



Students at risk for meningitis

Jenny Cordle
News Editor

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"However, in a few people the bacteria overcome the body's immune defenses and pass through the lining of the nose and throat into the blood stream (causing) two types of infection: meningococcal meningitis and septicemia."

Both diseases develop rapidly, and they can be fatal if not treated in time.

Symptoms include severe headaches, neck stiffness, aching joints, disliking of strong light, nausea, vomiting, drowsiness, disorientation and coma. Also, a rash that doesn't disappear when pressed is a symptom of the disease.

A vaccine is available, lasting from two to 10 years.

"The best place to receive the shot is through a family doctor because that doctor knows the history of the patient," said Sally Kimbrell, director of Health Services.



Reeves-Sain Drug Store employee Daisy Gannon administers the meningitis vaccine to MTSU senior Meg Warner.

Shandora Dorse, a physician's assistant at Health Services, said the student health center does not offer the vaccine "because it costs so much."

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shipment soon.

Dorse said she believes it's probably a coincidence that freshmen are more susceptible to the disease.

"A lot of freshmen live on campus in a boarding-school

type of environment," said Dorse. "I think it's because freshmen live in close proximity to each other."

Dorse said a physician should be notified within 48 hours of noticeable symptoms.

Simple ways to boost the immune system and fight off meningitis

eat properly
drink more water
decrease alcohol intake
take a multivitamin
decrease stress
get proper rest
exercise regularly

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"It's really scary to know that you can get it, especially for freshmen on campus because of the crowded living conditions," said freshman Melissa Knies. "I'm terrified to know you can get it so easily."

"I think it's tragic when anyone contracts the disease," Dorse said about Jergenson's situation.

"Meningitis has drawn so much attention because of the amputations involved. Had Kaia been able to get an antibiotic and be discharged, we wouldn't be focusing on this right now."

Dorse explained that because "MTSU's setup is similar to David Lipscomb's and Tennessee Tech's, I can't say that the same thing couldn't happen here."

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Grade system changes GPAs

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"This system has been approved by the Faculty Senate for use on the undergraduate level," said Sherian Huddleston, director of records.

Once this system is in effect it will be possible for students to receive a grade of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, or F for completed course work.

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will remain the same, but variables have been added to the computer system to represent the new ones," Huddleston said.

An A- will be assigned 3.67 quality points, B+ 3.33, B- 2.67, C+ 2.33, C- 1.67, D- 0.67 starting this fall.

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"Professors will be given the flexibility and opportunity to grade students more accurately," Haskew said.

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Photo by Kipp Cavalier | Staff Photographer

Civil Rights activist Mary Frances Berry addressed the topic of "Heritage and Horizons: Reflections on Civil Rights in America" Monday at Tucker Theatre. Berry was one of the main headlines during this year's African American History month celebration.

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Although people do return for help occasionally, the Center's aim is to get the homeless and needy back on their feet, not support them indefinitely.

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Trip coordinator, Maggie Prugh has already had a few students from past projects show interest this year. Prugh, who also serves as the Coordinator of Student Development, hopes students tired of the Florida traffic and beach crowds will consider spending their week living among people whose impoverished lifestyle surely qualifies as a subculture. Volunteers work on construction projects, distribute food and many other tasks, giving every student a chance to participate. A fee of \$100 will contribute to transportation and food for the trip. The survival center will provide lodging in a YMCA-style setting.

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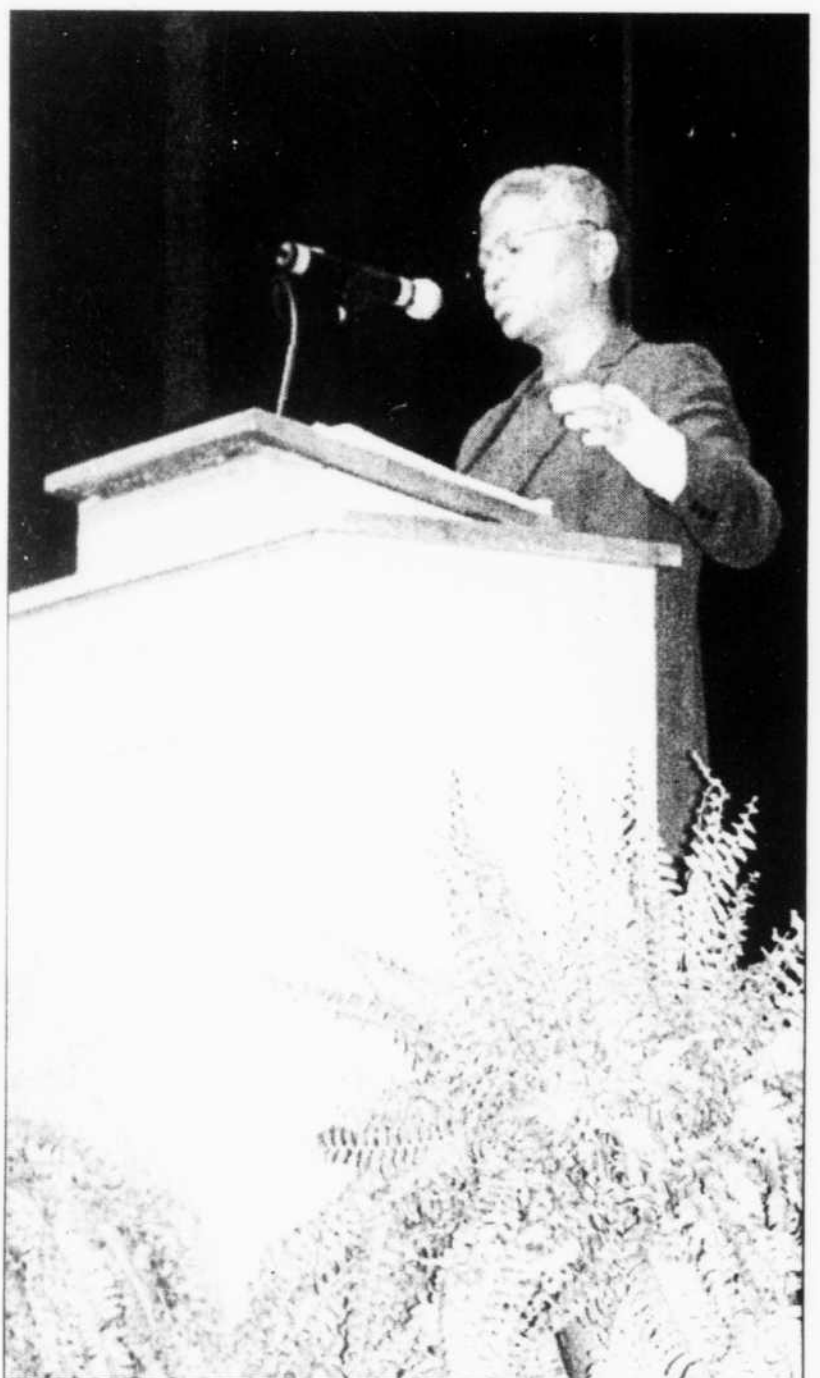


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On Campus

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

Jan. 27

The University Committee on General Studies will hold an open forum for discussion of the second draft of the General Studies Mission Statement from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Business and Aerospace Building, Room S128. For more information, contact William Badley at 898-8416.

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

The African American Student Association will meet at 7 p.m. in Mass Comm Room 104. Contact Genora Reed at 898-4085 for more information.

Jan. 31

Entries are due in the Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Awards contest. Newspaper, magazine, TV and radio journalists may enter, as well as photographers. For information and an application, contact Kevin Koelling at 904-8193.

Feb. 11

Entries are due in for the Society of Professional Journalists' Sigma Delta Chi Awards in Journalism. Newspaper, magazine, TV and radio journalists may enter, as well as photographers. For information and an application, contact Kevin Koelling at 904-8193.

March 15 & 16

Two faculty open forums are scheduled in the BAS State Farm Lecture Hall S102/204 at 1:30 p.m. The faculty is encouraged to attend these meetings to discuss faculty issues or other university matters of concern and interest.

March 25-31

Campus Recreation will host a ski summit to Colorado for spring break. There will be a pre-trip meeting on March 14. There are two price packages available. A \$200 deposit will reserve a spot. For more information call Mitch, Sean or W.T. at 898-2104.

Ongoing

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

The deadline for 2000 Homecoming Director applications is January 28 in KUC 208. Please come by the SGA office in KUC 208 or call 898-2464 for applications or questions.

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

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

MTSU crime stoppers looking for tips

Staff Reports

"It's nice to see hard work pay off," said MTSU Public Safety Officer Tom Wright, referring to the recent arrest of a student for simple possession of marijuana thanks to a tip.

The work to which he refers is getting the word out that this program, just like Rutherford County's, accepts tips on both crimes that have been reported to the police and those which have not.

The only difference being that the campus program accepts tips on misdemeanors committed on property owned by MTSU, while the county program only accepts tips on felonies committed within Rutherford County—which includes MTSU's main campus.

This way a reward can be offered for information that leads to an arrest in both felony and misdemeanor crimes committed on MTSU's campus.

"It is this unique relationship that enables us to help solve most of the types of crimes committed on campus instead of just felonies," added Wright.

"Especially in those difficult cases where we really do need the public's help to solve them." Currently the MTSU Public Safety has two such cases—burglaries in which a number of items were taken—that occurred over Christmas break.

The first, and most serious, was the forced entry into the Art Barn on campus.

In this case, unknown person(s) broke in sometime between 7:45 p.m. on Dec. 23 and 10:40 p.m. on Dec. 25 and

systematically went through offices, storage areas, and classrooms taking various items of significant value.

Reportedly, the burglar(s) were interrupted and unable to take most of the items gathered. But there are no suspects at this time, except that those involved most likely live off campus.

In the second case, which actually involves three burglary reports so far, three residence hall rooms on the third floor of Clement Hall were burglarized.

As in the aforementioned case, there are no suspects except that the person(s) involved are believed to live off campus.

In these cases, however, a number of electronic were taken from each of these rooms, including a 19-inch GE television, a black 1998 Compaq

Presario Pentium II computer, and a Kenmore Microwave oven.

According to Public Safety, these three burglaries were most likely committed by the same person or persons and most likely occurred between 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 17 and 12:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 18, but no later than 11:10 a.m. on Dec. 19.

If you have any information about these crimes or any other crime committed on campus, or a felony committed within Rutherford County please call Crime Stoppers at 893-7867 (STOP) between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

All callers will remain anonymous and if your information leads to an arrest, you will be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

MTSU's Eller to receive King-Hampton Award

Staff Reports

The Association of Faculty and Administrative Women at MTSU is honoring Jackie Eller, professor of Sociology and Anthropology, as the recipient of the King-Hampton Award for the year 2000.

The award is named in honor of one of MTSU's first full-time female faculty members and first full-time female administrator, Jeannette Moore King and Martha Goodwin Hampton. Hampton became dean of women of Middle Tennessee State College in 1961. The honor is bestowed upon an individual who has demonstrated outstanding ongoing leadership in women's causes at MTSU.

Eller is the outgoing chair of

MTSU Women's Studies, a chair of the 1999 Women's Studies Conference and a co-chair of this year's National Women's History Month celebration at the university.

The award is sponsored jointly by the AFAW and MTSU's June Anderson Women's Center. Director Candace Rosovsky is co-chairing this year's Women's History Month celebration with Eller.

The award will be presented to Eller at a luncheon Friday, Jan. 28, at 11:30, in the Hazlewood Dining Room of the James Union Building. Tickets are \$12 per person, and reservations can still be made calling 898-2688 or 898-2019.

Friends and colleagues of Eller are encouraged to attend.

Seigenthaler to speak Monday on media abuse

Staff Reports

John Seigenthaler Sr., publisher emeritus of "The Tennessean" and holder of the John Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies at MTSU, will present a lecture titled "An Abuse of Power? The News Media at the New Millennium," Monday from 3:40 to 4:30 p.m., in Room 444 of the University Library.

A question-and-answer period will follow his address.

Free and open to the public, Seigenthaler's lecture is the second presentation in MTSU's Spring 2000 Honors Lecture Series, with the umbrella theme being "The Abuse of Power."

Lectures will be presented

every Monday through April 24, same time and location, featuring topics on the abuse of power from varying perspectives, presented by several MTSU faculty.

Subsequent lectures will include "The Abuse of Power in the Recording Industry," with Dan Pfeiffer and Matthew O'Brien (Feb. 7); "Women's Bodies, Women's Lives: Still 'Killing Us Softly' or Just Still Killing Us," with Jackie Eller (Feb. 14); "Notions of Power in Contemporary Literary Theory," with Alan Hibbard (Feb. 21); and "Class Power and Class Struggle," with Michael Principe (Feb. 28).

For more information on the series, call MTSU News and Public Affairs at 898-2919 or the MTSU Honors College at 898-2152.

Keese retires after 30 years

Staff Reports

After 30 years of service, Earl Keese, Dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, is retiring from MTSU.

He has the President's position at Lima Technical College in Lima, OH.

We invite you to join us for a farewell reception in his honor today from 2:30-4 p.m. in the Alumni Center. ■

Clinton proposes tax breaks, funding for college costs

TMS Campus

WASHINGTON (TMS) — President Clinton said he plans to use his last year in office to make college more affordable for students and their parents.

During a Jan. 20 news conference, the president unveiled proposals for significant increases in federal student-aid programs and for tax breaks aimed at helping middle-class families.

"When we make college more affordable, we make the American dream more achievable," Clinton said. "It is imperative that we allow all Americans to make the most of their God-given abilities."

At the core of the president's proposal is the College Opportunity Tax Cut. Once fully established, the tax cut would give students and their families the option of taking a tax deduction or claiming a 28-percent tax credit for up to \$10,000 in

tuition and fees for all four years of undergraduate or graduate studies or job training. Administrative officials estimate the tax break would cost \$30 billion over 10 years and would provide up to \$2,800 in tax deductions for each student.

Also among the president's proposals:

- An increase raising the maximum Pell Grant to \$3,500 in fiscal year 2001. The maximum grant is now \$3,300.
- A \$60 million increase in

the budget of the Educational Opportunities Grant Program, which augments Pell Grants for needy students.

- Raise by \$77 million, to \$1.01 billion, the budget for the College Work-Study Program.

- Raise by \$125 million, to \$325 million, the budget of GEAR UP, which enlists college students to work with middle-school students from low-income families and inspire them to go to college. ■

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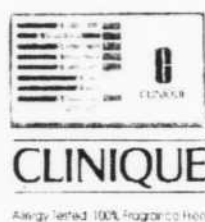
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Young Americans turned off by politics

Lori Lessner
Knight-Ridder Tribune

WASHINGTON — A generation after 18-year-olds won the right to vote, young people don't find politics particularly germane to their lives. They say they don't bother casting a ballot because voting has little to do with the way public policy decisions are made and politicians don't listen to their concerns anyway.

Although they've written off politics, their civic-minded spirit is very much alive. Three-fourths performed some sort of volunteer work in the past two years — far more than the 15 percent who voted in the 1998 election.

That double-edged message, the result of two separate polls that explored what motivates young people leading up to the 2000 presidential election, suggests that young adults prefer to

give back to their communities by performing public service rather than by wading into partisan politics.

More of them have taught, fed the hungry and cleaned up the environment than have volunteered on a political campaign or seriously considered running for office.

But experts who track voter participation are concerned about young people's reluctance to vote.

Only 32 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds voted in the 1996 presidential election, while 67 percent of those 65 and older voted, U.S. Census data show. What's worse, experts say, is that young people seem unlikely to pick up the voting habit as they get older.

In the presidential election of 1972, the first one in which 18-year-olds had the vote, 49.6 of 18- to 24-year-olds voted, a percentage that has steadily declined ever since.

Mel Henning, a University of

Kansas senior, said she has seen her peers become increasingly committed to volunteering in the four years she has lived on campus. She is part of that trend. She's helped build homes for Habitat for Humanity and is active in a program that matches children with Big Brothers and Big Sisters on campus.

"Sometimes we get tired of everyone thinking our generation is just a bunch of lazy, non-motivated people, so we volunteer for ourselves and to show the older generation that not all of us are doing crazy stuff all the time," said Henning, a Wichita student majoring in elementary education.

Although she said she can see why some people don't think voting matters much, she made sure to vote for the president in 1996. She has paid less attention to local elections.

She expects to continue volunteering and perhaps find work in a nonprofit group after graduation.

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Like Henning, a significant majority of young adults polled by the Mellman Group for the Panetta Institute expect to spend part of their careers working for nonprofits or performing some kind of public service. But only a quarter voiced an interest in pursuing careers in politics to express their civic-mindedness.

College students under age 31 were asked about their career paths and other topics that tie into the public arena as part of the poll. President Clinton's former chief of staff, Leon Panetta, started the institute to encourage public service.

His poll-results mirror those released Tuesday by Campaign Media Group for Northwestern University's Medill News Service, which trains graduate students in political journalism. The Medill poll surveyed people ages 18 to 24.

Ellen Shearer, co-director of the Medill News Service, said

the findings are encouraging because they show young people are not cynical about government. They're just getting involved in their own way, steering clear of more traditional paths.

"They're saying, 'If we're being ignored by the politicians, we'll ignore you right back and go volunteer somewhere,'" Shearer said. "Right now, they don't think there is a reason for them to vote."

Educators and politicians have lamented low voter turnout among young people for years. As Ken Bode, Medill's dean, put it Tuesday: "I have grown old waiting for young people to start voting and paying attention to politics."

To engage more young adults in politics, graduate students in the Medill News Service will cover this year's presidential campaign from the point of view of their peers. Their stories will reach 500 college newspapers

and dozens of daily newspapers and TV stations across the country.

The students also will try to attract young readers by reporting on youth issues for MTV. Both groups will share information on their Web sites. There is also talk of organizing a presidential debate in which college journalists would lead the discussion, steering each candidate toward issues that concern them.

Others hope young people will realize politics are relevant to their lives as they become more involved in volunteerism.

"We can't count on volunteering by itself, but as young people volunteer they will see that federal housing policy has an impact on services available to the homeless and that environmental policy has something to do with beach cleanups," said Mark Mellman, president of the Mellman Group, which commissioned one of the polls. ■

Students enjoy another snow day

Nahal Halley Toosi
UNC Chapel Hill

CHAPEL HILL (TMS) — For the second day in a row, several North Carolina colleges and universities remained closed Wednesday under a heavy blanket of snow.

Many schools were forced to cancel classes after a record-breaking snowstorm crippled roads throughout much of the region, preventing faculty from driving to campus and compromising student safety.

Administrators' decision played over quite well with students — particularly at UNC, where candidates for student elections have snagged a couple

of extra days to gather student signatures for their petitions. On campuses throughout the region, heavily clad college kids, buried almost knee-deep in the white stuff, are enjoying days and nights filled with ferocious snowball fights.

"It's really brought people together," said Manisha Dorawala, a senior at UNC. "On a normal day, people are outside just walking around, kind of down, kind of gloomy, but you look outside right now and people are laughing and playing."

Students had plenty of ammunition to fuel their fights. The storm dumped a record-setting 20.3 inches on Chapel Hill, Durham and Raleigh in 24 hours. Greensboro, N.C., home

of Greensboro College; Guilford College; North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, reported 14 inches of snow, but many students there returned to classes Wednesday. Even Wilmington, N.C., located about 5 miles from the Atlantic coast, reported 5 inches of snow. Students there also returned for a half-day of classes on Wednesday.

Officials at several campuses said they would wait until Thursday morning to announce whether students would be expected back in class. Although forecasters predict the snow has ended, temperatures were expected to drop into the

low teens Wednesday night, worsening the already icy conditions.

Tuesday's snowfall far exceeded forecasters' predictions of 2-3 inches.

"You never really think it's going to happen because the news people are always so off," said Remmi Singh, a UNC junior.

But it did, and now that it has, Matt Epley, a sophomore at Duke, said everyone is going to have to "go with the flow."

"They're really not prepared for this kind of weather around here," he said. "You really can't get around now, so playing is all there is to do. But when all these classes have to be made up, that's not going to be so good." ■



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OPINIONS

4 ■ SIDELINES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Murfreesboro, TN

From the Staff MTSU should protect students

According to the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, approximately 3,000 people a year contract meningitis in this country. Up to 10 percent suffer loss of limb, hearing or brain function after the infection; up to 13 percent die.

The ACIP recommends that healthcare providers offer information about meningitis to both students and parents, as well as make vaccinations "readily available."

Health Services does not offer meningitis vaccines to its students.

Incoming freshmen are already required to receive vaccinations for measles, hepatitis B, etc., because the close environment of college campuses and especially college dorms makes students more vulnerable to catching infectious illnesses.

Yet MTSU seems to be ignoring the increasing threat of meningitis. According to our lead story,

Reeves-Sain Drug Store offers the vaccine for \$80.

However, Health Services claims that it is too expensive to offer the vaccine to students. It is not even offered at the student's expense.

MTSU seems to be gambling with the health of its students.

Meningitis may be rare, but it is critical when it does hit. By refusing to offer the vaccination, MTSU could possibly sacrifice the limbs or lives of students to save a few bucks.

David Lipscomb University's Kaia Jergenson would most likely still have her legs if she had received a vaccine. Her basketball career would not be over. She would not have to live the rest of her life in a wheelchair.

Lipscomb and Tennessee Tech lost the gamble. MTSU could very easily be next.

If MTSU won't consider provid-

ing the vaccine to students because of cost, it should at least consider requiring the vaccine for admission to the university. Sally Kimbrell, director of Health Services, said herself that "the best place to receive the shot is through a family doctor."

Many people do not know that a vaccine is available for meningitis; some may even be unfamiliar with the disease.

Most parents or students would probably be willing to pay for such a vaccine if they are pushed to get one by the university.

Students need to be better protected from this disease. MTSU and other universities need to take control of the situation as soon as possible, before they lose the gamble as well.

- Angela White
Managing Editor

In Moderation

by Chris Tatum, Staff Columnist

Elian belongs with family in Cuba

As I drove under an overpass recently, I found myself looking into a cluster of homeless people.

They were typical in the sense that they wore tattered clothes, were dirty and unkempt with faces leathery by many nights spent weathering sub-freezing temperatures.

But in another sense, they were very atypical.

They reminded me of six-year-old Elian Gonzalez and the atrocious mess our American politicians have put him through, and especially the silly arguments some U. S. officials have made as reason for "Americanizing" him.

I'm referring, of course, to the largely Republican-held belief that Elian will have better quality of life in the United States

than he would have in Cuba.

Certainly not everyone born in our borders - even those born here - enjoy a quality life. In fact, like the homeless people I observed, there are too many U.S. citizens whose lives lack any element of quality at all.

Elian could just as easily one day become one of America's homeless sleeping under a bridge and begging for his next meal. And he wouldn't be the first.

He wouldn't be the first Cuban to find himself in such circumstances. After all, don't most people who cross our borders illegally come ashore hoping for a better life than the one they left behind?

While Elian is a celebrity of sorts right now, like all people in the public eye, the attention

given to him will fade. And soon enough, whether in this country or his native homeland, the television cameras will disappear. Elian will then be just another average human being.

Here's proof.

In America we are steeped in the tradition of honoring our war veterans. Yet the grotesque number of Vietnam veterans who inhabit the underside of our overpasses and the lucky few who populate our homeless shelters are proof of how easily and quickly our politicians and citizens forget.

It's just a matter of time before Elian's plight will be pushed off the front page of the newspaper and we'll move on with our busy lives.

Elian will eventually turn seven...eight...nine...10... He

won't always be that cute little boy with puppy-dog eyes that stole our hearts.

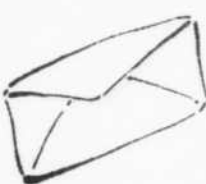
No, he'll become a man. And no matter which country he lives in, it'll be up to him as he grows older to determine the direction his life takes in adulthood.

U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno believes Elian belongs with his family in Cuba. So do I, and I commend Reno for her hospitality toward Elian's two desperate grandmothers who are in America this week to plead for his return to Cuba.

The efforts to grant Elian U.S. citizenship and keep him in America by no means guarantees him a better quality of life.

For too often one's quality of life isn't quality at all... even in America. ■

Sidelines welcomes letters to the editor. Simply drop them by JUB 310 or email them to stupubs@mtsu.edu.



Letters may be edited for length or grammar.

Next year is here for online newspapers

Robby Messer
Northern Arizona University

Do you remember that part in the movie "Wayne's World" where Mike Myers's character tells his ex-girlfriend to "live in the now?"

The same should be said to those who think an online newspaper is a waste of cyberspace.

I recently stumbled across a student-written column about the uselessness of online newspapers. "It takes away from the art of journalism and (is) turning it into a business," the writer said.

Two things. First of all, the column was posted online - giving the student who wrote it an even bigger audience than she would have gotten otherwise. How whacked was that?

Second: Duh! Journalism is a

business.

Many, if not most, student-run newspapers rely solely on advertising to make money. That's because if they charged students for each issue, circulation would be horrible.

To broaden their advertising base - and attract even greater audiences - many student newspapers have taken to the Web.

"Obviously you have to pay the bills and so there's a sound business reason for going online," said Chris Fiscus, a reporter for the Arizona Republic. "But I think it's a lot deeper than that. If you want to get your message out, you can't ignore what many people want, and that's to get their news now, online."

Journalism is a business. Any journalist who tells you they don't care how much revenue they generate is lying

because if they can't generate revenue, they aren't going to publish a thing.

I'm not in the print media for the money, but my bosses better be.

I want to know that I'm not going to show up at work one day only to hear that we're all out of a job because the publisher didn't want to change with the changing times - and those times are increasingly showing us that people want their news, and they want it quick.

In many respects, radio and television have been delivering breaking news faster than newspapers for years. The Internet levels the playing field a bit and finally gives newspapers a chance to compete in a more timely fashion.

Circulation is no longer limited by the number of racks posted on campus. ■

Modern Dysfunction

by Rob Evans, Staff Columnist

Forward this!!!

Have you been duped by e-mail greed?

Subject: FWD:fwd:FWD:Re: FWD:RE: You can make free money doing nothing.

Hello, I normally do not pass on forwards like this because they are a waste of time.

But this came from a person who I trust so it must be true.

I have to say I am skeptical about e-mails like this, but it really does work.

Just hit the Reply All button to ask the other 2,000,000 people who got this e-mail, waste their time and you will find out that by golly this is the best thing since Old Lady Leary's cow burned down half of Chicago.

Plus you get all the fan-fare that goes along with becoming your own quaddrillionaire.

This is how it works: you get this e-mail that tells you some company is testing out its e-mail tracker software (have I scared any conspiracy theorists yet?).

For every person you pass this e-mail on to you get a dollar; for every person they pass it on to you get \$2.

So on and so forth until the program writers have decided the software works.

At this time the programmers call their secretaries in to add up how much money you rightfully are entitled to.

After all, you put a lot of effort into sending all of these forwards.

When all the addition and quantum physics to figure out what belongs where are done, Bill Gates will personally drive to your residence and hand you your check.

I mean what else is he gonna

do with all of his money and free time?

As a bonus along with this e-mail, the Honda automobile company has decided to keep a running tally as well.

It works on the same premise as the greedy money pyramid, but this becomes credit for a new Honda vehicle of your choice.

Honda will have a running balance of all the people it gets sent to courtesy of Bill (who I would have to say makes a handsome commission on this deal), and you can continuously check your balance at Hondas Web site.

When you get enough credits all you have to do is go to the dealer pick out your favorite color and then zip around town in your sewing-machine powered coupe.

If this sounds to good to be true, it's because it is.

All of you losers out there with not enough friends to e-mail can take pride in Jif Peanut Butter's consolation, a printable e-coupon that appears as an attachment to the e-mail.

Just be careful and scan with an anti-virus software first. Some computers may be allergic to peanut butter.

Yes, I know it sounds fishy, but it's true.

My good friend has a picture of himself with Bill Gates, standing next to his new Accord while they joked and had peanut butter and crackers.

You can see this picture for yourself at the Web site www.yougullibledope.com.

Your friend,
Rob

Voting on campus waste of time

Steve Cagnina
Staff Columnist

Student Government is a noble institution and a vital part of campus life...for the people who get elected and use it as a resume piece.

For the rest of us - it's crap.

This is reality: every year this school holds elections, and then some power-that-be chastises all of us "Generation Xers" for not voting.

They tell us we should get "involved" and be more "responsible." They imply all we care about is sex, drinking and MTV.

Well, they're lying hypocrites. Why would a rational person want to vote in this school's elections? Can any of our elected officials fix any of the things the majority of us care about?

No. Want proof?

OK, can they lower, with final authority, the ridiculous credit requirements this school has for its majors?

Or, can they vote, with final authority, to build a darn parking garage?

How bout lowering tuition?

No. They can't do any of these things. Now they can vote on stuff and whisper in the powers-that-be's ears that, yeah, we'd like this or that. But in the final analysis, they can't do anything without some part of this school's administration nodding their head in approval.

So for all those who chastise MTSU's student population for not voting, I challenge you to put up or shut up.

Let us decide tuition costs, parking, academic requirements, even the faculty make up.

Then, hey, you got my vote. Otherwise, you got my sarcasm, and you deserve it. ■

SIDELINES

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FEATURES

Murfreesboro, TN

Thursday, January 27, 2000

SIDELINES ■ 5

Exhibiting lessons learned

MTSU art department displays student work in Juried Students Show

Turner Hutchens
Staff Reporter

The MTSU art department is currently showing some of its students' work in the Juried Students Show, on display at the Art Barn's gallery.

Each piece of art has been selected for the show by local artist Sherri Warner-Hunter.

Warner-Hunter is a sculptor who has done work for galleries nationwide.

"I've looked at a lot of work," Warner-Hunter said. "It's not easy to pick out the exact things you're looking for. The main thing is to look at the whole body of work."

In this case, the work is entirely that of MTSU art majors.

The show is one of the two juried, or competitive, shows the art department puts on every year.

The show is more than a chance to show off their work; it's a chance for them to grow as artists and people.

"It gives us a chance to see what the students are doing," said Charles Jansen, professor of art. "But we're also giving the students a real world experience."

Jansen says the professional art world is very competitive, and students need this type of judgment of their work.

The prize for the show is relatively small, \$150 for Best of Show and \$75 for the runner-up from each class.

But it's experiencing the competition that helps them prepare for life after graduation.

"I was sorry more students didn't take advantage of the opportunity to show," Warner-Hunter said. "I was surprised by the low number of submissions."



Photos by Kipp Cavalier | Staff Photographer
Above, "Acetylcholine Flux" by Hans Schmitt-Matzen won the Freshman Award.

Left, works of art that were on display were created entirely by MTSU art majors.



Warner-Hunter says she thinks many more students could benefit from submitting their works for shows, and she hopes more will in the future.

But she was impressed with many of the pieces that were submitted.

"There was some excellent work included," Warner-Hunter said. "I could see wonderful things occurring in the print department, and with the mixed media."

"There were some that made me wish there were other categories, just so they could be included."

Rachel Williamson, who won the Sophomore Award for her sculpture "The Decay of Identity," said working for the gallery show, and in the art program in general, has helped her deal with her vision of her work and herself as an artist.

"I not only learned how to go about doing it," Williamson said, "not just the techniques and stuff. It helped clear my ideas, helped me focus on what I wanted to say."

"I like to think that my art is larger than myself," said Hans Schmitt-Matzen, who earned the Freshman Award for his airbrush piece "Acetylcholine Flux." "People don't have to get what I intended from the work. Whatever people get out of the art is great. Whether or not they take away my intended meaning is sort of immaterial."

Schmitt-Matzen was a graphic design major but decided to concentrate on painting.

"I like the depth that I bring to the art," he said. "And I wasn't going to get that in digital animation."

"I had to have a small run-in with my parents and say, 'look, this is really what I want to do.'"

Now his efforts have started paying off, if only \$75 this time.

"A lot of my work carries from my childhood," said Dawn Perault, who won Best of Show for the sculpture "Toying with Dual Relationships."

"I was taking an adult situation and putting it back into a toy. All the things we learned in childhood are still true."

"Toying with Dual Relationships" is a sculpture made of wood and metal. It resembles both a child's toy wagon and a scale, consisting of metal wire frame figures filled with wooden spheres balanced on each side. The sculpture is on wheels and has small strings, as if to tug the piece around, attached to each side of the base.

"By respecting other people, things can balance," Perault said. "The whole thing was about balance."

Perault has had to find balance in her own life.

She is a returning student who taught elementary school for four years but returned to college because she "wanted to experience all the art classes" she had missed her first time in college.

Her plan was to return to teaching after getting a degree in art education.

"But now I've found this sculpture thing," Perault said. "And it's kind of taken over. I love working in other dimensions. In space. In time."

Perault says she now plans to pursue a graduate degree so she can teach on the college level.

And like all of the artists in the show, she has one real goal with her art and her life.

"I just plan to keep learning," Perault said. ■

Girls suffering from ADD often go undiagnosed

Donna Gehrle White
Knight Ridder Newspapers

MIAMI — Teachers thought Karina Aspillaga, now 12, was lovely and sweet. Not to mention polite and vivacious. They were willing to overlook that she couldn't sit still, had trouble concentrating and ignored directions.

Not her mom, Irma. She was convinced Karina needed help — the help that Irma herself didn't get years ago as she struggled to get through college.

So she took Karina to a neurologist who found that Karina is highly intelligent but, like millions of other American children, is "wired" differently. She has attention deficit disorder, a neurobiological condition that until recently was thought of mostly as a boy's malady — especially if Tommy or Jose was hyperactive and difficult to control in the classroom.

New research is suggesting that there are a lot more Karinas out there. They just aren't getting help. Yet, thanks to her mom's persistence and a doctor's help, Karina is flourishing today — a cheerleader and after school, as both in class.

"She's very athletic," says her mom proudly.

Research among adults shows an equal number of men and women have Karina's problem. Yet six boys to every girl is clinically treated, with only about one girl to every three boys being diagnosed, says Dr. Harvey Parker, a Plantation, Fla., clinical psychologist who started the A.D.D. Warehouse and co-founded the national organization, Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder.

Attention deficit disorder is now technically called attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, which is divided into categories of inattention or hyperactivity or a combination of both.

Boys get diagnosed early in school because their fidgeting, interrupting and hyperactivity disrupts classes and home life, Parker says. In contrast, a girl who doesn't pay attention gets overlooked.

"The girls with ADD (without hyperactivity) are especially underdiagnosed," Parker says, because "their problem doesn't cause a problem to anyone else than themselves."

Some doctors argue that girls are actually lucky to escape the diagnosis. They note that rambunctious boys get stuck with the label — and are dosed with Ritalin and other medications.

Dr. Richard Rubin, a child psychiatrist and past president of the South Florida Psychiatric Society, agrees there is a problem with some children being given Ritalin before they have had thorough evaluations. But that doesn't mean ADD should be ignored, he says.

Dr. Alan Delamater, director of clinical psychology at the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Miami, says he has seen how girls "with a long history of struggles" turn their lives around once they are diagnosed with ADD. With drugs and behavior modification, they can focus on their studies for the first time, he says.

"Their turnaround can be remarkable," he says.

"Most women with ADD were only able to seek help as adults, after many years of feeling frustrated, inadequate and misunderstood," according to the recent book, "Understanding Girls With Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder" (Advantage Books, \$19.95).

One of the authors, Dr. Kathleen G. Nadeau, a Baltimore psychologist, understands firsthand: She has ADD.

"It runs in my family. I have a brother and uncle with it," says Nadeau, who feels so strongly about girls and women not get-

"Most women with ADD were only able to seek help as adults, after many years of feeling frustrated, inadequate and misunderstood."

"Understanding Girls With Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder"

ting ignored that she and coauthor, Dr. Patricia Quinn, also started ADDvance; A magazine for Women with Attention Deficit Disorder.

Nadeau says girls' symptoms may appear as problems not usually linked with attention deficit disorder: Poor organization skills or messiness, sleep problems, shyness, poor social skills, disheveled appearance or grooming problems.

They often are highly intelligent and creative, but it doesn't show in their grades. They also may work long hours at home-work but aren't able to finish it. Their parents may accuse them of laziness but they really are trying, Nadeau says.

Many girls with attention problems seek to hide the fact they are "different." They avoid participation in the classroom to the point where some even develop a phobia about going to school. And because their attention is scattered, they don't always learn to get along with others. They may cling to one special pal — or have trouble making any friends.

Many adults with attention problems can find it hard to hold jobs and relationships. Most, according to CHADD, are restless, easily distracted, impatient and impulsive. They experience mood swings, short tempers and have trouble planning ahead and staying organized.

Many women with ADD have messy homes that they are embarrassed to show. But once helped, many are finally able to harness their intelligence and abilities.

Nadeau tells of a medical school student who would stay behind locked doors to concentrate on studying.

"Most of the children with ADD are gifted. They just fall through the cracks," agrees Karina's mother, Irma, a Miami-Dade teacher.

She was never diagnosed but says she always had trouble concentrating in school. She dropped out of college six times.

Only her father's refusal to give up on her kept her going — until finally she earned her sheepskin.

She worried that Karina had her unnamed "problem" when even as a preschooler Karina had trouble paying attention.

Now, with counseling, a minimal amount of drugs and a behavior plan, Karina manages to balance schoolwork and after-school activities, such as cheerleading, which she loves.

She's one of the lucky ones.

Annette Tabor of Coral Springs, Fla., wasn't diagnosed until she was in her 40s. But she counts her blessings.

She finally got an answer to why she "tried so hard to study" and yet had chronic problems in school. Because she was a quiet child — "I didn't have any hyperactivity; I was as good as gold" — teachers just overlooked her problems.

After a psychologist was finally able to diagnose her correctly, Tabor is now able to work on overcoming her "wiring."

Now, she works to educate people about attention deficit disorder by helping schedule CHADD programs in Coral Springs. ■

Alaska Pacific University to enroll select high school seniors early

Larry Campbell
Knight Ridder Newspapers

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Some high school seniors think they just can't wait. College, challenging classes, a new environment. They whet their appetites with a course or two at the local university. It works. They want more.

For that kind of high school senior, Alaska Pacific University may have all you can handle — and a year early.

In an agreement to begin next year, a select group of high school seniors will be able to attend APU classes on campus, get college credit and still get the last year's course work they need to earn diplomas from the Anchorage School District. In effect, students would be enrolled in the school district and APU at the same time.

"The whole idea is to give (seniors) a taste of college while still technically in high school," APU spokeswoman Sandra Guthrie said.

APU and the school district have been ironing out details for the past few months, said Pat McDowell, head of high school education for the district. Most important to McDowell was that students would get class work they need to meet Anchorage School District graduation requirements, both in number of credits and in specific academic disciplines.

High school students already can take college courses for high school elective credit. In some cases, students can even take college courses to meet specific discipline requirements. But those instances are usually approved case by case, McDowell said.

The new agreement gives

more structure to the idea of high schoolers attending college classes and gives school administrators more confidence that their students will be covering the material they need in their senior year, McDowell said.

"For the senior, for example, who needs to take 'U.S. Government,' we wanted to be sure they'd get that material," McDowell said. "So we looked closely at the courses (APU) is offering. Their 'American Government' would more than work for our requirement."

McDowell said the district also discussed making time available for the extracurricular activities that seniors may still be involved in at their old high schools — music, sports, drama and the like.

For the first semester, in fall, courses are generally prescribed: calculus, physics, writing and higher education research and

planning, for example. But a course called "Active Learning and Ways of Knowing" could be interesting when students start exploring educational philosophies and how people learn in different cultures: European, Asian and Native Alaskan.

In fall, high schoolers will take classes with other high schoolers, not the general student body. That comes in spring, when they attend classes like "General Psychology," "The Art and Science of Being Human," "American Government" or "World Political Systems."

The year ends with a special, individualized project that students plan, research and present.

There's also an optional treat during January, a course called "The Discovery of King Arthur." Students travel to England for a month to study language and history. ■

Come just as you are

Open mic night at Cyber Cafe allows students to showcase talents

Kipp Cavalier
Staff Reporter

Every Monday night at 7:30 P.M., amateur performers harness their nervous energy into power awesome performances at Open Mic Night, located in Woodmore's Cyber Cafe.

The performers are students who, with-out reluctance, pour their hearts into the microphone.

In their voices you can hear the stories of their lives.

In their music you can hear the echoes of their artistic inspiration.

They tell tales of pain and accomplishment, dreams and experiences.

Every form of performance art is welcome, though time and space is somewhat limited.

The student audience offers a warm reception for each act. Whistling, shouting and deafening applause show acceptance and appreciation for all talent and the courage it takes to display it.

"If you're afraid of (audience) response, you shouldn't be...the people who attend are very welcoming," said student performer and freshman Amanda Tallent, who encourages newcomers.

Another student was encouraged by her peers to read poetry from her personal journal.

Audience response has motivated her to return more than once and she said she will perform at future Open Mic Nights.

Many students attended to cheer their friends on stage.

Members of the audience claim "this (Open Mic Night) is it for Monday nights... there's no excuse for not showing up."

In urging both onlookers and performers to join the excitement, one spectator described the event as "a fun, open atmosphere... with a large variety (of acts)... there is something for everyone."

Organizers of the event, consisting of students and professional musicians, donate their time each week, allowing performers to learn to love playing and hearing their own music.

The organizers, along with most of the evenings acts, suggest that Open Mic Night provides an opportunity to play new music, break in a new vocalist or simply learn how to perform without fear of rejection.

If you are spending your Monday nights in your dorm strumming a guitar or writing poetry or lyrics, it is your responsibility to develop your talent by sharing it with people who are waiting to be uplifted by your sounds and touched by your words.



The Roseanne Barr Band performs at Open Mic Night at the Cyber Cafe. The band consists of Ryan Hauschild, bassist; Morgan Marlin, vocals; Harlan Smith, guitar; and Brandon Deupsey, drums.

Photo by Kipp Cavalier | Staff Photographer

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MTSU Fine Arts presents



Imitation of Life

Sunday, Jan. 30 - 3 p.m.

KUC Theater FREE and OPEN

Far more sentimental than Douglas Sirk's later, icy version of this Fannie Hurst soap opera, John Stahl's film about a working girl (Claudette Colbert) who makes good and about Colbert's black maid (Louise Beavers) and her daughter (Freda Washington) who passes for white, is believable in the context of thirties melodrama and as rich visually as Stahl's other thirties triumphs "Back Street" and "Magnificent Obsession." (106 minutes, b/w, 1934)

Gummo

Venomous in story; genius in character; victorious in structure; teasingly gentle in epilogue; slapstick in theme; rebellious in nature; honest at heart; inspirational in its creation and with contempt at the tip of its tongue, Gummo twists across the screen like an antic fried chicken wing. If the cast of cute and creepy southern high school parking lot legends were asked, "What happened to this year's cinema?" they would say "it's okay, it's in here with us," with a Children of the Damned glow in their eye.



Due to circumstances beyond our control - Julien donkey-boy - Jan. 30/31 and Feb. 1/2 will be replaced by Gummo.

KUC Theater

KUC Theater

KUC THEATRE
Spring Films '00



Jan. 31	Gummo - R
Feb. 1/2/3	Gummo - R
Feb. 7/8/9/10	Romance - R
Feb. 15/16/17	The Best Man - R
Feb. 21/22/23/24	Bringing Out the Dead - R
Feb. 28/29	After Life - nr
Mar. 1/2	After Life - nr
Mar. 6/8/9	Being John Malkovich - R
Mar. 13/14/15/16	Toy Story 2 - G
Mar. 20/21/22/23	Dogma - R
April 3/4/5/6	Next Friday - R
April 10/11/12/13	Princess Mononoke - PG13

Showings at 7:00 and 9:30 p.m.
Admission only \$2.00 Information = 898-2551

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SPORTS

Murfreesboro, TN

Thursday, January 27, 2000

SIDELINES ■ 7

MTSU's 'second season' underway

Michael Edwards
Men's Basketball Reporter

Following the loss to Austin Peay State University, Raider captains, senior Johnny Cobb and senior Cedrick Wallace, called a players-only meeting where the team decided to put the first part of the season, lack in effort and intensity, behind them and start a "second season." The first game of the second season was the Tennessee State game, which they won by seven.

The first game of the new season was against the worst team in the Ohio Valley Conference, and the second game is against the one of the best team in the conference, Murray State. Murray is at the top of the conference and looking to extend their winning streak over the Raiders to four, which would leave the Raiders in a losing streak. MTSU last beat Murray in 1989, 81-76.

If MTSU is going to make a run at the NCAA tournament the wins are going to have to start pouring in, and it starts Thursday on the road in Murray, Ky. The Racers have an impeccable record in the '90s after winning seven OVC regular season titles and seven tournament championships. With the winning of championships, the Racer players have picked up valuable experience.

"The one thing Murray has is they have experience on their side," Coach Randy Wiel said. "They have played together and they have been winning so they have a mentality, and they have played a pretty good schedule and they have been winning."

The Racers are prime for a repeat, especially with leading scorer Isaac Spencer leading the conference in scoring, rebounding and field-goal percentage. Unless the Raiders abandon their old habits of losing the battle under the boards, Spencer will have a field day.

"We just have to neutralize [Spencer] on the boards, we need to keep him off the boards," Wiel said. "He out hustles and out works everybody."

Spencer is not the only player for the Racers that can score with the best in the conference. Aubrey Reece is in the top of league in scoring, assists and steals. He is able to shoot from the outside and also drive to the basket. However, with Jonathan Whitworth or Kevin White guarding Reece, the Raiders could be able to contain Reece and therefore the Racers. The fact is, Reece is the catalyst of Murray State's UCLA cut offense, and if he is stopped then Murray will have a much tougher time scoring.

Another problem that the Raiders may face is the inside

presence that Murray State can bring. Spencer is the headliner, but MSU has quality players that come off the bench to fill in for him. The Raiders have been beat around so far this season on the inside. That is shown by MTSU getting out rebounded in more than half of their games. Players like Iiro Tenngren, Wallace and Lee Nosse will have to step up their rebounding games in order to win.

MTSU will have the big three firing. Ron McKnight, Wallace and Fernando Ortiz will have to provide the outside threat, while Whitworth sneaks around on the defense's weak side to knock down an occasional three pointer.

The Raiders have to play as a team. Each player needs to be unselfish to a point, but not so far as passing up open makeable shots. They must out rebound the Racers, and keep Spencer off the offensive glass. MTSU has to play with effort and intensity. The very thing that won the TSU game, can and will lose them the Murray State game. Murray will go hard for all 40 minutes, and if MTSU can't keep up, the game will get ugly. The Raiders players say that they are going to start a "second season," and play with more effort, but they are going to have to prove it on the floor. ■

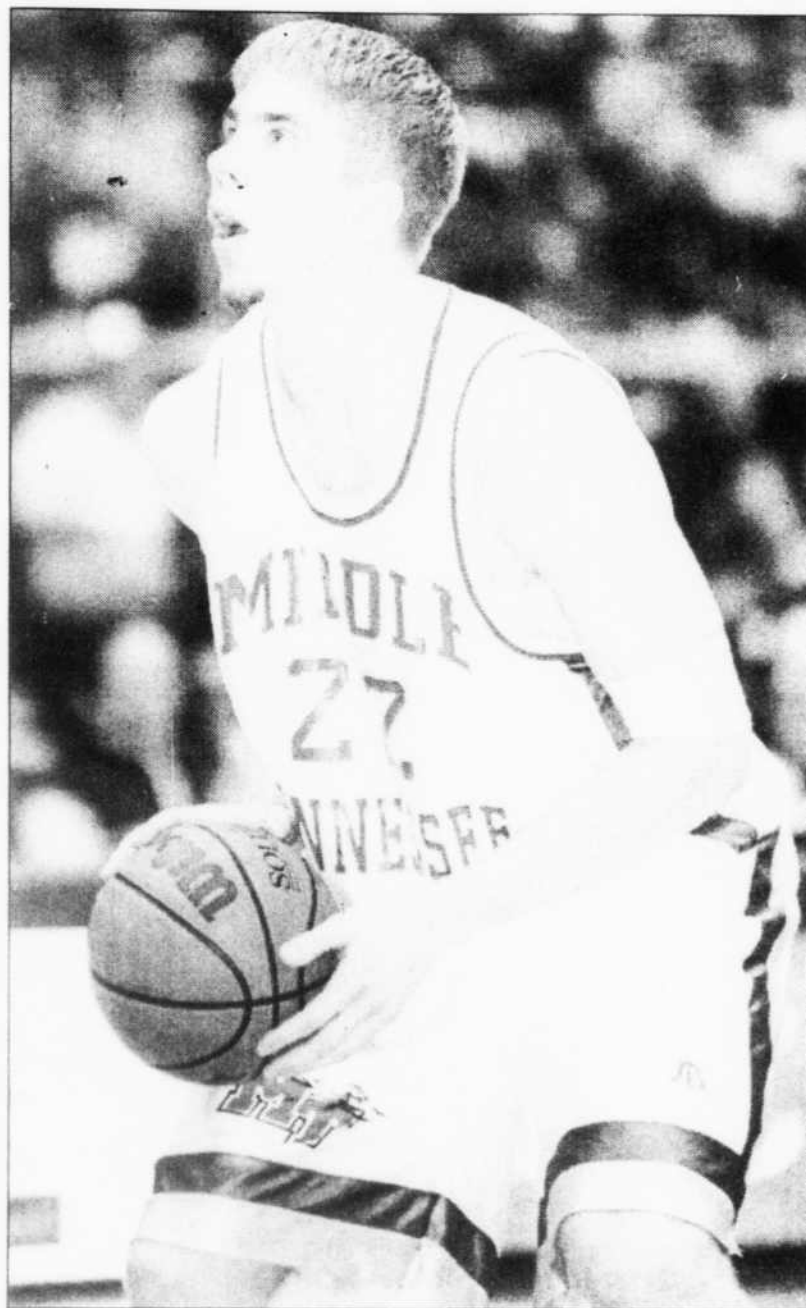


Photo by Grant Fletcher | Staff Photographer
Iiro Tenngren and the Blue Raiders hope to defeat Murray State.

1999-2000
Men's Basketball Schedule

11/3	Sports Tours	.....
	(Exhibition)	.....W 92-85
11/17	Sports Reach	.....
	(Exhibition)	.....W 91-65
11/22	Tennessee Temple	.....W 69-55
11/27	Marist	.....W 76-55
12/2	Eastern Illinois	.....L 72-76
12/5	Kansas	.....L 77-97
12/10	at Tennessee	.....L 77-78
12/20	Martin Methodist	.....W 87-79
12/23	at Central Florida	.....L 77-88
12/30	at Campbell	.....L 66-73
1/6	at Eastern Kentucky	.....L 83-85
1/8	at Morehead State	.....W 77-73
1/10	Southeast Missouri	.....L 48-61
1/13	Belmont	.....W 84-73
1/15	at Tennessee Tech	.....L 66-78
1/18	at Eastern Illinois	.....L 63-69
1/20	Austin Peay State	.....L 63-74
1/22	Tennessee State	.....W 80-73
1/27	at Murray State	.....7:30 PM
1/29	at Tennessee-Martin	.....6:00 PM
2/3	Eastern Kentucky	.....7:45 PM
2/5	Morehead State	.....
	(Fox Sports South)	.....7:00 PM
2/8	at Southeast Missouri	.....7:30 PM
2/12	Tennessee Tech	.....7:45 PM
2/17	at Austin Peay State	.....7:45 PM
2/19	at Tennessee State	.....
	(Fox Sports South)	.....7:45 PM
2/24	Murray State	.....7:45 PM
2/26	Tennessee-Martin	.....7:45 PM
2/29	OVC Tournament	.....
	(first round)	.....TBA
3/4-5	OVC Tournament	.....
	(Semifinals & Finals)	.....TBA
	(Nashville, TN)	.....
	(Nashville Arena)	.....

*times listed are central

Lady Raiders invade Murray State

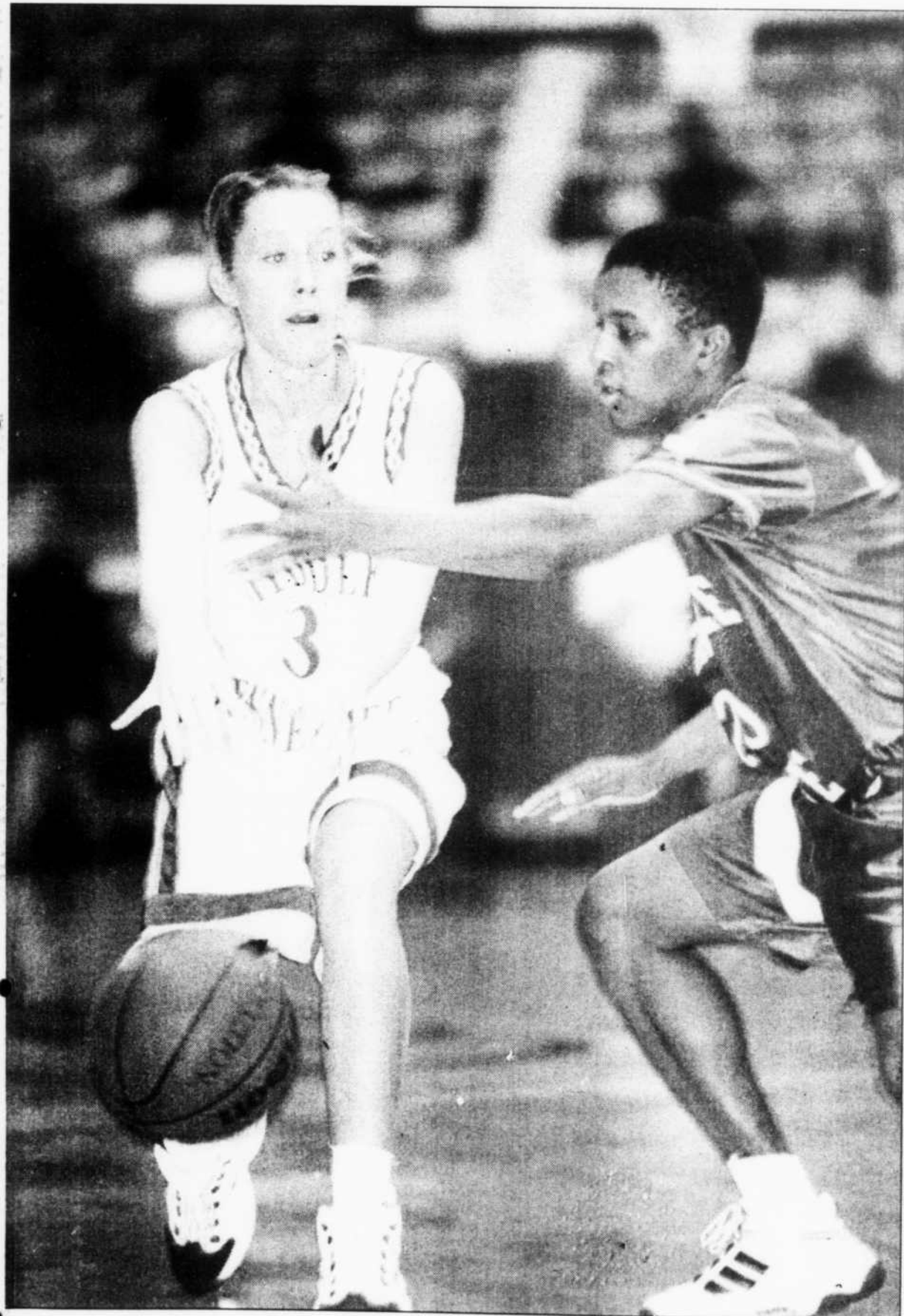


Photo by Grant Fletcher | Staff Photographer
Erica Lufkin hopes to lead the Lady Raiders to victory tonight.

Adam Sparks
Staff Reporter

Following a big home win against Tennessee State, the Lady Raiders are looking forward to two pivotal conference games on the road this week.

On Thursday, the women's basketball team will play a Murray State team with both momentum and a lot of confidence. They are currently on a four game winning streak and are tied with MTSU in conference play with a record of 5-3, making the game that much more important.

"Coaches always say 'on any given night anybody can beat anybody' and a lot of times that's just a cliché, but this year it's actually true in the OVC," said Head Coach Stephany Smith. "Pretty much anybody can beat anybody on any given night, and we're proof of that."

The Lady Raiders come into Thursday's game as a rejuvenated team. They now have starters Erica Lufkin and Jamie Thomatis back in the rotation. Lufkin, a 5'8" Murfreesboro native, was hurt in the season opener against UAB. Thomatis, a 5'11" sophomore, went down about two weeks ago with a stress fracture. Although they have returned, neither is at 100%.

"Lufkin and Thomatis are both day-to-day right now," said Coach Smith. "We're just going to have to take it slow and see what happens."

On Saturday, the MTSU women will go head-to-head with UT-Martin. The Lady Skyhawks were projected to finish second in the conference but have somewhat struggled this year. They stand at 4-4 in the conference and are 1 game behind both Murray State and MTSU in the OVC standings.

The Lady Raiders need both wins this week to stay near the top of the OVC. They are currently in third place with 10

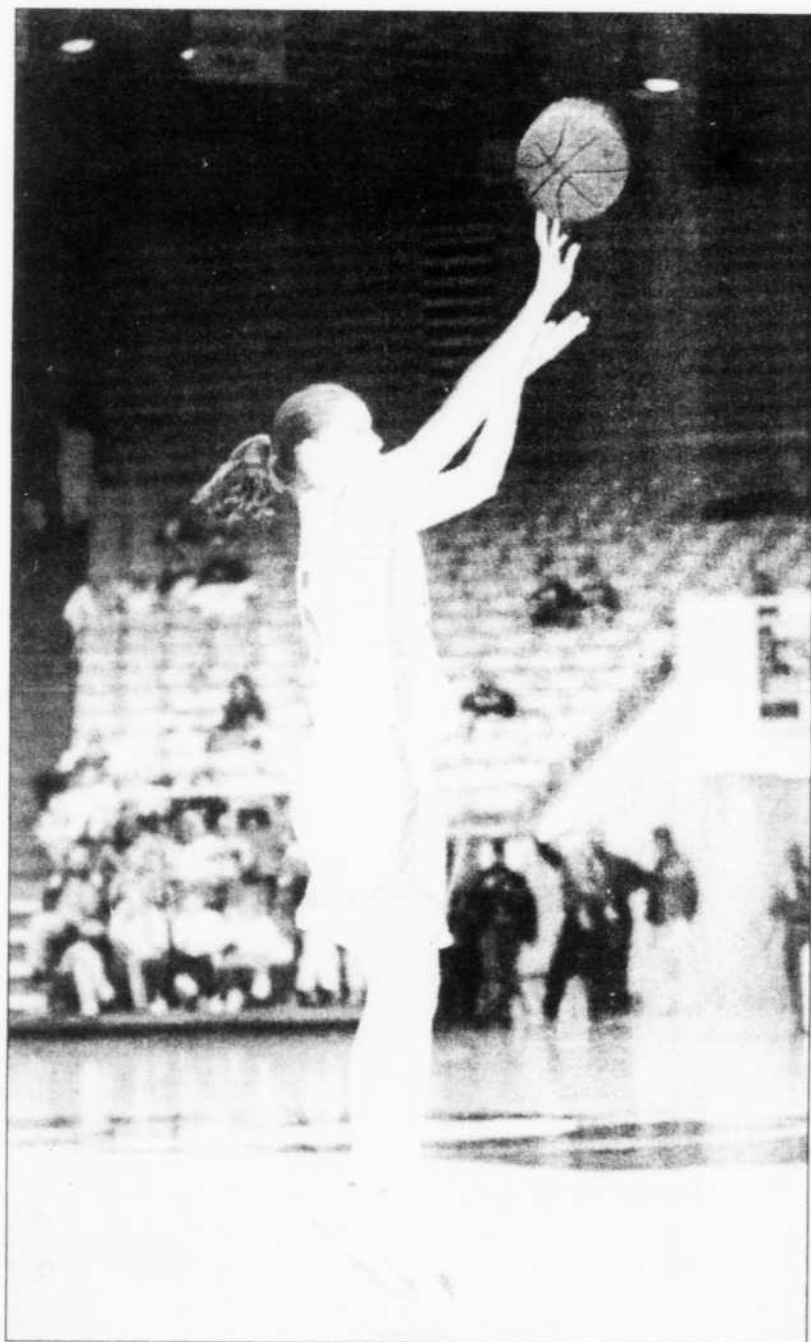


Photo by Grant Fletcher | Staff Photographer
Kelly Chastain puts up a shot against Tennessee State.

conference games to go, 11 overall.

"Both of these games are very important," said Coach Smith. "They're important not only to keep us successful and in the hunt, but to put a little space between us and those barkin' up our heels." ■

Questions?

Comments?

Call: 898-2816

Ortiz holds his own against NBA

Michael Edwards
Men's Basketball Reporter

After playing in the Olympic qualifying tournament held in Puerto Rico for the Puerto Rican National team, TNT commentator Hubie Brown called him "Mr. Excitement."

Junior guard Fernando Ortiz has done nothing but delight MTSU fans with his spectacular dunks, passes and three-pointers. He currently leads the Raiders in scoring with 15 points per game. He also pulls down three rebounds per contest.

He came from St. Vincent's College in Latrobe, Pa., where he averaged more than 17 points and seven rebounds per game. In his NAIA career, Ortiz has pulled down numerous awards. First team All-America, First team All-Conference and conference player of the year are some of his accolades. He also managed to be named player of the week three times.

Since being in the United States, Fernando has become close to St. Vincent's former assistant coach Tony Morocco, who recruited him from Puerto Rico.

"He's been a real help for me. He's been like my stepdad, and he keeps in contact," Ortiz said. "Over the summer, we go back home and he helps me work on my game and gives me hints on what I need to work on."

When he was eight years old, like many other athletes, his main sport wasn't the one he excels at now. Baseball was his forte, but since he began watching his cousin play the court, Ortiz dropped the bat for a basketball and has never

looked back. With a ball and a basket in his backyard, Ortiz became the player that MTSU fans see before them.

"Mr. Excitement" grew up in Comoa, Puerto Rico, where he lived with his father. Ortiz says that is the man who has most influenced him over the years.

"My dad has been a great role model for me," Ortiz said. "He has been there for me. He's gone to every single game and every single practice with me."

Since he was 16 years old, Ortiz has not stopped traveling the world playing amateur basketball on its highest level. He played on the Puerto Rican Junior National team, followed by the under-22 National team and with the Puerto Rican National team.

Ortiz was the youngest member of the team that played against some of the greatest basketball players in the world. Although he was the team's junior player, Fernando still managed to play seven minutes against the United States' team. Guarded by Jason Kidd and Gary Payton for his stint in the game, Ortiz slid by to hang 10 points on the NBA's best, including one sequence when he cut loose on a fast break and slam-dunked the ball on current New York Knicks and former Tennessee Volunteer Alan Houston.

"That was an unbelievable moment," Ortiz said. "I will never forget that."

Although he has only one season remaining at MTSU, Ortiz plans to improve and become a professional player, either in Puerto Rico or overseas, or as far as his talent takes him. ■



Photo by Grant Fletcher | Staff Photographer
Fernando Ortiz has made a major impact for the Blue Raiders.

Raider track teams prepare for stretch run

Adam Sparks
Staff Reporter

After the impressive showing against local schools Austin Peay State University and Tennessee State University Saturday, the MTSU track teams are traveling to East Tennessee State University to take on some national talent.

The IKON Invitational will feature up to 50 schools with such large programs as Alabama, Auburn and Clemson along with some of the best individual talent in the country. The meet will also be a site to see the best that the Ohio Valley Conference has to offer.

"This meet traditionally, over the years, has been one of the biggest indoor college meets in the country," said assistant track coach Roger Kerr. "This is one of the first meets for those individuals who are coming back this year and trying to make the Olympic team. This has traditionally been a very strong meet and we'll be very strongly tested."

The IKON invitational will give MTSU an opportunity to prepare themselves for a run at the OVC title.

In that title run, they will face some tough competition.

"Southeast Missouri is probably the prime contender for the conference title on the women's side right now, with us challenging them," said coach Dean Hayes. "They come here for a meet on February 12, and we'll find out a lot then. It will be interesting to see what happens."

"On the men's side Eastern Illinois is got to be the front-runner, being the defending champion," said Hayes. "There we should also be able to challenge."

Both the men's and women's track teams have steadily improved over the course of the indoor season and now claim to be more confident than ever.

"We've improved a great deal this year," said 800-meter runner Bryan Picklesimer. "I think we'll be a big threat for the OVC title. Everybody's been working hard and we have a great mentality. I think we can do it."

"I feel real confident that we can challenge for the title," said sprinter Doreisha Davis. "We have so much talent in so many events that we should be very competitive in the conference."

The IKON Invitational will be held in Johnson City, TN., January 28-29. ■

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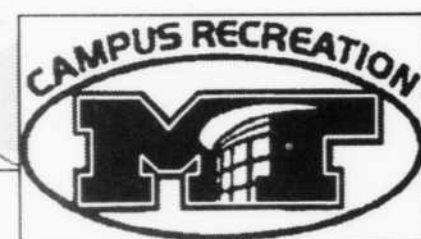
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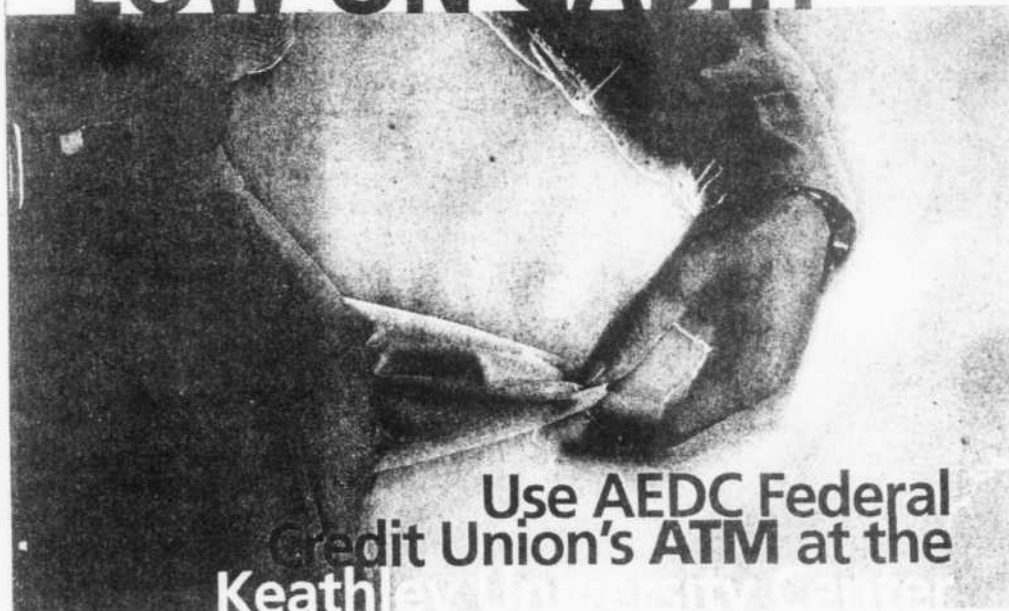
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Lady Raiders tennis knocks off Rice

Staff Reports

The Lady Raiders defeated No. 51 Rice to move to 3-3 on the young season.

Tina Hojnik continued to play well as she won in straight sets over Elle Lewis. Tanja Buchheim, Michaela Gridling and Stacy Varnell won singles matches for the Lady Raiders. Varnell and Sarah Grohnert won MTSU's only doubles match.

"I really proud of the improvement we have showed," said David Thornton. We've grown a lot as a team and, if we continue

to mature, we should be in good shape.

Earlier in the day, the Lady Raiders fell to No. 16 Vanderbilt by a score of 8-1. The young squad never really challenged the SEC powers dropping all three doubles matches and five of the six singles matches.

Middle Tennessee's lone win came as Tina Hojnik upset Julie Ditty, the 96th-ranked player in the nation. Hojnik, ranked 15th in the Southeast, is almost a lock to gain a national ranking as she played her fourth ranked player in her last six matches. ■



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WEEKDAY FEATURES

MORNING BEAT (6-9AM)

ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS

"FRESH AIR" WITH TERRY GROSS (4-5PM)

OVERNIGHTS WITH BOB PARLOCHA

**Inflation Is Eating
Your Savings For Lunch.**

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you can get started
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donate it!**

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- Help the American
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- Your donation stays
in your state
- Car does not have to run

Call the American Lung Association's
Vehicle Donation Program.

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION
of Tennessee

Call 1-800-432-LUNG (5864)

**YOU WOULDN'T
LEAVE SOMETHING
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ON YOUR BODY.
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AMERICAN ACADEMY OF DERMATOLOGY

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**MTSU Students,
Stop by to see
our model**

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BEDROOM
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One EASY monthly payment includes EVERYTHING!

- Electric Utilities Paid
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- Game Room
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- Roommate Matching
- Individual Leases
- 1/4 Mile from MTSU
- Tennis Courts

CALL (615) 907-0600 TODAY!

From MTSU Campus: Go North on Tennessee Blvd., turn right on New Lascassas Highway (HWY 96) the University Courtyard Clubhouse will be on the right.

Equal Housing Opportunity

POETRY
SHORT FICTION
ESSAYS
INTERVIEWS
PHOTOGRAPHY
PAINTING
SCULPTURE
DRAWING
POTTERY
ETCHING

COLLAGE
The creative arts journal of MTSU

Deadline for Spring 2000 is Tuesday, February 29.
Bring submissions to JUB 308
Monday through Friday, 8:00am- 4:30pm..

New Beginnings...
*for MTSU and
your yearbook*

MIDLANDER

**A seventy-five
year tradition
capturing Blue
Raider memories**

Yearbook photos being taken February 8-11, 9-March 5
KUC 2nd floor lounge

Seniors call 2815 for appointment.