster according to university spokesman Tom Conroy. "[The school] is firmly committed to

respecting intellectual property rights. We believe that the university has no liability to Metallica."

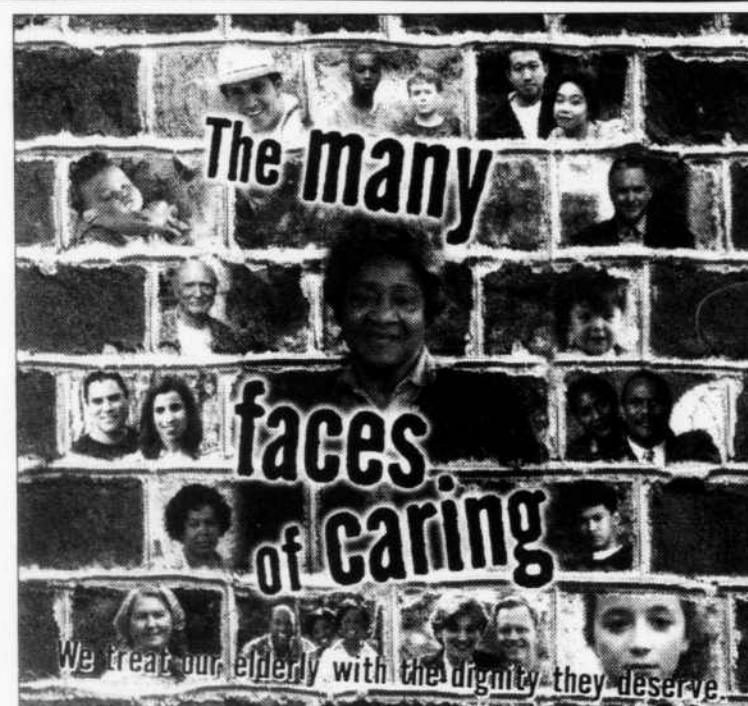
Officials at USC could not be reached for comment.

Metallica is seeking to have the Napster site shut down, and the RIAA is asking for \$100,000

for each copyright infringement. It is believed that the RIAA suit could force an amendment to the law governing electronic copyright issues passed in 1998. Napster has an estimate of 8 million users. ■

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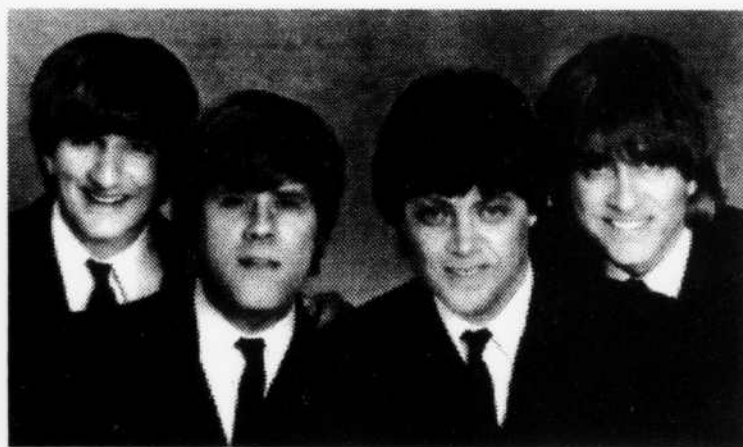
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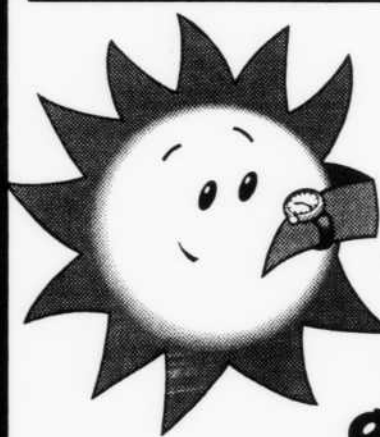
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A new chapter for college books

Todd Pack
Orlando Sentinel

Student complaints about not getting enough money for used textbooks are as much a part of college life as sleeping through eight o'clock classes or cramming for finals.

But used textbooks could soon become the stuff of history classes.

That's because publishers are working on replacing real textbooks with "digital books" — computer files that students would use and then, when done, delete. Some University of Central Florida students could be using them within a year.

Digital books, sometimes called e-books, already exist but are not widely used. Still, "electronic books will become much more popular in the next few years," predicted Karen Smith, director of UCF's Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning.

Smith is negotiating with several publishers to develop a pilot project that would put digital books in UCF students' hands by next spring.

Digital texts probably won't cost as much as bulky hardcovers because publishers won't have to factor in printing and shipping costs. Students would simply download the material from the Internet.

And because the books are digital — meaning they exist only as bits of computer data — publishers can revise the text each semester, if they choose.

They could also add sounds and video — features that would be impossible to include in a real textbook.

But best of all — from the publisher's perspective, at least

— digital books are disposable, and the files can be encrypted to prevent copying. Students could save a digital book for reference or delete it, but they couldn't let friends make a copy because the software would prevent it.

Right now, only a few titles are available electronically, and most professors and students still prefer real books to computer files. But publishers say digital texts may be commonplace within five years.

"You have a generation of high school students moving into college that are much more Web savvy" than even today's college students, said David Serbun, technology director for Houghton Mifflin Co.'s college division.

These Web-wise kids already watch movie trailers on their computers and listen to songs downloaded from the Internet. They've got satellite dishes, DVD players and Sega Dreamcasts.

Reading words on a computer screen is normal to them, Serbun said.

Digital texts are only the latest challenge to the venerable college bookstore. At the start of last year's fall semester, a gaggle of dot-coms started advertising on MTV, promising deep discounts on textbooks and even guaranteed buyback prices.

Some of the dot-coms are associated with bigger companies that operate college stores. Textbooks.com is owned by Barnes & Noble Inc., which runs the University of Central Florida's bookstore. Ecampus.com is a spinoff of Wallace's College Book Co., which operates CB&S Books, near UCF's campus.

Booksellers downplay digital

books' threat.

While it's true publishers could sell digital texts directly to students, bypassing the bookstores, that would be impractical, said Doug Alexander, vice president for strategic planning at ecampus.com, based in Lexington, Ky.

"When you go into a bookstore, you don't see books from just one publisher," said Alexander, whose company plans to offer e-texts in the fall. The online bookstores will let students buy books from different publishers at one site, he said.

Brick-and-mortar bookstores, meanwhile, are betting that digital books won't catch on big.

"I don't think it'll ever be just e-books. You're going to have consumers who want to hold the product in their hands," said Jennifer Russell, UCF's bookstore manager. "Whatever happens isn't going to happen tomorrow."

Still, industry experts predict that digital books will someday account for a good chunk of the \$5.6 billion-a-year college textbook business.

At the moment, digital books cost almost as much as ordinary texts. For example, Introduction to Economic Growth, an economics textbook published by W.W. Norton, was \$23.40 this semester from WiZeUp.com in the form of a 12-megabyte computer file. The 200-page hard-copy version was \$26.11 new, \$22.92 used, from ecampus.com.

Digital book prices may drop because they are less expensive to produce and distribute, but "I don't think people [publishers] are trying to save money right now as much as they're doing

research and development," WiZeUp.com marketing director Joshua Schainbaum said.

However, it's money well spent if it helps eliminate used texts, he said. Publishers loathe used books because they cut into the sale of new texts.

There's a relatively low markup on new books — 20 percent, on average. Meanwhile, there's often a 40 percent to 50 percent markup on ordinary books.

It's too soon to tell what the markup will be on digital books, industry experts say.

And digital books aren't common yet because there's no standard format.

Books from WiZeUp.com are meant for ordinary PCs, but even the slimmest laptop computer seems cumbersome next to NuvoMedia Inc.'s Rocket eBook, a \$199 gadget that's a little bigger than a paperback book and stores the equivalent of 4,000 printed pages — enough for a dozen college textbooks.

Another issue is that publishers often don't have permission to sell books electronically. "We own very few of the pictures you see in a history book," said Serbun, Houghton Mifflin's technology director.

Photo archives and authors generally want higher fees before they'll let their materials be published electronically. That, in turn, can affect the price of digital texts.

But it's "just a matter of time" before digital books become common on a college campus, said Alexander, the ecampus.com executive. "I think they'll be distributed in much the same way we're seeing used books, as just another choice." ■

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OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, TN

Thursday, April 27, 2000

SIDELINES ■ 7A

The West Wing

by Adam Tune, staff columnist

Larry's dead

Robert Glenn Coe deserved to die, but Davis was murdered

On Wednesday of last week approximately 60 people marched to the Metro Police Department to voice their opinion about what happened to Larry Davis April 9.

For those of you who don't know the story of Larry, here it is. On the night of April 9, a metro police officer pulled over Larry for speeding.

The officer noticed that there was a bag in the car that contained many dollar bills. The cop wrote him a citation and then said he could go.

When another cop showed up, he started questioning Larry. Then the cops noticed that Larry had another bag in his car that looked like it contained a brick of drugs. The cops asked if Larry would give them the bag, and he agreed.

Then he just changed his mind and put the car in drive. One of the cops was standing in front of the car when Larry did this. Both he and the policeman to the side of the car opened fire on Larry killing him.

When the police searched the car later, they found two bricks of cocaine. What they did not find was a gun. They did not find a weapon of any kind.

This story seems to come right after our first execution in 40 years. People are saying that both of these murders were wrong. That is not true.

One was killed, and one was murdered. Larry Davis was the one that was murdered.

There was no gun on the scene. There was no hint of a weapon. The two police officers just opened fire on this man for no reason.

Why didn't they just shoot the tires?

Why didn't they point the gun and give him a warning?

Why didn't they chase him?

We can ask question after question, but the bottom line is that this man is dead because of two foolish police officers.

No one deserves the right to murder someone. Our state courts do not have that right. Our legislature does not have that right, and Governor Sundquist doesn't have that right. Why do police officers have that right?

Where in the Tennessee Constitution does it say, "Don't drive off, or we'll shoot!"

I agree with the protestors that stood outside of the police department. These men should be taken off the force, and our officers should obviously be trained better.

Robert Glenn Coe deserved to be killed, and he had a chance to defend himself in court. Larry Davis was murdered, and he will never have a chance for anything. ■

From the Staff

SGA needs to get to work

Josh Pounders, speaker of the Student Government Association Senate, has made it the goal of his office to push for more student involvement to make MTSU less of a "suitcase college."

On the whole, Pounders' ideas and those of his senators sound great.

The Senate wants to focus on athletic programs and do things such as sponsoring pep rallies before the various games.

Pounders also wants to address things such as campus beautification and campus life.

He seems to have detailed plans

for accomplishing all these things.

Let me say this before I go on.

I think all of these areas are important, and I support the SGA and the Senate in their endeavors. Still, as a senior I've heard all of this stuff before, and I'm hoping that for once, the student government will follow through with its promises.

Maybe I'm being overly optimistic and naive to expect my government will actually do what it promises, but these are our future politicians, and they should be trying to improve our system — not conform to it.

Part of me feels that I am just being bitter after the less than adequate performance of this year's SGA administration.

Thinking back, the only thing it did that stands out was the Blue/White Card program for students with high grade point averages.

Beyond that, I can't credit one thing this years SGA did that changed student life for the better.

I hope I won't feel the same way next spring.

James Evans
Managing Editor

Modern Dysfunction

Social censorship plagues free thinkers

by Rob Evans, staff columnist

"Treading on another man's opinion is the worst form of social censorship."

I would like to think that is an original quote from yours truly. Although it may be an original quote, it is most definitely not an original thought.

Even though we in this country are free to speak our opinion, we are not free from persecution of those ideas.

Whether it is in a dorm environment, around campus or the world in general, there are people who don't want to hear the other side of the story.

In Washington D.C. hundreds of protestors were arrested for their feelings that globalization is a bad thing.

True, they were arrested in a "no protest zone," but that zone wouldn't have been in place if the police and the U.S. government hadn't been adamantly against protests.

It seems that our leaders would like to show other countries that Americans are for free world trade and for a global economy.

Too bad we aren't.

Yet, if the protestors aren't in sight, they aren't in mind.

But chastizing someone's opinion hits home on a very local note, too. In the not-to-be removed past, a student pagan organization on campus was heavily criticized while their "sidewalk art" -- which was meant to recruit new members -- was written over by a campus Christian organization.

I consider myself a Christian, but where is it my judgement to decide who goes to hell?

Where does it become the right of someone else to tell me that everyday in neon chalk on the sidewalk?

Christians lead their lives by example, not by words. Yet it seems that no one else even wants to go against the grain because of fear of retaliation.

Tell me you are letting other opinions flow freely.

Tell me that while this country is majority rule, there are not laws protecting the rights

of the minority thought.

Yet even that has raised issues of free expression.

It seems that more and more this country is heading towards minority rule. I am not talking about race, but thought.

There are groups of people who have the least-supported opinion running this country.

In recent polls among university faculty across the country, some of the respondents felt that in one way or another we have to many freedoms.

A third of these faculty were in favor of limiting what a person can say about another culture, what a musical artist can sing in his songs, what kind of information we can read about.

While I agree that some of the above mentioned are bad, I don't agree that it should become common thought.

Living in a homozygous society where "we all dress the same, and talk the same" would suck. ■

Letter to the Editor

'College Life' does not support illegal activities, only light-hearted laughs

In response to some recent remarks about a segment that dealt with the parking authority: The college life staff would like to respond to some recent negative propaganda that has been brought against the "College Life" show on MT 10.

It seems that some particular viewers were upset about our comic segment relating to the parking authority. In fact, some particular viewers considered it "appalling" and said our show "was the work of amateurs." They even accused us of "un-newsworthy content."

Well, we have to agree.

College Life is the work of amateurs and is not news. To most people, it is a comedy-based show that gets to the heart of campus issues by interviewing a diverse group of people.

Some upset viewers claimed that we were promoting and even "gloating" about a college student's illegal action of parking in a handicapped parking spot. We do not promote illegal activity in

any fashion.

What we do promote is the rights of students and their ability to exercise those rights by sharing their opinion through the medium of television.

We feel that some viewers misunderstood the difference between allowing an upset student to share her opinion about a campus issue and promoting illegal activity.

If we did not make that absolutely clear in the parking authority segment, we apologize. Please be patient with us. Again, we are merely amateurs.

We also feel that some viewers took us seriously when we showed students trying to remove a boot from a car.

First of all, we would like to inform our viewers that we had permission from the owner of the booted car to do so.

Secondly, if we had caused any damage to the car, we would have taken responsibility for our

own actions.

We would not have allowed the "university television station, which is funded by the university, which is funded, at least in part, by the students" dollars pay for damage caused by us. That would be unethical.

If some people cannot understand that we were only pretending to remove a boot from a car by looking at it, talking about it, shaking it and ultimately throwing tic tacs on it, we feel very sorry...for them.

Some viewers even tried to correlate several comments of the segment to racial epithets. In our opinion, that would have to be quite a stretch. We were even accused of resorting to "overused and offensive Nazi imagery."

We are sorry if we showed one remark of one student who in fact was not serious about his comment.

What everyone on both sides of this issue must

understand is that the same rights that empower our angry viewers to profess their opinion against us gives others the rights to share their views as well. If we did upset anyone of German or Jewish race, we deeply apologize and hope you now understand that was never our intent.

In all, we do apologize if some viewers associated with this "prominent educational institution" could not distinguish the difference between a news broadcast and a comedy-based show that gets to the heart of campus issues through interviews.

It may not be considered newsworthy but wait — doesn't News Channel 4 do a similar thing with their "Speakers' Corner"? In any case, we apologize if we have offended any physically challenged people, or anyone of the German or Jewish race.

The "College Life" Staff

SIDELINES

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James Union staff careless

Ambulatory students unable to reach third floor when elevator is locked

Ruth Peltier
Staff Columnist

Monday was the straw that broke the camel's back. I have intended to write an opinion article for "Sidelines" about the accessibility problems at the James Union building for some time, but just had not gotten around to it.

MTSU provides excellent accessibility in most places on campus for wheelchair students. However, for people who are ambulatory, there are special problems to be considered.

I am here at MTSU because I was forced to retire early due to arthritis in my lumbar spine.

I am only allowed to stand for five minutes at a time, which must be followed by 30 minutes of rest.

To avoid the 30 minutes of rest, I move on campus from chair to chair.

The "Sidelines" newsroom is on the third floor of the James Union Building. There is also a number of classrooms on the upper floors of the building.

Handicapped students have to reach the upper floors via the elevator on the loading dock at the back of the building.

When you exit the elevator on the third floor, it is necessary to walk down a series of corridors, past the Hazelwood dining room (I think that is what it is called) and through a door into the corridor where the classrooms are located.

On Monday, I attempted to go to the "Sidelines" newsroom as usual, but when I reached the end of the corridor I found that the door was locked.

The doors to the dining room were also locked.

This meant that I had to walk all the way back to the elevator, go the first floor, pass through the kitchen into the James Union dining hall, go out the door

and cross to the scheduling center.

This would not seem far at all to most students, and even a wheelchair student could have managed it fairly easily, but for me, it was a pretty insurmountable mountain, especially since I knew I would have to traverse it again to get back upstairs.

The people in the scheduling center were most helpful, as was the person who eventually went back upstairs with me to unlock the doors. However, I was totally exhausted after the ordeal and was barely able to concentrate on the meeting I was there to attend.

Another problem associated with the James Union elevator is the fact that the kitchen staff uses it when there are special events taking place in the dining rooms.

If they have several things to load onto it, they lock it in place while they work and then forget they have it locked.

I have waited for as long as thirty minutes for it to be unlocked, and I also have asked people who are able to climb stairs to go and get it for me from another floor.

Not only is that annoying, but it also is dangerous. If the staff had to leave the building due to an emergency, I suspect they would forget to unlock the elevator first, and while using the elevator in an emergency is not recommended, a handicapped student has no choice.

There is also a lack of respect by the kitchen staff for the importance of not blocking the handicapped parking spaces with large trucks waiting to load or unload at the kitchen. One truck can completely block all of the handicapped spaces at one time.

I have missed meetings entirely because I was unable to park there, and I have been late to class because they had me blocked in and I had limited time to get to another building. ■

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The message in the music does matter

Thomas L. Jipping
Knight-Ridder Tribune

At the first anniversary of the Columbine massacre, Americans are still trying to do something about youth violence. Action, however, requires understanding.

Rather than the current trendy obsession with a particular weapon that violent youths sometimes use, we would do better to study why some youths are violent in the first place. Though no one argues that popular entertainment is the sole cause of youth violence, no one can honestly argue that it makes no contribution at all. Everyone in a position to influence young people must take more seriously the things that shape their lives.

What we consume affects what we do. After little Kayla Roland was killed in

March, "Newsweek"'s suggestions for parents included monitoring what their kids watch on television. On April 3, Court TV devoted an hourlong "Crime Stories" episode to the negative effects of watching professional wrestling.

Hundreds of studies demonstrate that, in the words of the American Academy of Pediatrics, "there is a cause-and-effect relationship between media violence and real-life violence. This link is undeniable and uncontested."

For young people, music is an even more powerful influence than television. A November 1999 Kaiser Family Foundation study documented that while television decreases as a proportion of media consumption from early childhood to the teen years, audio media (that is, music) doubles.

A 1999 report from the Office of National Drug Control Policy revealed

that teen-agers "name music listening as their most preferred non-school activity." They often do so for a reason. Two prominent researchers in this field found that "one of the most important reasons cited by adolescents for seeking exposure to popular music is to learn about their social world."

What do they learn? Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold learned, in the lyrics of shock-rocker Marilyn Manson, to "hate every motherf---er — that's in your way" and that the "next motherf---er — gonna get my metal." They learned: "I've looked ahead and saw a world that's dead, I guess I am too." They learned: "I'm dying, I hope you're dying too."

Using the single most powerful medium in youth culture, Manson and other musicians often deliver a message of despair, anger and violent revenge.

Harris and Klebold acted out the mes-

sage they consumed.

The music industry says that music does not affect anyone. Imagine telling the Three Tenors, or those who wrote the old Negro spirituals, or those who hoped to end the Vietnam war, or anyone witnessing the mayhem at Woodstock '99, or anyone in an aerobics class that music does not affect anyone.

If music does not affect anyone, hordes of teens would not run screaming to buy the latest Backstreet Boys album the day it is released, hospitals would not use music to enhance the healing process, the profession of music therapy would not exist, listening to music would not be the most popular way to relieve stress in the entire world, groups such as Rage Against the Machine would not use music to promote a political agenda, and the music industry would not make so much money. ■

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FEATURES

Murfreesboro, TN

Thursday, April 27, 2000

SIDELINES ■ 1B

Dancers add a little spice

Performing arts company shakes its stuff at semester-end show

James Evans
Staff Reporter

A dash of booty-shakin' beats, mixed with sorrowful graces and a pinch of wild spice make up the MTSU Performing Arts Company's recipe for talent.

The Performing Arts Company — the formal name for the campus dance club — showed off this talent last Wednesday and Thursday in their show, eMOTION.

The production was divided into four parts — Joy, Sorrow, Exploration and Resolution — and featured quite a few student choreographers.

In the first part of the show, one of the most entertaining dances was choreographed by student Henry Lawson. Lawson's piece was untitled, but featured the song "Crazy" by Britney Spears.

The dance resembled those seen in videos for Pop songs, which sometimes seem shallow. However, in person, the dance showed the hard work and physical requirements needed to perform such a routine.

From the where the audience was sitting, the energy and soul pouring out of the dancers was apparent and tangible.

Another dance from the first segment that was well executed was the piece "I've Got No Strings" featuring music from N'Sync.

The choreographer and sole dancer was Amanda Arthur.

Arthur was the only person in the first part of the show who braved a solo performance. If she was nervous, it didn't show.

Still, the most interesting part of the first segment was the final dance of the section, titled "Another Day @ the Office" featuring music from Fat Boy Slim.

This performance was put on by the Dance for Theatre Class and by the end, the dancers left audience feeling both the rigorous and mundane aspects of everyday life in a corporate office.

The next segment of the production — Sorrow — strayed away from contemporary dance and onto a more graceful, elegant style.

The style lent itself perfectly to the theme, and the change from the first segment of joy to the second was as clear as night and day.

As one might expect, the titles and songs that were featured were also fitting of the theme.

Some of these included "Missing You" and "Piece of Mind," two dances that showed great promise for the careers of these young dancers.

The next segment — Exploration — was what it said. The dances, such as "Shaved Cat Moxie," seemed more experimental and cutting edge than some of the previous dances.

Imagine a dance choreographed to a Marilyn Manson song, Mike O'Neal, and did it well.

The varied dancers really pulled it off.

The last segment — appropriately labeled Resolution — was supposed to get the audience pumped up and happy upon leaving. One of the best dances was choreographed by Leah Leonard and Raquel Maddox, and was titled "Proud Women."

The song was Tina Turner's version of "Proud Mary" and with the dance, the audience were pulled out of the sobering remnants left from the Sorrow segment.

The finale of the last segment and the production as a whole, once again featured the entire Performing Arts Company, and left the crowd with the sounds of Jennifer Lopez echoing through its collective head.

The MTSU Performing Arts Company is made up of students who take dance production and individual choreography classes. But, students not taking the classes and who just want to dance are also welcomed into the fold.

For those students who are in one of the two classes, this dance production — which is held at the end of each semester — is required for class credit.

The others do it just for the thrill of it all.

Alumni and the instructors also participate in the choreographing stages.

With all this combined, these talented young dancers work continuously to improve their recipe and transform the stop of everyday, life experiences into a tasty treat. ■

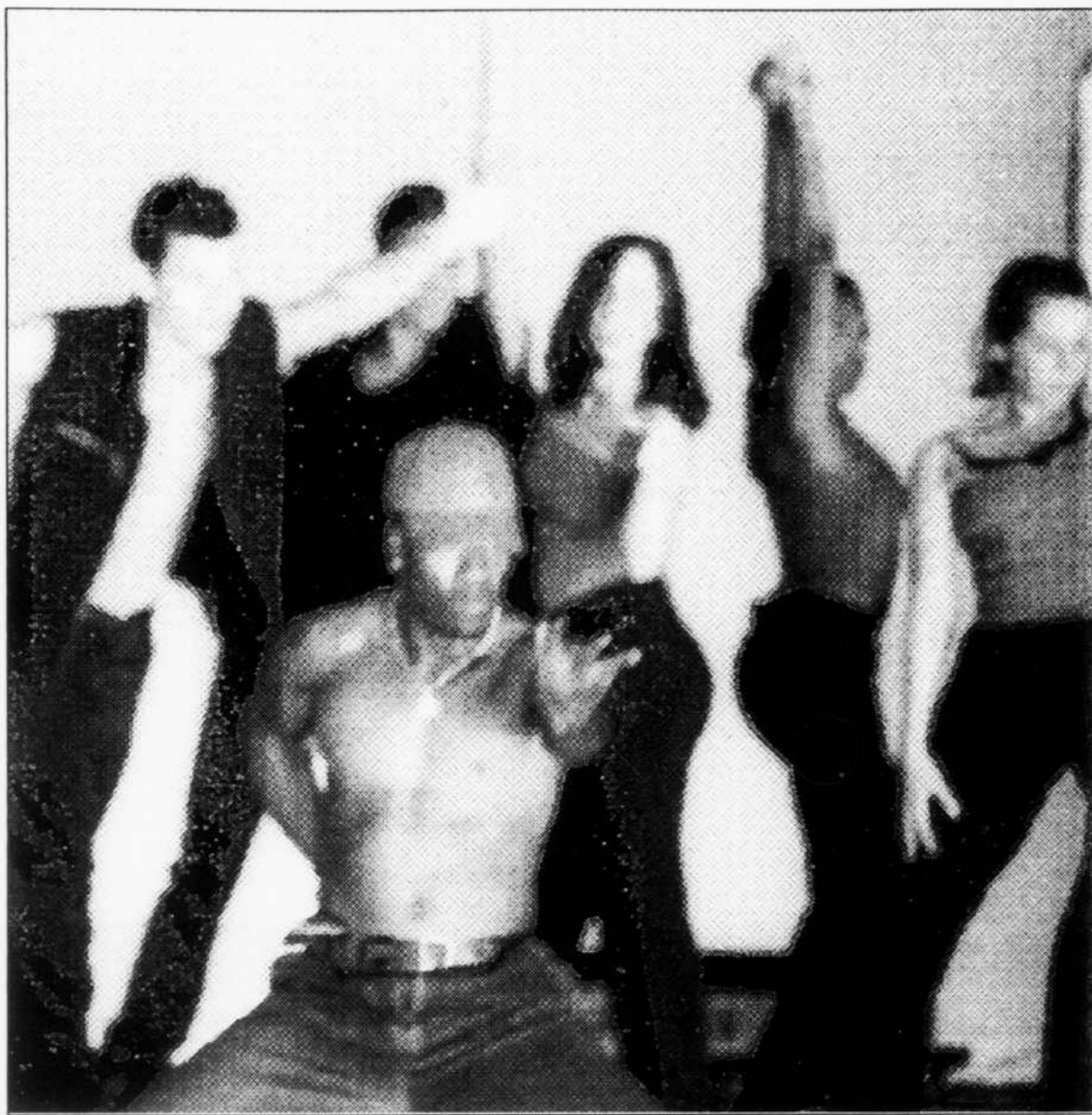


Photo by Jessica Norton | Staff Photographer

Henry Lawson, choreographer, leads the dancers to Britney Spears' "Crazy."

UNC men speak out against domestic violence

TMS - The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has plenty of women's rights groups and events that preach against domestic violence. But this week, it was UNC men who tried to send out the same message.

A group of male students spent the week raising money to fight domestic violence. The Second Annual White Ribbon Campaign

involved the normal T-shirts and ribbons. It also involved petitions. Members said they planned to display the sheets of the men's signatures in a visible location after the week ended. The group gathered about 1,700 signatures last year.

On Wednesday, UNC's football coach Carl Torbush joined the group in the Pit, the campus' main gathering place, to speak out

against the violence.

"It's kind of a show by men that this kind of behavior has to stop," Nic Heinke, a graduating senior and former student body president, told TMS.

"It's something that guys don't like to talk about. We are generally the 'causers' of this domestic violence and the date rape and things, but it's very rarely admitted." ■

MTSU plans first campuswide faculty research symposium

Staff Reports

More than 30 scholars representing 15 academic departments among MTSU's five colleges will team today for the first-ever "University-Wide Faculty Research Symposium," where the day will be dedicated to the presentation of original scholarly works.

MTSU students, staff and faculty are encouraged to attend the free symposium, which will be an annual event. Seating will be on a "first come, first served" basis, and participants are encouraged to come and go as their schedules permit.

The purpose of the campuswide collaboration is to encourage the sharing of scholarly accomplishments across disciplines, to promote interdepartmental cooperation, to acknowledge scholarly achievement and to

share faculty research with students.

During the event, which will be conducted in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Auditorium, the BAS, State Farm Auditorium and BAS, Room S330, faculty members will deliver both poster and oral research presentations concurrently, with several graduate students presenting their work in the "Graduate Student Research Symposium" in KUC, Room 322.

MTSU faculty members who attend are encouraged to advance register or register at the event sites. The MTSU department with the greatest participation will receive a "significant faculty travel award," according to the symposium's planning committee members.

To advance register or reserve a copy of the proceedings, call Linda Lawrence at 898-5950. ■

New Web site involves students in national dialogue

CHICAGO (TMS) — Students wanting to have a say about national public policy and to organize like minds from across the country into grassroots movements can get started by visiting GenerationNet.org, a prize-winning Web site launched Monday and led by a Yale University business school student.

Users can post issues they want others to contemplate, or anonymously cast votes for topics already listed on the site. GenerationNet's staff will monitor issues getting the most responses and, on an annual basis, call registered members to determine which one to three issues the organization will develop aggressive

national campaigns to support.

GenerationNet workers will give people step-by-step instruction on how to do everything from rounding up volunteers to planning rallies sure to get media attention, said Executive Director Peter Schurman, who's getting a master's business degree in nonprofit management from Yale. ■

Llamas glide through competition

Ruth Peltier
Staff Reporter

The Tennessee Livestock Center hosted the Middle Tennessee Llama and Alpaca Show Friday and Saturday.

Llamas raised by Middle Tennessee farmers competed based on accepted standards of coat, bone structure and grace as they walked around the arena or over an obstacle course.

The animals compete in three classes based on the thickness of their coats — light, medium or heavy.

According to Al Harris of Triple H Ranch, llamas are the perfect alternative livestock for the new millennium. They are able to live in a smaller area and require less food.

Owners can train llamas for various duties. The most common use is as pack animals. Kurt Pihera said, "A full-grown llama can carry up to 25 percent of his body weight 10 to 12 miles at a time," then added, "of course part of that is their own hay."

Ron Shinnick uses his llamas to pull a cart. "They are very intelligent," he said, "and learn the driving skills rather quickly."

"Besides," he added, "how many of your neighbors drive a llama?"

Other farmers use llamas to guard sheep and goats, according to Alvin Bean, owner of East Fork Llamas. He says that his llamas will watch a dog, wolf or coyote, get between the predator and the herd, charge at the predator, lead the herd to the barn and then pursue the predator.

Llamas also excel at public relations. Nancy Miller of AlaLlama Farm in Moody, Ala., takes her llamas to visit senior citizen



Photo by Ruth Peltier | Staff Photographer

A llama prances its way through the Middle Tennessee Llama and Alpaca Show last week.

residences in and around Birmingham. She said that if she "stops at the poop pile before entering a building, her llama is good for a visit of an hour or so."

Miller also pointed out that caring for llamas can be a great experience for children. "The woolly creatures make wonderful 4H projects, even for city kids," she said.

Because llamas are native to Peru, their

owners shear them regularly to make them more comfortable in the Middle Tennessee climate, according to Joan Hutsell of Hurricane Creek Llamas.

Sue Kromhout of Bentwood Farm Llamas, said that the resulting fiber that can be used to stuff a dog bed, mulch around plants, or braided into rope or spun into yarn. ■

Child violinist wins chance to perform at Tucker Theater

Staff Reports

Violinist Sara Bennett, a ninth-grader at Hume Fogg High School in Nashville, is the top winner in MTSU's first-ever Outstanding Young Artists Solo and Chamber Music Workshops and Competition. She will perform as a soloist with The University Orchestra at eight p.m. tomorrow.

The free concert, under the direction of nationally known cellist and associate music professor Benjamin Shapira, will be held in the Wright Music Hall. The public is encouraged to attend.

A resident of Brentwood, Bennett competed in several rounds of steep competition among music students from several area high schools before garnering a \$500 prize and emerging as the contest's top victor. Winning a performance chair to participate in tomorrow's gala-celebration performance was also part of the competition's grand prize.

During the three-piece performance, Bennett will be a

featured soloist on the first movement of Edouard Lalo's "Symphonie Espagnole" for Violin and Orchestra Opus 2—"Allegro non Troppo." Bennett and the MTSU orchestra also will perform "Die Meistersinger Prelude" by Richard Wagner and Alexander Borodin's "Polovetsian Dances from 'Prince Igor'."

Sponsored by the Department of Music, the Outstanding Young Artists competition offers high school students from the Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville and Memphis areas the opportunity to compete in initial and semifinal rounds of competition. During the semifinal round, students are coached in chamber music groups and participate in the finals on the MTSU campus.

The workshops and contests presented as part of the Outstanding Young Artists competition were designed to provide a comprehensive professional and learning experience for outstanding orchestral strings students at the high school level. ■

Differences of love

Asta Ytre,
UNC-
Chapel Hill

Students use different methods to find romance

Students say 'I do' to arranged marriage

"We're the oddballs," said Rebecca Manning, professor of India studies at Indiana University. "We [Western societies] seem to be more oriented toward the individual; older cultures think of the culture or community first."

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (TMS) — Vaishali Patel, a senior sociology major at Wake Forest University, is 21 and has already turned down two prospective husbands. She was born and raised in America, and her parents are Indian. And, like many students from Eastern backgrounds who are nearing graduation, she is coming face-to-face with the concept of arranged marriage. Thoughts of relying on Mom and Dad to play matchmaker send shivers up the spines of many American students, but in most of the world, arranged marriages are the norm. "We're the oddballs," said Rebecca Manning, a professor of India studies and religion studies at Indiana University. "We (Western societies) seem to be more oriented toward the individual; older cultures think of the culture or community first." That makes sense to Patel, who said she wants to be true to the traditions of her heritage. "My dad is looking for a husband for me right now," she said. "I basically just say yes or no to the people he shows me." Patel said she's confident in her father's high standards, which scrutinize her young man's education, family structure and social skills. He finds eligible bachelors by consulting with a network of Indian friends, who also serve as background sources for supplying any information that the young man's family may have neglected to divulge. Next, Patel said her father shows her photos of potential husbands. When she sees one she likes, she agrees to talk to him. "I prefer to talk on the phone first," she said. "Being as nervous as anyone would be, it is better to talk on the phone." Her parents are understanding, Patel said, and have given her as long as she wants to choose a mate. She considers herself fortunate given that many families give their children far less time to make a decision. "They just get the information and meet once to decide," she said. The arranged marriage Patel will have strays from tradition, said Genga Dhar Surmagi, a Hindu priest in Raleigh, N.C., who said his father and father-in-law arranged his marriage more than 50 years ago. "I never saw (my wife) before the wedding," he said. The thinking behind the concept of arranged marriage is that parents often make better decisions than their children do, Surmagi said. "Children make mistakes," he said. "They make quick judgments." One survey of urban professionals living in India suggests that many agree with that assessment. More than half of the survey's respondents said they wanted their families to choose their mates "because elders know best." Another 20 percent said because they were guaranteed someone of similar social standing, and about 10 percent said they liked knowing they could count on family support during times of trouble.

But do arranged marriages work? The same survey of urban professionals suggests they do indeed. Of those surveyed, 81 percent had arranged marriages, and of that group, 94 percent rated their unions "very successful." Patel said she thought it would be hard for her to find someone on her own because she didn't trust her own feelings. She said she felt safer knowing that her parents were helping her make a decision about marriage. "I like it this way," she said. "There is some sense of security because it is not only based on two people's emotions." Patel also said it would be easier for her to hold on to her religion and traditions by letting her parents play a chief role in selecting her husband. "I know I am going to hold on to my traditional values and my religion and teach them to my children," she said. "Being very religious, I want my children to fall in love with the Hindu religion." Vaishali Thubrikar, a junior math major at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said she would be able to hold on to her traditions without having an arranged marriage. Thubrikar said she didn't think her parents would be able to find the right person for her because they were raised in another country with entirely different cultural norms, but she has agreed to date and marry someone also of Indian heritage. "Being raised over here, I have a mixture of American and Indian values," she said. "I want to find a balance between compatibility and commitment." Even full-fledged supporters of arranged marriages — such as Surmagi and Patel — say the arrangements come with down sides. "What I don't like is that it has turned into a beauty contest," Patel said. "Too many people look at appearance and that is not going to cut it for everybody." In other cases, Surmagi said parents just wanted to get rid of their daughter and didn't look very hard to find her a suitable young man. "If it is really bad, the girl can break the marriage to go home or to live on her own," he said. "One thing that has changed is that divorced women are encouraged to find another husband." Another problem Surmagi mentioned was the dowry system, where the family of the woman gives presents to the family of the man. "It is a burden to society, and often money comes in between people," he said. "If the man's family doesn't get enough money the woman gets in trouble." Despite the potential negatives, Patel said she's still standing by her parents — and their decision. "Love comes slowly but surely," she said. "Anyone you have to devote emotions to for a long time you end up loving. Love is the reward of the marriage."

Group dating not just for high school anymore

Group dating has become more than a pre-teen way to strike up a romantic relationship. For years, Christian circles have encouraged the arrangement with hopes that young people would get to know each other in fun, but relatively harmless, settings. Now, fed up with the expectations, pressures — and even safety concerns — associated with one-on-one encounters, many college students outside the faith are also catching on to the idea. The end result is often a good time, those who eschew the traditional dating scene say. How people decide to hang out together is as varied as the groups themselves. Many fraternities and sororities are planning group-date functions. But for Kelly Madsen, a senior at UNC-Chapel Hill, group outings are usually impromptu. She has three roommates — one of whom has a boyfriend who has roommates of his own. When the two households get together, they inevitably attract even more friends. Aside from making many new acquaintances at once, Madsen said she's particularly grateful for the safety the group provides. "When we go out in groups we look out for each other, watch out that no one drinks too much, and no one walks alone," she said. "It is just safer this way." Safer in more respects than are visible on the surface, many proponents of group dating say. For starters, they insist, one-on-one dating often lands couples in dangerous territory because they lack accountability from friends and family and because they spend too much time alone getting to know each other physically. As a result, many dating couples — regardless of age — find themselves engaged in physical intimacy that outpaces their emotional and spiritual commitment to each other, said Don Raunika, a Houston psychotherapist who suggests that group outings are a good idea in his book, "Choosing God's Best." "Let's face it," Raunika said. "For

See Group dating, 3B

Internet becomes choice meeting place for some

Michelle Scuba, a junior business major at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, and her boyfriend Huang, who lives outside San Francisco, have been together for almost a year. They live far away from each other, but talk on the phone every day and meet once a month. They are planning to get married soon and talk about having kids one day. All of this having flowed from a chance meeting not at school, in a bar or at a religious service — but in a chat room. More and more people have discovered, and now prefer, meeting new friends and significant others without leaving the safety of their homes, where they can simply log on to the Internet. Scuba said she preferred meeting people online first because the pool to choose from was more diverse and from a larger area. "When you go out and meet people, you could exclude the right person," she said. "I have met people from all over the world online." Scuba also maintains that couples who meet online get a better start because the foundation of their relationship is based on strong communication. "They find out right from the start that all they have is communication, and if they can hold on to that, it is good," she said. There are chat rooms and dating services for all kinds of interests and goals. Users can talk about their favorite pets, discuss current global situations or meet a virtual tennis partner or soul mate. Services such as matchmaker.com and gotdates.com are becoming more popular and more accepted among students as well as other teen-agers and adults. Jodie Dominguez of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., runs the Matchmaker.com site, which encourages users to complete detailed surveys about their likes and dislikes and to "Go meet somebody!" Dominguez followed that command and met her husband of six years there. The site ensures the

See Internet, 3B

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Find scholarships on Internet

James Boozer
Columbia College

Do you find yourself working two or more jobs to pay for college? Have your parents decided that the time has come for you to be more independent? Or have you wasted that trust fund your grandparents gave you on a car, beer and other things you couldn't live without? If so, you're not alone. You now find yourself joining thousands of other college students who search for financial aid each year.

Today, more than ever, many future and present college students are searching for alternative means to pay for their college education, which has become more expensive in recent years.

According to the College Board, the typical annual tuition bill at a four-year private college averages \$23,651, while tuition at a state school costs an average \$10,909 per year.

In fact, the price of a year at a private school can easily top \$30,000, which has made the need to find financial aid a priority for most college students.

And one of the most important questions students are now asking themselves is whether or not they want to go through the normal routine of filling out a handful of financial aid forms and talking to a financial aid advisor if they don't have to.

With Internet technology changing and growing each year, so has financial aid resources on the Web.

Because of this, more college students have turned their attention to searching the Internet for scholarships, grants and loans.

Over the past several years, a number of Web sites have emerged, giving students financial aid advice and in most cases,

scholarships to help pay for college. And because the field has become so crowded, most sites will do whatever it takes to meet the needs of a large and growing audience of financial aid seekers.

One of the most popular sites online is FastWeb.com. Created in 1996 and originally called Student Services, FastWeb has more than five million registered users and gives high school and college students access to more than 400,000 scholarships valued at more than \$1 billion.

In addition, the site offers its users expert advice on various topics ranging from career planning and jobs to money management. Students also receive updates on new scholarships via e-mail. Like most sites of its kind, FastWeb supports itself with ads as well as fees for generating marketing research.

FreeScholarships.com is another Web site that has gained a lot of media exposure over the past few weeks. This site gives away scholarships — \$10,000 daily, \$25,000 monthly and \$50,000 quarterly — through online drawings.

Winners can apply the scholarship toward tuition, fees and even loans while in school or after they graduate.

Visitors to the site can research how to finance a college education and participate in online auctions, chat rooms and message boards directed toward helping students and their families meet the rising cost of a college education.

As one of the largest scholarship search Web sites online, FastAID.com has more than 20 years of experience researching scholarship sources and is the oldest site of its kind on the Web.

FastAID is the publisher of "The Scholarship Book" from Prentice Hall.

While all of this may sound appealing at first glance, there are some risks and options

a student gives up if they chose to find financial aid on the Internet.

"I think any method used by a student is good," said John Olino, director of Financial Aid at Columbia College Chicago. However Olino warns that the Internet shouldn't replace financial aid planning by a student and his or her parents.

"Nothing gets the job done like face-to-face communication between two people."

It's that communication Olino feels is key to insuring a student is getting the best advice from a financial aid advisor and filling out all of the necessary forms to receive financial aid. "The human factor can't be taken out of the situation," he said.

The bottom line is for students to do their homework before searching for financial aid on the Internet, says Olino.

"A machine can't do that."

Other Web sites you can check out for financial aid information:

www.collegequest.com
www.estudentloan.com
www.fastaid.com

Women avoid computer culture, researcher say

Martha Woodal
Knight-Ridder Tribune

PHILADELPHIA — The 10 students enrolled in Wayne Snover's Advanced Placement computer science class at Central High School in Philadelphia have something in common: They are all male.

The composition of Snover's class in the coed school is hardly unusual. It's practically the norm.

A national report from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) scheduled for release today says female students account for only 17 percent of the of high school students who take the College Board's Advanced Placement exam in computer science to seek college credit.

In addition, it says, women earn only 28 percent of the bachelor's degrees in computer science, and make up only 20 percent of information technology professionals.

The report, "Tech-Savvy: Educating Girls in the New Computer Age," contends that the male-dominated computer culture must change in order to attract girls and women to technology.

Unless that happens, the nation's shortage of skilled high-tech workers will continue, and women will lose out on opportunities for high-paying, high-tech jobs.

"We are used to hearing about math phobia for girls," said Pamela Haag, director of research for the AAUW Educational Foundation. "But the girls are not anxious or phobic about technology. They are disinterested in the computer culture. ... Girls are saying, 'We can do these things, but we don't want to.'"

Sherry Turkle, professor of sociology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who co-chaired the commission that wrote the report, said girls' criticism of the computer culture should be taken seriously.

Female students said they were turned off by violent software games and felt the computer world is dominated by adolescent males.

Girls said they use computers to communicate to perform specific tasks, while boys have underdeveloped social skills and use computers to play games and "to fool around."

Turkle said: "Instead of trying to make girls fit into the existing computer culture, the computer culture must become more inviting for girls."

The report said that girls and women cannot settle for being

consumers of technology. They must be prepared to become designers and creators if they are going to fully participate and shape the new computer age.

The foundation appointed the commission two years ago to examine the connections among technology, gender and teacher education.

The association's leadership said statistics showing few females were preparing for the top high-tech careers could widen the earnings gap between men and women.

They also noted that increasing the numbers of women earning degrees in computer science and related fields would go a long way toward solving the nation's shortage of trained information technology workers.

The commission members were directed to explore the differences between how boys and girls accept technology.

While the female students who were interviewed said they were not told directly that they were not competent in technology, and were not deterred from taking computer classes, that message was transmitted to them in subtle ways.

When asked to describe a person who was really good with computers, they described a man.

In a 1997 survey of 652 high school students in Silicon Valley, Boston and Austin, Texas, 50 percent of both the male and female students said the field of computer science was "geared toward men."

The report also noted: "Girls outnumbered boys only in their enrollment in word processing classes, arguably the 1990s version of typing."

The commission concluded the girls' interest in technology should be nurtured from an early age through activities such as after-school computer clubs because boys are given more opportunities to master technology.

The report found boys are more likely to have their own computers — often in their bedrooms.

Because girls know little about the range of careers that involve technology, they cling to the stereotype that computer careers are tedious, unchallenging, anti-social and focused on materialism.

One female student labeled tech jobs "a waste of intelligence."

The commission report found this lack of understanding deeply troubling and concluded students need to be better educated about the range of career options that use technology.

Group dating: learn before you commit

Continued from 2A

the first three months or so, you date a facade. You spend an hour or more getting ready to go out. Two people put their best foot forward, and that's all they see of each other. By the time they do see the real person, they realize they liked the fa ade better."

Painful break-ups are often inevitable — and often very

hurtful for everyone involved, including future spouses, Raunika said.

"It's just like if you glued two pieces of paper together and tore them apart," he said. "There will always be residue from one on the other. It's never a clean tear. And that residue, like it or not, will be carried into the next relationship and the next and will, unfortunately, follow into marriage."

While getting to know members of the opposite sex in groups isn't a sure way to avoid heartache, it's a step in the right direction toward finding a mate, Raunika said. He learned the up side of group outings in college when he and some friends went on a missions trip that took them to a very poor village. Among the group was a young woman Raunika had his eye on. She seemed nice enough on

campus, but, when on the trip, complained about the humble accommodations, even whining that she couldn't use her hair dryer.

"I learned what I needed to without ever having to ask her out on a date," he said. "If I had asked her out first, a lot of other issues could have clouded my judgment, and it would have taken me a lot longer to come to the same conclusion."

Internet: not as dangerous as you'd think

Continued from 2A

privacy of members by keeping them anonymous.

Keeping user names a secret is designed to promote safety, which is a concern for many using the Internet to find promising partners. Dominguez insists that with the additional security, Internet dating isn't any more dangerous than trolling for Mr. or Mrs. Right in a bar.

"At least with the matchmak-

ple," she said.

Ummmm, not exactly, said Scuba, who has learned never to let down her guard when chatting online with people she doesn't know very well.

"After talking to someone intimately, you feel you know them, but you have to be careful," she said. "They could be telling the truth, or they could be lying."

Scuba said she learned that the hard way when she moved with her family to Las Vegas last year. She met a man from the

area online and invited him to go out for dinner or coffee. When he arrived at her apartment, Scuba said he sexually assaulted her.


Nowadays, Scuba said she provides online friends with minimal personal information while checking out their stories for consistency. She also thinks people should consider safety when meeting someone through the Internet or in person.

"When meeting someone, no matter how nice they sound or how long you've been talking,


you should be careful," she said. "Don't give your name, phone number or address and never meet them alone."

That doesn't mean the relationship can't get more personal with time. Meredith Perry, a first-year student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said she met one of her best friends through an AOL newsletter designed for people with shared movie interests.

"It seems like a weird way of meeting people, but I am glad we did," she said.



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SPORTS

4B ■ SIDELINES

Thursday, April 27, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

Lady Raiders sweep Eastern Kentucky

Jay Carlton
Staff Reporter

The Lady Raiders hosted a doubleheader with Eastern Kentucky Saturday afternoon, defeating the Colonels in both games behind solid pitching performances by Jennifer Martinez and Stacy Preator.

In the first game, a 1-0 MTSU victory, Martinez pitched a complete game, giving up only three hits and striking out nine Colonel batters. Martinez now leads all OVC pitchers with 148 strikeouts on the year.

Despite her strong outing, Martinez would have preferred to have some insurance runs.

"I just give my team more encouragement, that's all I can do if people aren't hitting the ball," sophomore pitcher Jennifer Martinez said. "It's tough because we don't want a close game — we want to always kick butt."

The lone Lady Raider run was scored in the bottom of the third inning with Melanie Manley scoring from second base on a single by Carisa Chavez.

MTSU freshman pitcher Stacy Preator started the nightcap, which MTSU won in dramatic style 4-3, and was impressive for the first two innings.

In the top of the third inning, Preator gave up two runs on four hits and looked like she was losing her composure.

Before the Colonels could do anymore damage, MTSU catcher Melanie Manley walked to the mound to calm her pitcher down.

"Melanie told me that I needed to go for it, keep it together, and dig deep a little bit," Preator said.

It was MTSU, however, who drew first blood. Courtney Wallace led off the bottom of the second inning with a double. Steffi Silva then singled to the pitcher, which advanced Wallace to third. Tamara Davis drove Wallace home with a single to left field. Kip Phillips drove in the other run of the inning with a single to center field, scoring Silva from second base.

The Lady Raiders broke a 2-2 tie in the bottom of the fourth inning when Kip Phillips reached first base on a fielder's choice. Melanie Manley singled and advanced Phillips to second base. Carisa Chavez got a timely double to score Phillips from second base. First baseman Shay Haskell then singled to right field and brought Manley home.

With her teammates having given her a two-run lead, Preator went on to limit the Colonel's bats to two hits over the next two innings, before getting into trouble in the seventh inning.

After seeing her pitcher allow two hits to put runners on first and second base, Lady Raider head coach Karen Green brought in game one starter Jennifer Martinez to close the deal.

"We just wanted to make a change," coach Karen Green said. "They were getting Stacy's timing down a little bit, and her change-up was getting a little bit high, so we decided to make a change."

With runners on first and second, Martinez came in and retired her first batter. Martinez then gave up a single to right field, which scored a run and whittled the lead to 4-3. With runners now on first and third, Martinez struck out Eastern Kentucky second baseman Bethany Herrington to end the game.

The save for Martinez was her first of the year, and she didn't want to let her teammates down.

"I was like 'Oh goodness, I hope I deal with this OK,'" a relieved Jennifer Martinez said. "I mean, Stacy had a really good game, so I didn't want to mess that up for her."

With winning both games of the doubleheader, the Lady Raiders continued their dominance over the Colonels.

"I personally think that Eastern Kentucky is one of the best teams in the conference," head coach Karen Green said. "For whatever reason, we've had their number in the past, but I think they are a very capable team of making some damage in the OVC." ■

Senior softball player thrives on, off field

Jay Carlton
Staff Reporter

In a day and age where athletes from all levels of competition are constantly giving organized sports a black eye, it's refreshing to know that at least one young woman has her priorities straight.

Meet MTSU senior catcher Melanie Manley.

"Melanie is what I consider the truest sense of what a student-athlete is all about," Lady Raider softball coach Karen Green said. "She cares about both her athletics and academics. I think that her performance shows that she cares."

Melanie's performance in the classroom is just as impressive as her accomplishments on the softball diamond. She currently carries a 3.9 grade point average while assuming the responsibility of the starting catching duties for the Lady Raiders.

"You have to have your priorities in line," Manley said, who was the 1999 OVC Scholar Athlete of the Year. "One thing that I've learned in college is to keep God number one in my life, then my family and school. I know I might have a late night studying, but the Lord never gives me more than I can handle."

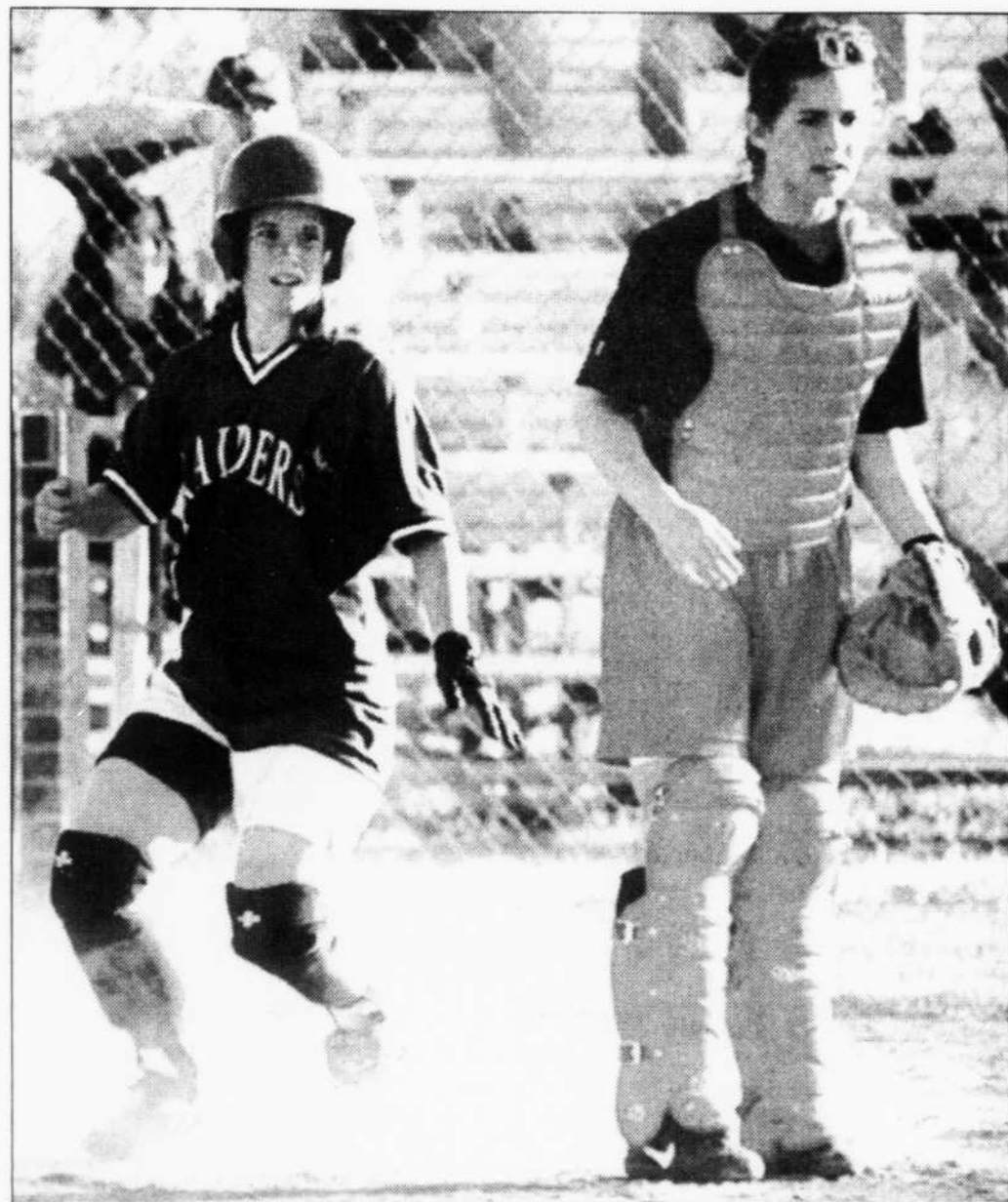
Manley has accomplished much more than Green ever thought she would. The Lady Raiders skipper was concerned that Manley, at only 5-foot-4 inches, was too small to play for her.

"Originally, I told Melanie she would never catch for us," Green said. "I told her that she was too small and that she would be hurt 90 percent of the time. Basically, Melanie recruited us by following the team to games and by sending videos of herself."

Manley's persistence paid off. After Green watched her video and actually sat down to evaluate her plays, she decided to give Manley an opportunity.

The coach was now eating crow.

"Its like 'I will eat my words,'" Green said. "You will play for us." She eventually signed her, and Melanie broke into the starting line up her freshman year. She



Melanie Manley scores a run during a recent ball game. She has been instrumental in the Lady Raiders success this season

hasn't stopped since."

Manley has definitely taken advantage of her opportunities. While she earned a half-academic half-athletic scholarship, she has received several awards for her in-class accomplishments. She is a three-time NFCA Academic Scholar Athlete and won the OVC Academic Medal of Honor in 1998.

Manley brings the same intensity that she has to her academics to the ballpark. Last season she hit .309 and stole a team-high 19 bases. This season Manley is currently hitting .276 and leads the Lady Raiders with nine doubles.

Manley is also very beneficial to the

team as a team leader.

"We have a lot of leaders on our team, and Melanie is definitely one of them," MTSU senior first baseman Shay Haskell said. "I think she leads by example. She just tries to encourage everybody and keep everybody up."

Manley has no problems with being considered a team leader.

"I wanted to think I'm a team leader," Manley said. "I try to be a leader on and off the field. I think that a lot of the younger girls especially look up to me not only athletically, but also in the standards

See Manley, 5B

Women's basketball names new assistants

Brian Albertson
Sports Information

The Middle Tennessee women's basketball program has hired two new assistant coaches, Melanie Stephens and Eric White, as announced today by head coach Stephany Smith.

Melanie Stephens, formerly at Indiana University, will take over the assistant position vacated by Joy Holmes-Harris who has chosen to continue her play-

ing career in the WNBA.

Stephens, a native of Eatonton, GA, spent one season with the Hoosiers, working primarily with the guards. She also handled film exchange and coordinated on-campus recruiting.

Prior to joining the Indiana University staff, Stephens served as the top assistant coach for the women's program at Binghamton (SUNY) in Binghamton, NY. Prior to that, she served as the graduate assis-

tant coach for her alma mater Georgia College and State University from 1996-98. As a player, Stephens set the school record for 3-point field goals in a game with eight.

Stephens received her Masters of Education in administration and supervision from Georgia College and State University in 1998.

"Melanie has a tremendous work ethic," said Middle Tennessee head coach Stephany Smith. "She has a great

demeanor and personality. She is excited and energetic. She's looking for consistency, having been at a few different places in the last four years, and it's one of things we're looking for as well. In interviewing and researching her, the biggest thing people continue to comment on is her great focus and intensity on the floor. I think she will be a great addition."

Eric White will handle the

See Basketball, 5B

Baseball wins 10th straight

The Blue Raider baseball team looked like a team on a mission with a 16-5 dismantling of Jacksonville State Tuesday afternoon.

Middle Tennessee won a record-tying tenth straight game and improved to 26-16 on the year while the Gamecocks fell to 22-23.

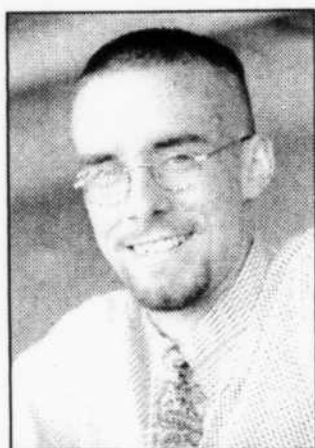
The Blue Raider barrage began in the top of the first inning. A walk to Josh Renick got things started, then a stolen base and a wild pitch that

allowed Renick to score from second base opened the floodgates.

Another walk to Justin Links followed by a single from Josh Pride combined with two more wild pitches from JSU starter Jon Hannah put runners in scoring position for Bryan Peck. Peck delivered a single through the left side of the infield to plate Links and advance Pride to third. Kyle

See Baseball, 5B

The Sports Junkie Test: Are you a fan or just a pretender?

View from the Top
A sports commentary

Michael Edwards
Sports Co-Editor

After writing numerous columns during this historic school and athletic year, I was

tapped out on topics about which to write. So I decided to let you take a test, or let yourself know what you need to do before next year so that you can be, as I am, a sports junkie.

Ladies, for many men this is an addiction, so when your male friend says he'll call you back because there are two-minutes left in an important game, don't be upset. There's no cure for this disease.

<None>Oh sure, you have Alcoholics Anonymous for people who have problems with alcohol, but what about those of us who can't stop watching sports? What about those of us who woke up at 4:30 in the morning to watch the Cubs and the Mets play baseball in Japan? What about those of us who skipped class on the real opening day to watch the Reds play? What about us? Where do we go? "Sportscenter" is on nearly 20 times a day. If you're a really

bad junkie then you may watch them all, even in the morning when it plays nonstop from about 5 a.m. until noon.

To find out how bad you actually have this disease, go down the following list, and if you can say yes to 10, you are the John Belushi of the sports world, and I am merely James.

If you can only say yes to one or two, then you should be ashamed of yourself and go see a ballet tonight.

Please add a point for each of these questions you answer "yes."

1. Ever been to a sports hall of fame?
2. Canceled a date for a game?
3. Taken a walkman to church in order to hear ESPN radio?
4. Listened to a game on AM in your car in 30 degree weather?
5. Do you usually watch every edition of "Sportscenter" everyday?
6. Ever bought a copy of the

baseball almanac for your desk, your pocket and your car?

7. Kept wiffleball stats as a kid?
8. Do you still?
9. Are they logged in your computer?
10. Did you make hard copies so Y2K would not erase them?
11. Ever played a sports fantasy game?
12. More than one?
13. Would you rather spend money on fantasy games than food?
14. Do you miss less than 20 regular season baseball games in a year?
15. Go to more than one baseball park each year? (Greer Stadium doesn't count!)
16. Did you put your girlfriend/boyfriend's picture behind a favorite baseball card in your wallet?
17. Seriously, have you inquired about the Rick League of wiffleball?
18. Have you ever written about

it?

19. Put the baseball, basketball and football postseason before everything?
20. Skip class for a regular season, non-opening day game?

Total your points from that selection of questions. Now take away a point for each of these you answer as true.

21. I think Pete Rose should be banned from the Hall of Fame.
22. I have missed a championship game since the age of seven.
23. I have held a conversation about something other than the Super Bowl during the game.
24. I have forged Mark McGwire's name to a baseball.
25. I don't like baseball.
26. I don't like football.
27. I don't like basketball.
28. I think football is barbaric.
29. I think figure skating is a sport.
30. I sent a letter to my congressman opposing baseball's

opening day being played in Japan.

If you scored 20 points then you are, indeed, the John Belushi of the sports fan world.

If you scored more than 17, congratulations, you, too, are a fanatic.

If you scored between 13 and 16, you're a fan.

If you are between 10 and 12, I am sending you back to Triple A.

If you scored between 7 and 9, you need to definitely consider a sports-only sabbatical in order to purify your mind and concentrate on what is really important.

If you scored between 3 and 6, I bet you answered number true to 29.

If you scored between 0 and 3, why are you even reading the sports section? Go read features.

If you scored below 0, get back in that kitchen and go cook my dinner. ■

Tennis teams claim conference title

Staff Reports

Middle Tennessee's tennis teams completed their final season in the Ohio Valley Conference in style by waltzing through the field without losing a match.

The tennis teams ended their tenure in the OVC by capping off a decade of dominance. The Blue Raiders won their tenth OVC title over the past eleven years, while the Lady Raiders won their eighth conference since 1990.

In the process, men's head coach Dale Short earned his eighth OVC Coach of the Year award, while Lady Raider head coach David Thornton was honored for the third time in his

career with the award.

Tina Hohnik was the OVC Player of the Year. Hohnik, Michaela Gridling, Tanja Buchheim, Katja Kuehner, and Niger Kaur were awarded with OVC All-Conference selections for their play throughout the course of the season. For Kaur, it was the second consecutive year she has made All-Conference.

Five also made the All-OVC team on the men's side. Michael Chamberlain, Daniel Klemetz, Robert Gustafsson, Oliver Foreman, and Olle Nystrom gave Middle Tennessee 10 athletes to make All-Conference. Foreman, Chamberlain, and Gustafsson are now two-time All-OVC. Tennessee Tech's Mirza Duranovic was voted as the leagues

player of the year.

As Middle Tennessee ends a 52 year relationship, a new one will begin in just a few months as the Blue Raiders become a member of the Sun Belt Conference.

"I've made a lot of good friends along the way," said Short. "It's a good feeling to go out on top."

With that will come added pressures as well as a tougher schedule.

"It's a new era for us," remarked Short. "For us to dominate the Sun Belt like we have the OVC over the past decade is going to be nearly impossible. The Sun Belt traditionally has four or five teams that are potential Top 30. Recruiting will become even a bigger key for us to compete."■

Basketball: White 'instrumental' to underclassmen recruiting

Continued from 1B

duties of third assistant, filling the position left vacant by Cameron Smith who is returning to Mississippi and Betsy Smith Properties to try his hand at real estate.

White joins the Lady Raider staff from Tennessee-Martin where he served as graduate assistant coach. His duties included writing scouting reports, distributing the team's itinerary, filling videotape requests and maintaining the team's internet homepage.

From Boaz, AL, White is a 1996 graduate from the University of Montevallo and recently completed a second BA in education at Tennessee-Martin. He also coached the Montevallo Sports Club to the under-18 Alabama AAU Championship.

"Though he is graduate assistant at UT-Martin," said Smith, "he has been in college coaching for seven years. To get someone with that kind of experience into your third spot is a great opportunity for us as well. He understands academics, team travel, tape exchange and the ins and outs of what he'll have to do. He has also done a lot of recruiting behind a desk."

Because we have a class of seven players who we will have to replace two years down the road, he will be extremely instrumental in our underclassmen recruiting.

"I'm really excited," said Smith in conclusion. "I know they are going to be great additions. I believe we have a staff that will be here for a little while and with our move to the Sun Belt, we should be able to accomplish some great things."■

Rivers named NBA 'Coach of Year'

Fred Goodall
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — All things considered, Doc Rivers would rather have been somewhere else Wednesday.

The playoffs began without his Orlando Magic last weekend, and winning the Red Auerbach Trophy as the NBA's coach of the year didn't soothe the pain of being eliminated from contention in the next-to-last game of the regular season.

"I tell you, I would have loved to have been in Indiana receiving this award," said Rivers, whose team finished a surprising 41-41 but finished a game behind Milwaukee in its bid for the eighth position in the Eastern Conference.

The Bucks meet the Pacers in Game 2 of their best-of-five, first-round series Thursday night.

"Having said that, getting it is still nice ... If you look at our organization, we're absolutely headed in the right direction. As tough as that loss to the Bucks was for me and the players, it makes you want it more now. It makes you put a value on what it takes to get things done."

The Magic finished with a .500 record despite launching a massive rebuilding project that began with the trading of four of five starters from last year's team, including All-Star Penny Hardaway.

Starting four players — Darrell Armstrong, John Amaechi, Bo Outlaw and Ben Wallace — who were not drafted by any NBA team,

Rivers kept the Magic in contention until the final week with a hustling, up-tempo style that relied on defensive pressure to create scoring opportunities.

Rivers, who played 13 seasons for the Hawks, Clippers, Knicks and Spurs before retiring in 1996 to become a television analyst for Turner Sports, is the first coach in league history to win the award without leading his team to the playoffs. He's the third to receive it with a team that posted a record of .500 or below, and the fifth to be recognized after his first season, joining Harry Gallatin (1962-63), Johnny Kerr (1966-67), Mike Schuler (1986-87) and Larry Bird (1997-98).

"It's gratifying because of the fact that people undervalued our players. I didn't mind them undervaluing me because I hadn't coached. But I did mind them undervaluing my players," Rivers said. "I had felt from day one that we had better players than what everyone thought we did. And I think by the end of the season, that proved to be true."

Rivers received 60 votes from a 121-member panel to win by seven votes over Phil Jackson, who led the Los Angeles Lakers to the league's top record. They were followed in the balloting by Charlotte's Paul Silas (3), Utah's Jerry Sloan (2) and Miami's Pat Riley, Phoenix's Scott Skiles and Toronto's Butch Carter (1 each).

"I personally voted for Jerry Sloan with the Sporting News, he's never won the award," Jackson said. "He's a guy who's teams have been at the

top for the last decade. That he would get (only) two votes is absolutely ludicrous."

Rivers said last week that he thought Jackson deserved the honor because teams are judged by the number of games they win, and coaches should be, too. He changed his tune Wednesday.

"I was being diplomatic," he said, breaking into laughter. "To be honored next to names like Red Auerbach, Phil Jackson and Lenny Wilkens is a tremendous honor. I was joking today that the only time I had heard a Phil Jackson comparison to was that: 'Boy, he's no Phil Jackson.' To be honored with him is real nice."

Rivers replaced Hall of Famer Chuck Daly, who retired last May, and inherited a team that shared the best record in the Eastern Conference during the lockout-shortened 1998-99 season.

But the Magic also were beaten in the first round of the playoffs by the younger, more athletic Philadelphia 76ers and management faced a critical decision on whether to try to keep Hardaway from fleeing as a free agent or rebuild without a marquee star. General manager John Gabriel opted for the latter. And by season's end, the Magic made 37 player transactions involving 38 different players and cleared about \$18 million under the salary cap to try to lure one or two big-name free agents to town this summer.

In addition, Orlando has accumulated nine first-round draft picks over the next five years, including three lottery picks in June.■

Continued from 1B

that I set in life."

With all of her accolades, the Pinson, Ala. native understands that she couldn't enjoy the success she's having in college without her parents.

"My family is great," Manley said. "My mom and dad are at every game they can make. My family, whether they are here or not, is real supportive. Its not how I do — it's just that I'm enjoying what I do."

With less than two weeks remaining in the regular season, the reality that her collegiate career is rapidly coming to an end is setting in. Having been with the team since '96, one might think that it would be a sad

time for Manley, but she doesn't see it that way.

"It's sad in one way," Manley, who is majoring in pre-physical therapy, said. "I've planned my career academically. I got my education paid for while I got to do something that I love, while preparing for my future. I'm planning to become a surgical physician's assistant."

After graduation, she plans to attend the University of Alabama at Birmingham medical school.

"I'll start at UAB in September," Manley said. "I'm just ending one stage in life as I begin another. I think you're always growing. I've got great memories here, and I don't regret anything."■

Baseball: offense explodes in victory

Continued from 1B

Thomas completed the damage with a two-run double into the right field gap that chased home Pride and Peck.

Jamie Powers took advantage of the big early lead en route to his second win of the year. Powers looked dominant through his five innings of work, allowing no runs on only three hits while striking out five Gamecocks.

The Blue Raiders would go on to score at least one run in every inning except the second and ninth while holding Jacksonville State scoreless until the sixth.

Peck turned in the biggest day of all, going 5-for-5 and driving in five runs in the contest, leaving him only one hit shy of the Middle Tennessee single-game record.

Renick continued to swing a hot bat, going 2-for-4 with two RBIs.

He also scored three times and stole his team-leading 18th base of the season. Kyle Thomas also went 2-for-4 with two RBIs.

In total, 17 different Blue Raiders made plate appearances in the game while collecting a season-high 17 hits in the contest. Aside from the hit tally, the team set new season marks in at-bats (42), runs (16), RBIs (13), and total bases (25).

Peck's five hits and RBIs are also individual season highs.

The Blue Raiders will go for a record-setting 11th straight win on Wednesday night in a Sun Belt preview game at Western Kentucky.

The first pitch is slated for 6 p.m. Scheduled to pitch for Middle Tennessee is Matthew Griffith. ■

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2000 OVC Baseball Standings

(Through games of April 25)

	OVC	PCT.	GB	Overall
Southeast Missouri	12-2	.857	1.0	28-10
Eastern Kentucky	15-3	.833	—	23-19
Middle Tennessee	11-3	.786	2.0	26-16
Murray State	8-6	.571	5.0	17-21
Tennessee Tech	5-6	.455	6.5	19-19
Eastern Illinois	7-10	.412	7.5	14-23
Austin Peay	6-9	.400	7.5	22-22
Morehead State	2-13	.133	11.5	17-22-1
Tennessee-Martin	0-14	.000	13.0	7-33

Last Week's Results

April 21

*Middle Tennessee 7-7, Murray State 6-2

*Eastern Kentucky 2-6, Eastern Illinois 1-4

*Southeast Missouri 11-7, Morehead State 1-0

*Austin Peay 13-6, Tennessee-Martin 3-2

April 22

*Middle Tennessee 5, Murray State 2

*Eastern Kentucky 12, E. Illinois 8

*Southeast Missouri 3, Morehead State 2

*Austin Peay 7, Tennessee-Martin 3

Tennessee Tech 10-2, Belmont 4-3

April 25

Middle Tennessee 16, Jacksonville State 5

Murray State 4, Southern Indiana 3 (10 innings)

West Virginia 14-3, Eastern Kentucky 4-7

Union (Ky.) 14, Morehead State 11

Games This Week

April 26

Eastern Kentucky at West Virginia - 2:00 p.m.

Belmont at Morehead State (2) - 2:00 p.m.

Georgia State at Tennessee Tech (2) - 2:00 p.m.

Eastern Illinois at Ball State - 3:00 p.m.

Murray State at Southern Illinois - 3:00 p.m.

Tennessee-Martin at Saint Louis - 3:00 p.m.

Middle Tennessee at Western Kentucky - 6:00 p.m.

April 29

Belmont at Eastern Kentucky (2) - 12 noon

*Eastern Illinois at Tennessee-Martin (2) - 1:00 p.m.

*Austin Peay at Morehead State (2) - 2:00 p.m.

*Murray State at Southeast Missouri (2) - 2:00 p.m.

*Middle Tennessee at Tennessee Tech (2) - 4:00 p.m.

ALL TIMES CENTRAL

* denotes OVC game

2000 OVC Softball Standings

(Through games of Apr. 25)

	W	L	T	PCT.	W	L	T	PCT.
Middle Tennessee	14	2	0	.875	33	16	0	.673
Eastern Illinois	12	3	0	.800	23	29	0	.442
Southeast Missouri	11	6	0	.647	20	20	0	.500
Tennessee Tech	9	7	0	.563	31	28	0	.525
Eastern Kentucky	10	8	0	.556	21	30	0	.412
Tennessee-Martin	8	8	0	.500	15	15	0	.500
Morehead State	6	11	0	.353	16	27	0	.381
Austin Peay	2	14	0	.125	13	36	0	.265
Tennessee State	1	14	0	.067	4	35	0	.103

Last Week's Results

Monday, April 24

Evansville at Southeast Missouri (2) - cancelled

Tuesday, April 25

@Western Kentucky 2-0, Austin Peay 0-3

@Eastern Illinois 3-1, DePaul 2-9

*@Morehead State 8, Eastern Kentucky 0

*@Middle Tennessee 2-3, Tennessee Tech 0-0

* - denotes OVC game

Upcoming Games

Wednesday, April 26

Time (CST)

Kentucky at Morehead State (2) 2 p.m.

Southeast Missouri vs. SW Missouri State (in St. Louis) 3 p.m.

*Tennessee State at Tennessee-Martin (2) 3:30 p.m.

Eastern Illinois at Illinois State (2) 4 p.m.

Tennessee at Tennessee Tech 5 p.m.

Thursday, April 27

*Austin Peay at Middle Tennessee (2) 5 p.m.

Saturday, April 29

*Southeast Missouri at Morehead

State (2) 12 noon

*Middle Tennessee at Eastern Illinois (2) 1 p.m.

*Eastern Kentucky at Tennessee State (2) 1 p.m.

*Tennessee-Martin at Tennessee Tech (2) 1 p.m.

Sunday, April 30

*Southeast Missouri at Morehead State 12 noon

*Middle Tennessee at Eastern Illinois 1 p.m.

*Eastern Kentucky at Tennessee State 1 p.m.

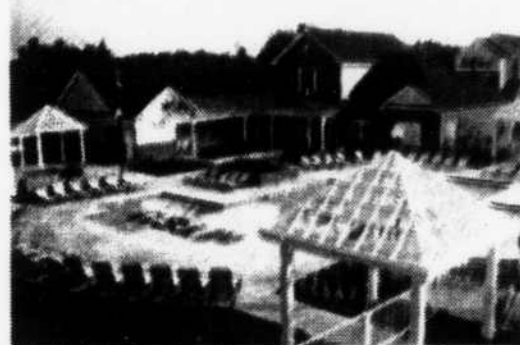
*Tennessee-Martin at Tennessee Tech 1 p.m.

* - denotes OVC game

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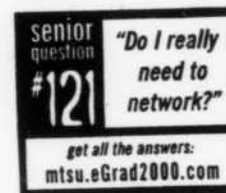
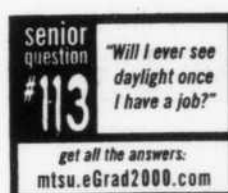
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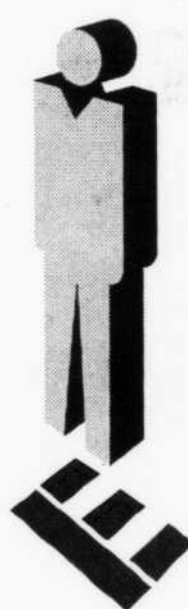
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