

Winning equestrian team

page 6

Feb. 23, 2006 **THURSDAY** 

Middle Tennessee State University

for it inside

look

MURFREESBORO, TN

# MT Police search for rapist

By Sarah B. Mullen

VOL. 81 No. 57

The MTSU police released a composite sketch Wednesday of the man who raped a female student over the week-

"The priority of the university is finding the suspect and ensuring that the student is safe and recovering and moving forward and also making sure all students, staff and faculty are safe," said Gina Fann of the News and Public Affairs office.

The female student told MTSU police she was raped between 1 and 2 a.m. Sunday by an black male in his mid twenties, about six feet tall with a stocky build, short hair and a thin mustache.

"We're in the process of interviewing a few more folks related to the case," said Interim Safety Director Roy Brewer. "We're still actively working on this case and are moving ahead."

The MTSU Department of Public Safety has circulated crime alerts and the composite sketch around campus for students, faculty and staff, Fann said.

While many female students are aware of the incident, most feel they are already taking precautions to avoid an attack.

"It made me feel like I needed to be more cautious," said Jamie White, a junior recording industry major. "I am not scared to be on campus because I only have one night class and I walk with

Samantha Ballard, a junior print journalism major, said she doesn't allow herself to be susceptible when she walks to her dorm room in Reynolds Hall from her job at Walker Library.

"I don't feel vulnerable because I am aware of my surroundings and I know where to loiter and where not to loiter," Ballard said. "But if all else fails-car keys to the jugular."

Senior recording industry major Emily Byrd attributes her alertness to her upbrining in Washington D.C.

'I came from a household where you lock your doors everynight, and I even lock my bedroom door," Byrd said. "I always listen to my surroundings because that is how I grew up.

"Everyone thinks, 'It's not going to happen to me," Byrd said.

There are many precautions students can take while on campus, including Rape Aggression Defense, a comprehensive safety course, Fann said.

The RAD course is designed for women and is held at Public Safety headquarters at 1412 E. Main St. The class focuses on awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance and

includes the basics of hands-on defense training.

"It isn't going to make you a martial arts expert, but it will teach some defensive tactics," said Sgt. Steve Scott, supervisor over training and community policing. "More importantly, it teaches how not to become a victim in the first place."

Scott said the class has grown and enrollment is usually higher after an

"In my 16 years, I can say this department has not turned its back on any reported cases that have come forward," he said. "Historically, whenever we've had an incident like this, we utilize our resources to the maximum ability. It isn't out of the ordinary for me to sit in a parking lot over night."

The RAD class is open to the public and students and is taught by Officer David Smith. Smith can be reached at 494-8855 for more information about the class. It can also be used as a health or physical education credit hour.

Anyone with information about the sexual assault can call MTSU Department of Public Safety at 898-2424 or Crime Stoppers and can remain anonymous. If information from a Crime Stoppers tip leads to an arrest, a cash reward up to \$1,000 will be offered.

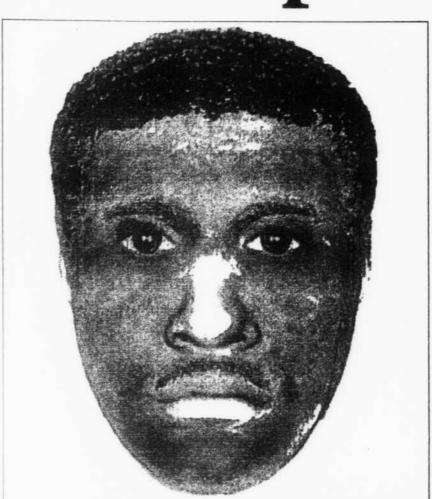


Photo provided by Erica Hinton

New head football coach Rick Stockstill speaks with Clay Kennedy, Executive Vice President and Speaker of the Senate. SGA President Paul Bryant Fulcher is behind them.

## **SGA** meets with Football Coach

New head football coach Rich Stockstill met with SGA's executive board and senators Feb. 16 to discuss his ongoing efforts to involve his players in all aspects of

"About 30 senators were there, as well as Coach Stockstill's entire staff. That really impressed me," Vice sident for Student Affairs and Dean of Student Life. Gene Fitch said. "Coach Stockstill has been very open about having his athletes be more involved on cam-

Stockstill's ideas for increasing his athlete's involvement include a jersey day, and helping SGA with their Make A Difference Week as part of his player's ongoing efforts in community service.

"Coach Stockstill said one of his main goals was to have one of his starting players be student body president," SGA senate secretary Erica Hinton said.

SGA's Vice President for Administration and Public

Affairs, Meagan Flippin, said it is a win-win situation.

The more diverse that SGA can be, the better," Flippin said. "In addition, athletes could sharpen their leadership skills and be able to apply those concepts within their team."

Stockstill encourages his players to be involved in other campus organizations. His policy is a complete change from former head coach Andy McCollum, who was fired in November.

"In the past, McCollum didn't allow his players to be involved in anything but football," Hinton said. "I think involvement helps because students can relate to players who are more visible on campus."

Stockstill and his policy changes have been well received by MTSU's student government.

The meeting occurred on the brink of SGA elections. Two of the main issues facing candidates for SGA's executive seats are how they plan to encourage attendance at football games, and total student body

# Solidarity holds Anti-Coke Campaign Panel

By Wesley Murchison

Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee Solidarity group hosted an anti-Coca-Cola panel Feb. 16, called "Killer Coke: The Facts and the Campaign," to inform students of the company's human rights violations taking place in the country of Colombia.

"Since 1986 more than 4,000 trade unionists have been murdered, and over the past year more than 100," said Solidarity panelist Chris Comstock. "Almost all of these murders have been carried out by right-wing paramilitary groups or death squads on an ideological mission to destroy the union movement."

Coca-Cola has not denied these activities are taking place, but rather argue they are not responsible, Comstock said.

Panelist Ashley Renner spoke about Coca-Cola's practices outside of Colombia, including El Salvador, the United States, Turkey and India.

In the United States, Coca-Cola has been taken to trial on several occasions for racism and misogyny, spending employee 401K plans and dumping outdated products in poor minority communities,

"The delivery drivers who made the allegations asserted that the dumping of outdated merchandise reflects the company's contemptuous attitude to

minorities," Renner said.

In an attempt to conceptualize what is happening to Colombia overall, panelist Jase Short talked about the political make-up and influence of the United

"There is no real ad in this money. It all goes to the military. It all goes to deregulating the Colombia market," Short said. "The reason we want to deregulate it is because we have cheap labor there and no health care."

Short said that through a plan designed and implemented by the Clinton administration to combat cocaine production called "Plan Colombia," the money financed to the Colombian government by the United States is given to paramilitary groups who will fight against the left-wing guerillas.

A large part of the paramilitaries' activity includes working with management at the Coca-Cola bottling plants to bust up unions through assassinations, kidnapping, death threats and torture, Short

Panelist Sarah Cozort explained the campaign at MTSU is only one of many taking place around the

"Ours isn't a measly effort," Cozort said. "We are one of over 180 schools across the globe who are a part of this campaign."

See Solidarity, 2

# Safety checklist

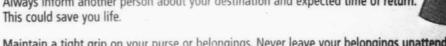
- Never walk alone at night. Walk in groups of two or more people. If you are ever stranded on campus, call Public Safety at 2424 for an escort to your dorm or car.
- Avoid dark, poorly-lighted areas, especially buildings, parking lots, and alleys.
- Always walk away from bushes and hedges.





Avoid short-cuts. Use designated sidewalks and lighted walking malls that run north to south and east to west on campus.

Never talk to strangers. Never accept rides from a stranger or mere acquaintance. Always inform another person about your destination and expected time of return.



Maintain a tight grip on your purse or belongings. Never leave your belongings unattended

If you think you are being followed by a vehicle, try to get its description and license number. Walk in another direction (the car will have to turn around to follow). Run to a lighted residence or public area and notify the police.

Be aware of your surroundings at all times.

For worst-case scenarios, consider using mace, or your car keys, to fend off an attacker.



#### LOCAL FORECAST

#### Friday Saturday



LO: 35° PRECIP: 0%



LO: 27°

Sunday

OPINIONS **Family Murder** 

It appears Scott Peterson has started a trend-a very deadly trend. Or maybe it's a trend that husbands think is an easy way out. Whatever the reason, killing wives and babies has become a popular trend in the past few years.

#### FEATURES Wall of Fame

During its annual awards ceremony on the last day of classes, the College of Mass Communication adds new faces to an ever-growing gallery honoring successful mass media alumni and supporters.

#### SPORTS

#### Women face WKU

A division title is on the line as the Middle Tennessee women's basketball team travels to Sun Belt Conference rival Western Kentucky in the next-to-last game of the regular season on Saturday Afternoon.

#### MTSUSIDELINES.COM

#### Online today



LOG ON! Got a news tip, band listing, campus organization activity,

column or story idea or a gripe? Check

our Web site for contact information.

# MTSU seeks Student Ambassador candidates

By Tori Harris

ambassador.

The MTSU Office of Alumni Relations is currently seeking qualified candidates to represent the university as a student

Student ambassadors serve as hosts and hostesses for the university, therefore they must be "well-rounded students, possess leadership qualities and have a real love for the university," said katy Francisco Riddle, Assistant Director of the Office of Alumni Relations.

This year a total of 16 students will be chosen, 8 females and 8 males, Riddle said,

Students chosen to be ambassadors will serve a one-year term. from May 2006 to April 2007, summer events are optional. 'siddle said.

Casey Guimbellot, a senior correpreneurship major, has been an ambassador for two years. She said one of her favorite duties as an ambassador is working the kybox at football games, because she gets to meet new people and Jamei.

You get to respect the univer ity in a different way." Chambellot said. By meeting alumni and attending various events, Guimbellot said, she has a different outlook of the campus and events.

Jason Crook, a senior business administration and political science major, is also currently serving as a student ambassador.

Crook said that student ambassadors are imperative to the university in many ways. They meet with senators and other groups of people, they have an "adaptive" role and they symbolize the university as a whole, not just specific colleges within the university.

Crook said one of his favorite duties as an ambassador is driving visitors and alumni around the university in the golf cart.

The current student ambassadors were able to put up what is called "The Blue Horseshoe," located between the Cope Administration building and Peck Hall.

"[They] wanted to establish a new campus tradition, and a way to give back to the campus," Riddle said.

With the help of Concrete Industry Management students, the design, forming and installing of the Blue Horseshoe was completed. "Alumni, students, and fans are encouraged to touch the Blue Horseshoe for good luck before an event, such as a big game, performance, student organization function or even before a test or class presentation," Riddle said.

Like the ambassadors who came up with the Blue Horseshoe, ideal applicants should have a sense of pride for the university, and want to give back, Riddle said.

Qualifications for the student ambassador position include: a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher, one complete semester at MTSU, ability to attend bi-weekly Tuesday meetings and attend an informational on Sunday, Feb. 26 at 4 p.m., or Monday, Feb. 27 at 5 p.m.

Students must return the applications in person to the Alumni Center by 4 p.m. on Friday, March 3.

Applications are available at the Alumni Center, the Keathley University Center information desk, the Student Government Association office, and online at mtalumini.com.

Student ambassadors who are chosen then must elect a president, vice president and secretary/treasurer.



Submitted Photo

Front Row: Mary Avent (president)
Second Row: Courtney Ledford, Jonathan Hutton, Lizzie Miller, Matt Flynn, Sonia Jennings, Shannon
Woods (vice president), Jason Crook

#### Woods (vice president), Jason Crook Top Row: Harold Purnell, Katie Crytzer (secretary/treasurer), Casey Guimbellot, Lauren Cox

### Solidarity: "Anti-Coke Panel"

Continued from 1

Obtlic 180 schools and organizations, 16 have successtally brecotted Goca Cola with several waiting for their contract to expire

Convert said that MTSU has a special position in that the trident body is one of Cocasola's largest demographics

Our aim at this moment is to continue our informative campaign. Cozort said, "Where we go from here is largely up to the student body."

Some students disagreed with the position taken by the panelists, such as David Fiala, a madental company science

major

"I wanted to hear all the facts and base my opinion around that," Fiala said. "I think I still disagree with their movement a bit because I guess I have to side with the his companies."

In a question-and-answer segment of the meeting. Fiala asked how MTSU would go about the campaign with such a small number of people being interested.

The panel answered that it would start with bringing information to the students and that the success of other universities took time, sometimes up to two years.

# MTSU's W3 web group extends deadline for logo submissions

Founding members. Amanda McClellan, Eric Shuff, and Marcus Snyder as well as faculty advisor Randy Livingston, would like to invite Students to join MTSU's new Web design group.

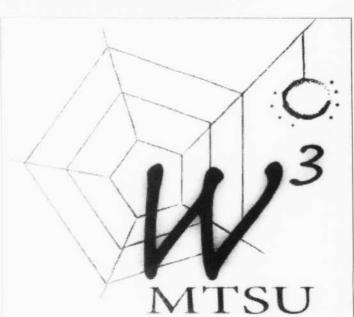
W3 is a collaborative learning group created by students in Mass Communication. It is open to everyone who has an interest in web and graphic communication design. No experience is necessary. The W3 mission is to provide an environment for students to learn by engaging, as a team, in actual design projects and to serve the university and commu-

mis. There is no charge for W3

Witness on Walnesdays at proceed to the Read Mass Communication building in room 110.

Due to an overwhelming response, the W3 logo design competition deadline has been extended to Wednesday, Mar. 15 at 4 p.m.

For more information regarding W3 and the logo design competition visit the group's blog at www.w3mtsu.blogspot.com or send an email message to marcusa.snyder@gmail.com.



Logo design by Marcus Snyder

One possible logo for the W3 web design group. For more information go to www.w3mtsu.blogspot.com.

# SIDELINES

STUDENT NOMINATION for OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARDS 2005-2006

**I** Nominate

(Please Print Full Name of Instructor)

from

(Department of Nominee)

for a

## 2005-2006 Outstanding Teacher Award

(Nominees must be full-time faculty members to be eligible)
(Please type or print clearly)

Printed name of Nominator\_

Signature of Nominator

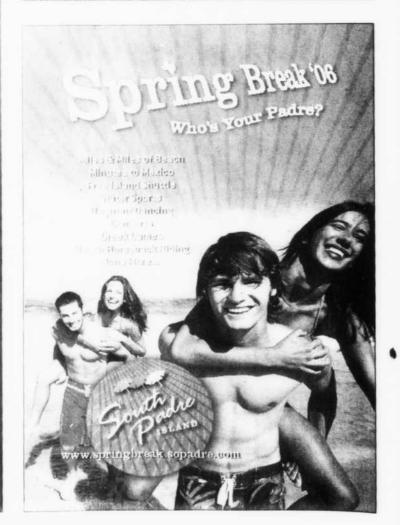
Please return this ballot to:

Office of Executive Vice President and Provost, 111 Cope Administration Building Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Deadline

Monday, March 6, 2006





# 'The Road to the Horse' arrives at Miller Coliseum

By Emily Cavender

Staff Writer

Pounding hooves, flying manes and the excitement of seeing an untamed horse ridden for the very first time can be found this weekend at the Road To The Horse, taking place at MTSU's Miller Coliseum.

The Road To The Horse is a unique event showcasing the skills of four natural horsemanship trainers. Natural horsemanship is a unique way of training horses without using force or harsh tactics.

General admission tickets are still available for \$40. More information and a detailed schedule can be found at www.roadtothehorse.com.

Cristin Jordan, a senior psychology major, has witnessed natural horsemanship with Pat Parelli, a very well-known trainer.

"I think it's a great way to train horses because you train them in their language," Jordan said.

Each trainer competing in the event will choose a horse that has hardly been touched. They will then have three hours to work with the horse, teach it to carry a saddle, then a rider. Then they must ride the horse through an obstacle course. The winner of the competition is the trainer who can train a horse and get it through the obstacle course the fastest and with the best results.

The Cornelius Ranch in Blountsville, Alabama will provide the horses, which are all three years old and were chosen for their disposition and their conformation, or the way

This year's event is showcasing trainers Craig Cameron, Van Hargis, Martin Black and the first female trainer to participate, Stacy Westfall. Clinton Anderson, the twotime champion of the contest, will be doing his Down under Horsemanship clinics before the competition starts each day.

Craig Cameron, a native Texan, trained his first horse at the age of twelve, according to the Road To The Horse Web site. He now travels over 44 weeks a year to present clinics to avid horse lovers all over the country. His style of training is also shown on a weekly television show on RFD-TV.

Van Hargis is from Texas also, and has been training horses for years. He is back for the second time due to his popularity at the event last year. Hargis has trained up to 1,033 horses in one year, according to the Web site, and has performed numerous clinics throughout the country.

Martin Black, a fifth-generation rancher from Idaho, grew up rodeo riding, bucking horses, and roping cattle and has experienced many types of riding before developing his own method of training that works best for the horse that he is training.

Stacy Westfall is this year's fourth trainer and the first female to participate in the event. Westfall is from Ohio and is a renowned trainer. She has been a successful competitor in reining, an event in which the rider and horse perform a pattern for a judge. The patterns consist of exciting moves like spins, in which the horse is spinning around its back feet in one spot, and slides, in which the horse and rider run down one side of the arena and slide to a stop.

Throughout the weekend each trainer will be giving clinics to teach the audience about their unique ways of training horses.

Not only will there be exciting clinics and the competition itself to watch, but also a trade fair with many vendors such as Cool Breeze Farm and Tack and the publication Horse and Rider. The trade show opens at 6:30 a.m., followed by the clinics from the trainers participating in the competition.

Performances from country stars Trent Willmon and Kellie Coffey will be held throughout the weekend. Coffey will start the opening ceremonies on Saturday.

This is the fourth year that the Road To The Horse has been held. The first two years it was in Texas and last year it was in Murfreesboro.

According to Heidi Nyland, an account manager for Hill Shephard Marketing Group, the idea for Road To The Horse started when Tootie Bland, the producer of the event, was pondering a competition similar to a rodeo that she and her husband had just attended.

"A rodeo was a way to tell who was the best at starting a horse, and this is kind of a new twist on that idea," Nyland said.

#### **CAMPUS BRIEFS**

#### Free Legal Clinic

June Anderson Women's Center is supplying a free legal clinic from 7–9 p.m. on Feb. 23. Appointments are required and the center is located at JUB 206.

#### MTSU Jazz Combos

A jazz combos performance, directed by jazz faculty and teaching assistants, will be at 7:30 p.m. in Hinton Music Hall in Wright Music Building on Feb. 23.

#### Mayor Moon and the Storytelling Festival

The play "Mayor Moon and the Storytelling Festival," written by M. Crosby Hunt, will be performed at Tucker Theatre at 9 and 10 a.m, on Feb. 21–24 and 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 24–25. The show's production is a part of The Honduras Project, an art-based humanitarian service program.

#### Up 'Til Dawn Finale

Up Til' Dawn is hosting an event to celebrate its fund-raising for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Feb. 24 at the Recreation Center. The event will contain sporting events, games, live entertainment and free food. Each fund-raising team who has submitted money is invited to attend the event.

#### MTSU Symphony Orchestra

The MTSU Symphony Orchestra will be performing a concert at 8 p.m. in Hinton Music Hall of Wright Music Building on Feb. 25. Dr. Carol Nies will be conducting the orchestra, which is composed of MTSU students, faculty and staff.

#### **Theatre Alumni Reunion**

There will be a theatre alumni reunion at 8:30 p.m. on Feb. 25, in the Tom H. Alumni Center. There will also be a continental breakfast in the Tucker Theatre lobby at 10 a.m.

# **ABC Talent Development Team coming Saturday to KUC**

Staff Reports

A panel of representatives from the ABC Talent Development Team will be available to meet with students Saturday in the Keathley University Center theater.

Members of ABC's news, entertainment and film divisions will be presenting an informational session from 1–2:30 p.m. offowed by meak.\* out groups in the John Bragg Mass Communications building for a variety of talent interests until 4 p.m.

ABC Talent offers programs including scholarship grants, writing fellowships, television directing, casting and entertainment group internships. Executives in entertainment, news and music from Los Angeles, Cal. and New York, N.Y. will be present to discuss

these programs with students who are interested in a career in talent.

The ABC Talent
Development Team holds sessions around the country to
bring more information to
more diverse student bodies
around the country," said Jan
Quarles, a journalism professor
who orchestrated the session.

'This is good for students who aren't really sure what they

want to do." Quarles said. "It's important for our students."

Organizers are hoping to fill the KUC theater for the Development team, according to Quarles, who also opened the event to students from other area universities.

"It's an opportunity to get a fittle into on what some of the actual companies in the aid.

# HOUSING REAPPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR FALL 2006 / SPRING 2007

The Housing and Residential Life Office is now accepting housing reapplication forms from returning students for the Fall 2006/Spring 2007 academic year. Students are encouraged to reapply for housing as early as possible, particularly if they are requesting to move to a different location on campus next year, as new assignments are made by application date.

Students requesting to remain in their same location on campus next year will be given first priority to do so as long as their reapplication and \$200 prepaid rent deposit are received by the deadline. The reapplication deadline with priority for the 2006/2007 academic year is FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2006 at 4:00 PM.

Students need to complete a reapplication form available in the Housing and Residential Life Office, pay the \$200 prepaid rent at the business office cashier windows in the Cope Administration Building, 1st floor, and return the reapplication form stamped "paid" to the Housing and Residential Life office in the Keathley University Center, Room 300, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Students also have the option of reapplying for housing with priority online at www.mtsu.edu/~housing. The \$200 prepaid rent is paid by using a credit card, MasterCard or Visa, or by completing an online check. There is an additional \$10 nonrefundable service fee charged for processing the payment online.

To obtain a HOUSING REAPPLICATION FORM, please come by the Housing and Residential Life office during office hours, 8AM to 4:30PM, Monday through Friday, in the Keathley University Center, Room 300.

For additional information or questions, please contact Housing and Residential Life during office hours at 898-2971.

# Middle 7ennessee State University STUDENT AMBASSADORS



We are now accepting applications for our newest group of Student Ambassadors, the offical hosts of the University.

Please call 898-2923 or visit mtalumni.com for details.



# **OPINIONS**

# Peterson case a trend in family-related murders

By DeAnn Currey

Staff Columnist

It appears Scott Peterson has started a trend—a very deadly trend. Or maybe it's a trend that husbands think is an easy way out. Whatever the reason, killing wives and babies has become a popular trend in the past few years.

Is today's society just so evil, selfish and singleminded that killing a person is the best way out of a marriage and the responsibilities of being a father? This deadly fad is not just a habit that is becoming popular only in the United States, but also in other

In September of 2005, a Japanese man was charged with killing his wife. His reason for doing so, "You're giving all of your attention to the baby and not taking care of me."

Newsflash: "In case you don't know, a baby is a lot of work." The Japanese mother was doing her duties as a mother; the father on the other hand, is a selfish man that deserves to spend the rest of his life behind bars.

Just last week, another American father was arrested for the horrific crime of killing his wife and infant daughter. Neil Entwistle fled to England after committing the crime, but was quickly captured and returned to the United States.

Looking at pictures of this family, one would assume they were the "picture-perfect" family- nice-looking husband, pretty wife and a precious new baby. The saying, "Looks can be deceiving is true," especially in this deadly situation.

According to ABC's "Good Morning America."
Entwistle looked at a website describing how to kill someone just days before he killed his wife and nine-month-old daughter.

The death reports state Rachel Entwistle was shot in the back of the head and died immediately, while the couple's daughter, Lillian was shot in the abdomen and bled to death minutes after being shot. The mother and daughter were left on the couple's bed, where they died beside each other; there were no signs of struggle.

My mind can not comprehend killing the person I have committed to spend the rest of my life with. It is even harder for me to comprehend how someone can kill their own child. How is a person going to kill their own flesh and blood? A baby is made out of love, not selfishness. At least, that is how it is supposed to work.

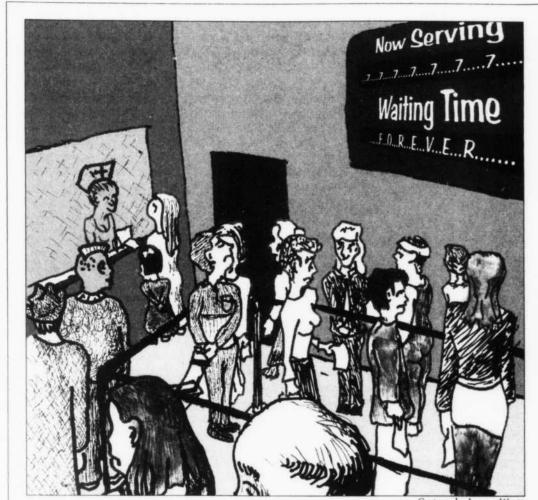
I don't understand how a person can be so coldhearted by killing a person that they are supposedly head-over-heels in love with.

Maybe the media is partly to blame for this reoccurring incident. Before Peterson killed his wife, Laci and unborn son, Connor, it was extremely rare to hear about this kind of incident. Yet the media had a field day with this case and made the nation become attracted to the story and the situation. The media seems to make these deadly situations look glamorous. They show pictures of the couple's lives together, and even show interviews of their friends.

I'm sorry for having absolutely no sympathy for Peterson or Entwistle. I believe they knew what they were doing. They knew the consequences of killing their wife and children. These men (and others that may decide to follow in their footsteps) deserve to live a life that is full of torture. These men are guilty, while their victims were innocent.

As we watch these tragic events on TV, let's remember there is a family that is suffering because they lost a daughter and a grandchild. Sadly, the family member is part of an infamous death that was unnecessary in every way.

DeAnn Currey is a junior Mass Communications major and can be reached at jdc3v@mtsu.edu.



Under a universal health care system, we all will have to wait for a crappy doctor.

## Faith plays role editorial decisions

By Tim Hill

Maria Cara

"I would never go to war for a goddamn editor," my very conservative grandfather told me recently. This was his immediate and emotional reaction to the suspension of the Daily Illini's editor and opinions editor. Those two students, of course, decided last week to run the controversial Mohammad cartoons to stimulate debate on campus.

My grandfather is a fan of this country and all that it stands for, but his biggest issues are not with President Bush. Although Grandpa hates the media, he looks forward to reading my columns online. I don't know how I feel about being the only

exception to his rule.

The two student editors who decided to publish six of the riot-inducing cartoons are prime examples of why journalists write and our soldiers fight. If you're an editor who exercises several freedoms within the First Amendment, receiving an unjust suspension hinders your readers' ability to see the truth. Elsewhere, soldiers who protect embedded reporters are hampered whenever Geraldo Rivera decides to reveal

troop positions in the sand on live television.

These risks are real. They certainly don't make the case that Americans should remain in the dark during wartime. Americans should have a free press that isn't holding them back.

I've been told several times that journalism is a career field in need of abiding Christians. As a Christian myself, resting in the truth is something I'm called to do every day. Christians like me ask, "How can I trust what this reporter says if their bias in this separation of church and state court case article is so blatant?"

A poll done a couple of years ago asked journalists to identify their religious affiliation. The vast majority—over 70%—responded they couldn't describe themselves as Christian. This confirms that the media sees things in a diametrically opposed way compared to the vast Christian community who reads their papers. Journalists who don't have Christ's comfort are thereby faced with their first challenge in finding the truth.

Journalism textbook authors are the second-largest obstacle to the duty to define and thereby report the truth. In my media writing text a couple of years ago, the author wrote, "When we talk about the truth, we're not talking about the literal truth. Truth is whatever your source is telling you, so long as they are not saying it in a malicious way."

Under that definition, a house fire article could "constantly" change. If the only witness was a person who claimed to have seen a spaceship zap the house on fire, then the reporter would be obligated to report that account as fact.

Journalism is not about just accepting things. It's about sensing something fishy and digging deeper until you prove your vibe was right. That's how the old time reporters have been remembered in history. If journalists don't follow that path to the truth, reporters will find themselves "fighting their own wars without the troops behind them," as my grandfather so eloquently put it.

Tim Hill is a rising senior journalism major and is the Opinions Editor. This column came in 2nd Place at the Southeast Journalism Conference at Emory University on Feb. 18th, 2006. Tim can be reached at slopinio@mtsu.edu

## 'Choice' is different for everyone

To the editor:

As the organizer of CBR's Reproductive "Choice" Campaign (the abortion truck) that visited MTSU in January, I wanted to respond to Mr. Isaac Nuell's recent letter to the Sidelines. First of all, it is not a religious belief, but a biological fact that life begins at conception. The unborn child is both human and alive. The questions are not religious or biological, but legal: Which living human beings will be granted rights of personhood, which will be denied those rights, and what criterion will we use to grant or deny?

Mr. Nuell frames his arguments in the language of "choice" and "freedom." Nothing new. Pro-slavery advocates argued that they merely wanted "freedom" to "choose" what to do with their own "property." They thought it perfectly obvious that color should be the criterion to grant or deny rights. More recently, both Nazis and segregationists argued that they should have the right to choose what kind of society they would create. They thought it perfectly reasonable that race should be the criterion to grant or deny rights of personhood. Funny how the "right to choose" never extends to the intended victims.

Mr. Nuell wants to advance religious arguments

to justify the killing of human beings he devalues. Again, nothing new. So did pro-slavery advocates. And so did Nazis, for that matter. Our argument is not religious; we value every human being equally, regardless of color, religion, age, or birth status.

Mr. Nuell wants to talk about "choice", but he doesn't want anyone to actually see what it is they are choosing. What does it mean to have a "choice" when the culture has conspired to keep us all ignorant about the consequences of that choice? What does it mean for a woman to have a "choice" when she is being threatened with abandonment or even violence if she will not "choose" to kill her child? In a recent study, coercion (e.g., pressure or threats from irresponsible or predatory males) was cited as a major factor in up to 60% of abortions (www.unfairchoice.info/unwanted.htm).

Mr. Nuell wants to talk about diversity and respect, but he labels people who disagree with him as "propagandists" and "cowards." Ad hominem attacks are no substitutes for reasoned arguments.

C. Fletcher Armstrong, PhD Director, Southeast Region Operations Center for Bio-Ethical Reform.

#### UNBUCKLING THE BELTWAY

In order to regain support from the international community, President Bush has proposed the U.S. switch its currency from the dollar bill to the euro. Justice Samuel Alito sits in the far-right seat in the Supreme Court chambers. "What? I owe it to the President's base," he said.

Disney announced that sales of "Bambi" on DVD have gone up 400% since news of Vice President Cheney's hunting incident. On Fox, Cheney told Brit Hume, "I was pretty confident liberals already held me or Karl Rove responsible for killing Bambi's mom."

Earlier this week, a suitcase nuke went off in downtown Nashville, but MTSU students wouldn't have noticed. "FEMA told us MTSU was quartermile outside the fall-out zone, so there was no need to cancel classes," a Tennessee Board of Regents spokesman said.

Opinions Editor's note: This section takes the news and exaggerates it, or makes it up completely. Outside of this box, you're free to think for yourself.

## SIDELINES

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# Death penalty not always the best

By KaToya Jackson

Student Guest Columnist

Wanting to get even. Doing unto others as they do unto you, causing them as much pain as they caused the next person. Reason enough to give somebody the death penalty?

We would all like justice on the many people who have selfishly taken lives into their own hands, parents who try to rid of the kids that they put on this earth or men who take the innocence of women and girls. While much of our time is spent hating and despising these terrible and somewhat troubled people for the crimes they commit, we don't take the time to consider that the best thing to do might be to let them perish in jail.

I totally agree that the people who somehow make up in their minds that it's all right to commit these heinous crimes should be punished to the full extent. However, who gives the judge, jury, government or anybody else the right to say when someone deserves to die? It seems to me that by issuing the death penalty not only has the criminal taken matters into their own hands, but so have we. Giving somebody the death penalty is not going to erase the crime that someone

committed, so why kill another person?
According to the Human Rights and Death
Penalty Web site (http://derechos.org),
"Executions were re-installed by the Supreme
Court after a break in 1976. The court was concerned about the various state death penalty laws
being unconstitutional in regard to cruel and
unusual punishment and due process of law."

As for me, I think that they were correct in assuming this. They should have done away with the death penalty for good. However, not only do we not have the right to decide when some-body should die, but making someone spend the rest of their life in jail might just be worse than the death penalty. Also, the death penalty costs more money than it's worth, according to the Miami Elerald, which reports it cost from two to six times as much to kill someone than to incarcerate them for life.

Yes, giving the death penalty ends a life, but I would think that more pain comes from sitting in jail thinking about the crime you committed until your natural dying day. Knowing that you will wear that same jumpsuit, eat the same foods, have no privacy and never get to see your friends, family or the outside world again serves as plenty justice for me.

Granted, there have been certain circumstances where I have thought that the death penalty was the only way that justice could be served, but once I sit and consider all things, it seems like yet another way to let offenders free. While it is very true that the offender will be put to death, it is also true that he or she would be free of the guilt and misery that should be endured for the rest of their lives. Although we might think that there are certain crimes that deserve a more severe punishment than jail time, community service or probation, we have to acknowledge the fact that the death penalty—although legal— is also a crime.

According to the Bureau of Justice, in 2005 some 60 people in 16 states were executed. Of those executed in 2005, 41 were white and 19 were black; 59 men and one woman.

I want justice as much as the next person, but I think that the taking of a person's life should be left in the hands of God. The death penalty is just a legal way to kill somebody, and an escape for facing the facts of life.

KaToya Jackson is senior in the College of Education and Behavioral Science and can be reached at klj2j@mtsu.edu.

Ever wish your witty, political cartoons could be on the Opinions page?

Sidelines is currently searching for a talented artists to create political cartoons for the Opinions section.

Come by Sidelines office in the Mass Comm Building Rm. 269 and bring some samples of your artwork.

# FEATURES

# Wall of Fame showcases success

By Casey Phillips

Features Editor

During its annual awards ceremony on the last day of classes, the College of Mass Communication adds new faces to an ever-growing gallery honoring successful mass media alumni and support-

Over the past six years, the wall in question, located on the first floor of Bragg Mass Communication Building, has grown to include 37 faces.

Despite a successful career, one nominee doesn't draw attention for his accomplishments so much as for the picture he chose to have displayed.

Among the stoic and posed portraits of inductees for 2002 is a picture of Blake Chancey, senior vice president of A&R-Sony Music, holding a Budweiser can and cigar, wearing sunglasses and laughing.

Although this picture stands out from the other 36 pictures on the wall, those responsible for hanging it said Chancey, who graduated in 1985 with a degree in music business, was embarrassed for submitting it.

"Rumor has it that his mother was not happy with the picture he submitted, and at one point, he told me he was going to submit a more standard pic ture," said Recording Industry Department Chair Chris Haseleu, "but on the other hand, I think it kind of reflects Blake. He's someone who has a real good sense of humor and always has had that, he had it when he was a stu-

Every year, there's a chance another Blake Chancey will be nominated. Each February, the faculties of the three mass communication departments send lists of nominees to their respective chairs who, along with the dean, comprise the executive committee responsible for selecting those to be honored.

The faculty nominations are rarely overruled.

"We pretty much say that if that's who the department thinks should be up there, then we go along with their recommendation," said Electronic Media Communications Department Chair, Robert Spires.

In addition to honoring graduates from the college, the dean personally selects one individual for the special designation of "Friend of the College" to honor those who have worked to sup-



Photo by Adam Casto | Photography Editor

Blake Chancey's photograph hangs on the Mass Communication Hall of Fame.

port the college through either service in the industry or contributions of time or

"When I became dean, I saw a very good representation of alumni being honored on the wall of fame," said Anantha Babbili, whose tenure as dean of the College of Mass Communication has included overseeing three years of nominations for the wall. "But we also had some outstanding benefactorspeople who support us through scholarship contributions and giving us advice on matters related to the College—as a whole who were not being recognized."

Along with the Kennon Sports Hall of Fame next to Murphy Center and the Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame in the McWherter Learning Resources Center, the College of Mass Communication Wall of Fame serves to recognize successful individuals in a number of fields, whether MTSU graduates or not.

"Around the wall of fame, we are striv-

ing to build a history of people who were here over the years," Journalism Professor Edward Kimbrell said. "These are people who have gone on to famous kinds of roles in media, public relations, advertising-whatever.

"At the present time, it's kind of like a living tableau of those who have achieved.

Since 2000, the faculties have selected two nominees a year. Beginning this year. however, Spires said that number will be cut in half in order to make the award more exclusive.

The first year we wanted to make a long row, so we had more people," he said. "The other years, up until last year, each department had two people, plus the 'Friend of the College' selection—so, seven in all. This year, each department has agreed they will only pick one."

Making those selections is harder than might be expected. The department chairs responsible for bringing the faculty selections to the dean agree that MTSU graduates continue to excel in their fields, making the faculties' job more challenging.

It's always difficult to make a choice," Haseleu said. "There's always a number of names that come forward, any one of which would make good additions to the

The wall of fame has the obvious benefit of showcasing MTSU's success stories, but Kimbrell-a former dean and journalism department chair himselfsaid the exhibit has the more subtle effect of inspiring others to emulate the graduates on display.

"It serves another purpose, which is perhaps more long-lasting," he said. "It shows students they can do things-that this education they're getting here can lead to income and recognition."

Achieving that recognition and success is the primary criteria used by the departments when making their selections. Once selected, however, recipients of this honor receive no monetary prize—the real honor is much longer lasting.

"They receive just a few tokens of our appreciation," Spires said, "no money, no award-other than being made immortal. They should get some global satisfaction at the thought that literally thousands of people see these pictures."

Spires said that as the exhibit continues to grow, new problems will begin to arise with arranging the gallery so all the photos remain visible and the design of the exhibit will need to change to accommodate this diminishing space.

"My biggest hope right now is that we can come up with some groupings so we have more room," he said. "We won't go high because people won't be able to read them, so we're going to have to get them all close together. Instead of going linear, I think we're going to have them in blocks."

Kimbrell said that, although some individuals have posed questions about the motivation of the college when selecting successful alumni for inclusion, the rewards are handed out with no further expectations for the nominee than that they feel honored and appreciated.

"Some people say, 'Well, if you pad them, they'll give the university money,' but we're not after that," he said. "What we're after here is simply saying to the students, 'Here, these people are representative of what you can do,' and to those who have been asked to go to the wall of fame to simply say how proud we are of them."

From the current general manager of the Grand Ole Opry to investigative reporters and newspaper editors, the ranks of recipients include individuals whose success in their respective fields has brought them to positions of prestige and influence.

Given their success and responsibilities, it's surprising that tracking down successful alumni isn't as difficult as might be expected, but instructors say graduation doesn't sever their ties with

This idea that we all sit here behind locked doors and don't really know our students is bologna," Kimbrell said. "We know all the students, we talk to the students, we work with them, and they keep in touch. We still know where a lot of them are.'

# Move over 'Law and Order,' here comes Mock Trial

By Sarah Lavery

"You also dusted for fingerprints in Room 312 of the Hampton Hotel, isn't that true?" 'Yes, that's correct..."

"And you found literally hundreds of prints in that room, isn't that true?"

At this point, the witness begins to get flustered. It's obvious that Jamie Bowers, one of the defense attorneys, has stumbled upon something that could put his credibility in jeopardy.

"Well, yes, it's a hotel room so... hundreds of people, you know, well, visit there," he answers with trepidation, obviously becoming disconcerted in the shadow of Bowers' fervor and assertiveness.

The case being tried that night was not unlike the courtroom drama of an episode of "Law and Order"; Reynolds, a loving, devoted mother is accused of kidnapping a friend's child in order to pay for her husband's expensive surgery with the ransom money. The lawyers are dressed impeccably and sit with stacks of evidence, affidavits and possible cross-examination questions. Their witnesses sit behind them, reading over the facts of the crime, anxiously awaiting their turn in the hot seat.

This is not a criminal trial, however, and this is not a real courtroom. This is Peck Hall, everyone in the room is crammed into uncomfortable chairs and desks, and the team of lawyers for both the prosecution and defense are members of MTSU's Mock Trial Team.

It is no surprise that the Mock Trial team has qualified for the National Championship 16 years in a row, placing in the top 15 for that competition for 14 consecutive years. An MTSU student has been named an "All-American" (one of the top 10 attorneys or witnesses) at nearly every tournament.

Professor John Vile, the advisor for the team and chair of the Political Science Department, said Bowers shows the most promise of being named an All-American this year, further developing MTSU's reputation of being a Mock-Trial force to be reckoned with.

This weekend, MTSU's team will compete in a Regional Competition in Louisville, Ky., trying Reynolds' case. Bowers, Katie Crytzer, and Kevin Rayburn, all MTSU Seniors and Political Science Majors, will be representing the fictitious Reynolds, while Cory Hudson, Jason Walker, a Senior and Business Administration major, and Kortney Simmons, a Junior majoring in Political Science,

will represent the Prosecution.

Watching them practice, it's easy to slip in and out of reality. The witnesses are dressed in character, the lawyers in business suits, and Vile and Shiva Bozarth, a Murfreesboro lawyer brought in to help the team, are referred to as "Your Honor." While the timer is running, each student must ask explicit permission to approach "the bench," and the opposing side of lawyers is quick to jump in with "Objection!" at every given opportunity.

The only persistent reminder that this is not authentic is during the period between cross-examination questions when the students laugh at their flaws and cut-up about the task at hand. It's not only clear that these students are taking their roles seriously, but that they are wholeheartedly enjoying

every second of it. Beyond having a full knowledge and understanding of the law, these students are performers. As witnessed in countless hours of Court TV and episodes of shows like "Law and Order," it takes more than knowledge to make a good lawyer-it takes someone who understands performance, and in this respect, the members of MTSU's Mock Trial team do not disappoint.

Every few minutes, Vile and Bozarth jump in to

critique the students' performance, instructing them on how to re-word their question or response to better assure their success. Even the students acting as witnesses take their role seriously because they too are in competition.

Walker, the team's president, commands attention as he examines and questions his witnesses. Bower's confidence in her case is indubitable, and both Crytzer and Simmons' opening arguments are persuasive and compelling. While they act out this trial, it's difficult to remember that this is not a real case, that these students standing before me in business suits are my peers and that after they go home from this practice, they will inevitably be doing schoolwork and hanging out with friends in addition to preparing for this fictitious case.

Their preparation is unmistakable; both teams shuffle constantly through evidence, possible examining questions and opening statements, and rules after rule that might enable them to get the leg up on their competition. There is no shortage of legal jargon or intelligence. This is one group of individuals who won't have a problem making the transition from college student to lawyer.

## Once a month not twice as nice

By Mary Rose Fox

Staff Writer

If financial responsibilities aren't hard enough already for some college students, the recent payroll change to one payday a month may have made things more difficult for some students.

Until 2006, students and part time employees working at MTSU have received paychecks every other week. Now, with the implementation of the new Banner Systems payroll service, students working on campus only receive a paycheck at the end of every month.

Because school didn't start this year until the end of January, students won't get their first paychecks until late February.

Shinu Sam, a senior medical technology major, says that the change in the payroll schedule has become an obstacle. "We only get paid once a month," Sam said, and pointed out that his first paycheck of the year won't come until the end of February.

Sam lives off campus and says the change makes it harder to budget. In handling the new payroll schedule, he said that, so far, it hasn't been too bad. "I got money back from the school, so it wasn't a problem, but, you know, right now I'm really starting to notice it."

Sam said that to deal with the change, "you just have to plan, I guess." But he admits that it could become strenuous and that, ultimately, he would prefer to go back to the old payroll schedule.

On the other hand, some students like the change. Adam Tice, a senior psychology major, said he feels the new schedule will work in his favor. He says he's struggling now, but that once a month pay will make budgeting easier with monthly bills like rent, car insurance and cell phone bills.

"With the first check, I'm gonna be able to pay my rent, and then my car payment and then everything else I can just use for that whole month," Tice says. "It'll just make budgeting easier.

"At first, I didn't think I'd like the idea, but it works out better."

Tice said he understands that other students find it more difficult to cope with the change. Many students he has spoken to don't like the new schedule.

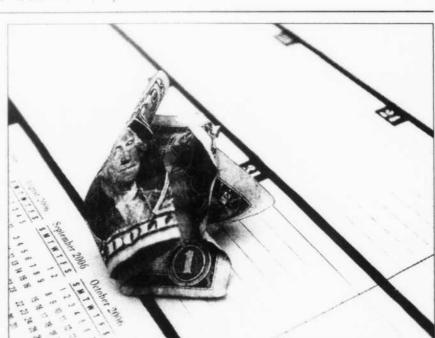
"Some people are on work study, and they don't make that much, so it might hurt them a little bit because it's just not enough money for once a month, but, I mean, I just work so much it really doesn't really make a difference."

The payroll change may help students save more, Tice says, and will make budgeting and money management easier. Unlike some students, Tice worked during the break and agrees with the once a month payment plan.

Although he believes it's too early to tell how easy it will be to adapt, he says, "I'd stay with it now. I've got one check already from working over the break...overall, I think it was a good change."

Because of the change in the payroll, there has been a huge pay gap. The last time paychecks went out in 2005 was Dec. 22, and many students won't be receiving their next paychecks until Feb. 28. This can be difficult on students because many have had to go over two months without receiv-

The new payroll schedule affects almost everyone working for the university, but



many employees, including professors, were already on the once a month payment plan.

Gayle Barker, manager of payroll services, says the change in the schedule is university-wide, and the only people who aren't affected are the people in food services. who are paid through Aramark Food

Previously, MTSU was using a payroll system called SCT HRS Plus, but this year the school is using SCT Banner HR. According to Kathy Musselman, assistant vice president in human resources, the entire TBR system has switched to the new system.

# SPORTS

# Equestrian team rises to occasion

By Ebony Pugh Staff Writer

The MTSU Equestrian Team is garnering recognition in regular season competition by high-point team and individual awards.

Lead by Coach Anne Brzezicki, the hunt seat and the western riders have gained success in the regular season shows thus far. The hunt seat riders still have a few more shows left before they officially end the regular season while the western riders finished the season at the top in regional rankings.

"I'm very excited because of how well we did in our regular season shows, I'm ready to go to regionals," MTSU rider Sarah Snover said.

In addition to team acclaim, riders garnered individual honors in the regular season. Nikki Klein won the High Point Rider Cup, which means she had the highest points out of all the riders in the region. Klein automatically advances to nationals, which will be held in Harrisburg, Penn.

"It is almost overwhelming to take it all in because I was the underdog for most of the season",

This is a great way to end my senior year," said Klein, who has shown horses since she was four years old.

laction Ohmon also did well this semester, musning the regular season is Reserve High Point Rider. The Reserve High Point has the second highest number of points. Claiming both the High Point Rider and the Reserve High Point Rider is an honor for the MTSU equestrian team.

"At the shows we literally draw at name out of a hat to see what horse we will ride during the show," Ohmon

Although the Intercollegiate Horse show Association judging is based solely on the rider, a random draw is ione so the judges can see how well the rider can adjust to a different horse. The riders do not get a chance

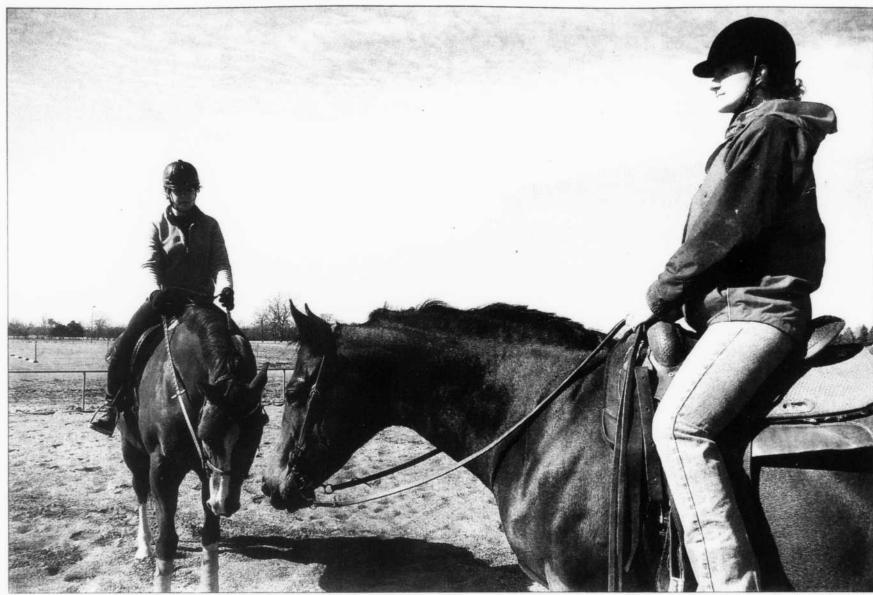


Photo by Sarah B. Mullen

MTSU equestrian team riders Nikki Klien and Emily Cavender warm up their horses during practice Wednesday. Klien won the high point rider cup, earning the nighest points of all riders in the region. Klein automatically advances to nationals, which will be held in Harrisburg, Penn.

to practice on the newly assigned horse.

The shows are very challenging yet fun", Ohmon said.

The team participates in shows across the region against the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, the University of Tennessee, Martin,

Tennessee Technological University, Vanderbilt University, Maryville College, Rhodes College, Mississippi State, Western Kentucky University, Murray State University and the University of the South.

'We play against lots of great teams in our region, but I think we are more

successful because we are a close team", Klein said.

Being so close just gives us a window of opportunity to be successful," Snover said.

The Equestrian team is open to anyone interested. The team offers membership to beginners and advanced riders.

"There is a place for everyone," Snover said.

Members of the equestrian team take riding lessons provided by the coaches, twice a day Monday thru Thursday, and once on Friday.



Photo courtesy of MT Media Relations

MT's Adam Vogelsberg looks for a teammate to pass to in the team's game at Western Kentucky on Jan. 7. Thursday, the Blue Raiders will be looking to avenge that 80-48 decision.

# Blue Raiders hope history repeats itself against WKU

By Jonathan Hutton Staff Writer

The Middle Tennessee men's basketball team will host rival Western Kentucky in what MT hopes will a repeat of the teams' 2004 showdown in Murfreesboro.

On Feb. 26th, 2004, MT hosted WKU in what was deemed Operation: Full House. The slogan fit the evening, as the Blue Raiders won 73-59 in front of a

record crowd of 11,807. WKU visits tonight in different circumstances than two years ago, as the Hilltoppers enter tonight atop the Sun Belt Conference, but the rivalry hasn't changed in the least bit. Blue Raider Head Coach Kermit Davis said as a coach, he looks at the rivalry with the Hilltoppers differently than other SBC games.

"I think if a coach says he doesn't, |see the rivalry differ-

ently] he's lying," Davis said. "Our players, this is there first time, it's the fourth time for our coaches so there's no question our fans feel real passionate toward the game. It makes us have even more passion for the game. Now it counts the same in the standings as any other conference game, but sure I feel a little bit different about Western Kentucky than I do other teams we play in the Sun Belt.'

Earlier this season in Bowling Green the Blue Raiders fell in an 80-48 blowout by the hands of the Hilltoppers. The Blue Raiders went 17:06 without scoring a field goal in the second half and went on to be outscored 40-17 in the second half.

Coach Davis said to pull the upset tonight, the Blue Raiders will need excellent games from all around the floor.

"We do need for one night to have Fats [Cuyler], Adam

[Vogelsberg], Bud [Howard], and Kevin [Kanaskie] to all play well and shoot the ball well, or maybe one night you have Marcus Morrison, Tim Blue and Kyle Young to all compete and play well on the same night," Davis said. "It's going to take that in order for us to beat Western Kentucky and close out the year. We want to close it out.

"I think we are stronger at the end of games and have become a lot better second-half team than we were at the beginning of the vear," Davis said.

Davis said he is excited about the atmosphere for tonight's game.

"We have a big home stand and a lot to play for against the arch-rival," Davis said. "I think it will probably be the most people to see a Sun Belt Conference game this year so we are looking forward to it.'

## SBC East title on the line for Women's Basketball team

By Erika Davis Staff Writer

A division title is on the line as the Middle Tennessee women's basketball team travels to Sun Belt Conference rival Western Kentucky in the next-to-last game of the regular season on Saturday Afternoon.

"I haven't thought about it," MT head coach Rick Insell said. "There is really not any pressure on us, because we're not supposed to do that anyway."

Both the Lady Hilltoppers and Blue Raiders are tied atop the Eastern Division of the SBC with a 10-2 record. The Hilltoppers overall record is 20-5, but the Blue Raiders (17-8) have the tiebreaker because of the 68-63 victory over the Hilltoppers on Jan. 18. The winner of this game will clinch the Eastern Division and get the No.1 seed in the upcoming SBC tournament.

"I think Middle Tennessee-Western has always been the big opponent, our rivals," MT guard Chrissy Givens said. "My freshman year we took the championship on their court. They probably still have that lingering in the back of their minds. We've never beat them regular season on their floor, so this game stands out."

This season, WKU has a perfect 13-0 record inside the E.A. Diddle Arena. The last time the Blue Raiders won on that floor was March 9, 2004. MT won their first SBC tournament title with a 79-57

Crystal Kelly leads this year's Lady Hilltoppers. Kelly is second in the SBC in scoring with 20 points per game. However, in the first meeting on Jan.18 she was held to nine points in 22 minutes of action.

"Kelly is one of the top post players in the country, not just in the Sun Belt Conference," Insell said. "We were very fortunate to hold her to what we did. Last time, we played her, she got into foul trouble, and she didn't get to play as many minutes. That could have been the difference in the ball game, because she's dominated everybody else inside the confer-

Before, WKU hosts MT on Saturday, tonight they take on Florida International. In their last game, the Hilltoppers defeated Arkansas State University 106-89 giving Western Kentucky their fourth straight season where they won 20 games in a season.

WKU is also on a nine-game winning

Coach Insell said he knows about the rivalry, but this is another conference

"Being my first year coaching Middle Tennessee, I know it means more, because we've recruiting against each other," Insell said. "The tradition between the two programs, when they were in the OVC, and now in the Sun Belt Conference, they were always going at each other. Our biggest rival is them. Will we prepare any differently than anybody else? No."

The No. 2 ranked scorer in the nation, and tops in the SBC, Chrissy Givens leads MT. Givens averages 21.9 points per game. In the first meeting against WKU, Givens scored 23 points in 39 minutes. The Blue Raiders won their last game on Feb. 18 with a 65-58 win over Arkansas-Little Rock.

Tip-off is set for 3:30 p.m. on Saturday afternoon.

Photo courtesy of MT Media Relations Junior forward Krystle Horton posts up against a Western Kentucky defender during their first meeting.



# Blue Raiders fall to ninth at in Mexico

Staff Reports

GUADALAJARA, MEXICO- Middle Tennessee's men golf team looked to open up the 2006 campaign with consistency, this past weekend. Unfortunately, consistency wasn't present in the Blue Raiders' ninth place finish at the Santa Anita/North Texas Classic in Guadalajara, Mexico.

The Blue Raiders shot 597 on the first day of the 72 par course to finish seventh overall. However, after struggling to make consistent strokes on Sunday, the Blue Raiders fell to a ninth place.

The Raiders finished the course with a total of 905, placing the team above Oral Roberts and Iowa State in the 11-team field.

Conference USA member Houston clinched the Santa Anita/North Texas Classic with a score of 865, followed by a close second from Indiana, who shot 868. Southeastern Louisiana took third with a total

Pablo Acuna of Houston had the top score by an individual at the event with a score of 210. He finished one stroke ahead of Jorge Campillo of

"Once again we struggled with consistency on the golf course," Head Coach Johnny Moore said to MT

Sophomore Nick Bailes led the Blue Raiders with a total of 222, finishing 20th overall in the Classic.

Middle Tennessee's leading golfer last fall, junior Spencer Provow, finished Monday with a team high 73 and a total of 226, which placed Provow 28th

Paducah,Ky. native, freshman Rick Cochran fin ished Monday's round with a total of 229, placing him 36th overall.

Senior Josh Nelms shot 233 and finished 42nd overall, while Junior Derrick Bright rounded out team scoring with a 240 to finish 53rd.

Middle Tennessee will travel to Houston, Tex. on Feb. 27-28 for the All-American Invitational.

# Baseball team ready to start 2006 season after weather delays last week

By Russell Luna

Staff Writer

Middle Tennessee is still waiting to sink their cleats into the dirt after last weekend's series with IP-FW was cancelled due to inclement weather. The Blue Raiders will travel south to Alabama to play their first series of the year against the Jacksonville State Gamecocks, this weekend.

Defending Ohio Valley Conference Champion Jacksonville State was voted to finish second place behind Austin Peay. The Gamecocks began their 2006 campaign last weekend with a one win out of a three game series against Southeastern Louisiana.

The Gamecocks lost a heartbreaker in their first game on Sunday as Lee Drinkard gave up two runs in the seventh and eighth inning to allow the Lions to win 6-5.

Jacksonville State then responded in their second game of the Sunday doubleheader with a 14-2 explosion to earn a series split with SLU and improve their record to 1-2 in the early 2006

Middle Tennessee Head Coach Steve Peterson said he realizes that lacksonville State will present some challenges.

"They have an outstanding ball club," Peterson said. "Their entire pitching staff is returning which is always an advantage plus overall they have good team speed and are well coached. Last year they won their league championship, so we know what their expectations are."

Sun Belt pre-season pitcher of the year Matt Scott is slated to start tomorrow, while Tyler Copeland and Jeff Kasser are expected to be in the starting pitching rotation for Saturday and Sunday's contest.

The Blue Raiders are hoping that their pitching staff will provide easy outs, which in return, will allow MT to capitalize on runs Peterson said.

"We got to play good defense and support our pitchers by getting easy outs and playing solid defense," Peterson, an 18-year coaching veteran said. "Our pitchers must keep the ball down and throw strikes, which allows our offense the chance to score runs."

The Gamecocks are highlighted with several talented players

including first team All-OVC selections right-hander Donovan Hand (Town Creek, Ala.) and senior reliever Lee Drinkard (Eva Ala.). Hand was named the 2005 OVC Freshman of the Year after tallying a 10-3 record and league low 2.60 ERA. Drinkard went with five saves and a LTT LRA

Middle Tennessee will also introduce new players, starting this weekend, into the 2006 start ing lineup including new players at first and third base, freshman Rawley Bishop and senior infield er Josh Horn, Junior Wayne Kendrick, who was Middle's utility man last season, will start at

The Blue Raiders will begin their three game series on Friday afternöon at 3 p.m. Middle Tennessee will round up their series on Saturday and Sunday with both games slated for a 1

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A Bill to amend Article 5, Section 3, Part A, of the Middle Tennessee State University Student Government Association Constitution, thus stating: "Members of the Senate shall have a 2.30 cumulative grade point average at the time of their election or selection, and shall maintain said average to continue in office.

# Softball team wins in final day of War Eagle Classic

Staff Writer

After beating battling weather delays and losing four games in a row the firs two days of the tournament, Middle Tennessee's softball team finally put a win on its record for the weekend in the final game on Sunday.

Last weekend was a struggle for the Blue Raiders as they played in the three-day War Eagle Classic Tournament hosted by Auburn University.

MT gave up both games Friday in the first day of the tournament. Mercer defeated the Blue Raiders 9-5 and No. 20 Auburn won a 5-2 match.

The Blue Raiders had an early 3-0 lead against Mercer in the first game. Justine Cerda kept up the tempo on the first day in both games. The freshman short stop put MT on the board in the bottom of the third of the first game. Katie Mielke added a run in the fourth inning, and Cerda picked up the second run in that

After scoring two runs, Mercer pulled within one run in the top of the fifth. Laura Moore gave up a two RBI single to Sarah

Harding. The Bears tied in the sixth when Ashley Anderson scored on an unearned run.

With the bases loaded, MT took the lead again. Ashley Katinas came to the mound for Moore and gave up a solo homerun to Harding to force an extra inning. MT gave up five runs in the top of the eighth.

Cerda went three-for-three with two RBIs and one run. Katinas took the loss and is now 0-1 on the season.

White took the mound for the first time this season in the game against Auburn. She went all six innings allowing five runs, nine hits and striking out three bat-

The first inning and a half went scoreless until Auburn put up four runs in the bottom of the second. MT was on the board in the third inning when Dorais scored off an RBI single by Michelle Wilkes. The only other time the Blue Raiders scored was in the top of the seventh, but that was not enough for the win.

On day two, MT gave up both games of the day, losing a close one 3-2 to Jacksonville State.

MT played Lipscomb in the first game, and Lipscomb put up three runs in the top of the first inning. Blue Raider freshman Samantha Floyd made her first appearance on the mound going for 2.2 inning and gave up two runs and five hits.

The Blue Raiders tied 2-2 in the third inning. However, MT could not hold off the five run swing in the fifth and one more in the sixth to end the game 9-3. Moore came in for Floyd in the third inning and took the loss, allowing three runs on six hits and falling to 0-2.

Jackson State put one on the board first inning of the second game, but MT tied in the third. With two outs Muriel Ledbetter hit an RBI single that brought Wilkes in for the score. MT had control in the top of the sixth to take the lead.

With a scoreless seventh inning, the game went into extra innings. Jackson State took the win when White took the loss allowing five hits, one run and striking out five.

The redemption for MT came on Sunday in the final game of the tournament against Furman. Moore took the 3-1 win, her first

See Softball, 8

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cancellations Sidelines

# Softball hosts breast cancer strikeout classic

Middle Tennessee softball all host the MT Breast Cancer Trikeout Classic Feb.24-26 at the Murfreesboro Star Plex.

The fournament is in honor all breast cancer victims and beir families. However, all prodefrom the tournament will 110 the Harriet Maples Estes cosocial Scholarship.

Many of our players and it have personal experiwith breast cancer from families," MT head and Leigh Podlesney said. tournament is our way all going back to the community and to those we love a raising money and ocreasing awareness about

Harriet Maples Estes was a games professor at MT for 25

and conner has touched many

the authall program is also orlang in conjunction with The Textules, Merchandising, and Design Department within Tepartment at Middle

In addition, the softball proreamers working with other aganizations on campus including MTSU socorities and the MT Athletic Department to make this event a success.

This tournament, however, is not a break from the regular oftball season. Games will still he played and the team is look-

www.woodscrossing.com

ing forward to having a tournament on home ground. This tournament will be the first time in many years that MT has hosted one.

"We are looking forward to hosting the tournament in Murfreesboro," Podlesny said.

Teams from all over the country will be coming to Middle Tennessee. Teams include Loyola-Chicago, Lipscomb, Syracuse and Tennessee-Martin.

Their first game will be against Lipscomb this Friday at 3 p.m. The Bisons come into the game with a 2-6 record. They also played in the War Eagle Classic last week at Auburn. The team went 1-3 with their only win coming against the Blue Raiders. That was a 9-3 win on Feb.18.

MT will play a double-header on Saturday. In their first game, they face a UT-Martin team that hasn't lost a game all season at 11 a.m.. Earlier this season, they went 5-0 in the Southeast Louisiana Tournament. However, last weekend they were supposed to host their own tournament but it was cancelled because of bad weather. On Wednesday, they played Evansville in a double-

The second game will have the Blue Raiders face Syracuse at 1 p.m.. The Orange is currently 0-5 on the season. They lost all of their games in the Kajikawa Classic.

On the last day of the Classic on Feb.26, MT faces the Ramblers of Loyola-Chicago at 1 p.m. The Ramblers begin their season at the BCSC on Friday.

#### Softball: "Win last game in War Eagle Classic"

Continued from 7

of the season, allowing only two hits and no earned runs. The Blue Raiders had a season high of 10 hits.

Scoreless for two and half innings, Furman struck first

with a run in the bottom of the third. However, with two outs Shelby Stiner and Kristine Reed managed back to back doubles to tie the game.

Cerda struck again in the top of the seventh with a score off of Floyd's RBI double. Moore

played 5.1 innings and struck out four. Floyd went two for two with a double and an RBI.

Senior outfielder Michelle Wilkes was named to the War Eagle All-American Tournament Teams, Wilkes

went 6 for 15 with a .400 bat-

ting average for the tournament.

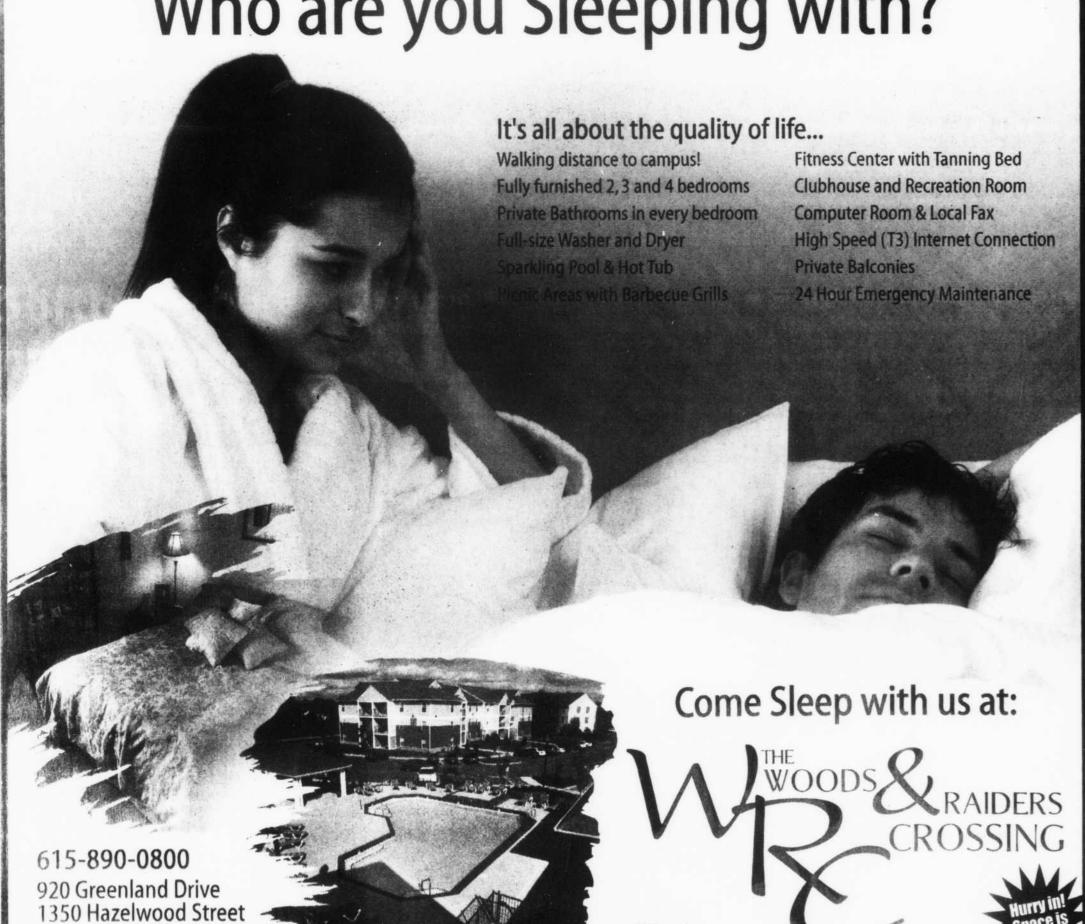
MT softball travels to Belmont today for a doubleheader. The first pitch is set for 1:30 p.m.

## Lease for Fall 2006 & Recieve \$100.00

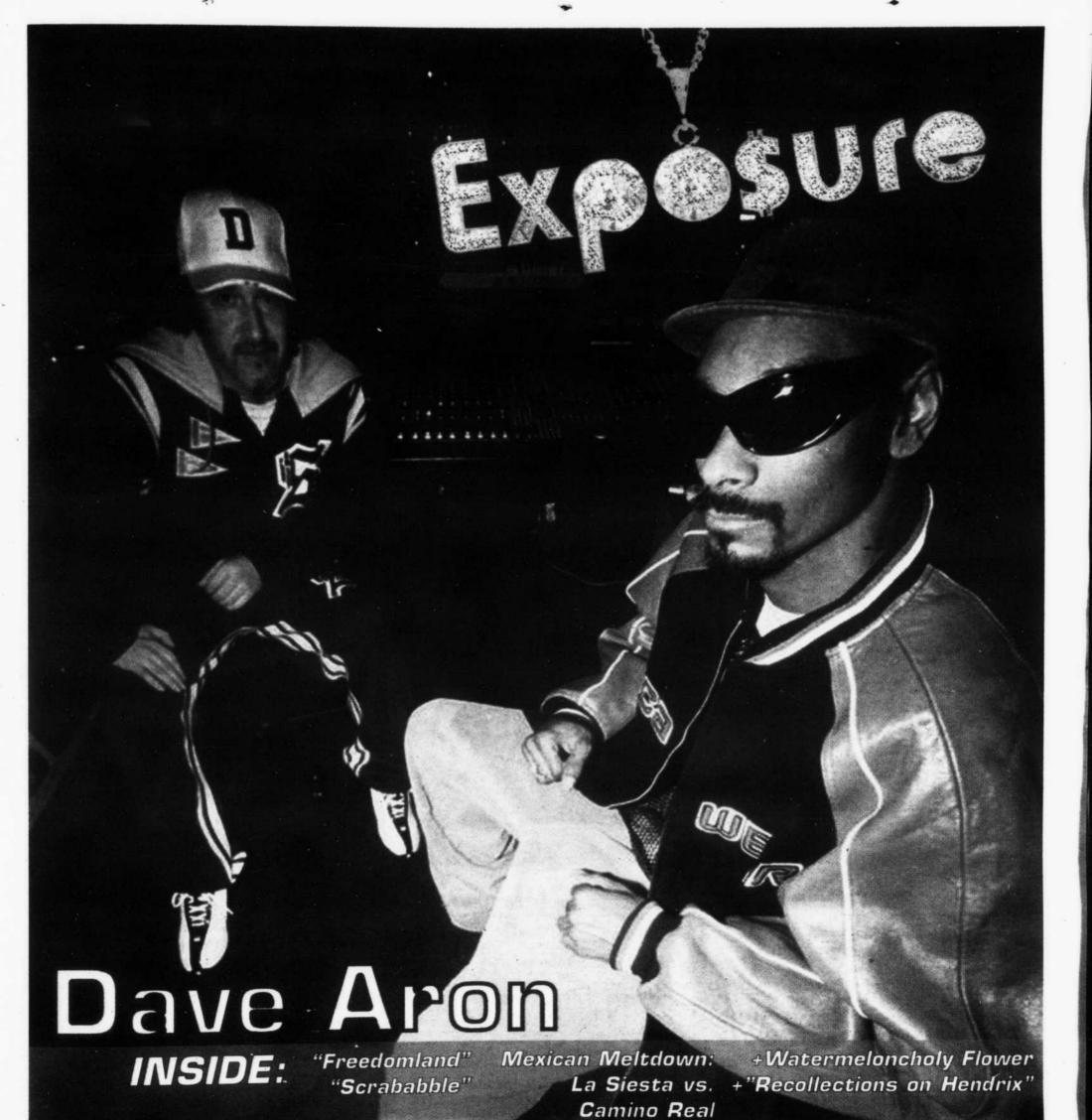
# **University Gables**







**a** 



#### the editor mumbles...



Aloha, MTSU. With this week of snow and cold rain upon us, we wanted to heat things up a little bit in the 'Boro.

I want to encourage our readers to dig in to the concert calender, which we scour the scene to create. I can't say enough about the bands that this town has to offer. If you aren't getting out on the scene, I can assure that you have not discovered the magic that is happening out in the streets of Murfreesboro.

Although we focus on the Murfreesboro bar scene, there are also lots of forms of entertainment going on outside of bars.

As the spring comes around, I know that the scene is going to heat up even more. But for now sink your teeth into the juicy happenings that are right in front of you.

If you haven't noticed, the 'Boro is a hotbed of blossoming pop culture. In twenty years, Murfreesboro may become more of a milestone in the history of our pop culture, but for now it is magic in the making. Get out there and be a part of it.

By Phillip C. Buck Exposure Editor

#### content

page three Friday night on five bucks

page five "Recollections on Hendrix" Watermeloncholy Flower

page six "Freedomland" "Scrababble"

> Phillip Buck Joseph Schmickrath Lauren Tingle David Benedict Niles T. Maddox Leigh Bernstein

Dave Aron

Superproducer and engineer to the stars, Dave Aron makes his second visit to MTSU to share his wealth of knowledge.

Meltdown

La Siesta and Camino Real go head to head in a Mexican meltdown. Flip to page seven for the results.

...the staff, exposed

Kristen Teffeteller Juli Shipley Ryan Harris Austin Bennett Meghanne Thompson Jessy Yancey David Wheatley Cameron Chiles John Daniel Matt Orenstein John Hreha

# MALAUALAUA

concert calender

#### thursday february 23

The Boro - Biff's Deville CD Release

Wallstreet - Skull Tan

Bluesboro - Old Union & Flat Rock Revival Bonhoeffer's - Echosflow farewell show with

Finding Steve Cunningham

**Liquid Smoke** - Live Jazz with a side of DJ's and MC's

friday february 24

Wallstreet - Pilots Lounge

Liquid Smoke Steve Holeman Trio

Bluesboro - Double Ought

saturday february 25

**The Boro** - Force Fed Broken Glass, Death Follows Daybreak, Tony Danza

Tap Dance Extravaganza

Wallstreet - Anthony Wayne

Liquid Smoke - The Fields

Bluesboro - Respectibles

#### Friday night on five bucks:

A short guide to where to go this weekend if you don't even have enough to get in

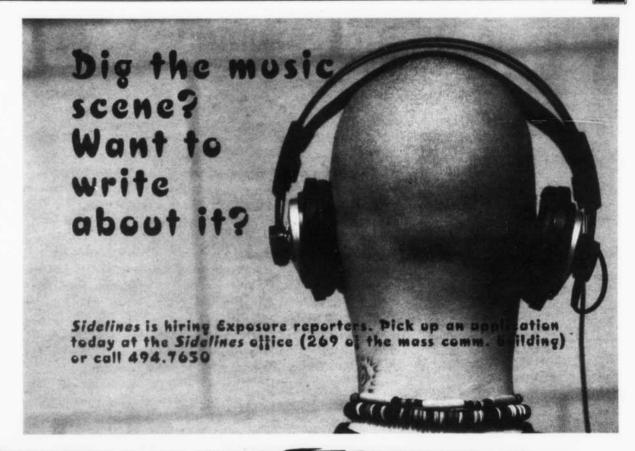
By Phillip C. Buck Exposure Editor

So, last week we brought you a quide to irresistably cheap beers. This time we've got Pub is the place for you. a quide on where to go if you want to drink but can't 2 Public Square afford that cover charge. After all, \$5 at the right place can

equal a few beers.

The Campus Pub -903 Gunnerson Ave. (615) 867-9893 Hands down the king of the dives. All beer is a dollar and there is hardly ever a cover. Got a handful of quaters? The

2 Public Square (615) 217-7822 Take your cash and invest it in some class. Your five bucks won't go too far, but you'll never pay a cover. Plus, you'll find one of the widest selections of beer in the 'Boro, a humidor full of fine cigars and the Smoke is one of the premiere places to see Jazz.







## Dave Aron, Superproducer to the stars returns to MTSU

By Tom Cheredan Sidelines News Editor

enowned music producer and sound engineer Dave Aron returns to MTSU for a series of informational sessions aimed at students starting tomorrow and continuing though the weekend.

Aron, who has worked with a plethora of artist including Sublime, Jane's Addiction, and Snoop Dogg, will share some advice about the recording industry during his lecture Friday in the Business and Aerospace building's State Farm Room.

"I want to cover a few things they might encounter in the industry, give clues to some

easier, and what Istudents| might expect, Aron said. Aron will choose a demo submitted by MTSU students from the Urban Music Society Demo Listening Sessions that took place Feb. 7.

"I don't know exactly what we're going to do with the project, but it'll all come together, it always does," Aron said. "In the words of Ray Charles: 'We're gonna make it do what it do.'

Aron wants to select people who can work together, combining some of the artist's talents together to collaborate on the project.

"I haven't gotten a chance to hear the tracks vet, I just had a show last night with Snoop Dogg and we'll

for a meeting with Geffen records," Aron said. Aron has worked with Snoop since 1993, and currently works as a live sound engineer for his touring band. Aron also operates a production company and his studio

located on Wonderland

But despite his busy schedule, Aron will hold a tracking session Saturday at noon in the Bragg Mass Communications Building. He will pick a student engineer and a student assistant to create songs "from scratch" and a mix session on Sunday estimated to be about 5 or 6 hours long from start to finish.

"I'd like to help guide them as to how a real session is going to run and the pace it's going to run," Aron said. "The feeling of professional

Aron wants to give stu-

Hopefully students can grasp on how stuff is real world so they can they've been doing and see if they need to make

Aron's first lecture series appearance at MTSU was in 2004. He picked a demo from MTSU artist Young Pro. who is still a student at the uni-



versity, according to Urban Music Society President Christina Walatkiewicz

"For music business and especially music indus try majors, hearing

trade in the studio from a professional and from their professor is very helpful," Walatkiewicz said. "We're lucky to learn from the best.

## Where to find Dave?

Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building: Free and Open Q&A session.

Feb. 25 at Noon in Studio B of the Bragg Mass Communication Building: Tracking Session

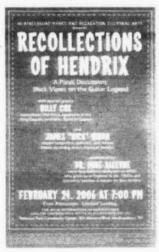
Feb. 26 at Noon in Studio C of the James Union Building: Mixing Session



#### 15

## Jimi in the 'Boro

# endrix



"Recollections on Hendrix," a panel discussion of black views on the guitar legend, Jimi Hendrix will be held Friday, Feb. 24 by the Murfreesboro Park and Recreation Cultural Arts at the Patterson Park Community Center

The panel will feature Billy Corbass player of the Band of Gypsiest James Nick Nixon isongwriter and friend of Hendrix and MTSU professor Mike Alleyne, who currently teaches a course on Hendrix.

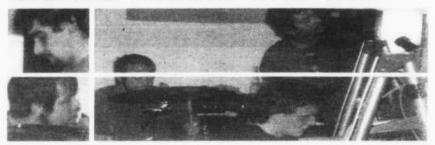
The discussion will begin at 7:00 pm. Admission is free and seating is limited. For more information or reservations, contact the Cultural Arts Office at 898-7439, Ext. 33.

#### Did you know?

+Nicknamed "Buster" by his family, limi was born Johnny Allen Hendrix. At the age of three his father had his name legally changed to James Marshall Hendrix. +Frank Zappa rebuilt the remains of the Stratocaster Hendrix destroyed at the 1968 Miami Pop Festival. The Strat was played by Zappa throughout the 1970s and 1980s.



# Watermeloncholy Flower blends music and life



By Austin Bennett Exposure Columnist

Water Melancholy Flower is an interesting mix of talented musicians who excel at their craft of engineering clever, melodic instrumentally-centered songwriting.

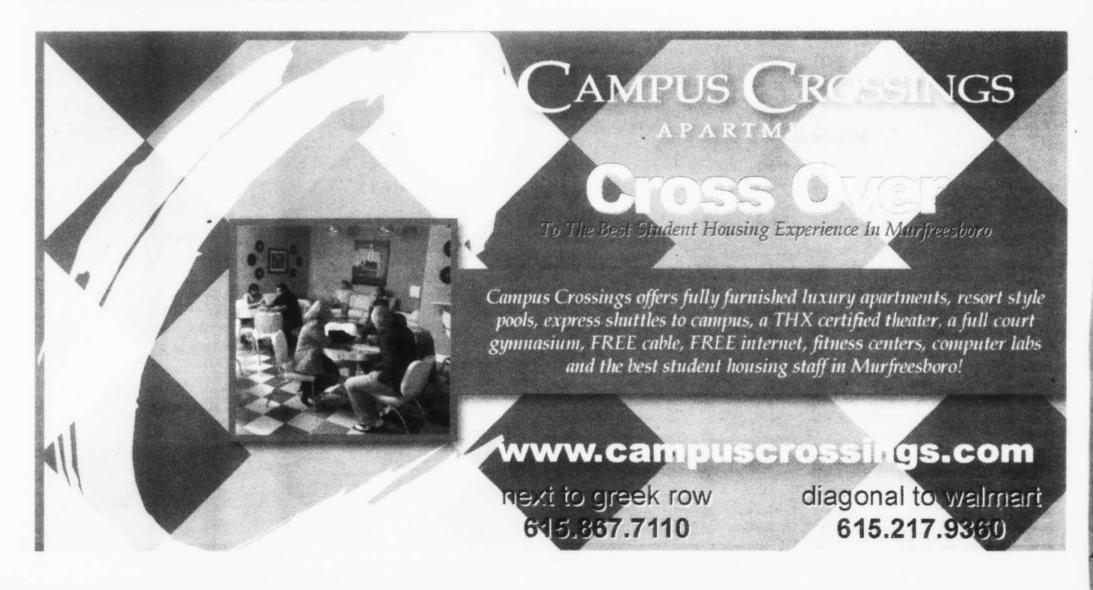
This three-piece band, comprised of Chad Corgan guitar, keys), Jeremi Monta drums, and Mark Barrett (bass, keys rocked a party at Neat Pizza on Thursday, Feb. 16, 2006 along with the Dead Himmes.

Barrett play more than one instrument during their energetic shows, both excelling at keys along with the guitar and bass guitar. They

amazingly showed their talents by switching up playing the keys for different parts of their lengthy songs. Mostly self-taught, Chad Corgan has played plane for many years and all three seem to have a dynamic with other instruments.

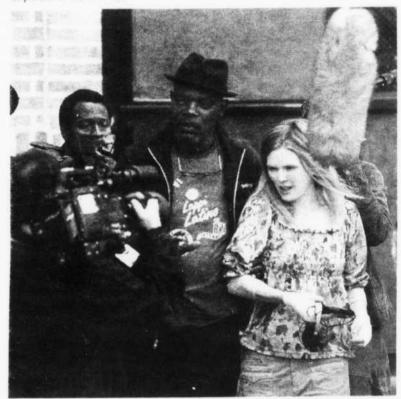
Trying to compare Water Melancholy Flower to any band or 'pigeonholing' their sound would be a major disservice to these guys. Minimalistic and multi-textural, their 'symbiotic' relationships with one another create their passionate, emotional performance.

Their forthcoming debut EP should be due by the middle of this year.



# Poor editing and weak script mar 'Freedomland'

By Joseph Schmickrath Exposure Columnist



Samuel L. Jackson and Julianne Moore star in Freedomland

Two people left the theater and never came back. Unfortunately, I wasn't one of them. Director Joe Roth's "Freedomland" doesn't deserve to be paid attention to. The movie doesn't even know what it's trying to accomplish, so how is the audience supposed to?

The movie is based on the novel by Richard Price, who is also the sole adapter of the screenplay, and boy does it show!

Too many subplots plague the screen, including: a father-son relationship gone sour between Detective Lorenzo Council (Samuel L. Jackson) and his son, the haunting past of activist Karen Collucci (Edie Falco) and race relations between the ghetto of Dempsy and the blue-collar suburb of Gannon.

These subplots not only hurt the

script, they also hurt the pacing of the film. They should have been edited out entirely.

This would have allowed more time to focus on the main story, which tells of Brenda Martin (Julianne Moore), a daycare worker who is trying to take a shortcut at night between the towns of Dempsy and Gannon when she is carjacked, resulting in minor injuries.

In a state of hysteria and pain, she goes to the hospital to have her wounds attended to, as well as to report her stolen car. It is there that she is eventually questioned by Detective Lorenzo Council, who finds out from her that her four-year-old son was asleep in the backsent.

With the help of Karen Collucci. Lorenzo goes to great lengths to find the child. Everyone is suspect, including the entire town of Dempsy, which results in race relations intensifying.

The confusing subplots add ambiguity to what the theme is. Is "Freedomland" trying to expose race relations between white cops and the inhabitants of urban ghettos, or is it trying to warn of parents' influences on their kids?

I wish I knew because by the third act my patience was waning. What was I to care about? I didn't know if I should sympathize with Brenda or despise her completely.

The acting is great all around, but why show up to work on this abysmal story? One viewing of this movie is one too many.

## MTSU TV Channel 10 premieres first game show, 'Scrababble'

By David Wheatley
Exposure Writer

Starting next week, MTTV will add a new game show called "Scrababble" to its spring semester lineup. Contestants will have to use their knowledge of the English language, spelling words to earn points in a televised face-off.

Rob Devlin, a senior electronic media production major and general manager of MTTV, said he has been waiting to produce a game show since his freshman year.

"Every year I've been saying I'd get around to it, and now that it's my last semester, I really wanted to do it," Devlin said.

"'Scrababble' is pretty much Scrabble," he admitted. "In fact, it is Scrabble ... I registered the name with the Scrabble Players Organization." The rules to "Scrabable" are simple. Two contestants face off in a Scrabble match and whoever has the highest word score at the end of the thirty-minute show wins.

"We changed the rules a little bit for television," Devlin said. "The cameras are going to be all over the board, so you can't use any vulgar words."

Senior electronic media production major Steven Knapp is the show's host. As the host, he will also act as a judge by keeping score and moderating game play.

There will be no set time limit for a turn, but Knapp may impose a discretionary limit based on the time allowance of the match according to Devlin.

Knapp will also have a dictionary handy to arbitrate challenges. If a contestant believes that a word their opponent has played is not in the dictionary, he can challenge that word's entry. If the word is not in the dictionary, it cannot be played and the turn will be forfeited to the challenging player.

Knapp said that he expects the mood of Scrababble to be akin to "Who Wants To Be a Millionaire."

"Everyone's done a lot of work to make the set design and lighting look exciting," he said.

Each episode's winner will continue to return to the Scrabble board as residing champion until they are defeated.

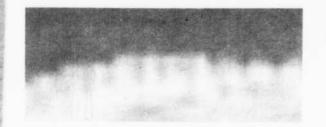
"It's exciting," Devlin said. "Who's going to stay on the longest?"

"Scrababble" is taped every Monday at 8 p.m., and each episode will air on MTTV the following week. For air times, Devlin says to check the station Web site, http://www.mtsutv.org.

Although contestant slots have already been filled for the spring semester, Devlin says that anyone can come to the tapings to help or be a part of the audience.







# Mexican Meltdown: La Siesta vs. Camino Real

By Ryan Harris

Exposure Columnist

We all

know the famous rivalries like Batman versus Joker, Duke versus North Carolina or Britney and Christina. However, they pale in comparison to La Siesta versus Camino Real. Any student that has spent more than two weeks at MTSU probably knows of these restaurants, and anyone who has spent a few semesters here calls them home.

I developed a system to test which Mexican eatery really was the better place by ordering the same thing at both restaurants. I had sweet tea, chicken chimichanga, and fried ice cream. The service at both restaurants was average. I've dined at both restaurants numerous times and never had amazing service. But it is a great way to enjoy your company. The servers don't waste your time with small talk. They are just there to take you order. My only major complaint about the service on my visits was at both places the drinks seemed to get lost in an abyss of empty. When refills were needed the cups would either stay empty or disappear from the table completely.

The single element that could decide the meal at a Mexican eatery is chips and salsa. La Siesta and Camino Real have a tie with chips and salsa. They are both excellent.

Moving on, the chicken chimichanga is where we find our first differences. At Camino Real the entrée is served as a fried tortilla stuffed with seasoned chicken, onions and peppers with sour cream and guacamole. At La Siesta, its seasoned chicken in the tortilla served with sour cream. Both entrées have queso, rice and beans included. Although it's a difficult decision my vote for the chicken chimichanga goes to La Siesta. The meal has flavors that correspond well together. The peppers and onions at Camino add a mushy texture and a greasy flavor that overshadows the chicken.

Now moving on to the final obsta-

cle, the fried ice cream. Honestly, I cannot tell a difference in the least. Even the ice cream tastes exactly the same.

My vote, as the deciding factor in the best close-to-campus Mexican, will end the feud between La Siesta and Camino Real once and for all. The verdict stands as yet to be determined. I need a week or so to think it over. So check next week's Exposure for the final vote.

Just kidding. LaSiesta wins, but just barely. Next time you and your friends argue over Mexican use Exposure as your deciding vote and go to Greenland drive.



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