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Middle Tennessee State University

An editorially independent newspaper

SIDELINES

MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

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# Construction to end soon





The fences surrounding the new courtyard in front of the James Walker Library (above) are expected to come down early next week. Late Wednesday afternoon, construction workers put in the last lamp post (left) in the center of the quadrangle. The grand opening for the courtyard will occur at President Sidney McPhee's inauguration April 19.

Photos by Jason Cox | Staff

By Jessica Kent and Jason Cox Staff Writers

The courtyard between the James Walker Library, John Bragg Mass Communication Building and the Business and Aerospace Building is nearly completed.

Jay Wallace, manager of construction administration, said final steps are being completed this week.

"As a matter of fact, [Tuesday] was a substantial completion," Wallace said, citing that the lights in the center of the courtyard were installed Wednesday and that the fences surrounding it will likely be removed Monday. The grand opening of the quadrangle is planned for the week of April 19 to coincide with President Sidney McPhee's inauguration ceremony activities.

Greg Schaffer, networking manager for the Office of Information Technology, said wireless Internet service will be available in the courtyard when the grand opening occurs in April.

Wireless internet will also be available in the Keathley University Center Grill and Lounge, on the Knoll and in the courtyard surrounding the Cyber Cafe.

Bids have been received for two upcoming projects. The winning contractor for the new honors college building is 101 Construction of Nashville, which agreed to complete the project for \$2.75 million.

The honors college recently met its \$2 million matching donation goal set by Paul and Lee Martin. Paul Martin was the first person to graduate from MTSU's honors college.

Renovation of the KUC, which will include moving Dwight's Mini Mart to the second floor, will be done by Walter Harmon Construction of Murfreesboro. The winning bid for this project was \$425,000.

Both projects are expected to begin around the first part of April, Wallace said, but no dates have been set yet.

Elevators in the James Union Building and the Cope Administration

Building are nearing completion, is being built in the CAB, and the elevator shaft currently is being drilled in the

Inclement weather slowed the CAB project, Wallace said, while weather, coupled with problems encountered while excavating, caused the JUB project to be significantly delayed. The CAB project was set to be completed in October. The original completion date for the JUB elevator was August of 2001. In the past, the more than 800 disabled students who forced to use the service elevators locat-

"I think we've solved all those problems," Wallace said, adding that both ele-

only task left. •

## **Doctorate degree** conversions stalled

By Amanda Maynord Assistant News Editor

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission has officially tabled the decision to transfer MTSU's Doctorate of Arts programs to Doctorate of Philosophy programs.

In recent months, MTSU has proposed converting the programs to allow graduate students better opportunities in the economic market place. The proposed program changes would affect English, economic and physical education graduate programs.

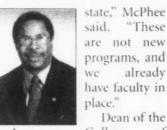
THEC has been holding out on the decision to change the programs since January of last year. As of now, the decision is not on the agenda to be discussed at the next THEC meet-

President Sidney McPhee was optimistic about the deci-

proposal will be up for discussion," McPhee said.

THEC has admitted that financial questions have postponed the decision since lanuary. If the conversion were approved, THEC would consider the programs new, warranting new funding, though these programs have existed at MTSU for more than 30 years.

There would be no further funding obligation on the



McPhee Graduate Studies Donald Curry agrees that funding concerns are irrational and uncalled for.

already

"Personally, I'm not optimistic at all," Curry said. "The programs are being treated as new programs when they have been around for 30 years or so." Currently,

there is a moratorium over MTSU that does not allow the university change

Curry programs. If THEC decides

"I hope at some point the to convert the programs, the moratorium will then be lifted and graduate students can begin work on their Ph.D.

'Not changing these programs is going to be detrimental to the university," Curry said. "Students are not getting the degree for the work that they are doing."

For more information on the conversion of graduate programs, contact Curry at 898-

# EYESORE OF THE WEEK

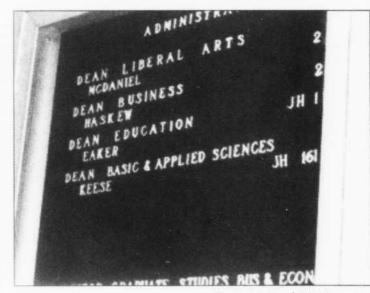


Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Despite what the directory board in Peck Hall may say, the current deans of these colleges aren't Haskew, Eaker and Keese. Sorry, Bonner, Burton and Cheatham.

"Eyesore of the Week" examines the inadequacies of our campus in hopes of drawing attention to flaws that need to be addressed. If you have seen any "eyesores" around campus, please let us know by calling 904-8357 or e-mailing slmedit@mtsu.edu.

## Awards announced for 2002 Black History Month essay contest

Topic addressed month's theme

Charlene Callier Flash! Editor

Winners of the Black History Month essay contest were announced at the Distinguished Alumni Reception Friday in the Bragg John Communication Building.

The contest was opened to all undergraduate students at

The topic of the essay contest was based on the theme for Black History Month, "The Color Line Revisited: Is Racism diversity on campus. Dead?"

Helford, director of Women's Studies and essay contest coordinator, the theme each year is decided by a national organization, and the African American History Month Committee went with that theme.

"We were pleased with the depths and varieties of essays," Helford said.

She said there were 20 submissions for the contests, and some students wanted to turn in entries late.

Helford said the winning essays reflected so much of the

"I was very pleased with According to Elyce Rae that," Helford said.

The first place winner was Tanya R. McLaughlin's essay, "Racism in the 21st Century." She received a \$100 gift certificate and her name on a plaque in the African American Studies

Helford said McLaughlin's essay was a research essay that provided an overview of defining, explaining and measuring

The second place winner was Danita Edwards' essay "My Color, Your Color; My Eyes, Your Eyes" receiving a \$50 gift

Helford said Edwards wrote a reflective essay about her experience with racism as a child, employee and mother.

Jose Archuleta's essay "Racism: Is It Dead?" and Shawn Whitsell's "Is Racism Dead?" both won honorable mention at the reception, and they won a Black History Month theme-related book.

"I focused on racism as a characteristic of society rather than characteristics of individuals," said Whitsell, an MTSU senior majoring in sociology and public relations of recording industry.

Whitsell said he thought it is very important to address how deeply rooted racism is in our legal, economic and social sys-

Participants in the contest were to complete an essay form and write a research, personal or narrative essay on the assign topic or any relevant subtopic.

The judges were looking for well-written, articulate and compelling essays," Helford said.

Once the contestants submitted their essays to the committee, the essays were sent in a stack to each of the judges read independently.

"We asked the judges to rank the essays," Helford said. "The first place winner was voted on anonymously."

The judges for the contest were Newtona (Tina) Johnson, associate professor of English; Mimi Thomas, assistant director of Student Programming; and John Pleas, psychology professor. Helford said that as coordinator, she had to also act as force judge to make final dis-

"I entered the contest because I like writing and felt I had a lot to say about racism in America," Whitsell said, "I really had fun with it." .

# Police stumped in Kappa Alpha fraternity house shooting

Laren Anderson Staff Writer

Campus police have stalled after a three-month investigation into the Kappa Alpha fraternity house shooting that occurred Dec. 2.

Scarce testimonials and Darrell Collins of campus police, have set back the investigation.

There is only one suspect and no arrests have been made, Collins added.

MTSU Crime Stoppers has offered a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to the perpetrator's arrest.

"We search and search and search but can't find anything," Collins said.

Evidence is customarily found at a crime scene, he said Friday, but only five shell casings from a Russian or Chinese assault rifle were discovered.

The perpetrator "shot and information, according to Lt. moved, shot and moved," he said. The shells that were found surrounded a lamp post on Rutherford Boulevard, 210 feet from the fraternity house. One bullet penetrated a first floor window and skirted 28 inches from a resident's head, Collins said. A second bullet entered another window before striking

Yet another wedged into one of the four pillars on the home's porch, Collins said. Two vehicles parked near the fraternity house were also struck.

Officers Sean Garrison and Kenneth White of the MTSU Police Department arrived promptly, Collins said.

Officers cannot comment during an open investigation, White said Saturday night. He wouldn't make further com-

According to Collins, the fraternity's pledges said the only person they suspected was a drunken man they had fought earlier that night behind the Campus Pub at 903 Gunnerson

The students couldn't be reached for comment.

Kappa Alpha members provided the officers with the name of a 27-year-old hourly worker, Collins said, but he wouldn't identify the man. When police later questioned the worker, according to Collins, the man said five or six fraternity members had "jumped him."

After the fight, the worker went to a friend's house, located approximately one-and-a-half miles from the Kappa Alpha home, Collins said. But he wouldn't identify the friend.

Yet, according to Collins, the police department has been

wary to call the worker a sus-

The 27-year-old is without a criminal background and has never bought a gun, Collins said, but added the man could obtain a weapon illegally. However, his drunkenness creates further uncertainty, Collins

"I don't see how he got where he got," Collins said.

If the 27-year-old allegedly committed the crime, he either drove to the fraternity house while heavily intoxicated, Collins said, or he trekked with an assault rifle strapped to his back.

Mark Carter, owner and bar-

tender of the Campus Pub, said he has reservations that a customer committed the crime.

The pub hasn't had conflicts with students, Carter said. But he wants the police to catch the

perpetrator, the owner said. Maybe the \$1,000 reward will motivate someone to offer information, Collins said, and added he hopes a witness will

come forward. Information should be reported to Crime Stoppers at 893-7867, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, the bulletin stated. The identities of the callers will remain anonymous. •

# Students champion migrant worker's rights

By Jessica Kent Staff Writer

Chris Berry, a senior anthropology major at MTSU, wants to start an awareness group that will work on educating students about the conditions of migrant workers in the middle Tennessee area.

Student Farmworkers, a nonprofit organization designed to help improve conditions for farmworkers, has been actively involved in stopping the treatment and abuse of migrant farmers in South Carolina and

Berry said the problem in these states has been going on for a very long time, and to abuse the system.

Migrant labor is fairly new in this area. Berry said.

SAF is a program that sends students to get documentation on migrant workers. The organization has inspired Berry to do research on the problem in Middle Tennessee,

"Anytime there is a move-

tions they were forced to work in. Berry said that even though the video focuses on different races, the problems faced by

ment, you've got to get students - migrant workers today are the

'Wages haven't changed since the 70s," Berry said.

Berry has recently been working with Jackie Eller's graduate level sociology class to help him gather information. He has run into several barriers

There's a lot of information out there, but there are gatekeepers who prevent you from

Schrift pointed out that most of the migrant workers are undocumented and it is difficult to get information about who they are and where they are

people because they don't want to get deported.

Language is an obvious obstruction Berry has had to deal with. The language barrier sometimes prevents migrant farmers from even shopping at

"Just going to Wal-Mart can be very intimidating for them," Berry said. "This causes migrants to become dependent on their bosses for basic needs. That's when injustices pop up."

Students who are interested in getting involved with the cause have several options of

They can contact SAF to get the basic history of the program as well as other suggestions on things to do. Students can also

They are also afraid to talk to ers who are being boycotted. •

# Speed, knowledge important in bowl

By Jason Cox Staff Writer

Iota Sigma Gamma Insurance Fraternity and Phi Phi Academic Fraternity are sponsoring this year's MTSU Quiz Bowl Tuesday.

The MTSU Quiz Bowl will comprise of four-person teams representing registered campus organizations. The questions will range from academic to pop culture.

The competition will be held in the MTTV studio of the Learning Resource Center Tuesday at 6 p.m. The tournament will be taped for later replay on MTTV, which is on Comcast channel 10.

Ken Hollman, who holds Martin Chair of Insurance, has been coordinating the tournament since its revival more than 10 years ago, when it was conducted by the Sigma Club.

I thought it was an interesting way for students to meet other students in headon trivia contests," Hollman said, adding that it helps bring credit to Gamma Iota

Hollman said that because most of the questions are not

extremely difficult, speed in answering the questions will be just as important as knowing the answers.

"I've seen a lot of intense competition, bragging rights for certain organizations," Hollman said, and "enormous satisfaction from winning and much agony in defeat.'

Jeff McSweeney, assistant professor of mathematics, used to compete in the competition and has emceed it in the past.

"It was a lot of fun," McSweeney said. "We had a lot of participation from different fraternities and organizations on campus."

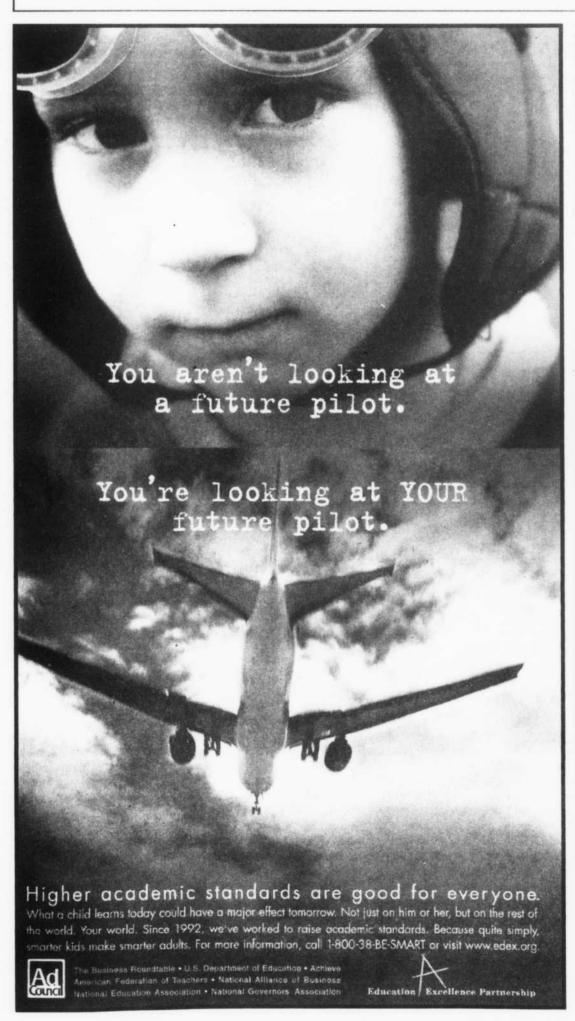
"Ken Hollman and the Gamma Iota Sigma fraternity have put a lot of work in it and it shows in the quiz bowl," McSweeney said, adding that the competition was not televised in the past.

Friday is the deadline to enter. The entry fee is \$15 per team, with \$80 going to the first place team, \$40 for second place, \$20 for third place and \$20 to a random team that does not place.

Teams interested in participating should contact Hollman at 898-2673. ◆ ·

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# \$250 cash prize awarded to winner of JazzFest T-shirt contest

'DNJ' announces winners March 29

By LaQunda Partee Staff Writer

Main Street JazzFest 2002 opens its fifth annual T-Shirt design contest sponsored by Mitzi Michaelson of Merrill Lynch, Brentwood, Tenn.

\$250 cash prize and be introduced on stage at the fazzFest May 4. The wanning design will be displaced on official T-shirts and other merchandise that will be sold as the event. The winning entry will be announced in the Daily News Journal by

lazzlest is a project of Main Martreesboro/

The winner will receive a Rutherford County, Inc. a nonprofit program organized locally to lead the revitalization efforts for a 54-block area of the downtown Murfreesboro business district.

> The organization provides services and education to assist in the promotion, historic preservation and economic development of the downtown

Last year the JazzFest drew a est treasure: the beautiful hiscrowd of more than 20,000 people to Murfreesboro's historic courthouse square where a diverse selection of national and regional jazz artists performed.

The even organizers are looking for a really fun design which will show off the diversity of Jazz music, the festival's family-friendly atmosphere and promote Murfreesboro's greattoric, courthouse square, according to a press release issued by the Main Street

The design must appeal to both men and women, as well as incorporate the following: "Main Street JazzFest," "2002" and "Murfreesboro, Tenn."

Designs must be submitted to Main Street, attention Janelee

Wise, by March 8, no later than 4 p.m. Judging will be the following week.

For entry forms and official guidelines for the contest, contact Main Street at 895-1887 or by picking them up at the Main Street office located at 201 West Main St., basement suite 304, or at the art departments in local universities and high schools. •

# **Doctors** push for higher smoking age

By Dexter Gauntlett Daily Bruin

(U-WIRE) - The California Medical Association is trying to pass a law raising the smoking

The CMA - composed of approximately 35,000 physic cians who work to promote smoking awareness and direct money from tobacco settle ments to health care programs voted Sunday to increase both the legal smoking age from 18 to 21 in California and punish ment for violators and called for stricter enforcement of existing smoking law.

CMA is currently in the process of searching for an author to propose the bill to the California State Legislature as soon as possible.

though we know it won't stop every kid from smoking, it will at least put the legislation out there for a horrible babit that is detrimental to your health." CMA spokeswoman Heather Campbell said.

Assemblyman Paul Koretz D-West Hollywood, CA, has been in communication with CMA but has not been asked officially to author the bill, said Scott Svonkin, chief of staff for Koretz.

"Assemblyman Koretz is very interested in raising the age limit to 21. There's no need for someone to get access to deadly cigarettes," Svonkin said.

Koretz, who is on the California Committee on Public Health, worked with the

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Campus

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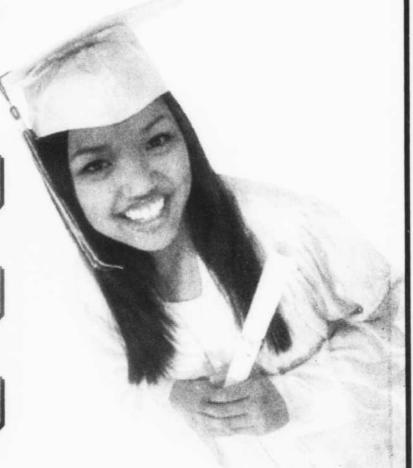
Just 3 Miles from Campus

From Campus turn right on Rutherford Blvd. Travel Approximately 2.5 miles to Church St./Hwy 231. Turn right. Travel approximately .5 miles. Sunnie Side Tanning will be on the left

# online this week

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### Cell phone ban won't work – try courtesy

Nashville Metro Schools recently voted to keep their ban on cellular phones in classrooms. While their decision has relatively little to do with the thousands of students on MTSU's campus, it still makes one think about how far the government or a school board can go to try and enforce manners.

There's no question about it - a cell phone chirp, ring or beep during class can be annoying and disturbing to everyone in the room. Most students probably can recall at least a few times their classes were interrupt ed by an auditory cellular emission. Most students and professors are irked by the disruptions - especially if they occur during exams or student presentations.

However, banning cell phones from class rooms or even campus is an ineffective,

that annoving Nokia ring tone in the middle student. Of course, people with cell phones don't actually do anything wrong, except receive calls at the wrong places and wrong times, but they should shoulder some responsibility for not turning off their phones prior to class.

Ultimately, the manner in which professors treat cell phone disturbances should be completely up to them. We hope that they would be understanding if an occasional ring slipped out, and that they will learn to differentiate habitual "offenders" from those who mistakenly leave their phones on dur-

Surely, if movie theaters can request that their patrons turn off cell phones and beepers, learning institutions should be able to request the same courtesy. •

□ No- but if one

owner should

be kicked out

summarily

□ No -that rule

would never

work, why

bother with

☐ Yes - if people

are too rude

to turn them

off before

class, ban

☐ Yes - why do

you need a

anyway?

phone during

them

class

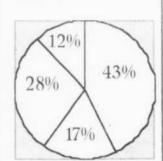
executed

goes off in

class, its

and/or

### Last week's poll results: Should cell phones be banned from classrooms?



This week's poll question:

Should international students be required to register?

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# Battle over Ten Commandments rages close to home



Every once in a while, someone in government decides that society needs a moral shot in the arm. If theta care the enise to post

Tennessean, the commission approved a resolution "supporting the importance of and the posting of the Ten Commandments in public buildings." They stopped short of actually

Commandments because of lawsuit fears. While the Commandments are not vet posted, this resolution would not have passed if the intent to post them were not there.

Once again, a person or group has decided that it is their duty to enforce their religion of choice unto the public, Christian or other-Efforts like these spit in

the face of all those trying to promote religious diversity. The Commandments, which are clearly religious doctrine, do not belong in a public building, particularly a place of justice. The Istablishment Clause, of

mental promotion of religious doctrine, which is the basis of the lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union. Incidentally, some of the

"concerned citizens" on whose behalf the lawsuit was filed include several reverends and rabbis. Additionally and per-

haps more importantly, however, is the alienation of non-Christians that is likely to occur in buildings where this document is posted. In theory, church and state should be separate, but the spheres of influence intermingle when a religion is promot-

I've always questioned why groups feel the need to establish what can only be called dominance over minority religions.

Christianity is already the most popular religion by far in the United States. Simply believing in a

Judeo-Christian god places you in the religious majority. The government has no legal or moral right to promote a particular faith.

On the issue, one Wilson County commissioner said it's high time children get an "old fashioned raising," whatever that means.

A term as vague as "an old-fashioned raising" raises this question: Since when is it the government's right or responsibility to steer the moral direction of a child?

We have plenty of wellfunded religious organizations that would love to do this if the parents aren't willing to do it themselves. This is the purpose these organizations serve.

If these counties truly wished to set a good example for children, they would disallow the posting of religious works in their buildings. Tolerance and diversity are areas to be promoted and celebrated. and to acknowledge the need for a religion-free government would send a message to children that the Establishment Clause is a valid concept and that it is important to be inclu-

The battles that ensue will be interesting, with impassioned speeches and angry letters to newspapers on both sides.

As always, when both sides believe strongly in such a cause, the battle will be ugly and quite likely drawn out.

In the end, however, the court that ultimately decides the case must side with the Constitution instead of Commandments.

Religion is an important part of society, but a government should not promote a particular religion's dogma. •

# What's so hard about cremating a body for money?



matory to be incinerated. that definitely sparks my town called Noble, Gas, we

Finally, it occurs to me they just want to save a lew bucks. I have problems with this. If a guy wants to 1-800-COLLECT, that's his business. If a guy

who owns a crematory is

just avoiding doing his job, that's just wrong in all

they have an emergency store of ashes? Are they cremating other people? Do they burn legal documents or are they sharing the ashes of one person between two or three families? Either way, something is messed up.

It would seem logical that if the incinerator was broken, they would either have it fixed or get something else. An oven was a fine choice for Hansel and Gretel, plus is beats fraud, fines, jail, the whole nine

Anything beats jail for that matter. If holding a candle to a corpse for 48 hours is what it takes to

they stuffed in a shed? Do keep you out of jail (and/or debt), then do it.

I have no sympathy for these people. Don't come crying to me because the big bad authorities found your stash of decaying bodies. You deserve what you get.

igniting a few corpses a day, it's time to close up shop. Besides, is money so important?

If you cannot handle

You should cremate people because you like to, not because vou're getting

Actually, that might get you in trouble. What I mean is, if you are getting paid to cremate bodies,

### Discovering racism on campus

By Jeanette Owusu Guest Columnist

Lately there has been a lot of talk on race. Iwo topics which frequent my mind are "Does racism still

I know many white people might feel that what I'm writing is petty, or that blacks are quick to say something or someone is racist, but until you are a black man or woman living in the United States. then you can not begin to understand our struggle, which, despite

much progress, continues today.

A friend told me that she finally realized why Channel 19 has been gone for so long. She claimed that the channel did not want to dedicate an entire month to showing black movies. I laughed at first, but we live in a country that continues to suppress and minimize the contributions of African Americans, So. her theory, as absurd as it might seem, made a lot of sense. Then I thought a little more and realized Channel 10's Web site was reconstructed so that black student anchors would not be featured on

really exist? And if it does, is it present at MTSU? Well, this question was easily answered. My roommate was expressing how upset she was with one of her professors. A white student in the class approached the professor to get necessary information for a lab. The professor told the student he did not mark her

present (you had to be present in

my black roommate approached the professor with the same concern. However, his response was different this time. The professor told the black student that he needed to see her notes. He then began to flip through her notebook and

Racism in all forms is present during the Civil Rights movement. At least then we knew exactly who did not like us. We all need to look beyond the color of one's skin.

Although it's been said many times, many ways, the truth of the matter is we are all human, and we should not allow skin pigmentation to separate us. •

### From the Opinions Editor

### The mark of the Antichrist?



Applied Digital Solutions, a Palm Beach, Fla.-based company, has developed a rice-sized computer that the company would like to see used by travelers and high clearance government employees for security

The chip would be inserted with a needle under the patient's skin and would contain information including medical and identification

Containing no power supvated when a magnetic screen-

This technology is exciting, Long lines at the airport securiiv checks would be obsolete because the chips cannot be renating any possible security

Also, the chips can be encoded with information like allergies, reducing the risk of accidental death resulting from the actions of uninformed medical personnel.

However, no matter how

great the benefits of this technology, they are outweighed by the risks of exploitation.

What happens when the government requires these chips of all travelers or when they include tracing software in the package? That's not that far-fetched.

Eagles, whales, dolphins they all wear tags so government agencies can track their movement. Who's to say immigrants - and citizens - won't be

Though I wouldn't consider myself a religious man, this new technology reminds me nonetheless of the infamous 'mark of the beast" from the book of Revelation.

Yes, that book declares the mark will be found on the forehead or right wrist and in plain view: however, I doubt John had a complete understanding of microprocessors and their convenient size.

If I were the Antichrist, I know I'd rather keep things on the DL.

This is another example of seemingly innocent technology with the potential to destroy mankind.

As our society develops new technologies, citizens must be ever vigilant so that government doesn't overstep its bounds more than it already has. •

# SIDELINES

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> individual writers and not necessarily of Sidelines or MTSU.

# Surviving stress during Midterm Week

### Rest eases worry levels

By Carla Rhodes Features Designer

It's that time of the year again for sleepless nights, mass panicking and hyperventilating.

and stressful week?

Midternis.

What could be nicer and less

Perhaps being run over by a car. Midterns are almost as

Professors throw huge. thorough tests at you and

ent approaches. First, if you want to avoid extreme amounts of stress, start studying early. Though this may be hard to do. students will be relieved that they did it.

An important strategy is to learn to

deal with the stress and manage it well. - straight hours is more enjoyable, con-If stress is building up and it becomes difficult to handle, use it in a productive way. An example would be to just study. Instead of stressing about a huge midterm, buckle down and study for it. The more prepared students are for tests, the less stress they'll endure.

Freshman Aaron Sears agrees.

What's the cause of this depressing tize. Do the important things first,

centrating on studying for tomorrow's psychology test might be more benefi-

Also, if there is an assignment due next week that's easier and less stressful than the test tomorrow, that doesn't mean that assignment shouldn't be finished before the test.

It's good to do homework in advance because it may give students an extra hour of relaxation on the weekend.

However, replacing tomorrow's test with next week's easy assignment could also be seen as procrastination, which will only increase the level of stress coursing through the body after realizing the number of hours left to study has diminished and the test is still going to take place tomorrow morning

This is a situation all students should try to avoid because it will affect one of the most important factors in passing a test - sleep.

Staying up late and making out with Peter O'Toole pin-ups, watching with some friends are all tests

consumed for the next seven days. They may be walking around like owls because their eyes are so big, and they may feel like they're bouncing off the walls due to being very alert, but they made it through that sleepless night to finish memorizing every bit of information they must retain for the next two hours.

After the test, all that information will quickly dissappear and the body will be screaming for sleep. Unfortunately, the grueling midweek isn't over yet - biology and English midterms are tomorrow.

Where's the caffeine? It's going to be another long night.

By this point, the student is thinking, "What did I do this weekend that was more important than studying for

"Oh yeah, those free drinks at The Boro and checking out the new band at Wallstreet.

Well. deed done, a n d t h e going to place once again. So grab the books, a cottee, coke or cappuccino and get to a lighted area to keep the body and brain awake for the rest of When midterms are over,

depriving the body of sleep and overloading it on caffeine may not seem that bad, until next year.

Students who wish to avoid reaching the pinnacle of their stress level may want to rethink procrastinating on tests that only occur for one week.

Concentrate on midterms for one week or so. Then go party for the night or weekend and worry about next week's assignments Sunday.

The best way to get through midterm week, though, is to get plenty of sleep and don't forget to eat well. Rest and food nourishes the body and brain so that they work better together during important exam days. •



# Porter Hall sticks to roots with new country album

Illustration by Lucas Antoniak | Staff

### Band gets name from hometown

By Ryan Noreikas Contributor

Welcome to Porter Hall, Tenn.,a concentration of the ups and downs of reality - a place where nothing and

nobody is perfect. This fictional Middle Tennessee town is the concept in which local band, Porter Hall, TN is basing their debut album around, appropriately titled Welcome To Porter Hall, TN. The CD is to be released on Slewfoot Records, a Missouribased independent label with which the band recently signed a three-album contract.

The signatures on the contract are singing/songwriting duo Molly Conley (acousic rhythm guitar) and Gary Roadarmel (electric lead guitar). Other members of the band include Kenny Griffin (percussion), Ruth Marie (bass guitar) and Jason Sligh (mandolin).

Conley and Roadarmel have been writing songs together for seven years. In their hometown of Frederick, Md., they formed the band Porter Hall, which had a punk rock sound.

Eventually, they grew tired of Maryland and playing punk rock and wanted to try something new.

A couple of years ago, the duo moved to Murfreesboro to attend classes at MTSU and start playing acoustic bluegrass

During an open mic night at The Boro, Conley and Roadarmel met other players of the same genre, and began play-

They gave themselves the name Porter Hall, TN, a slight change from the original name. The band hooked up with gigs around the city, opening for bands the members or their friends knew

"In the early stages, we played mostly acoustic, using the gigs as our practice time,"



Molly Conley and Gary Roadarmel, who left their hometown of Porter Hall, Md., to attend MTSU, are the founders and creative duo behind Porter Hall, TN.

Roadarmel said. "Eventually, we progressed into an electric sound as well."

members, Porter Hall, TN, as it is comprised today, has been playing together for about a

They have put out a few demonstration CDs on their own and are now in the process of releasing their first official album with a record label.

"I e-mailed Dale Wiley, president of Slewfoot Records, and sent him a live demo," Roadarmel said. "He responded by saying he wanted to hear more of our stuff. So I sent him a rough mix of Welcome To Porter Hall, TN. After that, he wanted to sign us."

Slewfoot Records was founded in late 2000 and bears artists of the American country genre. The label is distributed throughout the United States by City Hall Records.

Slewfoot recently signed a European licensing deal with Continental Record Services, a division of country label Rounder Records.

With this, Porter Hall, TN will be promoted, and their music will be sold through most

Welcome To Porter Hall, TN is a combination of downhome music and honest lyrics. Conley

and Roadarmel write and perform from the heart.

"We stray away from the Through time and different pop-country norm," Conley said. "We write our own songs and music and try to stick to the roots of country.

Porter Hall are making their mark in Nashville by performing in various venues, such as Billy Block's Western Beat show at the Exit/In last Tuesday.

According to the people at Western Beat Entertainment, Porter Hall's performance Feb. 19 should be archived for listening pleasure.

Among an all-American country music ensemble, the band introduces the audience to its hometown sounds by playing multiple songs from their to-be-released album, including "Golden Chain of Hate," "Angel Without Wings" and "Screwed Blue," the band's first tune of

With a satisfactory sound system and peaceful vibes, Porter Hall deliver a performance with style and grace.

Like every struggling band, though, Porter Hall's worst critics on how they do during performances are the band's members themselves.

Slight said the set sounded bad when Gary's guitar string

broke during a performance. Other spectators don't seem



Porter Hall, TN's new album sticks to its hometown country roots with their lyrics and music.

to be as critical of the band's country roots, which seem to combine with other genres at

MTSU senior John Robertson said he really got into the band's style of country and punk rock.

The band hopes to bring in a larger fan base with their March 26 release of Welcome to Porter Hall, TN and a U.S. tour during

the spring. Their next performance will be Saturday at Nashville's

For more information on Porter Hall, TN, visit their Web site at www.porterhall.com.

Bluegrass Inn.

# Students sacrifice desires during forty days of lent

ByElizabeth Brotherton Daily Trojan (U. Southern California)

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES Spring brings many things flowers, warmth, sunshine and, for many Christians, it also brings the season of Lent.

Lent, which comes from the Latin word "Lente," meaning "springtime," dates back to A.D. 200.

It is a period when Christians, mainly those of the Catholic, Anglican and Orthodox faiths, take time to reflect on their lives and prepare for Easter, one of the

year's holiest days. The period is 40 days, excluding Sundays. The length of the holiday stems from scripture, which states that Jesus Christ spent 40 days fasting in the desert. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter.

"Lent is a time of renewal, conversion and preparation," said the Rev. William Messenger of the Catholic Center at the University of Southern California.

Because of the time that lesus sacrificed, many Christians sacrifice as a tribute. Catholics, for example, choose not to eat meat on Fridays.

I give up meat on Fridays, but since there isn't much to eat (without meat) on campus. I basically fast," said Jenny Schwartzkopf, a junior majoring in pre-business at

For many Christians, Lent is a time to recommit to God. To do so, they sacrifice

something in their lives that is hindering their relationship with God.

While some give up one thing, such as chocolate, others choose to honor the season in a different way.

"It's hard to think of something because you have to give up something that is actually meaningful," said Roseanne Bermisa, a graduate visitor.

Many Christians add time for renewal." •

something to their lives rather than making a sacrifice.

Or they might work harder to do what is asked of them in the Bible.

"Instead of giving something up, I'm thinking of doing something extra instead," said Michael Muhlmeyer, a junior majoring in biomedical and electri-

cal engineering at USC. "I try to do something more for God," said Mia Navarro, a junior majoring in clarinet performance at USC. "I try to pray more, do community service, things like

"Taking on an extra thing is somewhat even better than giving something up,"

Messenger said. "When you put the two together, it is a great combination.

Other Christians do not choose to sacrifice as much during the season. However, the period remains a spiritual time for them.

"We recognize Lent as a time of year, as it prompts people to think toward Easter," said Cindy Rogillio, a staff member of the campus organization Christian Challenge at USC. "Although our individual members might give up something, not all choose to.'

Lent can often be a difficult time for college students, as they are trying to become more spiritual while also dealing with the pressures that college life brings, Messenger said.

Students should work together to keep their commitment, form support groups and work through prayer to stay focused, he added.

"I think the more seriously people take Lent, the more realistic the outcome," Messenger said,

"People tend to look at the

season negatively because they are giving something up. But Lent is a positive season, a

### CAMPUS EVENTS

continue training in various martial arts throughout the semester.

The June Anderson Women's Center will host a free legal clinic

from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The clinic is available to all MTSU students,

faculty and staff. Appointments to speak with an attorney can be

made by calling the JAWC at 898-2193. Space is limited.

Compiled by Leslie Fike | Features Editor

Thursday, Feb. 28

The June Anderson Women's Center has autographed books by African-American women authors on display. Other books of interest are available in their free lending library in Room 206 of the James Union Building. For more information, call 898-2193.

\*

MTSU Films presents *The Man Who Wasn't There* at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Thursday and at 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Admission is \$2. For more information, call 898-2551.

The Martial Arts Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in the Recreation Center's aerobics room. Everyone in the MTSU community is welcome to start or

There will be a Solo Artist Competition in the Wright Music Hall at 11 a.m. For more information, contact Tim Musselman at 898-2493.

\*\*\*

The chemistry department will host a seminar on "Methods

Development for the Gas Chromatographic Analysis of Semivolatile Compounds" in Room 100 of the Davis Science Building at 11 a.m. The lecture will feature Ngee-Sing Chong. For more information, contact Martin Stewart at 898-2073.

The School of Music presents Michelle Rowlette's Junior Clarinet Recital in the Wright Music Hall at 8 p.m. For more information, contact Tim Musselman at 898-2493.

Friday, March 1

There will be a visiting artist's seminar featuring performances by Deb Margolin and UH 3200 students in the Keathley University Center, Room 322. For more information, contact Claudia Barnett

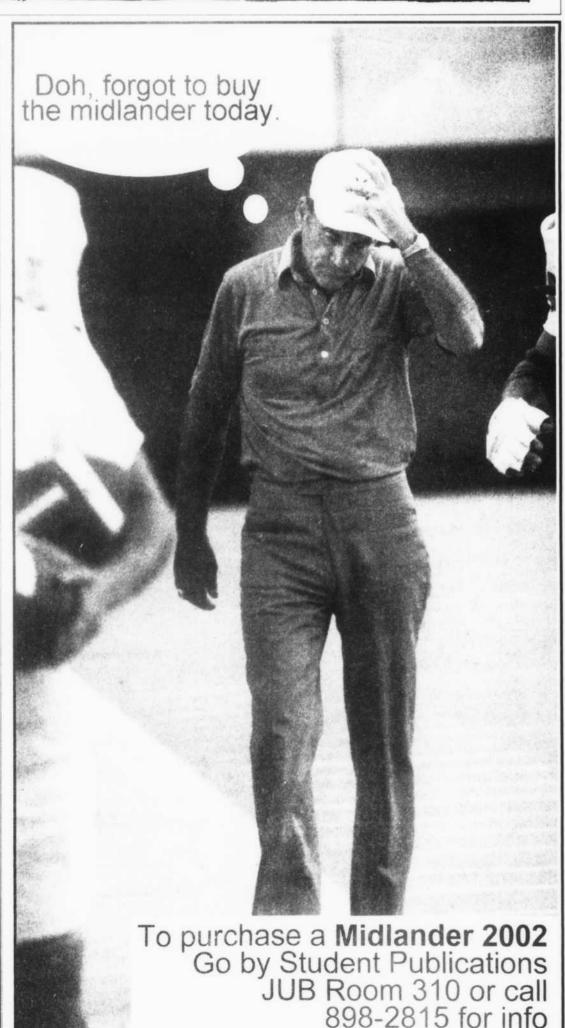
Has
Features
been
covering the
topics you
would like
to see in
Sidelines?

MT students, staff and faculty are welcome to e-mail story ideas to Sidelines at slfeatur@mtsu.edu or by calling 898-2917.



# Housing Reapplication Deadline March 4, 2002

The deadline for students living in on-campus to reapply for housing with priority for the 2002/2003 academic year is March 4, 2002 at 4:00 PM. Students need to complete the green reapplication form they received in their post office boxes, pay the \$200 prepaid rent at the business office cashier windows in the Cope Administration Building, 1st floor, and return the green 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, through Monday, March 4, 2002. Additional green reapplication forms are available in the Housing and Residential Life Office, Keathley University Center, Room 300. For additional information or questions, please contact Housing and Residential Life, 898-2971.



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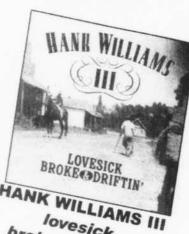


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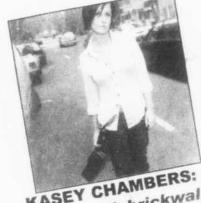


three days:





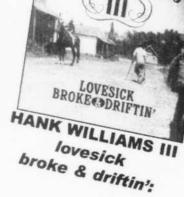




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# SPORTS



8 SIDELINES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

# **Briefs**

Compiled by Colleen Cox Sports Editor

### Holmes, Thomatis receive honors

Patrice Holmes received Sun Belt Conference Freshman of the Year honors and Jamie Thomatis was named First Team All-Conference as the Sun Belt announced its All-Conference teams Tuesday.

Holmes is the only Lady Raider to start all 27 games. She averages 12.7 points and 5.7 rebounds per game.

Thomatis received first team honors for the second year in a row. She averages 18 points and 6. I rebounds per game.

The Lady Raiders open play in the Sun Belt Conference

### Nosse, Gunn named to All-SBC team

grab 500 rebounds.

### Golf team finishes 12th at tourney

The Blue Raider golf team finished 12th in the Ron Smith Invitational Sunday.

Middle Tennessee shot a final round 298 in the rainshortened tournament to improve four positions from the opening round. The Blue Raiders shot an opening round 312 Friday.

Due to rain and windy conditions, the second round was

R Wade, who missed the first tournament of the spring with a stress fracture in his wrist, tied for 13th with a 145

Senior John Beddies tied for 45th with a 153, while freshman Carter Henderson had rounds of 78 and 77 to place in a tie for 51st. Charlie Gibson improved seven strokes from the opening round but still finished down on the list at 63rd. Gibson had an 82 in round one before com-

ing back with a 75 Sunday. Patrick Williams rounded out the scoring with a 77 Sunday to finish in a tie for 74th with an aggregate score of

The Blue Raiders will travel to Baton Rouge, La., next weekend for the LSU/Spring Invitational.

### Blue Raider baseball game rescheduled

The Blue Raider baseball team will play a doubleheader against Eastern Michigan Thursday to make up for the two canceled games earlier this week.

MT was scheduled to host Eastern Michigan Tuesday and Wednesday, but rain, snow flurries and cold weather canceled both games.

The doubleheader starts at 1

### Blue Raiders take two at spring tourney

The Middle Tennessee soccer team won two of three matches at the GSC Fury College Challenge in Memphis, Tenn., this weekend.

The Blue Raiders won their first game 2-0 over the Pensacola Samba. Emily Carter and Jenny Cox scored a goal

Laura Miguez scored the only goal of the match in a 1-0 victory over Hammer 17 in the second game of the day.

Middle Tennessee dropped the third game 3-1 to JB Marine of St. Louis.

Lindsey Bopp scored on an assist from Carter in the defeat. •

# SpOrts Men's tennis team hopes to become 8-0



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Trevor Short returns a ball in a recent match.

### Women's rugby team hosts Arkansas State

By Maura Satchell

The MTSU women's rugby football club will host Arkansas State University in a non-conference match Saturday at 11 a.m. at the MTSU rugby pitch located on Main Street across from the Circle K

The Lady Moose have been a USA Rugby Collegiate Division II team since the fall of 1997.

MT has an impressive record and is the Division II Conference D USA Rugby South Collegiate champion for 2002 after competing against the likes of Southern Mississippi State University and Auburn University.

The team will meet Florida Atlantic University in Savannah, Ga., March 16 in Division II semifinal action.

The Lady Moose are coached by Doug Wolfe, an MT men's team alumni player. In 2000, the team took the Mid-South Championship, beating Vanderbilt University and Western Kentucky University.

Standouts for the team include Angie Denney and Gina Earheart, who both recently tried out for the women's South allstar team, according to Jamie Charlet, team secretary.

"Angie has stepped into one of the team's most nerve-wracking positions of flyhalf," Charlet said. "Gina is without a doubt our best tackler. She is aggressive and unforgiving on the field and makes us happy she is on our side."

Shelly Christian is almost a legend on our team," Charlet said. Christian was 17 and still in high school when she started playing for the team. "She is a crushing force in our defense and has saved

us at key points of many games." Charlet said Christian, who is in her last year of eligibility in the league, is the backbone of the team and has played through count-

less injuries, never coming off the field until the end of the match. According to Charlet, the Lady Moose are in a rebuilding season despite their strong performance so far this year. The team lost

many players to graduation. Nevertheless, Charlet said, the team is very proud of its rookies. "Although most of them have never seen a rugby game before, they are serious athletes and are eager to learn the sport," Charlet said. She explained that recruiting new players is difficult because of the rough reputation of the sport.

The Lady Moose practice Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6-8 p.m. at the intramural field behind the John Bragg Mass Communication Building. New members are welcome to join at any time. For more information, contact either Jamie Charlet at jkc79@hotmail.com or Angie Denney at amd6941@msn.com. ◆

By Justin Ward Staff Writer

The No. 25 nationally ranked MT men's tennis team will be facing the University of Memphis this week in an attempt to keep their undefeated season going.

The Blue Raiders are 7-0 on the season so far. The match against No. 12 nationally ranked Mississippi State was canceled yesterday due to weather and rescheduled for April 2. This is the highest ranked team that MT has been scheduled to face all year long.

"It may be best due to our busy and tough schedule over the next few weeks," said MT head coach Dale Short. "Our schedule was somewhat light in April and not as tough as I'd

Short also pointed out that when the NCAA committee looks at selection and seeding, they tend to look a lot at late season results and the strength of schedule the teams played.

MT was also scheduled to travel to the University of Alabama-Birmingham afternoon but that game was canceled with no future date set.

The Blue Raiders face the University of Memphis Saturday at home. They bring with them to Middle Tennessee a 4-3 record. They won their last match against No. 61 University of Louisville but are not ranked themselves.

"To win, we'll need to continue to work hard and, most importantly, improve," Short said. "We'll also have to play to win and not try to protect any-

In doubles, No. 5 ranked Oliver Foreman and Robert Gustafsson enter the matches 6-I for the season with their first loss against No. 51 ranked Roger Anderson and David Wright of Georgia Tech. The No. 47 ranked doubles team of Daniel Klemetz and Kirk Jackson also lost their first

against the No. 56 ranked team of Scott Schnugg and West Nott

"Being that we're top 25 and 7-0 concerns me," Short said. "I worry that the guys may get complacent. These teams we face over the coming week are very good and much better than their ranking."

In singles, No. 15 ranked Daniel Klemetz will be in the No. 1 position. He is 5-1 for the season after a loss Sunday to No. 26 Anderson of GT. Klemetz will be facing Richard Magney of Memphis.

"Daniel struggled with his serve in the last match, as did a couple of others," Short said. "This will be one of our focus points this week, and I feel confident this will improve."

Magney, an Australia native, lost to Klemetz twice in preseason tournaments. In the Collegiate Southern

See Tennis, 9

# Guard moves into spotlight

By Erich Heinlein

It was not an uncommon sight to see a 5-foot, 9-inch speedy point guard, blond hair

flying back, as if she was driving down I-24 on a Friday afternoon with the windows open this season for the Lady Raider basketball team.

Unfortunately for the



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer Paula Pentilla calls a play against Arkansas-Little Rock.

opposing team, this usually meant they were about to give up 2 or 3 points. However, Paula Pentilla has not necessarily always been in the spotlight. She started playing basketball at 9 years old with her two older brothers in Lahti, Finland.

> At age 9, she started playing with the Sinfonia basketball club, which is much different from the traditional YMCA leagues and church leagues that are played here in the United States.

> Pentilla explained that in Finland, instead of having age groups, everybody plays against each other. So in other words, people who are 15 years old play against others who are 30 years old.

Pentilla also explained that there aren't as many recreational leagues in Finland as in the United States.

"Basketball is still a growing sport in Finland," Pentilla said.

"It was a good experience. It helped me get better, and, of course, it was always fun to beat them," Pentilla said.

After playing in the club leagues for a couple of years, Pentilla took a step up in the world. She next went on to play for the Finnish Junior and National team. During this tour, Pentilla played against several Division I schools and was named Rookie of the Year in the Finnish league in 1998 and MVP in the Division I

See Pentilla, 10

# Men's rugby team wins easily

By Maura Satchell Staff Writer

The MTSU men's rugby club football blanked Appalachian State University in a match at the University of Tennessee rugby pitch in Knoxville last weekend and enters the Northern Conference of USA Rugby South Collegiate Division I tournament next month undefeated in league

"MTSU controlled the game from the outset, leading ASU 42-0 at the half," said Moosemen head coach Tony Neely.

Despite missing a few players due to injuries, the team put substitutes in at the half and scored another 19 points to sew up the Northern Conference title and the match, Neely said.

The Moosemen didn't allow a single point by Appalachian State, which is coached by former MT rugger Will Maddox.

Moosemen team captain and 2001 All-American Cayo Nicolau had a powerful boot, making good on 7 conversions and one try to give the team 19 of its points.

No. 8 man Charlie Bedford touched down the ball for 3 tries totaling 15 points. Forwards Josh Scurlock and

Scott Knox both scored tries, as did backs Matt Little, Andrew Craze and fifth-year player Dara "Cowboy" Smith.

Smith, known for his speed. said he was able to score the last try of the game on a fine toss by flyhalf Nicolau and crossed the field in a diagonal sprint.

MT meets Arkansas State this weekend in non-conference

Arkansas State is a powerhouse in Collegiate Division II rugby, finishing the 2001 season as national runner-up in

The two teams last played one another last spring when the Tribe upset the Moosemen at Arkansas' pitch by a final score of 12-8.

This weekend's grudge match between the two teams will be held at 1 p.m. at the MT rugby pitch on Main Street across from the Circle K gas station.



Photo by Amanda Harding | Staff

Moosemen push their weight around in practice.

### Men's Golf

### **TEAM STANDINGS**

- 1. Georgia Southern (286-288=574)
- 2. Jacksonville State (282-295=577)
- 3. South Alabama (297-285=582)
- 4. Southern Miss (294-288=582) 5. Arkansas State (295-298=593)
- 6. South Florida (299-295=594)
- 7. Florida Atlantic (298-299=597)
- 8. Florida Southern (309-292=601)
- 9. Memphis (295-307=602) 10. Columbus State (308-296=604)
- 11. Notre Dame (305-304=609) 12. Middle Tennessee (312-298=610)
- 13. Troy State (310-302=612)
- 14. UT-Chattanooga (307-307=614) 15. Central Florida (311-303=614)
- 16. Austin Peay (310-305=615)
- 17. Marquette (319-312=631) 18. DePaul (322-313=635)

### MT SCORES

JR Wade (73-72=145/T13) John Beddies (79-74=153/T45) Carter Henderson (78-77=155/T51) Charlie Gibson (82-75=157/T63) Patrick Williams (82-77=159/T74)



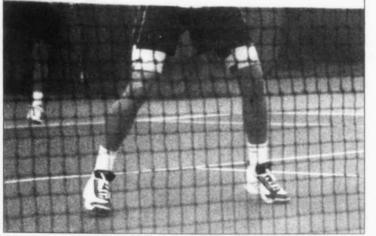


Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer Robert Gustafsson waits as his doubles partner serves.

### **Tennis:**

Continued from 8

Tournament, Klemetz won 6-3, 0-6, 6-4 over Magney. In the Hotels Region Omni Championship, Klemetz won 7-6, 6-4.

Michael Chamberlain, who played for MT two years ago, will be making a homecoming on the UM roster Saturday.

The UM match is scheduled to take place at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center at 1 p.m. The match may be moved to the Murfreesboro Racquet Club if weather hinders the original plans. •

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# **Notice**

**Greenland Drive Parking Lot** will be closed for TSSAA Basketball **Championship Tournament** Boys: March 13-16 Girls: March 6-9

Faulkenberry Drive at Tennessee Blvd. will be closed March 6-9 and March 13-16

### Suggestions for alternative locations for parking:

- Woodfin's lot located on Greenland Drive
- Gravel lot located next to the Recreation Center
- Gravel lot located next to the reserved Greek Row area
- Tennessee Livestock Center parking lot will be available throughout the tournament, except March 8
- · Gravel lot located on Greenland Drive
- To find these alternative parking areas, please refer to your campus parking map, or stop by Parking & Transportation Services for a copy.

### Please Note:

- Parking and Traffic Rules and Regulations will be enforced as usual. Individuals need to park in legal parking spaces according to his/her parking permit designation. Ample parking is available for students, faculty and staff.
- TSSAA receives all Greenland Drive parking revenue during the tournament.
- Raider Xpress shuttle service is available to transport students, faculty, staff and visitors throughout the campus.
- The Raider Xpress runs Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Friday 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

# CLASSIFIEDS

### Announcements

Fraternities\*Sororities Clubs\*Student Groups

Earn \$1000-\$2000 with the easy Campusfundraiser.com three hour fundraising event. Does not involve credit card applications. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact Campusfundraiser.com at (888) 923-3238 or visit www.campusfundraiser.com

Campus Freethought Alliance is holding its next meeting on March 6th. Wednesday@8pm. in La Siesta on Greenland Drive. We will be discussing upcoming events and stuff. The CFA is MTSU's skeptical, rationalist, nonthiest organization.

### **Employment**

Positions available for Midlander Marketing Staff. Job requirements are: Previous experience in Marketing and/or Advertising/ or classes that are equivalent to experience. Good customer relations/ or service. Goal oriented/ motivated. Must be able to work in office at least 10 hours per week. Come by JUB rm 306.

Midlander Editorial Staff. Writers and Photographers, Fill out application, submit 3 samples of work. Come by JUB rm.

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83 Chevy Truck, 112, 000 miles. almost new tires, manual transmission, dependable, runs great, good farm or work truck, \$2,000 obo, 274-2565 or 232-6914

Broken Engagement must sell ring! \$2,000-will sell for \$1,00 or make an offer Call Derrick at 849-9444

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80's model Canon AE1, Fully manual camera with timer-50mm lens& 70-210mm zoom, \$175. For more info, call 615-497-3407

Diamond necklace and earring set. Certified diamonds set in white gold tear drops. \$500 for set. Call Heather

### Roommate

A fun, easy going roommate wanted to share a large, beautiful home with graduate students. Close to MTSU campus in Garrison Cove subdivision., furnished, washer/dryer, clean. Room available February 15th. Rent \$375, deposit \$375. Call Ashley or Louisa 615-896-5169.

Two female roommates wanted to share 4 BD/ 4 BA with one girl. Furnished apartment with spacious living area, walking distance to campus. \$355/mon. including all utilities, W/D, and HBO. All interested call Jennifer at 828-9385

Room for Rent: \$250 a month/ water and electricity included. House is on Eaton St., within walking distance from campus. Interested? Contact Becca or Lindsey at 494-1360

Female roommate needed for at least three months. No deposit necessary. 4BR, 2BATH. Furnished house, large kitchen. Washer/Dryer. Within Lmile of MTSU, \$237,50 plus 1/4 utilities per month. Call Andrea or Tracey at 896-4173, cell: 24-2387

Roommate Needed to share Townhouse. Rent: \$234/mo. PLUS 1/3 of Utilities. We have it ALL!!! Internet, Cable, W/D,etc..) Call Ashley or Carolyn 867-7775

Roommate needed for 3 bedroom townhouse, \$350/month, utilities included. Call Zachat 589-5895

Room for Rent. 2bd/1ba house, 1/2 mile from campus. \$250 month 1/2 utilities. No deposits, no lease. Semifurnished, w/d provided. Females only please. Ask for Erica 907-5371/423-3095

Male Roommate wanted, University Courtyard Apartments, Private Bedroom and bathroom. Washer/Dryer and utilities included. \$395.00 per month. First month free. Available Immediately. Contact 615-595-1744.

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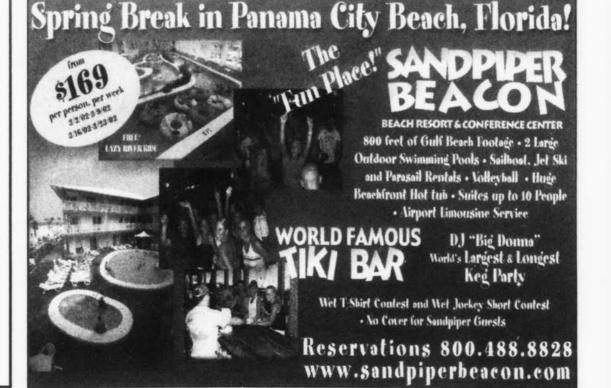
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Paula Pentilla drives against Western Kentucky.

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### Pentilla: Filling the void

### Continued from 8

basketball league in 1996. This is the second highest division in women's basketball in Finland.

The game of basketball is also slightly different in the United States than in Finland.

"In the United States, the game is much faster paced, and the players are much more talented," Pentilla said.

"That's OK. I like it better that way," she said.

Pentilla's story of coming to Middle Tennessee is unusual because she was not eagerly approached by the Lady Raiders as several other players were.

"I found out about Paula by Ronnie Bailey, who used to be an assistant coach to the men's basketball coach Randy Wiel," Lady Raiders head coach Stephany Smith said.

Smith then went on to explain that she saw video of Pentilla playing, and then in her first official visit to Middle Tennessee, she scrimmaged with some of the current play-

According to Smith, the main reason they chose Pentilla was because she merely fit a void. "At the time, we needed a point guard, so that way the

point guard we originally had, (and is still with the team) Jessica McClure, could get a blow every once in a while," Smith said.

"We have a very mature relationship, and she is really not that needy," Smith said. "All she really comes in here for is because I either asked her to or to get a piece of candy."

Smith described Pentilla as somebody who is very pleasant to be around.

"Whenever you are talking to her, her eyes get really big, and she is always expunging information," Smith said.

After graduating from Middle Tennessee, Pentilla plans on continuing her basketball career but does not really seem to know where right now. But she did express an interest in going back to Finland to continue her playing career.

When asked about possibly playing in Athens, Greece, in the Olympics in 2004, she said, "Finland has never gotten past the qualifying round in the Olympics. Hopefully, soon that will change."

This season, Pentilla averaged 4.7 points, 2.6 rebounds and 2.7 assists per game. She has one year left at MT. ◆



Photo by Amy Jones | Chief Photographer

Paula Pentilla attempts to make a block against ASU.

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