

SIDELINES

Volume 74, No. 42

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Murfreesboro, TN

Womack: lack of aid makes students flee

Casey Correll and
Sean MacWilliam
Special to Sidelines

Some of Tennessee's best students are leaving the state to go to college, and one reason is inadequate financial aid.

That's one of the conclusions of a recent report from the governor's Council for Excellence in Higher Education, which was discussed Friday at an open forum on the MTSU campus by Sen. Andy Womack, D-Murfreesboro.

The council's report has not been finalized, but Sen. Womack, who chairs the Senate education committee and was a member of the council, outlined the major recommendations:

*Increased access to higher education.

*Keeping Tennessee students in the state.

*Improved faculty salaries.

*Improved governance of higher education.

Sen. Womack told MTSU students and faculty Friday that he believes keeping students in the state would help attract industry to Tennessee.

"When big industries come into states, they want to hire students from that state," Womack said. "If we can keep our graduates in-state, we will grow that much stronger."

A smaller proportion of Tennesseans have been to college than the residents of neighboring states, Womack said, adding that improving financial aid would help remedy that.

Last year alone, 10,000 students who applied for financial aid were denied because the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation ran out of money.

"When big industries come into states, they want to hire students from that state."

— Sen. Andy Womack,
D-Murfreesboro

Womack said it would have taken only \$9 million more to fund these students.

One program helping to recruit top students to MTSU and other state universities is the presidential scholarship program. Students with at least a 3.75 high school grade point average and an ACT score of 29 receive \$3,900 per year for university expenses.

"This is helping not only to keep

students in-state, but is also attracting students from other states," Womack said.

Improving faculty salaries would also help attract students to Tennessee colleges and universities, said Womack, an MTSU graduate who is also a member of the MTSU Foundation's board of trustees and a former Foundation president.

"We are behind on the (faculty) salary schedule," he said. "To make the University of Tennessee at Knoxville the flagship institution for the state, we must close the large gap in pay with (peer) institutions."

Womack also pointed out that MTSU is in a new tier among universities. According to U.S. News & World Report, it is no longer just a regional university, and salary adjustments must also be made here, too.

In addition, he said he wants to see MTSU increase the number of graduate programs to gain credibility. In addition to increased funding from the legislature, one source for the funds to do these things is higher tuition.

"Tennessee schools still have relatively low fees," Womack said, noting that raising tuition would still keep Tennessee competitive with universities in neighboring states. "I want to be in an atmosphere where money is available."

See STATE, page 4



Staff photo by Jamie Evans

Students from UTK and ETSU rallied in the Legislative Plaza in Nashville Wednesday for increased funding for higher aid.

Students rally for more higher education funds

Jamie Evans
Staff Reporter

Students from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and East Tennessee State University gathered at the Legislative Plaza in downtown Nashville Wednesday to rally for additional funding for higher education in Tennessee.

"Why should I not be able to get into a class I need to graduate because of the state legislature?" one UT student protested. "We need to have our money."

Approximately 60 students from UTK and ETSU were joined by state representatives Larry Turner of Memphis and Joe Armstrong of Knoxville to protest the suggested inadequacy of higher education in Tennessee.

"We have seen funding for higher education stay flat," Turner said.

He voiced his concern about the growing trend with the allocation of state funds. He said funding for everything else in the state except higher education has risen over the last few years.

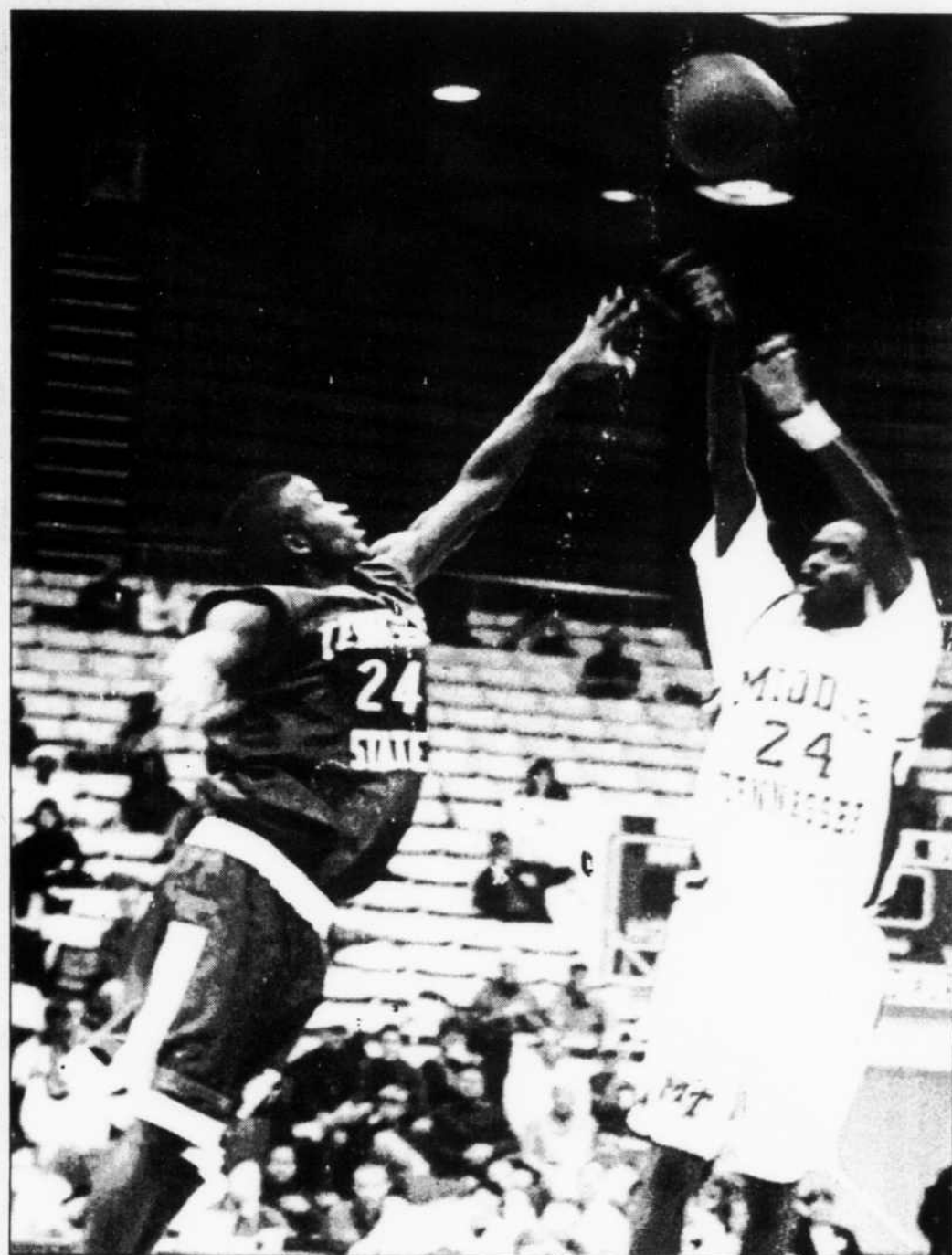
Armstrong said it's time for the state legislature to start paying attention to the problems with the quality of higher education. He added that it is unacceptable for Tennessee to be ranked number 49 in the country for its higher education programs.

"We're watching other states get ahead of us. I never expected to see states like Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia get ahead of Tennessee," Armstrong said. "If that happened on the football field, we would fire the coach."

He said two years ago, state officials made a priority out of the funding problems with K-12 education and promised to work

See RALLY, page 3

Shooting for Round Two



Staff photo by Derrick Wilson

Ali McGhee shoots one of his five three pointers during the game Tuesday against Tennessee State University. MTSU won the game, the first in the Ohio Valley Conference tournament, by a score of 75-68.

Women in Science highlighted during special lecture series

Chris Crockett
Staff Reporter

The Women in Science lecture series begins March 1 with a presentation by MTSU professor Judith Iriarte-Gross.

Iriarte-Gross will discuss the use of plastics and polymers in our modern society.

Her lecture will be held March 1 at 1:30 p.m. in Davis Science Building room 104. The event is free and open to the public.

Kathryn McCoy was originally scheduled to give a presentation concerning electricity and solar power on this date, but her lecture had to

be rescheduled due to illness.

Iriarte-Gross' presentation, part of MTSU's celebration of National Women's History Month, will be the first of many that focus on women in science and their accomplishments.

There will be a wide variety of topics in this lecture series, ranging from health issues to opportunities for women in the field of science.

The presentation will be informal with audience discussion and questions welcome.

Those interested in more information about Iriarte-Gross or any of the other Women in Science lectures are encouraged to contact her at 904-8253.

Professor to be honored with John Pleas Faculty Award

Dwayne Douglass
Staff Reporter

The John Pleas Faculty Award Reception will be held Feb. 25. This event is free to the entire university community. The John Pleas Faculty each year honors a minority faculty member at MTSU for his or her accomplishments.

Laura Jarmon, a professor of English, is currently studying the interpretations of folk tales. She has already been recognized for her extensive research on the African American folk narrative and its form, language and tone.

She has more than 18 years of experience in

higher education.

Jarmon has served as consultant to the Tennessee Humanities Council and as project director for Folk Narrative of West Tennessee.

Subsequent recipients of this award were Robert Rucker in 1997 and Bichaka Fayissa in 1998.

The colleagues of this year's winner agree that Jarmon "gets the trust of students and is able to establish a strong bond with them quickly. She puts a lot of energy into teaching."

"Dr. Jarmon is a well deserving outstanding faculty member," said John Pleas.

Jarmon will receive this award on in the university's Alumni Center from 3 to 5 p.m.

INSIDE

Campus Capsule.....page 2
Editorial.....page 5
Features.....page 6
Sports.....page 8

SPORTS

The Blue Raiders beat TSU in the first round of the OVC tournament, as the Lady Raiders are eliminated. See page 8.

FEATURES

Caught up in credit card debt? Find out tips to beat the credit card trap that befalls many college students. See page 6.

WEATHER FORECAST



THURSDAY
PARTLY
CLOUDY,
HIGH 64, LOW 33



FRIDAY
SUNNY,
HIGH 63,
LOW 49



SATURDAY
RAIN,
HIGH 63,
LOW 41

ON CAMPUS

LOOKING AHEAD

FEB 23, 24

The business education, marketing education and office management department will host a seminar on effective written presentation. Joe Sawyer will be giving the seminar from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in BAS 130A. For more information, contact Lisa Mitchell at 898-2036 or 898-2902.

FEB 25

The June Anderson Women's Center will host a support group for survivors of sexual abuse from 3 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. The meeting will be in CKNB room 109. Contact Mary Glantz at 898-5725 for more information.

The Middle Tennessee Students of Objectivism will host a video lecture, "Pro-choice Is Pro-life" by Dr. Andrew Bernstein. The lecture will be at 7 p.m. in KUC 314. For those interested contact Luc Travers at 895-2312.

MAR 3

The Walt Disney World organization is hosting an information meeting for summer internships/college program at 6 p.m. The event will be in the KUC 322. Anyone interested must attend the information meeting to be eligible for interviews on March 4. Those interested may contact the Placement Center at 898-2500.

ONGOING

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

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

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

MTSU Fencing Club will have practices every Monday at 8:30 p.m. till 10:30 p.m. in the Aerobics Room located in the Rec Center. The practices are geared to students of all skill levels. Contact Michael "Hunter" Jones at 896-4596 or e-mail at shadowh@bellsouth.net.

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

The Student Pagan Organization will have meetings Monday at 8 p.m. The meetings will take place on the 2nd floor of the KUC in the lounge area. For more information, contact John Bryan at 898-3734.

The MTSU women's rugby team will have practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 till 7:30 p.m. The practices will be held at the Rec Center or the intramural fields, if the

weather is permitting. Contact Shannon Bustillos at 867-3592 or e-mail at sib2a@mtsu.edu.

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

Lambda Organization meetings will be on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in room S316 of the Business Aerospace building. For more information, go to www.mtsu.edu/~mtlLambda.

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

The "Right to Life" group of Tennessee will hold an outdoor revival concert in the KUC courtyard on March 5, 6. They are looking for music groups, religious organizations, gospel singers, etc. Contact Kevin Fisher at faco0019@frank.mtsu.edu or mail him at Box 6003.

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

The Morris K. Udall Foundation has made up to six scholarships, worth \$5,000 each, available to MTSU students. To be eligible the students must be sophomores or juniors who intend to pursue careers in environmental public policy or, Native American or Alaska Native students who intend to pursue careers related to health care or tribal public policy. For more information and application forms, contact Dr. Patrick Doyle at 898-2069 or email at pdoyle.mtsu.edu.



NATIONAL NEWS

Federal Reserve will have extra cash on hand for Year 2000

Washington (AP)— Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan says it's not a good idea for people to be carrying around a big wad of cash New Year's Eve 2000.

"The most sensible thing is to leave it where it is," he told the Senate Banking Committee on Tuesday.

Greenspan said Americans' money will be safe in financial institutions.

"There's almost no conceivable way ... that computers will break down and records of people's savings accounts would disappear," he said. "There's, fortunately, so many checks and balances that if it's knocked out one place, it's available in 20 others."

Greenspan said the "overwhelming majority" of U.S. banks have made "impressive progress" in ensuring their computer systems are rid of codes that would read the year '00 as 1900 rather than 2000. Regulators are following up with the small minority who have fallen behind, he said.

Although the Fed will make cash available, he urged people to think twice before "taking it out and waving it around."

Ford sees Gov. Bush as best prospect for GOP to regain White House

Independence, MO (AP)— Former President Ford had kudos for Elizabeth Dole, but says Texas Gov. George W. Bush is the GOP's best hope to regain the White House.

Ford spoke at the Harry S. Truman Library at the opening Tuesday of an exhibit detailing the presidency from Franklin D. Roosevelt through the first term of Bill Clinton.

The Lewinsky scandal damaged the institution of the presidency, Ford said, but the Republicans rather than President Clinton suffered the most in the short term.

He said Republicans have moved too far to the right, just as Democrats moved too far left with liberal nominees George McGovern, Walter Mondale and Michael Dukakis.

"You're not going to win if you retain the policies of the hard right," he said. "The Democrats lost with hard-left policies. I think we can win if we're wise enough to go down the middle."

"George W. Bush is talking a lot more moderately than his father," Ford said of the son of former President Bush.

Massachusetts doctor arrested for hospital murder

Methuen, MASS (AP)— A respected plastic surgeon was accused of shooting his estranged wife's boyfriend to death during a visit to the wife's hospital room.

Dr. James Kartell, a 25-year veteran of Holy Family Hospital, went to see his wife, Suzan Kamm, in the hospital Tuesday. Police said he encountered 56-year-old Janos Vajda, who was believed to be the wife's new boyfriend.

An argument between the two men followed, and Kartell allegedly shot Vajda in the head.

Kartell, 59, was treated in the Holy Family emergency room for minor injuries. District Attorney Kevin Burke said Kartell would be arraigned, if he is well enough.

Ms. Kamm, a psychologist, remained under a doctor's care at the hospital. Her condition would not be released, said hospital president William Lane, a longtime friend of Kartell.



WORLD NEWS

Bride burned by father-in-law for rejecting advances

Cairo, EGYPT (AP)— Police arrested a 60-year-old man Wednesday after he allegedly doused his new daughter-in-law with gasoline and set her on fire for spurning his sexual advances.

The woman, Iglal Ahmed Zaki, 18, was in critical condition with third-degree burns over 85 percent of her body, police officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The woman was alone in the house with her father-in-law, Mustafa Hamed el-Masri, while her husband, Mohammed, worked in a neighboring province, the officials said.

El-Masri, frustrated by Zaki's rejections, first threatened to kill her. When she resisted again, he doused her with gasoline and set her ablaze Tuesday, the officials said.

The attack occurred in Mansoura, a city 75 miles northeast of Cairo.

El-Masri was charged with attempted murder and attempted rape, punishable by up to 15 years hard labor. If Zaki dies, the charge will be changed to murder, punishable by death.

Ten Mexican physicians suspended in HIV transplant case

Monterrey, MEXICO (AP)— Mexican officials have suspended 10 physicians suspected of transplanting HIV-infected kidneys into patients, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

The El Norte newspaper earlier had reported two transplants of infected organs in January.

The newspaper said a state investigation found that doctors involved had not waited for the results of blood tests on the organ donors before transplanting the kidneys.

Jesus Zacarias Villarreal, health secretary of the northern state of Nuevo Leon, was quoted as saying the incidents are under investigation and the physicians involved could lose their licenses if they were found to have acted negligently.

Kosovo peace talks end with unresolved issues

Belgrade, YUGOSLAVIA (AP)— Jubilant Serb negotiators returned home today, saying they prevailed against Western pressure at the Kosovo peace talks by keeping foreign troops out of the province. State media joined in the exultation, describing the results from 17 days of talks in Rambouillet, France, as a victory for the government of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic.

In contrast, a mood of defiance prevailed among Kosovo's Albanian leaders, who were unable to gain an agreement for full independence for Kosovo, a southern province of Serbia with an overwhelming ethnic Albanian majority among its 2 million people.

Peace talks were recessed Tuesday until March 15 after Western mediators extracted only partial agreement between warring Serbs and ethnic Albanians on a political framework for separatist-minded Kosovo.

The military part of the proposed accord — which provides for stationing 28,000 armed NATO peacekeepers, including Americans, in Kosovo — was left unresolved because of Serbia's steadfast refusal to allow foreign troops on its territory.

Got a news tip? Call the news desk at 898-2336.

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For more information, contact Jenny Crouch at 898-2815 or come by James Union Building, Room 308. Three finalists will be selected from the field of applicants and will be interviewed at a date to be announced. You will be notified if you are to be interviewed.

Scholarship established for students suffering hardship

Chris Crockett
Staff Reporter

Recently, representatives from school systems around Middle Tennessee, the Danner Foundation and MTSU met to discuss plans for the newly founded Neill-Sandler Scholarship Program that will reward students for academic achievement while facing hardship.

The program will provide more than \$250,000 in scholarships for students in Middle Tennessee school systems to attend MTSU, said Ray Danner, founder and president of the Danner Foundation.

The Neill-Sandler Scholarship Program will be similar to the Bootstrap Scholarship Program that was started by Danner several years ago but will have an even greater impact on the Middle Tennessee region, according to Gary Neill, chief operating officer of the Danner Company.

"We expect this scholarship program will help MTSU recruit and keep the best students here in

Middle Tennessee," Neill said.

Each school district with a high school in Rutherford, Warren, Coffee, Franklin, DeKalb, Williamson and Cannon counties will be given a scholarship to award one senior who has demonstrated academic achievement despite having to cope with hardship and obstacles. Each scholarship award will total \$5,000 over a four-year period. A panel of community leaders appointed by the Danner Company and the Neill-Sandler Automotive group will make the final selection for the scholarship.

The recipients for the scholarship will be announced at the annual Strive for Excellence banquet held at MTSU later this year.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our company to unite with an excellent university and help some deserving young people get a good start on life," Danner said.

Those interested in more information concerning the Neill-Sandler Scholarship Program should contact the MTSU Admissions Office at 898-2111. ■

CIA predicts serious Y2K problems in foreign countries

Jim Abrams
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Year 2000 computer problem could cause serious disruptions abroad, including breakdowns in nuclear reactors and strategic missile systems, midwinter power outages and disruptions in world trade and oil shipments, a CIA official warned today.

Air Force Gen. John Gordon, deputy director of the CIA, emphasized at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing that gaps in information make it hard to assess the scope of the damage in foreign countries, although it is evident that most countries, particularly Russia, are far behind the United States in preparing for the crisis.

Gordon said Russia has exhibited a low level of awareness for the "Y2K" problems that could

occur if computers misread the year 2000 as 1900, causing them to shut down or produce erroneous information. Midwinter power outages, he said, could have "major humanitarian consequences" in countries such as Russia and Ukraine.

Gordon stressed: "We currently do not see a danger of unauthorized or inadvertent launch of ballistic missiles from any country due to Y2K problems."

He said there could be serious local problems with missiles if temperature or humidity monitors malfunction, and that problems in early-warning systems could lead to incorrect information.

The developing world faces the greatest threats of disruptions, Gordon said. China will probably experience failures in key sectors such as telecommunications, electric power and banking.

The United States is regarded as the world leader in fixing the

Y2K problem, but the draft of a report being prepared by two senators who have been studying the issue, Sens. Robert Bennett, R-Utah, and Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., said the consequences within the country should not be underestimated. During this year, they said in a letter to other senators, "We will be confronted with one of the most serious and potentially devastating events this nation has ever encountered."

Their report also pointed to foreign countries as very vulnerable, as well as many private U.S. industries such as health care, food processing and shipping.

Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre, at the Senate hearing, said 93 percent of the Pentagon's mission-critical computer systems will be fixed by the end of March, the deadline President Clinton set for federal agencies to repair their computers. ■

RALLY

continued from page 1

on higher education next.

"It's time to make good that promise," Armstrong said.

Reallocation options to increase educational funding were brought up by some of the rally's participants.

Among those was Gov. Don Sundquist's new tax proposal. If Sundquist's proposal is approved, UT student Cameron Brooks said he thinks the extra revenue should be used for state universities. He also said that currently, more money is spent on the state's prison system than on its higher education programs.

"One rally is not the answer," Brooks said. "It's going to take additional rallies, letters and marches."

He said the goal for the next rally should be to get 1000 people to attend.

"If you get 1000 people in this plaza, it will get the legislature's attention," he said.

The event, which was organized by UTK's Coalition for Student Power, was expected to attract more students from UTK and other universities like MTSU and Tennessee State University, said Erik Loomis, media coordinator for the Coalition of Student Power. Loomis partially blamed the weather for the poor attendance, but he considered the biggest problem to be the lack of support from the Student Government Association of UTK and the apathy of the other colleges who were invited.

No delegates from MTSU were present. SGA President Jason Lawson said a special congressional joint session, which was scheduled at the same time as the rally, prevented the SGA from sending anyone to represent MTSU. ■



Photo by Jamie Evans

Joe Armstrong, state representative from Knoxville, supports students' argument for increased funding for higher aid.

Former counselor dies at 66

Staff reports

Services for Frank Giles, 66, of Murfreesboro, who died of cancer Thursday, Feb. 18, at his daughter's home in Athens, Ga., were held on Sunday in Bethesda, TN.

Giles grew up in Nashville and Bethesda, attended Battle Ground Academy in Franklin where he played football, basketball and

baseball. On Feb. 6, 1999, he was inducted into BGA Sports Hall of Fame.

Giles went to UT-Knoxville from 1950 to 1952, transferring to Middle Tennessee State College where he played sports and graduated in 1954. He later served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

After retirement, Giles accepted a position at MTSU as a counselor in the Graduate Department. ■

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STATE

continued from page 1

While the council's recommendations do not include a radical restructuring of higher education governance, the report will call for more authority for the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. That would leave it less at the mercy of the Tennessee Board of Regents, which governs MTSU and other state schools, and the U.T. Board of Trustees, which governs the University of

Tennessee.

As it stands, Womack said, the legislature has no confidence in THEC. One reason is that the governor has complete authority over who serves on the commission. The council is suggesting changing this, still allowing the governor to choose the members but also requiring they be approved by the legislature's education committees and confirmed by the House and Senate.

Womack thinks this is the

weakest part of the report, mainly because of politics.

"If you don't have a strong education body that the legislature can respect, they will find a way to circumvent it," Womack said.

The first three recommendations would require money to be implemented. Womack said the council realizes there is not a lot of money for new initiatives. But he said council members do not want to see the report die in the legislature's finance committees and believe the initiatives should be considered by the governor and legislators.

"We did not go as far as some would like," Womack said, "but we probably went further than others expected."

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Greenspan's report hints at rising interest rates

Dave Skidmore
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Economists sifting through Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan's semiannual report to Congress are finding clues that he is leaning ever so slightly toward raising interest rates, not now, but eventually.

Greenspan, who appeared before the Senate Banking Committee on Tuesday and the House Banking Committee today, went out of his way to present a balanced picture of the economy.

On the one hand, "effects" from world financial turbulence continue to pose a risk to U.S. growth, as does the possibility that Wall Street investors will suddenly decide U.S. stocks are overvalued.

On the other, there's the danger that overly strong growth could worsen the shortage of

qualified workers, pushing wages up so fast that price inflation, too, is re-ignited.

"Monetary policy must be ready to move quickly in either direction, should we perceive imbalances and distortions developing that could undermine the economic expansion," Greenspan said.

Translation: Right now the Fed doesn't plan any changes in interest rates, up or down, but either is a possibility later in the year.

Analysts are latching on one passage in Greenspan's testimony that seems to imply he believes the Fed may have gone too far when it cut short-term rates three times last fall in the wake of the collapse of the Russian economy.

In quarter-point increments from late September to mid-November, the Fed reduced the benchmark rate on overnight loans between banks from 5.5 percent to 4.75 percent.

"The Federal Reserve must continue to evaluate, among other issues, whether the full extent of the policy easings undertaken last fall to address the seizing-up of financial markets remains appropriate as those disturbances abate," Greenspan said.

Economist Robert Dederick of Northern Trust Co. in Chicago said that implies Fed policymakers are "mulling the possibility of taking back the last of the interest-rate cuts."

That may not happen for at least six months and perhaps not for 12 months, said economist Allen Sinai of Primark Decision Economics in New York.

"It's very clear from his comments ... that nothing is imminent," he said. "Any move ... is a long way away, but when it does come, his comments suggest he's thinking it will be a hike."

Wall Street didn't seem to know what to make of the chairman's mixed message. ■

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MTSU HOSTING TSSAA, CAMPUS PARKING TO BE TEMPORARILY ALTERED

The west end of Faulkinberry Drive (at Tennessee Boulevard) will be closed from March 10-20.

*The TSSAA regional basketball tournament will be played at Middle Tennessee State University, with the girls competition running from March 9-13, and the boys playing March 10-20.

*Campus parking will be most affected on March 10-12 and 17-19, since the March 9 and 16 games will be played in the evening, and March 13 and 20 are Saturdays.

*The campus community and general public need to be informed that during the tournament, beginning Wednesday, March 10, at 6a.m., Faulkinberry Drive will be completely closed to traffic on the west end (at Tennessee Boulevard).

*In addition, from Wednesday, March 10, through Saturday, March 20, team buses will be parked on the east side of Tennessee Boulevard from just north of East Main Street to Division Street. North-bound traffic will not be able to use the right lane.

*MTSU students and employees will be permitted to drive on the east end of Faulkinberry in order to access the KOM parking areas and Loop Drive. In addition, students and employees will be permitted to park on Faulkinberry Drive (east end, green parking) and (west end, white parking) until the spaces are filled. (Be reminded, however, that the west end of Faulkinberry will be closed off.)

*Faulkinberry Drive will also be closed to through traffic on both Saturdays.

*The campus community should also be reminded that spring break is March 15-19, which will lessen the amount of inconvenience and decrease MTSU traffic.

*The Greenland Drive lots will be reserved for TSSAA ticket holders. TSSAA visitors who are not tournament ticket holders will be directed to perimeter parking areas.

*In addition, students and employees, as well as the general public, need to know that the Tennessee Beef Agribition will be held in the Tennessee Livestock Center, March 10-14. This means that from Wednesday, March 10, to Friday, March 12, general campus parking will also not be available in the Livestock lot.

*Parking will be available in the Maintenance Lot (next to the Telecommunications Building), and in the other lots on the east and south sides of campus. The RaiderXpress shuttles will be running their regular routes.

*As for R & R Bus and University Courtyard Van Riders, the stops will remain at the same location near the James Union Building.

*If you have any questions, please call MTSU Parking Services at 898-2850 or MTSU Public Safety at 898-2424. Your patience and understanding are appreciated during this busy time on the MTSU campus.

The Student Publications Committee is now taking applications for



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Mar. 26, 1999

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- Have a 2.0 cumulative GPA at the time of application.
- Have worked on staff at least two semesters. Comparable media experience applies.
- Provide three letters of recommendation, a current transcript and no more than five examples of their work, professionally submitted.

Editors receive a full tuition scholarship and a salary during their tenure. Applications may be picked up from the Student Publications Office, JUB 306, 8am-4:30pm, Mon-Fri.



THURSDAY, FEB. 25, 1999

OPINIONS

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

—Thomas Jefferson

Murfreesboro, TN

5 ■ SIDELINES

Editorial

Neglect shows in higher education system

Tennessee high school graduates are leaving the state in record numbers when it comes time to attend college, and no one should be surprised.

Higher education is always a low priority with the state legislature. Now, they are starting to realize the effects that neglect has had on Tennessee's higher education system.

Many students who want to attend college and are qualified can't, because the money is not available. Tennessee schools may still be cheap to attend, but it doesn't matter. For some students, \$1,000 may as well be \$1 million.

The legislature pretends higher education can tighten its belt more and not suffer the consequences.

There is one way to be thought of as special in Tennessee higher education. It's simple: play football.

Think of all the praise and awards that the University of Tennessee football team received for winning the national championship.

Big deal. The students that should be honored are the ones who graduate in four years with perfect 4.0 GPAs. Now that's hard work.

Should we, as students at a Tennessee university, be led to believe that we might be important some day, provided we can throw a football, too?

It's sad to think that this is what it takes to be noticed.

Not that there are not exceptions. Andy Womack of Murfreesboro, chair of the Senate education committee, has been dedicated to increasing the funding to Tennessee public universities — especially his alma mater, MTSU.

But one, or even a small handful, of dedicated legislators isn't enough to ensure that higher education gets what it deserves.

It takes help from the legislature, and from public education board members, faculty and students.

A rally was held in downtown Nashville Wednesday to support higher education in Tennessee. MTSU officials were advised about the rally days before it occurred.

No one from MTSU showed up.

If the people who are directly affected by higher education cuts don't appear to care, why should the people who want to do the cutting?

Hillary vs. Rudy for Senate? Won't that be something!

M. Charles Bakst
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

New York already has everything — now even Roger Clemens.

So how come people there get the added luxury of salivating over prospects of a 2000 Senate race between first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Gotham Mayor Rudy Giuliani?

Now that's a contest that should put to rest the notion that Americans no longer care about politics.

The promise — OK, the suggestion — of a Clinton-Giuliani matchup has in recent weeks gone from a flicker on the back burner of political chitchat to being the most fashionable topic in American public life.

This is partly because we need something to talk about now that That Other Topic, which dominated national conversation for 13 months, has run its course.

Indeed, the end of the impeachment trial freed Mrs.

Clinton herself to begin to give the idea of a candidacy real consideration.

And with figures as well known and as polarizing as the U.S. first lady and the mayor of the First City, everybody identifies with them and has an opinion on how the race would go.

Rhode Island Rep. Patrick Kennedy, reporting the other day from Miami Beach, where he'd been hobnobbing with fellow Democrats and with labor officials, said, "I've heard everyone talk about the fact that if she runs it's going to be the first time in history where a senatorial race gets more attention than our presidential contest."

He thinks Mrs. Clinton will run — that otherwise she already would have told New York Democrats "no" so they could make other arrangements.

And he thinks she'll win.

Kennedy asserts, "She has defied all the rules of being first lady and been a co-equal partner with her husband and, more than that, an outspoken person in her own right."

Kennedy insists she has the stomach for a race. "Believe me, she's been through it all, and then some, in the six years she's been in the White House."

Indeed she has — which is exactly what makes one wonder if she really would want to put up with the horrors of running for Senate.

Rhode Island Republican Chairwoman Joan Quick asserts, "When Hillary Clinton looks at the reality of becoming a candidate and opening her

life again — her life and her husband's — it's not going to make sense. I think they've had enough introspective looks at their personal lives."

Quick may be onto something. After Mrs. Clinton digests the initial euphoria and takes a long, sober look at what might lie ahead for her, she may well decide: "I don't need this."

If she does run, she could be a powerhouse candidate, and, indeed, she has led in early polling. But we have, really, no idea. The political landscape is littered with the remains of bright, promising candidates who seemed larger than life — until they actually entered the race and fell flat on their faces.

Pay close attention to the visuals next time you see a TV story about the possibility of a candidacy by Mrs. Clinton.

Everything is beautiful.

She's in the House gallery, beaming as her husband pays tribute to her in his State of the Union speech.

She's triumphantly stepping off Air Force One.

She's kissing adorable children at an airport ceremony.

She's basking in the crowd's adulation as she stumps for a candidate.

These are glamorous and authentic aspects of Mrs. Clinton's existence, but it is an existence in



a bubble far removed from the ugly side of a Senate race, especially in bare-knuckle New York.

And as much a partisan as she is, as experienced a trouper campaigning for others, however tempered and tested she may be by the agony she has endured at the hands of her husband and their critics, I still wonder how prepared she'd be or how she'd fare.

But I'll admit I'm as dazzled as anyone else by the very thought of a Clinton-Giuliani race. Rhode Island Sen. Jack Reed, a Democrat, thought from the outset that the talk was credible. "She'd be a great candidate," he said as soon as heard about it.

And that business about being burdened by being a carpetbagger? Reed says — well, I guess the New York parlance would be,

"Fahgetaboutit!"

But she can't run for Senate in a bubble.

In brutal New York political combat — not just in interviews but also in slam-bang ad exchanges, TV debates and meetings with a thousand demanding voter groups — she'd have to propose an agenda and fend off attacks.

At least one of her views — favoring an eventual Palestinian state — could alarm Jewish voters, a constituency Giuliani has courted.

And every transaction Mrs. Clinton ever made — commodity profits, etc. — would get renewed scrutiny. She couldn't say she's a victim of folks out to get her husband.

They'd be out to get her. It's not pretty. It's politics. ■

SIDELINES

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

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Clintons, not press, exploit Chelsea

The Daily Aztec
San Diego State University

When People magazine ran a glowing cover story on the resiliency of Chelsea and Hillary Clinton earlier this month, titled "Hillary and Chelsea: Grace Under Fire," the Clintons responded in anger.

Chelsea Clinton has been off-limits to the media ever since Clinton was elected president. The First Couple curbs the release of any information about her, going so far as to dismiss any White House staffers who release Chelsea-related tidbits to the media.

The Clintons say that being a teen-ager is hard enough without having intense media scrutiny, and that the press should leave

Chelsea alone.

But the sad part of the Clinton family saga is the way the Clintons use their daughter. When there isn't a family crisis or an election, they want her left alone. But if her presence is helpful to the Clintons' image, they pull her in front of the cameras like a prop.

When President Clinton admitted his dalliance with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky last August, he made a point of being seen hand in hand with his wife and 18-year-old Chelsea.

In each of his elections, Clinton has made sure he had an arm around Chelsea to show what a great dad he is. If he was a good father, he wouldn't have cheated on Chelsea's mother, and he wouldn't use his daughter to win public favor.

The public interest in Chelsea is understandable. Americans have proven that they are fascinated by royal families with their interest in Queen Elizabeth II and her brood. Because the United States doesn't have a monarchy, the presidential family has to do. In a way, Chelsea is a princess.

People are curious about her and what she does.

Clinton should have thought about that when he ran for governor of Arkansas. He made a choice about becoming a public figure. He took his family with him.

If anyone's exploiting Chelsea, it's the two people who claim to protect her the most: Mom and Dad. If the Clintons want the press to stop exploiting Chelsea, they should stop as well. ■

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SIDELINES

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FEATURES

6 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

Beat the credit card blues

Shawn Whitsell
Staff Reporter

In credit card debt? Well, join the club.

Last year, there was a national survey conducted on college students and credit cards. The study proved once again that college students who obtain credit cards from tables and booths set up on campus tend to have larger balances and take longer to pay off their debts than other credit-card holders.

On college campuses all over the world, credit card companies set up shop and target students. These students, sometimes desperate for funds, trade in their good credit standing for a T-shirt, candy bar or soda, and seven years of bad credit. Often, the students don't realize how much financial trouble can result from credit cards if not properly used.

College students are often targeted because the older adult market is a lot more exhausted. College students also tend to be a lot more naive. Sponsored by campus organizations who reap some of the profits, these credit card companies are able to reach the college student market.

Because of the growing use of credit card application tables on college campuses, credit card debt among college students doubled between 1993 and 1997 to more than \$422 billion, and that figure is rising. It has gotten so bad that some college campuses have banned credit card companies from doing business on their property.

Students in debt can get out of the hole if they manage their money better and seek debt consolidation services. If you have not yet been sucked into the credit card trap, then here are some questions you should ask before getting one:

1. Do I need it?
2. Can I afford it?
3. Can I manage my money well enough to make proper payments?

If you decide to get a credit card, here are a few tips to go by.

1. Shop around.

Credit card companies increase rates (APR) for student card users, so students should find the lowest rates possible.

2. Only get one. It only takes one national credit card to build a good credit report, if proper payments are made, so there is no reason for more than one.

3. Pay more than the minimum payment due. If you pay more than you have to, you will stand a better chance at staying ahead.

4. Pay on time. You should always pay on time, because late payments go on your credit report, your interest rates can increase and, late fees—usually around \$20—can be added to your balance.

5. Avoid cash advances. Cash advances should be avoided as much as possible, because they have interest rates at least 2% higher than those for purchases.

If you do not want to become a credit card debt statistic, educate yourself on the workings of the credit card system, and think twice before you sign your name. ■

Kevin Mahogany



headlines free jazz concert

Staff Reports

Jazz Vocalist Kevin Mahogany will grace the stage of Tucker Theatre Feb 25 at 8 p.m. MTSU Special Events is presenting the performer internationally recognized as the man with the golden voice.

Mahogany is multi-talented, to say the least. He taught clarinet at age 14, attended the Charlie Parker Foundation, studied piano and became an accomplished baritone saxophonist. He performed with three jazz bands while still in high school and established two ensembles and a jazz choir in college. He is adept in blues, ballads, gospel, scatting and even country.

Free tickets are available at Keathley University Center in room 308. ■

Intercollegiate Horse Show comes to Tennessee Livestock Center

Staff Reports

The MTSU equestrian team is presenting a free intercollegiate horse show Feb. 26-28, starting at 5 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. The shows will be held in the Tennessee Livestock Center.

The equestrian team is a group of horseback riders of all riding levels of ability, riding both hunt seat (English style) and stock seat (western style). Members train two to three times per week with coaches Anne Brzezickie and Art Coomes. Unique in that men and women and men compete equally on the same team, the equestrian team competes at intercollegiate horse shows against other colleges and universities throughout the nation.

Colleges in this region include

MTSU, Murray State, Western Kentucky, Southwestern Missouri State, Rhodes, Southern Illinois, Vanderbilt and Truman University. Each college in a region takes turns hosting an intercollegiate horse show. MTSU hosts two shows a year, one in December and one in the spring. Each rider must compete regionally in order to qualify for national competitions.

Last year, the equestrian team took three riders to the National Intercollegiate Championships in Port Jervis, N.Y. Two riders won seventh and eighth place out of about 30 riders in the stock seat division. This was the first time in five years that the MTSU equestrian team has had a national winner.

For more information on the team or show, call the the equestrian team's president, Christy Smith at 907-2722. ■

Panhellenic celebrates Badge Day

Kelley Dodd
Staff Reporter

Sorority members walking on campus will be filled with pride this Monday.

On March 1, more than three million women across the nation belonging to Greek organizations, including the members of our seven sororities, will wear their membership badges to commemorate the third annual National Panhellenic Badge Day.

Badge Day celebrates over 100 years of community service contributed by the members of the National Panhellenic Council. The event is celebrated in conjunction with National Women's History Month.

"National Panhellenic Badge Day", states Panhellenic President Lana Smith, "Allows all greek women to display their pride and support for their sorority and the greek system."

The sororities on campus are encouraging their members to wear their badges next Monday to show the pride which roots from volunteering many hours of service towards causes such as child abuse, domestic violence, breast cancer, arthritis research and various scholarships. ■

Good Samaritans offer help to students stiffed on scholarships

College Press Exchange

CHICAGO (CPX) - Good Samaritans throughout the United States are coming to the rescue of college students who were duped into believing they had won \$10,000 scholarships renewable for four years from Houston-based AdamsVision USA.

From coast to coast, individuals, corporations, colleges and universities are trying to help 51 students who were gypped out of their scholarships when AdamsVision told them it didn't have the money to pick up their tuition costs. Last year, the company promised scholarships to one student in every state and Washington D.C.

The company's failure to pay up was a hard blow for the winners, many of whom were National Merit Scholars who graduated first in their class and had at least a 3.0 grade-point average and combined SAT score of 1,160 and above. Given the assurance of having the money, many winners chose to attend some of the nation's most expensive schools - institutions whose tuition their parents cannot afford to pay.

AdamsVision owner Val Adams, who has been convicted in the past of writing bad checks, is quick to point out that no application fees were ever required from students or their parents - a claim that has been confirmed.

But that hasn't stopped many contest participants from looking for attorneys. A complaint against the company already has been filed with the Texas attorney general's office.

After reading about the scholarship screw-up,

people across the country decided to help. An Alaska woman gave \$1,000 to the winning student from her state. A Hawaii businessman gave \$1,300 to another winner who attends the same college the man's daughter graduated from posthumously.

A woman who lives near Duke University in North Carolina has offered housing to yet another student winner, and Seattle-based Microworkz Computer Corp. has offered personal computers to each of the 51 students.

In Texas, Gov. Dolph Briscoe and H-E-B Grocery Co. each have pledged to pay the \$40,000 scholarship guaranteed to Justin Burt, a freshman at Notre Dame.

Montana recipient Kendra Young is getting help from her school, Grinnell College in Iowa, which has contributed a \$7,500 grant toward this year's expenses and hopes to provide additional money over the next few years.

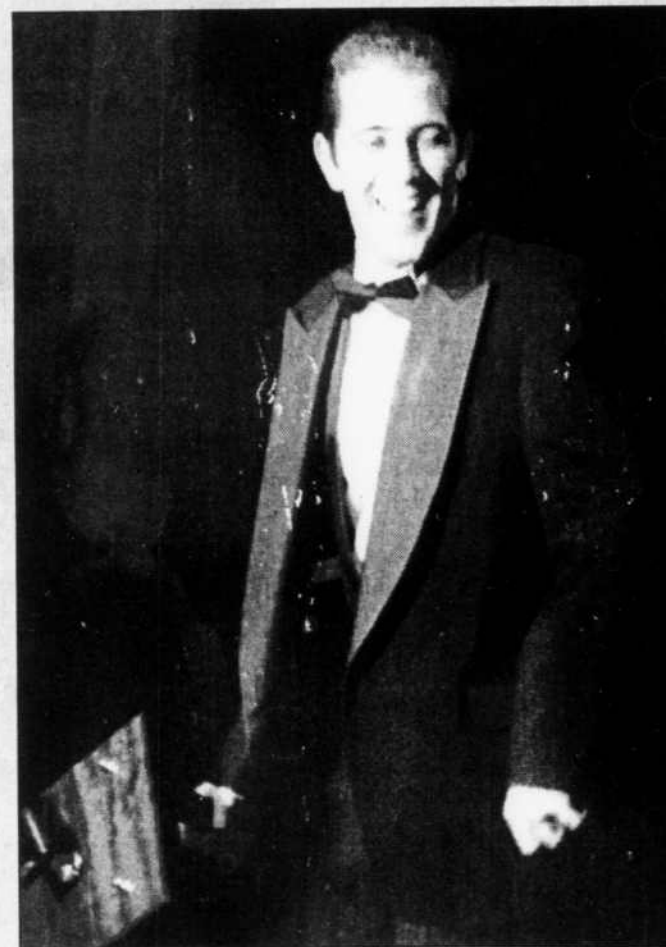
And Long Island University's C.W. Post campus has offered to match the scholarship award for any student who transfers there.

Despite the gifts, many students say they're not sure they can remain at the schools they've chosen to attend.

Melissa Bowlin of Alaska, who received the \$1,000 anonymous donation toward her \$30,000-a-year tuition at Cornell University, said she's grateful for the help she's received, but convinced it's not enough to keep her where she is.

"We're doing everything we can to keep me here," she told the Associated Press. "But I can only earn so much, and my parents can only save so much." ■

Mr MTSU



Staff photo by Maiko Takasu

Mike Merriman won the title of Mr MTSU Monday night. He was sponsored by Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Superfast Internet2 just for universities for now

Reid Kanaley
Knight-Ridder News Service

Not online yet? You are about to fall even further behind.

An ultrahigh-speed "Internet2" was introduced in Washington today with promises of big-screen interactive video, the end of fist-pounding download delays and uses yet to be invented.

For now, however, the \$500 million system is only for experimental use by universities and industry researchers. Everyone else will have to wait. The benefits of Internet2 will not trickle down to the common, slivating Web surfer for a few years, at least.

And though it will make possible Internet connections tens of thousands of times faster than a 56K modem, Internet2 will not do e-mail or the World Wide Web.

What it will do, its backers hope, is spark a generation of innovations - what e-mail and the Web were to the current Net - to dazzle in the 21st century.

"We're just about to see another explosion of interesting technology," promised David Farber, a University of Pennsylvania professor of computer science and a member of

the advisory board for Internet2, Tuesday.

Penn is one of 140 universities lined up to connect to Internet2, which is based on a continentwide, 10,000-mile fiber-optic cable loop dedicated to the project for three years by Qwest Communications International Inc. of Denver.

The cable, or backbone, has been dubbed Abilene, after the Kansas town that served as a cattle transit point for the Old West.

"It's the new frontier of networking," said Greg Wood, spokesman for the University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development, a Washington-based group coordinating the roll-out of Internet2.

Government agencies, telecommunications and cable companies, and others in the private sector have been racing to set up newer, faster Internet services, so Internet2 is not the first revision of cyberspace to hit the ether. But with a data-transfer speed of 2.5 gigabits per second on

the Abilene backbone, it is one of the fastest.

For example, the 4-year-old government-sponsored very-high-performance Backbone Network Service, or vBNS, already connects 82 university campuses, and was state of the art for its time. But it runs mostly at about a quarter of the speed of Internet2.

Now, vBNS is being upgraded, and even has its own connection to Internet2, said Rick Wilder, director of advanced Internet technology for MCI WorldCom, which holds the government contract to run vBNS through 2000.

Even the academics involved are not sure about what Internet2 will be used for.

"If I knew," said Farber, "I'd be out founding a company, right?"

In the hands of bright students, he said, "they'll figure out things that people like to do, and they'll go out and start companies."

For Wednesday's introduction of Internet2, backers held a demonstration inside Washington's

Union Station, where they showed the network being used for broadcast-quality video and heavy-duty remote computations.

The Internet began as a research tool for government and academia, and so it is natural that the next-generation Internet emerge from the same fertile soil, said Guy Almes, chief engineer for Internet2. He predicted uses for the network ranging from high-quality videoconferencing to telemedicine, and remote operation of telescopes in Hawaii.

But that view has drawn some criticism. Tony Rutkowski, director of the Center for Next Generation Internet, an industry association, said he sees a place for new networks such as Internet2 to serve academia, "but the notion that they are leading the way, as with the original Internet in the 1980s, is clearly out of sync with reality."

The private sector is leading the way by "just having to meet the demands of customers," Rutkowski said.

Reknown guitarist Tanenbaum performs at Wright Music Building

Staff Reports

Guitarist David Tanenbaum will appear on the MTSU Concert Series on Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. in the Wright Music Building. Tickets for the performance are \$8 and will be available at the door.

Tanenbaum is internationally recognized as a superlative performing artist. He made his debut at age 16 and has since performed in recital and with orchestras throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Europe, Japan, China, Taiwan and the former Soviet Union.

A proponent of chamber music with guitar, he has also appeared with the Kronos, Chester and Shanghai string quartets, Steve Reich and Musicians and the Ensemble Modern of Frankfurt. His festival credentials include those of Bath, Luzern, Frankfurt, Barcelona, Finland, Hungary, Vancouver, Winnipeg and Cernavaca (Mexico).

Tanenbaum can be heard on numerous recordings on various labels. He will also be giving a Master Class for guitar students on Saturday. For further information call the music department at 898-2469.



'Thin Red Line' disappoints studio by not getting Oscar boost

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "The Thin Red Line" had everything going for it: an all-star cast, the return of Terrence Malick after a two-decade absence from filmmaking and seven Oscar nominations. But profits have slumped.

The World War II epic opened on Christmas Day and expanded to wide release on Jan. 15. But it actually lost 2.4 percent of its business the weekend after the Oscar nominations were announced Feb. 9 and another 50 percent last weekend.

The \$52 million film has grossed \$34.4 million in North America.

"I don't think there's any question that it was a disappointment that it didn't do better with a (nomination) bump," said Tom Sherak, chairman of 20th Century Fox Domestic Film Group. "I have a feeling that because of the kind of movie it was — more of an art movie that went really wide — the people who had wanted to see it went to see it."

The other best picture nominees, "Saving Private Ryan" (in re-release), "Elizabeth," "Shakespeare in Love" and "Life Is Beautiful," all got a post-nomination bounce, as did last year's "Titanic," "L.A. Confidential," "Good Will Hunting," "As Good As It Gets" and "The Full Monty."

Directed by Malick, "The Thin Red Line" received mostly glowing reviews for its poetic, visually stunning story of the battle of Guadalcanal.

The film features a cast with stars such as Nick Nolte and Sean Penn in supporting roles, and cameos by John Travolta, George Clooney and Woody Harrelson. Getting the most screen time are relative unknowns Jim Caviezel and Ben Chaplin.

Some critics found its plot convoluted, the characters underdeveloped and the voiceovers confusing. The movie also ran more than three hours.

After it was nominated for picture, director, screenplay, editing, sound, score and cinematography, the film lost just 2.4 percent of its business while also losing 345 screens. Then came the bad news last weekend.

"It's fascinating that this film has just died," said box office analyst Robert Buckbaum of Reel Source Inc. "I just don't understand why the film isn't catching on. Are people just comparing it to 'Saving Private Ryan.' Is it just too 'out there'? Is Fox not marketing it right?"

The reclusive Malick doesn't do media interviews. But one of the film's producers, Mike Medavoy, said there was still time for "The Thin Red Line" to at least break even, and it has strong prospects overseas.

SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR RYAN PHILLIPPE
and REESE WITHERSPOON

In the game of seduction
there is only one rule,
never fall in love.

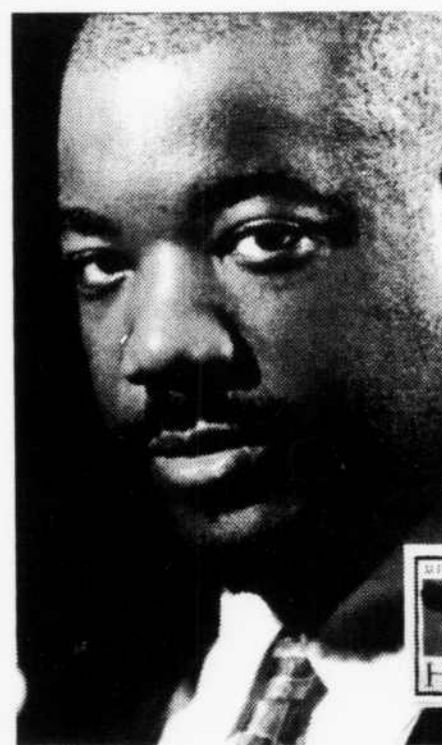
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THURSDAY, FEB. 25, 1999

SPORTS

8 ■ SIDELINES

Murfreesboro, TN

Four score in double digits to propel Raiders to win

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

The MTSU men pulled off the win Tuesday night against TSU in the first round of the Ohio Valley Conference tournament, on the back of four MTSU players that scored in double figures. The Raiders won the game by a score of 75-68.

The Raiders shot 55 percent from the field in the second half and 57 percent from the three-point range. Cedrick Wallace scored 12 points, while Richard Duncan had 11. Ali McGhee led the Raiders with 17 and Gerald King came off the bench to pour in 16 points in 24 minutes.

For TSU, Jamie Roberts led all scorers with 18, while Corey Williams scored 14 before getting ejected because he hit Gerald King in the head with the basketball. Jason Johnson scored 13 and grabbed a game-high eight rebounds in 38 minutes. He also did a great job of containing Lee Nosse.

Nosse did not have a good game, but he did divert the defense of the Tigers, which allowed people such as McGhee and Kent Ayer to hit three-pointers. McGhee hit five of six from the land of the three-pointer.

TSU led the Raiders at the half by five points with the score at 38-33. In the second half, TSU shot only 38 percent from the floor, which, in the end, cost them the game. TSU was 10 of 28 from three-point range in the game and 26 of 62 overall from the field.

With the game close down to the stretch, TSU's Darwin Carter, tried to be a little too cute with the ball and Richard Duncan was there to get the steal. He stole the ball four times from Carter.

"The ball is never safe around [Duncan]," McGhee said.

The Raiders play Southeast Missouri State on Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Nashville Arena. The Indians beat MTSU two times earlier in the year, but the Raiders are confident in

1999 Nautica Footwear Ohio Valley Conference Men's Championship Basketball Tournament Bracket

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 23

(@ Campus Sites)

Murray State

GAME 1

Tennessee Tech

Morehead State

GAME 2

Austin Peay

SEMO

GAME 3

UT-Martin

MTSU

GAME 4

TSU

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 27

(@ Nashville Arena)

Murray State

GAME 5

5:00 p.m.

Morehead State

GAME 6

7:00 p.m.

MTSU

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 28

(@ Nashville Arena)

GAME 7

1:30 p.m.

(Live ESPN Telecast)

SEMO

MTSU

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Graphic by Phonethip Melaynee Liu



their chances of winning.

"We're not going to let them beat us a third," Wallace said.

If MTSU wins the game Saturday, they will have the honor of playing the Morehead St.-Murray St. winner in the championship game on Sunday. That winner will go to the NCAA tournament.

"If we get to the finals, it's anybody's ballgame," Coach Randy Wiel said.

The Raiders are now realizing what this time of the year means, and what needs to happen to be successful. The regular season is history and now all of the teams are on the same slate. Lose and go home. MTSU has the chance to do what no team since 1989 has done. That is what is known to basketball fans as "the dance." They are two wins away.

"It's crunch time now," Gerald King said. ■



Staff photo by Derrick Wilson

Ali McGhee soars to 17 points in the Blue Raiders' 75-68 win over Tennessee State University Monday night. The victory advances MTSU to Round Two in the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament. They will take on Southeast Missouri State Saturday at the Nashville Arena.

Lady Raiders' season ended by TSU's upset

Michael Edwards
Staff Reporter

The women's basketball team's season came to an end Tuesday night with an 82-79 loss to arch rival Tennessee State. The loss was only MTSU's ninth of the year, while TSU stands at a cool 13-14.

MTSU came out in the first half and totally dominated the first 10 minutes of the game. The Raiders were playing better than they have all year. It really seemed like they actually did turn their intensity up a notch for the post season.

MTSU started the game on a 16-4 run until the 13:44 mark. Cari Hassell ended the run with a three-pointer from the baseline at 13:27. MTSU continued to dominate the half until a Jessica McClure turnover turned into a TSU layup. That layup sparked a 6-0 run for the Tigers, which cut the MTSU lead to five with 11:05 left in the first half.

However, MTSU would extend the lead back to 12 over the next two minutes and 45 seconds. However, the Tigers would cut the MTSU lead back to five with four ticks left on the clock. An MTSU turnover on the inbounds pass led to another TSU layup by Schronda Moore, which cut the lead down to three with the half at an end.

MTSU led the entire first half with the largest lead being 12. Cari Hassell scored 17, and Moore scored 14 all in the first half. Hassell played the entire first half. Carlita Elder and Jamie Thomatis led the Raiders with 11 apiece in the first half.

The second half for the Raiders would be a dreadful one. It half started out just like the first half ended with Schronda Moore taking all of



Staff photo by Derrick Wilson

Jamie Thomatis breaks an Ohio Valley Conference record Tuesday night as she scored 37 points against TSU. Even Thomatis' point contribution could not stop the Lady Tigers from winning 82-79.

seven seconds to make a layup and cut the lead to one.

TSU would take a lead for the first time in the game at the 17-minute mark. Hassell hit a three to give the Tigers the 46-43 lead. MTSU continued to battle, but the Tigers proved to be too tough down the stretch.

TSU's lead grew to 11 with just over 13 minutes left in the game. As MTSU fans began to wonder about the future of the season, MTSU began to battle back into the game. Jamie Thomatis took things into her own hands. She scored 12

points over the next six minutes and pulled the Raiders to within three points of the Tigers.

Even after being down seven with 2:48 remaining, the Raiders had not given up. MTSU cut the lead to three with 36 seconds left in the game. MTSU was spared and had another chance to win, but a turnover killed the hopes and the season for the Raiders.

Despite being down by three points in a crucial point in the game, Coach Smith left the best

See WOMEN, page 9

MTSU Blast Swim Meet focuses on fun, challenge

Kelley Finlen
Staff Reporter

While competitive juices flowed this weekend, the primary objective of MTSU's Blast Invitational Swim Meet was fun.

The Master Swim Club was started by the Rec Center Aquatics program to give students, faculty, staff and alumni an opportunity to compete in organized events while staying fit and reaching for their goals.

The club's first organized competition was Feb. 13.

Faculty and students teamed up to challenge other Middle Tennessee swimming programs to a day in the pool. Half of MTSU's members were in this type of competition and gained valuable meet experience.

Aquatics Director Ray Wiley said, "Our goal is to provide an opportunity for swimmers to get instruction by certified coaches, to have camaraderie with others who enjoy working out and get back into shape in a fun atmosphere."

MTSU's Master Swim Club is a member of the

United States Master Swimming organization. The meets are divided into five-year age brackets and include numerous events. Members of Music City's Swim Club and the YMCA's team attended the event.

Director Wiley was very pleased with the turnout and foresees much potential in these types of meets.

"We plan to host two meets a semester," Wiley said, "as well as travel to those hosted by others."

We are excited to be hosting the Spring Splash '99 Invitational on March 27 and encourage anyone to sign up who wishes to get involved."

Phil Johnson, 22, is a member of the Master Swim Club and participated in this weekend's competition.

"People I swam against during high school were there, and I was excited to check out and see what college competition was like."

After this weekend's event, Johnson wishes to practice more to "up" the competition level that MTSU's squad bring to the invitational.

"I plan to stick with it,"

Johnson said. "It will help me out in the long run. As we gain some exposure, we can recruit more members, and get more depth on our team."

United States Master Swimming has clubs through out the USA and is associated with other organizations internationally. They bring the clubs together for national championships.

MTSU's club has member ranging in age from the late teens to mid-50s.

Wiley said, "Swimming is a lifetime sport. It is a great cardiovascular workout and minimizes wear and tear. You can't beat it."

Members commit to at least three workouts a week, while gaining strength endurance and fitness. Training sessions are available Monday through Friday.

Those who are interested are encouraged to sign up through the aquatics program in the Rec center. Wiley also invites all newcomers to attend MTSU's Spring Splash '99 Invitational, to experience a meet and cheer for the team. ■

Injuries do not sideline Lady Moose

Ayne Cantrell
Special to Sidelines

"Give blood. Play rugby," a popular slogan among rugby fans, proved true for the women's rugby team in Saturday's win against Vanderbilt University.

Despite the loss of key

players Shelley Christian and Nicole Wallace in the second half due to injuries, the Lady Moose easily defeated Vandy 27-0. Wallace scored 10 points before suffering an ankle sprain that put her on the sidelines. Shannon Bustillos contributed seven points, including a two-point conversion kick, and both Christian and Heather Barnes

scored two tries each for a total of 10 points.

Coach Wolfe attributed the MTSU victory to "outstanding defense play and the sensational contribution of rookies Natalie, Jessica Drake and Kristy Estes." The Lady Moose's win over Vanderbilt gives them a 2-0 conference record for the season. ■

The Hook-Up

Commentary by Josh Ezzell/ Staff Reporter

Size doesn't matter at Nitro as Big Sexy falls to Mysterio

What's up, wrestling fans? Yep, it's that time of the week again. Time for Josh 3:16 to let you know what's going on in the wrestling world. Before I get started, I have an announcement to make.

The Hook Up will now run on Monday, as well as Thursday. On Monday, I will be discussing the WWF, and on Thursday, I will be discussing the WCW. I would like to thank all of the readers who made this possible. Without you, this article would not happen. Well, enough of the details. So, without further adieu, ladies and gentlemen, let's get ready to rumble!!!!

Let's get things started by talking about some of the Super Brawl matches. In the tag-team title match, Barry Windham and Curt Hennig defeated Dean Malenko and "The Canadian Crippler" Chris Benoit, with the help of a leather belt. The other tag team match pitted a mask against hair. Of course I'm talking about Rey Mysterio Jr.'s mask and Miss Elizabeth's hair, or Kevin Nash and Scott Hall (Lex Luger could not participate due to an injury) versus Rey Mysterio Jr. and Konnan. In the end, Hall and Nash won, and Mysterio lost his mask.

In singles action, Hall was also victorious. With the help

of "Big Sexy" Kevin Nash and The Disco Inferno, Hall defeated "Rowdy" Roddy Piper and captured the U.S. Belt. Hall's Wolfpack buddy "Big Poppa Pump" retained the T.V. Title with a victory over DDP. Goldberg was also victorious, defeating "The Beast From The East" Bam Bam Bigelow in a hard-hitting match between two of the baddest boys in wrestling. And now, for the main event.

The main event pitted the two biggest names in wrestling history against each other. Of course, I'm talking Hollywood Hogan and "The Nature Boy" Ric Flair. This match started with so much promise, but ended in disappointment for The Horsemen. When the match heated up, David Flair shocked the world by turning on his father and joining the NWO. Needless to say, Flair did not win the match. Once again, The Four Horsemen looked like The Four Losers, and the NWO looked "Just Too Sweet."

Nitro was a night of redemption for some and frustration for others. One of the frustrated people would have to be Bret "The Hitman" Hart, who now has a two-match losing streak. Booker T pulled a fast one on "The Hitman," reversing a sunset flip and becoming the number-one contender for the

U.S. Title in the process.

Monday was not frustrating for everybody; just ask Perry Saturn. He stormed the ring during the Chris Jericho Hugh Morris match, costing Jericho the match and some dignity. I know that sounds mean, but come on. Losing to Hugh Morris is definitely a laughing matter.

David versus Goliath part II aka Rey Mysterio Jr. versus "Big Sexy" Kevin Nash happened on Nitro. Yes, the unthinkable happened: Goliath fell again. Nash threw Mysterio around like a ragdoll, but in the end, arrogance cost him the match. Nash casually went for a power bomb, kissing his finger and placing it on Mysterio's rear--and that's when it happened. When Mysterio was up in the air, he grabbed Nash's hair; falling on him and getting a three-count. And now for the main event.

In the main event, Goldberg faced Scott Steiner (and Buff). Goldberg beat Steiner down, but, as you might expect, Bagwell interfered, saving "Big Poppa Pump" from "Da Man," but he was unable to save Scott from his brother, Rick. In the end, Goldberg won by disqualification. Wanna know what happens next week? I've got two words for you: Read Sidelines. ■

WOMENS

continued from page 8

three-point shooter on the team, Erica Lufkin, on the bench. Jonelda Buck only saw 14 minutes of action in her last home game as a Raider. That decision will be questioned until next year when the Raiders hit the hardwood again. Despite the loss, Jamie Thomatis became the Ohio

Valley Conference's single game scoring leader for the OVC tournament after racking up 37 points in the contest. Elder finished the game with 11 points.

In the game, MTSU shot 56 percent from the floor, but they were only one of eight from three-point land. That could be because Lufkin only played 16 minutes in the game.

Schonda Moore scored 27

points including some big baskets down the stretch for TSU. Hassell finished with 24 and six rebounds in 35 minutes of play.

"I personally thought we played scared," Coach Smith said. "But it was a tough situation. We lost this game over the course of 40 minutes."

"We just kind of crumbled there at the end," Jamie Thomatis said. ■

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Kentucky beats Vanderbilt 88-63, now ranked 13th

Tim Whitmire
Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Senior Night at Rupp Arena featured thrills, chills and an 88-63 victory for No. 13 Kentucky over Vanderbilt.

The thrills came from seniors Wayne Turner, Scott Padgett and Heshimu Evans, each of whom scored in double figures in his final home game Wednesday night.

The chills were provided by Turner and backup center Jamaal Magloire.

Turner, Kentucky's point guard, put a scare into the Wildcat faithful by missing the last eight minutes of the first half with an apparent knee injury, only to return to score 13 points in the second half.

And Magloire made Kentucky's fight for a first-place finish in the Southeastern Conference's Eastern Division that much tougher with his ejection following a pair of technical fouls.

Under SEC rules, Magloire is likely to be suspended for Sunday's regular season finale, a showdown at Tennessee (11-4 SEC) that will determine the East winner.

Padgett led Kentucky (22-7, 11-4 SEC) with 16 points and 10 rebounds, while Turner had 15 points and Evans 14.

Kentucky shot 53 percent from the floor, including 9-of-17 from 3-point, and held Vanderbilt (13-14, 4-11) to just 33 percent.

Dan Langhi led the Commodores with 18 points. He and Vince Ford each had eight rebounds.

"Other than the thing with Jamaal, it was a positive experience all around," Kentucky coach Tubby Smith said.

For awhile, when Turner left the floor, it looked as if Senior Night might be remembered for Turner losing his shot at

breaking Christian Laettner's career record of 148 games. Turner, who tied the Kentucky record of 143 games by playing against Vanderbilt, needs to face Tennessee and play five postseason games to break the former Duke star's national mark.

With eight minutes left in the first half, Turner strained his left knee as he went for a breakaway layup attempt after stealing the ball from Atiba Prater. He appeared to leave his feet awkwardly and missed the shot, landing in a heap under the Kentucky basket. He was helped off the court to the locker room and was not expected to return.

Padgett said he was concerned until he got into the locker room at halftime and saw Turner was ready to return.

"I'm not so much worried for this game," which Kentucky led 35-23 at the break, Padgett said. "I was worried about later in the season."

"It's definitely not something you want to have happen this close to the tournament, especially when it's the guy who's run your offense the last three years," Padgett said.

Sporting a black band around his knee, Turner showed no ill effects upon his return, stripping the ball from Prater twice more at the start of the half and converting layups each time to give Kentucky a 45-26 lead and spark a 24-6 run.

"I'm just happy it wasn't a serious injury," Turner said. "I didn't want my grandmother to come all the way down here (from Boston) and just see me play half of the game."

Magloire exited with 9:25 remaining after he traded elbows under the Kentucky basket with Vanderbilt's Darius Coulibaly. He had been called for his first technical late in the first half for throwing a punch during a fight for a loose ball.

"Why the first one was called, I have no clue," Smith said. "I didn't see the second."

"I thought I did a good job of walking away," Magloire said of the first technical. "Sometimes you just get the short end of the stick."

Kentucky led wire to wire, jumping ahead 19-5 on seven early points by Evans and two 3-pointers by Saul Smith. Up by 12 at the half, the Wildcats put Vanderbilt away with their big run at the start of the second half.

Each of the seniors enjoyed a moment in the spotlight during that surge. Turner scored seven straight points, including his two layups off of steals.

Padgett then ran off nine straight points, with a put-back, a 3-pointer and consecutive dunks.

Finally, it was Evans hitting a layup, then a 3-pointer as Kentucky stretched the lead to 59-29.

Vanderbilt has never won at Rupp Arena. The Commodores' last victory at Kentucky came in 1974, when the Wildcats still played at Memorial Coliseum.

Predators win rematch with Stars 2-1

DALLAS (AP) — The expansion Nashville Predators wanted a rematch with the Dallas Stars after blowing a two-goal, third-period lead on Tuesday night.

They got another shot at the Stars 24 hours later, and the Predators paid back Western Conference-leading Dallas on its home ice.

Sergei Krivokrasov's goal with 28.6 seconds to play lifted the Predators to a 2-1 victory on Wednesday night.

On Tuesday night, the Stars rallied from a two-goal deficit in the third period for a 4-3 victory at Nashville.

But with Wednesday night's game tied at 1, Krivokrasov skated up the right side, stopped and faked defenseman Derian Hatcher to the ice, then beat Stars goaltender Roman Turek on a backhand for his 19th goal.

"I put on the brakes and I knew what I wanted to do," Krivokrasov said. "I made him (Hatcher) slide down, then went to the backhand. After what happened last night, we really wanted to win this game."

The defeat was a costly one for the Stars. The team's top scoring forward, Brett Hull, will be out at least two weeks with a strained hamstring suffered when his skate hit a

rut in the ice early in the third period.

Dallas also was without center Joe Nieuwendyk, day-to-day with a sprained ankle, but the Stars got no sympathy from Predators coach Barry Trotz.

"That was a break for us, but we've got guys out, too," Trotz said.

"That's life. Nobody ever feels sorry for us," Hull scored Dallas' only goal in the second period as the Stars had their seven-game unbeaten streak

(6-0-1) snapped.

Nashville was the better team Wednesday night as the younger Predators outshot the Stars 25-18.

The Predators have been especially tough on the road lately, going 5-1-1 in their last seven road games.

"Take nothing away from Dallas but we stuck to our game plan and played a real solid game," Trotz said. "Tonight we deserved to win."

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