

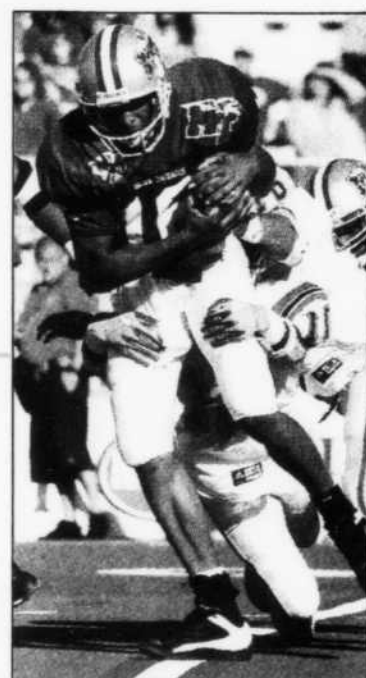


## College minister celebrates 20 years of leadership

page 5

## No miracle necessary this time

page 6



Murfreesboro, Tenn.

An editorially independent newspaper

Middle Tennessee State University

# SIDELINES

2003 National Finalist  
Best non-daily  
university newspaper  
-Society of Professional Journalists

Volume 80 No. 15

### CAMPUS BRIEFS

#### Raider Republicans meeting on Tuesday

The Raider Republicans will meet Tuesday, Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. in Room S118 of the Business and Aerospace Building. The group also plans to have voter registration drives on Tuesday and Thursday.

#### Up 'Til Dawn seeks committee members

The Office of Student Organizations and Community Service is now accepting applications for volunteers to serve on the Up 'Til Dawn Executive Committee. An interest meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 21 at 2:45 p.m. Applications are available in room 326-S of the Keathley University Center. Deadline to apply is Tuesday, Sept. 28 by 4:30 p.m. Please contact Meredith Wilson at mdw2k@mtsu.edu for more information.

#### SGA sponsors fight song competition

The Office of Student Government Association is now accepting applications for the 2004 "Fight Song Competition" through Sept. 23 at 4 p.m. A mandatory meeting for participants will be held on Sept. 28 at 5 p.m. in KUC 316. The competition will be on Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. in the Murphy Center. All organizations are invited to participate. For further information please contact Michael Shirley at 898-2464.

#### Latin Film Festival scheduled

The Hispanic Student Association will sponsor a Latin Film Festival on Sunday nights at the KUC Theatre. Featured films include "Stand and Deliver" on Sept. 26, "Like Water for Chocolate" on Oct. 3 and "Mi Vida Loca" on Oct. 10. All show times are 7 p.m. For more information contact Caroline Bizot at cmb3c@mtsu.edu.

#### Deadline for Leadership Conference approaches

Registration forms for the MT Leadership Conference are due by Sept. 24. The registration fee is \$15. The conference will be held Oct. 1 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration forms can be downloaded at [www.mtsu.edu/~mtleader/mews.htm](http://www.mtsu.edu/~mtleader/mews.htm). For more information, contact Deana Raffo at 898-5786.

#### Japanese Students and Friends to meet

A meeting of the Japanese Students and Friends organization is scheduled for Sept. 22 at 5 p.m. in KUC, Room 213. Students interested in learning about Japanese culture or studying abroad in Japan are encouraged to attend. For more information please contact Joe Young at 898-2229.

Send any campus briefs to [slnews@mtsu.edu](mailto:slnews@mtsu.edu) or call 898-2336.

## Kerry wins mock election on campus

By Matt Anderson  
Staff Writer

Sen. John Kerry won MTSU's mock election by five votes.

Kerry received 286 votes to President Bush's 281. Independent candidate Ralph Nader received 21 votes. Libertarian candidate Michael Badnarik and the "other" category both received five votes.

Students voted on authentic voting machines borrowed from the Rutherford County election commission Wednesday and Thursday last week in the Keathley University Center. The election was one of a series of events during MTSU's political week, sponsored by the American Democracy Project.

A red stamp on the hand was all that kept students from voting more than once, and nothing stopped faculty or other non-students from voting.

Mark Byrnes, a political science professor and sponsor of political week, called the results "completely unscientific." He said the point of the mock election was to generate interest in the upcoming election and not to get an accurate prediction.

Byrnes did say the results

were representative of the area, since the two main candidates were close.

"Our students tend to be reflective of Middle Tennessee and Middle Tennessee seems likely to go for Bush," Byrnes said. "I wasn't especially surprised [with the outcome.]"

What sets the 2004 election apart from others is how polarized students are, according to Byrnes.

"They have their positions more firmly held and are not likely to listen to the other side's arguments," Byrnes said. "I think that's probably a reflection of the national attitude now."

Christy Holden, president of the College Democrats, said the results set a preview of November.

"That's why every vote's going to count," Holden said.

Holden said students were concerned about jobs and tuition increases. The College Democrats have added about 250 members during the political week, she said.

"We're trying to let [students] know that since Bush has been in office, tuition costs have gone up," Holden said. "If they know these facts, that this really is affecting them, we'll have a

higher voter turnout."

The College Democrats will continue to register voters until the Oct. 3 deadline. Holden also said they will have a rally and local Democratic candidates may appear, though she declined to identify which candidates.

Justin Owen, president of the Raider Republicans, was surprised by the results on what he called a liberal campus.

"It's almost unexpected for Bush to come this close," Owen said. "If MTSU had publicized it a little bit more, there could have been a better turnout."

Owen said students should be concerned about economic issues.

"I think students going to college know that they can handle their financial situations better than the government can handle those," Owen said.

Owen said that Raider Republican membership grew to 450 during the political week. The Raider Republicans will continue to register voters, and Owen expects to see local candidates Oscar Gardner and Jim Tracy on campus between now and election day.

In addition to asking which

See Election, 2



Photo by Matt Orenstein | Staff Photographer

Senior Jason Manley leaves the mock voting polls.

## 'Fahrenheit 9/11' featured at KUC

By Tim Hill  
Staff Writer

Wednesday's free screening of Michael Moore's documentary Fahrenheit 9/11 at the Keathley University Center theater evoked criticism and praise from the MTSU community.

MTSU students were invited to attend the first night of the film, brought to campus with help from the Student Films Committee.

Before the film began, the audience was urged to save their comments until the two-hour movie was over.

"It's great to be here among the haves and the have-mores," Bush said in the documentary. "Some call you my supporters, but I call you my base."

The Republican response included an initial 20-minute long speech by political science professor John Vile.

"I just finished a book on civil liberties, so I, too, have concerns about the Patriot Act," Vile said.

Vile, who is chair of the political science department, talked about how our freedoms

have expanded over time in this country.

"If a film like this had been shown during the Civil War, you and I would have been put in jail for even watching it - and that's in the North or South," he said.

Vile also commented on whether Moore's film could affect the presidential election in November.

"I hope you don't make your voting decision based only what you see in this movie, but rather on other things instead," he said.

"Historian David Hostetter says that [Moore's] filmmaking style is the paranoid side of politics that the right wing displayed towards Hoover, or the left wing showed towards Vietnam," he said.

Vile answered students' questions and concerns over the film and its content.

"I hope we didn't go to war because of oil," Vile said.

"For 30 or 40 years, our country has had a relationship with the Saudis, which was maintained by both Republican and Democratic administra-



Photo: courtesy www.fahrenheit911.com

tions," he said.

When a student asked about the failure so far to find stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction, Vile said he thought that was the only issue where President George W. Bush could be criticized.

"The President said he believed that the WMDs were there, and as far as I know, we

only found one - Saddam Hussein," he said.

Some students used their time at the microphone to voice their opinions against Bush's actions over the course of his first term. One student held a sign that read, "Christians don't bomb innocent civilians - Go back to Texas!" ♦

## Republicans' letter raises reputation questions

By Juanita Thoun  
Staff Writer

A letter written by the Raider Republicans to television host Bill O'Reilly has raised concerns from MTSU Vice President of Student Affairs Robert Glenn.

At issue is the letter's suggestion that MTSU is teaching lies to students.

"Don't throw bricks at the university that, in my opinion, are unfounded," Glenn told three members of the Raider Republicans' executive staff and their sponsor, William Ford, chairman of the Weatherford Chair of Finance.

The letter in contention asked O'Reilly to come speak on campus to "help combat the blatant liberalism" evidenced at MTSU.

The letter pointed to former Vice President Al Gore being on staff, university

See Reputation, 2

## Council postpones vote on Maney Avenue Plan

By Nick Fowler  
State and Local Editor

Following a five-hour public hearing Thursday night on the Maney Avenue Comprehensive Plan, the Murfreesboro City Council decided they needed more time to study the plan before making a decision.

Planning Director Joseph Aydelott took questions from Mayor Tommy Bragg at the beginning of the meeting. Aydelott made it clear to the mayor that the plan would not itself create any zones or overlay districts. The plan is not a law or ordinance.

The plan is merely "a collection of strategies for the improvement of the area," Aydelott said. The plan would be used as a guide for future laws.

One issue the planning director tried to clear up is deed restrictions.

"It [the plan] advocates the use of restrictive covenants," Aydelott said.

Aydelott used the example of a mother-in-law's apartment to explain in what way the plan advocates restrictive covenants. The Board of Zoning Appeals may approve a permit to build an apartment attached to a house for a mother-in-law or other relative.

The BZA would approve the permit on the condition that after the relative leaves the owner of the property will not rent the room out to anyone else. A deed restriction would be placed on the property to prevent the room from ever being

See Maney, 3

## Deduction could benefit taxpayers

By Nona Kempton  
Staff Writer

Tennessee taxpayers will be able to deduct an estimated amount of what they pay the state in sales tax from their federal income tax if Congress passes a new law this year.

The new tax provision is part of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004, which passed in the House in June. The Senate is currently considering this bill and other versions with similar tax

measures.

Congressman Bart Gordon, D - Tenn., is one of the bill's sponsors.

"Allowing Tennesseans to deduct the state's sales taxes from their federal income tax is only fair," Gordon said in an issued statement. "Tennesseans end up paying more taxes to the federal government than residents who live in states that collect an income tax, which is deductible."

See Tax, 3

# Judge discusses court, Judge Judy

By Alex Miller  
Staff Writer

Judge David Loughry, of Rutherford County General Sessions Court, talked about the Patriot Act, Judge Judy and our nation's overabundance of laws on "Inside the Courtroom," a television program presented by MTSU's Satellite Video-Centering Center Thursday.

Cable stations in 12 counties aired the program, which was broadcasted live from the McWhorter Learning Resources Center.

The hour-long broadcast was divided into two parts: a pre-taped interview with the judge followed by a live question-and-answer session with the studio audience.

The pre-taped portion had been filmed at Loughry's office at the Rutherford County Courthouse. In it, he explained the hierarchy of courts in Tennessee, from the Supreme Court at the top all the way down to the lower courts, such as General Sessions Court, which handles civil cases under \$15,000, misdemeanors and some driving under the influence cases.

Loughry fielded questions from an audience of MTSU students and professors during the live portion of the broadcast.

"I think we have too many laws," Loughry said, responding to a question from Colby Jubenville, coordinator for the university's sports management department. Jubenville had asked the judge to describe the role of law in society.

Laws are reactions to real-world events, Loughry said. Whenever something bad happens, we make new laws.

"Laws keep us straight," he said, explaining why we need them. But ultimately he believes we have an excess of them.

"The Patriot Act was a knee-jerk reaction to 9/11," Loughry said in response to another question from the audience. He said that the act is too far reaching, and he is afraid that it will be used for purposes other than what was intended.

"Someday it will be abolished in part or in whole," he said.

"TennCare is our [state's] biggest challenge," he said, responding to another question from Jubenville, "not only financially, but morally."

There are kids who really need the program, but the more we spend on it, the less we can spend on anything else, he said.

In the pre-taped portion of the broadcast, Loughry explained Tennessee's court system, the penalties for DUI, the rights of the accused before entering a plea and the requirements for becoming a General Sessions Judge.

He also talked about Judge Judy.

"Screaming and yelling work well for about two minutes," he said, referring to the popular television judge's theatrics. "I liked Judge Wapner."

Connie Schmidt, director of MTSU's Instructional Technology Support Center, hosted the program. As it was drawing to a close, she asked Loughry what were some of the differences between being a judge, which he has been for 14 years, and being an attorney.

"Being a judge is easier," Loughry said, explaining that judges don't always have to take their work home with them, but "a lawyer's job is never done."

Though the first part of the program had been taped a week prior to the broadcast, Loughry had not watched the tape until Thursday, while it was being broadcast to cable stations across Middle Tennessee.

"It was weird," he said, describing how it felt to watch himself on TV while sitting in front of a roomful of people who were also watching him on television.

"Inside the Courtroom" was the first in a series of 10 programs scheduled to be filmed this semester at the McWhorter Learning Resources Center on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. "Preventing identity theft" will air on Sept. 30, and "How to handle the Holocaust" on Oct. 14.

The tapings are intended for teachers, but they are free and open to the public. Seating is limited, so call Jenny Marsh at 898-2737 for reservations. ♦

## Bicycle BRATs



Henry Miller of Richmond, Va., and Bennett Jones of Quitman, Ga., rest after riding to the Cannonsburg trail head from Gallatin as a part of Bicycle Ride Around Tennessee, or B.R.A.T.

Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

## Election: Students reject draft at polls

Continued from 1

presidential candidate they would vote for, students were asked five other questions on the ballot.

Students overwhelmingly rejected a military draft, with 457 voting against it, 73 for it and 64 undecided. Holden and Owen had differing views on the results.

"[Bush voters] are going to support the war here at home, but then they don't actually want to go fight in the war," Holden said. "John Kerry, instead of being drafted, actually signed up to go to war and served two tours of duty, which is less than I can say about his opponent."

Owen sees no need for a draft at this point and thinks a volunteer army is a good thing.

"The fact that our military is on a volunteer basis and that those men and women go to service based on their own free will is something to be proud of," Owen said. "It's something that people want to see kept."

Students supported a parking garage on campus by a vote

of 278 to 262, with 53 undecided. The ballot stipulated that a parking garage would come with higher parking fees. MTSU officials have said a parking garage may be necessary if the campus outgrows the land currently available for parking lots.

Students also rejected a state income tax, even if the sales tax were lower, and voters said "no" to lower lottery scholarships in exchange for an appeals process for students. Students overwhelmingly supported the plus/minus grading system.

While turnout for the mock election was only about 600 at a school of more than 22,000 students, organizers were happy with the turnout and degree of political involvement on campus.

"I think overall, at least the majority of students on campus are listening to the issues and paying attention to the candidates' points of view," Owen said. "I think that we'll have a good turnout in November from both sides. I think that there will be more students than normal going to the polls." ♦

## Reputation: Republicans want conservative speakers

Continued from 1

programming showing Michael Moore's *Fahrenheit 9/11* during voter awareness week and freshmen being required to read Anne Garrels' book, *Naked in Baghdad*, in support of their claim.

Glenn was not aware that university programming showed *Fahrenheit 9/11* free of charge; nor did he know refreshments were provided at the event. Likewise, he did admit the documentary is biased against President George W. Bush.

However, he maintained having Anne Garrels speak at convocation and requiring freshmen to read her book did not qualify as "teaching lies."

The Raider Republicans, Justin Owens, Ashley Elizabeth Graham and the letter's author, Tyler Smith, said these were just a few examples of how the university leans to the left and why they feel students are inundated with biased philosophies. They also suggested the only reason Glenn arranged the meeting with Tyler was to impugn him for exercising his free speech

rights. "You're more concerned with image rather than excellence at this university," Owens said.

Ford said it was never the intention of the Raider Republicans to degrade MTSU.

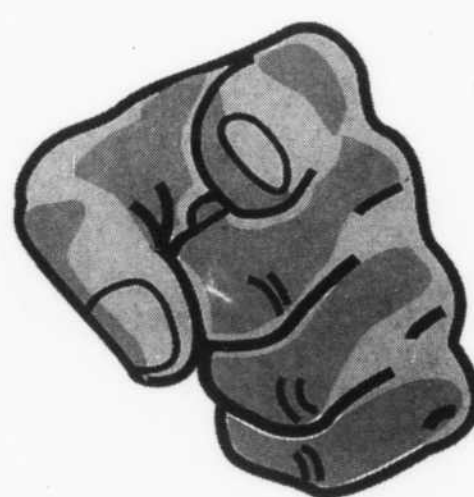
"I'm enormously proud of this university," Ford said. "[However,] what goes on, on this campus, is not fair and balanced. We want to see things that go on to reflect the whole university, not just the views of the liberal faculty."

Tyler, Owen and Graham said the Raider Republicans now have 450 members, and the group is the fastest-growing student organization at MTSU.

Ford said in addition to the large number of conservative activist students on campus, many alumni and parents are also conservative. Ford said when he attempts to raise money for student scholarships, he is often refused. The potential givers cite disgust over what they read on *Sidelines'* opinion page and Gore's hiring as their reason for shunning the university, Ford said. ♦

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## Tax: Most wouldn't see benefit with proposed law

Continued from 1

Tennessee is one of only nine states that do not have a broad-based income tax. Florida, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Texas, Washington and Wyoming have no state or local income taxes. Alaska allows local income taxes, but does not have a state income tax.

Tennessee and New Hampshire collect state taxes on income from interest and dividends. New Hampshire, however, does not have a state sales tax.

According to documentation from the Congressional Research Service, the bill would allow taxpayers who itemize their federal taxes to deduct an estimated amount of state sales taxes paid. A tax table will take into account income filing status, number of dependents, adjusted gross income and the state and local sales tax rate.

In the bill passed by the House and in other versions being considered by the Senate, an estimated allowance would be used and taxpayers would not be required to collect and keep receipts to prove actual sales taxes paid.

A majority of Tennesseans, however, may not see any benefit from this new law.

"No more than 25 percent of Tennessee taxpayers file itemized returns," said MTSU economics and finance professor Reuben Kyle. "The only ones who can take advantage of it are those who itemize. If you simply take the standard deduction, this won't apply."

The federal government allows a standard deduction of \$9,700 for married couples, \$7,150 for heads of household and \$4,850 for single individuals in lieu of itemizing deductions. To make itemizing worthwhile, the filer's itemized deductions, including interest on a home mortgage, would need to exceed the standard deduction amount.

"This would apply mostly to

people who own their houses and take a mortgage deduction," Kyle said. "Chances are that is not going to be the lowest income people."

Gordon also estimated that the tax benefit would only apply to certain eligible Tennessee taxpayers, but the savings for those individuals would be significant.

"Nearly a quarter of Tennessee taxpayers would receive an average benefit of \$470 each if we can get this measure passed into law," Gordon said. "That could help boost our state economy, especially at a time when Tennessee has lost more than 60,000 manufacturing jobs."

The CRS notes in their report that if a deduction for sales taxes were allowed, the number of federal income tax filers who itemize may increase to take advantage of the deduction.

The report also said that Tennessee is a special case, since taxpayers here would have to choose whether to deduct estimated sales tax or the taxes paid on income and dividend interest.

"This is really a political question," Kyle said. "This issue has been raised before and it has never passed. But the congressional delegation from Tennessee has always supported it across party lines."

State and local sales taxes were once deductible from federal income taxes, but that deduction was repealed as part of the Tax Reform Act of 1986.

"After much deliberation and endless strategy sessions, we were able to convince the House leadership to put the sales tax deduction measure on the floor for a vote," Gordon said. "We prevailed, but were still not out of the woods yet. We have to convince our Senate colleagues that this is a fair and equitable solution to an unfair situation. Then we have to hope the president supports it." ♦

## Maney: Mayor questions planning director at meeting

Continued from 1

rented.

"They may not rent it [the mother-in-law's apartment] to college students, who may not be very good neighbors," Aydelott said.

Following Bragg's questioning of Aydelott, the council heard from the public.

Many people in the audience wore handmade buttons pinned to their shirts to show their opposition to the plan.

However, not all in attendance were against the plan.

"I think it's pretty obvious that there are problems in that area," Paula Williams, an eight-year resident of the area. Williams said she believes the plan will help improve the area.

Mike Cooper, an opponent of the plan, said there are better ways to improve the area.

"Make landlords clean the property up," Cooper said. "By no means impose on me someone's idea of how they're going

to make things better."

Several members of the Citizens Advisory Committee, which helped create the plan, encouraged the council to approve the plan at the meeting.

"If not this plan, what?" asked Ron Nichols, member of the CAC. "Without this plan, the only change will be continued decline."

Following the public hearing, the council discussed the plan.

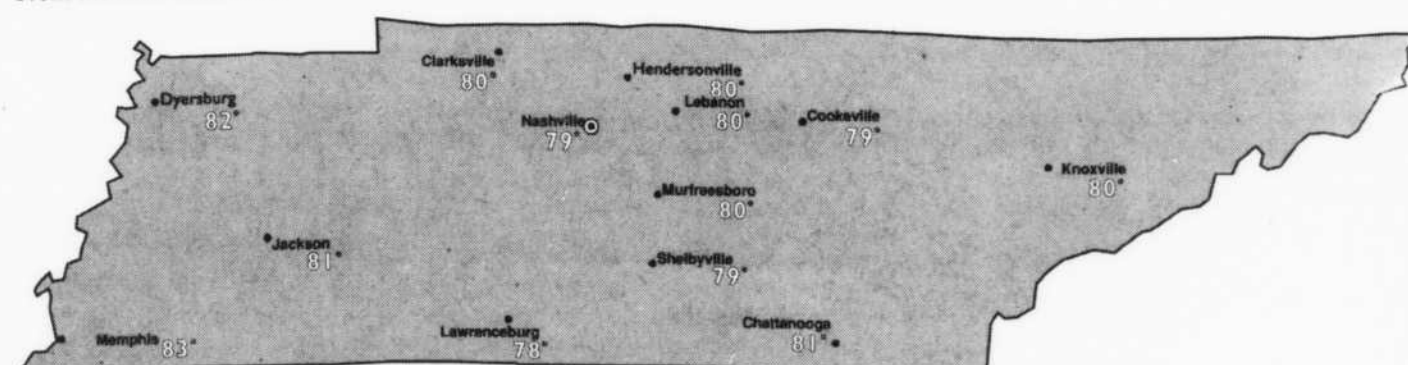
Noting how the plan seems to have divided the community, Councilmember Beth O'Brien said, "It seems to me that our approach has not been appropriate."

She agreed with Councilmember Ron Washington that they should take some more time to examine the plan before acting.

The council voted unanimously to create a workshop to study the plan. ♦

## Tennessee Weather – Monday's Highs

From the Associated Press



Tuesday



Wednesday



Thursday



Friday



Saturday



## Providers see benefits in Governor's TennCare reform

By Lucas L. Johnson II  
Associated Press Writer

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — An audience of community leaders and medical providers at a discussion Friday on Gov. Phil Bredesen's TennCare reform plan mostly supported his efforts, and agreed that other state programs will suffer if something isn't done.

"If we continue on the current path, TennCare will continue to gobble up funds," said Middle Tennessee State University President Sidney McPhee. "Clearly, something has to be done. And his approach to not just tinkering around the edges, but really doing major surgery, is what's needed."

McPhee helped organize the round-table of about 20 individuals, mostly medical providers and people who have worked with TennCare enrollees, at the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce.

Lisa Pewitt, a nurse practitioner with Primary Care & Hope Clinic in Murfreesboro,

said she's pleased the governor is not trying to drop any of TennCare's 1.3 million enrollees. About 270,000 are uninsured and uninsurable.

"Under the previous administration, I had people with cancer who were taken off the rolls," said Pewitt, whose non-profit clinic works mostly with the medically underserved. "I like his plan for trying to save money."

Since the governor announced his proposed changes last month, advocates for enrollees have been saying there are better ways to save money in the \$7.8 billion expanded Medicaid program. They believe some of Bredesen's approaches will both unnecessarily harm people and cost more money in the long term.

Bredesen has said he wants to reshape TennCare and prevent up to \$1 billion a year in spending growth by 2008.

One big concern among advocates is a plan to limit about 270,000 of TennCare's enrollees to six prescriptions per month. Other limits include new caps on visits to hospitals

and doctors' offices. Bredesen's plan also expands co-payments to a broader number of enrollees and increases many of them.

Advocates say limiting prescriptions has proved to be an ineffective way to save money because even greater costs show up down the road for patients who cannot fully treat their illnesses.

"What they're not taking into account is that people with chronic needs will take more than six prescriptions or have more doctor visits," said Shawn Caster of the Tennessee Justice Center, a frequent advocate for TennCare enrollees, in a telephone interview.

But Bredesen told the round-table many people are taking some medicines that aren't necessary. He recalled one meeting where an elderly woman emptied a bag of about 11 different medicines on a table in front of him and said she would die if she lost even one prescription. Bredesen said he made a list of the medicines and showed them to a doctor who said the woman was being "overmedicated."

Pewitt agreed with the governor's scenario.

"I think limits are necessary because a lot of people are on things they really don't need," she said.

This week, a group of ministers sent Bredesen a letter complaining that limited prescriptions would force enrollees to use generic drugs, which they say "are not always the most effective treatments," and that the "medical necessity" definition will create "a second tier standard of care for TennCare patients."

Bredesen said he plans to meet with the ministers at some point to address their concerns, but he pointed out that a two-class system already exists, and "it's called people with insurance and people who don't have insurance."

"What I'm trying to do is prevent that division from getting deeper," the governor said, "to keep people on TennCare by everybody giving a little."

Bredesen plans to submit his proposal to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services next week. ♦

## Gordon speaks at Stones River



Photo by Kevin Lane | Staff Photographer

Stones River National Battlefield dedicated their new visitor's center Saturday morning. Bart Gordon spoke at the dedication.

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## From the Editorial Board

### Confusion abounds regarding Maney Plan

The Maney Avenue Comprehensive Plan was supposed to instill community spirit in the oldest neighborhoods in Murfreesboro. So far, the plan has only succeeded in dividing the district's residents.

While it is clear that the City Council has done a good job of getting the word out about the plan, they've done a poor job of creating a dialogue with the citizens most concerned about the plan.

Thursday night, Murfreesboro residents packed the council chambers for the public hearing.

Many people were there to voice their opinion about the plan. They got what they wanted.

Others were there because they had questions, and they wanted answers. They surely left dissatisfied.

Residents were allowed to speak, and ask their questions, but they weren't allowed answers. The City Council sat quietly and stared at them.

Clearly, a lot of misinformation and misunderstanding surrounds the MACP. The council had a prime opportunity to clear up most of the misinformation and misunderstanding at the hearing, but they didn't.

To their credit, they did provide a 14-page questions and answers handout. But it appears the handout did not satisfy the audience.

Perhaps the council should set up a question and answer hearing. The planning commissioner and other knowledgeable advocates of the plan could answer the public's questions.

Sure, this will take some time, but after Thursday's five-hour hearing, it's clear the public doesn't mind getting involved with government, no matter how boring.

The City Council may then be able to alleviate the fear this plan has created. They may even win some converts to their plan. ♦

## From the Opinions Editor

### What do you want to monopolize today, Bill?

So much for everybody getting along.

This past week, Alyce Lomax of *The Motley Fool* reported that the digital world's two online giants, Microsoft and America Online, are clashing over standards for combating that most frustrating and annoying nuisance of the Internet: spam.

AOL's main beef with Bill Gates and Co. breaks down as follows: Microsoft develops initiative to block spam. Microsoft makes move to acquire patent on said system. AOL rebuffs Microsoft's system and supports one developed by programmers with Yahoo.

Seem excessive? Well, given Microsoft's habit of attempting to devour every sector of the software industry, AOL's panic attack over the situation isn't completely unfounded.

For example, back in 2000, Microsoft added extensions to the Kerberos security standard, causing an uproar where many blew whistles at the company for violating the open-source license Massachusetts Institute of Technology placed on Kerberos, making the software's code available for anyone to access, view, or submit improvements to.

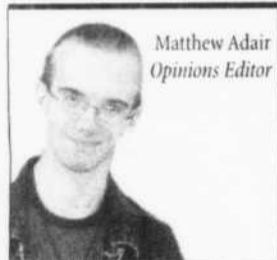
Also, anyone who does modify the software is bound by the license to release its changes under an open-source license. Microsoft essentially ignored that provision, declared its modifications to be "trade secrets" and invoked the Digital Millennium Copyright Act on anyone who posted information on the modifications in protest of the company's actions.

Open-source developers around the world fear that Microsoft will try to dominate any spam-fighting standard, locking out anyone who is unable to pay massive amounts of money from accessing development information about the software.

Granted, Microsoft has as much a right to profit off of its labor as anyone else – such is the nature of capitalism, after all. However, no one company, be it Microsoft or AOL or whomever, should dominate any sort of online standard. Such massive systems should be developed by the online community at large instead of being centralized behind closed doors, cutting the project off from a wide supply of potentially useful talent.

Besides, when it comes to securing your computer from junk mail and attacks, Microsoft and AOL are the last two groups I would trust with the task. ♦

Matthew Adair is a sophomore graphic design major and can be reached at [matt.adair@gmail.com](mailto:matt.adair@gmail.com).



Matthew Adair  
Opinions Editor

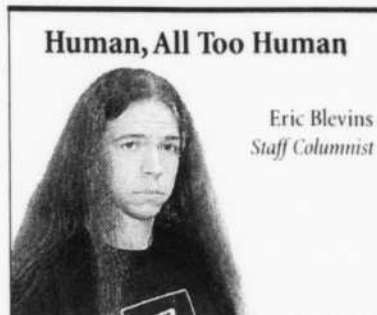
## Situation in Iraq calls for outrage

The fact that George W. Bush is in office is a perfect illustration of the ridiculousness of American politics and the utter stupidity of the American public as a whole.

I'm not referring to the fact that Bush stole the election by unjustly purging from the ballot box thousands of Floridians who belong to demographics that traditionally vote Democrat before the 2000 election ever happened. That is a valid point, but Greg Palast has already made it very well in his book, "The Best Democracy Money Can Buy."

It is incredible that Bush got away with that, but what is even more amazing is the invasion of Iraq. I don't understand how this was not the biggest scandal in the history of American politics. The man invaded a country on false evidence, admitted it, and not only was he not held accountable in any way, he didn't even apologize.

Bill Clinton apologized for being unfaithful to his wife, which should have nothing to do with politics. Richard Nixon apologized for spying on a political party just as corrupt as his own. What Bush



Human, All Too Human

Eric Blevins  
Staff Columnist

has done is not even in the same ballpark as those injustices.

More than 12,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed by our invasion so far. That number doesn't include soldiers. It only includes everyday people just like you and me, who were trying to live their lives as best they could until the most powerful military in history decided to invade their country.

About 1,000 U.S. soldiers have been killed in Iraq, and the number looks to keep rising. Nearly 50 have been killed so far this month alone.

Bush said we were invading Iraq because they had weapons of mass destruction and were a threat to us. It turned out that Iraq was the only country in the region that didn't have weapons of mass

destruction, and not even the countries surrounding Iraq considered it a threat. How can a poor third world country be a threat to a superpower thousands of miles away, and not be a threat to the small countries around it?

No weapons of mass destruction were found and Bush couldn't even give the Iraqis a simple "Oops. My bad." Bush wasn't even smart enough to get someone to plant some believable evidence.

Bush told the American public that we had solid evidence of Iraq's WMD programs. This evidence was provided by an agent with the appropriate code name Curveball. This person was working for German intelligence and was never interviewed by any U.S. officials directly. Colin Powell used information from Curveball before the United Nations, even though German officials warned Americans of his credibility.

David Kay was a postwar weapons inspector who declared in January that Iraq had no WMD. Kay told the *Los Angeles Times*, "If Powell had said to the Security Council: 'It's one source, we never actually talked to him, and we

don't know his name,' I think people would have laughed us out of court."

Even if we give Bush the benefit of the doubt and don't blame him for the intelligence failure, doesn't someone have to be held accountable? "Shouldn't someone be fired?" as Jon Stewart remarked on an episode of *The Daily Show*.

So Bush claimed Iraq had links with Al-Qaida, an organization of Islamic fundamentalists. Saddam Hussein ran a secular government. Islamic fundamentalists want an Islamic government. Therefore, it is no surprise that Osama bin Laden hated Saddam's government.

Then Bush changed our goal to the liberation of Iraq. I suppose that's a noble cause, but after great numbers of death in that country it seems the only part of Iraq that can be remotely considered liberated is a four-square-mile area called the Green Zone.

Where is the outrage at this man's deception? ♦

Eric Blevins is a senior recording industry major and can be reached at [ericlev@hotmail.com](mailto:ericlev@hotmail.com).

## Newcomers: Welcome to absolute, utter madness

With classes in full swing, it's time to let all the new students know one thing: Don't worry; this is normal.

MTSU promises a great deal to new students, and while getting an education is extremely important, you won't get far during your four, five or eight years here without facing and coming to terms with a few absolutes.

First off, you will never get a good parking space. Stop stalking everyone on foot in a parking lot. Odds are, they're just writing tickets to all the seasoned students who, after driving around for their first two years at MTSU, decided to invent a parking space and get a ticket.

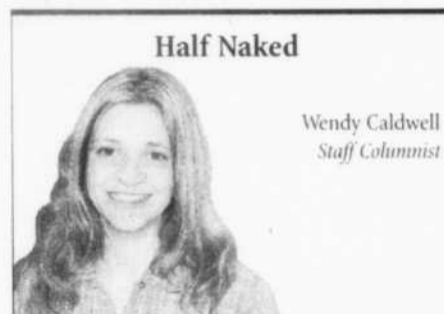
It's best to just leave early, park far away and call a cab to drive you to class. Leaving 30 minutes in advance will most likely allow you time to find a suitable spot on the street. Watch out for the "No Parking" and "Tow Zone" signs. There's nothing worse than coming out of class to find that you haven't forgotten where you parked – your car just isn't there anymore.

Look on the bright side, though: Maybe a lot of people will fail out, freeing up more spaces for you to put your car. If that doesn't work, find someone with classes at the exact same time as you, or at least with the same starting and ending time, and carpool.

There are more than 20,000 undergraduates here – the odds are in your favor. In fact, you're probably more likely to find such a student than you are to find a parking space that isn't handicapped, a white space or being partially inhabited by the moron in the next space who couldn't quite seem to keep it between the lines.

Second, beware of the rain. In addition to the normal annoyances of rain – people driving too slowly, windshields that stay fogged up, people with umbrellas hogging the entire sidewalk and moving slower than the worms that have emerged from the moist earth – Murfreesboro is blessed with flooding.

When the downpour hits, ditches become creeks, parking lots fill with ankle-deep water, and I start gathering two of every animal. Boots will not help. Umbrellas will not help. Rolling up your jeans so they look like capris will not help.



Half Naked

Wendy Caldwell  
Staff Columnist

Your only hope of survival is to flee to the press box at the stadium – the highest point on campus. Bring a flashlight to signal the rescue boat.

Sometime in the next week or two, every class will have the first test. Naturally, you don't know what to expect from these professors, and it certainly doesn't help that four of your five classes have tests within three days of one another, and your fifth class is bowling.

Don't panic. Pump yourself full of high-carb energy bars and Red Bull. You may not sleep for a week and a half, but once the crunch time is over, switch to decaf while you detox and sleep through class the next time you meet.

Class attendance seems to follow a pattern around test time. The class before the test you can expect about 80 to 85 percent to show up just in case the professor gives away some vital test information. The day of the test, 99 percent make an appearance. The other 1 percent is the student who missed the test because while driving back from a joint funeral for both of his grandmothers, he got a flat tire and was stranded on the side of the road. Shortly after, his sister went into labor, and he's been babysitting the quintuplets ever since.

The class meeting after the test is substantially less – about 40 to 45 percent, and they only show up because they still retain hope that tests will be returned immediately after they have been taken. It'll be at least a week before you know your grade, so get used to waiting.

If it's too much to fathom now, give it time. Just remember: That lottery scholarship won't pay for your parking tickets. ♦

Wendy Caldwell is a junior math major and can be reached at [Visa717@aol.com](mailto:Visa717@aol.com).

## Key to happiness lies within you

Have you ever noticed there are three kinds of people in this world? One is the people that think they are better than everyone else.



Kacey's Corner

Kacey Hercules  
Staff Columnist

Some are the ones that pride themselves on being the underdogs or victims of the "better ones."

Then the others are the ones that just don't care. Life is life; everyone has to go through it.

It really does not matter what kind of person you are, as long as you remember that you make your life what you want it to be.

One of my teachers used to challenge her students to be creators, not complainers of their world. I give the same challenge to you this year.

I understand school can be hard. People can be mean and unexpected crises can happen. But we have a choice on what we can do.

We can sit and wait for trouble. We can dismiss it when it comes, or we can enjoy peace for now. When the storm comes we can control the response that would best solve the problem.

For example, I have three tests next week. My dog is sick and I have to work tonight. I could throw my hands up and say the world is ending, or I could take a deep breath and do my best. That is all people can ask of me. If I need help, my pride would not stop me from asking for it.

Now do you see how easy it is to control your situation? Once we understand we still can control ourselves even in crises, we have won the battle.

We have the choice to be the victim or survivor by our attitudes. Whichever one we choose, we have to live with ourselves and the way people treat us because of our choice.

Think about it this way: What would you like people to say about you when you are not around? Like it or not people do talk about you when you are not around. If you look at yourself honestly, you talk about others, too.

In the end, I am saying the only one responsible for your happiness – or lack of it – is you. No one has the ability to look inside you, to fit the broken or fill the emptiness. Only you can look inside you.

It doesn't matter if you are the victim, the "better one" or the one that doesn't really care.

The question is, are you happy? If you're not, then make that your goal this year.

Your parents don't live your life. Your friends don't live your life. Only you live your life.

So choose the person you want to be. Strive to be happy. ♦

Kacey Hercules is a junior social work major and can be reached at [kah2x@mtsu.edu](mailto:kah2x@mtsu.edu).

## Correction

The candlelight vigil featured on page 1 of the Monday, Sept. 13 edition was to honor soldiers from Tennessee and those who served at Fort Campbell. It was not to commemorate victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. *Sidelines* regrets the error.

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## SIDELINES

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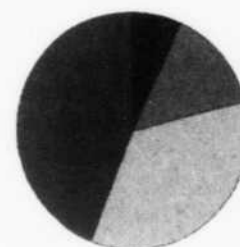
*Sidelines* is the editorially independent, non-profit student-produced newspaper of Middle Tennessee State University. *Sidelines* publishes Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and Wednesday during June and July. The opinions expressed herein are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of *Sidelines* or MTSU.



## Sidelines online poll results

Last week we asked readers, "Have you ever looked at pornography on a library computer?" Here's what they said...

- Yes, but not on purpose. Once those pop-ups start... (7 percent)
- Absolutely not. (44 percent)
- No. And by no, I mean yes. (15 percent)
- Not on a library computer... (35 percent)



156 people voted in this poll. Results are not scientific. Visit [www.mtsusidelines.com](http://www.mtsusidelines.com) to answer this week's poll question, "Why didn't you go to MTSU's opening game?"

# Celebrating 20 years

**Campus minister celebrates 20 years of leadership on the MTSU campus, calling students to service and leadership**

By Mary Anne Dunavant  
Staff Writer

The Wesley Foundation at MTSU is a Methodist Christian organization that was founded in 1947. For the past 20 years, it has been under the leadership of Campus Minister Bill Campbell.

Those with exposure to the Methodist denomination are aware that Methodist ministers typically rotate every four to five years. However, since a completely new student congregation floats through every four to five years, there is really no need to change ministers.

His continued status as Campus Minister for the last two decades speaks volumes about Campbell's love for campus ministry and college students.

Campbell is originally from Nashville. He studied social work and psychology at Lambuth University in Jackson, Tenn., where he received his bachelor's degree.

He obtained his master's in theology from Southern Methodist University in Dallas and is currently working on his doctoral dissertation on campus ministry through Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

Prior to beginning his ministry with the Wesley Foundation in 1984, Campbell served at four churches in Dallas and the Middle Tennessee area.

"I had no idea I'd be here that long," Campbell says about his 20 years at MTSU. His passion for working with college students lies in the fact that students at this point in their lives are constantly making decisions about who they are and what they believe.

Student leadership is crucial to any student-filled organiza-

tion because the best people to reach students are students.

"The Wesley Foundation offers a Christian community for its students. It is very much about the students being the body of Christ and it depends heavily on student leadership," Campbell says.

Campbell describes several ways in which students can become involved in the Wesley Foundation, including the Wesley Singers, a traveling choir group, two weekly services and meals, small group Bible studies, Monday night group studies during which larger and tougher issues are discussed, a clown ministry and the drama program.

The drama program is a particularly great way for students to become involved in the organization. They host open auditions that are not restricted to those who are involved in the Wesley Foundation in order to promote diversity within the organization.

The Wesley Foundation encourages students of all beliefs to see what all it has to offer. One student discovered his theatrical talent when he became involved in the drama program, and he is now an actor on Broadway.

Other former members are involved in community drama groups. Some plays that have been performed through the program are "Oklahoma!", "Grease" and "Guys and Dolls."

The Wesley Foundation also places a strong emphasis on reaching out to the community and to the rest of the world. Students are encouraged to participate at least once a month by helping with projects through local organizations such as soup kitchens or in Habitat for Humanity.

In the past, they have trav-

eled to places such as Belize, Costa Rica, Mexico City and Honduras during spring break.

For spring break 2005, they are considering traveling to the Dominican Republic. Students raise the money for the trips, including airfare, food cost and construction materials.

One of the main goals of the Wesley Foundation is to clarify misconceptions that students may have about Christianity.

"The education system does not provide a good foundation for understanding [the Christian faith]...many people misunderstand Christianity. I firmly believe that Christians are saved by grace and not through correctness of thinking," Campbell explains.

Howard Miller, a customer sales representative for Charles Evans & Associates from San Jose, Calif., has known Campbell for 13 years since he was an MTSU student involved in the Wesley Foundation.

"Bill understands, especially in college ministry, that it is integral to be there for students to help them make good decisions...He made Wesley a very open and affirming community, allowing all of God's children to feel welcomed," Miller says.

Many former students gladly tell of the influence Campbell has had upon their lives. According to former student David Mabry, "he has helped so many people to become more than they thought they could [be]."

"Bill is an amazing Christian witness who has dedicated the past 20 years of his life to encouraging, empowering, leading and loving young people," fourth grade teacher and former student Beth Tuverson says.

Likewise, Campbell feels very blessed by his relationships with students. "They keep me



Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

**Campbell, in full clown garb, hands out flyers for a Wesley Foundation event recently.**

on my toes," Campbell says.

During his 20 years as Campus Minister for the Wesley Foundation, Campbell has been a great influence on the lives of many college students in many ways. Being in his presence, one

can easily sense his passion for ministry.

"Bill is a wonderful human being with a heart of gold. He knows the importance of being a spiritual guide for the impressionable lives of college students

and he knows how to treat them like adults.

"Not only was Bill a great minister, but he was, and is, a great friend," Miller says. ♦

## Dear Emily

Dear Emily,

I have a moral dilemma about cheating at school.

I know it's wrong, but in one of my hardest classes this semester, several people have begun cheating on the exams. Our professor doesn't even notice, and sometimes he even leaves the room, making it that much easier for everyone to spread answers around the room.

In another of my classes, we have daily take-home assignments. Usually, one person does them and lets everyone else in the class copy the answers, changing the words around some so it looks different.

I could easily cheat with these people and guarantee a good grade, but I just can't quite get over my ethical problem with it. I don't want to have to cheat in my classes, but they make it so easy, and I don't want to be the only one being honest and making bad grades because of it.

I know that's a lame reason to cheat, but if everybody's doing it, is it really that big of a deal? It's not like it's hurting anybody. Besides, it's my education; shouldn't it be up to me to decide if I feel good about this?

Cheating Heart

Dear Cheating Heart,

Yes, it is your education. But you're only cheating yourself out of it if you ignore your conscience about this. That's exactly the point that you seem to be overlooking.

The only person it's hurting is you, because you're devaluing your diploma. If your educa-

tion is based solely on passing all your classes with good grades, you're not really concerned with actually learning anything. So why are you here if it means no more than that to you?

If everyone decided for himself or herself what they felt good about, rather than obeying any rules that are set in place, we'd have justification for all kinds of crimes. Shoplifters feel good about stealing and murderers feel good about killing people.

Obviously, these are extreme examples, but the point is that it can't be left up to individual judgment. Just because you feel okay about it doesn't make it right.

I'm sure nearly everyone has cheated on some type of school work at some point in their lives, but your parents were right when they told you that "everyone's doing it" is not a good reason to do something.

I know it's frustrating to feel like the people that are cheating are wrecking the grade curve, and you're going to make bad grades because of your honest work.

It's still worth it to do honest work, though. What's going unsaid here is that obviously, it is against MTSU policy to cheat or plagiarize your schoolwork. Bottom line, it's not right for these people to cheat. And chances are, you're not the only one that it bothers.

There is something that you can do other than just deciding if you want to join in with them.

Do everyone a favor and send your teacher an anonymous email or note asking him to be more watchful against cheaters.

Yes, we are all adults and should be treated as such, but if professors allow cheating to be so easy, they only make the temptation greater for students who might not cheat if it were harder to get away with.

Ultimately, follow your conscience and do the honest thing. It's worth it and you'll be glad later! ♦



# SPORTS

6 ♦ SIDELINES

Monday, September 20, 2004

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

## Marks did best in loss

**Commentary**  
by Ron Moses  
Staff Columnist

The few errant throws and bad reads notwithstanding, Clint Marks showed wonderful leadership and a strong chemistry with Kerry Wright Saturday against Florida Atlantic.

Marks threw for 359 yards and one touchdown in Saturday's loss.

Wright, who led the Blue Raiders in receiving yards with 147 and also caught a touchdown pass, was voted player of the game.

Even though Marks threw three interceptions, some of which were very costly for the Blue Raiders, he showed that he is the best this team has and he has the ability to make some big throws.

Marks had his career high in passing yardage, and also showed wonderful touch on a couple of long throws, as well as a strong arm on the shorter ones.

He threw some balls that were very ill-timed and that led to some costly interceptions, but the signs of improvement and leadership ability give hope to the Blue Raider fans that are longing for a leader on this team.

Marks said that this loss falls on him and the coaches shouldn't be blamed. That is leadership.

The Blue Raiders have had a quarterback controversy all year. With Marks' play Saturday, that controversy should be dwindling, and Marks should take control of the team.

Marks was replaced in the third quarter by Josh Harris for a short time, but with the change at quarterback came a change in momentum and the Raiders couldn't move the ball.

After yanking Marks, the team did not look as sharp or as comfortable with Harris at the reins.

Saturday, the Blue Raider football team was simply a better team with Clint Marks calling the signals.

The mistakes that Marks made were mistakes made by a young man trying to make something happen. There were a few throws that seemed to get away from Marks, and there were also a few forced throws.

However, if those mistakes can be minimized, and the MT coaching staff can begin to show a little more patience with Marks, the future looks bright for this start and for Blue Raider football. ♦

## FLORIDA ATLANTIC 27, MIDDLE TENNESSEE 20



Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

MT quarterback Josh Harris tries to avoid the Florida Atlantic defense Saturday. Harris was sacked four times.

## No miracle necessary this time 13,348 watch Florida Atlantic win 27-20

By Jonathan Hutton  
Staff Writer

This past weekend's opener proved that football is a four-quarter game.

For the second straight year, Florida Atlantic traveled to Floyd Stadium and left with a win. In front of a crowd of 13,348 for the game dubbed Operation: Full House II, Middle Tennessee watched FAU score 21 straight points in the third quarter to win 27-20.

The Blue Raiders were hoping to avenge last year's loss to

the Owls, but FAU quarterback Jared Allen threw three second-half touchdowns to lead the Owls back from a 17-6 deficit.

Allen finished 16-of-25 for 273 yards.

After defeating Akron last week 31-24 on the road, the Blue Raiders looked ready to win their first home opener in three years. On MT's first offensive play from scrimmage, however, cornerback Willie Hughley stepped in and intercepted quarterback Clint Marks' pass, leading to a sec-

ond Owl field goal that put FAU up 6-0.

MT was down 6-3 when Marks threw a 48-yard pass to wide receiver Kerry Wright that took the Blue Raiders all the way to the FAU 4-yard line. Two plays later Lee Baker scored his first collegiate touchdown and MT went up 10-6.

The Blue Raiders took over in the second quarter, scoring another touchdown when Wright caught a Marks pass in the left corner of the end zone. Wright finished with 9 catches

for 147 yards.

MT then blocked Mark Myers' 43-yard field goal attempt and went into the locker room ahead 17-6.

The momentum that was in MT's favor at the half ended as quickly as the third quarter began. On the opening drive of the third quarter, the Blue Raider offense steadily drove down the field, but Marks was intercepted in the end zone by FAU free safety Cameron Rodgers. The Owls took over

See Loss, 8

## Full House? Hardly

Sports commentary



Colby Sledge  
Sports Editor

Congratulations, fans! Operation: Halfway House was a rousing success.

To the 13,348 people who decided to come and risk sunburn and social embarrassment, I'm sure the Blue Raiders appreciated your support.

To the rest of the 100,000 people who live in the Murfreesboro-Smyrna area and the 35,000 MTSU alumni who live in the Greater Nashville Area, I can't say I blame you.

Let's face it: Middle Tennessee football didn't just lose to Florida Atlantic Saturday. MT football lost to the state fair. MT football lost to running in the park. Heck, MT football lost to mowing the lawn.

The athletic department will put as good a face as possible on the failure to sell out Floyd Stadium, citing loud support and loyal fans. But neither was present Saturday. As I passed out the *Sidelines* Sports Report at Gate 1, I saw a surprising number of FAU fans coming into the stadium. There were a fair number of people buying tickets at the walk-up windows, but the lines quickly disappeared after kickoff.

When I moved over to Gates 3 and 4, the student gates, a large majority of the fans were fairly excited – but that also could have been attributed to the beer cans lined against the stadium wall in front of the gates. Who says we have a dry campus?

As for crowd noise, I have heard louder fans in the bathrooms of the Coliseum than I did in the first half of Saturday's game, which was the better of the two in terms of fan response. I visited with relatives on the season-ticket holders' side of the stadium, and you could have heard a tee drop among the country-club crowd.

The worst part of all this for the Blue Raiders is the fact that for the first time, these attendance numbers are real. In years past, figures have been inflated thanks to creative ways of counting season ticket holders and other sales. Now as part of the NCAA attendance requirement, an outside auditor must provide and verify attendance figures.

See Fans, 8

## Blue Raiders win one at Miami of Ohio Tournament

By Jon Leffew  
Assistant Sports Editor

The Middle Tennessee volleyball team traveled to Oxford, Ohio, over the weekend to compete in the Miami Classic.

After two tough losses on Friday and Saturday against Georgia Tech and Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, the team bounced back with their first road win of the year on Saturday, a 3-2 decision over Miami University of Ohio.

On Friday, Matt Peck and the Lady Raiders begin play with a match against IPFW.

Despite the efforts of KeKe Deckard, who continued her stellar early season play, the Lady Raiders dropped the match, 3-0.

For the fourth consecutive match, Deckard recorded at least 20 kills.

The Lady Raiders found themselves tied at 36 in game number two, but IPFW clinched the game with two straight points.

Andressa Lyra also recorded double-digit kills (11), while Alicia Lemau'u recorded 21 digs

in the loss.

On Saturday, the Blue Raiders opened play against the Georgia Tech Lady Yellow Jackets.

Although the Lady Raiders played the Lady Yellow Jackets closely in game No. 1 (30-27), the duo of Lynnette Moster and Abby Showers proved to be too much for MT.

In the three-game match, Moster posted 13 kills and Showers had 40 assists to lead Georgia Tech to the 30-27, 30-19, 30-22 victory.

For the Lady Raiders, Lyra once again recorded double-digit kills (20), and Megan Sumrell added 40 assists in the losing effort.

"Once again we were able to get a lot of contributions from a number of players today," head coach Bond Shymansky told Georgia Tech Media Relations. "I thought that Abby did a great job of running our offense and found ways to work a number of people into our offense today."

Later in the day, Matt Peck's squad picked up their first road victory of the season.

The Blue Raiders defeated

the host Miami of Ohio Redhawks in an exciting five-game match by the score of 3-2 (30-23, 26-30, 26-30, 30-17, 18-16).

MT had three different players record double-doubles in the match.

The team also had a total of eight service aces.

Dara McLean had her first double-double of the season with 25 kills and 10 digs.

Lyra, who was named to the All-Tournament team, finished with 22 kills and 14 digs.

Tara Mikuzis had 18 kills and 15 digs.

McLean and Mikuzis led the way in game one, as the Blue Raiders bounced back from an early deficit to take the game.

The Redhawks would bounce back though, mounting wins in games two and three before MT took a 15-7 lead and never looked back to force a fifth game.

Neither team led by more than a point in the final game.

Eventually, a kill and a block ended the match in the Blue Raiders' favor, 18-16.

Georgia Tech finished the tournament with an undefeated

record (2-0) to capture the tournament title.

"This was a great weekend for our team," head coach Bond Shymansky told Georgia Tech Media Relations. "It was real important that we got our offense successful and we accomplished just that."

The Yellow Jackets placed three players on the All-Tournament team, including MVP Lynnette Moster, who captured the honor for the third time in her career.

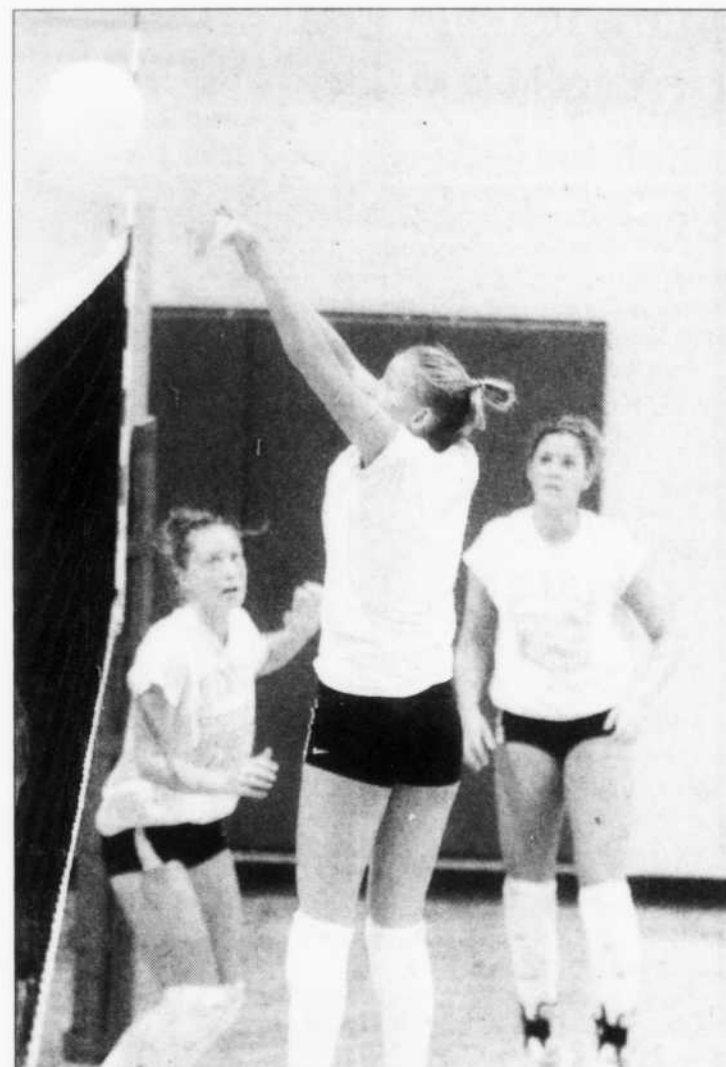
"Lynnette played great all weekend and it was a great experience for her to play in front of so many fans," Shymansky told Georgia Tech Media Relations.

The team will return home on Friday, playing host to the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers.

The Sun Belt match will start at 7 p.m. at Alumni Memorial Gym. ♦

Photo by Micah Miller | Staff Photographer

MT's Lindsay Sisco hits a kill in practice in August. The MT volleyball team went 1-2 this weekend.



# Fans of all ages enjoy different pregame activities

By Karen Throneberry and  
Cody Gibson  
Staff Writers

Although Operation: Full House II netted only 13,348 fans, there were plenty of people willing to support their Blue Raiders on Saturday.

Before the game, the Blue Raider Network conducted a pre-game show with Neil Price as Blue Raider fans enjoyed the tailgating and the Raider Walk at 11 a.m. in Walnut Grove.

Festivities also included Coca-Cola Football Town USA, which included football tossing, placekicking and video games for young fans. The Trinidad Steel Band provided live music in the Greenland parking lot.

Before the game began,

thousands of fans flooded Floyd Stadium, including more than 100 from the Murfreesboro and Smyrna Boys and Girls clubs.

"There was a couple that bought season tickets and gave them to us," said Amy Jo, an assistant with the clubs. "We had about 100 of the children with us today with chaperones. We handed out programs before the game and there wasn't a one left."

However, many fans felt the stadium still looked empty.

"I know I've seen more people at the games," said Scott Pressley, a former member of the Band of Blue. "I remember the Troy game and there were definitely more people at that one."

Like many fans, Pressley expected more of a turnout

during the game.

"I was hoping more people would show up, but I still think we have around 14 or 15,000," Pressley said.

Other fans were impressed by the crowd.

"I've only gone to a few games, and this by far is the largest [crowd]," said Kevin Matthews, a sophomore recording industry major.

The players also had mixed reactions to the fan turnout.

"The crowd helped a lot," quarterback Clint Marks said. "It meant a lot that everyone showed up to show their support."

"I never paid any attention to the crowd," quarterback Josh Harris said. "I was concentrating on what was going on around me on the field." ♦



Photo by Steve Cross | Chief Photographer

The Trinidad Steel Band performed on campus before the football game on Saturday.

## Men's tennis squad captures two titles

By Jon Leffew  
Assistant Sports Editor

The Middle Tennessee tennis team earned top honors in both singles and doubles in the Middle Tennessee Fall Invitational on Sunday.

Anant Sitaram came away with the A-2 singles title, while the duo of Brandon Allan and Kai Schledorn defeated two fellow Blue Raiders for the doubles title.

For Sitaram, the singles title marks the second one in three years. The senior from Hyderabad, India, defeated Vanderbilt's Andy Mack in straight sets after winning the final five games of the match.

"I got back my strengths from two years ago, using more strategy than trying to overpower a guy," Sitaram told MT Media Relations.

Allan and Schledorn, who were ranked 19th in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Preseason Poll, defeated teammates Andreas Siljestrom and Marco Born by the score of 8-6 in the doubles finals.

"Our games just complement each other well," Allan said after the match. "We both

like to serve and volley in singles and I think the faster pace of doubles and our return game bodes well for us."

Siljestrom and Born defeated South Alabama's 12th ranked duo of Fero Babej and Clinton Jacobs in the semis by the score of 8-2. After the match, Born commented on the duo's height advantage over opponents.

"We want to hold serve and get breaks somehow, and our height (Born is 6-foot, 7 inches; Siljestrom is 6-foot, 9 inches) helps us fit together well as a team," Born stated.

Babej won the A-1 title over Siljestrom by the score of 6-0, 3-6.

In A-2 doubles, Greg Pollack and Sitaram won the title by a default. The team will continue play next week in the Southern Intercollegiate Championships in Athens, Ga., at the Dan Magill Tennis Complex.

Schledorn thinks the victories in this past weekend's tournaments will help the team.

"Winning gives us more confidence, especially since we haven't played together in four months," he told MT Media Relations after the wins. "We picked up where we left off in the spring." ♦

## Freshman Rohrmoser leads Lady Raiders

By Colby Sledge  
Sports Editor

Freshman tennis player Sabrina Rohrmoser finished second in her flight at the St. Mary's Fall Classic at UT-Knoxville yesterday.

Rohrmoser, who hails from Nuziders, Austria, lost to the University of Kentucky's Caroline Winebrenner 7-6, 6-4 in Flight Seven. The loss was the first of the season for Rohrmoser, who earlier defeated North Carolina State's Lauren Barry 6-1, 6-0 on Saturday.

Rohrmoser opened the tour-

nament with a 6-7, 6-4, 6-3 win over Emily Howard of Ohio State.

Other Lady Raiders did not fare as well during the weekend, including No. 63 Jennifer Klaschka, who lost two matches. Klaschka, playing in Flight One, began with a 6-2, 6-1 win over No. 93 Hala Sufi of Purdue, but then lost her next two matches in straight sets. Klaschka fell to No. 18 Karin Coetzee of Wake Forest 6-1, 6-1 on Saturday and then lost 6-3, 6-0 to No. 64 Ashlee Davis, one of Coetzee's teammates. Klaschka finished in fourth place in her flight.

Fellow senior Anna Maria

Cibils rebounded from a poor start to finish fifth in Flight Two with a 7-6, 6-4 win over Furman's Shannon Moore. Cibils fell into the consolation bracket after a 6-1, 6-3 loss to UT's Victoria Jones on Friday, but then defeated Purdue's Alyssa Rodriguez 6-1, 6-0 on Saturday.

Freshman Claudia Szabo won her first game of the tournament on Sunday by default. She lost her other two matches in Flight Six, falling 6-2, 6-4 to Furman's Baird Bonnie on Friday and 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 to NCSU's Carmen Torres on Saturday.

Lady Raiders Emily Vest and Jacqui Williams rounded out singles play for Middle Tennessee with three losses each.

In Flight One doubles play, Klaschka and Rohrmoser won their first match of the tournament over OSU's Emily DeCamilla and Lindsey Adams 8-3. Klaschka and Rohrmoser then fell to Coetzee and Davis 8-1 and lost to Rodriguez and Lara Burgarello yesterday.

Coetzee claimed the Flight One singles title with a 1-6, 6-2, 6-0 victory over No. 39 Sabita Maharaj of UT. ♦

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3 roommates looking for male roommate. \$350/ month pays for room, water, electricity, cable, internet, and some food at a Smyrna townhome. If interested, call Brandon at 310-6822.

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Non-smoker, male roommate wanted to share 3 bd/ 2ba house with female 20 min from campus. \$350 plus 1/2 utilities. Must sign 6 months/1 year lease. \$100 deposit required. Call Lisa 615-415-9302.

Female roommate needed at University Courtyard Apt. Rent is \$375 a month (Regularly \$395) First month's rent paid. Four bedrooms, 4 baths, fully furnished, room overlooks pool, all utilities included, free Internet access. If interested, please call (615) 310-1927.

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kitchen, and located with convenient access to all of Murfreesboro. One Large room downstairs with double closet \$350/month. Medium room upstairs for \$290/month. This is a great house at a great price for any student that is laid-back and professional. More more info. or apt., call Jake at 943-6141. These rooms with not be available for long so come see them now!!

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# New Mexico State scores only Sun Belt victory

By Jon Leffew  
Assistant Sports Editor

Along with Middle Tennessee, several Sun Belt Conference teams struggled in early season play this past weekend.

Though eight different teams played on Saturday, only one SBC team came away with a win, albeit in a contest against another SBC school.

## Kansas State 40, Louisiana-Lafayette 20

The Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin Cajuns traveled to Manhattan, Kan., to take on the Kansas State Wildcats.

Darren Sproles rushed for a team-record 292 yards to lead the Wildcats past the Cajuns, 40-20.

Sproles broke his own record, which was 273 yards on 43 carries, with just 38 total carries.

The ULL run defense, which gave up 257 yards rushing to Louisiana Tech's Ryan Moats last week, allowed just one touchdown from Sproles, who led the nation in rushing last year.

Jamie Rheem kicked four field goals, and Dylan Meier threw a touchdown pass in the third to tight end Brian Casey.

ULL quarterback Jerry Babb scored on a nine-yard run and also had an 80-yard run to set up a one yard run by Chester Johnson.

Babb also threw a 39-yard touchdown to B.J. Crist.

Sproles is currently 1,078 yards short of the Big 12 rushing record, held by Ricky Williams.

The Cajuns will host Middle Tennessee next week.

## Utah 48, Utah State 6

Utah State hosted in-state rival Utah for a non-conference match up, which proved to be a lopsided win for the Utes.

The Utes racked up 441 total yards of offense on their way to the 48-6 win.

Alex Smith, who threw for 163 yards and a touchdown and ran for another, led the way for a starting offense that saw little playing time in the second half.

"It was fun while we were playing," Paris Warren told Utah Media Relations. "But us starters didn't get a chance to play after halftime."

The Utes impressed Utah State coach Mick Dennehy.

"I think Utah is every bit as good as their ranking," Dennehy said after the game.

"We saw a team that has a chance to go a long way and do some special things."

Utah's defense got on the board when 290-pound defensive lineman Jonathan Fanene returned an interception 76 yards for a touchdown.

USU's only touchdown came off an eight-yard pass from Travis Cox to Tarrell Richards.

The Aggies will continue play next week, traveling to Las Vegas to take on the UNLV Rebels.

## Memphis 40, Arkansas State 35

Arkansas State hosted the Memphis Tigers on Saturday, playing in front of an Indian Stadium record crowd of 30,427.

The Tigers used two big defensive plays and a wild fourth quar-

## Fans: Show MT football not priority

Continued from 6

And who expects attendance to increase as the season goes along? Last year attendance at the second home game—a 44-36 Blue Raider loss to Temple—dropped 40 percent from the season opener. By the end of the year, the Sun Belt commissioner's office had to help with the lying.

I used to think it would take a miracle to sell out Floyd Stadium. Now I'm not sure God could fill that place.

The loudest ovation came for former MTSU professor Aaron Todd, who was presented with a framed MT jersey by President Sidney McPhee. Todd, who was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer in December 2003, never had a chance to rally people the way he did with the basketball team.

I feel bad for Todd, because he truly does love MT athletics. After the successful sellout of Murphy Center in February, I thought surely more people would turn out for this event. More people did—exactly 1,541 more. In that case, I guess Operation: Full House II was a success after all. ♦

## Loss: Second-half collapse dooms offense

Continued from 6

and never looked back after the Blue Raider turnover, scoring 21 unanswered points to lead at the end of the third quarter 27-17.

An MT field goal by Colby Smith in the fourth accounted for the final score.

"We didn't come out in the second half like we did the first half," MT quarterback Clint Marks said. "The defense and the offense just didn't play like the first in the second."

The Blue Raiders were also hurt by injuries throughout the game, especially on offense. Running backs Eugene Gross

and Baker both went down, and wide receiver Pedro Holiday also suffered an injury that forced him to sit out the rest of the game.

"I don't know, it all just started happening," MT head coach Andy McCollum said. "Eugene got hurt, and Baker goes in and gets hurt ... We will start back and see what we got and go from there."

After Marks' third interception, Josh Harris came off the bench for the Blue Raiders, but couldn't provide a spark for the offense. Harris was sacked four times and completed one of his

three pass attempts.

If there's anything good about the game for the Blue Raiders (1-1), it's the fact FAU (3-0) is not a Sun Belt Conference member until next season.

"We will start coming back together," McCollum said. "We will work on the positives of this game and get ready for the next one."

The Blue Raiders take on their first SBC opponent this weekend at Louisiana-Lafayette. Kickoff is this Saturday at 6 p.m. ♦

ter to capture their first win as a ranked team.

The twenty-fifth ranked Tigers took a 40-35 lead on a fumble returned for a touchdown by Tim Goodwell, then held on to give them their first 3-0 start since 1973.

"That is our game," Tigers coach Tommy West told Memphis Media Relations after the game. "We got beat on a lot of man coverage and blitzing, but we are a pressure football team and in the end it worked out for us."

On the second play of the game, ASU's Nick Noce hit Chuck Walker for a 65-yard touchdown pass. The Indians would add to that lead with another touchdown pass to Jerome Stegall.

Noce passed for 418 yards and four touchdowns, both school records.

Antonio Warren led the Indians in rushing with 90 yards.

Wimprine threw for 356 yards passing and three touchdowns, two of which came to Tavares Gideon.

"It was a disappointing loss, no doubt about that," Arkansas State head coach Steve Robersts told ASU Media Relations. "We played hard. They laid it on the line and that is all you can ask of them. We had opportunities to win the ballgame but we didn't get it done."

The Indians will look to get it done next week, traveling to Louisiana-Monroe for a key SBC match.

## Colorado 52, North Texas 21

After a disappointing loss to Florida Atlantic last week, the North Texas Mean Green traveled to Boulder, Colo., to take on the Colorado Buffaloes.

The Mean Green struggled all day to contain the high-powered Buffalo offense, yet racked up 507 total yards of offense themselves.

However, Bobby Purify ran for 112 yards and three touchdowns to spark the 52-21 Colorado

win.

The game was knotted at 14 all in the second, but a Kevin Howard fumble resulted in a 95-yard touchdown drive for the Buffaloes, which ultimately gave them control of the game.

CU's Joel Klatt threw for 371 yards and three touchdowns, and Purify averaged 7.5 yards per carry before leaving the game in the third with an injury.

With Patrick Cobbs out of the game due to an injury, the Mean Green turned to freshman tailback Jamario Thomas.

Thomas broke off touchdown runs of 57 and 25 yards and ended the day with 247 yards rushing, while Hall led the way through the air with 190 yards passing.

North Texas will continue play next week, as they will play in-state rival Baylor on the road.

## Arkansas 42, Louisiana-Monroe 20

The Louisiana-Monroe Indians traveled to Little Rock, Ark., on Saturday to take on the Arkansas Razorbacks.

The Razorbacks used a strong defensive effort in the second half and four touchdowns from quarterback Matt Jones to coast to the 42-20 victory.

Jones threw for 272 yards and two scores to both Steven Harris

and Marcus Monk, helping head coach Houston Nutt remain unbeaten at Little Rock.

DeCori Birmingham ran for 127 yards and a touchdown to lead the Razorback ground attack.

The Razorbacks did not pull away until midway through the third quarter, but the Indians failed to take advantage of several breaks throughout the game.

Arkansas led 35-20 at the half, and the Indians actually trailed by just four points early in the second quarter. The team had a chance to gain momentum in the third after a long kickoff return, but a penalty thwarted the drive.

Steven Jyles led the Indians with 298 yards passing and one touchdown.

Kevin Payne added 37 yards rushing and one touchdown.

The Indians will continue play next week, hosting Utah State for an SBC match up.

## New Mexico State 22, Troy 18

The New Mexico State Aggies became the only SBC team to pick up a win this past weekend, as they defeated the Troy Trojans by the score of 22-18.

The Aggies captured the come-from-behind victory after Buck

Pierce threw a seven yard touchdown pass to tight end Travis Samuel with just over two minutes remaining in the contest.

The win gives the Aggies their first of the year, and also marks the first loss of the season for the Trojans. Pierce completed 22 of 34 passes for 219 yards and two touchdowns in a game that was back and forth all day.

The Trojans used two quarterbacks, senior Aaron Leak and freshman D.T. McDowell. The two combined for 183 yards through the air.

DeWhitt Betterson rushed for 137 yards in the losing effort.

New Mexico State will host New Mexico next week, while Troy

will travel to South Carolina to take on the Gamecocks.

## Washington State 48, Idaho 6

The Idaho Vandals also played on Saturday, traveling to Pullman, Wash., to take on the Washington State Cougars.

Cougar quarterback Josh Swogger led an offensive attack that accounted for 509 yards. Swogger threw for 196 yards and four touchdowns before leaving the game with an injury in the third quarter.

Jason Hill caught three passes for 105 yards, while Chris Hill caught three of the four touchdown passes.

The Cougars also amassed 286 yards (compared to the Vandals 276 yards of total offense) and three touchdowns on the ground.

The game appeared to be a shutout until the final minute, when Brian Nooy connected with Ryan Heacock for a six-yard touchdown pass, giving the Vandals their only score of the game.

The game, which was a home game for the Vandals, was played in Washington to help the Vandals meet NCAA attendance requirements.

The Vandals will continue play next week, traveling to Oregon to take on the Ducks. ♦

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